



KINGS NORTON  
GIRLS' SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

# Newsletter

Spring Term 2026



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'Kings Norton  
Girls' School'

# Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the spring term, this newsletter captures just a snapshot of the many opportunities, experiences and achievements that have taken place this term. Thank you to all the staff that give so willingly of their time to open this world of opportunities for our students.

Alongside the many successes highlighted in these pages, this term has also brought moments of deep sadness for our school community. We were heartbroken by the passing of Mrs Ann Crompton, a much-loved member of our Science Faculty. Mrs Crompton was an exceptional teacher whose enthusiasm, kindness and passion for learning left a lasting impression on students and colleagues alike. She gave so generously of her time and energy, enriching school life in countless ways. Our thoughts remain with her family, friends and colleagues, and we are grateful for the compassion, maturity and support shown by our students during such a difficult time. In this newsletter, we take time to remember and celebrate the remarkable legacy Mrs Crompton leaves behind.

This term also marks a significant moment of reflection as we prepare to say farewell to Mrs Shakespeare, who will retire at the end of the summer term after 33 years of dedicated service to Kings Norton Girls' School. Mrs Shakespeare has played a pivotal role in shaping the school over three decades, supporting generations of students and families with unwavering commitment and care. Her contribution to KNGS is immeasurable, and we thank her sincerely for the impact she has had on our community.

As always, we are grateful for your ongoing support. It plays a vital role in ensuring that our students attend regularly, engage fully and make the most of the many opportunities available to them, and I hope this newsletter gives you a real sense of the learning, opportunities and values that define life at KNGS.

**Mrs N Raggett**  
*Headteacher, Kings Norton Girls' School*  
*CEO, West Midlands Academy Trust*

## Dates for your Diaries

- **Monday 13th April** – Start of Summer Term
- **Monday 4th May** – Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- **Monday 25th to Friday 29th May** – Half Term Break
- **Monday 1st June** – Students Return to School
- **Week Beginning 8th June** – Years 7, 8 & 9 Reward Trips
- **Tuesday 30th June** – Year 12 Transition Day
- **Wednesday 1st July** – Year 6 Induction Day
- **Thursday 2nd July** – Arts Summer Showcase
- **Tuesday 7th July** – Annual Awards Celebration
- **Friday 10th July** – School Summer Fete
- **Friday 17th July** – End of Summer Term

## A Poem for Mrs Crompton

She taught us how the stars were born,  
How light can bend, how time can form,  
Yet somehow, in her quiet way,  
She made the hardest things feel warm.

She saw the universe in all:  
In fabric threads, in silver shine,  
In zebras' stripes, in spinning rides,  
In patterns both complex, divine.

She loved the rush of soaring tracks,  
Of rollercoasters, loops and thrills,  
And danced through life with joyful acts,  
A heart that followed all her skills.

She spoke of space as if she'd been  
Among the stars, their gentle guide,  
And carried wonder in her words,  
With curiosity as her pride.

With Olaf's laugh and playful cheer,  
She showed us joy in simple things,  
A lightness that could lift a room,  
Like bright and unexpected springs.

And though she's gone from sight today,  
Her spark still shimmers, clear and true,  
In every question that we ask,  
In every dream we dare pursue.

For teachers never truly leave;  
Their echoes stay in all we do,  
And somewhere, dancing among stars,  
She's still inspiring, still shining through.

**Miss Sikander**

# In Memory of Mrs Crompton

Like so many others, when I first met Mrs Crompton I couldn't help but get caught up in her overwhelming love for physics, boundless energy, enthusiasm and passion for teaching. This infectious enthusiasm never waned. Mrs Crompton enriched her classroom with fun and fascination; she was always looking for new ways to make abstract concepts easier to imagine and jump off the page. Zebras, penguins, hula-hoops and Nerf guns were not uncommon sights in her classroom.

Mrs Crompton went above and beyond to create a welcoming and inspiring teaching environment for her students. She spent her summer painting space-themed walls, tirelessly scrubbing desks, and decorating the room with many curios. Her outstanding subject knowledge, engineering background, and expertise as a principal examiner meant she could support her students to achieve their best in exams, always giving positive feedback (unless you forgot to show your working out and she brought out the dreaded red stamp). Her contributions to students' learning and their appreciation for physics will be a long-lasting legacy.

Mrs Crompton's contributions ventured far beyond her science classroom. She adored her form and provided excellent pastoral support. She organised trips to CERN for sixth-form students to see the Large Hadron Collider and the UN; even 24 hours trapped in an airport due to flight delays couldn't dampen her enthusiasm. Mrs Crompton felt passionately about the benefits of Duke of Edinburgh and volunteered her time to support students on their expeditions.

Mrs Crompton loved to dance, almost as much as she loved Eurovision, and always came back from Eurovision Club with an extra bounce in her step, talking about how much fun she had with the students. She had many talents: she used her sewing skills to create costumes for the school's production of Sister Act, and her knitting skills to make insulating jackets for science experiments. She worked with staff from all over the school on various projects and teams, and made many good friends along the way. Staff and students have been sharing how thankful they are to Mrs Crompton for all of her efforts in providing these opportunities.

In the science office, she brought endless conversation, sharing tales about family holidays interrailing across Europe, overloading us with data from rollercoasters and Duolingo, and her many reasons why Captain Picard is the best captain Star Trek has ever seen. More than anything, she loved spending time with her family and took immense pride in her children and their achievements.

The science team thanks everyone for the overwhelming support and kindness shown by our school community. So many students and staff have checked in on us, brought flowers and food, and shared their lovely words and thoughts about Mrs Crompton. This support has helped us navigate this incredibly tough time. We truly feel the strength of the school community as we pull together and keep moving forward.

We move forward with Mrs Crompton inspiring us to love life to its fullest, find the fun in learning, try our hardest, appreciate the wonders of the universe and spread joy. When I look up at the stars twinkling in the night sky, I will be reminded of Mrs Crompton and the amazing legacy she has left.

**Mr McClelland**  
*On behalf of the Science Faculty*



## Trips to Symphony Hall

In February, Year 7 enjoyed an inspiring visit to Symphony Hall to hear the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform a concert themed around the cosmos. The programme featured dramatic and atmospheric music that brought planets, stars and galaxies vividly to life.

For many students, it was their first experience of hearing a live orchestra, and they were captivated by the sound and scale of the performance. Our pupils listened brilliantly and represented the school with real maturity.

Overall it was a really memorable trip that sparked their curiosity, creativity and gave them a deeper appreciation of music.

On the same day, our Music GCSE and A Level students also visited Birmingham Symphony Hall,

this time to experience an inspiring Jazz Brass Band performance. The live ensemble showcased exceptional musicianship, tight ensemble playing and dynamic improvisation, bringing classroom concepts vividly to life.

Students observed how harmony, rhythm and syncopation function in a real life performance, deepening their understanding of Jazz structure and stylistic features. They were particularly engaged by the instrumental solos, gaining insight into improvisation techniques and the confidence required to perform them.

The trip broadened their appreciation of live music, strengthened listening skills and encouraged them to reflect critically on performance, composition and collaborative musicianship.



## Year 11 Globe Theatre Visit

Year 11 students enjoyed an inspiring visit to the Globe Theatre as part of their GCSE History study of the Historic Environment. They attended an engaging lecture that deepened their understanding of Elizabethan London and theatre culture, followed by a guided tour of the Globe, which brought their learning to life.

Afterwards, the group visited the Golden Hinde, where they had lunch and time to explore the area. They represented the school brilliantly throughout the day, remaining attentive and enthusiastic.



## Year 7 Take Over The Globe

Year 7 students also recently enjoyed a visit to the Globe Theatre, where they watched a live performance of Romeo and Juliet. The experience brought Shakespeare's work to life and was a memorable introduction to theatre in a historic setting.

A talented KNGS student impressed passers-by with a piano performance at Oxford Services, showcasing confidence and musical ability beyond the classroom.



Our recent KS3 Silent Disco was a fantastic success, bringing students together for an evening full of energy, laughter, and brilliant dance moves—all while raising money to help make school trips more accessible and equitable for families.

The atmosphere was electric as students switched between channels and sang along to their favourite tracks. The dance floor was packed all night, with everyone fully embracing the fun. It was especially entertaining to see timeless classics like Saturday Night and the Macarena

still going strong—proving once again that some songs never lose their magic! Miss Yeomans led the dancing of these numbers, teaching old disco dance moves to our students!

A huge thank you to everyone who took part and supported the event. Not only was it a night to remember, but it also made a meaningful contribution towards ensuring more students can take part in future trips.

Look out for our next event which will be announced at the start of the summer term!

## A Fond Farewell and Thank You

Kings Norton Girls' School approaches a remarkable milestone—its 100th anniversary of our school site in 2027.

For a third of that history, I have had the privilege of being part of KNGS. I joined the school in September 1993, and after 33 happy years, the time has now come for me to retire at the end of this summer term. During these three decades, I have had the joy of teaching many, many wonderful students. Some of those students are now parents and you have sent your children to KNGS for me to teach them too. I must therefore retire before I find myself teaching grandchildren.

My years at KNGS have been filled with memories I will treasure: camping overnight in the gym, teaching history in many rooms as the shape of the school has changed and grown; trips to France, sports days and tug-of-war competitions, tentative attempts in using our very first computers, and watching the science and humanities blocks rise from building sites; summer lunchtimes on the field, wet breaks in the hall—these memories will stay with me forever.

It has truly been a pleasure and a privilege to be part of your and your children's lives and to work alongside such a special school community.

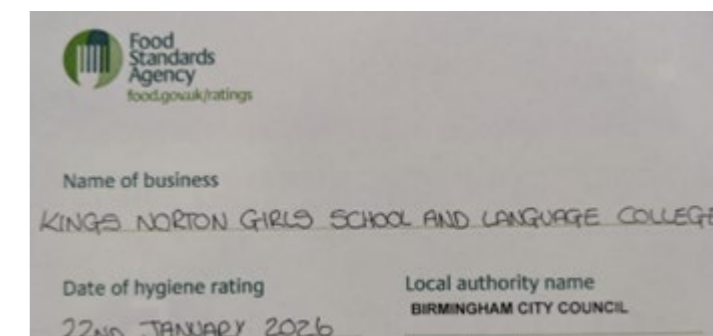
Thank you—for the memories and the many moments of joy you have given me.

**Mrs L Shakespeare**  
*Deputy Headteacher*

## KNGS Catering Team's Perfect EHO Rating

OCS Academy is delighted to announce that our school canteen has been awarded the maximum 5 star Food Hygiene Rating following a recent inspection by the Environmental Health Officer (EHO). This top rating reflects the exceptional standards of cleanliness, food safety, and operational excellence consistently demonstrated by our dedicated catering team. Every member of the team works hard each day to uphold strict hygiene practices, maintain a safe working environment, and provide nutritious meals that our students can enjoy with confidence.

**Nicola Raggett, Headteacher:** "I would like to extend my thanks and congratulations to our catering team for achieving this outstanding 5 star rating. Their professionalism, dedication, and passion for creating a safe, welcoming environment with amazing food quality and choice for our students shines through in everything they do. This recognition is thoroughly deserved, and we are grateful for their continued hard work in supporting the wellbeing of our school community."





This year, we have had the largest number of KNGS students take part in the ski visit.

Forty-eight Year 8s left on Sunday 8 March for a week's skiing in Pinzolo, Italy. The family-run hotel was just the right size, and we were joined by students from Swanshurst School. It was lovely to see how well the students gelled.

All but a few students had never skied on snow before, so Day 1 was very tiring for them. Their endurance paid off, as by Day 3 a number of groups had started skiing blue runs. By Day 4, every student had taken the chairlift and, by the afternoon, all were skiing on the other side of the mountain.

The challenge level of ski slopes is labelled green, blue, red and black (the most challenging). It was lovely to hear one student so thrilled that she had skied a black run on the last day. All students have impressed the staff with how well they have progressed, both on and off the slopes.

Off-piste activities included a trip to the gelato (ice-cream) parlour, karaoke and an ice disco.

A particular favourite was the evening meal at a mountain restaurant, followed by a night walk through the forest with flaming torches.

We were very proud to hear the hotel owner tell the students how impressed he had been with



their behaviour – well done, girls.

A big thank you to Mr Steele, Mrs Currie, Mrs Yeoman, Mr Houston and Mr Yeoman for investing a week to make this fantastic trip possible.



## PSHE and RSHE - Health Days

Each year group has once again taken part in a Health Day, which took place either in December or more recently in February. These days give students the opportunity to explore a range of important topics that support the statutory RSHE curriculum.

We were pleased to welcome back several familiar visitors who have supported our Health Days in previous years. An RSE facilitator delivered engaging and informative sessions for students in Year 8 and Year 11. We also welcomed back a long-standing visitor who worked with Year 10 and Year 11 students on managing stress. These sessions provided students with a range of relaxation techniques to help them during

the exam period. We hope some of these useful strategies may even have been shared at home — we know our staff certainly enjoyed learning them too!

As always, KNGS staff played an important role in the programme by delivering sessions. These included topics such as healthy relationships, parenting, and mental health. Across the different year groups, students also explored areas such as pregnancy labour and birth, first aid, and forced marriage.

Our Health Days continue to provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen and enrich the PSHE education we offer in school.

## Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Students Complete First Aid Training

Our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students have taken an important step in preparing for their upcoming expedition by completing two evenings of first aid training. These sessions equipped them with essential lifesaving skills to ensure they can respond effectively in an emergency while out on their expedition.

During the training, students learned key first aid techniques, including CPR, treating burns and fractures, managing bleeding, and recognising the signs of hypothermia. They also practised dealing with common outdoor injuries such as sprains, insect bites, and dehydration. The hands-on nature of the sessions allowed students to gain

confidence in applying their skills in real-world scenarios.

This training is a crucial part of the DofE programme, reinforcing the importance of safety, teamwork, and resilience. Well done to all the students for their enthusiasm and commitment!



## Forward Thinking - Role Model Day

In a departure from previous years, the Year 10 element of the Forward Thinking programme took the form of a whole day event. Role Model Day consisted of sessions designed to help year 10 students understand how they learn and to develop their own skills and strategies to fulfil their potential as learners.

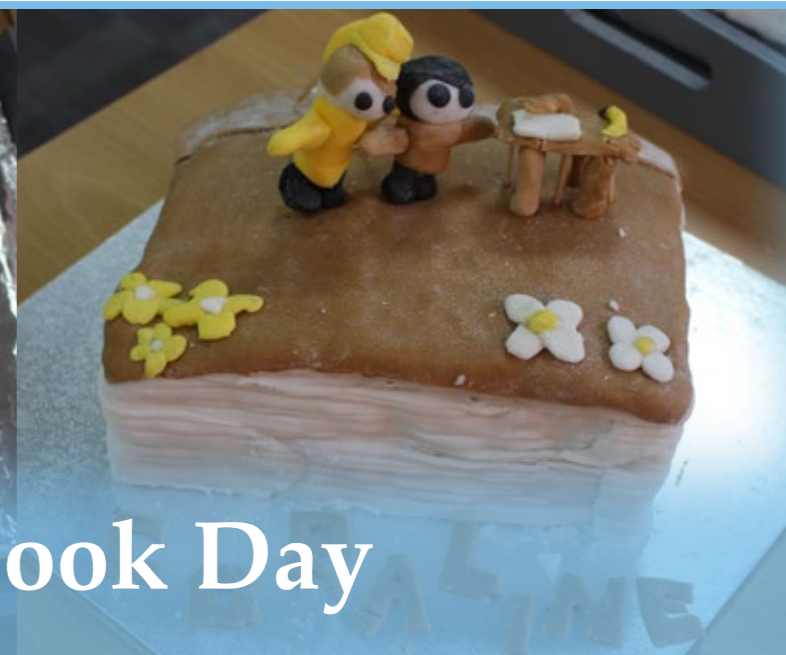
They day is best summed up in the phrase mentioned often during the day, "You don't learn how to ride a bicycle by reading a book."



## Year 7 Valentines' Club

Once again, year 7 Valentines Club had standing room only, and our wonderful curious year 7 pupils fully dissected their sheep hearts. They used a full range of dissection equipment safely, including sharp scalpels and scissors, and were able to observe and identify a wide range of heart structures including tendons, valves, ventricles and vessels.

Thank you again to Ms Davies, Mr Yeomans, Ms Cohen, Mr Swift, Ms Bhangal and our fabulous Year 12s, Carrie, Adam, Ella and Hamish, who volunteered their time to keep our young biologists safe and engaged.



## World Book Day

World Book Day 2026 was a full day of celebrating reading at KNGS. During every period of the school day, teachers read a section of a short story to their class, which had been split into sections, so that the story was complete by the end of the day. Pupils were keen to find out what would happen next and how the story would end. In addition, ten 'Where's Wally' characters

were hidden around the school and pupils were able to exchange these for a book and a treat. At lunchtime, pupils were able to enter the 'Turn a Potato into a Book Character' competition. In addition, the judging of the Book Themed Cake Decorating Competition took place and slices of the cakes were sold for a donation towards the 'Read for Good' Readathon.

# Student Leadership Group Events This Term

## Galentine's Bake Sale



On 13th February, we held a Galentine's-themed bake sale at lunchtime to celebrate friendship and raise funds for Hidden Disabilities. Galentine's Day is all about appreciating the people around us and spreading positivity, and the event certainly did just that!

There was also a cake decorating competition, and the creativity on display was amazing. We were delighted to award prizes for 3rd place-Bell Garcha and Esme Gould, 2nd place-Annabel Hughes-Mccorkell and 1st place-Tilly Gillow. A huge well done to everyone who took part, your effort and imagination were fantastic.

Thank you to everyone who baked, donated and purchased treats. Your support made the event a great success and helped create a fun and uplifting atmosphere in school.



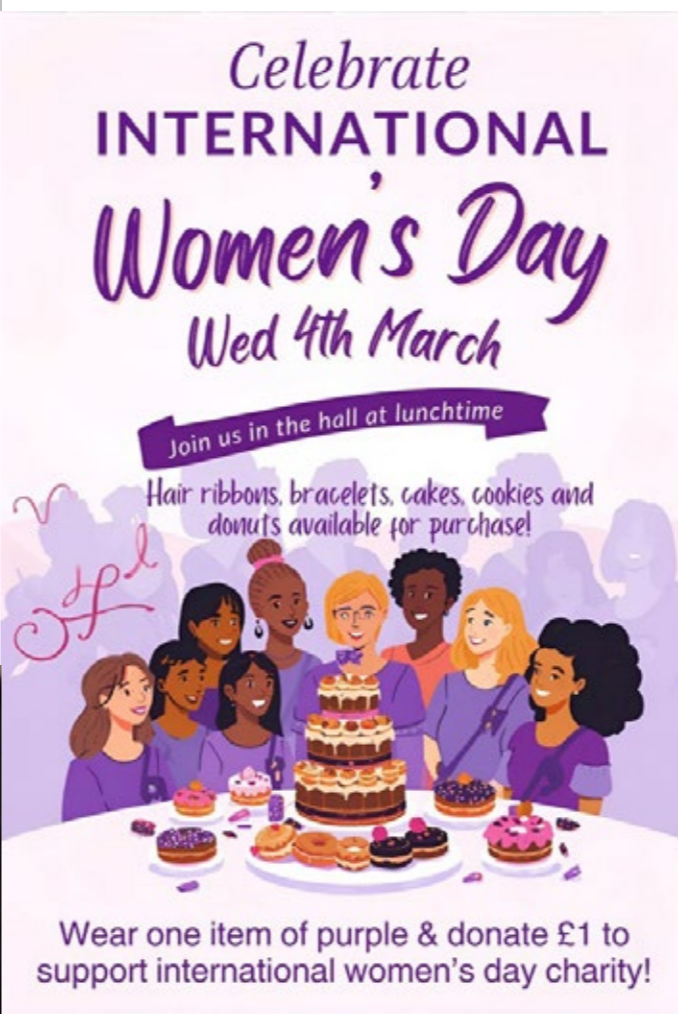
## Hidden Disabilities Awareness Day

On 11th February, our school came together to recognise Hidden Disabilities Awareness Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness and understanding of disabilities that may not be immediately visible.

Students and staff were encouraged to "walk a day in someone else's shoes," taking time to reflect on the daily challenges that some members of our community may experience. This simple but powerful message reminded us of all the importance of kindness, patience and inclusion.

Throughout the week, informative PowerPoints were shared to help educate students about hidden disabilities and how they can affect people in different ways. We were also privileged to hear inspiring stories from both current and former students, who bravely shared their personal experiences. Their honesty and courage helped to build greater awareness and understanding across the school.

Together, we raised a fantastic total of £376.28 from wearing different shoes and the Galentine's Bake sale!



## Celebrating International Women's Day

On Wednesday 4th March, our school proudly celebrated International Women's Day, a day that recognises the achievements of women throughout history and around the world. It is also a time to raise awareness about gender equality and the importance of ensuring that women and girls have the same opportunities, rights and respect as everyone else.

To show our support, students and staff were invited to wear one item of purple, the colour traditionally associated with International Women's Day.

During the day, we also held a charity bake sale. Students and staff sold a variety of delicious treats including cakes, biscuits and donuts. Alongside the baked goods, we also sold bracelets and hair ribbons to help raise even more money.

All of the money raised will go to the International Women's charity, helping to support women and girls around the world. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of everyone who took part, we raised a fantastic £189.69 in total.

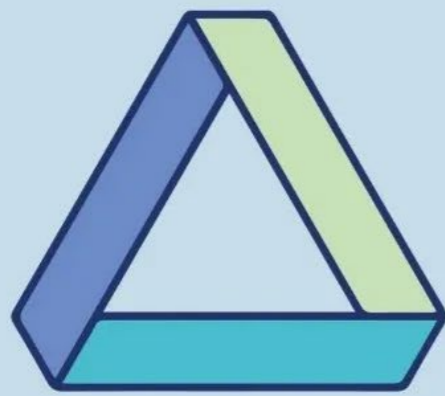
## Just Dance Lunchtime Event

On 13th February, students got moving and grooving at our Just Dance lunchtime event! The session was all about having fun, letting loose, and celebrating movement, a great reminder of the positive impact physical activity can have on our mental health.

Students joined in with smiles and laughter, showing off their dance moves and encouraging each other along the way. The event was a fantastic way to de-stress, enjoy time with friends, and take a break from the usual school routine.

A big thank you to everyone who participated and made the event so lively, it was wonderful to see so many students (and staff) embracing the fun and energy of the session!





**UK Maths Trust**

# Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

This term 30 year 10 students participated in the UKMT Intermediate maths challenge. It is a 60-minute, 25 multiple choice challenge.

Many schools across England and Wales participated in this challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think.

Congratulations to the following students:

**Bronze:** Yasmin A, Alaina A, Romilly B, Nevaeh B

Yan C, Lily G, Lucy G, Summer K, Sophie L, Caitlin M, Hope M, Maisie P, Lydia R, Rose SB, Navy W

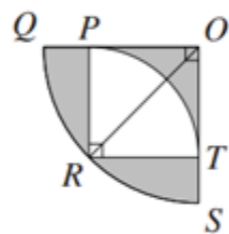
**Silver:** Charlotte C, Reina C, Rhian F, Janet F, Lucy G, Heidi G, Anna G, Agnes K, Cherrie L, Martha MW, Abigail T

**Gold:** Carina L

Below are two example questions from this year's challenge with solutions.

**2. D** As  $2026 \div 60 = 33$  remainder 46, 2026 minutes is equal to 33 hours 46 minutes, that is 1 day, 9 hours and 46 minutes. Therefore at 2026 minutes after 20:26 on Monday it will be 9 hours 46 minutes after 20:26 on Tuesday, that is 46 minutes after 05:26 on Wednesday. So the required time is 06:12 on Wednesday.

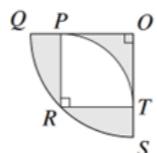
**12. E** Consider triangle  $ORT$ . By Pythagoras' Theorem,  $OR^2 = RT^2 + TO^2 = (2x)^2 + (2x)^2 = 4x^2 + 4x^2 = 8x^2$ . Therefore, as  $OR$  is the radius of quarter circle  $OQS$ , the area of this quarter circle is  $\frac{1}{4} \times \pi \times (OR)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \times \pi \times 8x^2 = 2\pi x^2$ .



2. What time will it be 2026 minutes after 20:26 on Monday?

- A 06:12 on Tuesday      B 16:12 on Tuesday      C 20:12 on Tuesday  
D 06:12 on Wednesday      E 20:12 on Wednesday

12. Quarter circle  $PRT$  is removed from quarter circle  $OQS$  to leave three shaded regions, as shown.  $OPRT$  is a square and  $OP = 2x$ . What is the total area of the three shaded regions?



## PE Success



### National Silver in U15 60m Sprint

On Saturday 7 February, Araya W (Year 9) competed at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield in the 2026 England Age-Group Indoor National Championships, racing in the U15 Girls' 60m sprint.

Araya delivered an outstanding performance, progressing confidently through the heats and semi-finals with times of 7.63s and 7.48s. The final proved to be a closely fought race, with Araya securing a fantastic silver medal after finishing level on 7.47s with the winner, narrowly missing gold following a photo finish.

This remarkable achievement has been recognised by England Athletics. Araya is currently ranked joint first in the UK for the 2026 U15 Girls' 60m and joint 12th globally for U18 performances. Her time also places her joint second on the UK

all-time U15 Girls' 60m list, behind Katherine Merry.

We congratulate Araya on her exceptional achievement and wish her every success as she continues her athletics journey.

### Rugby Union Success at Regional Level

On Sunday 14 December 2025, Zoe J (Year 11) represented the North Midlands U16 Girls Rugby Union team in a fixture against Leicestershire at Birmingham & Solihull RFC.

Zoe played at number 8 and served as vice-captain for the match. She has also been selected as a member of the squad's leadership team. This fixture marked the first of four games for the North Midlands side.

### 'Une Lettre Un Sourire' Christmas Cards to French Retirement Homes

We have continued our links with a French retirement home this year. Thank you to the KS3 and KS4 pupils who wrote Christmas cards in December.

Some of the residents have written back with personalised messages, which are now on display on the Language Ambassadors board outside Room 4.

The residents' kind and heartwarming messages showed how much the cards meant to them. It was wonderful for our pupils to see how a simple act of kindness can bring joy to others.





## Year 13 Challenge Day

Year 13 students recently took part in an action-packed Challenge Day, engaging in a variety of workshops designed to build life skills, raise awareness of key issues, and prepare them for life beyond school.

One of the highlights was a Safe Driving Workshop delivered by the West Midlands Fire Service. Students explored the real-life dangers of speeding, the importance of wearing seat belts, and the serious consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol. The session offered valuable insights into staying safe on the road as many prepare to become new drivers.

HSBC also joined us to run an informative session on fraud awareness. Students learned how to spot scams, protect their personal information, and keep their money safe in an increasingly digital world.

A hands-on Grab and Go cooking workshop gave students the chance to create quick, nutritious meals on a budget—an essential skill for anyone planning to live independently in the near future. In addition, students received basic first aid training, and also participated in a workshop exploring the complex issue of addiction, learning about its impact and where individuals can seek support.

The day was a fantastic mix of practical learning and personal development, and our Year 13s approached every activity with maturity and enthusiasm.



## AI Carns MP Q&A

KNGS hosted a Q&A session with AI Carns MP in February. The Politics A Level students helped to organise it, choose some of the questions, and meet and greet AI. This was a lively event with a wide range of questions from students from across the key stages - A Level politics and RE students and SLG were all well represented.

The questions covered topics from climate change to foreign policy to the bob shops in Cotteridge. He was very impressed with the challenging questions and the engagement of the students.

The students after commented, "It was great to have an actual MP answer our questions - made it feel like he heard us." "It inspired me to try and become more involved in Politics."

Well done to all the students who took part.

## Year 12 Work Experience

Our Year 12 Work Experience programme launched in September 2025, with the placement week taking place from 9th – 13th February. During this time, students ventured into a wide range of exciting and inspiring workplaces, from local businesses to professional organisations, gaining a genuine taste of the world of work.

On their return to sixth form, students reflected on the value of their experience. Many spoke about how the week helped them develop crucial soft skills, strengthen their employability, and grow in confidence as they begin shaping their plans for life beyond Year 13. What began as a week away from the classroom became a powerful step toward their future aspirations.

## Sixth Form Social Committee Highlights

Our Year 12 Sixth Form Social Committee has been busy once again, bringing fun and community spirit to the Sixth Form Centre.

For Valentine's Day, they organised a range of

themed activities, including a heart treasure hunt and a Valentine's photo booth that proved very popular. They organised a World Book Day book-character fancy dress event and have also hosted a friendly foosball tournament, encouraging teamwork, healthy competition, and lots of enjoyment.

It is wonderful to see our sixth formers developing their social skills, supporting each other, and making the most of their time in school.

## Parents As Partners

We recently held a Parents as Partners event on 24th March aimed at supporting both you and your child as they prepare for their upcoming A-level exams.

It was a valuable opportunity for parents to connect with others and learn strategies that can make a difference during these crucial months.

We were also very fortunate to have Newman University to provide us with a Student Finance Talk for both students and their families. The session covered essential topics such as:

- Student Finance Application Tips
- Scholarships and Bursaries

## Student Finance 2026

SLC is encouraging prospective students to start planning their student finance as Student Finance England (SFE) launches its mailing list. The full-time, undergraduate application service for the 26/27 academic year is expected to open in March 2026, and by signing up, students will be among the first to receive an email when the application service goes live.

SLC advises students to [apply as early as possible](#) for their student finance, even if they don't have a confirmed place on their course. This helps to ensure that funding is in place at the start of term. Students in England can apply for Tuition Fee Loans to cover their fees and Maintenance Loans.



# Risks of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the use of computer systems to solve problems and make decisions. It's already a part of everyday life – for example, AI is used to give you personalised suggestions on social media, shopping sites or route-planning apps.

Generative AI takes a written prompt and runs it through an algorithm to generate new, 'natural'-seeming content. Tools include:

- Chatbots such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini and Grammarly, which generate text
- Text-to-image programs like DALL-E and Midjourney, which create images
- Text-to-video programs, which create videos

AI technology is developing rapidly, and these tools will only improve over time. For example, they'll be able to create more convincing images or videos.

Many AI tools are free to access, and some can be used to generate inappropriate content.

## 1 What are the safeguarding risks to my child?

AI might be involved in:

- Hacking and scams – text-generation tools can write convincing emails and text messages to trick children into giving people access to their social media or banking accounts.
- AI-generated child sexual abuse images – some text-to-image tools or image-altering apps (often called 'nudifying' apps) could be used to create sexually explicit pictures of children – this might be for sexual gratification or as a means of bullying another pupil.
- 'Deepfake' pornography – putting a real person's face into pornographic videos for sexual gratification or to humiliate the person in the images. AI technology is used to alter the person's facial expressions to make the video look more convincing.
- 'Catfishing' and 'sextortion' – criminals can use AI-generated profile pictures to appear younger than they are in order to befriend and groom children and young people, and then ask for information and/or images from them (e.g. nude or semi-nude photos). They can then use this to extort the child or young person into giving them money.
- Fake news and misinformation – text-to-image tools can be used to create convincing fake photos of world events, which could be used to promote certain beliefs (including hateful ones).
- AI chatbot relationships – some AI tools allow children to chat and build a relationship with a fake person. These relationships can become very intense, and the AI may make dangerous or inappropriate suggestions.

Continued

## 2 Signs to look out for

If your child is facing a safeguarding issue online, they might:

- Spend more time online, or more time offline.
- Be up late online, or complain of being tired because they were online all night.
- Receive a lot of messages and notifications on their phone.
- Have stronger emotional responses or outbursts when they are online – they may get unusually angry, upset or distant after checking their phone or using their computer/tablet.
- Be secretive about their use of the internet or a device – they may refuse to show you their phone or device, or refuse to tell you what they are doing online.

## 3 What can we do at home?

We talk about the risks of AI in school, but this is always more effective if the conversations happen at home, too. You can help keep your child safe by:

- **Talking about AI** – you can talk about both what it's good for, and where it can be more dangerous.
- **Being aware of what they're doing online** – most social media apps have ways for parents/carers to monitor their child's activity.
- **Listening to them** – if they tell you anything that's worrying them – don't blame them for anything that's happened.

### Online Safety - Resources for Parents and Young People

[Online Safety | Kings Norton Girls' School Safeguarding](#)

#### Further Resources

[Kids Online Safety | GOV.UK Campaign](#)

[Online Safety and Advice Resources | Internet Watch Foundation](#)

#### Sources

This factsheet was produced by [The Key Safeguarding](#).

[What are AI chatbots and companions?](#), Internet Matters

# Parking Reminder: Drop Offs & Pick Ups

The majority of parents and carers continue to support us in keeping KNGS students, families and our local community safe by driving and parking in a responsible manner. We are grateful for this ongoing cooperation.

However, we have recently received further concerns from residents on Oak Farm Road regarding parking during drop-off and pick-up times. While vehicles are generally parking on one side of the road, cars are often parked very closely together in a continuous line, leaving no gaps for vehicles to pull into.

At busier times, this has resulted in vehicles mounting the pavement to pass one another, creating a significant safety risk for pedestrians, particularly students who use this route to access the park and surrounding areas. There is also serious concern that, should access be blocked, emergency vehicles would be unable to get through if required.

As a reminder, Rule 243 of the Highway Code states that drivers must not stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- opposite another parked vehicle

We have also previously received complaints regarding idling engines. While waiting to collect students, please support our local residents and protect the environment by switching engines off. Rule 123 of the Highway Code states: "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road."

**There are over a thousand students entering and leaving the site each day. A small number of poor parking decisions can have serious consequences. Please do not put students, pedestrians or residents at risk to save a few moments.**



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