

Welcome

I'd like to welcome you to KGV and our new Briefing for Parents. We aim to issue a briefing every half term, providing you with frequent updates of what's going on at the College, important information about the key events taking place that will involve your son/daughter and giving you the opportunity to get more involved with our KGV community. I do hope you will want to get involved in our many events and activities and please don't hesitate to contact us, using the links provided at the end of all our briefings, if you have any questions or suggestions.

As this is our first briefing we have decided to provide all our parents with a copy alongside student's first Progress Data Reports. In future, the briefing will be delivered by email to parents and be stored on the college website www.kgv.ac.uk. In order to ensure that you receive your email copy of the briefing and other important notices, please send your name, contact details and son's/daughter's name to contactdetails@kgv.ac.uk.

As I have said on many occasions, the fantastic successes that our students achieve would not be possible without the support and backing of parents. I look forward to working with you over the coming academic year.

Adele Wills

College Refurbishments

We've had a number of exciting refurbishment projects happening over the last half term. Earlier in the term, we have seen the opening of the first phase of our new refectory, where Mellors provide a range of hot and cold food to refresh our students throughout the day. The colourful and modern facilities have been welcomed by our students and we are looking forward to the opening of our new coffee shop after half term, which will mark the refurbishment of the Refectory area complete. This will provide staff and students with a welcoming and comfortable environment to socialise and enjoy our vibrant College community.

We are also very excited to prepare for the opening of our brand new Learning Centre after half term. The Learning Centre facilities have been totally modernised providing traditional study spaces as well as a range of new computer suites. In essence, our new Learning Centre offers a one stop shop for students to access all the support they require. Ultimately, our vision is that Student Reception, Progress Coaches, Learning Support and Careers will all be housed in the new accommodation, working alongside the Learning Centre staff to ensure that all KGV students are given the best opportunity to succeed.

Manager of the Learning Centre, Tony Fowler, welcomes the new facilities, saying "We've got big plans to make the learning centre an exciting and vibrant place to learn and a place to celebrate the excellence and creativity of our young people." All the services provided will be monitored and managed by the Director and Deputy Director of Learning and Achievement: Individualised learning. Jane Rowley and Nick King, who are based in the centre.

Up and Coming

We are holding our Grand Opening of the Learning Centre on 14th December 2011 coinciding with our College concert, which for the first time will be offered as a Promenade Concert. Why not come along and see what we have to offer, as well as sampling our students' talents and a range of festive refreshments on the night. Details regarding tickets for the event will shortly be available via our website www.kgv.ac.uk.

Progress Coaches

We have this term welcomed a new team of Progress Coaches to our College Community. The new team provide a totally dedicated pastoral support function for students, a service that we believe is second to none.

The team have been working hard getting to know all our students during the first few weeks of term. Progress Coaches have 2 timetabled contact times during the College week with the students in their care. In addition, they meet regularly with students on a one to one basis to pick up on particular issues. Year 12 students will shortly be beginning their AOPE qualification which develops research, time management and time work skills. Year 13 students have been working hard with their Progress Coach to finalise their UCAS applications or research into employment opportunities in the area. The feedback we have received has been incredibly positive and students have particularly valued the fact that Progress Coaches are more accessible and are specialists in their area.

Careers advice

In addition to our 10 Progress Coaches, we've also welcomed our new Careers Coordinator, Holly Mannion. Holly has been working with Progress Coaches to help Year 13 students make realistic and informed university applications and has provided employment advice to those students choosing employment at the end of their time at KGV. Holly will be based in our brand new Learning Centre and is available for drop in advice sessions with students throughout the college day. Contact Holly at HKM@kgv.ac.uk



Parent Directorate

We welcome the input and opinions of parents as part of our College community. You provide us with a different and enlightening view of our College and we would like to encourage you to get involved more. Director and Deputy Director of Learning and Achievement: Communications, Claire Parry and Donna Taylor-Gowland are currently introducing a new Parent Directorate, which will play a key part in providing feedback on what we do and generating new ideas for the future. We plan to hold our first meeting on 23rd November 2011 at 6pm at the college. Why not come along and get involved. Contact kgvparentdirector@kgv.ac.uk for more information.

ID badges

The safety of all our students is a prime concern for us and one way that we approach this is by expecting all staff and students to wear college ID badges on site. This allows us to spot intruders very quickly, an important aspect of our management of what is a relatively open and accessible site. We have worked hard over the first few weeks of term to encourage students to get into good habits and we would appreciate your support on this one. Unfortunately, students not wearing ID badges are requested to purchase a temporary badge from student reception, so please encourage your son/daughter to carry their badge with them and avoid this totally unnecessary charge. We would much rather focus our attention on teaching and learning, but need to be assured that there is a basic level of safety around the site before we can do so.

Student Success and Achievements

Andy Cardus - 3rd place in Northwest Colleges Badminton Competition
 Nick Greenhalgh/Damian Wachocki - Chemistry AS Student of the Month
 Simon Richman - Chemistry A2 Student of the Month
 Gabriel Bean - A2 Chemistry Brain Teaser Challenge
 Sammy Canadine - AS Chemistry Brain Teaser Challenge
 Conor Greenwood - AS Philosophy Outstanding Achievement Award
 Beth Anderson- A2 Philosophy Outstanding Achievement Award
 Beth Riordan - AS Religious Studies Outstanding Achievement Award
 Vicky Ball - A2 Religious Studies Outstanding Achievement Award
 Connor Jameson/Ryan Bake/George Caton/Jonny Caton - NW England BCS Hockey team
 Emma Downs – NW England BCS Womens Hockey team

Events

Visit to Painter-Stainers Guild in London by A2 History students
 Talk to AS/A2 Politics students by John Pugh MP
 Mock interviews have been held for 23 students applying for Oxbridge courses
 A2 Philosophy students attended a trip to Liverpool Town Hall/Liverpool University
 Staff and students raised over £800 for the McMillan Coffee Morning
 National film Schools Week screenings
 KGV Radio launches on 31st October 2011

Key dates

31 st Oct 2011	Start of half term
17 th Nov 2011	Open Evening (College closes at 1.15pm)
18 th Nov 2011	Y12 Subject Progress Review (College closed to Yr 13 students)
9 th Dec 2011	Yr12 Progress Reviews issued Yr13 Progress Data Reports issued
14 th Dec 2011	Learning Centre Grand Opening and College Concert
16 th Dec 2011	End of Autumn term (College closes at 1.15pm)
4 th January 2012	Start of Spring term

Contact us

If you have a question or an issue that needs addressing please contact one of the members of staff listed below.

Dawn Aspinall	DAS@kgv.ac.uk
Nina Brew	NEB@kgv.ac.uk
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Martin Jones	MJ@kgv.ac.uk
Steven Ryan	STR@kgv.ac.uk

Photos of our brand new Refectory and Learning Centre are displayed within this briefing. To view more photographs of our new accommodation, please visit our website www.kgv.ac.uk

