



December 2016

The Knox Newsletter



From the Head Teacher

Dear Friends,

I can scarcely believe that it is that time of year again, when I write to you to let you know what we've been up to in 2016.

We had our best year for exam results that we have ever had—thanks to the hard work of staff, pupils and parents, who manage, at the right time to produce the right “alchemy” that leads to success. We can't be complacent, though, and we are aiming for “more and better” in 2017.

As ever, there have been staffing changes and this week, we are saying farewell to Ms Rainger as she embarks on her well-earned retirement. We are also wishing Ms Machen all the best as she leaves us to start her maternity leave. Since August we have welcomed Ms Robb (Science and Biology), Mr Meekison (Guidance), and Dr Rice (Science and Chemistry).

Things never stand still here at Knox and we are already in the throes of finishing up UCAS applications with the S6 and helping others in the senior school prepare for the world of work through employability training. In terms of next steps for our pupils, we helped with the launch of the “My World of Work” marketplace that will enable employers to let schools know what work experience opportunities there are out there, and we've had two teams of S6 pupils taking part in Young Enterprise. There have been trips to the Theatre, science workshops, Aubigny along with author visits, as well as a life-changing visit to Auschwitz for two of our S6. You can never say that we let the grass grow under our feet!

Last Friday we supported the “Save the Children” Christmas Jumper Day and the theme was continued today as we have welcomed Mrs McGillivray and two P7s up to the school to judge the annual Christmas Box Competition. The rehearsals for the Christmas concerts are running on and I have the pleasure of hearing the music as they rehearse. As ever, massive thanks go out to the music staff, and instructors, the pupils and their families for working together to create what will be a memorable evening.

I have seen many examples of pupils demonstrating the values of the school this year. The innumerable acts of kindness and generosity, their commitment to hard work and attaining to the best of their ability, and turning up week after week to represent the school at sporting events. We've not got it cracked, but I remain proud of the pupils and all that they achieve.

So, all that remains is to hope that everyone gets some rest over this festive period, and to wish everyone, everything that they wish for themselves in 2017.

Yours,

S Ingham

Head Teacher

Dates for the Diary

Monday 9th January 2017	All resume	Wednesday 1st March	PSP (6.15pm)
Tuesday 17th January	S4/5/6 Tracking Reports Issued	Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day
Wednesday 18th January	PSP (6.15pm)	Monday 6th March	Nat 5 and Higher Drama Performance Prelims
Thursday 19th January	S4 Parent s' Consultation (5-7pm)	Monday 6th March	S4 Coursing Week
Friday 20th January	S3 Full Reports and Profiles Issued	Friday 10th March	S4 Coursing Complete
Tuesday 24th January	S3 Parents' Consultation (5-7pm)	Monday 13th March	S5 Coursing Week
Thursday 26th January	Burns Supper (7-10pm)	Wednesday 15th March	S2 Parents' Consultation
Monday 30th January	Benchmarking Assessment Fortnight Commences	Thursday 16th March	S3 Vaccinations
Wednesday 1st February	S3/4/5 Course Choice Information Evening (6.30pm)	Thursday 16th March	Nat 5 and Higher Drama Performance Prelims
Thursday 2nd February	S1 & S2 HPV Vaccinations	Friday 17th March	S5 Coursing Complete
Monday 6th February	S3 Coursing Week	Friday 17th March	Higher Maths Camp Leaves
Wednesday 8th February	S2 Full Reports Issued	Wednesday 22nd March	S4 Tracking Reports Issued
Wednesday 8th February	PSP (6.15pm)	Friday 24th March	S2 Coursing Complete
Friday 10th February	S3 Coursing Complete	Wednesday 29th March	S5/6 Tracking Reports Issued
Friday 10th February	All Break	Wednesday 29th March	Spring Concert (7pm)
Monday 20th February	Staff Resume (In Service Day)	Friday 31st March	All Break
Tuesday 21st February	Pupils Resume	Tuesday 18th April	All Resume
Thursday 23rd February	S1 Tracking Reports Issued		

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