

6th - 10th February was Children's Mental Health week and this year's theme is 'Let's Connect'. Healthy connections – to family, friends or others - can support our mental health and wellbeing. Without supportive or positive connections, we can feel isolated and lonely, which can have a negative impact on our mental health. During tutor time there were a number of activities about making connections, including:

- Listening to songs about connections and exploring what the inspiration of the song might have been and how the song made them feel.
- Reading connection quotations and discussing the meanings of the quotation and how developing positive connections can be beneficial for our mental health.
- Discussions around disconnections or feeling different, How this makes a person feel? Does an argument mean the end of a friendship? What steps can be taken to repair a broken connection?

There were also videos about how important being connected to others is and some activities including postcard exchange and discussions about:

- Can boys be feminists?
- How can white people show that they are anti-racist?
- How can straight people be allies to those who identify as LGBTQI+?
- How can bystanders intervene safely when they witness bullying behaviour?



On Tuesday 7th we took all Year 10 and Year 11 Art students to the Tate Modern London for the day. Year 10 focused on significant portrait pieces and Year 11 focused on gaining inspiration for their newly introduced examination project. Everyone was an amazing example of a model student and the trip was a great success.



You will all be aware of the distressing images we have seen following the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. The school will be making a donation this week to the Disaster Emergency Relief Fund that has been set up to support all those affected by the disaster.



Looking forward

Monday 20th February

Term 4 begins
Year 10 Assembly in the Hall (MZR/JMT)
Year 12 Equaliteach workshops
Year 11 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 21st February

Year 11 Assembly in the Hall (TL/JMT)

Wednesday 22nd February

Year 13 Assembly in the Hall (CWN/BST)
Year 12 Criminology coursework p1-4

Thursday 23rd February

Year 12 Criminology coursework p1-4
Year 7 Equaliteach workshops
Year 7&8 9-a-side Football at Longfield Academy

Friday 24th February

Head Prefect election process begins in PSHE

Monday 27th February-Monday 6th March

German Exchange students in Germany

Monday 27th February

Year 10 Biology to Royal Holloway

Wednesday 1st March

U18 Netball at Gravesend Grammar

Thursday 2nd March

U16 Football at Longfield Academy

Saturday 4th March

Targeted support for Years 10-13

Tuesday 7th March

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 8th March

International Women's Day

Year 7 Football at Cobham Hall

Friday 10th-Monday 13th March

Year 12 Geography field trip

Assembly theme

This week's Assembly theme: Lent and Self-Denial

The meaning of Lent; the idea of giving up things that we don't need; self-discipline and self-sacrifice; learning to understand true needs; empathy with those in want.

Our School Environment

Please continue to ensure all areas of school are left litter free.

Litter duty: 7C Please collect the litter picks and black sacks from Mrs Kemp's Office by 1.45pm and report to your Learning Leader and staff on the field at the end of lunchtime, 2.15pm.

Lost Property: 7L Please make sure lost property is sorted. Your Sixth Form Prefect should make contact with the form to arrange the day on which the duty will be done.

Water: Please use the water stations around the school at break and lunchtime and remember to bring a bottle each day to minimise use of single use plastic bottles.

Preloved Uniform

Thank you to those parents who have kindly made donations to the Preloved uniform service and the positive messages we have received since the launch. I would like to ask if you are planning a Spring clean over the half term, we would be grateful of any donations you may have. These can be left at reception or handed in to the Finance office.

The Mayfield Mindset

Learning to Learn:

We asked Year 8 to reflect on their year so far and asked them what they would like workshops on as part of their next Learning to Learn event. The top responses were:

- How to prepare revision notes
- How to structure revision time
- How to retain and recall information taught in the past
- How to make effective notes within lessons

We look forward to working with you in practical workshops to help with these areas next term.

Prep:

Year 12: We continue to focus on the importance of learning how to manage your money while you are still at school to prepare for life beyond A levels. We have been looking at the significance of budgeting and 'shopping around'. In the next couple of lessons, we will apply this knowledge by looking at how to manage a set budget at university.

Year 13: We are continuing to focus on resilience, especially after the Mock examination feedback. We are looking at what the experts say about "low utility" revision strategies and what it means to be a self-regulated learner.

Reminders

Trays in Dining Room: We have introduced trays for morning break, please ensure these are placed next to the bins when finished with.

Whiteboard Pens: All students should have received their own whiteboard pen which they should bring to every lesson in their pencil case. The idea is that every student will have their own whiteboard pen to use for AFL activities whenever required.

Teacher of the Year: Nominations are now open for the Kent Teacher of the Year Awards 2023. Anyone can nominate and it's not just teachers who are recognised – these awards celebrate every role in schools from school secretaries to caretakers, heads and volunteers. To nominate go to: www.kmcharityteam.co.uk/awards and complete the online nomination form. See attached poster for more details.

Road Crossing: A reminder that when moving between sites you should use the zebra crossing near Bainbridge building to cross Pelham Road. When crossing other roads please ensure you are not on your mobile phone and are paying careful attention to your surroundings. Please can we also remind you that Parents/Carers may not drop off or collect from the school site unless a previous arrangement is made. Parents/Carers should park in marked areas only, keeping school exits clear.

Doors: Please be aware that you can open the double doors of a building by pressing the green 'release' button. There is no need for everyone to try and squeeze through one door when leaving and entering the building – both doors will open if the button is pressed.

Entry cards: You should all by now have received your entry cards for our new automated system. **Please ensure you carry these with you at all times.**

Reader's Corner

Well done to January's Top 3 Star Readers on ePlatform, our E-Library:

Krina 7A
Vidhi 11R
Bailey 8R



Don't forget the ELibrary has a huge range of titles to choose from, which can be accessed by all students on any device: <https://msgg.eplatform.co>

Good Reads

If you like talking about books and would like to discuss reading with other like-minded people, why not sign up to our Good Reads site <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/1193838-msgg-16-by-16-and-beyond>

As well as exploring 16 by16 books, you can create your own profile including the book you are currently reading, and ones you would like to read. You can update progress and post a review when you have completed the book, in addition to looking at other book reviews and browsing recommendations by genre.

House Merits

	Merit	Community	Sport
Atholl	81	85	61
Chadwick	93	78	66
Darnley	67	93	82
Lynton	91	97	72
Penfold	85	73	75
Reekie	80	82	55
Westbrook	94	107	109