

## Dates for your Diary

Y12 Welcome Evening - Tuesday 4th Oct 6-7pm

Y13 Preparation for Success Evening - Thursday 6th October 6-7pm



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

This week's newsletter demonstrates the fantastic range of opportunities available to our students. It also highlights the amazing range of talent we have here at President Kennedy School, from drama to creative entries into competitions such as 'Step into the NHS'. Congratulations to our West Midlands Champions, Eliza, Manal and Ameera!

We are really excited about our P16 Select offer here at President Kennedy School and the breadth of academic experiences students can participate in, for example, the Open University courses, similar to Shivam's 'Managing my Money for Young Adults' course. These are important life skills which help develop and enhance the range of academic knowledge and experiences. Well done Shivam - setting the benchmark for all P16 students!

Wishing you all a great weekend,

**Ms Rooke, Headteacher**

## Step into the NHS - West Midlands Champions!

The "Step into the NHS" is a national competition for Year 8 and 9. It looks at the diverse variety of careers within the NHS and the 350+ roles there are within it. Students first researched careers creating a job description to get a real understanding of what these roles involved. They then had to produce an advertisement to engage with young people, promoting that career. We had entries from a Neuro-Surgeon and Accident and Emergency doctor to Music and Drama Therapists. Students produced videos, musical raps and even a board game.

We waited patiently for the judge's decision. The results were announced. Jessica Berry, Srinithi Thavarasa, Ritik Panchal, Apinayaa Ramanan, Kawshan Sureshkumar were in the top ten in the West Midlands. Eliza Birch, Manal and Ameera Bawazir were crowned as regional winner with their musical rap video involving their home-made sock puppets. This put them through to the national final.

In the final they had to present to the "Health Education England" national judges and celebrity guest judge CBBC's Newsround presenter, Martin Dougan. They presented brilliantly, making the judges laugh and smile from beginning to end as they spoke with their sock puppets. The judges then cross examined them as to why they had chosen a Drama Therapist and what they had learnt. They answered their questions incredibly well which impressed the judges.

### Student comments:

The *Step into the NHS* project was a great experience which helped us understand the many jobs and careers out there and find out what they are about. Moreover, the competition was a way for us to all collaborate on the project and share ideas to effectively come up with a unique and fun way to promote the job we chose. *Step into the NHS* has helped me

realise that there are more pathways in the NHS other than a doctor, paramedic or a nurse (like a drama or art therapist).

We are so grateful for this opportunity and would like to thank Mr Dalton for the chance to demonstrate our hard work to the NHS and for helping us with our ideas.

**Abshara Piratheeban, Yathurshanaa Ravikanthan and Nabika Subaskaran.**

*Step into the NHS* is an incredible opportunity because it helps with your CV's and it encourages people to collaborate with others. As a team of 4, we got short-listed in the *Step into the NHS* competition and we chose the orthopaedic surgeon as the career we based our video on. Behind the scenes, we had loads of fun memories working together as a team, such as Apinayaa having to act like falling down the stairs and when a random teacher came past, he thought she actually fell down and came to help her!

All thanks to Mr Dalton; we wouldn't know that there are so many jobs out there within the NHS other than doctors and nurses. We took part in this competition because of him, and without his encouragement and help we wouldn't have been shortlisted in this competition. It's a wonderful opportunity, we totally recommend it.

**Srinithi, Apinayaa, Ritik, Kawsha**

Congratulations to our winners and all participants who were unbelievably focused and took their own creative ideas to new levels.

**Mr Dalton, Leader of Educational Pathways for Health**



## Post 16 Students improve their Money Management Skills



Congratulations to Post 16 student Shivam Chhaya who is the first student to complete an Open University short course "*Managing my Money for Young Adults*", an online interactive course designed for young people to become more financially aware. Shivam has been awarded an Open University Digital badge which has recognised status with employers and an OU *Statement of Participation*.

At President Kennedy School we believe that it is very important for our students to leave their school career knowing that they have the necessary skills to take control and avoid any future money concerns.

The course is designed to give students the confidence to take control of their finances whether they are still studying at school, plan

to start work, an apprenticeship or plan to go to university.

This online course teaches students how to budget effectively through different stages of their lives choose and manage bank and savings accounts, finance further and higher education studies, borrow sensibly and manage debts effectively and plan ahead to make life goals financially achievable.

All Post 16 students will be given the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge in a variety of curriculum areas through accessing the numerous Open University courses. This will enhance their personal development, whilst also allow them to gain a competitive edge in their future pathways.

**Mrs Petrak, Leader of Enterprise**

## The Tempest - Year 7 Workshop with Actor

On Tuesday 27th September the cast of *The Tempest* were lucky enough to be part of a workshop with actor/director, Nick Taylor.

He came to school to help with characterisation and advice on learning lines and working with a Shakespearean script.

Year 7 were fabulous and learned some great techniques and top tips whilst having a lot of fun along the way!

The cast will be performing *The Tempest* as part of *The Shakespeare Schools Festival* at The Belgrade Theatre on Monday 7th November.

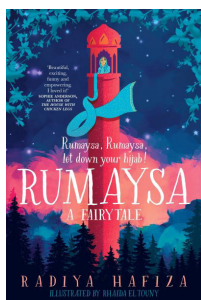
Mrs Arnett: "The cast is amazing - such a great bunch of students. I can't wait to see what their performance will be like!"

**Mrs Arnett, Student Leadership and Character**



## FANTASTIC BOOKS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM...

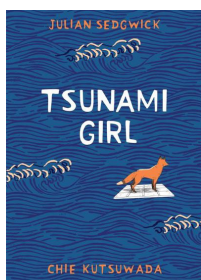
This week the Library's recommended reads are....



### Rumaysa by Radiya Hafiza

For as long as she can remember Rumaysa has been locked away in her tall, tall tower, forced to use her magic to spin straw into gold for the evil Witch and unable to leave. Until one day, after dropping a hijab out of her small tower-window, Rumaysa realises how she might be able to escape...

Join Rumaysa as she adventures through enchanted forests and into dragon's lairs, discovers her own incredible magical powers and teams up with Cinderayla and Sleeping Sara!



### Tsunami Girl by Julian Sedgwick

Fifteen-year-old Yuki is struggling at school with her confidence, and goes to Japan to stay with her grandfather, a well-known manga artist and to whom she is very close. But during her visit, a calamitous event occurs - the East Coast Earthquake and Tsunami - and her beloved Grandpa is lost. Yuki and her friend Taka must make sense of the terrible situation and come to terms with the loss of their life as they knew it - and see that through renewal and with resilience, they can emerge from this tragedy with optimism for the future. Interwoven with Japanese folk tales, modern-day ghost stories, and the creation of her very own vibrant manga hero, Yuki finds the courage to overcome extraordinary odds, and take her first steps into the world that lies beyond catastrophe.

**Both books are available to borrow from the School Library.**

**Libray Staff**

