

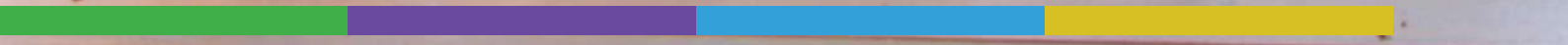


KINGSMEAD LIFE

MAGAZINE



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD

ATTENDANCE

PRIMARY PARTNER FEATURE

RIME FEATURE: MINDFUL

YEAR GROUP FEATURE

WELLBEING

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

HIGHFLYERS

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

THE SPORTS REPORT



FOREWORD

With the first glimpses of summer comes exam season for all Kingsmead students, but in particular for Year 11 and 13 students who begin their final GCSE and A-Level exams. So far, the students have done us and themselves proud in the way they have prepared for this all-important time, with an average of over 100 students attending each day of the revision sessions staff put on for them over the Easter holiday.

Year 11 students started the half-term with an assembly focused on supporting them with developing an exams mindset; knowing when to work and how to work, but also how to look after themselves and their mental wellbeing at this very demanding time. Students in other groups have also been working incredibly hard this half-term, with the Year 7 students spending the day running the country by participating in their COBRA Day, and a whole host of students across all year groups representing the school by competing in the Junior Maths Challenge.

For Year 11 and 13 students, external exams begin in earnest this half-term and for all other year groups, they also have internal exams to complete. We want to do everything we can to support our young people and so, have put together a timetable of additional revision sessions, as well as buying in revision resources for students to use. Students have received wellbeing bags and can pick up a free breakfast from the House of Pi at any time.

And while the importance of this critical time cannot be understated, it also worth remembering that the end is in sight and that a great many exciting things are waiting just down the tracks once exams are over: Community Day, Progress Reviews, Work Experience Week for Year 12, Year 11 prom and of course, Activities Week.

Now is the time for hard work and focus, but I am confident that if our students stay the course, they will reap the rewards of their efforts 10-fold in the future.

I wish every student sitting exams in the coming days and weeks all the luck in the world, we are behind you, and we are here for you, whatever you need!...

Best wishes,

Mrs. Mincher
Headteacher





BE HERE
TO GET THERE



ATTENDANCE

As you will have seen from our social media posts, our MAT and the government, attendance is a priority focus. Students who attend school regularly have improved well-being, improved memory retention, access to a range of extra curricular activities and teaching to enable them to achieve the grades to reach their potential.

Our students, unlike many in neighbouring schools, have access to a varied, innovative, and engaging curriculum offer, in addition to our bespoke enrichment programme, where we are nurturing ambition. Kingsmead School is proud to boast being in the top 10% of secondary schools nationally, and as a result our students go on to achieve grades higher than the national average.

Attendance is about the future, fostering an ethic of excellent attendance. It's important in the workplace as 90% on a test may seem good, but 90 % attendance in a half term is nearly 4 days off every 7 weeks!

We know Kingsmead students go on to be successful young adults who achieve great success. For example, places at universities like Oxford, York and Edinburgh, apprenticeship programmes and a full-time employment offer, entering at management levels. These are factual recollections of the destinations our students have secured at the end of their studies in Sixth Form, and this could be any one of our students in the future, which is my reason for sharing.

The students, above all, had one thing in common, they had outstanding attendance records at Kingsmead, worked hard and had supportive parents encouraging them to attend school, even on those dark cold mornings.

Evidence clearly states that a child's performance at school correlates to their attendance at school. By not attending school, students are putting themselves at a disadvantage in their future careers by risking their potential grades!


Students look to their parents for guidance and reassurance; therefore, we must recognise, parents are a key factor to student success. To encourage the attendance of your child we recommend the following :

- Download the MyChildatSchool app on your phone so you know your child's current attendance (Avoid taking holidays in school term time)
- Know the routines of the school day to avoid issues (do they need their PE kit the night before, not in the morning)
- Talk to your child about the importance of good attendance and building good habits ready for future employment
- Encourage good personal routines, such as completing home learning and having a good night's sleep
- Praise excellent attendance and link to their future career paths- small wins make a big difference
- Make sure children are not missing class with challenges / behaviour issues. Call us and we will find a solution together
- Only genuine illness should prevent a student from attending school
- Communicate with the school any absence and when they will be returning



PRIMARY PARTNER FEATURE

CHASING THE FUTURE



Recently, the headteachers of Five Ways Primary, Hazel Slade Academy, Heath Hayes Academy, Kingsmead, Poppyfield Academy, Pye Green Academy, St Peters Primary and West Hill Primary met to discuss how they could work together.

They formed a partnership called "Chasing The Future" and agreed to collaborate for the benefit of students within our community. The schools will work together to create a connected educational journey from birth to 19 years old.

Kingsmead is really excited about the benefits that this will bring to all of the schools and look forward to working closely with our partners within our community.

The collaboration will help to provide a smoother educational journey for students in our community. Through collaboration the schools will map the progression of our students. This will mean that primary teachers have a greater understanding of the work that students will move onto at Kingsmead. Equally, Kingsmead staff will fully understand and can build upon the great work that takes place in Key Stage Two.

The partnership will allow the schools to work together to share opportunities. This will be seen within the classroom with more opportunities for teachers to meet and discuss classwork. As well as this, the schools will be able to share training opportunities. Outside of the classroom, the partnership will develop sporting and musical opportunities between schools.



The schools will also share facilities where they can, so this year a number of our partner primaries will be holding their end of year shows at Kingsmead. This will enable them to invite more members of the community to the events.

The Partner Primaries have provided leadership and responsibility roles for Kingsmead students. Members of the Year Nine Girls Football team run a weekly football club at Poppyfield Academy. Other students have volunteered to help and support students with their literacy by listening to them read after school.

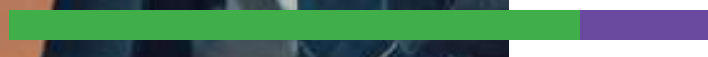
Kingsmead has welcomed younger students to experience a wide variety of activities. Many students have visited the animals at our farm to enhance their learning. Students have come to experience practical Science lessons. They have used CAD to enhance their understanding of Greek structures. Kingsmead teachers have also visited Primary schools through singing workshops to prepare students for Shrek and handball sessions to introduce them to the sports.

We are excited as we move forward and enable our students to chase their future together!





MINDFULNESS



RIME FEATURE | MINDFUL

At Kingsmead School, mindfulness isn't just a concept – it's a way of life embraced by pupils every day. Our pupils are spreading positivity and making a difference everyday through the many things they do and how they act.

First off, let's talk about how they tackle schoolwork. Instead of coasting, they dive deep into their subjects because they genuinely love learning new things. Whether it's learning something new in Biology or solving equations in Maths, they're all about that 'light bulb' moment when everything clicks.

But their awesomeness doesn't stop there! They're also mindful when it comes to helping in the community. From litter picking to helping families in crisis, and a special shout out to Sophie in Year 9 who helped a family after their car had set on fire; they're making a real difference in the world around them. Plus, their kindness doesn't go unnoticed – they're always spreading smiles wherever they go.

Our pupils also recognise the need for our kind corridors and are all about respect and consideration, making sure everyone feels welcome.

The resilience and positivity our pupils show when things get hard is exemplary, they know how to bounce back with a smile. Whether it's a test coming up or a friendship hiccup, they're there for each other, lifting spirits and spreading good vibes.

Here at Kingsmead School, we are lucky to have such mindful pupils who are making the world a better place, one positive action at a time!



STAFFORDSHIRE
UNIVERSITY



YEAR GROUP FEATURE

YEAR 9

As we come up to May half-term, Year 9 have been extremely busy revising and preparing for exams, which have now started. This has included a fantastic assembly session from Mr. Shakespeare along with resources sent to students via Satchel:One. Some Year 9 students have also worked closely with Progress Leader Mr. Taylor to set up a revision timetable to help manage their own time alongside revision at school. It has also been a very busy 6 weeks for Year 9 making huge decisions around their GCSE options, with every student having an interview to secure options and preparing for those next steps into Key Stage 4.

Something to look forward to after this process, along with end of year exams being completed, is an amazing opportunity for a whole year group trip to Staffordshire University. On offer is a tour of a university, which for a lot of students would be the first time seeing one, taster sessions in subjects they have never learnt before and the opportunity to speak to and ask questions to current students who study at Staffordshire, we are very lucky to have gained so many spaces for this and we aim to have every Year 9 student going.



WELLBEING

We understand the importance of developing the whole person and with 'Mindful' being one of our key RIME values, wellbeing is integral to many aspects of Kingsmead life.

As part of our wellbeing offering at Kingsmead School, we deliver wellbeing intervention groups designed, specifically in house for our students. Places on the intervention groups are gained through our referral system which is received directly from the students' Progress Leader (a member of staff fundamental to the pastoral support of our students). They run half-termly with approximately 8 students in each group. The groups take place in our Wellness Hub, an area we have worked hard on making feel safe, homely and 'not a classroom', key for our students to feel trust and comfort.

He-Motions is our programme designed specifically with our males in mind. The aims are to focus on the positive application of male attitudes and behaviours. We cover key topic areas focusing on male emotions,

insecurities, identity, resilience and positive mental attitude.

Image-in-me is our group programme designed for our females where the foundation is about building confidence, positive self-esteem, working on insecurities, resilience and identity.

On completion of the programme our students give feedback on how they have found the groups in order for us to continue to grow and adapt to ever changing needs. Some of our Year 7 Image in Me students said 'they talked to people more, helped me to feel more safe, respected, loved and hopeful' another liked they were 'making new friends and gaining confidence'.

Some comments from our latest Year 7 He-Motions group were 'I found controlling my anger most helpful' and 'I've got confidence in speaking out loud'.





Our Year 9 He-Motions group felt they had 'learnt how to become more motivated and learned about how the real world works' another said 'in my opinion I've been able to speak honestly and truthfully'. Such feedback shows how important it is to foster a calm and safe environment where students feel able to open up not only in front of staff but also in front of their peers.

Overall 86% of Year 9 He-motions group believe they have developed confidence and self-belief. 100% of Year 7 He-motions group feel motivated to achieve more.

84% of Year 7 Image in me group feel they have improved their ability to work effectively with others.

We are so proud of our Wellness Hub department and do our very best to offer a service in a climate where mental health and wellbeing is so paramount, but access to support is generally minimal and a challenge to receive.

As always, thank you for your support. Your child can access further self-help information and advice via the Blended Learning Platform.





CAREERS

Careers support for Sixth Form students.

As part of our careers programme, we are always looking for ways we can go above and beyond to continue to support our students. For the first time at Kingsmead, we will be holding a post-18 preparation day for Year 12 students.

Year 13 passes by so quickly, and it's a time when students make some very important decisions like: What will I do after Year 13? Which university should I apply for? Would I be better doing a degree apprenticeship?



Therefore, to help students prepare, they will be taking part in a targeted day on the 17th July so that staff are on hand to help guide students through these key decisions and planning preparations, so they are better prepared when starting back in Year 13.

Not only this, but we appreciate that not all students want to go to university, and some would like to apply for degree apprenticeships, further education, or employment. To support with this, the day will include a session on CV writing, a research workshop, as well as a mock interview, with targeted feedback provided by the employer to each student. As a school, we know how amazing our students are, but interviews are often a time when we are modest and undersell ourselves, so giving students the opportunity to experience an interview, and receive honest and constructive feedback will better prepare them for their future endeavours.

As part of the day, we are looking for volunteers to come in and take part in hosting the mock interviews. If you have experience of interviewing, or would like to take part, please contact Mrs. Kendall on n.kendall@kingsmeadschool.net and she will be in touch with the key information.

All being well with the weather, students will then spend the afternoon taking part in Sports Day with specific Sixth Form events where students will be working on those all-important skills for their CVs such as resilience and teamworking!

SAFEGUARDING

NSPCC have Snapchat guidance for parents. It contains information about the application and tips on how to keep your child safe. It also shows the safety features that are available on the app. Head over to their website to find out more.

NSPCC



Internet Matters provides parental guides for all applications platforms your child may use. Following this information, if you have any concerns, please contact Mrs Russell at ja.russell@kingsmeadschool.net.

SCHOOL SUPPORT FAYRE

**INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SUPPORT,
INFORMATION AND ADVICE.**

We have an upcoming student support fayre for all parents and carers on the internal and external support available to the students and their families. This event will give information and advice on what support is available and how to access this support. This will be on the Tuesday 4th June (4:30pm-6:30pm). For more information, please email lu.jones@kingsmeadschool.net.



HIGHFLYERS

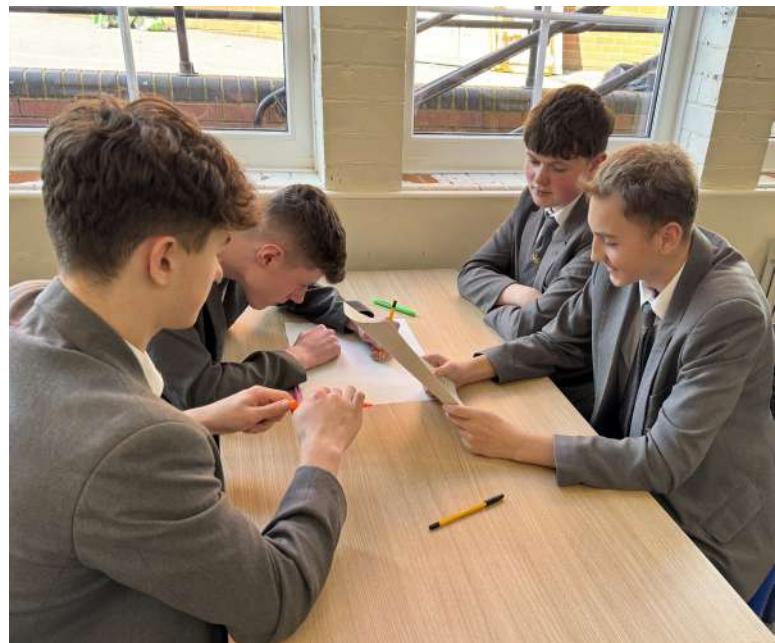


EXCITING SUPER CURRICULAR SESSION WITH CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY VISITOR!

Our Year 11 Highflyers soared to new heights as they engaged in a dynamic session with a distinguished guest from Cambridge University. Focused on super curricular activities, students delved into strategies to enhance their university applications, particularly their personal statements.

The session illuminated the significance of super curricular activities, showcasing how they enrich students' academic journeys and bolster their applications. From exploring the myriad of benefits to tailoring activities for diverse career paths like medicine and law, our students gained invaluable insights to shape their academic futures.

It was a stimulating and enlightening experience, empowering our highflyers to pursue their aspirations with confidence and clarity. Kudos to all participants for their enthusiasm and eagerness to excel!



YEAR 7 HIGHFLYERS - COBRA COMMITTEE THEMED DROP DOWN DAY.

The Year 7 Highflyers took part in a COBRA Committee themed drop down day which was designed to challenge them across different subjects and raise their aspirations. They acted as a COBRa committee throughout the day in response to a fictional national emergency.

In Science they learnt all about the scientific details of the event and vaccines. In Maths, they analysed the impact on the economy and healthcare, before putting all of their findings together and writing a transcript for an action plan in English which was then presented to the 'cabinet.'

The students were enthusiastic and fully immersed themselves into the day, and there were some outstanding presentation skills at the end. Their action plans were well thought out, detailed, and everyone took on their role as a specialist with confidence. All of our RIME values were demonstrated in abundance throughout!



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Hot Chocolate with the Head: Student Leadership, from Kingsmead to the Future.

This term brought along another session of Hot Chocolate with the Head, this time giving our Sixth Form Student Leadership Team the chance to sit and discuss their plans for Kingsmead, and how they will make a lasting impact within the school.

As part of the Student Leadership Team, these students will be the voice of our student body at Kingsmead, working together to create and lead their own school improvement plans and fundraising events. When asked about the challenges they expect to face with this responsibility, our students responded with a mature and honest answer, commenting on how working together as a team and appreciating different views and beliefs can be challenging, but saying "It's nice to be a part of a team, a part of something bigger." This was discussed further, with comments on the importance of communication, sharing workloads and

developing good communication skills being highlighted as benefits of Student Leadership.

When asked what they are most excited about entering their new roles, the students commented on future projects and the opportunity to mentor younger students to take on these roles in the future, leaving a legacy long after their time at Kingsmead comes to an end. One student commented "I have a younger brother and sister here, and I want to see the impact I leave for them at Kingsmead", further cementing this generational success they wish to create.

Our Student Leadership Team have impressive goals and aspirations for the future, from Primary School teaching to RAF officers, their varied career paths all benefit from the transferable skills and confidence Student Leadership teaches them.





School Council held the final RIME Funding presentations where teachers bid for the remaining RIME money to help support their innovative ideas.

Our Student Leadership Team, including our newly appointed Head Students Callum and Phoebe, were on hand to negotiate and delegate funding to these projects, asking important questions and challenging the ideas, demonstrating excellent employable skills.

From darts to eco-systems, there was an amazing show of dedication from staff who go above and beyond to make Kingsmead such an innovative place to learn. Winners to be announced soon, we wish everyone the best of luck!



STUDENT LEADERSHIP



The perfect way to finish a busy week at Kingsmead, Dr Horton's Year 10 class know how to do it right!

They had the chance to spend their Astronomy lesson outside in our Community Garden, where they began setting up our new sundial, purchased using RIME funding, selected by our Student Leadership team in last years RIME bid. They learned about how the sundial will work and decided the best place for it in the school grounds.

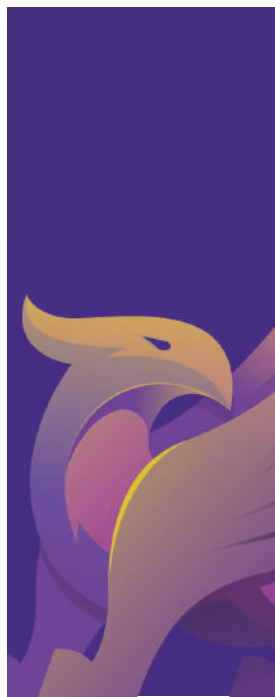




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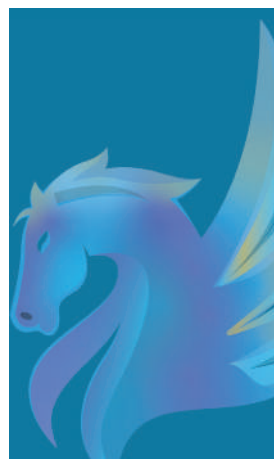
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GRYPHON**



HOUSE POINTS

**20423
PEGASUS**

**21034
DRAKON**



THE SPORTS REPORT



Sun and Cricket? Is there a better way to start the day? Our summer sport curriculum is now underway. You can look forward to some Tennis, Rounders, Cricket, Athletics and Longball in your PE lessons!

As you can see, our students have been out on the field enjoying some cricket during their PE lessons. We hope to see more sunshine and more outdoor activities as we move into the summer months.



The U13 girls Handball team from Kingsmead triumphed at the England Handball regional qualifiers in Stafford, defeating Heywood Academy and Excel Academy. Scarlett stood out for her exceptional defence and shooting skills. The following day, the U15 boys showcased remarkable teamwork and skill at Excel Academy, securing victory in the same competition. Despite facing older opponents, predominantly in Year 10, with most of the team being in Year 9, they demonstrated resilience and emerged victorious!

Both teams will advance to the National school tournament, showcasing Kingsmead's talent and determination.

A big well done to our Year 7 netball team who attended their rearranged district tournament. They drew three matches and lost one, finishing 3rd in the group and therefore just missing out on a place in the semi-finals.

They played some great netball and demonstrated the progress they have made this year through hard work and dedication. The togetherness, positivity, and resilience was a joy to watch and we can't wait to see what they achieve next year!



A huge congratulations to Finlay in Year 11 who is now County Cup Champion after winning last weeks final. Well done!



HIGHLIGHTS



Year 10 take on their practice Silver DofE expedition

Year 10 students set off on their practice Silver DofE expedition. This is the first Silver DofE that has run since the programme started at Kingsmead.

They had a full day of walking, then came back to school to cook their evening meal before another full day of walking. Well done Year 10, we are very proud of you!



Year 10 Geography trip

Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit Cannock Chase and Stafford town centre to complete their geography fieldwork which contributes to their GCSE. With roaring sunshine and smiles all round, we hope students took away memorable experiences as well as valuable fieldwork data to use in their exams next year.

MP Amanda Milling Visits Kingsmead School



“Resilience: it’s a key skill to have, and something that you use in any career”, “Go for it: whatever your dreams and ambitions are, believe in yourself and go for it”. These were just some of the key messages Amanda Milling MP gave students today on her visit to Kingsmead and a message that is very close to our hearts, even more so now during the examination period! We are super proud of our RIME values and the ways they help our learners grow into strong and success individuals.



Footballer Aidan Stone returns to Kingsmead

We had a special guest drop by with a gift for Kingsmead. Aidan Stone, professional footballer and Kingsmead alumni, bought us a signed shirt with a special message regarding how his time at school contributed to his journey into football. Mr. Taylor was happy to accept this gift on behalf of all of us and will surely find a great place to display it!

As exam season starts here at Kingsmead, our Year 13's have been working hard revising. As a fun little treat, we put together some care packages, including a QR card with links to revision resources and exam stress support, as well as some bubbles!

A small gesture that offered a moment of laughter in what can be quite a daunting time for our students. Keep up the good work Year 13, we know that hard work will pay off!



Gardening Enrichment begin planting Kingsmead's Veg Patch

Gardening Enrichment have been busy planting lots of different flowers and vegetables that have been grown and nurtured by tutor groups across the school. As the weather gets better, it's going to be great to see Kingsmead full of life and growth!





Let's Stay in Touch...

Kingsmead is a partnership. We value our links with parents and our community. We use a number of tools to ensure we maintain effective communication for each core area of a child's schooling. This approach provides parents full access to up to date information about their child and our school. We felt it would be useful to share the tools in one place as a reference point.

You (and your child) can use the same username and password for all of these tools of communication

Satchel One
(formerly named Show my Homework) Homework

satchel:one

How?: through the app, their website or ours

This tool is how staff set home learning. There is a student view and a parent view. Everyone can see what work is set and when it is due. It is possible for some Pieces to be submitted online. If this is the case, students should use their account (and not their parents) to do this.

MCAS
(My Child at School) Communication



How?: through the app

How we communicate with parents

Blended Learning Platform Support



How?: through the app, their website or ours

This tool is how staff set home learning. There is a student view and a parent view. Everyone can see what work is set and when it is due. It is possible for some Pieces to be submitted online. If this is the case, students should use their account (and not their parents) to do this.

Go4Schools Support



How?: through the App, their website or our website

How we share data on attainment, progress and attitude to learning

- You will see rewards given to your child 'in'
- We will share how your child is understanding each subject every 6 weeks
- For each subject you will see a checklist of core learning. On this you will see what they are secure in and what they need to work on at home
- You can use the blended learning platform to select activities that will help them at home to close gaps

Don't forget you can also contact us through.....

PTFA NEEDS YOU!

Do you want to help Kingsmead school raise money and maintain outstanding education?

- Benefits
- Join the team who make the magic happen
 - Free cake and coffee at all meetings
 - Meet the governors and leadership team before PTFA meetings
 - Use of school facilities for events
- Make a difference to your child's education
 - Give back to your community
 - Support fun, exciting fundraisers like Christmas Fayre, Summer Fayre, Community days and Scarefest

Please contact m.ordidge@kingsmeadschool.net to register your interest.

Socials



[KingsmeadSchool](https://www.facebook.com/KingsmeadSchool)

[Kingsmeadonline](https://www.kingsmeadonline.com)

[@kingsmeadonline](https://www.instagram.com/kingsmeadonline)

Email



office@kingsmeadschool.net

Call Us



01543 227 320

Our Website



www.kingsmeadschool.net

Gold package
£25.00

Photo of your chosen animal.

Certificate of sponsorship for your animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

Keyring with your chosen animal's name on together with your own name

Spend a morning with our Animal technician learning about how to look after our animals and exotics at the farm. You will even get the chance to pet and feed the animals.

Silver package £10.00

Photo of your chosen animal

Certificate of sponsorship for animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

Keyring with your chosen animal's name on

Bronze package £5.00

Photo of your chosen animal.

Certificate of sponsorship for your animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

