



Gifted & Talented Newsletter: Spring Term Update

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to welcome you to the Gifted and Talented newsletter for King Edward VI and to update you on activities and events taking place in school.

Events and activities this term:

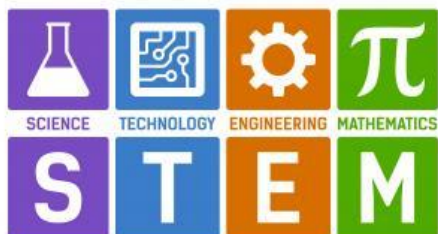
Gifted and Talented Club

Gifted and Talented Club have been watching and reviewing lots of different films whilst also completing different skills sessions associated with each one. We have watched *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, based on the classic radio comedy broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in the 1970's. Other films include *Free Willy*, *Inside Out*, and *The Impossible*, based on the experience of María Belón and her family in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. The cast included Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor and Tom Holland.



STEM Club

The STEM group have entered their idea from KEVI pupils into the **Shell Bright Ideas competition**, where pupils get the chance to design and prototype their ideas for greener technology. The competition ran from January to March, and all the ideas from the teams involved were amazing, really highlighting the creativity and ingenuity of our pupils. Well done!



Over the spring term, STEM club has been focused on Year 7 gifted and talented girls specifically, with a project entitled "Mission to Mars". Pupils are to work together to discover what life would be like if a successful expedition to Mars was made. Pupils have designed rockets, built heat shields, simulated growing plants in Martian soil and discovered how foods could taste differently on the red planet!

In addition, STEM have been providing extra GCSE revision sessions for Y11 during the spring term, subjects covered were Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Maths.

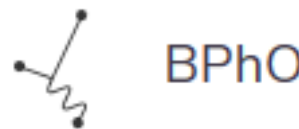
Children's University

KES is a member of the Children's University. Pupils from years 7 have been given the chance to get involved with this scheme. This involves pupils getting involved with lots of extracurricular opportunities both inside and outside school. We have 28 pupils signed up to take part in this scheme. Pupils have been collecting hours at museums in Birmingham, such as the Think Tank and also getting involved in other extra-curricular clubs which take place in school time.



GCSE Physics Challenge

King Edward VI GCSE Physics student Benjamin Fox was invited down to the Royal Society in London along with his teacher, Mr Mills, on the 25th April following his outstanding performance in the GCSE Physics Challenge - conducted by the British Physics Olympiad.



The competition was entered by some 6000 of the country's young elite Physicists with Benjamin earning his invite to the prestigious scientific society by attaining one of the highest scores in the country and was 1 of 5 GCSE students invited. The presentation afternoon included a buffet lunch, photographs, presentations and a lecture by Professor Henry Snaith of Oxford University on Solar Energy.

Several other Y11 gifted and talented students took part in the competition. Well done to all of those and especially to Benjamin for his fantastic work!

LRC Events

There have been several events during the spring term which the Library Resource Centre (LRC) have been involved in and have included many of our Gifted and Talented students.

Accelerated Reader – There was a celebration event for the top year 8 readers for their efforts since September. The total word count for Year 8 currently stands at 77,489,924! Amazing effort by all of those involved.

World Book Day - Design a classroom door competition – some amazing creations by talented artists turning their classroom door into a book cover. As a part of the event, the patron of reading, Laura Wood visited the school to focus on her new book "Vote for Effie" – with some great campaigning ideas and debates happening within the school.

Excelsior Awards – graphic novel award with students reading 5 books on the shortlist and choosing their winner.

We both hope that the Easter holiday was a restful and enjoyable one!

Best Wishes,

Dan Horton & Pam Kaur

Acting Lead Teachers of Gifted and Talented

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