

ISSUE

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PE
Ski Trip




Kingsmeadow
Inspiring minds

Newsletter

AUTUMN 2018 CREATIVE ARTS, DERWENT HILL, HUMANITIES, SIXTH FORM, SPANISH...and much more



KINGSMEADOW **GAMES**

HEADTEACHER'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the **first Newsletter of this new academic year**. You will find information celebrating the successes of last year and setting out our aspirations for this coming year. This summer saw Kingsmeadow School achieve the best exam results in the school's history, with key areas such as GCSE Maths and Science making incredible improvements on previous years of more than **15% in both cases**. English continues to fly high with **over 70%** of students achieving a standard pass, which maintains the department's meteoric rise over the last few years. The story is repeated at KS5 with **62% of grades in the A*-B range**. The Progress 8 figure, the key figure for comparison, will also be much improved on last year. Another massive achievement for our community. Huge congratulations go out to staff and students for their outstanding effort and commitment. Our current cohorts have a hard act to follow, and are already talking about summer 2019 and all it brings.



Domenic Volpe, Headteacher



At the end of last term we were subject to an OFSTED Section 8 Monitoring visit. The aim of the visit was to see whether we were progressing against the key developments highlighted in the full OFSTED of April 2017. The report was extremely positive and identified the impact of all the actions we had taken up until the visit took place in July 2018.

You will also see that Kingsmeadow continues to offer its community far more than academic success. The articles and stories you will read set out the amazing opportunities that our students have participated in over the last year and what they can look forward to in this next term and year. From Drama to sport to Enterprise, University visits and concerts, the community at Kingsmeadow has been busy. The calendar is already full.

We have welcomed new staff at the start of this year and they seem to have immediately slotted into the community. The new curriculum structure will be bedding in over the coming term, and will offer every student the chance to achieve their very best. Students will continue to be challenged and stretched enabling them to develop their interests and strengths.

Our resolve to be the best we can be has been picked up by the community, because we begin this year fully subscribed in both years 7 and 8. This is a testament to all the hard work of our staff and community.

Please keep a close eye on our new website which will keep you updated with up and coming events. You will find key dates in this edition of the Newsletter, but the definitive list will be online.

I now do feel a part of the Kingsmeadow community and I begin my second year as Headteacher full of excitement as to just what we can achieve together. I would like to thank you all for the support and challenge that has meant we have achieved so much thus far. I look forward to seeing the school grow from strength to strength over the coming years.

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS UPDATE



The beginning of a new school year is always an exciting time, as we welcome new students and staff and look forward to a busy year.

The governors are enormously proud of the students' achievements. We expected good GCSE results this year; we knew how hard students and staff had worked to achieve them. Our expectations were exceeded, and we send warm congratulations to all involved in the school's best-ever GCSE results. Progress made by students at Kingsmeadow from the time they start at the school until GCSEs is very good and compares well with the very best schools. The A-level results were also very good. The work to achieve these results starts right from the beginning of Year 7, but alongside the hard work there are plenty of exciting events and challenges to help to prepare students for successful lives after school.

Just before the end of the summer term, the school was visited by Ofsted. This was not a full inspection; the inspector looked at how the school was tackling the areas for improvement identified in the last full inspection, in spring 2017.

He found much to praise and produced a very positive report (which you can find via the 'News' section of the school website); the school is doing very well. Governors will continue to receive reports from the Head Teacher about continuing progress and action to do even better.

Our successful Football Academy is now starting its third year, attracting young football stars to the school to enjoy its great facilities and to receive a rounded education in sports leadership and skills. All students at the school enjoy a wide range of sports, with considerable success.

We need two new parent governors to join the Governing Board. You will find information on the governing body and its role on the school website (under 'About Us'). Parent governors are elected by the parents and carers of students at the school. Watch out for information about the election and how to put yourself forward if you are interested.

Sarah Diggle *Chair of Governors*

KEY DATES

HOLIDAY	DATE
Half Term	22-26 October 2018
Two Occasional Days	Friday 16 and Monday 19 November 2018
Christmas Break	24 December 2018 – 4 January 2019
Half Term	18-22 February 2019
Easter Break	8-22 April 2019 (incl)
May Day	6 May 2019
Half Term	27-31 May 2019
Break up for summer	19 July 2019
OTHER USEFUL DATES	DATE
Year 11 Parents Information Evening	25 September 2018
Year 7 Parents' Evening	4 October 2018
Sixth Form Open Evening 5.00-7.00pm	29 November 2018
Academic Awards Evening	6 December 2018
KEY ASSESSMENT 1	DATE
Year 12	1-5 October 2018
Year 11	29 October – 9 November 2018
Year 8	12-15 November 2018
Year 7	12-15 November 2018
Year 10	26 November - 7 December 2018
Year 9	26 November - 7 December 2018
Year 13	3-7 December 2018



BUSINESS STUDIES ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE

As part of the extra-curricular activities of the business department, 14 boys from year 9 were selected to take part in the **'FutureMe Enterprise Challenge'**. This involved a ten week programme of after school lessons in the Premier League Enterprise Programme delivered by the NUFC Foundation. Alongside this, they received input from Northumbria University about higher aspirations and the benefits of higher education. This culminated in the students being set the challenge to design a marketing campaign to attract more young men into higher education.

The finals of the event were held at St James' Park where the boys had to deliver their pitch to a panel of judges. The boys had a tour of St James Park and met former Olympic swimmer Chris Cook who is originally from South Shields. Chris gave the boys a motivational speech about the importance of having high aspirations. In the afternoon they listened to former Newcastle United goalkeeper Steve Harper talk about his experience of education and how he has returned to University following his career in football.

All their hard work paid off – they won the competition and were entered into the regional final competing against schools all across the North East based on the judges feedback from the day. This is an excellent achievement as there was tough competition from schools from all over Newcastle and Gateshead.



Having returned to school in September I was thrilled to find that the boys were voted regional winners and will be continuing on their marketing journey by visiting local broadcaster SparkFM where they will be working with the professional design team to create a billboard which will then be used as part of Northumbria University marketing campaign.

All of the boys involved were also successful in achieving the accredited Premier League Enterprise qualification.

AND

CREATIVE EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Art And Technology

Students showcase Design and Art

Students from our Art and Technology courses exhibited their work on the annual exhibition held in July, including artwork, artefacts, textiles and electronic product designs.

The exhibition showcased the huge range of ideas, skills and creativity of Kingsmeadow students through a variety of media and inspirations.

A number of classes had the chance to visit the event during the school day, with students from year 7 upwards amazed at the quality and detail of the work, with some even asking whether the items were for sale.

Mrs Carter, who set up and co-ordinated the event, felt students highly benefited from viewing the work. Comments from 7Y1 students included it showed how talented our Y11 students are and they could appreciate the time and effort that students spent on their work.



WHAT A YEAR!

2017-18 Creative Arts Performances

Which ones have you been to?

- **World Voice Singing Event** at Kingsmeadow (Oct 2017) - 4 feeder primary schools and Kingsmeadow Choir and Youth Theatre
- **Beamish Halloween** (Oct 2017) - Year 12 Drama class
- **Awards Evening** at Kingsmeadow (Oct 2017) - Steel Pan Band
- **Christmas Concert** at Kingsmeadow (Dec 2017) - all extra-curricular clubs and various soloists
- **Senior Citizens' Christmas Party** at Kingsmeadow (Dec 2017) - Choir
- **St Nicholas' Christmas Church Service** (Dec 2017) - Choir
- **Beamish Christmas** (Dec 2017) - Year 12 Drama class
- **Kingsmeadow Live** (April 2018) - Year 10 Music class and various soloists
- **Dunston Festival** (May 2018) - Choir and Steel Pan Band
- **6th Form Drama Performance** at Kingsmeadow (May 2018) - Year 12 Drama class
- **Battle of the Bands** at Royal Grammar School (June 2018) - Rock School
- **Steel Pan Festival** at Linkskill Centre (June 2018) - Steel Pan Band
- **Year 5 Music and Drama Week + Showcase** at Kingsmeadow (June 2018) - 5 feeder primary schools
- **Summer Concert** at Kingsmeadow (July 2018) - all extra-curricular groups and various soloists

Battle Of The Bands

One of the bands formed from our Rock School project entered Battle of the Bands at the Royal Grammar School in the summer term and got to compete alongside about 20 other bands.

The band 'Seasonal' coached by the Music staff prepared two songs for the competition and gave a great performance on the evening, watched by hundreds!

Well done.



Kingsmeadow Music At Dunston Festival

The local community was treated to an afternoon of music and fun at the Dunston Festival on Saturday 12th May. Kingsmeadow Music Department provided an hour of music at the event held at Dunston UTS football ground. We showcased the Steel Pan Band led by Miss Tindall, Choir led by Mr Watson and solo vocalists Ellie Fagan and Dylan Duggan.

It was a hot day and the students got to visit different stalls and activities as well as performing.

We received lots of compliments and even a request to perform at another community event!



Steel Pans In Regional Festival

This year our Steel Pan Band were invited to take part in the Regional Steel Pan Festival held in North Shields.

Not only did our band get to showcase its own pieces, but we got to perform alongside around 100 other performers from other bands, including the very well-established North Tyneside Steel Pan Band.

Well done to our band who consisted of: **Brooke Roden; Ebony Lawson; Jack Clay; Tillie Caisley; Ryan Black.**



CEA



Performers Soar To New Heights In Summer Concert

The first Summer Concert of its kind at Kingsmeadow saw a wealth of Music and Performance take centre-stage.

The concert, held on a warm summer's evening in July, had performances from the after-school Music clubs: Rock School; Choir; Youth Theatre; Djembe Group and Steel Pans, as well as performances by soloists in many different instruments and voices.

Youth Theatre performed extracts from Little Shop of Horrors and Annie, while the Steel Pan Band played popular arrangements of songs on their traditional Caribbean Instruments.

Rock School has developed into two bands, showcasing the work they've done all year as well as the performance from Battle of the Bands. Choir, who have been out and about in the community this year performing a lot, sang Adiemus, performed in a new language they had to do, as well as arrangements of popular songs.



It was great to hear not only those who have been pursuing their solo instrument with great commitment, such as Ling Gao on piano and Caitlyn Hughes on saxophone, as well as many other students, but also to hear original compositions, for example, Tamsin Mitchell, who performed her own composition that she had written with her piano teacher.

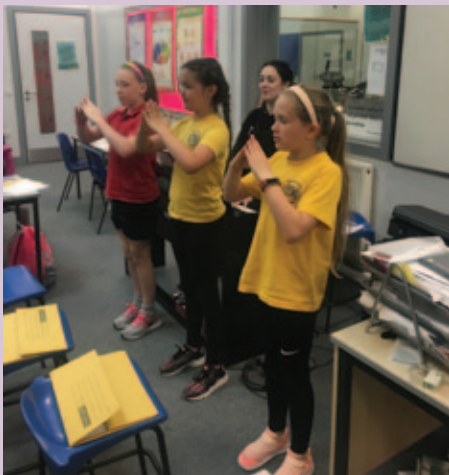
Year 5 Students Get A Taste Of Music And Drama

Year 5 students from various primary schools joined us for a week of Music and Drama in the Summer term.

Miss Pirie and Miss Tindall led the students through a series of creative activities throughout the week such as devising scripts, learning song and dance routines and performing with instruments such as djembes, glockenspiels and keyboards as a group.

The students were also introduced to the range of instruments that you can learn with different teachers at Kingsmeadow and had taster lessons in the drum kit, singing and saxophone.

The week culminated in a showcase for parents/carers, who were amazed at what the students had learnt in such a short space of time!



CHARACTER BUILDING

Your Kingsmeadow Learning Journey

At Kingsmeadow we fervently believe in the all-round education of our students. This does not mean just preparing them for exams, but preparing them for life.

We are a community school, with an unrelenting focus on raising aspirations for all. We want all of our students to grow into successful and proud members of their community; we want all of our students to have high aspirations and expectations for everything they do in life.

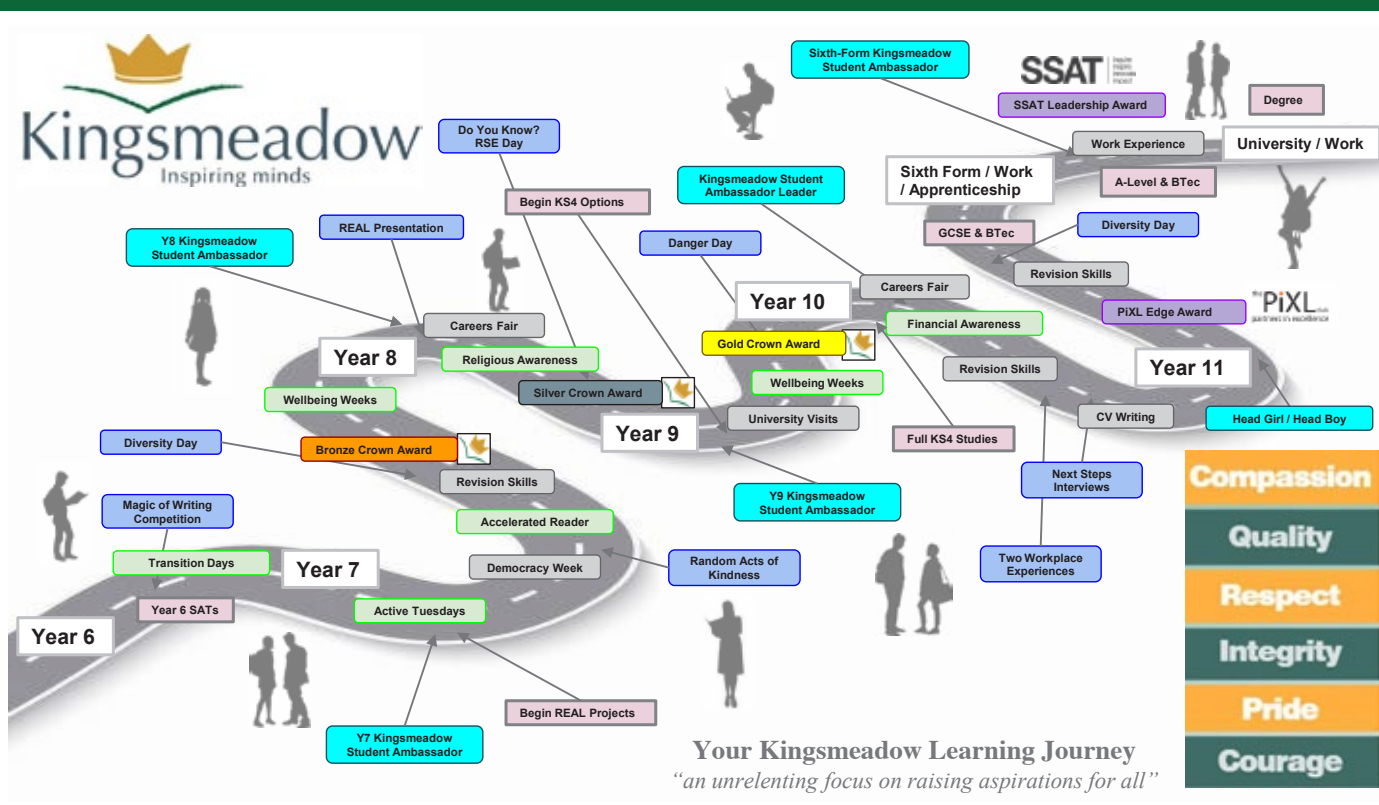
Because of all of the above, we have a much wider curriculum than simply working towards exams. Our REAL lessons encourage creativity, passion and communication; our Crown Award rewards independence and wider community involvement; all of our students are introduced to higher level education, including universities, and experience several workplaces and professions. These are just some of the many additional curriculum experiences in which the students at Kingsmeadow School are involved.

As with our tutor activities and lessons, all of our additional curriculum activities are rooted in our core Character Traits. These are:

- **Compassion**
- **Quality**
- **Respect**
- **Integrity**
- **Pride**
- **Courage**

We have created **Your Kingsmeadow Learning Journey** to help us to ensure that every student has these additional opportunities available throughout their time with us. It also shows you, students and parents, what you can expect from us during your or your child's time at Kingsmeadow School.

We are committed to delivering high quality character learning, so that our students are successful, aspirational and fully prepared for everything in life.



DERWENT HILL

Summer Trip To Derwent Hill

Twenty students visited Derwent Hill Outdoor Activity Centre in Keswick during the last week of the summer term. During their five day stay, they took part in exciting activities such as kayaking, gorge walking and cliff jumping.

All the activities involved team work and our students excelled at helping each other through very difficult challenges.

The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all.



ENGLISH



The summer results demonstrated that students in English are continuing to make fantastic progress and the department offers a range of extra-curricular opportunities to support this.

Accelerated Reader

Key Stage 3 students will participate in the Accelerated Reader programme again this year with the aim of improving literacy and promoting the enjoyment of reading. All students are encouraged to read for 20 minutes a day and those who commit to this, and show progress with reading skills, will gain rewards.

BBC School Report

Year 8 students will take part in the BBC School Report initiative this year with nominated reports being published on our school website. Well done to those who participated last term - they produced some outstanding work. Look out for the annual School Report News Day in March, too!

Talk the Talk

Year 10 students will have the opportunity to take part in 'Talk the Talk' workshops next term in order to develop their public speaking skills, something which is vital for their personal development and employability potential.

Seneca

All Year 11 students have been signed up to Seneca Learning which offers a wealth of English literature revision resources to help students move up the grades. Talk to your English teacher about this as soon as possible.

Word of the Week

All students will be encouraged to engage with an academic 'Word of the Week' during tutor time this year as part of our drive to increase word consciousness and enable all students to access a broad spectrum of texts. Students will receive commendations for using vocabulary creatively.

And for staff...

'How to Stop Time', by Matt Haig, was the final selection of our staff book club this year and many people enjoyed the tale recounted by a 400 year old, quasi-immortal narrator. It ended a year in which we've also encountered a bumbling investigator from an idyllic Irish village ('Holding'), and a fictionalised version of the life of composer, Shostakovich ('The Noise of Time'). However, our top pick for this year was the heart-wrenching 'A Thousand Splendid Suns', by Khaled Hosseini, which juxtaposes horror and hope, against the backdrop of a complex Afghan society. Let's see where our literary journey leads this year...

Creative Writing

Our Creative Writing Club will continue this year with Key Stage 3 students invited to attend on Thursday lunchtimes to experiment with ideas and written expression in a relaxed environment. Students should look out for an exciting trip to the Live Theatre to explore creative writing, as well.

Sixth Form

Our A level English and Extended Project students visited Edinburgh University and surrounding landmarks during the year, checking in on JK Rowling and Arthur Conan Doyle's favourite haunts. Closer to home, they used the impressive library facilities at Northumbria University to extend their wider reading and research their chosen areas of study for Non-Examined Assessment which was both enjoyable and invaluable for study.

Some of our sixth form students proved themselves as wonderful ambassadors for reading by supporting younger students with Accelerated Reader across the year. Thank you and well done!

Sixth form book club has proved popular - particularly for novels such as John Green's 'Looking for Alaska' - so will be offered again this term.

Culture Club Visit to Newcastle Gateshead Quayside - 3 July 2018

This year, the members of Culture Club have enjoyed visits to Newcastle Castle and the Hatton Gallery. Our final trip included visits to The Angel of the North, The Sage, The Baltic and the Millennium Bridge (the origins of the school house teams) on 3 July 2018. The students were lucky to catch a glimpse of the water fountains on the River Tyne, part of the Great Exhibition of the North, as they took in the views across the River Tyne from the Baltic viewing platform.



KINGSMEADOW FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Third Year

Kingsmeadow Football Academy welcomed our third year group of players in to the KFA and the school. With the addition of the new year 7 students this increases our squad number to 67 across Year 7, 8 and 9. This will further develop all players as we can promote players across the age groups.

The new Year 7's will be travelling to Barcelona, Year 8's to Valencia and the Year 9's potentially to Man City to further their understanding of the professional game both on and off the pitch over this next academic year. In line with our trips abroad to Spain, all Academy players will be undertaking Spanish lessons that will take place during academy training sessions and will broaden the development of our players.

Exciting News!!

Evolution Football Coaching have recently agreed terms with Harrogate Town AFC Chairman, Irving Weaver to assist in the development of a Harrogate based Academy in the near future. This is promising for our young players, adding another potential playing pathway for them and their future development. Harrogate are now our Official Pro Club Partner.

New Staff

This year we welcome some new staff to the Academy, Wayne Brandon joins us from Newcastle College Football Development and has a wealth of experience in coaching and the academic environment. Wayne is qualified to UEFA B standard and is an ex-professional with Millwall FC. Stuart Dick has been added to the team as our Media Analyst, Stuart will be providing regular media to support the development of the academy and our social media platforms. Additionally we are hoping to add a physiotherapist to our staff.





HUMANITIES

Geography Field Trip July 2018

At the start of July Year 10 Geography students visited the River Breamish, in the Ingram Valley Northumberland for a day of fieldwork. As part of their studies for their paper 3 exam the students had to investigate the flow of the river and any changes. The weather was glorious all 3 days and the students represented the school well in their keenness to learn and hard work throughout.

They learnt a lot about how to carry out fieldwork as well as to support their studies on how rivers work.

Well done Year 10!



Travel And Tourism Visit To Newcastle June 2018

As part of our Travel and Tourism curriculum we organised a visit to Newcastle City Centre. The students had a tour and talk at Newcastle keep to tell them about the history of the building and how they market and promote the venue. Our students really enjoyed the experience and took part whole heartedly in all the activities.

We then had lunch in a local Italian restaurant where students ordered their own food and discussed how they would review the restaurant.

Finally we had a trip to The Cycle Hub for a talk on specialist tourism from Lizzie at Skeddadle Holidays. The students asked insightful questions and listened carefully to help them with their unit 1 exam in January. Then they were treated to cookies and muffins thanks to the generosity of the Cycle Hub. They were at all times polite and a credit to the school.





KINGSMEADOW GAMES



This year's Kingsmeadow Games saw students competing, having fun and socialising in their houses; Baltic, Angel, Tyne and Sage. A great team spirit was demonstrated by students across all year groups as they participated in a variety of sporting and non-sporting challenges.

Some of the challenges were: Old School Sports Day, Bongo Bingo, Netball, Basketball, Rowing, Quizzes and many more.

The final event of the day saw representatives from each house in each year group battle it out in team relays and tug of war.



Overall winners were: **TYNE**



MATHS

UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge



This year Kingsmeadow entered the largest number of students into the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge, with almost 60 students across year 7 and year 8 participating. The Mathematical challenges are aimed to stimulate mathematical problem solving and with over 300,000 students taking part nationally and is one of the UK's most popular competitions. The results this year have been exceptional, with 17 students gaining Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Amongst these 17 students, three students gained high enough scores to proceed to the Junior Kangaroo round. Massive congratulations to the following students:

BRONZE AWARD

Katie Harbertson, Thomas Toward, Amy Rose, Amy Morris, Joshua Rowell, Maddison Milnes, Jake Meek, Scott Wales, Elif Celikay, Leon Walker and Emilia Shaw

SILVER AWARD

Joe Wright, Lacey Chatto and Nathan Atkinson

GOLD AWARD

Martin Joicey, Alexander Dickson and Connor Morton

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Early morning sports clubs run between 7.45 am and 8.30 am every day.

Netball

Year 7 and 8 students continue to be extremely committed to Netball when it comes to training and competitions. They are a very talented group of girls who really enjoy the sport and are disappointed the season is over. I'm confident that both teams will continue to be successful next academic year.

Girls Rugby

Rugby Club with Miss Lane continues to go from strength to strength.

Rounders Club

Year 7 and 8 students are preparing for the Gateshead Schools and the Tyne and Wear Rounders Tournaments.

Athletics Club

Year 7 and 8 students were extremely successful in the U14 Pentathlon where athletes from across County Durham were competing. All students had to complete 5 events throughout the day and acquire points based on their performance. Our girls team consisting of Darienne Thompson, Esra Erkasap, Amy Morris, and Elif Celikay finished 2nd, just pipped at the post by Whickham. Elif Celikay in year 7 finished 7th overall whilst competing against year 8 students; a fantastic achievement.

Year 7 Mini-Athlon

Erin Reynolds year 7 finished 2nd by 4 points in the Durham County Combined Events Mini-Athlon Championships in July. She competed in a Run, Jump and a Throw acquiring points based on her performances and won the silver medal. Elif Celikay also finished 5th overall.

Ski trip

Fourteen students attended this year's ski trip to Alpe D'Huez in France. All of the students had an amazing time and represented the school positively. There is a display in the PE Department showing the highlights of the trip

A group of students wearing purple ski jackets and helmets are riding a ski lift. They are holding ski poles and looking towards the camera. The background shows a snowy mountain landscape with ski lifts and buildings under a clear blue sky.

PE UPDATE

Gateshead Schools Year 7 and 8 Championships: 27th June

We had some individual successes at this year's Gateshead Schools Athletics Championships. Elif Celikay year 7, won the high jump clearing 1.25m and finished 2nd in the 100m. Jodie Clarke finished 2nd in the long jump with a jump of 4m and Emily Bloomer finished 3rd in the Discus throwing 15.40m.

Year 8 girls were also extremely successful. Darienne Thompson came first in the high jump clearing 1.30m, Esra Erkasap finished 1st in the Shot Putt with a distance of 7.50m, Amy Latsi finished 1st in the Javelin throwing 13.32m and Amy Morris finished 2nd in the Discus throwing 20m. Well done girls.

Boys' Football

Year 10 were runners up in the year 10 league after a successful season. The Year 7 boys' futsal squad again made the finals of the U12 futsal tournament this year.

Basketball

Newcastle Eagles coaches visited us recently in an attempt to raise the profile of basketball both in and out of school.

Rounders Club

Students are preparing for the Gateshead Schools Rounders Tournaments and the Tyne and Wear Rounders Tournaments.

Sporting Champion Board

We are in the process of developing a 'Sporting Champions' board in PE. The aim of this is to celebrate students' participation in competitive sport outside of school. Students need to see Miss Skirrey with details of their sport and also a photo.

Year 9 Sports Leaders Course

16 year 9 students have recently completed the UK Sports Leaders course within their core PE lessons. They have worked very hard and have done a fantastic job supporting with various Primary Cluster Events.

Primary Cluster PE Events

Tri Golf - 7th June, 2018

290 Year 5/6 students took part in a Tri-Golf festival which was led by 20 of our Year 8 sport leaders. The festival was about trying a new sport and was a carousel of golf skills based around aiming at target.

Orienteering

Some of our year 9 students undertook Orienteering Leaders training. They then went on to lead an orienteering competition with 200 year 3 and 4 Primary Cluster students. The feedback received about the leaders was excellent.

Quick Sticks

40 year 3 and 4 students completed a hockey skills circuit led by Year 9 sports leaders. They then competed in a quick sticks competition that Dunston Hill won.

Reception ball skills

110 reception students completed a ball skills circuit looking at throwing, catching, aiming and shooting. Year 8 sports leaders ran the circuit and were excellent, guiding and teaching the students new skills.

Quadkids

90 student took part in a Quadkids athletics event, they all completed a 50m sprint, 400m, Javelin and Long Jump scoring points based on their results. The overall winning team were Dunston Hill who went on to represent us at the Gateshead Finals where they came 1st.





Year 11 students celebrated their success and gathered together as a year group for one last time to enjoy their Leavers Prom at the Marriott Hotel, Gateshead. The evening followed a “Great Gatsby” theme, with 1920s decorations adorning the room. Our students enjoyed food and music and took to the dance floor to dance the night away!

We are beginning to plan for Prom 2019 and targets have been set. Students who are invited to attend prom will have **attendance of 96% and above, be punctual and have an outstanding attitude to learning.**



A 'Real' Exhibition Of Learning – An Intergenerational Community Cohesion Event

On Tuesday 26th June Kingsmeadow school hall was transformed into 'A WWII inspired Afternoon Tea dance'. Our 'Then and Now' event brought invited senior citizens from our local area into our school to be entertained by our students with an exhibition of their learning. Our guests were taken on a whistle stop tour of WWII through the mediums of drama, song and dance and every one of our year 7 students took part.

The students began by looking at the devastating Nazi persecution of German Jews, including the holocaust, before moving on to the evacuation of children in our country during the war. The purpose of the event was to bring our seniors from the local community together with our youngest students and to give our students the opportunity to showcase and share their learning with an authentic audience whilst demonstrating how members of a community can come together in a morale boosting and uplifting way as was the case during WWII.

Our 'REAL' staff worked tirelessly, along with the school caretakers, to transform the hall and set up an authentic afternoon tea with triangle sandwiches, fresh cream scones and a selection of cakes and pastries all served on authentic, vintage china. Our REAL staff were even dressed in 1940s fashion to make the event as authentic as possible and our drama teacher Miss Pirie wowed with her WWII songbook medley, singing classics from Dame Vera Lynn and The Andrews Sisters.

Before leaving our guests were all given Ringtons' sample packs provided by Simon Musgrave from Ringtons Tea Merchants. This successful local business has community at its heart and provided the tea and coffee served at the event.

The feedback from both the students and the guests who attended was extremely positive and this is certainly an event that will be put into the school calendar again next year.



REAL UPDATE



SCIENCE

One group in year 8 this term have been looking at inspiring scientists. Within Science we try to encourage students to have a growth mindset and to be resilient. 8X2 looked at scientists who have made inspiring discoveries or whose theories were not accepted and how they persevered until they could prove that their theory was correct. Students then presented their work to the rest of the class. The work of the late Stephen Hawking was a popular scientist with lots of groups choosing him.



Students in year 7 and 8 took part in Science Week this term. Students did 4 lessons across the week linked to The Body in the Laboratory. Students looked at the science behind fingerprinting and DNA evidence. They took their own fingerprints and worked out what type they each had. Students then looked at DNA and how we use DNA fingerprinting for a crime scene. One group went on to make models of the DNA.

Results

Our students achieved 100% pass rate in level 3 qualifications, with 95% of these passes being at grades A*-C - including A-Level. This is better than the national average.

94% of our students who applied for university were accepted at their first choice university - a testimony not only to their own hard work and excellent results, but also to the support they receive from Mr Hood and Mrs Weatherill on their UCAS applications and perfecting personal statements.

Our sixth form students worked hard and we congratulate all of them. In particular we wish good luck to our leaving year 13 students in their future education and careers.

100%

PASS RATE
in level 3 qualifications

95%

GRADES
A* - C

94%

ACCEPTED AT
FIRST CHOICE
UNIVERSITY

Sixth Form Advice and Guidance

During induction week our students are offered a number of opportunities to enhance their CV. For example: the National Citizens Service attend and help students to develop skills for work, university and life; the consortia of Northeast universities and colleges, NECOP, visit to help students consider the future and discuss how higher education can help them reach their goals; the students are introduced to the SSAT Student Leadership Accreditation - a nationally accredited leadership programme which enhances students' CVs and rewards them for school and community involvement.

During tutorial time, as well as completing the leadership accreditation, our students will be following the FutureMe programme. This gives access to a range of activities and events which support them in considering their future options and understanding all of the pathways available to them.

We also ensure that every student receives individual, personalised advice - both through Mr Tickell, our careers adviser from the department of work and pensions, and through the continued advice, guidance and support from our team for university applications.

Success at SIXTH FORM

At Kingsmeadow our sixth-form is going from strength to strength. The students in our sixth form receive high levels of support and guidance, help with future planning, significant work and university experience, an increased range of enhanced curriculum and learning opportunities and much more. Coupled with the excellent teaching from experienced teachers, it is no wonder that 2018 saw the best ever results for our sixth form students.



SPANISH

A Taste Of Spain!

The Year 9 Spanish class visited the Spanish restaurant El Coto in Newcastle where they were treated to an array of traditional Spanish dishes. Students were keen to discover new tastes and thoroughly enjoyed applying their Spanish speaking skills during the trip.

This was a superb cultural experience that ties in with the Key Stage 4 GCSE specification where students are required to study Food, Drink and Spanish Culture.

Year 11 Advice and Guidance

We are very proud of our successful record of A level results and UCAS applications. To make sure this continues we have a busy programme of activities to advise and guide our year 11 students on their best options post 16.

On Tuesday 25th of September year 11 students will attend a careers fair where they will get information on a range of careers and apprenticeship opportunities. This will be followed up on Monday 1st October when forty year 11 students will go on a visit to Newcastle University to gain an insight into university life and course options. Following these, every year 11 student will have a one-to-one interview with our careers advisor and with Mr Hood and Mr Dunlop (our lead teacher for careers, information, advice and guidance) where all future options - including access to our sixth form - will be discussed.

All year 11 students and parents/carers, please be aware of our sixth form Subject Taster Evening on Wednesday 28th November. This is an opportunity for year 11 students to try out some of the subjects we offer at sixth form in the form of mini lessons. This is followed, on Thursday 29th November, by a sixth form information evening for our year 11 students and parents/carers.

Sixth Form Work Experience Week

Following what has been the most successful work experience week to date, our sixth form students returned school with an arsenal of new skills, increased levels of confidence and a host of glowing references.

There were a number of local schools looking for employers willing to give students an insight into the world of work during that same week, so it was particularly commendable that each and every one of our year 12 students managed to secure a placement.

The inspirational teaching at Kingsmeadow seems to have propelled some of them towards a career in education and, with the help of our cluster schools, they were able to experience life as a primary teacher, nursery assistant or sports event assistant. A couple of our science students got to put their lab skills to use in a veterinary surgery and a university laboratory, and our business students spent five days learning about the world of commerce in the real estate, finance, retail and transport industries. After fundraising for local cancer charity F.A.C.T during our recent Raising and Giving Week, a handful of our year 12s were given the opportunity to see behind the scenes at the charity's head office with others helping out at the Blaydon and Gateshead shops.

The sixth form team would like to say huge thank you to all the businesses concerned and well done to the students who completed this invaluable part of their enrichment programme.

Any parent or carer who would like information or advice on any of the above please contact the 6th form team:

Mr R Hood	<i>Head of Sixth Form</i>	rhood@kingsmeadow.org.uk
Mrs A Weatherill	<i>Sixth Form Progression Officer</i>	aweatherill@kingsmeadow.org.uk
Mr M Barrett	<i>Deputy Headteacher</i>	mbarrett@kingsmeadow.org.uk
Mr Dunlop	<i>Head of CIAG</i>	gdunlop@kingsmeadow.org.uk



TALL SHIPS

"The tall ship race 2018 was a really good experience. I learnt new things that I thought I would never learn for example how to steer the ship. I also met friends that I will see in the future. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am so grateful that my school (Kingsmeadow Community School) gave me this opportunity.

When I was on the ship I learnt lots of different skills including how to hoist the sails and put the sails down. We all had to work as a team to keep the ship moving.

I would 100% recommended that if someone else has this opportunity to take it as it is a really good experience."

Kingsmeadow were delighted to have the fantastic opportunity for one of our students to set sail aboard one of the tall ships 2018.

It was an adventure of a lifetime to be part of. They sailed from Sunderland to Esbjerg in Denmark, where they received a warm welcome and took part in a four day festival as part of the ships' crew. They enjoyed amongst other things a crew party, a crew parade and plenty of sightseeing.

GENERAL VOYAGE FACTS

Friday 13th July	Join your ship in Sunderland
Saturday 14th July	Leave Sunderland in the spectacular Parade of Sail. Embark on a voyage on a Tall Ship from Sunderland to Esbjerg in Denmark
Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th July	Receive a warm welcome in Esbjerg and take part in their festival as part of a ships' crew
Friday 20th July	Flight home to Sunderland

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED 100% ATTENDANCE FROM SEPTEMBER

YEAR 7

Potts, Emily	7E
Gao, Ling	7E
Hamaraza, Karo	7E
Sutton, Grace	7E
Meek, Jake	7G
Morris, Jack	7K
McNichol, Amelia	7K
Thompson, Kiera	7K
Harm, Phillipa	7K
Da Silva, Ruben	7M
Dunn, Daniel	7M
Celikay, Elif	7M
Donmall, Bradley	7N
Kindred, Olivia	7N
Blench, Jenny	7N
Black, Ryan	7N
Hart, Ruth	7S
Cummings, Nathan	7S
Peart, Daniel	7S
Morris, Lennon	7S

YEAR 8

Dickson, Alexander	8G
Casson, Matthew	8G
Temple, Lauren	8G
Thompson, Poppy	8K
Smith, Courtney	8K
Mitchell, Paul	8K
Harbertson, Katie	8K
Cook, Mayci	8M
Rose, Amy	8M
Dickinson, Josh	8N
Magassouba, Mama	8S

YEAR 9

Hudspith, Tom	9I
Dial, Jessica	9I
Starling, Madison	9M
Morris, Liam	9M
Sewell, Lewis	9S
Stephenson, Charlotte	9S
Snee, Alice	9S

YEAR 10

Gill, Ryan	10G
Tunstall, Cameron	10I
Scott, Amie	10I
Papong, Loraine	10I
Mason, Cameron	10I
Stephenson, Sophie	10K
Starling, Callum	10K
Wilson, Jasmine	10K
Brooksbank, Aaron	10K
Potts, Cameron	10M
Johnson, Jessica	10M
Bastos, Christina	10N

**Congratulations
to all Students
who achieved
100% attendance
for Academic
Year 2017-2018**

**All students who
achieved 100% attendance
from September 2017 to
13 July 2018 were rewarded
with a Celebration Lunch in
the Learning Zone of
Pappa John's Pizza's
and Sweet Treats
Well Done
Everyone!**

