



# Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy term at KNGS for staff and students, with well over 55 enrichment activities and student leadership events having taken place. This includes the fantastic Christmas Concert earlier this week, the Spelling Bee competition, Halloween Science Club and a Remembrance Day event led by our History Ambassadors. Well done to all those students who have got involved and taken part.

**Our Houses** have got new names! Led by Mr Steele, students were consulted and voted to agree that the new House names will now be:

Kingfisher

Nightingale

Goldfinch

As part of our programme of house activities, house quizzes have been taking place weekly, alongside more energetic inter-house competitions such as Benchball.

**Attendance:** Thank you again for your support this term in driving attendance. We have seen an improvement this term compared to last year with most students having attendance of 97.7% or over and 282 students with 100%. Congratulations!

Attendance levels at KNGS are currently above national average which is fantastic news however as we move into the new year we are aiming to maintain or even improve our attendance %. **Please remember that if your child is unwell (unless they have a temperature or have been sick) do send them to school. If they are too unwell to be in school we will contact you straight away.** Students who have good attendance flourish academically and socially, maintain friendships and develop new ones, can access events offered by the school and develop work habits such as good punctuality which are essential to thrive in the world of employment.

## West Midlands Academy Trust

We are delighted to announce that all processes have now been completed for us to transfer, as a founding member, to West Midlands Academy Trust from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025. I sent a letter to you earlier this week to explain further what this means for our students and our school. We hope you will share our excitement about this new chapter and the opportunities it presents. Our WMAT vision of 'Achieving more together' will guide our approach as we harness these opportunities to enhance the educational journey of our students.

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 6<sup>th</sup> January, with the hope and aim of 100% attendance from everyone!

Nicola Raggett - Headteacher

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ◆ Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January - Christmas Break
- ◆ Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – start of Spring Term
- ◆ Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Year 7 Parents Evening (Online), 3.30pm – 6pm
- ◆ Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January - Year 10 Parents Evening, (Online), 3.30pm – 6pm
- ◆ Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Year 11 Interim Reports Issued - [via SIMS PARENT APP](#)
- ◆ Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Training Day - **School closed to ALL students**
- ◆ Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Year 12 Work Experience
- ◆ Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Last day of Half Term
- ◆ Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February - Half Term Break
- ◆ Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Start of Half Term

## EVENTS, TRIPS & CLUBS

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Merry Christmas to one and all! As the Christmas holiday fast approaches Kings Norton Girls' School got into the Christmas Spirit on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December with our annual Christmas Concert. As always the quality of the performances was excellent with a huge number of students involved. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all parents who were able to come and support their child on the night and I wish you all a very restful Christmas period.

*Mr Gell*



### YEAR 7 SPELLING BEE

Students in Year 7 took part in the Inter-house Spelling Bee on Thursday 5 December 2024. The preliminary rounds had taken place during their English lessons and twelve students were then selected to represent their Houses in the final. The twelve 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 confidently managing to spell some challenging words correctly. The audience were very supportive and clapped loudly for every correct answer. As the competition progressed, the words became trickier and the tension began to build. First prize was ultimately won by **Poppy Boodell** from **Goldfinch**. **Goldfinch** also won the House prize, with **Nightingale** coming second and **Kingfisher** third; although the scores were very close. Well done to everyone who took part.

*Mrs Edwards*



### YEAR 12 STUDENTS LAUNCH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: BOXY

A group of Year 12 students have joined the **Young Enterprise Company Programme** to set up and run their own business. The initiative involves teamwork, problem-solving, and practical business experience, with guidance from **Mrs. Neale**, Head of Business and Second in Sixth Form, and **Tony Barrell**, a volunteer mentor with extensive expertise in finance and business restructuring. With over 30 years of experience working with companies of all sizes, Tony provides invaluable coaching to help students build their business skills and develop key employability qualities.

The students have chosen to create a Social Enterprise called **Boxy**, aiming to tackle an important issue in the local community. They've identified that some children face barriers to participating in sports because they can't afford football boots or trainers. Boxy is committed to helping these children access sports equipment, while also promoting environmental sustainability. Every year, around 22 billion pairs of shoes are discarded, with millions of pairs of running shoes ending up in landfills. Boxy's mission is to recycle boots, extending their life and reducing waste.

#### How can you help?

Have you got old trainers or football shoes and don't know what to do with them? Do you want to give disadvantaged children the opportunity to pursue their passion in sports? By donating your old wearable football boots to us, you can help a child have the same possibilities as YOU! We hope to see you support our journey.

**More details to follow soon!**

*Mrs Neale*



## HALLOWEEN SCIENCE CLUB

Year 7 students enjoyed a special Halloween after school event this term, where they were able to try out a variety of activities including making slime, potions and flying ghosts! They were also treated to some exciting demonstrations including the 'Screaming Jelly Baby' - very apt for a spooky season.

Year 10 Science Ambassadors were on hand to help out, especially using the dry ice to make 'clouds' and smoke rings, so a big thank you to all of these students. It was lovely to see all of the students really getting involved with science with lots of enthusiasm, especially when making their own bubbling potions!

We're looking forward to the next Science Club event coming soon.

*Mrs Crompton*



## TEXTILES CHRISTMAS DECORATION CLUB



We promised to show you an update of a selection of Textiles Christmas hanging decorations from some of our first cohort of Textile Club participants. Students had lots of fun whilst socialising and learning and developing new skills such as embroidery and crochet. Some of their creations even featured on this year's official Kings Norton Girls' School

Christmas card. A big well done to everyone who participated, including all of those that did not make it on the photo due to snow day! Merry Christmas from us all.

*Mrs Garcia*



## OXFORD TRIP – YEAR 10

In November, twelve Year 10 students, accompanied by Mr Abelson and Mrs Edwards, spent a day at Oxford University exploring all aspects of university life. The students learnt about courses available, the application process, student life and the importance of getting good GCSE results. After lunch the students excelled in a fiendishly difficult problem-solving session, working in groups and showing great resilience. They also experienced a fascinating session at The Pitt Rivers Museum, which is full of fascinating artefacts from across the World.

We were hosted by Keble College. The students had a tour of the college and were treated to a delicious lunch, it is Curry Day on Thursdays. 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. All the students were hugely energised by the trip and the following comment was overheard on the journey back, "Wouldn't it be great if we all got into Oxford together?"

*Mr Abelson*



## YEAR 8 GIRLS SHINE IN GCHQ CYBERFIRST COMPETITION!

This term, we're thrilled to celebrate the fantastic efforts of our Year 8 students who took part in the prestigious **GCHQ CyberFirst Girls Competition**. This exciting challenge tests skills in problem-solving, cryptography, networking, and more, inspiring young women to explore the world of cybersecurity.



We had **8 teams** enter the competition, with a total of **22 enthusiastic participants** from our Year 8 cohort. Over several days, the teams worked diligently through a series of technical challenges, demonstrating our school values of **Respect, Courage and Flourish**.

A special shout out goes to "**The Sillies**" and "**Unknown 2024**", who performed exceptionally well, showcasing incredible teamwork and determination. Their success highlights their courage in tackling tough challenges, respect for one another's contributions, and their ability to truly flourish under pressure.

A huge thank you to every student who participated - you've all made the school proud! We're keeping our fingers crossed that some of our teams will advance to the next round. Well done, everyone!

*Mr Willis*

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



## YEAR 12 & 13 TEXTILE A LEVEL TRIP TO THE BARBER INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

Our fabulously creative A Level Textiles cohort had the opportunity to visit the Barber Gallery this term, where they experienced a comprehensive guided tour to help support the contextual element of their course and also participated in a Dry Point Etching printmaking workshop. They learned a lot that can translate directly to their individual studies. Firstly,



they experienced the immersive exhibition of *Scents and the Art of the Pre-Raphaelites* where they not only viewed the paintings, learning about the many areas of symbolism contained within each individual painting but could also spray actual scents to really evoke the sense of the actual painting. They then explored the main gallery where they learned about the huge role that textiles representation plays in paintings and the stifled rights of female artists at the time, culminating in viewing the *Botanical Illustration* exhibition which served as direct inspiration for their Dry Point Etching Printing Workshop.

*Mrs Garcia*

## B&E CLUB HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS FAIR

The **B&E (Business & Enterprise) Club** held a festive **Christmas Fair** during lunchtime on December 9th and 10th, and it was a huge success! Students worked together to design and create a range of products to sell at their stalls. The fair featured a variety of items, including sweets, jewellery, knitted crafts, and stationery.



The event was well-attended and provided a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their entrepreneurial skills. It also allowed them to gain valuable experience in customer service, marketing, and sales, giving them a hands-on understanding of what it takes to run a business.

The B&E Club meets every Monday lunchtime in **Room 1**. New members are always welcome to join and be a part of future projects!

*Mrs Neale*



## KEY STAGE 3 CERAMICS CLUB

Students in Years 7 to 9 have been learning how to make sculptures in Ceramics Club on Tuesdays after school. Each club rotation lasts for six weeks to enable as many students as possible the opportunity to attend. We hope you enjoy the wonderful creations that have made their way home so far!

*Mrs Everson & Dr O'Mahony*

## INTER-FAITH FORUM

Kings Norton Girls' School had the privilege of hosting a fantastic Inter-Faith Forum, where speakers from six world religions came together to share their beliefs and insights. The event was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate diversity, encourage dialogue, and build mutual respect, and it was inspiring to see the Year 11 students so engaged with all the different perspectives on offer.

Thank you to our Year 11 students, whose attentive attitudes made this event so successful. The students listened with focus throughout, showing real maturity and a genuine curiosity. We're incredibly proud of how our Year 11 students engaged with the event - asking great questions, reflecting on what they heard, and embracing the chance to learn from others. The Inter-Faith Forum was a powerful reminder of how valuable it is to come together, listen to one another, and build understanding.



*Mr Tabberer*

## YEAR 9 TRIP TO UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

In November the Year 9 Forward Thinking students made the first of two visits this academic year to the University of Birmingham.

They attended some talks from University lecturers on a range of subjects to give them an insight into the huge variety of courses that it is possible to study at university. They were also given lunch vouchers so they could sample some of the university food too. They all agreed that the visit was really informative.

*Mr Abelson*



## REMEMBRANCE EVENT



Our lovely History Ambassadors led on a wonderful quiz they had created to inform more people about World War 1. This quiz helped people learn more about what happened and why it is so important that we remember those who fought for us and the lives lost or those impacted by war.

They did a splendid job of getting lots of the school involved with all year groups taking part! Well done to all!

*Miss Lordan*

## KS3 STUDENTS EXCEL IN THE UK BEBRAS CHALLENGE

This term, our **Key Stage 3 students** demonstrated their brilliance in the **UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge**, showcasing not only their problem-solving skills but also their embodiment of our school values: **Respect, Courage and Flourish**.



The competition, packed with intriguing puzzles, encouraged our students to think critically and creatively. With courage, they tackled challenging problems, respecting the competition's high standards and supporting one another as they flourished in this exciting academic opportunity.

A special congratulations goes to **Poppy B in Year 7** and **Lucy G in Year 9**, who achieved the **top scores in their respective age ranges!** Their outstanding performances reflect their courage to push boundaries, respect for the challenge, and the way they've flourished as role models for others.

We're incredibly proud of all KS3 participants who embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and determination. Thank you for representing our school so brilliantly. With these values guiding them, we can't wait to see how our young problem-solvers continue to flourish in the future. Well done, everyone!

*Mr Willis*

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP

### Halloween Movie Night SLG: A Spooktacular Success

On the 24th October, the usually serene drama studio was transformed into a scene of suspense and thrill as 80 Sixth Form students gathered for a much-anticipated Halloween movie night. Organised by the Student Leadership Group, the evening was designed to bring a festive chill to the air - and it certainly delivered.

The feature film of the evening was *Slender Man*, a spine-tingling horror movie that had students on the edge of their seats (or hiding behind them!). The choice of the film proved to be a popular one, perfectly capturing the eerie spirit of Halloween. With the drama studio's dim lighting and theatrical acoustics, the atmosphere was perfectly set to immerse the audience in the haunting tale.

A sense of camaraderie filled the room as students arrived dressed in cosy Halloween-themed attire. The event wasn't just about scares; it also served as a chance for students to unwind and bond during a busy term. "It was such a fun night," said one Sixth Former after the event. "Watching a horror movie in the drama studio made it so much creepier - and being with friends made it even better!"

The event also featured a brief introduction from the Student Leadership Group, who thanked everyone for coming and reminded the audience to keep the drama studio tidy as they departed. The evening concluded with a round of applause, though it was unclear whether the applause was for the organisers or the sheer bravery of sitting through *Slender Man*'s most hair-raising scenes!

Plans are already being discussed for next year's event - though some are hoping for a slightly less terrifying pick!

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

## Children In Need

On Friday 15th November, the school community came together for a fantastic cause, celebrating Children in Need Day with a fun-filled day of fundraising. The event was a resounding success, with students swapping their uniforms for casual clothes and taking part in a breaktime bake sale that brought sweet treats and smiles to all.

At breaktime, the excitement peaked as the bake sale opened. Tables in the main hall were piled high with an impressive array of homemade cakes, cookies and cupcakes, all generously baked and donated by students, parents and staff.

Thanks to everyone's enthusiasm and generosity, the school **raised an incredible £749.16 for Children in Need**. The funds will go towards supporting disadvantaged children and young people across the UK, making a real difference in their lives.

A huge congratulations to **Isabella Grantham** in Year 8 for winning the best designed cake.

Children in Need Day was a perfect reminder of the power of community and kindness, and the school is already looking forward to next year's efforts to make an even bigger impact.

## Yoga Event

Students embraced the chance to unwind and recharge during a special yoga session held at lunchtime this term ahead of the mock exam season. It was organised to promote wellbeing and mindfulness. The event transformed the school gym into a serene oasis, offering a welcome break from the hustle and bustle of daily life.



The session focused on gentle stretches, breathing exercises, and relaxation techniques designed to reduce stress and improve focus. Participants of all experience levels joined in, finding moments of calm and clarity amidst the school day. "It was so relaxing," said one Year 11 student. "It helped me feel more focused for the afternoon and it was nice to see so many people taking time for their mental health."

*Miss Sikander*

## SPORTS UPDATE

### NETBALL RESULTS

Senior Division 1 (Years 10 & 11)				Year 9 Division 1			
TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT	TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT
KECHG	2nd Oct	Away	L 5-16	UOB	25th Sept	Home	W 21-2
Swanshurst	7th Oct	Home	W 22-6	KECHG	16th Oct	Home	W 19-3
KEFW	8th Oct	Home	L 7-9	STACS	22nd Oct	Home	W 16-3
EHS	15th Oct	Home	W14-13	Lordswood	12th Nov	Away	W (LW conceded)
				KEFW	20th Nov	Away	D 10-10
Year 8 Division 1							
TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT	TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT
KECHG	2nd Oct	Away	W 8-7	EHS	15th Oct	Home	L 2-21
KEFW	8th Oct	Home	L 7-15	STACS	22nd Oct	Home	W 22-3
KE Northfield	15th Oct	Home	L 4-6	KEFW	14th Jan	Home	TBC
Year 7 Division 1				Tournaments			
TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT	TEAM	DATE	VENUE	RESULT
EHS	15th Oct	Home	L 2-6	U19	8th Oct	KEHS	1st
KECHG	16th Oct	Home	W 7-3	Seniors	27th Feb	Shenley Ac.	TBC
STACS	22nd Oct	Home	W 9-5	Year 7	5th Mar	KECHG	TBC
KEFW	20th Nov	Away	L 4-7	Year 8	11th Mar	KEFW	TBC
				Year 9	17th Mar	EHS	TBC



## WEST MIDLANDS CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS

As a result of their performance in the first round schools competition three of our Year 7 students were invited to represent South Birmingham Schools at the West Midlands County trials at Himley Hall, Dudley on the 19th October 2024. **Yana-Rae**, **Lorna** and **Layla** all took part, representing KNKS and South Birmingham schools brilliantly. They showed perseverance on a particularly hilly cross country course in difficult wet weather conditions.

**Yana** finished within the top 10 of all Year 7's and has been selected for the next round of competition to represent West Midlands at the Dave Sunderland meet on Nov 5th, and has been invited for trials at BRAT athletics club, this is a fantastic opportunity to take part in a higher standard race to compete against some of the best runners in other regions.

We are proud of you all - well done.



*Mrs Currie*

## SUCSESSES

### KNKS STUDENT TAKES GOLD IN PORTUGAL

At the beginning of November, **Alicia Field (Year 12)**, flew to Portugal to take part in the 17th Loulé Cup representing Team GB in Tumbling. We are delighted to report that Alicia won the **GOLD** medal in the **age 13-16 junior category**, in what was her **last competition of the year and her last in the Junior Category**.

To add to the celebrations, Alicia recently had confirmation that she has been re-selected for the Team GB squad as a Senior. A massive well done Alicia, you should be very proud of yourself - we certainly are!



### YEAR 11 FORWARD THINKING CELEBRATION EVENT



In November eight students completed their four year Forward Thinking Programme organised by the outreach team at the University of Birmingham.

They found the experience enlightening and worthwhile. This event was to celebrate their efforts, and the students' parents were also invited. We were treated to a tasty buffet, an inspirational talk and a certificate presentation ceremony in the university's Aston Webb Great Hall.

The students left happily clutching both their certificates and University of Birmingham branded water bottles.

*Mr Abelson*

### INKTOBER

Inktober was a phenomenal success again this year with over 400 entries from 102 students! Staff participated too and special mention goes to the talented Miss Rickard for her incredible illustrations. Each house was well represented but there was a clear winner:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place **Goldfinch**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Kingfisher**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Nightingale**

Congratulations Goldfinch and thank you to everyone who participated.

Keep drawing!

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



*Mrs Everson*

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Year 7 students who have completed the Healthy Lifestyles unit in their Design Technology rotation have all become CPR Superhero's. They undertook the British Heart Foundations new Revivr training to learn how to perform CPR and use an AED (automated external defibrillator). All Year 7's will take part in this training and become CPR superhero's in their Healthy Lifestyles unit by the end of the year.

We are also encouraging our Year 7's to pass their new skills on and ask someone at home to complete the BHF – Revivr training. It takes just 15 minute, all you need is a smart device and a cushion – **Go to [bhf.org.uk/revivr](https://bhf.org.uk/revivr) to take part.**



*Every year in the UK over 30,000 cardiac arrests occur out of hospital. That's 30,000 opportunities to help save a life. Evidence shows that effective and immediate cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can help double the chance of survival in some cases, yet over 23 million adults in the UK have not learnt the lifesaving skill of CPR. Currently less than 1 in 10 people survive an out of hospital cardiac arrest, yet in Norway, where CPR training is taught to all pupils at school, survival rates are one in four. If the UK achieved the same survival rate as Norway, we could save the lives of up to an additional 5,000 people every year.*

Go to [bhf.org.uk/revivr](https://bhf.org.uk/revivr) to take part.

Mrs Currie

## STAR OF THE PANTO!

Our very own IT Technician, Mr Ralley was been extremely busy recently rehearsing for his lead role of 'Nurse Nora Nutjob' in the All & Sundry production of Robin Hood - A Family Panto, at the Cobham Theatre at Bromsgrove School.

Mr Ralley's energetic and fun performance definitely made him the star of the show as far as we were concerned! Well done Mr Ralley - you are brilliant!

The show runs until December 22nd and further details can be found at [www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/boxoffice](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/boxoffice), with a special £10 ticket offer on Saturday 21st December at 7pm.



## HOUSE & PRAISE NEWS

As shared in the last newsletter, we recently changed our House names to Kingfisher, Nightingale & Goldfinch, as voted for by our students.

After several iterations, the new house logo's are now finalised. Lot's of students submitted designs featuring each bird and thanks to Mrs Everson & Mr Steele, they have been stylised so that they complement each other. The 1<sup>st</sup> letters of **K**ingfisher, **N**ightingale and **G**oldfinch correspond with KNG of KNGS.



Following House teambuilding events & Inktober last half term, the Student House Team recruited competitors for House Bench Ball for this half term. It was loud and fast paced, well done to the winning teams in the following houses:

**Year 7 – Nightingale**

**Year 8 – Kingfisher**

**Year 9 – Kingfisher**

**Year 10 – Goldfinch**

**Year 11 – Goldfinch**

**Kingfisher** was awarded a bonus point for the best attended teams.

Well done to all Year 7's who also competed in the House Spelling Bee Final.

We have just completed the application and interview process to recruit next years Student House Team (below). Congratulations to all in the team. Well done to **Jessica Barnett, Nieve McNally & Sophie Power** for getting the House Captain Posts. Next half term (Spring 1) will be a handover period where the old team supports the new team – they will jointly be working on the House Variety Show planned for early February 2025.

House Netball results will be coming in soon. House Points and positions will be revealed in the House Assemblies in January.

**Opening a World of Opportunities**

Mr Steele



## PRAISE

Last week we kicked off our seasonal celebrations in Key Stage 3 with festive movie afternoons. Over 350 students were treated to an afternoon off lessons to enjoy a movie of their choice on the big screen, in recognition of their good attendance and conduct this term. It was a joy to see so many students enjoying the movies with their friends and getting in the Christmas spirit.

All students who meet our expectations for attendance and conduct are invited to these termly treats in recognition of their efforts and we are thrilled that each half term there is a different event to look forward to. Next half term's treat will be an invitation to a trip to Drayton Manor theme park!

*Ms Hale - Head of Year 7*



## 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.

Five teams took part in the competition this year.

Congratulations to the following pupils who took part: **Novitha Jalwadi, Emily Lynch, Polina Kuchevska, Lucy Gerrard, Lamar El-Baltagi, Ke Zhin Zhang, Yu-Zhen Whang, Reina Wong, Yasmin Ahmed, Summer Kwok, Ada Tafflinger-Ahmad, Saba Ansari, Jessica Patel and Ammara Farooq.**

Thank you to all of our teams for their participation and their tenacity in the face of technical problems.

### Christmas in Vienna

Mrs Evans hosted her popular 'Christmas in Vienna' again on a Thursday. It ran on 3 consecutive lunchtimes from the end of November towards the end of term. Many students participated and crafted their own Christmas ornaments.

### 'Une lettre un sourire' Christmas Cards to French care homes

Following last year's success, the year 10 Languages Ambassadors coordinated a project at the end of November to write letters to two care homes in France. This is part of a national initiative in France to combat loneliness among the elderly. KS3 French pupils were invited to write their own message during lunchtime sessions or in their own time. Over 30 cards were submitted and thank you to the following pupils who took part:



**Year 7:** **Amélie Rodgers, Erin Neumann, Jessica Walker, Matilda Cotton, Jaiya Suthi, Carlotta Stone, Olivia Brown, Daisy Barber, Maicie Meredith, Miley Hart, Isobel Higgins, Meg Winkles, Chloe Arnold, Dana Marie and Hannah Wrangles.**

**Year 8:** **Evie Carpenter, Lucy Jones, Polly Hall, Kaidie Danks, Isla Auger, Larissa Rendall, Esther Battye, Lily Gaynor and Evalyn Coleman.**

**Year 9:** **Emily Wise, Florence Kelley, Katie Jobe, Niamh Dehame-Hare and Isla Paterson.**

Year 10: **Andrea Lau and Scarlett Lloyd.**

### Pen Pal Exchanges

We have been trialling pen pal exchanges with 2 schools in France. Through exchanging letters, pupils have gained a valuable cultural insight into school life in France and other aspects of French culture. We hope to roll this out with other groups next year.

*Written by Georgie Newton, Eleanor Hodson, Millie Gee, Zelia Dussol – Year 10, on behalf of Miss Burke and the Language Ambassadors*



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

# 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!

## Sixth Form Applicant Morning for KNGS Students

On **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** we invited prospective sixth formers to attend an applicant morning. This was a chance for our students to meet the Sixth Form Team and for us to meet them!

There were talks from our Head Students as well as an opportunity to hear from the students involved in our Mental Health Ambassador, Young enterprise and EPQ programmes. There was also time for students to consider their A Level options as well as reflecting on the skills needed to be a successful sixth former at KNGS. This is something that we will continue to support all of our students with. We will be sending out offer letters in the first week back after the Christmas break.

## 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. 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 17th January 2025**.

## UCAS Applications

Just a reminder that if your child is applying to university the UCAS deadline for applications is **29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 for 2025 entry at 18:00**.

# CAREERS

**Announcements** There's lots of useful information and links on our school website for our parents and carers here: <https://www.kngs.co.uk/curriculum/careers/>

**Careers website of the term:** Skills for Careers

<https://www.skillsforcareers.education.gov.uk/pages/young-people>

You can get career ideas and browse training options about what's possible now or for the future.

**Job of the term** (provided by MyPath): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dh2UASAathw>

### Events and visits:

Mrs Edwards took a group of Year 11 students for a taster day in Digital Media Event at South and City College, Longbridge. It was a chance for them to see what courses and resources are available in that area.

Mrs Edwards is continuing to meet Year 11 students for their one-to-one careers meetings, which all students will receive.

We had our first **Careers Forum** of the year on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We had a wonderful panel representing careers in healthcare, business management, law, the arts and more! A **MASSIVE** thank you to those of you who volunteered and who took part. It was an invaluable event for all of our students.

**KNGS Sixth Form Applications:** 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 [rzafar@kngs.co.uk](mailto:rzafar@kngs.co.uk).

### Year 12 Work Experience

We wish our Year 12 students well for their work experience week which is the week beginning **10<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. If there are any students still requiring a placement then they should speak to Mr Ali who is adept at finding places and will support students to find a place.

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





# SEND NEWS

## SEND Coffee Morning- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Thank you to parents and carers that were able to attend our SEND Coffee Morning on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. The focus of the session was **Pathological Demand Avoidance**

The resources from the session can be [found here](#).

## Reading webinars 2024.25 for Parents/Carers

Thank you to all of you who joined our first reading webinar on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. Please find a link to the [resources here](#). Huge thank you to Mr Houston for leading this sessions.

Please do join us for the next sessions on 23<sup>rd</sup> January which will focus on how to support reading for understanding (comprehension). A TEAMS link will be sent out closer to the event.

Details on future events to support reading are listed below.

We are planning a series of webinars for parents/carers focusing on how to support their child with reading.

The focus and dates for sessions are listed below. The sessions will run from 4pm and will last approximately 20-30 minutes.

Resources from each session will be shared with parents/carers via newsletter and website after each event.

- **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 @ 4pm** – Suggestions to support reading for understanding (comprehension).
- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 4pm** - Help with your own reading skills
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 @ 4pm** - Accessible reading- things to consider to make reading more accessible
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 @ 4pm** - Tips on getting your child(ren) interested in reading. Fitting 'reading together' into your daily routine. Advice on how to bring a story to life when reading together.

### Dyspraxia Pupil Support Group 2024-25

#### Spring Term date:

- Wednesday 26th February, Form Time, ICT 3

### Dyslexia Pupil Voice Group 2024 -25

#### Spring Term dates:

- Wednesday 22nd January, Form Time, ICT 3, focus: My Story
- Wednesday 12th March, Form Time, ICT 3, focus: Positive about Dyslexia



**Register now for January**

## Nurturing ADHD Kids

Free online courses for parents and carers of children and young people with ADHD

**LED BY ADULTS WITH ADHD**

### Does your child have ADHD or suspected ADHD?

Join our friendly six week course to learn how to understand and support them

You can join the day time session or the evening one.

It is online so you join from your own home.

You can register using the QR codes or email

**Tuesdays 10 - 11.30am starting Tuesday 7th January**

**Thursdays 7 - 8.30pm starting Thursday 9th January**

**contactus@brewseducation.org**

**Phone: 0731 116 7485**

**Email: contactus@brewseducation.org**

Birmingham Resilience Education and Wellbeing Services CIC    CIC Business Registration: 13240865

forward carers

B.E.W.S. CIC

# HELP FOR ALL FAMILIES IN BIRMINGHAM



**EDGBASTON**  
EarlyHelpEdgbaston@gatewayfs.org  
0121 456 7821

**NORTHFIELD**  
EarlyHelpNorthfield@gatewayfs.org  
0121 456 7821

**ERDINGTON**  
ErdingtonFamilies@compass-support.org.uk  
0121 748 8199

**PERRY BARR**  
BirminghamEarlyHelpPerryBarr@family-action.org.uk  
07385 464 482

**HALL GREEN**  
HallGreen.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk  
07570 953 519 (9:30am to 4:30pm)

**SELLY OAK**  
SellyOak.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk  
07483 090 434

**HODGE HILL**  
YardleyHodgeHillEH@barnardos.org.uk  
0121 289 4875

**SUTTON COLDFIELD**  
SuttonColdfieldEarlyHelp@compass-support.org.uk  
0121 748 8199

**LADYWOOD**  
BirminghamEarlyHelpLadywood@family-action.org.uk  
07816 086 607

**YARDLEY**  
YardleyHodgeHillEH@barnardos.org.uk  
0121 289 4875



# WE ARE HERE TO HELP FAMILIES

Selly Oak Families



Selly Oak Families supports children, young people and families across Billesley, Bournbrook, Selly Park, Bournville, Cotteridge, Brandwood, Kings Heath, Druids Heath, Monyhull, Highters Heath, Kings Norton North, Stirchley, Weoley & Selly Oak.

**Our support is free and confidential.**

We can work with education, health and community partners to support the whole family.

Ask your school, health visitor, children's centre, GP, community or faith centre to complete a Family Connect Form.



Scan with your Smart Phone



Phone | Text | WhatsApp us on: 07483 090434  
Email: SellyOak.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk  
Follow us on social media: @SellyOakFam

# WE CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH...

Selly Oak Families



Phone | Text | WhatsApp us on: 07483 090434  
Email: SellyOak.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk

