

Friday 13th December 2019

Hello KSA parents,

We are trialling sending one newsletter to all parents across our whole all-through community. Please do send any feedback you have on the information shared and/or the format to parents@kingsolomonacademy.org as we continue to work hard on making sure you communicate with you as helpfully as possible!

We're now dashing into the final few days of the term! Thank you for all of your support in the first term of the 2019-20 year. It has been an exciting time as we have merged successfully with APG, building KSA over two sites of three classes right through to Year 7 and welcoming new pupils in a number of other year groups, particularly into Sixth Form.

We couldn't have achieved everything we have without the support of each and every parent – thank you. We hope you have a wonderful holiday and look forward to welcoming in the New Year with you on 7th January!

1. End and start of term arrangements
2. Assessments and reporting
3. Winter Fair thank you
4. Events this week: Y8 carol singing fundraising, Y6 trip to Churchill War Rooms, YYS sing-a-longs and Sixth Form mock election
5. Published data from Summer 2019
6. Trip contribution payment deadline
7. Secondary Winter Concert: Friday 17th January
8. Let Me Play Wraparound Care
9. Marylebone Project: donations of toiletries for homeless people in the local area
10. Coffee Morning- Wednesday 18th December CANCELLED

1. End and start of term and holiday opening

- Remember that pupils finish at normal time on Wednesday 18th December: 3.30pm on YYS and 4pm on OYS.
- All pupils will celebrate with a special Christmas lunch and crackers on Wednesday 18th December.
- Primary parents are welcome to join primary Christmas parties in their classrooms from 2:45 on YYS and from 3.15 on OYS as parents may wish to drop in to several children's classes!
- Both school sites will remain open with operations staff until the evening of Friday 20th December. They will both reopen on Thursday 2nd January, but with a reduced or no school office team until Monday 6th January.
- Staff will be in training on Monday 6th January.
- All children must be back in school on Tuesday 7th January.
- Please do check the calendar [here](#) for other important dates for the term ahead. We will make sure all HT3 events are logged into the calendar before we break up next Wednesday.

2. End of term assessments and reporting

We will share primary pupils' outcomes in Home Learning Workshops in January. A reminder that we gave you printed copies of these dates at parents evening in October and you can find them on the website [here](#).

Secondary data reports are coming home with your children on after the holidays, except for Year 11 and Y13 pupils who will be bringing them home with them next Wednesday.

3. Winter Fair thank you!

This year's Winter Fair took place at the Younger Years Site on Friday 6th December, a joint effort between our dedicated parents, teachers, and older students, and of course our creative pupils too!

Children enjoyed writing letters to Santa and visiting him in his beautiful grotto, visiting the many delicious food and drink stalls, and having a go on the bouncy castle. Younger Years pupils had created an array of artistic Christmas crafts which were also on sale.

Although a windy evening, it was wonderful to see so many of our families there. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this event, and especially to Louise Hall and the many parents who gave their time so generously to organise and run the fair. **The amount raised is £300.**

4a. Year 8 fundraising through carol playing

On Tuesday the 10th December a number of students from Year 8 and 9 participated in an exciting event where we performed our string instruments to staff at 55 Baker Street and Marks and Spencer's at Paddington Basin. Whilst we were there, we took the opportunity to fundraise for the Upper School Orchestra trip to Slovakia and managed to raise nearly £50.

This was a great opportunity for us to develop our love and passion for music as well as spread some festive joy to those around us.

In preparation, we all attended a weekly after school rehearsal and we were determined to work hard to produce a great performance. It was a memorable experience and we look forward to doing more performances in the future.

4b. Year 6 trips to Churchill War Rooms

Year 6 travelled to the heart of central London this week to visit the Churchill War Rooms, part of the Imperial War Museum. A time capsule largely preserved as it was at the end of the Second World War, the Churchill War Rooms were where Winston Churchill, the UK's Prime Minister for most of WW2, ran Britain's war effort alongside the rest of his cabinet. The converted basement is located just below 10 Downing Street and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and so it's location was particularly significant during this final week of the General Election.

As part of their Humanities topic, Year 6 have been studying the Second World War, with a specific focus on the atrocities of the holocaust. Their big question this half term has asked whether German citizens were innocent bystanders or willing perpetrators. Visiting the Churchill War Rooms gave the pupils an opportunity to broaden their experiences of life during the war following the visit of a Chelsea Pensioner last week. Whilst the pupils enjoyed their time at the museum, we're not sure if any of them would have been keen to live in this underground hub of activity during the Blitz!

4c. YYS Sing a longs

We've had great fun joining in with each class from Nursery to Year 4 performing some festive songs and poems to packed audiences! Thanks to everyone who has supported in head-dress making, line learning and performing – particularly to Ms. Crawley who has co-ordinated all the magic!

4d. Sixth form run mock General Election

Sixth Form Government and Politics students organised a very exciting mock General Election including a full campaign over the last few weeks, culminating in a very carefully planned ballot and

count on Thursday. Read more about the process and the outcome on the website [here](#).

5. Published data

You have been able to see our Summer data outcomes on our own website since we got the provisional results back in July for KS2 and August for KS4 and KS5. They are now officially published on the DfE website [here](#). These include our GCSE results, where our results place us in the top 1% of schools in the country. Whilst we know we have not yet achieved the consistently transformational outcomes we are getting in GCSE at KS2, we are pleased and proud to be in the top 20% of Primary schools for Year 6 maths outcomes and we have significantly closed the progress gap from last year.

6. Trip contribution payment deadline

Thank you to the many parents who met the trip contribution deadline on Tuesday. If you have not yet paid, please do so urgently. You can do this through Parent Pay or pay in cash or with a card at either of the offices on the YYS or the OYS. For any enquiries about Parent Pay, please go to Cheryl Francis in the YYS Office or call her on 0207 641 4122.

7. Secondary Winter Concert

We are excited to announce that the **Secondary Winter Concert** will take place two weeks into the new term on **Friday January 17th from 5.15pm to 6.15pm**.

The concert will feature **all children in the Middle School orchestras** from year 7 to 9 and nearly 50 pupils in the **Upper School Orchestra**. There will also be other smaller performances showcasing some of our hardest working musicians. Pupils who attend our very first **JAMSO** (Junior and Middle School Orchestra) will also be performing. We are particularly excited to see the Class of 2026 Orchestra perform in what will be our very first orchestra featuring 95 pupils from the same year group!

Look out for posters in the New Year; tickets will be available from reception at OYS by the end of Week 1. A reminder to parents that all Middle School pupils are expected to attend and be part of their orchestra, please plan accordingly.

8. Let Me Play Wraparound Care

Let Me Play provide extended childcare everyday of the week from 3:30pm-6pm. At KSA we are led by **Hawarun** who manages the site. Her role involves organising different activities each day, preparing each child's healthy snack and setting up fun activities such as board games and Lego. Her favourite activities to lead on our arts & crafts and reading support. Hawarun also enjoys interacting with all the Nursery and Reception children.

If you're interested in booking please visit our website www.bookings.letmeplay.co.uk or contact us on email schools@letmeplay.co.uk or call us **020 3475 7511**.

9. Marylebone Project: donations of toiletries for homeless people in the local area

There is a box in reception at both YYS and OYS for any donations of toiletries for homeless people in the local area, organised by The Marylebone Project. They will take all toiletries which are full and unused such as shower gels, deodorants, sanitary products, moisturisers and even socks. Carly will be taking the boxes over on Wednesday 18th December so do please drop in any final donations before then.

10. Coffee Morning

Due to the halls on both sites being used for end of term events, there will be no coffee morning next week. We are finalising the schedule for next term over the next few days and hope to have this

on the website by the end of next week – we've got a great line up of guests including the London Fire Brigade, Family Matters and an online safety workshop.

Beth Humphreys

Associate Principal: Head of Primary