

# Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school vision of “Opening a world of opportunities” is the key focus of everything we do at Kings Norton Girls’ School and Sixth Form. This vision encapsulates our determination to provide the very best teaching, learning and pastoral care, a huge range of enrichment, leadership and co-curricular activities for all students in a calm and positive learning environment, enabling them to leave school with a wealth of options open to them.

This newsletter is packed with news of the opportunities that our students have taken this term and their achievements including visits to Bletchley Park, universities including Oxford and University of Birmingham, Arts visits to London, Year 7 who had an amazing time at Blackwell Adventure, not to mention the full year group visits to the theatre to see *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* this week, which we will feature in the next newsletter. In addition, our new house captains have been appointed along with a team from across all year groups, enabling the house system to continue growing.

Thank you to all the staff who willingly give their time to ensure these wonderful opportunities take place.

We are delighted to have welcomed parents into school formally as governors and others to support our students learning by taking part in careers forums and using their specialisms in lessons, for example in photography. We are very much looking forward to welcoming a group of 28 parents/carers into school next term to work with us on further developing our Anti-Bullying Policy. Thank you to all of you for contributing so much to all our students’ education, your support is invaluable.

Congratulations to the 92 students who still have 100% attendance, with most students still having 96% attendance or above however, unfortunately, attendance generally has lowered a little over the past couple of weeks. Please remember that attendance at school is directly linked to attainment and progress. Research also tells us that students with good attendance are happier and make friends more easily, attendance really does support students in accepting those opportunities on offer. If you need help from school with attendance, then please do not hesitate to talk to your child’s Form Tutor.

Thank you to all the staff and students for their hard work and determination to make this term really positive, despite it being a long one!

I wish you all a fantastic holiday and happy new year and for those who celebrate, a very happy Christmas. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday 8th January, with the hope and aim of 100% attendance from everyone.

Nicola Raggett - Headteacher



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ◆ **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January** - Christmas Break
- ◆ **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** – start of Spring Term
- ◆ **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 7 Parents Evening (Online), 3.30pm – 6pm
- ◆ **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 8 Parents as Partners (Timings TBC)
- ◆ **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** - Year 10 Parents Evening, (Online), 3.30pm – 6pm
- ◆ **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** – Year 11 Interim Reports Issued - [via SIMS PARENT APP](#)
- ◆ **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - Year 12 Work Experience
- ◆ **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** - Training Day - **School closed to ALL students**
- ◆ **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 12 & 13 Interim Reports Issued - [via SIMS PARENT APP](#)
- ◆ **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - Last day of Half Term
- ◆ **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February** - Half Term Break
- ◆ **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** - Start of Half Term

## EVENTS, TRIPS & CLUBS

### SIXTH FORM ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXTILES TRIP TO LONDON

It was a long but worth while day when the A Level Art, Textile and Photography students ventured to London in late October accompanied by Mrs Everson, Mrs Garcia and Mr Abelson to visit various art galleries.

On a day that started early and finished late they visited the newly refurbished National Portrait Gallery, followed by The Design Museum where we saw a thrilling exhibition called REBEL; 30 Years of British Fashion, celebrating London's leading role in global fashion, featuring designers such as Alexander McQueen. Finally, we visited The Victoria and Albert Museum where students were able to see, amongst other things, the newly expanded photography galleries. It was agreed that over the course of the day we had all seen some interesting work, some of which we liked more than others but all agreed that we had been engaged by our intense day of capital culture and we returned tired but inspired to a very wet Birmingham.



*Mr Abelson*

### YEAR 8 ROCK CYBERFIRST COMPETITION

Our Year 8 Computer Science students recently took on the National GCHQ Cyberfirst competition, and let me tell you – they rocked it!

From 20th - 29th November working at lunchtimes, after school and in their evenings, over 20 of our brilliant students formed eight teams (some even worked individually for an even tougher challenge) and tackled a whopping 200+ challenges between them.

These challenges covered everything from coding to cybersecurity and even some ninja-level cryptography. Our students dove into the tech world headfirst, earning badges like pros and learning lots of new skills and links to careers in Computing along the way.

But here's the real deal – it wasn't just about acing Computer Science stuff. These challenges pushed teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. And our students aced it all with smiles on their faces!

Now, the drumroll, please. The results are on the horizon, and we can't wait to see the outcome. Win or lose, our Year 8 students gained skills that are next level!

Massive well done to our Year 8 Computer Science superstars – you made us proud!



*Mr Willis & Mr Goddard*

### YEAR 7 STUDENTS PUT THEIR SPELLING SKILLS TO THE TEST!

Students in Year 7 recently took part in the KNGS Spelling Bee, which was run by a team of Year 8 students assisting Mrs Edwards and the English team.

The competitors bravely put their spelling skills to the test, supported by a very enthusiastic audience. All of the competitors did very well, with every student managing to spell some challenging words correctly. Audience members played a valuable role in the contest as they created a fantastic atmosphere, alternating quiet concentration with celebratory clapping.

As the competition progressed, the words became trickier and the tension began to build; in a nail biting finale, the gold medal was ultimately taken by **Amaya Atkin Chew**. Well done to all who showcased their superb spelling skills!

*Dr O'Mahony*



## YEAR 7 TRIP TO BLACKWELL ADVENTURE

Back in November the whole of Year 7 enjoyed a Team Building trip to Blackwell Adventure over a three day period - I was super proud of all the students, who not only behaved impeccably but were respectful and supportive of each other, with many students challenging themselves and flourishing by taking part in activities that pushed them out of their comfort zones!

A huge thank you to all the staff that supported on this trip and a massive well done Year 7 - you were amazing!

Mrs Wright



*This term all of the students in Year 7 went on a trip to Blackwell Adventure, which was about a 20-to-30-minute drive. Once we were there, we all put down our bags, coats and belongings and we set off to our first activity, I had zip-lining as my first activity. We learnt how to put on our harnesses and helmets and then made our way to the giant zipline. We spent around an hour on the ziplines and then headed to the crate stack. We finished that and went back to base to have our lunch. We had about 1 hour to eat our lunch before we went to our 3<sup>rd</sup> activity. My third activity was indoor rock climbing where we learnt how to climb up and down safely. Lastly, we had Laser tag . Personally I think laser tag was the most fun out of them all. Over all I think it was a very fun place and I would definitely go again!*

Lacey - Year 7

*Blackwell was so fun there is lots of activities and support! There are lots of fun things you could do there; for example rock climbing , laser tag and much more! I really recommended for you and your family to go there.*

Kelsea - Year 7

*This trip has given us so many opportunities to face our fears and meet new people! There are so many activities you can do hear such as zip lining, laser tag and loads of other stuff - I know that future Year 7's would love to go on this trip as much as I did!*

Evie - Year 7

*The Blackwell trip was amazing, so many of us faced our fears such as heights, I loved all of the activities especially ziplining and laser tag. I loved how all the staff were kind and caring. The teachers and pupils were brave and supportive. I think this was the best trip so far this year.*

Molly - Year 7



*I enjoyed visiting Blackwell adventure because it was a great opportunity to make new friends and get to know people who are in your form. I loved the activities that we had done because they were very fun, but I also liked how if you didn't want to do it your friend would encourage you to have a go and see if you like it. I also like how our forms tutors and staff that work there explained to us what we were meant to do and how it would work. I enjoyed the most the zipwire because even if people did not want to they went on it eventually.*

Niamh - Year 7

*Firstly, before I begin, I would like to say a huge thanks to every member of staff who helped during our trip. It was an extremely positive day and a chance for each pupil to build new friendships and push themselves to do things even though they may have found them challenging. The activities were both thrilling and fun while being things most pupils have never done before. It will be a day many Year 7's will remember as a highlight to their time at KNGS. I hope everyone who attended pupil or teacher had a fantastic time as I am sure they did. Have a wonderful week and thank you for taking time to read about our splendid trip to Blackwell.*

Elsa - Year 7

*This year, Year 7 went to Blackwell Adventure and it was so fun! We did ziplines, laser tag, indoor/outdoor climbing and a few more activities. it was so fun and as Year 7s we were enthusiastic, faced our fears and tried our best. Proud of everyone!*

Charlie - Year 7



## INKTOBER HOUSE COMPETITION

Mrs Everson was overwhelmed by the 205 entries to this year's Inktober House competition. Congratulations to the winning House, Ganymede, second place Kari and third place Neso. Special mention to Miss Rickard and her form, 10-6, for their amazing work and effort for the second year running.

Until next Inktober, happy drawing!

*Mrs Everson*

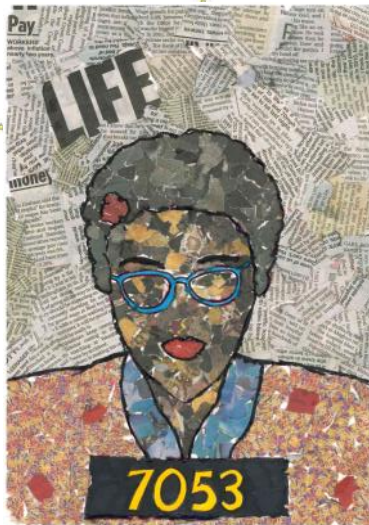


## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### My unrealistic reality

I often dream of this unrealistic reality,  
Where the sun is all always shining, and the people are  
always smiling,  
Where there is no war or sadness and we can fill our  
hearts with pure happiness,  
I want to feel the warmth of hearing my home  
language being spoken without feeling broken,  
I want to proudly stand on my own land and feel the  
dry sand,  
I want to feel pride when talking about where I'm from  
without having to think of the outcome.  
I don't want. War to be the first thing that come to  
mind when I mention my country,  
I don't want to search up Iraq and see 'war' with  
people who are power hungry,  
Around all this chaos in the centre of it all, like the eye  
of the storm,  
Is a glimpse of hope where I see me and my family  
living in Iraq,  
A place I called my home,  
But that is only a thought that can cautiously roam,  
While I listen to teachers, who can't even say my real  
name, feeling shame.

By Shorouq Al-Saffar



For October Black History Month, the History Ambassadors organised a competition on the theme of "I have Dream, " inspired by the words of Martin Luther King's 1968 speech.

Pupils wrote in any form they wished, or drew artwork, to illustrate their own personal dreams, or dreams for the future of society. The entries were interesting, inspirational and represented a wide variety of themes.

The winning entries have been displayed in the Learning Hub. Twelve of the entries have also been entered into an international competition organised by Sampad Arts organisation.

Some of the entries can be seen below.

*Ms Thatcher*



## YEAR 12 YOUNG ENTERPRISE COMPANY PROGRAMME

The Company Programme enables young people to set up and operate their own student company. Students take charge of every aspect of their business, ranging from selecting the company name to managing the financial matters and selling to the public. This hands-on experience provides students with valuable business insight and essential key skills.



A group of Year 12 students participating in the programme have formed their own company called UrbanTotes. They aim to sell Tote bags with unique designs. They have raised initial start up capital by selling shares and have set up the board of directors. Each student has their own responsibilities and roles. They are looking forward to pitching their business idea to a panel of judges in the New Year to get some advice and feedback.

We are looking for a Business Mentor to work with the students and provide commercial advice. If you are interested in supporting our students by becoming a Young Enterprise Business Volunteer, please email Serina Jabbal for more details: [serina.jabbal@y-e.org.uk](mailto:serina.jabbal@y-e.org.uk)

*Mrs Neale*

## YEAR 10 - OXFORD TRIP

In late October, 12 high-achieving Year 10 students, accompanied by Mr Abelson and Mrs Mistry spent a day at Oxford University exploring all aspects of university life. The students learnt about courses were available, the application process, student life and the importance of getting good GCSE results. After lunch the students excelled in an 'Oxplore' session when they were encouraged to consider and debate some profound ideas, such as, 'Should doctors and elite sports people be paid the same?', 'Do we see colours differently?', and 'Are pigeons government spies?' They also experienced a fascinating session in the Oxford Natural History Museum where they got to handle, amongst other things, live cockroaches!



We were hosted by Keble College. The students had a tour of the college and were treated to lunch. The girls agreed it was a really useful insight into seeing what life as an Oxford undergraduate was like and especially liked hearing from an undergraduate about their university experience, both academic and social. They returned to Birmingham fully motivated to aim high.

*Mr Abelson*

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## MUSIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE & DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!

Festive greetings to you all from The Music Department. A huge number of our students have been enthusiastically involved in a wide variety of music making activities, rehearsing weekly since September. They had the opportunity to showcase their musical abilities in an extremely successful Christmas Concert that took place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. There were ensembles, choirs, soloists, readers, and an orchestra that also included students from Kings Norton Boy's School.

Both myself and Mrs Huxtable in the Music Department would like to send a huge message of thanks to all of the students involved; not only for their fantastic performances, but also for the high level of commitment and motivation they have shown throughout this term. Well done to everyone!



### School Production - Sister Act

In other news, preparations for our musical production of Sister Act are progressing well. Many aspiring actors and performers auditioned for parts in October from our school and Kings Norton Boy's School and we now have a really promising cast of students. We have also been rehearsing throughout this half term under the guidance and direction of Mr Swift, Miss Cartin and Miss While (KNBS).

**Performances will be in March, held on the evenings of 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>.** We will send out more information in the New Year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Music Department!

*Mr Gell*

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## CHARITY FUNDRAISER

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, a charity fundraiser was held at school to raise money to provide humanitarian aid for civilians in Gaza and Congo. The fundraiser was organised by a group of Year 12's, who were helped by Miss Sikander. There was a vast selection of goodies to buy varying from samosas, tabbouleh, cake, cookies, doughnuts, cheesecake, baklava and much more. The event was a huge success and as a school we raised a grand total of ... £686.32! The money has been donated to *Islamic Relief* and *War Child*, thank you so much for your contributions Kings Norton Girls School & Sixth Form!

**Demonstrating Respect & Courage in order to Flourish.**

# PRAISE

We started the year wanting to recognise every student who, for the whole of last year, had at least 99% attendance but in addition had absolutely no behaviour logs. Each of these were rewarded with an 'All 4 One' voucher - well done. *27 from last years Year 7's, 14 from Year 8, 21 from Year 9's and 7 from last years Year 10's.*



This year saw the introduction of 'Coffee & Cookie' in the Sixth Form; staff nominate students weekly from Year 12 & 13 to enjoy this recognition.

Peer praise is an opportunity for each student to put forward a name from their tutor group along with the reason why they should be recognised. Certificates have been printed for the finalists; many stating how kind and helpful they are to their peers.

Autumn Awards Assemblies will take place this week. This will include certificate presentations to students who have stood out in different subjects this term along with the pastoral awards. Year 9-11's are entered into a prize draw for each conduct point they have. The winners will receive a £10 'All for One' voucher. PUP (Pop Up Praise) tickets have been printed for Year 7 & 8's. These tickets allow students to use their praise points as a currency to spend in the 'Pop Up Praise' shop which opens in the first week back.

## HEADTEACHERS AWARDS

In addition, we would like to also like to congratulate the following students on receiving the '**Headteachers Award**' this term for demonstrating our school values:

**Respect:** Leah Hadley (Year 7), Eliza Cullotty-Pearson (Year 8), Alesha Robinson (Year 9), Weza Joaquim (Year 10), Parissa Ho (Year 11), Gracie McKee (Year 11), Bethan Wall (Year 11) & Milijana Kastrotovic (Year 13).

**Courage:** Molly McCann (Year 7), Elle Whelan (Year 8), Ava Parsons (Year 9), Evie Cann (Year 10), Arrow Jackson (Year 10), Rosie Eccles (Year 10), Cerina Li (Year 11), Cloe Cooney (Year 11), Isabelle Redhead (Year 12), Jess Parmar (Year 12), Lois Tromans (Year 12), Alexandra Adjei-Kwarteng (Year 12) & Rosie Frost (Year 13).

**Flourish:** Amaya Atkin Chew (Year 7), Polina Kuchevska (Year 8), Anwen Evans (Year 9), Lydia Barley (Year 9), Jacintha Majak (Year 10), Matilda Lawson (Year 11), Millie White (Year 11), Hasti Nematimahkooyeh (Year 11), Megan Hopwood (Year 13), Freya Dempsey (Year 13) & Anina Sheldon (Year 13).

## YEAR 7 UPDATE

It has been a jam packed term for Year 7 this Autumn Term! They arrived in September nervous but excited to start their secondary school journey. In Year 7 the focus is to explore and engage in secondary school life. Students settled into the school routine really quickly, and have voiced how much they are enjoying lessons so far. They have been spending their form times doing: Theme of the Week on a Monday, PSHE on a Tuesday, Assembly on Wednesday and on Friday's a mixture of admin and fun activities like quizzes. Students have looked at themes in their Theme of the Week such as: kindness, respect, how to behave in lessons and study skills.

At the end of the first Autumn half term, students celebrated the successes of those with a high number or praise points and good attendance. Congratulations on the following for winning and earning themselves a badge: **Amaya Atkin Chew, Charlie Harrison, Araya Williams, Viktoriia Bakaieva & Evie Kangurs.**

Students with 100% attendance were also put into a random draw to win a badge too. Congratulations to the following for winning: **Lily-Rose Metushi, Isabelle Knowles, Maya Garcha, Angel Joseph & Chloe Wong.**

A huge congratulations to **Form 7-1** for being the top attending form and **Form 7-2** for the form with the most praise points so far this academic year.

Students have also been invited to a Christmas Movie Night on 12<sup>th</sup> December for having good attendance and 0 negative logs. Well done to over 100 Year 7's who qualified for this treat! Keep up the good work.

So far the Year 7 tutor team have been delighted with the hard work and efforts the new Year 7's are putting in. As a Head of Year, I am very proud of the work my year group have been doing so far. Well done!

Ms Wright

# HOUSE SYSTEM

Following the re-launch of our House System last academic year, we have been working hard this term to continue to develop the house system and encourage student engagement.

This term we have appointed a larger Student House Team. Year 12 students applied for the posts of House & Deputy House Captains. Students from Years 7-11 have been nominated by their tutors to take the post of Assistant House Captains.

Kari		Form		Neso		Form		Ganymede		Form	
Alexandra Adjei-Kwarteng		12-1		Jessica Parmar		12-4		Lois Tromans		12-6	
Samuel Brownword		12-1		Isabel Band		12-3		Isabelle Talbot		12-5	
James Anderton		12-1		Roshan Kukadia		12-3		Lydia Saunders		12-5	
Lottie Dukes		12-2		Lau Ho Nam		12-3		Amina Seddougui		12-5	
Matthew Glasby		12-2		Callista Lui		12-4		Nagaad Yussuf		12-6	
Mason Clarke		12-2		Zahraa Qudir		12-4		Fayez Saoudaoui		12-5	
Phoebe Glover		12-2						Alara Kaya		12-6	
Charlie Harrison		7-1		Arabella Raybould		7-3		Alexandra Balderson-Higgins		7-5	
Katie Jobe		8-1		Emily Lynch		8-3		Tia Smith-Campbell		8-5	
Erin Winslow		9-1		Betty Gay		9-3		Tess Edwards		9-5	
Shiny Law		10-1		Lottie Robbarts		10-3		Bethan Fielder		10-5	
Emily Chan		11-1		Lois Busby		11-3		Fatima Sylla		11-5	

Well done to all students listed above for being awarded their post. Collectively these teams will help build a vibrant house system where healthy competition encourages enthusiastic engagement.

This academic year started with some inter-house team building – it was good to see our students collaborating to find the solution to a number of puzzles and was followed by the Textiles Fashion Garment competition (featured in the last newsletter) where the teams made their outfit completely out of recycled materials. This half term has seen the house netball competition organised by our PE staff and Inktober, run by the Art Department which saw some superb drawings & paintings submitted daily throughout October (also featured in this newsletter).

Overall, in terms of house points **Kari** took an early lead with **Neso** in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. However, watch out for **Ganymede**, who have ended the term with a big surge to close the gap considerably.

Mr Steele

## LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS

We are delighted to share the latest MFL news with you!

### GCHQ National Language Competition for Year 9

The National Language Competition is a virtual competition where teams from schools around the UK compete against each other to solve language-based puzzles and score points. The overall winners are invited to GCHQ's headquarters in Cheltenham to receive their trophy.

Two teams took part in the competition this year.

Good job to **Amelia Gee, Alice Verrasso, Mila Jankovic, Ada Yildiz** (from team B) for participating and congratulations to **Lily Brown, Zélia Dussol, Lauren Neal, Eva Newton** (from Team A) for being our KNKS winners.

Thank you to both teams for dedicating their own time to taking part in the competition.

### Christmas in Vienna

This autumn term again, Mrs Evans hosted her popular 'Christmas in Vienna'. It ran on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November and 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December. Many students participated and crafted their own Christmas ornaments.

Please meet our cute woolly Christmas gnomes (right).



### Christmas Cards for Care Home

Following the success of last year, on the Tuesdays from November 21<sup>st</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup>, pupils from different year groups wrote Christmas cards to French care homes. Thank you to those who participated and dedicating their time to write cards for the elderly.

Thank you to **Year 7 students: Harriet Carman, Corinne Cornick, Evie Carpenter, Lucy Jones, Pyper Baker, Elsa Coleman, Amaya Kiddler-Kaiser, Wren Skelding-Bloor, Shereen Samuel, Amaya Atkin Chew, Fatima Khan, Anna Riley, Isabelle Knowles, Polly Hall, Niamh O'Shea, Evalyn Coleman, Isla Auger, Bethan Eccles, Orla Seward, Willow Tanks** and **Year 9 students Honey Fahd & Mila Jankovic.**



Demonstrating Respect & Courage in order to Flourish.

## Forthcoming Events (Anthea bell prize – Queens College Oxford)

Our popular translation competition will also take place next term.

## Language Drop-Ins

Remember, all students are welcome to pop in the Language Drops-Ins on Tuesdays at lunchtime, if they want support with homework, grammar, speaking or even just a chat about languages and culture. We are looking forward to seeing you soon in ICT3!

Joyeux Noël, Feliz Navivad and Frohe Weihnachten!

Written by **Chloe Lam & Carrie Law** - Year 10, on behalf of Mrs Housley & the Language Ambassadors Team



# SPOTLIGHT ON ...EXTRA CURRICULAR & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT KNKS

## ART CLUB (KEY STAGE 3)

In Art club, Year 7, 8 and 9 students have been learning how to hand build ceramic sculptures, following a festive theme. Mrs Everson and Dr O' Mahony have really enjoyed seeing so many students being creative, having fun and making and new friends. Their glazed masterpieces will make fabulous gifts or Christmas decorations, well done Art Club!

Students pictured: **Annabel H M (7-4), Viktoria B (7-1) & Scarlett S (7-2)**



## ASIAN COMMUNITY CLUB

This term we started Asian Community Club as a way of bringing students of Asian heritage, or those interested in learning about Asian heritage together, and to celebrate the vast range of Asian culture present at KNKS. So far, we have looked at Diwali (the festival of lights) and have had the opportunity to create beautiful lanterns, light diyas and candles at home, and create rangoli designs. Diya Bhatt who organised the Diwali event said, "I really loved answering questions that my friends and peers had regarding Diwali, and it was really nice to educate them and see them enjoy a festival that me and my family celebrate."

### Crafts you can do

- Make your own diyas:
- Cut and oval shape out of a cereal box.
- Do the same with the paper.
- Stick them together.
- Cut a flame shape out of orange paper and stick that on.
- Draw some patterns and add lots of colours.
- Take home and place on your porch. :)

**Make your own rangoli designs:**  
Grab some colourful sands and with your fingers try make some pretty designs like these ones (don't worry we can help)

**Make your own lanterns:**

- 1 Grab an A4 size piece of paper and fold in half. Cut thin lines all the way through but make sure there is about 4cm space between the top of the paper and the lines.
- 2 Unfold the paper and glue both sides together.
- 3 Cut a circle from another piece of paper and glue that to one of the sides.

Add a handle by cutting a strip of paper and glue it to both sides. When home add an electric tea light to make it glow.

Or you can just do some colouring! :)

### Asian Community Club

Come along and join us in room 14 lunch time where we will be watching the amazing Bollywood film *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham*.

Where: Room 14  
When: Tuesday lunch time

If you can BRING POPCORN

Recently we have been watching *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham*, which is a classic Bollywood film with lots of singing and dancing and some very cheesy dialogues. It has been great fun to watch and discuss the different issues that are prominent in south Asian culture. Jess Priest who has been attending ACC said "Overall Asian Community Club has been a really fun part of attending school and it's a great way to learn about other cultures. We can't wait for next term when we will be looking at Chinese New Year and Holi!"

Miss Sikander

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Student Leadership Group have been working hard over the past few weeks to deliver 3 projects. They organised a cake competition for Children in Need, which raised over £30. The students made a range of Christmas themed cakes, with the winner being **Ellie Ratcliffe (Year 7)**. They have also run a book-swap, allowing students to donate an old book and take a new one.

Finally, the KS4 Student Leadership Group students have been getting the school into the Christmas spirit by organising a form-room decoration competition and a Christmas quiz. Both have had great uptake and the winners will be announced before the end of the term.



Mr Houston



# SPORTS UPDATE

## NETBALL

On 15th November, saw our Senior Netball Team took part in the Under 19 Birmingham County Schools Netball Tournament. The team were amazing and won all games - 4 group games, the semi final and went onto beat Artur Terry School in the final. They now progress to the regional schools competition at the end of January - so watch this space!

A massive well done to the team on their outstanding achievement - we are super proud of you all and we will all be rooting for you in the Regional Competition in New Year!

Miss Johnson



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES SPRING TERM 2024

DAY	CLUB	YEAR	TIME	VENUE	STAFF
MONDAY	Basketball	12-13	Lunchtime	Gym	JCA
	Volleyball	12-13	3.15-4.15pm	Gym	JCA
TUESDAY	Trampoline	KS3	3.15-4.15pm	Hall	LGR/KCU
	Badminton	7-11	3.15-4.00pm	Gym	CJO
	Football	7-9	3.15-4.00pm	Field	JCA
WEDNESDAY	Badminton	12-13	Lunchtime	Gym	JCA
	Fitness	9-13	3.15-4.00pm	Fitness Room	JCA
	Indoor Hockey	7-8	3.15-4.15pm	Gym	RHO
	Trampoline	KS4+5	3.15-4.15pm	Hall	CJO
THURSDAY	Fitness	7-8	3.15-4.00pm	Fitness Room	LGR
	Gymnastics	7-11	3.15-4.15pm	Gym	NWA
FRIDAY	Games	12-13	Lunchtime	Gym	JCA

## SUCCESSES

### KNGS STUDENT TAKES TWO MEDALS IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Year 11 student **Alicia Field** had proudly added another fantastic accolade to her growing list of achievements on the world gymnastics/tumbling stage.

Back in November Alicia qualified to compete at the World Trampoline and Gymnastics Championship being held at the Utilita Area in Birmingham. After two days of competing in an extremely hard competition with 30 girls from around the world, Alicia came away with the World Tumbling Silver medal for the 15/16 age group & the Bronze medal in the Junior Final. Being the youngest medalist this has ranked Alicia top in the world for her age.

Well done Alicia - all of us at KNGS are extremely proud of your commitment, hard work and amazing achievements!



### KNGS STUDENT RECEIVES BLACK BELT IN TAE KWON-DO

A massive congratulations to Year 10 Student **Arrow Jackson** on receiving their Black Belt in Tae Kwon-Do - this is a fantastic achievement and we are super proud of you and all of the hard work you have put into gaining your Black Belt!



## SIXTH FORM STUDENTS RUGBY SUCCESS

A huge well done to Sixth Former **Elizabeth Jones** on the success this season in her rugby. Having started playing for a new club Old Halesonians RFC, she has also been selected at trials to play for U18 North Midlands team.

She's made the starting 15 in both County matches and plays in no.8 position. North Midlands beat Warwickshire but have lost to Staffordshire so far this season. They face Oxfordshire and Cheshire in January

Well done Elizabeth - your determination and hard work has paid off! Good luck in your matches in January!



## KNGS STUDENT COMPETES IN SWIM ENGLAND REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Back in November Year 10 student **Amelie Zarifeh** swam in the prestigious Swim England, West Midlands, Winter Regional Short Course Swimming Championships at Sandwell's Aquatic Centre, the Commonwealth Games swimming venue! Qualification times were extremely challenging & this was Amelie's first time in competing at this level. Despite this Amelie achieved a number of personal best swims, the pick of which was 1.02.95 for 100m freestyle, making Amelie the sixth fastest 14 year old in the whole of Warwickshire!

In addition, Amelie secured ten qualifying times for Jan/Feb 2024's Warwickshire County Championships, as well as qualification for Summer 2024's Long Course Regional Championships.

Congratulations Amelie, another example of consistent hard work paying off!



## SIXTH FORM NEWS

### Meet the Sixth Form Event

Our Sixth Formers proved once again that they are our greatest asset when they took part in the **Meet the Sixth Form Event** in November. During the evening we had many prospective students, parents and carers visit our school to see the Sixth Form and speak to our students about what it is like to study A Levels. Again, a huge thank you to those students who took part in the evening, and contributed to its success they were fabulous!

### UCAS Applications

Just a reminder that if your child is applying to university the UCAS deadline for applications is **31 January 2024 for 2024 entry at 18:00.**

### Year 11 Applications to Sixth Form

The deadline has now passed for internal applications to our Sixth Form. We are delighted to have had 108 applications from our current Year 11 students. We have looked through the applications and students should be receiving offers before Christmas. Any student who has started an application but not submitted it is encouraged to do so as soon as possible before the deadline for external applications **on 19th January 2024.**

### Sixth Form Team Update

We are delighted to welcome Rakshan Zafar to our Sixth Form and SEN team. Mrs Zafar is the new permanent Sixth Form Administrator and replaces Mrs. Harvey who sadly left in October. Mrs Zafar is welcome addition to the School and Sixth Form.

### Opening a World of Opportunities



# CAREERS

## Announcements

- **Website:** The revamped website is now live. There's lots of useful information and links for our parents and carers here: <https://www.kngs.co.uk/curriculum/careers/>
- **Careers Lead:** From January Ms Sarah Ledwidge will be taking over as the school's Careers Lead. Mrs Edwards will continue to be the school's Careers Adviser.

## Careers website of the term:

**Informed Choices:** <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

This website provides information about subject choices at post-16 and especially for those considering an application to study at a Russell Group University.

**Job of the term** (provided by MyPath)

**Zoo Veterinarian:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zX9gZzuiExs>



## Events and visits

Mrs Edwards took a group of Year 11 students for a taster day at South and City College, Longbridge. Students took part in a range of tasters and had a tour of the campus. Mrs Edwards is continuing to meet Year 11 students for their one-to-one meetings, which all students will receive.

The internal deadline for Sixth Form applications has now passed. Anyone who is in Year 11 and missed the deadline but still wants to apply should email: [6thformenquiry@kngs.co.uk](mailto:6thformenquiry@kngs.co.uk).

We had our first Careers Forum of the year on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We had very diverse panels representing careers in healthcare, film production, business management, law, the arts and more!

We wish our Year 12 students well for their work experience week which is the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**Remember! If you feel able to support our careers programme by being a member of one of our careers forum panels, or anything else, please get in touch with Ms Ledwidge ([sledwidge@kngs.co.uk](mailto:sledwidge@kngs.co.uk)).**

*Mr Charlett (Careers Lead) and Mrs Edwards (Careers Adviser)*

## BREAKFAST CLUB UPDATE

As you may be aware, we have been trialling a Breakfast Club since the end of September 2023 to see if this offer proves popular to our families.

Unfortunately, due to operational implications including safeguarding and Health & Safety, we are unable to amend the timings of the Breakfast Club and, because uptake continues to be minimal, we have no other choice than to end the trial and not continue the provision. **This means that the last breakfast club will run on Friday 22nd December 2023 and not continue after the Christmas break.**

For further information and the letter sent out at the end of term please visit: <https://www.kngs.co.uk/parents/key-letters/>

*Mrs Skinner - Business Manager*

## PRIVACY NOTICES

We have recently updated our Privacy Information for students and parents/carers.

Please refer to our website [www.kngs.co.uk](http://www.kngs.co.uk) for more information and the latest version of the document.

*Mrs Cotterill - HR & Data Protection Administrator*

**Demonstrating Respect & Courage in order to Flourish.**