

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you enjoy reading about the successes of our students in this newsletter, yet again some incredible personal and group achievements across a diverse set of activities, educational visits and House activities. We are very proud of all our students who are getting involved.

Well done to Year 11 and Year 13 who are now well into their GCSE and A Level exams, they are tackling these with great resilience, professionalism and even smiles. We wish them all the very best in their remaining exams.

If you are interested in finding out more about what your child is learning from Year 7 to Year 13 there are curriculum maps and further information for all subject areas on our website:

<https://www.kngs.co.uk/curriculum/overview/curriculum-maps/>

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Governing Body who have recently had a NGA (National Governors Association) Review of Governance which was incredibly positive. And thank you to all of them for their fantastic work and support for the school.

There have been a number of new Governors over the past year and so I encourage you to visit the governance page on the website:

<https://www.kngs.co.uk/about-us/governance/> <https://www.kngs.co.uk/about-us/governance/meet-the-governors/>

Our Governing Body are volunteers, who work with, challenge and support the Senior Leadership Team, staff and students, to ensure that the school is providing the best opportunities possible for all students, both academically and personally. They regularly visit the school so that they have a clear understanding of what is happening and how we might best use our resources to make improvements.

The full Governing Body meets four times a year and delegates responsibility for specific aspects of our work to two committees: The Resources Committee which is responsible for finance, health & safety and security, staffing, school buildings and site and the Curriculum and Standards Committee which is responsible for academic standards, teaching and learning, curriculum, attendance, behaviour and examinations.

All Governors are also fully committed to the safeguarding of our students. Thank you again to all our Governors for their hard work and the time they give to us at KNGS, we really do appreciate it!

I wish you all a wonderful half term break and I look forward to the last half term of this academic year and all the fantastic things we have planned.

Nicola Raggett - Headteacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ◆ **Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May** - Half Term Break
- ◆ **Monday 3rd June** – Start of Half Term
- ◆ **Wednesday 5th – Friday 7th June** - Year 7 & 8 Teacher Assessments
- ◆ **Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th June** - Whole School Open Morning Tours - **Booking Required via website**
- ◆ **Wednesday 3rd July** - Year 10 Reports Issued **via SIMS PARENT APP**
- ◆ **Wednesday 10th July** - Year 7,8 & 9 Reports Issued **via SIMS PARENT APP**
- ◆ **Friday 19th July** – end of term, **Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm**

EVENTS, TRIPS & CLUBS

YEAR 10 CULTURAL VISIT TO BARCELONA

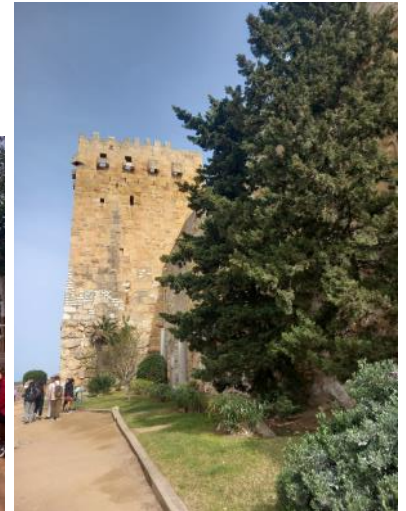
From 18th-21st March, 45 Year 10 pupils from Spanish, Textiles, Art and Photography spent 4 days visiting Barcelona on a cultural visit.

It was a huge success with the pupils gaining an invaluable experience not only of Spanish history, culture, language and art but an opportunity to develop resilience and independence.

The pupils visited Montserrat, Barcelona Cathedral, the gothic quarter, the market and the Sagrada Familia. They also visited The Fundació Miró to look at some surrealist art, and then on the final day visited Colonia Guell, an exquisite example of Gaudi architecture. As part of the visit they were also able to visit a Spanish school where they could meet some Spanish young people which was a great way to develop their understanding of different cultures.

The visit was a wonderful opportunity for the pupils and they were excellent ambassadors for the school, behaving impeccably which meant for a wonderful atmosphere.

Miss Cawley



DYSLEXIA PUPIL VOICE GROUP FUNDRAISER

The sun shone on the Dyslexia Pupil Voice Group last week for their most recent fundraising event. Twelve students led by our Pupil Voice Ambassadors had fun planning, advertising and running a busy Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale in the quad at break. Fifteen minutes of brisk business later and 200 doughnuts had vanished, with Sixth Form leading the queue!

We have a number of new student ambassadors for whom this was an early leadership opportunity. They worked together creatively and showed an impressive drive to 'get things done' in the most effective way – a typical example of positive 'dyslexic thinking' in action.



We have focussed on a theme of 'well-being' as a group this year and this was a lovely opportunity to create a little post-Bank Holiday fun just as Year 11 & 13 prepared to finish their timetabled lessons and begin exams.

The group have been able to donate £75 to the British Dyslexia Association who have thanked them for their fantastic support and explained how the funds will help:

This donation means we can do more to support dyslexic children and young people in education and equip employers to support employees in the workplace. By increasing understanding of the challenges – and benefits – of dyslexia, you are playing your part in creating a dyslexia friendly society. Donations such as this also help us to maintain our core services, including our National Helpline which provides information, support and advice on dyslexia and all specific learning difficulties and co-occurring difficulties. On behalf of the British Dyslexia Association and those whom the money will benefit, thank you for your generous donation and helping us on our mission to create a dyslexic friendly society where dyslexics of all ages can reach their full potential.

Many thanks again, and a big 'Well-done!' to **Poppy, Ava, Bridie, Freda, Fleur, Camiah, Lily, Jodie, Alesha & Issy** along with their extra helpers on the day: **Mia, Caitlin** and **Ms Nandra**.

Mrs Vaughan

YOUNG ENTERPRISE REGIONAL FINALISTS

The Year 12 Young Enterprise Company, Urban Totes, were invited to attend the regional finals and compete against other local Young Enterprise companies.

As part of the competition the students had to produce a company report. Each Director of the company completed their relevant section to produce a comprehensive overview of the business' performance over the last six months. This was submitted to a panel of judges in advance of the



competition. The team were then required to answer questions about their business' performance. They also had to prepare and present a 5 minute presentation. The group used their creative skills to produce a presentation that involved a court case with witnesses giving evidence about the company Urban Totes. At the end of the court case, the judge ruled that everyone should buy an UrbanTotes bag! The students spoke confidently and professionally and won the award for best presentation.



Well done Urban Totes!

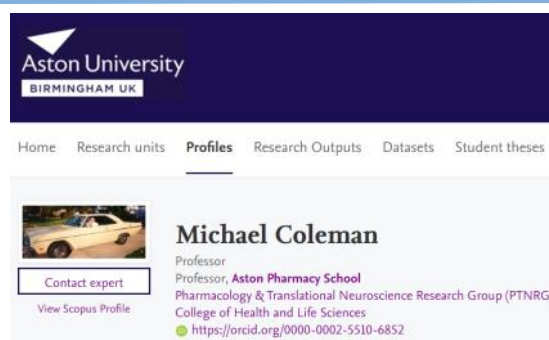
Mrs Neale

VISITING SPEAKER, ASTON UNIVERSITY

On Wednesday 15th May, all Year 12 Biology students received a fascinating and entertaining talk about toxicology by a visiting speaker from Aston University.

Professor Michael Coleman shared information about his background, research and experiences of nearly 40 years at the forefront of science. The students were really engaged, and asked some excellent questions linked to their A Level learning.

Many thanks to [Lydia Saunders](#) in Year 12 who independently suggested and arranged the visit, having previously attended a talk by Professor Coleman and completed work experience in his laboratory.



Ms Caswell

YEAR 10 TRIP TO BLACKWELL ADVENTURE



As Head of Year, along with the help of my fabulous assistant Mrs Dyson, we planned, organised and ran a very successful trip to Blackwell Adventure Centre for Year 10 during week commencing 13th May.

The students experienced four thrilling activities. I was overjoyed to see the teamwork, comradery and resilience that the students shared and developed with each other. We thoroughly enjoyed the competitive nature of laser tag and

crate stacking. The exhilaration and freedom of the zip wire the air was filled with lots of laughter and a few squeals of excitement. We also managed to develop our strategic and targeting skills in archery. The resilience that the cohort developed across the day was phenomenal and I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.



A big thank you to everyone that supported with the trip and made the day run smoothly. As well as a big thank you to the students who behaved impeccably and were a credit to our school throughout all the activities and made me proud to call myself their Head of Year.

Miss MacDonagh

Demonstrating Respect & Courage in order to Flourish.

YEAR 9 VISIT RSC

Year 9 enjoyed an exciting trip to Stratford Upon-Avon earlier this term to watch one of Shakespeare's most famous plays: Romeo and Juliet at the Royal Shakespeare Company theatre.

Students enjoyed watching and learning about the bitter divisions between families, how roles between servants and masters were explored and the inevitable tragedy that ends in the lovers' deaths. Students thoroughly enjoyed the eye-catching sets and lively music too. The play was a perfect introduction to students to prepare them for their GCSE Literature examination next year.

Mrs Shabir



SUCCESSSES

CONGRATUALTIONS ALICIA!

Back in April, Year 11 student **Alicia Field** travelled to Guimarães in Portugal to represent Team GB in The 2024 European Championships in Trampoline, Double-Mini-Trampoline and Tumbling.

Alicia performed exceptionally winning a team **Gold** for the Junior Tumbling GB Team and an Individual **Silver** for GB.

It was a really tough competition with over 30 girls in Alicia's category, with her competing over 3 days in total and landing all her runs. Well done Alicia we are so proud of all your hard work, dedication and on-going achievements!



SPORTS UPDATE



A huge well done to all the students took part in the **World Mile Challenge** – congratulations to all who completed a mile in lessons and an extra well done to anyone who contributed extra miles either in lessons or in their own free time!

All who completed the mile went into a prize draw – well done to **winners Erin Piggott (Year 7), Anna Mathias (Year 8), Georgie Newton (Year 9) & Freya Ashton (Year 10)**.

There were so many who completed extra miles. **Highly commended** goes to those who individually contributed the most miles. A massive well done to:

Year 7 – Annabel Hughes McCorkell, Martha Newman, Niamh O'Shea, Alexandra Balderson-Higgins, Zara Choyce & Isabella Grantham.

Year 8 – Poppy Berry, Anna Grahame, Florence Kelley, Caitlin Mannion, Novitha Jalwadi, Francesca Bahri, Adelina Chan, Samantha Nyamhunga, Jessica Patel & Macayla Drewitt.

KNGS completed an amazing 624 miles as our final total across the two weeks!

I'd like to give a special mention to some **Year 8's** who have put in a mammoth effort: **Isobel Pickering, Katie Jobe, Ahoud Mohammad, Yasmin Ahmed & Olivia Lett.**

Well done everybody!

Mrs Currie



PRAISE & HOUSE NEWS

HOUSE NEWS

This half term's House activity was Kin Ball. It's the only game where 3 teams play at the same time – ideal for a 3 house competition.

As you can see from the photo the ball is huge – thank you to Birmingham University for the loan of the equipment.

Essentially, 3 in the team form a human tripod whilst the 4th member of the team shouts the name of one of their two opponent teams before hitting the ball into the air. The team called have to prevent the ball touching the ground then have 5 seconds to set and hit the ball themselves. It was great to see so many students sitting on the banks of the field cheering their house team.

Well done to all players and especially **Ganymede** who won the overall tournament. Please see the results below:

Kin Ball (May)

	1ST	2ND	3RD
Y7	Joint win		
Y8	N	G	K
Y9	N	G	K
Y10	G	K	N
Y12	K&G	-	N

Final Points 1st=3, 2nd=2, 3rd=1

K	N	G
3	3	3
1	3	2
1	3	2
2	1	3
3	1	3

K	N	G
10	11	13
3rd	2nd	1st

Earlier in the term students were given opportunity to give feedback on the school house system. Most of the comments were very positive with most students communicating that they were pleased that there are more house events.

There were also a good number requesting that the house names are changed. In response to this student voice we have started a process to replace the names of the houses. Students have until the end of this half term to put forward their nominations via the Microsoft form shared with them.

We will then continue the process with a working group of students and staff shortlisting the nominations before they go out for a final vote. Look out in the next newsletter to find out what the new house names are!

Next term we have sports day and inter-house rounders; please encourage your child to get involved – thank you.



PRAISE

Year 7 & 8 students this week have been flocking into DT1 to spend their points at the 'Praise Shop'. Thank you to all students who have helped as shop keepers.

A number of trips have been organised for next half term - we're hoping Years 7, 8 & 9 enjoy their time at Drayton Manor. Thanks to the Heads of Year for organising these.

Mr Steele

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STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP



We are into the final stretch of the year and the Student Leadership Group are gearing up for Culture Day. There will be a runway for students to share clothes from their culture and some students will even be performing poetry and dance routines. We are looking forward to celebrating our diverse school community.

I would also like to thank our Head Students. They have now left for their A Level exams, but they have been a credit to themselves and the school. Thanks **Amia, Harry and Azka!**

The new Head Student selection process has begun, with many Year 12's having applied for the roles.

Mr Houston

CAREERS

Years 7 and 8 will receive their careers education in the final half-term of the year through PSHE. They will also be receiving their log-in details for Unifrog; an excellent one-stop shop for careers advice and guidance which we subscribe to for all students.



Year 10 have their work experience upcoming in the week beginning 15th July and are now mostly placed. If your child requires support with sourcing a placement please contact Mr Ali (sali@kngs.co.uk) who has a list of available placements.

Year 10 also have an upcoming career advice and guidance day (11th July) during which they will learn more about colleges, T Levels, university, apprenticeships and Kings Norton Sixth Form.

JOB OF THE TERM (provided by MyPath): Estate Agent

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmaRYdkNChk>



CAREERS WEBSITE OF THE TERM: Informed Choices

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

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

PLEASE 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)

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Sixth Form Admissions 2024

Kings Norton Sixth Form have had a phenomenal amount of applications this year for September 2024. So far 351 applicants have accepted conditional offers; 105 of these are from our current Year 11 students, and 246 are external applications.

Transition to Year 12

A reminder that our Sixth Form Transition Event will take place on **2nd July**. We have sent all students a link to confirm their attendance on Microsoft forms. Please encourage your child to complete it.

Summer work for each subject will be available to all of our applicants on the school website from **2nd July**. This work is designed to aid transition from GCSE to A Level.

Enrolment

Our applicants who have accepted their conditional offer will receive enrolment packs on the transition day. If students are unable to attend we will ensure they are posted out before the end of term in July. These will provide all the necessary information regarding enrolment day in August.

Year 12 Sixth Form Improvement Cards

Year 12 are in the process of working with subject teachers to set themselves specific targets in each of their A Levels. The aim of this card is for students to review, reflect, basing their targets on feedback from Year 12 Mocks.

Subject and Form Teachers will keep a copy the card so it can be reviewed and students supported in achieving their goals. We ask that parents/carers sign the cards once they have seen them and there is also a space for optional comments.

Post 18 Information and Guidance Parents As Partners Event.

It was great to see so many parents/carers at our Post 18 Information and Guidance Information Event on 20th May. We were really fortunate to have Sarah Haigler from Highways England with us to provide some really useful information about apprenticeships. The event kickstarts our focus during tutorials on supporting students in their research into future options beyond the gates of Kings Norton Sixth Form. They have UCAS and Unifrog at their disposal to provide them with lots of information concerning higher education courses, training and apprenticeship opportunities.

Year 12 UoB Visit – 22 May

We were very fortunate to be able to bring all of Year 12 for an insightful day of information gathering from the Outreach Team at University of Birmingham. Students were given a tour of the campus as well as finding out about the benefits of higher education from lecturers with a really useful Q&A with student ambassadors.

Year 13 Leavers Event

We held an assembly and picnic brunch on the field to say goodbye to Year 13. 'End of Course' awards were given out to students who have shown outstanding commitment, academic achievement and progress. Our thanks go to **Amia, Harry and Azka** for their participation and for the hours they spent making crowns!

We would like to take this opportunity to commend our Year 13's for their hard work over the past two years and to wish them the very best of luck for the future.



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