

KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL



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18 September 2009

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to wish everybody a warm welcome to a new, and hopefully very successful, school year at Ken Stimpson. I hope that everybody involved with the school is, like me, looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that will come our way over the next academic year.

New Students and Staff.

We have many new students joining us this year, not only in Year 7 alone but also individuals in other year groups. We have a number of members of teaching and support staff who are also new to the school and I am very pleased to welcome them to Ken Stimpson too. I am sure that all new members of the school, students and staff, will enjoy a productive time here and all fulfil their true potential.

Refurbishment and redecoration

Upon your next visit you will, I am sure, be impressed by the tremendous changes to the school buildings that have taken place over the course of the summer.

New doors have been fitted in Block 1 to match the quality of the doors in the new build. A great deal of painting and recarpeting has also taken place around our school. There is impressive new signage around the site which will make navigation a lot easier for new students, staff and visitors to the school. The toilets at the rear of the Library have been refurbished and an external access created. We have also built a school shop in the Performing Arts area and this is where school uniform articles and such like will be sold. There have been further improvements in the Reception areas, where the walls have been repainted and new benching for students has been installed.

These changes, once again, demonstrate our commitment to provide the very best facilities and environment for learning.

I am now looking for all students to take still greater pride in their surroundings and to maintain the excellent standards that can be seen around our school. We encourage students to use all of the litter bins that are provided and be sure to report any student who misuses the site. We always ensure that any damage is paid for by the individual concerned and the network of CCTV cameras, installed for everybody's safety and security, assist us to this end.

KSCS Launches a new website.

At the start of the September term we launched a new school website. The address is the same - www.kscs.org.uk - but the design, feel and, most importantly, content aren't. We have tried to make it easier to find the information you need, including term dates, details of forthcoming events, school policies, useful links and photos galleries and there are now new ways to contact us and comment on the site. Like all websites, we intend to grow and improve the site continuously, with particular focus over the next few months. If you've any comments or queries, please feel free to get in touch by visiting the Contact section on the website.

Examination Results.

Last summer was, again, successful for students taking examinations in Years 9, 11 and Post 16. Many of our youngsters achieved excellent grades and levels and, in many cases, produced our best ever results.

Students are set challenging targets based on their previous performance in Key Stages 2 and 3 or GCSE examinations. In our analysis of school examination results we compare each student's performance against the academic targets they were set. We celebrate when a student achieves a grade D when they may have been predicted an E. In our terms they have done much better than someone who may have achieved a B but should have scored an A. It is the focus on individuals that helps us to improve consistently.

A2 LEVEL

At A2 level our students did extremely well to surpass the challenging targets that they were set. In fact they outperformed their targets, on average, in every examination. All students who wished to move on to University achieved the standard of results necessary – almost all of them at their first choice universities. In addition all those students who chose to seek employment secured roles.

Indeed, a number of students produced very good individual results:

Forename	Surname	A	B	C	D	E	Points	Average Points*	Notes
Helena	Diver	3	0	1	0	0	36	9.0	AS Grade A
Emilia	Tolomeo	2	1	1	0	0	34	8.5	AS Grade E
Daisy	Jackson	0	4	0	0	0	32	8.0	
Sarah	Chambers	2	1	0	0	1	30	7.3	AS Grade C
Victoria	Coquet	1	1	1	1	1	30	6.0	AS Grade E
Joshua	Harris	2	1	0	0	1	30	7.3	
Leona	Brennan	2	0	1	0	0	26	8.7	
Gulsheroz	Khan	1	2	0	0	0	26	8.7	
Stacie	Edwards	1	1	1	0	0	24	8.0	
David	Harman	0	1	2	0	1	22	7.3	AS Grade B
Laura	Marriott	0	1	2	0	0	20	6.6	AS Grades C D

* The point scoring system is A = 10, B = 8, C = 6, D = 4, E = 2

These are the destinations of last year's A2 students.

Forename	Surname	Destination	Course
Yasmeen	Ahktar	Westminster	Psychology
Jessica	Asplin	Leeds	Social Sciences
Joshua	Bell	PRC	Accountancy
Richard	Bennett	Leeds	Music Technology
Leona	Brennan	Roehampton	Dance
Sarah	Chambers	Leicester	Psychology
Naomi	Clynch	Lincoln 2010 / 2009 - Gap year	Bath Youth Work Project
Victoria	Coquet	Studying in Argentina	Languages
Helena	Diver	UEA	Law
Michael	Earl	PRC	Mechanical Engineering
Stacie	Edwards	UEA	Psychology
Jason	English	Army/Police	
Yasmin	Farrer	PRC	New diploma in Creative Arts and Media
Melisa	Fox	Southampton	Fashion Journalism
David	Harman	Hertfordshire University	Physics

Laura	Harris	Stamford College (TBC)	Art Foundation Course
Emily	Hazell	Anglia Ruskin	Nursing
Matthew	Hendry	Sheffield	Foundation Engineering
Hannah	Hunter	Lincoln Bishops	Primary Teaching
Diasy	Jackson	Huddersfield	English Language & Journalism
Gulshehraz	Khan	Aston	Law
Nick	Lamb	Weston-Super-Mare	Acting
Natalie	Lawrence	Bedford	Business
Glenn	Longden	Bedford	Sports Studies
Laura	Marriott	Lincoln	Dance
Edward	Mowle	Full-time Employment	
Hayley	Pearson	Bedford	Primary Education
Bryony	Pound	Canterbury	English Language & Politics
Roxanne	Richardson	GAP Year	
Lucy	Rogers	Huntingdon college	Photography
Ruby	Simpson	Demontfort	Journalism and Politics
Andrew	Skeels	Bedford	Law
Adam	Spademan	Bishop Grosseteste	Education Studies and Maths
Nicola	Stockdale	Full-time Employment	
Thomas	Stocks	Sheffield Hallam	Communication Studies
Emilia	Tolomeo	Nottingham Trent	Psychology with Criminology
Thomas	Wilson-Neal	PRC	Carpentry
Molly	Woodward	Greenwich	SEN Teaching
Sanam	Yaseen	Nottingham Trent	Foundation Youth Studies

AS LEVEL

At AS level our students did well to match the challenging targets that they were set. Once again outperforming targets by record margins. Individual results included:

Forename	Surname	A	B	C	D	Points	Average Points*
Holly	Brown	3	1	1	0	22	4.4
Lauren	Kellett	3	1	0	1	21	4.2
Scott	Luland	1	4	0	0	21	4.2
Joshua	Farthing	3	0	1	0	18	4.5
Hayley	Cook	1	1	2	1	17	3.4
Amy	Barnett	1	3	0	0	17	4.3
Katie	Sixsmith	1	2	1	0	16	4.0
Jennifer	Hodges	1	1	1	1	14	3.5
Liam	Cox	1	1	1	0	12	4.0

* The point scoring system is A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1

YEAR 12 – 1 YEAR COURSES

	Distinction	Merit	Pass
BTec First Diploma in Business	0	7	5
BTec First Certificate in Business	1	8	4
NVQ in Customer Service	0	0	6
BTec Health & Social Care - Intermediate	0	2	1
Total	1	17	16

GCSE

From this summer the major target for comparison with other schools nationally is 5 or more A*- C passes including English and Mathematics. This year we scored 44% which is our best ever result, is above the national average and compares favourably with other Peterborough schools.

A number of students produced very good individual results:

Forename	Surname	A*	A	B	C	Pts	Mean*
Dominic	Markham	2.0	6.0	3.0		78.0	6.8
Samuel	Clarke	3.0	6.0	1.5	0.5	77.5	7.0
Simon	Jacklin	1.0	7.0	3.0		77.0	6.7
Laura	Lee		5.0	6.0	0.5	75.5	6.3
Sophia	Lane	2.0	3.0	5.0	1.5	74.5	6.5
Jessica	Steel	1.0	6.0	3.5		73.0	6.6
Harry	Fort		6.0	4.0	1.0	73.0	6.3
Georgia	Kingston		7.0	3.5		72.0	6.5
Ben	Lawrence	2.0	4.0	2.0	3.0	72.0	6.3
Simon	Allen		2.0	5.0	5.0	71.0	5.7
Daniel	Nash	2.0	4.0	2.0	2.5	70.5	6.4
Frederick	Waldron		4.0	6.0	1.0	70.5	6.1
Rebecca	Todd		5.0	5.5		70.0	6.4
Benjamin	Pearce		4.0	5.0	2.0	69.5	6.0
Christopher	Back		1.0	6.0	5.0	68.5	5.5
Alexander	Stobbs		5.0	4.5	1.0	68.0	6.2
Alex	Bloomfield		2.0	3.0	6.0	68.0	5.4
Chester	Hyatt		2.0	7.0	2.0	67.5	5.9
Keeley	Feerick		3.0	3.0	5.0	67.0	5.6
Ryan	Gibbs				11.0	65.0	4.6
Laura	Mote		2.0	6.0	2.5	64.5	5.9
Kate	Rice		4.0	4.0	1.0	64.5	5.9
Christopher	Rippon		3.0	5.0	2.0	64.5	5.9
Thomas	Cottrell		2.0	6.0	1.0	64.5	5.6
Emily	McKay		1.0	9.0		63.0	6.0
Sophie	Beal		3.0	3.0	4.0	63.0	5.7

* The point scoring system is A* = 8, A = 7, B = 6, C = 5, D = 4, E = 3, F = 2, G = 1

The 0.5 grade refers to a “short-course” GCSE in Information Technology or R.E.

KS3 SATs RESULTS

As I am sure many of you are aware, last October the requirement for students to sit Key Stage 3 SATs tests in English, Maths and Science was removed. In previous years the school had to report to parents the Teacher Assessments for these three and many other subjects. This requirement continues and last year's Year 9 students' assessments surpassed anything that we have achieved previously – a superb achievement! I confirm that the targets set relate to Fischer Family Trust “D” Targets – the most challenging that can be set – based on the results of the top 25% of schools nationally.

The following students gained the highest scores in the year group:

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Maths</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>Total</u>
Grace	Barnett	7	8	7	22
Kimberley	Dunne	7	8	7	22
Nikki	Foster	7	8	7	22
Rebekah	Pearce	7	8	7	22
Erika	Radvilaite	7	8	7	22
Bethany	Taylor	7	8	7	22
Ross	Brown	6	8	7	21
Emily	Cook	7	7	7	21
Matthew	Gladders	6	8	7	21
Joel	Grenfell	6	8	7	21
Mark	Griffin	6	8	7	21
Michaela	Griffin	7	7	7	21
Thomas	Harper	6	8	7	21
Adam	Heather	6	8	7	21
Rebecca	Hind	7	7	7	21
Hannah	Johnson	6	8	7	21
Megan	Johnson	6	8	7	21
Sebastian	Paris	6	8	7	21
Rebecca	Platten	7	7	7	21
Peter	Richards	6	8	7	21
Danielle	Rizzo	6	8	7	21
Jamie	Tyrrell	6	8	7	21

Formal examination analysis meetings have already been completed involving individual Heads of Faculty, Subject Leaders, Key Stage Coordinators, the designated Leadership Team link person and me to review the results and to consider strategies for yet further improvement. The second stage of the process will involve similar meetings with each department and the Leadership Team link.

Uniform.

Students have returned to school looking very smart. It is now important that we maintain this high level of appearance. I have asked all students to study the updated uniform list displayed in classrooms and confirm that the black sweatshirt or v-neck jumper with the KSCS logo are optional when the weather is warm during this first half-term but that they are compulsory between October half-term and Easter. However, it is not acceptable to wear a t-shirt under the white top instead of wearing the sweatshirt. The black sweatshirt or v-neck jumper with the KSCS logo may not be replaced by t-shirts underneath or tracksuit style jackets, cardigans or sweatshirts with hoods over the top of the white shirt instead of the sweatshirt. Please be aware that canvas shoes should not replace traditional school shoes. I would also like to reconfirm the rules relating to jewellery in school. Students are entitled to wear an optional wrist watch and a pair of stud earrings – the maximum size of which is clearly indicated in the Student Planner. Students are not permitted to wear any other visible piercings to school.

KSCS Calendar 2009-2010.

Please find attached a copy of the school calendar for this academic year. It is published to allow you to record now the dates of events relating specifically to your youngster(s). This calendar can be accessed on our school website.

Parents' Forum - Monday 28 September.

You are warmly invited to the Parents' Forum Meeting on **Monday 28 September** at **7.00 p.m.** in the **Conference Room**. The Forum has been established to provide an opportunity for parents to meet with senior staff, to comment on their impressions of the quality of education provided, to make suggestions for improvement and to comment upon proposed changes within school. Please come along and help us to improve our school!

It would be helpful if you would send a brief note, telephone message (01733 383658) or email (forum@kscs.org.uk) to Mrs Ware, Principal's PA, at school, to let us know if you plan to come along to this first meeting of the school year and, if so, if there are particular questions that you would like to raise.

Student Planners

Last year the school planners were dramatically redesigned to improve their effectiveness. At the beginning of this new term additional emphasis is, once again, being placed upon how students use their school planners. Students in all year groups have been issued with planners in which they can record their homework and other important school information. Students are reminded that they should place their planners on their desks at the beginning of each lesson and should expect to be set homework in accordance with the published homework rotas. Planners should be kept free of graffiti of any kind and in the event of the planner being lost, or deemed unsuitable for use because of graffiti, a replacement should be purchased from the relevant Learning Coordinator for £3.00. Parents and tutors are asked to check and sign the planners every week as the planner acts as an integral part of the communication process between home and school. All planners will also be checked by a member of the administrative support staff as part of our quality assurance procedures.

Prospective Parents' Evening - Tuesday 6 October.

Currently parents of children in Year 6 of primary schools are involved in the important process of choosing a secondary school. Our Prospective Parents' Evening is scheduled for Tuesday 6 October. Since many students return in the evening to help we will end school at **2.20 p.m.** on that afternoon to allow them an adequate break. If this early end to the day causes you difficulties then please contact your son/daughter's tutor.

School Clubs and Activities.

Details of the clubs and activities available to students during this first half-term of the academic year are on the plasma screens around school and can be accessed on the school website. I would be most grateful if you could encourage your son or daughter to take part in these enrichment opportunities.

"Wear it Blue and Bling!" non-uniform day – Friday 23 October.

A non-uniform day will be held on Friday 23 October to support two charities; Breast Cancer Research, who hold the annual 'Wear It Pink' event, and The Landirani Trust, who support our link school in Malawi.

The theme of our charity events this year is 'water' and, as usual, students will be charged £1 to wear casual dress. We are asking them particularly to wear something blue and 'bling' in line with our water theme – blue and sparkly.

"Pamper Evening".

The Ken Stimpson School Association invites you to a "Pamper Evening" on Thursday 19 November 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. This will be a social evening to include demonstrations and the opportunity to purchase goods from a wide variety of local businesses. Please come along and treat yourself or even begin your Christmas shopping! Tickets are £2 and include refreshments and will be available from the school office the week commencing Monday 2 November. For further information, or to book a stand, please contact Mrs Ayre, Business Enterprise and Community Co-ordinator, Ken Stimpson Community School 01733 383684. Thank you for your support.

Fox Covert Road.

There are clear notices regarding the use of Fox Covert Road. It is designed for the use of residents and disabled visitors to the Library only. Consequently I encourage parents not to use the Fox Covert Road entrance to drop off or collect students from school. I would ask all drivers of all cars and minibuses to use the perfectly adequate car parking facilities at the Werrington Centre entrance.

A word from the Governors.

Congratulations to all our students who did so well in their exams this year. It is a real pleasure to see our students achieving their goals.

This is going to be a very busy year at KSCS; we have a full calendar of events and meetings. Governors will be present at as many of these as possible. Please look out for the Governor representative at each of the Parent/ Tutor evenings, Parent Forum meetings and other events across the year. We will be actively seeking your views in helping us to move the school forward this year.

Since returning to school for the new academic year we have received resignations from two of our parent governors. Whilst not wanting to lose either of them we understand completely their reasons for not wanting to continue at this time. Both Nick Shaw and Tracy Paris will be missed. They have both played a full and active role in governor meetings, having committed a lot of time and effort in supporting the school and in attending training to enable them to be effective. We wish them well for the future.

As a result we have two vacancies for Parent Governors on the Governing Body. If you wish to be nominated then please complete the proforma at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Clerk to the Governors at school. Your nomination should be proposed and seconded by parents of students currently on roll. Please include a brief personal statement of about 100 words that we can publish to help parents when voting. You may wish to describe the skills you could bring to the Governing Body. If you would like to talk to a Governor or find out more about being a governor before applying please contact either Mrs. Ware or myself at the school to arrange this.

I look forward to meeting you soon.
Bridget Holland - Chair of Governors

Yours faithfully



Richard Lord
Acting Principal

Timescale

Friday	18	September	Issue of newsletter
Friday	9	October	Closing date for nominations (9.00 a.m.)
Wednesday	14	October	Issue of ballot papers
Monday	19	October	Close of voting (9.00 a.m.)
Friday	23	October	Results of election published to parents

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Nomination for Parent Governor: Closing Date – 9 October 2009 (9.00 a.m.)

NAME: _____	SIGNATURE: _____
PARENT OF: _____	TUTOR GROUP: _____
<u>PROPOSED BY:</u>	
NAME: _____	SIGNATURE: _____
PARENT OF: _____	TUTOR GROUP: _____
<u>SECONDED BY:</u>	
NAME: _____	SIGNATURE: _____
PARENT OF: _____	TUTOR GROUP: _____