

## KINGSWORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



## WELCOME TO KINGSWORTH NEWS

Dear Parents,

It's been a very busy week at school and a very heart-warming one too, as I notice that we seem to be getting more and more enquiries from families wishing either to join the school within weeks or for the next academic year. I mention this because I believe that there has been a huge shift from the first two years; as the school Kingsworth moves forward, it is reassuring and uplifting to know that we are beginning to get a good and well-deserved reputation.

I would like to introduce you all – though I'm sure that some of you may have already met her – to our new administrative assistant, Sophia Lopez-Bassols who has already made her presence felt within the school. Welcome on board, Sophia.

Today, being a Sunday, as I was walking down to the markets to do one of those dull necessary chores – shopping – I noted the one of the schools near where I live was open for voting. I had of course forgotten that it is the elections for the party called *Les Republicains* which is – politics aside – a wonderful example of genuine participative democracy. It suddenly made me realise how much of education can and should be what I will now call participative education i.e. not just sitting in class! Tomorrow morning I have the first of

a series of planned coffee mornings with parents (that can make it – I know many of you work), and we are going to be speaking about how we can help children with learning outside the classroom. And I'm clearly going to start with a real strategy for learning which is embedded by this concept of <u>participative education</u> :	
1.	Being in lessons – i.e. just sitting there – cannot be counted as part of the process of learning; you need to <u>participate</u> in the genuine sense of the term; listen, interact, question, try to anticipate, and so on;
2.	If – for whatever reason – you have missed the lesson as a student then ask your peers to help; it is something I find surprisingly odd how few students do that; I am clearly talking about my year 12 and year 13 students but I am certain that this filters down through the years;
3.	Try to be more inquisitive about the subject that you are studying; read more, look at various documentaries and videos if possible, using the Internet wisely;
4.	Revise your learning but in a fun way; make it into a game; so, as you are coming to school, review the previous lesson that you have had in that particular subject and run it through in your head; try to remember some of the keywords that you have learnt; try to anticipate how that will lock into the next lesson or lessons; play the role of the teacher and act out how you might as students teach that point, and so on;
5.	Try to run with subjects that you're not always too fond of; try to work out why you don't like it and discuss that with your parents, your peers, even your teachers; I personally have never found any subject to be uninteresting and it is something that I try to get across to all students; but I do understand reluctance;
6.	So, try to show an interest – if not in all subjects then in some – with your parents – or others – and discuss some of the broader more general ideas with them, getting them interested with you.
Well just a few ideas that we will be running through in an open and participative way tomorrow. I am really looking forward to it.	
Effloresce nobiscum.	

Stephen Jankowski

## Kingsworth School Fair

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Third Culture Kids coffee mornings/wo...

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30th

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