

Dates for your Diary

Open Evening - Thursday 22nd September 4:30pm to 7:30pm



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

PRIDE is an essential part of the culture and ethos at President Kennedy School and this week's newsletter demonstrates the PRIDE students show when collaborating with students from across the city.

I am delighted that the History Project with Sherbourne Fields Special School was able to take place again.

It is a truly wonderful project and we are incredibly proud of this unique experience for both schools.

Congratulations to Tyler Staude and all the students who took part in the Robot Wars STEM Project; it looked amazing and showcases the fantastic STEM curriculum and STEM opportunities here at President Kennedy School.

I am looking forward to seeing the Year 7's performance of The Tempest and a great early season win for our Year 8 boys Rugby team.

Great PRIDE shown by all!

Wish you all a great weekend,

Ms Rooke, Headteacher

Robot Wars!

'On 20th July President Kennedy hosted 5 schools for a Robot Wars competition. Barr's Hill, Stoke Park, Camp Hill Primary, Keresley Newlands and Sherbourne Fields all built their own robots and took part in various activities.

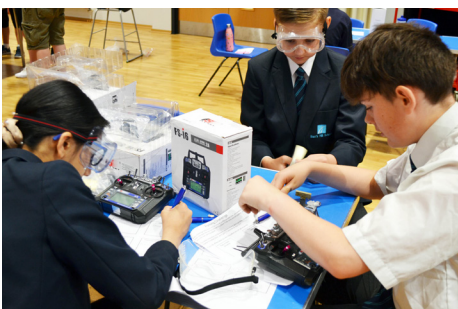
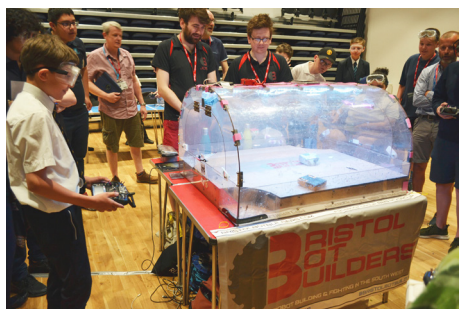
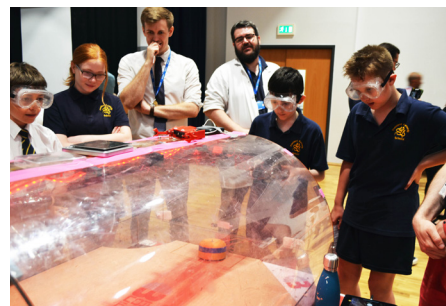
President Kennedy School won the overall competition with 'The Cheese Block' which was designed and built by Year 9 student Tyler Staude. In addition to the battles there were various activities that involved testing the robots agility and the drivers control.

Each Robot was designed and built by students using 3D printers that were given to us by Arup and the designing and building process was supported by engineers from Arup.

This was all set up by Russell Smith of Arup. The competition will run again this year and will be expanded to include more schools and Robots.

Thank you to Russell and to all the schools who took part

Mr Ratcliffe-Law, Teacher of Science and STEM



Walk Like an Egyptian!

Year 9 students excel in the return of the Sherbourne Fields History Project.

One of the highlights of the long, hot summer of 2022 must be the return of the Sherbourne Fields History Project. Certainly, for the participants at least, who became the first from Kennedy to benefit from this project after a 3-year Covid hiatus.

Dating back to the early 2000s, the History Project has created a close bond between the 2 schools and provided a major enriching experience for many young people. Not only does it offer the opportunity to make friendships and share fun experiences with a wider, diverse peer group but it also presents a responsibility and challenge. To be able to provide inclusive learning opportunities to students of a Special School is an untapped skill that few members of the group realised they had at the outset.

Applying the History Department principles of Critical thinkers, empathetic learners and tolerant citizens in abundance, Kennedy students went more than the extra mile to make this project an exciting part of their Learning Journey. They dressed in period costume to give the Ancient Egyptian theme real meaning to students who have to rely on sensory learning. The colour, sounds and images help the SF students identify this as a special topic. They also sang, danced, played and shared stories in ways that embarrassment would not have allowed in their normal working week.

It was particularly rewarding from a teacher's point of view to observe the connection between the two groups of students. This led to great enthusiasm for pharaohs, pyramids, the River Nile, mummification and the wonderful, if sometimes brutal, myths and legends of Ancient Egypt. There were lots of opportunities for art, music and sports in which all participated with a "can do" spirit. This allowed a friendly competitiveness, with activities such as javelin and hockey challenges. The Ancient Egyptians are created with both sporting innovations.

Those delivering the project were clearly buzzing from the experience as it ended. Shanuka Aravinthan and Kara Woolridge described it as *"a great new experience"* and something which was fun because it was so different from the rest of their education. Jane Nwazili most remembered the quick, effortless way people made new friends and learnt names straight away. To Lara Krefta it was a *"valuable insight into the world of teaching"* which has opened her eyes to a future career option. For all the group, the Project has certainly stirred some emotions which gave real satisfaction and helped end the academic year on a positive note. *"The hardest part,"* said Mya Bains with unanimous approval, *"was actually saying goodbye."*

Mr Finney, Teacher of History

So... a huge vote of thanks to the 2022 SF team:

Aisha Malik, Trey Madamombe, Kasjan Balunda, Izzy Betts, Kara Woolridge, Jane Nwazili, Mya Bains, Izzy Barnes, Lara Krefta, Zainab Bashardoust, Issaac Rogerson, Lughton Bailey, Shanuka Aravinthan, Inaya Rehman



Year 7 Prepare to Tread the Boards

On Friday 9th September, after school, the Drama Studio was full of enthusiastic Year 7's who were enjoying an improvised workshop.

This was to audition for the performance of *'The Tempest'* at The Belgrade Theatre in November, as part of *The Shakespeare School Festival 2022*.

Over 30 students auditioned and displayed great talent in the scenes they

improvised. Mrs Arnett, the Director of this up and coming performance said,

"Friday night was just incredible! I was overwhelmed by the enthusiasm, the sense of fun and the overall talent in the room! It was an absolute delight to see the students becoming involved in something which has not been allowed to happen in the last two years because of Covid."

I can't wait to see how the final production will turn out!"

Year 8 Rugby Team off to a Flying Start!

The Year 8 Rugby team started their season on Wednesday night with a game against Princethorpe. The boys continued

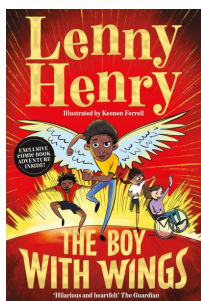
where they left off last season, and had too much pace and power for their opponents to handle. PK win 45-5.

Mr Garlick, P.E Department



The Library

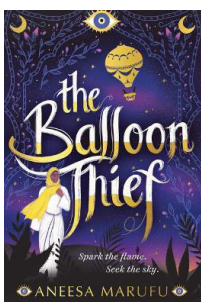
At President Kennedy School



The Boy with Wings by Lenny Henry

Twelve-year-old Tunde is just your average kid: average friends, average parents, average grades. Sure, he has his quirks, but if he can avoid the school bullies and hang out with his ragtag group of friends, he's happy enough. But his life is about to get turned upside down when, in the middle of a football match, Tunde leaps for the ball and stays in the air - on an enormous pair of wings!

Everything Tunde knows is about to change. He discovers new-found powers, a secret past, and some seriously powerful people who are determined to keep that past buried, whatever the cost. With strange things happening in a place known as The Facility and someone important in need of rescue, Tunde is going to need more than a little help from his friends.



The Balloon Thief by Aneesa Marufu

Ancient djinn, an epic adventure, and one girl's courage to seek her own destiny... Burn the flame. Seek the night. For Khadija, the only escape from her father's arranged betrothal is the sky. When she spots a rogue hot air balloon fighting against its ropes, she leaps at the chance for adventure. Khadija soon finds an unlikely ally in a poor glassmaker's apprentice, Jacob. But Jacob is a hari, and Khadija a Ghadaean. The hari are oppressed and restless - their infamous terrorist group, the Hareef, have a new fearsome leader. And the ruling Ghadaeans are brutal in their repression.

Soon, a deadly revolution threatens their friendship and their world. Both books are available to borrow from the School Library.

Libray Staff