

We can't stop reading!



back row: Dylan Freise-Greene / Katie Medd / Martha Harris front row: Ella Green / Katie Ashmore-Marsh

Outstanding English Results!

KEVICC English students are delighted with their recent English GCSE results. After an anxious wait since November there were whoops of delight and tears of joy on results day with 80% of students entered achieving A*-C grades in English Language.

Remarkably, Katie Medd, one of our Year 11 students, received 300 out of 300 in her paper... full marks! Four other students achieved A* grades, 29 students gained A grades and 63 students B grades.

This excellent news follows a host of Government changes since the Autumn Term. Despite this political backdrop, students and teachers have remained focused and have worked hard to prepare

well for the examination. The examination board moderator visited the College to assess the standard of students' Speaking and Listening component. He also commented on how confident and articulate the KEVICC students were. Their creativity and enthusiasm always impresses.

As a College, we are very proud of our students and are sure that this will give Year 11 confidence as they move into the Summer.

Sponsored Readathon

KEVICC is passionate about encouraging reading.

Reading brings a huge variety of benefits and Readathon is a great way to encourage reading. Over 100 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 signed up to get involved, with sponsorship being pledged for the number of books read. They spent all day reading in the Library with the aim of reading as many books as possible by 3.30pm and over the next two weeks. All the money raised will go to a charity for seriously ill children.



"Reading transports curious minds to wondrous realms of the imagination"



Accelerated Reader

All learning starts with reading. KEVICC became involved in the Accelerated Reading Programme last year. This programme is highly regarded nationally and aims to:

- Motivate students of all ages and abilities to read suitably challenging books
- Raise literacy standards amongst students
- Develop a lifelong love of reading

To get the programme off to a flying start our Foundation Governors gave £3,850 with a further £1,000 for stock. Former KEVICC librarian Amanda Bourne said 'This project encourages an enthusiasm for reading, improving the students' skills which should give them a life-long gift. I was an immediate enthusiast and I applaud the involvement of all the teaching staff in this project.'

KEVICC is very pleased with the success of this recent initiative. It helps to make reading exciting, encouraging pupils to read a variety of books. Whilst doing this it ensures they are at the right level for the individual, also extending their vocabulary.

So far Year 7 have read 51,453,207 words in 1,436 books. This exciting programme is helping our Year 7 pupils raise their reading levels tangibly... and in a fun way!



A Lesson in History

The History department has marked the Holocaust Memorial Day for the last ten years. KEVICC is a school committed to raising students' awareness of issues that have shaped the world we live in and the lessons we can learn from the past to help shape our future.

We feel that Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is one of these issues that all students need to confront and that this day should serve as a focus for students following the Holocaust and Genocide History Course in Year 9.

This year we marked Holocaust Memorial Day with an assembly led by seven of our Year 9 students. It started with a performance of an original play by the students based on survivor testimony downloaded from the Holocaust Memorial Day website.

Following this moving performances students watched a filmed made 7 years ago by some KEVICC students working with local cameraman Mark Conroy,



when they had the privilege of interviewing Elizabeth Dearden. As a Quaker Care Worker she had been one of the first civilians to enter the Belsen Concentration Camp at the end of the Second World War.

Following this film the students discussed more recent examples of genocide covering Cambodia, Rwanda, Kosovo and the Congo showing this is an issue we still need to address in the world. Finally a memorial service led by the students and the History Department gave a focus to the assembly as the College lit a candle of hope to fight off the darkness of genocide, before the College re-affirmed its commitment to the aims of the Holocaust Memorial Day.

Great praise should be given to the students who have worked so hard on this assembly. The topics covered are hard to deal with and can be a challenge for experienced teachers. For these young students to dedicate so much time and effort in creating this is indeed praiseworthy.

Derek Davies
Head of History



Liam Heitman-Rice
Year 12
The Editor

If ever life becomes – for one day, for any particular reason, under any circumstances – principally arduous there is always solace to be taken in retreating to the sanctuary of a book.

Fantasy provides escape. In the regard of alleviating oneself of the woe or stress of their present situations, a book – a great book – is an invaluable vehicle to the bliss of the imagination. The greatest fantastical relief afforded to me from a book was Stephen King's addictive 'The Shining' (1977) – as the author himself says, "Books are a uniquely portable magic."

This is a fact expressed in the Readathon being undertaken by KEVICC's Key Stage 3, an annual activity to raise money for a good cause. Similarly Year 7 students have embarked on an Accelerated Reading programme that incorporates a half-hour of daily reading to expand their literacy and vocabulary. The ability to read is an exquisite possession as the splendours books can provide are boundless, as is the power of reading. Imagination is a spectacular emancipation.



Pictured L-R: Philip Hughes, Jojo Ramsden, Tony Whitty, Amanda Bourne, Jacqi Hodgson

New Minibuses

Our Foundation Governors made a substantial grant towards one of our new minibuses, for which we are very grateful.

KEVICC has had Foundation Governors since 1923. They manage income from long-held stocks and investments, some generated by sale of land. Charity Law strictly controls how this money is spent and all decisions are made after careful consideration and discussion. They support educational projects that cannot be funded elsewhere, together with giving grants to individual students, up to the age of 25, on the basis of educational and financial need.



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