



Kingsmead School



A PARTNER ACADEMY IN JOHN TAYLOR MAT

Acting Headteacher: Mr S Cope, Bsc, NPQH

RESILIENT



INNOVATIVE



MINDFUL



EMPLOYABLE



May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We end this short half-term with Year 11 and 13 exams in full swing, Year 10s successfully completing their mocks and Year 7-9 working towards their end of year assessments. The school is excited about the half-term coming up, we have our transition week for prospective Year 7 students, Sports Day and Activity Days. There is also work experience for Year 12 and the new, further improved enrichment sessions for all year groups.

Team and Individual Successes

Over just the last few weeks we have had a number of sporting, talent and character awards for students at Kingsmead. There were three teams this year that took part in the West England National Handball finals, with one team gaining Bronze. The under-15 girls' football team won the Staffordshire County Cup 8-0 this Monday, and the Year 10 rounders team won the District Tournament on Tuesday. Abi won the Cannock Chase Council Youth Endeavour Award for bravery, which was presented by the Chair of Cannock Chase Council, Councillor Steve Thornley. There was success for Georgia and Evelyn in the Rotary Art Competition, where they have been crowned District and Regional winners and are now representing Kingsmead in the Nationals.

We know that our students do so much both inside and outside of school worthy of recognition. To recognise this the Trust's Exceptional Achievement Awards are given each year, if you would like to nominate your child or a Kingsmead child you know, please see the details at the end of this letter. The deadline is 4pm on 13th June, 2025.

"Be Here to Get There"

We have seen improvements in attendance and punctuality in EVERY year group over the last two half-terms. We thank you, parents, for ensuring your child is here, learning and socialising with their friends. We have seen a particular drop in extended absence for illness and a reduction of fines and home visits for these. Where there are specific needs, parents are letting us know early so that we can help, with so much to look forward to over the next half-term we are keen that we continue this.

ParentPay

We have been made aware that there is a new issue with some of the ParentPay recording systems. We are working with Civica to correct this, and we thank you for your patience. Please check our MCAS notifications for updates.

Early Promotion – Week 1

Early promotion is when your child's year group and Progress Leader, advance to the 'next year' ahead of the Summer - Year 7 move to Year 8 and their new teachers, Year 10 to Year 11, etc. Having first started this some 5 years ago we have seen this provide a focused and engaging end to the year. Students get to start options early, students get challenged by the next level of work and we have a very sharp start in September. Students will receive their new timetable during period 1 on Tuesday, 11th June in a tutor time session and then we start on Week 1.

Year 10 Parents Evening Change of Date

It was necessary to change the original date of the Year 10 parents evening, this was changed on the electronic calendar for parents, and we wanted to flag this again. To confirm, the date for Year 10 parents evening is Thursday 19th June 2025.

We hope you all have a lovely half-term break with your families. There are some revision sessions on over the break (please see the additional letter sent to Year 11 and 13 students), otherwise we return to school on Monday, 2nd June at 8:30am.

Best wishes,



Mr. S. Cope
Acting Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event
02/06/25	Return to school from half-term holiday – school starts at 8:30am.
02/06/25	GCSE and A-Level exams continue. There are also Key Stage 3 exams during this week
06/06/25	The Start of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition
09/06/25	INSET DAY: Students not in school. Some revision classes are on for Year 11 and 13 – please see separate MCAS letter
10/06/25	Early promotion starting Week 1
11/06/25	English Literature Keele University Trip
19/06/25	Year 10 Parents Evening – in person (4pm-6:30pm)
23/06/25	Start of (New) Year 13 Work Experience week
25/06/25 - 26/06/25	(New) Year 12 Transition days
25/06/25	(New) Year 12 parents' induction evening (starts at 6pm)
30/06/25 – 3/07/25	(New) Year 7 Transition week (Year 6s coming into Year 7)
30/06/25 – 3/07/25	GL progress test week (promoted Year 8s – into Year 10)
01/07/25	(New) Year 7 induction evening (Year 6s coming into Year 7)
02/07/25	Year 11 prom
03/07/25	Year 12 History trip
04/07/25	Whole Trust Training Day – Students not in school
07/07/25	Aspiring Doctor's day (Year 10-13) at St George's hospital - for students who were successful in their application
09/07/25	Sports Day
11/07/25 – 14/07/25	A-Level Geography Fieldwork
11/07/25 – 14/07/25	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition
17/07/25 – 18/07/25	Activity Days (starts at 8:30 – ends at 14:00)

John Taylor MAT

CEO: Mike Donoghue OBE MA (Hons), MBA, NPQH, NLE



Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is with great pleasure that we announce that nominations are now open for the JTMAT Exceptional Achievement Award, which all John Taylor Multi Academy Trust pupils are eligible to be nominated for.

The award, which is open to all year groups in all JT MAT schools, is an opportunity for children to gain recognition for their achievements. Pupils may be nominated for the Exceptional Achievement Award at any point in the academic year, based on the following criteria:

Primary Aged Pupils (KS1 & KS2)	Secondary Aged Pupils (KS3, KS4 & KS5)
County, National or International status in any given activity in the last 18 months.	National or International status in any given activity in the last 18 months.
Grade 1 at KS1 or Grade 3 plus level in music or singing at KS2. Performing in televised programme/ film or National stage production.	Grade 8 level/ Diploma in music or singing. Performing in televised programme/ film.
Fundraising for a charity over £2000.	Fundraising for a charity over £5000.
Success in overcoming adversity.	Success in overcoming adversity.

Parents, carers, staff, or peers can make a nomination using the above criteria.

Please complete the online form via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/qcKcUGbQ4H>, the form will ask you to complete a short paragraph (please work to a maximum of 250 words) in order to provide further details regarding the nomination.

Once you have made your nomination and, in the weeks, leading up to the ceremony, please be advised that we will be in contact with you to request supporting evidence, which you should provide to the student's headteacher. Please be advised that you will be notified shortly after this process has taken place to let you know whether your nomination has been successful.

Please provide as many specific details about the achievement as possible, ensuring that you provide full details of which sport/ instrument (eg), the achievement involves.

If successful, students will be invited to meet with their headteacher, who will join a Teams call with Mike Donoghue OBE, CEO of John Taylor MAT, in which they will receive their very special gold pin badge award and certificate of exceptional achievement.

We very much look forward to seeing our school community embrace this opportunity and celebrate those who achieve the award. The deadline for nominations is **4pm on Friday 13th June 2025** and winners will be announced shortly after that date.

If you have any enquiries, please email jtmata-subjectexcellence@jtmata.co.uk

With Kind Regards,

Mrs G Martin
Director of School Improvement (secondary)

Mrs L Farmer
Director of School Improvement (primary)