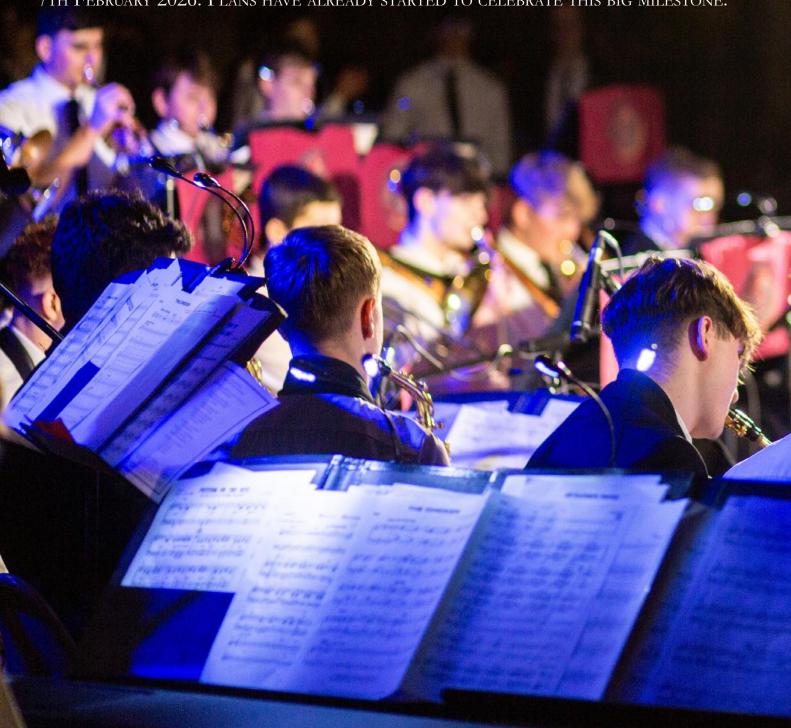


# Music

JAZZ NITE THIS YEAR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS WITH AN AUDIENCE OF OVER 360, WHICH IS OUR BIGGEST YET.

The evening featured the school's own regular groups: Big Band, Knotso's, Soul Band and Clarinet Ensemble. One of the highlights of Jazz Nite are the many excellent student-led ensembles, which give students the opportunity to get together with others, find music they like and show us what they can do. The results are always outstanding."

Next year Jazz Nite will be 30 Years Old!!!. This will take place on SATURDAY 7th February 2026. Plans have already started to celebrate this big milestone.





























Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the first newsletter of 2025.

We are now over half way through the academic year, with the Year 11 and Year 13 students entering the final weeks of preparations for their examinations. The Year 13 students are busying themselves with two weeks of mock examinations, in which we all wish them the best of luck.

The Jazz Nite in St Wulfram's Church was a wonderful celebration of music. It was wonderful to see students, and staff, having so much fun while entertaining the largest audience to-date.

We are just about to start a number new projects which will hopefully continue to improve the conditions for the students. One project, however, will need considerable funding support from the parent body. I am grateful to the PTFA who have taken on the challenge of developing the land at the back of the Dining Hall and the Student Support Centre. Thanks to the generosity of Shona Hatton we now have a plan for the area, but now the challenge begins as we need to raise £100,000.

Mr Whales, and his team have been working hard finishing the last of the UCAS applications with more students than ever before completing a university application.

We also had the fantastic news about the early entrance students. This year we have 11 students receiving conditional offers to either Cambridge or Oxford, and a record breaking 8 offers for Medicine.

This week the Ski Trip headed off, and we can not wait to hear about their experiences and successes in the snow of Austria.

As the lighter nights arrive we have a lot of students who already ride their bicycle to school and others that will soon start. Please can I implore students to wear helmets when on their bicycles. The school is in a very busy area and we want all of them to stay safe.

The term finished with the Post 16 progress tables being released by the DFE.

King's appears as Top for Progress in both GCSE and A level! Well done and thank you to all of our community!

#### **DfE National Tables**

Thank you for your support and wishing everyone an enjoyable vacation.

Simon Pickett

Head Master



# PTFA

Happy New Year from the PFTA.

As the Head Master has already written about we are delighted to be supporting the development of the new 'garden' area. We hope that the alfresco dining area and potential performance space, as well as a sensory garden is a wonderfully exiting project for us all to get hehind.

The 'Parents, Teachers, Friends Association' actively supports the school and the staff by organising events to raise funds for the school community, specifically the 'fun stuff' which wouldn't otherwise be easily funded. Items that the PTFA funds have helped fund include:

- Outdoor table-tennis tables
- Languages Competition Entry Feeds
- ♦ The Library
- Warhammer club for additional kit
- Chess Club for clocks and chess sets
- Benches for Year 7s in Head Master's Garden

Every parent/carer is automatically a member of the PTFA and is welcome to attend any or all of the meetings and contribute to the decision-making process. All members of the PTFA are volunteers with Committee members volunteering for the roles and elected at the AGM. Without being a Committee member, there are still plenty of opportunities throughout the academic year to work alongside the Committee or to attend PTFA events, and we would be delighted to welcome you as an active 'Friend' at any of our events.

## GOLD CARD CLUB

The King's Gold Card Club scheme is a monthly cash prize draw that helps support the work of the King's PTFA, which in turn supports the school in various projects. The Gold Draw is open to anyone over the age of 18, not just parents/carers – so grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and former students are welcome to participate too - this is an easy way to make a difference to the school.

An annual payment of £10.00 entitles participants to be included in the ten monthly prize draws, which currently stand at £60.00, with two prize draws of £450.00 each year. Check out Gold Club Card details

in the PTFA section of the school website and please remember to keep the PTFA updated on any change of address/ bank details for use in case you are lucky enough to win!

# SECOND-HAND SHOP FOR UNIFORM AND PE KIT



The PTFA manages the school's second-hand uniform and PE kit sales, and especially welcomes donations of King's School badged uniform and games kits. Items for CCF and football / rugby boots are also welcomed. Currently we do not need trousers or shirts. We have placed a yellow donation bin outside of W101 and W102 where the students can drop off clean bagged uniform donations.

To buy or donate, contact the PTFA via the email address, PTFA@kings.lincs.sch.uk.

#### **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

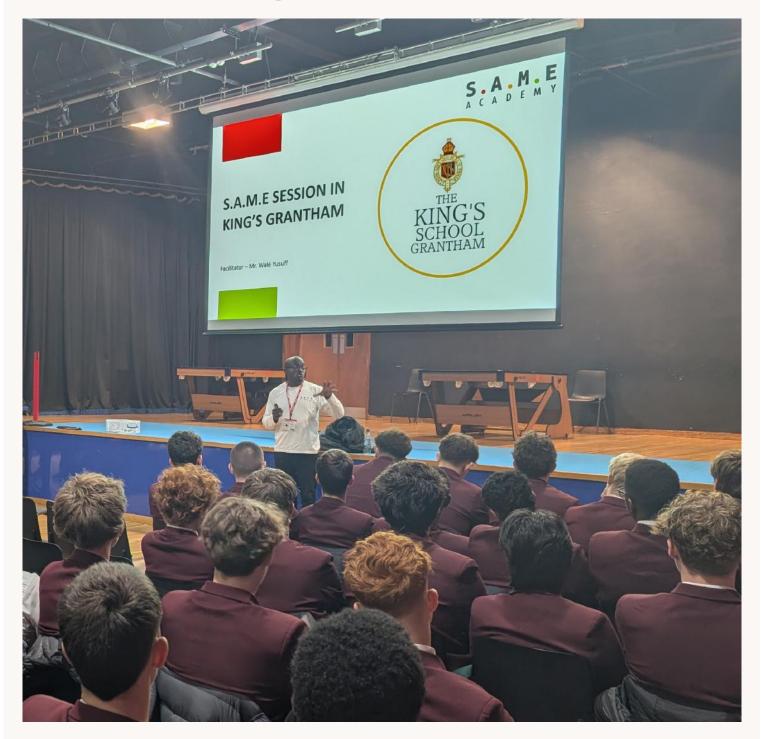
You can look up information on what is happening or get in touch with the PTFA via:

Facebook - @KingsPTFA

E-mail – PTFA@kings.lincs.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings or events and would like to thank you again for your support.

# The Sixth Form



Vear 12 welcomed the S.A.M.E Academy into school this term.

The S.A.M.E Academy offer innovative road safety presentations in schools and other organisations to educate young people about safe driving practices and the importance of road safety. The presentations intend to educate and teach young people about safe driving habits and the value of being a safe passenger. The skilled facilitators address a number of issues pertinent to young drivers and passengers, such as peer pressure, road pedestrian safety, and the hazards of alcohol and drug driving, using a variety of engaging approaches such as conversation, activity, and video.

# THE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES ADMISSIONS SERVICE (UCAS)

Year 13 have sent the last of what has been a school record number of UCAS applications this term.

150 applications have been sent with students currently holding 533 offers from universities with 286 of those offers being from the Russell Group Universities. 8 Students have accepted their Conditional Firm and Conditional Insurance offers which include 10 offers from the Russell group.

## Oxford and Cambridge

A school record of Oxbridge offers have been received this term! 11 students have been successful with their Oxbridge applications which is rich rewards for their academic endeavours both in and outside the classroom. We wish them the very best with their final exam preparations and look forward to celebrating their places with them in the summer.

	University	Reading
Max Lygo	University of Cambridge	English
Jakub Mijal	University of Cambridge	Engineering
Samuel Thompson	University of Cambridge	History
Noah Koro	University of Cambridge	Linguistics
Charles Hatchman	University of Cambridge	Law
Angran Yue	University of Cambridge	Computer Science
Charles Lamb	University of Cambridge	Medicine
Sriram Ravichithiran	University of Cambridge	Medicine
James Gleed	University of Cambridge	Education
Evan Garg	University of Oxford	Engineering
Luke Carroll	University of Oxford	Medicine

## YEAR 13 SOCIETIES

Year 13 have continued their excellent work by sharing their passion and interests in their subjects by offering societies to their younger peers this term. Year 13 will now hand over the baton to their Year 12 successors. Our thanks go to the following Year 13 students.

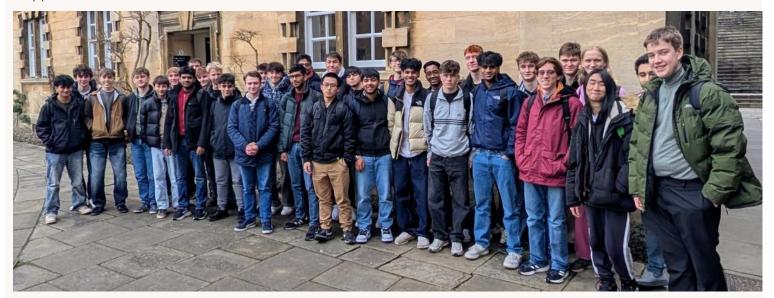
- Musical Theatre- Archie Conron
- ♦ Medicine Sriram Ravichitran, Charlie Lamb and Luke Carrol
- ♦ Law- Alex Patrinos and Kieran Evans
- ♦ Languages- Noah Koro, Phillip Tyndal and Tom Gaul
- ♦ History- Eddie Leresche Hands, Andrew Hines and Samuel Thompson
- Engineering- Evan Garg, Jakub Mijal and Jaden Fivaz
- ♦ Computer Science- Mohit Jena, Angran Yue, Jakob Jeffery and Oliver Earith



## Year 12 Oxbridge Visits

Thirty three students visited Christ's College, Cambridge and 15 students visited Brasenose College, Oxford this term.

Students were given an insight into the requirements of a successful application and they received suggestions about how to extend their learning beyond the taught curriculum. They were given tours of the colleges and met members of the Alumni who were on hand to give their invaluable advice to the current students. We continue to encourage our students to aim high and to push boundaries and move beyond their comfort zone to become the very best version of themselves in readiness for their next transition and competitive points of application.



## YEAR 13 STUDENT

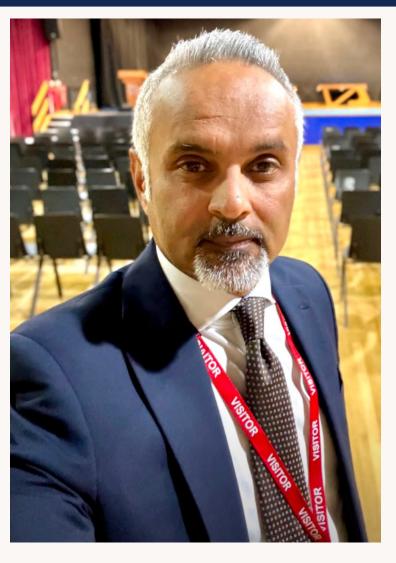
## LOANS

We were delighted to welcome Ahmar Eshan of the Student Loans Company back into school this term. Ahmar has become a good friend of the school and offers an incredibly detailed knowledge of the students loans process for our students and parents. Ahmar held a presentation during the school day for our students and offered a further presentation in the evening for our Year 13 parents.

## YEAR 12 MENTORS

Twenty four Year 12 students have joined with KGGS to become academic mentors for our neighbouring primary school students . Year 12 have been visiting and supporting pupils in the primary schools on Wednesday afternoons. The mentors are helping the to reduce the concern students might have about a Grammar School education and will be inviting their mentees into King's during the summer term.

Mr Whale - Assistant Headteacher





## PHYSICS

n 28 January 2025, over 90 Year 11 students along wtih Miss Jones, Mrs Vale-Brookes, Mr Wicks, Mrs Kitchener and Mr Downing, attended a series of talks on 'GCSE Science in Action' at Warwick University.

Each session focused on a different aspect of Science ranging from 'How to freeze a human' to 'Tik Tok Science' to careers in the NHS. Students were introduced to the little known scientist, August Piccard and his work in extreme environments along with a short session on examination success and a talk from a sceince communicator and illustrator. In summary, the lecturers entertaining and informative and the students had a fantastic time.



Seven students from Year 13 recently took part in the British Physics Olympiad Round 1.

Three students, Ellis Weinberg, Jakub Mijal and Ethan Wakefield all attained Gold. Toby Sharpe, Tom Farrington and Evan Garg gained Silver and Archie Westaway achieved Bronze. Congratulations to all students as this is a gruelling 2 hour and 40-minute paper of long answer open ended questions covering all aspects of Physics.



Year 7 students participated in the Science quiz as part of the Ogden Trust.

Demonstrating their amazing knowledge of physics, the top scorers in the quiz achieved full marks! The deciding factor was what they said they would ask any scientist of their choice.

Thirty one students entered with Elias Khan (7F) and Dunton Chiang (7F) winning joint first place. There were four students in second place, Fraser Buchanan (7B), Toby Paget (7C), Xavi Mistry (7F) and Victor Chukwudebe (7M). There were some excellent answers to the tie break question of 'If you could meet up with any famous scientist, who would it be? And what would you ask them?'

Elias would like to talk to Lise Meitner.

"If I could meet up with any famous scientist, I would choose Lise Meitner, she was an Austrian-Swedish physicist who was not given the recognition she should have deserved because of her gender. She was known for her discoveries in nuclear fission and protactinium. She even had an element named after her, Meitnerium! She was nominated for the Nobel prize 49 times! 19 for chemistry and 30 for physics, despite the fact she never won it.

If I could meet Lise Meitner, I would ask her "What motivated you to continue your research in science whilst experiencing the discrimination you went through because of your gender, and what advice would you give to inspire girls in STEM careers today?"



Dunton would like to meet Oswald Avery.

"If I had the chance to meet any scientist, I would choose Oswald Avery. I know that many people are likely to go for the most famous scientists, like Albert Einstein or Stephen Hawking, scientists whose stories have been told countless times and whose names everyone is already familiar with. While those scientists made incredible contributions, their stories have already been widely explored. Instead, I want to take a more unique approach. That's why I've chosen Oswald Avery, a lesser known, yet equally impactful person in the world of science.

Avery's important work in the early 20th century showed that DNA was the molecule responsible for passing down traits, helping to lay the groundwork for modern genetics. DNA is important to life—it's the basic building block of all living organisms. If I could meet Avery, I'd love to ask him about the early challenges he faced when trying to prove that DNA carried genetic information.

I would ask him, what challenges did you face while proving that DNA carries genetic information, and how did you overcome them?

Because I'm really curious about how he tackled the obstacles during his experiments and what motivated him to keep going despite those difficulties."

And this year, a special family award for engagement for Henry Peet in 7C with the tie breaker answer of:

"Henry- Albert Einstein- how did he come up with the Theory of Relativity?

Mum- Marie Curie- how did she persevere in the face of so much rejection?

Dad- Alexander Graham Bell- did he have to invent the telephone?"

Thank you to all of you who took part.

Miss S Jones, Head of the Physics Department

### HISTORY

This term, Year 9 historians used a Borrow Box' from the International Bomber Command Centre, Lincoln.



The box includes a flying logbook, ration books, identity cards, reconnaissance photographs and photos and documents to tell the story of Sgt Harry Simpson and his crew. Of approximately125 000 aircrew who served with Bomber Command during World War II, more than 55 500 lost their lives.

During WW2 Lincolnshire was known as 'Bomber Countyy' because at its peak there were over 50 operational airfields across the county, most of them sending bombers over occupied Europe!

n the last day of Term 2, Year 11
Historians visited the Thackray Medical
Museum in Leeds to support their GCSE study
of Britain, health and the people.

The day involved an interactive workshop on the history of surgery and a tour of the museum, examining public health through time. The museum staff all commented on the excellent behaviour demonstrated by our students throughout the day.



In History, students in Year 7 have been studying a new scheme of work about power during the Medieval period, which was inspired by the work of academic historians at Nottingham Trent University and authors, such as Alison Weir and Helen Castor.

Year 7 have been exploring the lives of three Medieval queens, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Isabella of France and Joan of Navarre, to find out more about who held power in the Medieval world, how they kept it, how they used it and how they lost it. They have also been able to discuss different types of power and concepts of hard and soft power. The enquiry culminated with the production of 'academic posters' which students were encouraged to share in presentations with their class and there was some fantastic work produced.



n 31st January, Year 12 historians visited the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds.

The day supported their study of the British Empire for A level. Students had the chance to handle artefacts from the Indian Rebellion, the South African Wars and the First World War and considered what they could learn about the experiences of colonised people from the objects. They also toured the galleries and curated their own museum exhibitions. Finally, they learnt some vital swordsmanship skills before watching a reenactment of a medieval sword fight. A fantastic day!

Mrs E McKenna, Head of the History Department

## GERMAN

Last December, I was lucky enough to be softened the chance of a trip to Berlin as a part of my A level German studies.

Bratwurst aside, there is more to German culture than stereotypes suggest. Our trip gave us a wonderful insight into the rich and often tragic history of the city, most notably the period of the Berlin Wall. Our travels took us to see the mighty Brandenburg ate, a dominating architectural masterpiece which was only elevated in grandeur by what was one of the tallest Christmas trees I have ever seen.



However, not all the architecture we saw was breathtaking in the same way. Our more solemn trip to the Holocaust Memorial allowed us to reflect on the horrors that came with World War II. It served as a reminder that the world must never forget the atrocities of the past. Perhaps one of the most interesting elements of our trip for me was the opportunity to see Hohenschönhausen, the prison used by the secret police of East Germany



(the Stasi). Seeing the lengths to which the Stasi went to control the East German people was both enlightening and yet also brought with it a sense of discomfort at the lives of those who were imprisoned there. Our insight into the lives of the East Germans was further broadened by a visit to the West Side Gallery (a collection of paintings along the wall) and to the Berlin Wall Memorial Museum where we learned of everything from daily life in East Germany, to the numerous escape attempts made, most unsuccessfully.

And finally, what would a December trip to Berlin be



without a healthy dose of Christmas markets? We were lucky enough to visit a different market each day which provided us with an opportunity to practice our German with the locals. This proved hugely beneficial as the opportunity seldom presents itself back home in good old Grantham. On our last day we had a fantastic morning ice skating before venturing up the Berlin TV tower, giving us an unforgettable view of everywhere we'd been throughout the city.

And so, our brilliant Berlin experience came to an end. Thank you to Mr Acs and Mrs Walker for such a fantastic trip which I will never forget.

Oliver Fawke, Year 12.

#### ENGLISH

The university life only a few months away, the opportunity to experience lectures from a university professor was the perfect experience for the Year 13 English students. Kindly supervised by Mr Deller and Mr Hollingworth, we spent a day in The University of Lincoln's lecture theatres learning invaluable information from one of the country's leading experts in the Romantic poet, artist and visionary William Blake.



Professor Jason Whittaker of Lincoln University was an incredible host for the day, providing us with a private day of Higher Education format workshops and lectures on William Blake, whom we all study for our A-Levels. His expertise was clear from the moment that we walked through the door - as was his inspiring energy. He kept us all entertained while teaching us everything there ever was to know about the life and works of William Blake.

We had the upmost honour to take our studies into a fundamental, and unique, approach to our study on Blake's revolutionary poetry: not him as a poet, but him as an artist. Having learnt of his apprenticeship as an engraver, we explored his illustrations of his 'illuminated' poetry. Professor Whittaker implored us to look at the front facing images we saw in front of us, be it a sheep in 'The Lamb' or a group of children playing in 'Th Echoing Green'.

As aspiring intellects, it was a challenge to take that primary step back and look at the bare basics instead of delving immediately into the meanings and advanced interpretations of the images.

As a collective, we were shocked how one poem, 'The Sick Rose', transformed from a message from a

lustful lover to a story of a tragic broken relationship all because of the intricate imagery encasing the words on the page, each one hand engraved by Blake using his revolutionary process of relief etching in which he would use a combination of wax and acid to erode recesses in copper plates before printing and painting. We used the Blake Archive online to explore the variety of colour stories of the poems, and the day culminated with students coming forward and giving their own presentations on Blake in the grand setting of a university lecture theatre!

As a group of aspiring intellectuals, the value of the day certainly wasn't overlooked, with the coach journey back to school having been full of excitement and an overwhelming sense of having enjoyed the day.



From both the English Literature and English Language and Literature classes, we thank Prof. Whittaker for inspiring us and helping us advance in our studies and achieve the best results we can in our A Level exams this summer.

The Blake Achieve is a fantastic free Blake Resource for those interested in finding out more https://www.blakearchive.org/

Tommy Woolerton and Archie Conron (Year 13)

#### Religious Education

Budding philosophers in Years 10 to 13 have the opportunity in Terms 3 and 4 to join Philosophy Club run by the RE department every Wednesday lunchtime from 13:05-13:35 in S102.

Attendance does not require any formal knowledge of philosophy, just an open mind and a curiosity about Big Questions. The Club takes the form of a Socratic circle where we discuss a key question, taking turns to speak or just listen, as we wish to, using a conch to take turns offering our thoughts. This term so far we have discussed questions of self and identity using the Greek myth 'The Ship of Theseus',

questions around existence considering whether the hole in the middle of a Polo mint is a thing, and explored the nature of sound, having watched a clip of John Cage's piece 4'33". We will continue our philosophical musings into next term by discussing our ideas around such subjects as language and meaning, morality and duty, and freedom and social conformity. All are welcome to drop in and learn to enhance skills of listening, thinking and critical analysis.

By Ms R Chesson, Teacher of RE

### GEOGRAPHY

In September 2024, students were encouraged to enter the Geographical Association's Physical Geography Photograph Competition. The theme for this competition was 'The power of physical geography' and we were delighted to discover that the second prize in the Year 7-9 category was awarded to Taran Chiang (9 Foxe) for his submission 'Hemlock Stone: a monument of erosion'.

There were over 250 photographs entered in the competition and the panel had a difficult time deciding which entries merited prizes so Taran should be congratulated on being selected as a prize winner. Alongside his photograph, he was required to submit an accompanying caption, highlighting the physical geography in his photo.

Taran's accompanying caption:

The Hemlock Stone, standing majestically on Stapleford Hill, showcases a captivating illustration of how geomorphic processes transform landscapes. Over millions of years, relentless natural agents like wind, water, and ice have gradually worn away the softer sandstone surrounding the stone. What remains today is a striking pillar, capped with a resistant and durable stratum impregnated with barium sulphate (barytes). This resilient upper portion has shielded the masterpiece from the ceaseless impacts of weathering, showcasing the intricate dynamics of erosion. The Hemlock Stone's geographical history clearly demonstrates how even local landmarks, often overlooked, can unveil the immense forces at work on the Earth's surface. Over time, wind, water and ice have sculpted this structure, highlighting the interplay of natural forces. The Hemlock Stone stands as a testament to the quiet yet unstoppable forces of physical geography, reminding us that even in a modest park in Nottinghamshire, we can still witness the Earth's narrative written on a stone.

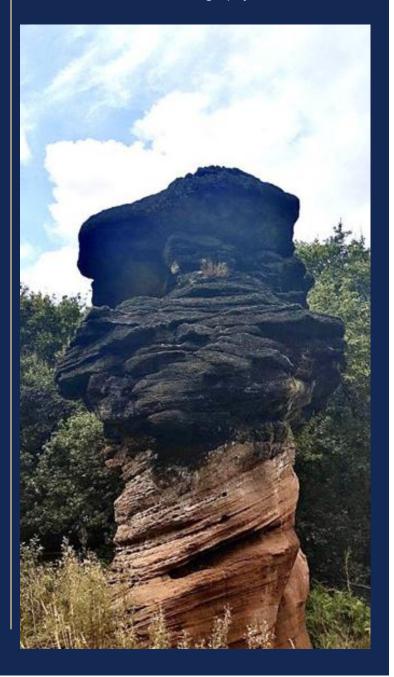
These are the judging panel comments about Taran's photograph and caption:

This photograph is composed carefully in a way that works well. It focuses on the feature and the angle of the photograph accentuates its morphology, making the feature look imposing and emphasizing its 'power'. Overall, this is a thoughtful composition, in both photo and text, that makes it a deserving winner.

Taran's entry can be found alongside the other prizewinners on the Geographical Association's website and if anyone is inspired to visit Hemlock Stone at Stapleford Hill themselves, Taran has provided the What3Words location details: sleeps.member.blocks.

**Congratulations Taran!** 

Mrs L Evans, Teacher of Georgraphy





## FOOTBALL

It has been a busy half term for football, which has taken centre stage now that the 15-a-side rugby season has concluded. The Year 7 team showed progress from their first match of the year, but were beaten 5-2 in the County Cup by Spalding Academy. They do still have the KSSA league to focus on for the remainder of the season. Year 8 also found the County Cup a challenge, losing out to local rivals Priory Ruskin 5-0. The Year 9 team, under the new management of Mr Rowe, faired better recording a 3-2 victory against Boston Grammar in their County Cup to advance to the third round.

Year 10 proved too strong for Spalding Grammar School, winning 5-1 in their second round County Cup match. Goals were scored by Laurie Mills, Jude Hazzledine, Josh Hall (2) and Leo Price

Year 11 played in the last 64 of the national cup just before the Christmas break and a 3-0 victory saw them progress to the last 32. A surprise loss in the County Cup saw the team exit to Sir Robert Pattinson Academy just prior to the last 32 National Cup game. Fortunately, this seemed to galvanise the team, who responded by recording a 2-1 victory against Abbot Beyne to progress to the last 16 of the competition, Henry Thomas scored both goals for King's in their match. This is an outstanding achievement for the team. Boston Grammar School await in the next round.

At senior level, the 1<sup>st</sup> XI have found life challenging in the A division of the Lincolnshire Schools Senior Football League; losing to Bourne Grammar School 5-4 in a very exciting match, before recording a disappointing 4-0 loss to Priory Ruskin. There is a lot to work on for the final games of the season. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI continue to perform well, recording a 3-3 draw with St George's School 1<sup>st</sup> XI, so they remain firmly in the hunt to progress to the B League Finals after Easter.

## Cross Country

On Saturday 10 January a number of King's students made the trip to a very cold Burghley House for the County Round of the Cross Country Championships. In the Year 7 competition, six athletes finished inside the top 20 runners, an excellent performance. Both Junior Boys runners finished in the top 30, with Fraser Hart finishing a very creditable 17<sup>th</sup> competing against many students who are a year older. The Intermediate Boys had one representative from King's, Elliott Ward completed the course in 37<sup>th</sup> place. In the Senior event, all three King's runners performed well. Joe Monk finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place, followed by Alfie Hoskins and

# Physical Education



Ellis Weinberg in 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> place respectively. Congratulations to all involved and the best of luck to those who have qualified to represent Lincolnshire in the Anglian Championships.

The full list of runners involved were:

Year 7 Boys: Elliott Gleave (4), Henry Dolan (9), Fred Cave (10), James Fearn (18), Jack Langlands (19), Oscar Fenner (20), Jesse Simmons (24), Junior Boys: Fraser Hart (17), Thomas Maxwell (28)

Intermediate Boys: Elliot Ward (37)

Senior Boys: Joe Monk (10), Alfie Hoskins (15), Ellis Weinberg (16)





## Rugby 7s

Rugby 7s returns after the February half term break. Boys wishing to be involved in this should ensure that they sign up for Rugby 7s on SOCS. The sign up window will be open from 7 February to 28 February. We have a number of tournaments to play after the break and we look forward to seeing success in these competitions.

## WATER POLO

On Thursday 23 January, King's took a squad of nine players to Northampton to play in the ESSA U13 National Preliminary water polo tournament against four other teams.

We won a close first game against King Edward's School, Birmingham 3-2, before two convincing victories of 8-0 and 6-0 against Bedford Modern School and Bedford School respectively.

The final match was against the hosts and tournament favourites Northampton School for Boys, where a close first half finished at 1-1, before Northampton pulled away to win 4-1.

Top scorers for King's were Harrison Pope and James Clarke with 5 each.

The team qualified for the ESSA National Plate final in May.

#### BADMINTON

King's travelled to Priory LSST for the County Round of the National Badminton Championships on 03 February. Key Stage 3 performed exceptionally well throughout the day and finished in a three way tie for 1st place. Thus, points difference was used to determine the final standings with King's narrowly coming second to Priory Ruskin (by only 8 points). In the Key Stage 4 competition, King's finished in a creditable 4th position. The highlight for the Key Stage 4 team was the singles match between Disula Loku Liyange and the QEGS Horncastle 1st seed, which was won by Disula 15-14 – the only loss for the QEGS player all day.

Well done to all involved.

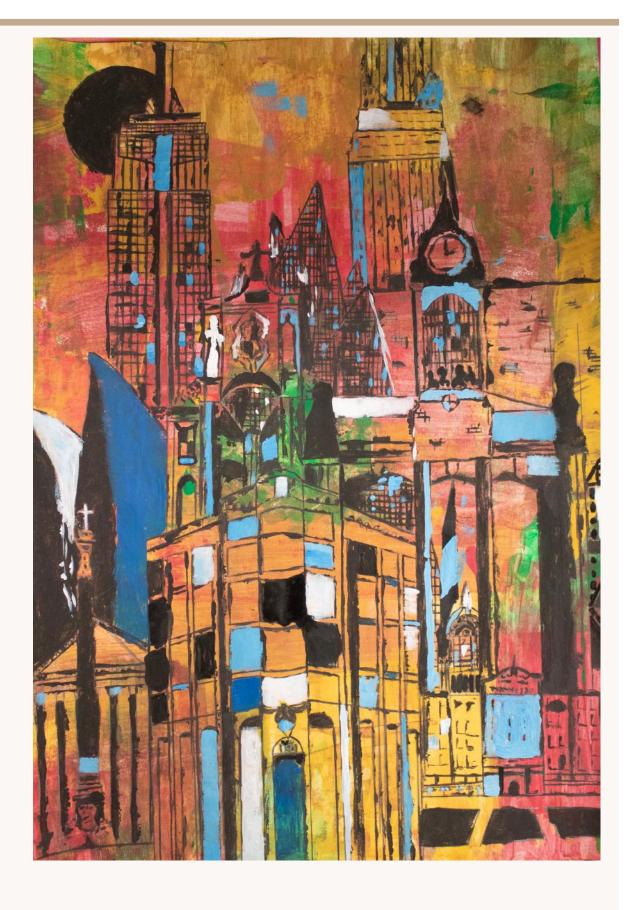
Mr Hulme - Head of the Physical Education Department



# Physical Education



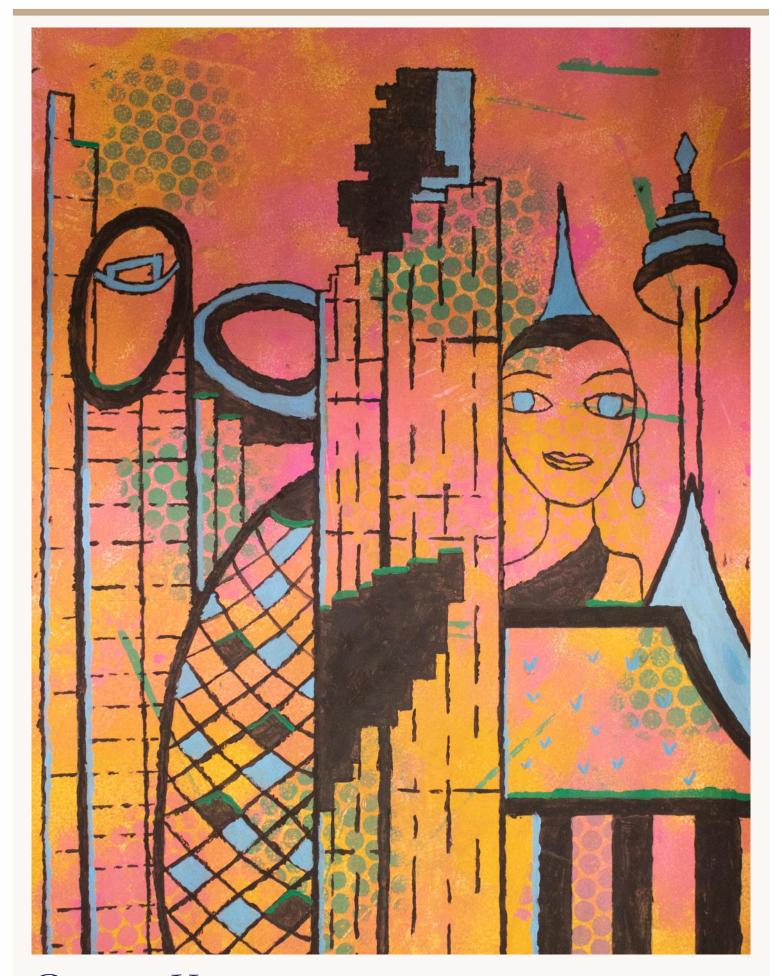




## ARTHUR HANDLEY

Year 09

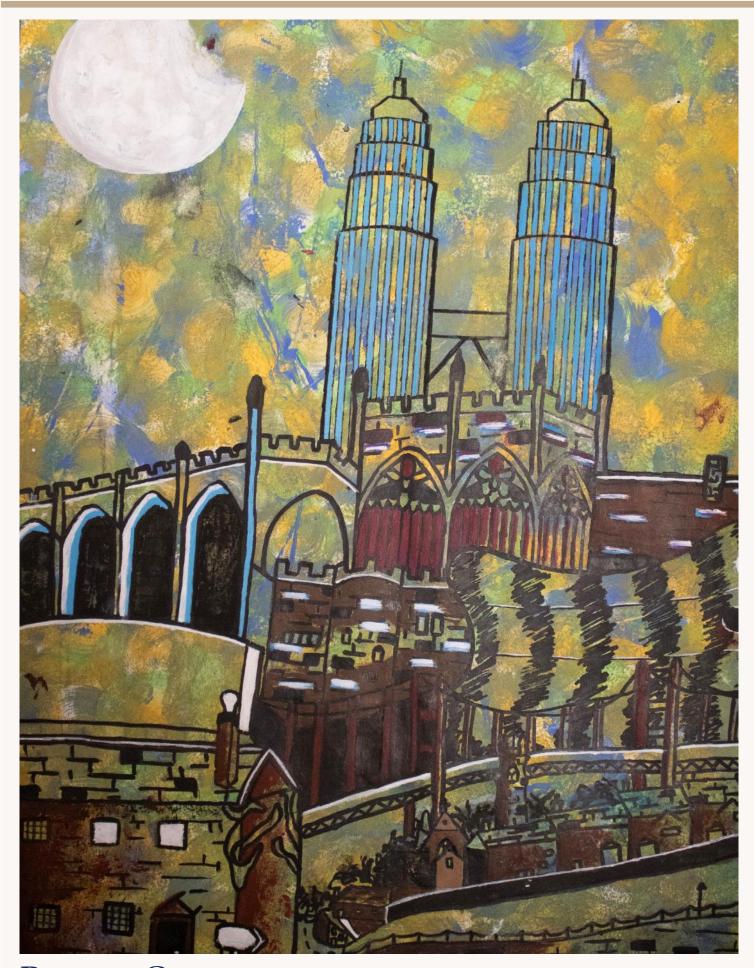
Poster and acrylic on paper, A3 Individual identities.



## George Hawkins

Year 09

Poster and acrylic on paper, A3 Individual identities.



## RAFAEL CHONG

Year 09

Poster and acrylic on paper, A3 Individual identities.



# Oscar Savidge

Year 09

Poster and acrylic on paper, A3 Individual identities.



Chess Club is open for KS3 on Monday at lunch time and KS4/5 on Fridays at lunchtime.

The school plays both casual and competitive chess so all abilities are very welcome..

White to move, mate in three.

Mr Davies - Teacher of Mathematics and Psychology



#### Our tracks

Whether it is sat quietly in a chair or while you are out exercising, music adds immeasurably to our lives.

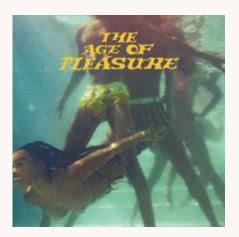
We thought it would be a great opportunity for you to listen to one of the following Grammy Award nominated albums,

Mr Lond - Director of Music



#### Beyoncé: Cowboy Carter (2025)

Mostly labeled a country and Americana album, Cowboy Carter blends together diverse Southern sub-genres that Beyoncé listened to when growing up in Texas, including zydeco, rock and roll, folk, rhythm and blues, pop, psychedelic soul, hip-hop and bluegrass. Conceptually, the album is presented as a radio broadcast, with country singers Dolly Parton, Linda Martell and Willie Nelson acting as disc jockeys. The album's songs feature rising Black country artists such as Shaboozey, Tanner Adell, Brittney Spencer, Tiera Kennedy, Reyna Roberts and Willie Jones.



#### Janelle Monáe: The Age of Pleasure (2024)

The Age of Pleasure is the fourth studio album by American musician Janelle Monáe.

Upon release, The Age of Pleasure received positive reviews from critics, who praised its joyful mood and Afrobeat and reggae inspired sounds



#### Coldplay: Music of the Spheres (2023)

Music of the Spheres is the band's second concept album after 2011's Mylo Xyloto. The album explores pop, pop rock, space rock, space music and ambient influences. It is set in a fictional planetary system called The Spheres, which contains nine planets, three natural satellites, a star and a nebula, with each one of them corresponding to a certain track on the record. According to lead singer Chris Martin, its concept and themes were not only based on Mylo Xyloto, but also inspired by the Star Wars film franchise.



#### Jon Batiste: We Are (2022)

Batiste began working on the album in late 2019, making it in his dressing room over six days in September and finishing it by mid-2020.

While largely written and recorded prior to the events of 2020, the album's lyrical and thematic content reflects such events as the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and his involvement in 2020, leading Black Lives Matter protests in New York after the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor.

Library News

The Library has been a hub of activity this term, hosting Year 7 and 8 Read Aloud sessions, English research lessons, Sixth Form debaters and hundreds of students of all ages before school, at break and at lunchtimes. We have taken on several new Student Librarians, taking our total up to 27. They provide an invaluable service at break and lunch, manning the library desk and putting books away.

#### OPENING HOURS

Due to increased student demand, the Library has slightly adjusted its opening times and is now open from 8.15am for students to change books, read, complete homework, or play board games. The new opening times are:

- ♦ Monday to Thursday 08.15 16.15
- ♦ Friday 08.15 15.45

#### LIBRARY LESSONS

This term the Library has hosted Year 7 English classes in which students have been using resources to research World War I. Students have been learning what it was like to be a soldier in the trenches and have been tasked with writing acrostic poems and drawing their own concept of the trenches. Year 9 classes have enjoyed finding out more about the Dystopian genre in their Tales of Tomorrow library lessons. Students have viewed a Maze Runner film trailer and looked at extracts from The Hunger Games, A Clockwork Orange, Fahrenheit 451 and Nineteen Eighty-Four.

#### Accelerated Reader

Year 7 students have been reading like never before this term and have claimed hundreds of merits from the Library for completing quizzes and book reviews. English class 7S are leading the way with over 23,000,000 words – this is more than 10,000,000 words ahead of the second place class! We now have an amazing 18 Word Millionaires and, between them, the students have read an incredible 81,210,955 words! Keep up the great work, boys!

#### **DISPLAYS**

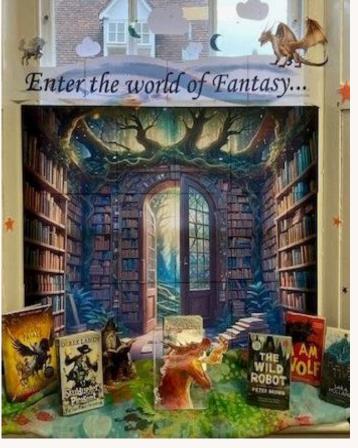
To fit in with their English studies we have had a Journey's End display this term. The Year 7 students are studying this play, which is based on life in the trenches. Other displays have included those on the Human Body as well as an 'Enter the World of Fantasy' display, which has proved very popular.

Chinese New Year has also featured in our displays this term.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz so we have marked this event with our Holocaust Memorial Day display. New books, based on this theme, were included on the display.

#### World Book Day - Thursday 6 March

Next term we will be celebrating World Book Day in the Library with a host of quizzes and competitions. Preparations are well underway for an exciting lunchtime for all years groups, including a Treasure Island Book Character Challenge, craft activities and a World Book Day quiz. Watch this space...



#### New Books this term

We have ordered in and processed nearly 100 new books this term. Have a look at some of our new stock below.

#### **FICTION**

- ♦ The Light That Blinds Us, Andy Darcy Theo
- ♦ The Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis
- ♦ The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- ♦ I Am David, Anne Holm
- ♦ Illuminae, Amie Kaufman
- ♦ Orbital, Samantha Harvey
- ♦ Twist of Gold, Michael Morpurgo
- ♦ After the War: From Auschwitz to Ambleside, Tom Palmer
- ♦ Bleach Vols 10-12, Tite Kubo
- D-Day Dog, Tom Palmer

#### Non-fiction

- ♦ The Life and Works of Van Gogh, Michael Howard
- ♦ The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank
- Nuts and Bolts: How Tiny Inventions Make Our World Work, Roma Agrawal
- Quantum: A Guide for the Perplexed, Jim Al-Khalil
- ♦ The Teenage Guide to Digital Well Being, Tanya Goodin
- ♦ Brilliant Black British History, Atinuke
- ♦ Best Loved Poems, Neil Philip
- ♦ Alex's Adventures in Numberland, Alex Bellos
- ♦ The Encyclopedia of Calligraphy Illumination, Janet Mehigan
- ♦ Asterix Ches Les Belges, Goscinny

Mrs K Hobbs - Librarian





# The Great Debate

On 15 January 2025, Miss Ginnelly and Mr Martin took four students to take part in The Great Debate 2025 at the University of Lincoln, alongside students from schools across the County.

Thomas Mitchell, Tobias Bruce, Henry Apps and Charlie Boby composed and delivered fantastic speeches on a range of topics, linking local and global History. These included Roman Lincoln and Edith Smith. Henry was asked to deliver his speech about Melton Mowbray for a second time, in a closely fought 'final', unfortunately being pipped to the post. Very well done to all four students involved!

Mrs E McKenna, Head of the History Department

# THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JEAN MARY DONALD BY THOMAS MITCHELL



The story of Jean Mary Donald is neither remarkable nor uncommon. Yet its significance remains profound to this day. For it is a story shared all to often by women around the world.

Born in 1925, in the small Scottish village of Huntly, Jean had an idyllic childhood. The daughter of a successful baker and owner of property throughout the village, Jean came from privilege and wealth. The Donald name was highly respected throughout Huntly and the surrounding areas. Following the war, a Polish Captain by the name of Josef Kozeija was stationed in the nearby village. He was smart, handsome, kind, Jean was in love. By 1947, she had fallen pregnant. Her parents were outraged, the proud name Donald threatened to be tarnished by an unscrupulous young girl who cared for no one but herself and her desires.

The couple were hastily married and, after the birth of their daughter Anna, were swiftly shipped off to Nottingham. It was here that Jean's story links up with so many other women around the world. Four hundred miles from her home; shunned by her family; and without a friend in the world; Jean grew lonely, lost, and burdened. Several times she attempted suicide, a desperate attempt to end the crushing isolation she suffered and her post-natal depression. Faced with the choice of sending his wife to an asylum or a prison, Josef chose to section her to St Anne's Mental Asylum in Mapperley, coincidentally near where I was born. Josef divorced Jean, left for Doncaster, and never bothered to think of her again. Their daughter, Anna, who they had both doted over was placed in the care system, forgotten.

At St Anne's, Jean was relentlessly subjected to shock therapy; in an attempt to fix her. Later she endured a botched lobotomy. Left with a damaged brain, Jean's memories were fractured. She had no recollection of her daughter, her marriage, her family, or even her own age. As a shadow of her former self, Jean spent the rest of her life in sheltered accommodation, forgotten and neglected by the world around her.

She died in 2013. She died without knowing her long forgotten daughter had a family; she died without ever knowing her 2 grandchildren or 4 great-grandchildren. Jean's tragic life teaches 2 valuable lessons:

The vilification of women who have children out of wedlock may be largely a thing of the past in modern Britain. However, across the world, in conservative cultures and countries, women face grave consequences. In Afghanistan, the Taliban flog and stone women who engage in relationships outside of marriage. In the Deep South of the US, women are disowned by their families or forced to give up their child. And in deeply Catholic households, women are forced to give up their child and historically sent to nunneries. Women are vilified, ostracised and condemned for something men oftentimes get away with a slap on the wrist.

Around 1 in 10 women will suffer with post-natal depression. Jean was one of those women. Around 1 in every 100 people will commit suicide around the world. For every suicide, around 20 to 30 more will attempt it. Jean was one of those. These aren't just statistics, they're people and they reveal the sobering reality of mental health around the world. Those who suffer from mental health issues, as seen with Jean, face prejudice and stigmatisation. Mental health remains an issue all to often hidden away, kept away from dinner table discussions while people suffer in silence.

While Jean's story appears on no memorial, in no textbook, and on no museum display, I have no doubt many women in this country and abroad can relate to her life. We may have made great progress since Jean's time, but there is still much to do because there have and will be many more Jean Donalds.

#### EDITH SMITH BY TOBIAS BRUCE

I think that this competition has one central idea, one main purpose. To uncover untold or poorly told events, people and moments of history. Living in Grantham two pieces of history jump to mind that could have fit this question. The stories of Isaac Newton and Margaret Thatcher, but these stories have already been told many times. Less so the story of Edith Smith. A woman who lived a life of social turbulence that women from the 1st century to the current day can identify with.

Edith Smith, who grew up in Oxton, married in 1897 to a William Smith – which meant she kept her family name – they had four children but in 1907 tragedy struck, and William died leaving Edith when she was just 31 widowed having to take care of her children by herself. The choice then was impossible to make. She needed paid work to keep herself and her children alive, but she could not train with children. Edith Smith had to find work, but with this came devastating consequences. By 1911, her three daughters were scattered around the country in schools and lodgings, while her only son was in an orphanage. Edith was training to be a midwife.

During the war Edith was recruited into the Grantham police service, my local area. At the time, because she was a female police officer, she did not have the right to arrest. Edith worked tirelessly in this role: keeping the peace in Grantham and preventing crime. Her success and unwavering commitment to her job was noticed, and after a meeting with the chief constable, the Bishop of Grantham and other delegates – all men no doubt – Edith became the full first female police constable being granted the warrant to arrest on the 17th of December 1915. In this moment Edith made history.

However, it is clear that she was only able to achieve this as a result of immense personal sacrifice, which deserves recognition in itself. When she was widowed in 1907 her social standing as an upper working-class woman put her in an impossible position. Globally stories were similar. Women had to make sacrifices to earn qualification for paid work, which supplied them with money that they needed to live and support their children.

Sadly, tragedy struck again on the 26th of January 1923, when despite all of her achievements, Edith took her own life through a self-administered overdose of morphine. Edith had been so successful in life and inspired millions of policewomen to follow in her footsteps, but in this tragic moment, Edith was alone. There appears no historical record of why her life ended in this way.

In Grantham, Edith Smith achieved much success, becoming the first ever warranted policewoman, however her journey through life was turbulent and at points she struggled to break free from the stereotypes of women and their roles of the era. This I'm sure was a similar story globally.

Although during the era, UK suffragette movements were gaining momentum, most laws passed for women globally all focused-on parenthood. For example, in Denmark 1900 all women were granted maternity leave. In France 1907 Women were allowed guardianship over their children. Although on the surface these pieces of legislation seem to be for the betterment of these societies, they instead reinforced the stereotypical roles of women in the era. Stereotypes that were so set in concrete that these women felt pressured in so many

different ways. In fact, women in some cultures, especially in Southern Africa, felt that their only role in life was to get pregnant and be a mother.

During Edith Smith's Era the playing field certainly wasn't level between female rights and male rights and female access to jobs. Globally, in 2025, much has changed, just looks at the UK's police force today, but there are still entrenched inequalities in our society and legislation in many countries is still extremely prohibiting. Women in Afghanistan are so restricted that they can not be heard speaking in public. The gender pay gap worldwide is 20% and only 10% of the world's head states are women.

Edith Smith certainly made considerable contributions for the rights of women. However, we do require another seismic shift to shatter the withstanding inequalities.



# Warhammer

We have had a remarkably busy time in Warhammer Club. We have on average 22 boys playing every Monday evening and up to 30 boys playing every Tuesday lunchtime! We have welcomed lots of new members from Years 7-9 and we have been busy making and painting lots of models.

Sam Corah (9M) has been teaching new players how to play Age of Sigmar as we have two complete Age of Sigmar armies.

Leo Halling (12S) and Mateusz Dogiel (13M) have been teaching the new players how to play Warhammer 40K.

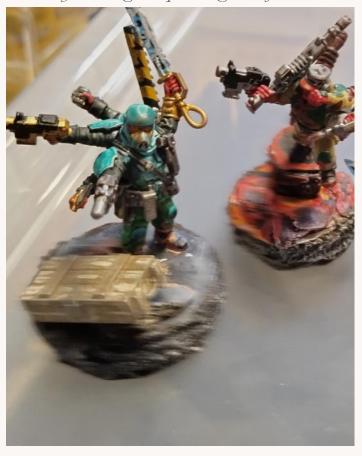
We also held a kit bashing competition, this is where the boys have to modify a Warhammer model and make it unique. We had lots of entries, and it was a close competition.

The judges, Leo and Mateusz and I, judged each entry on four criteria:

- ♦ The amount of kit bashing
- The quality of the painting
- ♦ The quality of the painting/decoration of the base
- ♦ The overall concept

The winner was Oliver Kownacki (9M), who created a Space Marine in a Titan, from the video game Titanfall (see below). This was a very impressive kit bash; the Space Marine could be removed and the whole Titan moved. Jacob Crowley (9C), won second place He kit-bashed three models with a great deal of precision, high quality painting and a very detailed base (see right).





In third place was Sam Corah (9M( who created a very beautiful and technically difficult Slyvaneth model.

We are currently painting our Age of Sigmar Skaven armies. Sam Corah and Jacob Crowley came up with the paint scheme and are over-seeing the painting of the models.

After half-term, we will be running two new tournaments. We will have an Age of Sigmar tournament, where members can play with the club models, and a Warhammer 40K tournament.

We will also be painting our army of Orks for the Games Workshop Armies on Parade Competition. The Paint scheme has been devised by Hugo Dempsey (10M) who will also be overseeing the painting and teaching new painters how to use contrast paints and dry brush techniques.

Warhammer runs Monday after school from 15:45 - 16:45 in N205 and all year groups are welcome,

Mrs D Copeman, Teacher of French

# Mock Trial

Here at King's we have a rich community of budding legal minds who make up our Law Society - this has developed into a hub for these students to debate, and engage more widely, with the world of Law.

Our Sixth Form students entered the national Bar Mock Trial Competition on Wednesday 29th January, with over 100 other teams participating in the first round. Our team of four Barristers, Witnesses, a Jury, an Usher, and a Clerk, all enjoyed a day of fierce prosecution and defence. It should also be noted that the society benefitted from the guidance of practicing criminal Barrister Lucy Jones, who delivered a talk to our society and later directed one-to-one guidance to the team in particular.

Students involved and pitcured below were Alexander Giles, Archie Westaway, Charles Hatchman, Charlie Boby, Harry Carter, Lloyd Meredith, Max Lygo, Nathan Cullen, Noah Koro, Oliver King, Seth Wakerley, Thomas Bell, Tommy Woolerton and Isaac Bennett.

Tommy Woolerton, one of the students who participated has explained what it was like to take part.

'On the 29th of January 2025, 14 students found themselves in court, only we were everywhere. Evey role in that courtroom was taken up by a maroon blazer. Competing against some of the best private schools in the country once again wasn't a problem for King's as we managed a top three finish. The familiar taste of success however was met with a small element of sourness as we failed to qualify for the national finals down in London

However, you can't take anything away from our team, with each role being played to near perfection. The newly founded Law Society run by Mr Evans kindly assisted by Mrs Cunningham was in full flow in the months leading up to the competition, with weekly meetings being run in order to ensure our best chances of victory. As much as we felt we had failed, all credit has to go to the two teams finishing above us, Bambridge Academy and Our Lady and Saint Patrick's School.

Not only was the whole day a great excuse to let out our competitive sides, but it served as an invaluable experience for those who aspire to study law in the future, with the entire online competition being run by current undergraduate law students as well as both current and retired judges.

A huge thanks once again to Mr Evans and Mrs Cunningham for making that entire day possible and a huge congratulations to all those who took part and did the school proud on yet another occasion.'

Mr K Evans, Teacher of Religious Education



# Student Welfare

This term we have had a variety of assemblies and workshops from a number of external presenters to enhance our PSHE and RSE curriculum.

#### Assemblies

Peter Radford who is a leader in personal development education has delivered a range of assemblies: Developing Self Disciplining (Year 7); Coping Strategies (Year 8); Goalsetting (Year 9); LGBTQ+ Awareness and Rights (Year 10); Racism, Equality and Inclusion (Year 11) and Sexism, Misogyny & Harassment (Year 12 & 13). SRE assemblies have been delivered by Kate Wooley on: Family (Year 7); Media Bodies (Year 8); Marriage (Year 9); Sexting (Year 10); STIs (Year 11) and Pornography (Year 12 and 13). Our Head Boy, Jim Gleed and Deputy Head Boys, Charles Hatchman and Edward McDermott have led their final assemblies of their tenure on the King's School Value of Humility. Wayne Stevenson has also led a workshop to Year 9 students on contraception and Year 12 students have had a drugs education talk from Bob Tait who previously worked in the Royal Navy as part of their drug unit.



#### ONLINE SAFETY PRESENTATION TO PARENTS

Alan Mackenzie our online safety expert delivers workshops and leads regular assemblies on various aspects of online safety throughout the year. He has produced a series of videos for parents to support them in guiding their children to use technology appropriately and safely. There are six presentations which will be shared in each newsletter. In the third video, Alan will discuss online gaming: <a href="https://vimeo.com/487627625/3c5538740c">https://vimeo.com/487627625/3c5538740c</a>

#### SAFEGUARDING

Pupils are given the opportunity to talk about safeguarding issues within the classroom environment and are made aware of the processes by which any concerns they have can be raised, including the processes for reporting a concern about a friend or peer and how any report will be handled. Pupil also have the facility to report concerns anonymously through the 'Whisper' link on the student homepage of SharePoint.

If you are worried about a child and think they many be suffering abuse or if you have a concern about safeguarding or child protection, please contact Justin Dixon (Deputy Head Master) who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Simone Bieber the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL).

# Healthy Minds

Feeling low every now and then is completely normal, especially with all the pressures that come with school life. Whether it's stress from exams, feeling like you have too much on your plate, or just having an off day, it's okay to not feel your best all the time. The important thing is to know you're not alone—lots of people go through the same thing, even if they don't always show it.

Sometimes doing something you enjoy can really help, whether it be playing a sport or listening to music. And if things feel a bit too much, reaching out for support is always a good idea—your teachers, friends, and form tutors are there to help. Additionally, if you feel like you need further support, the Student Support Centre near the Old School is always available for you to go to.

The good news is that feeling low doesn't last forever, and there are things you can do to lift yourself up. Keeping active, getting enough sleep, and eating well can all make a difference in how you feel. Finding a hobby, setting small goals, or just staying connected with people who make you feel good can also help. Things can and will get better, and you don't have to go through it alone.

Healthy Minds Wellbeing Champions

Syed Jaffrey, Mason Oo and Vaed Tumurugoti (Year 12)

#### SUPPORT IN SCHOOL

We are always mindful that some students will struggle with mental health issues.

If you have any concerns, please contact Mrs Bond (Senior Mental Health Lead) or Mrs Clark (Pastoral & Wellbeing Support). They can organise support and ensure that all students enjoy their time at King's.

Their e-mail addresses are miriam.bond@kings.lincs.sch.uk and catherine.clark@kings.lincs.sch.uk.



## IT and Telecommunications



When it comes to IT graduate jobs, a wide range of roles are available depending on your qualifications and your level of technical expertise.

Examples of graduate IT roles include;

- ♦ Application or Systems Analyst
- ♦ Applications developer –
- Cyber Security Analyst –
- Data Analyst
- Database administrator
- Network engineer -
- Game designer/developer
- Web developer
- Other IT graduate jobs include; business analyst, cartographer, forensic computer analyst, geographical information systems officer, IT trainer, technical author, telecommunications researcher, UX designer, web designer.

#### WHAT TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE SCHEMES ARE AVAILABLE?

Whether you're interested in a specific IT role or would like to get a more rounded experience in all things digital, there are technology graduate schemes to fit with your aspirations and preferred career path. Most major UK companies that run graduate schemes have streams available that focus on IT and technology within their organisation. As technology plays a key role in all organisations, you'll find options across all sectors in the following areas:

- Consulting
- ♦ Cyber security
- Data science
- Project management
- ♦ Risk
- ♦ Software development
- Software testing

These schemes are typically structured training programmes for new and recent graduates, usually lasting between one and two years.

### WHICH COMPANIES RUN TECH GRADUATE SCHEMES?

In the IT industry, the following organisations run specialist tech graduate schemes:

Accenture - offer a number of streams, including positions in analytics, consulting, digital engineering and manufacturing, modern engineering, strategy and tech transformation.

Capgemini - offer a range of business/consulting, technology consulting and technical roles.

Cisco - by joining the networking, cloud and cyber security specialists on their IT scheme, you'll be involved with the company's software, hardware or security functions.

FDM Group - the technical graduate programme allows you to train with cross-functional teams before getting to specialise in an area such as business intelligence, cloud computing engineering, data engineering, robotic process automation, Salesforce developer, software development, software testing or technical operations.

Fujitsu - the programme is designed to develop future leaders, with the streams available including consulting, cyber consulting, project management, software development and testing.

There are also IT graduate programmes in wider sectors, including environment, finance, public services, retail, and transport:



British Airways (BA) - the airline has streams in both data science and commercial and network analytics.

EY - by joining the tech consulting scheme you'll get to support other businesses along their digital transformation journey. You could be working in data analytics, finance modelling, quantitative advisory services (QAS), or risk.

HSBC - the bank's digital innovation graduate programme gives you the opportunity to work with the latest technologies such as cloud, cyber, data and Al.

MI5 - on the technology graduate development programme (TGDP) you'll get to choose your preferred stream from options that include data science and machine learning, information and cyber security, security engineering, software engineering,

and user experience design.

Morrisons - offer a technology scheme for those looking to gain an understanding of how technology is used within a retail business.

Ordnance Survey (OS) - become a technical expert, consultant and leader by choosing a technical programme in data science and analytics, computer science, or data visualisation.

PwC - within their consulting business there's a need to provide advisory services to clients in a number of areas, including cyber security, data and analytics, and forensic technology.

Tesco - there are four related programmes in cyber security, software engineering, technology product as well as the general technology scheme.

### WHAT SKILLS WILL I NEED?

Here are some examples of the skills employers are most interested in:

Cisco - they expect graduate recruits to have the ability to explain complex technical concepts to stakeholders in a simple and effective way, possess a high level of attention to detail as well as strong instincts for problem solving, be a self-motivated learner that can get to grips with new technology, as well as having excellent teamworking skills.

EY - to work in tech consulting you'll need an analytics mindset to dig deep and find the best solutions, project management and design skills to help transform businesses, the ability to build relationships and grow your network, financial acumen to predict outcomes and solve problems, and the hunger to achieve technical certifications and better understand the impact of risk on a business

HSBC - the bank is looking for innovative and logical thinkers, creative problem-solvers with a passion for technology, and those with a strong analytical mind. They're seeking collaborators who can speak up and build relationships with people on large-scale projects.

### How much will I be paid?

Here's what a selection of recruiters are offering to tech graduates in 2025:

Accenture - £27,500 plus a £5,000 bonus (most locations) for its tech transformation programme (in London, the salary is £33,500 plus a £10,000 bonus).

BA - £33,000 for its data science scheme.

MI5 - £37,446 (London) for its technology graduate development programme.

OS - £26,000.

Tesco - £40,000 for its technology-related programmes.

### Combined

### Cadet Force

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

This term has passed very quickly but with many notable achievements for the King's School CCF.

We have five Army cadets, Sgt A Ratcliffe, Sgt A Dumbra, SSgt O Fawke, SSgt O Jackson and SSgt L Saddler who we have recommended for the Master Cadet Course. They are now waiting to see if they are selected to attend the course at Frimley Park.

Three cadets, Cpl T King, Cpl R Rabasauskas and Cpl S Almerie have passed the penultimate training course which will enable them to continue on to the Senior Cadet Instructor Cadre (SCIC) which they will complete during February half term. Cpl A Honeywood, Cpl N Honeywood and Cpl S Parcheta have also passed the penultimate training course and will completed the SCIC later in the year.

RSM A Stevens, FS E Bremner-Harrison and FS E Leresche Hands have completed their BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Teamwork and Development. In addition to this, FS Euan Bremner-Harrison is through to the second stage of the National Westminster Award run by our BTEC provider. Cpl C Gacki, an RAF cadet has achieved Master Cadet status.

Our RAF CCF Cadets are preparing for the Regional RAF Competition to be held at RAF Wittering and they are also training for Bronze and Silver Leadership courses. Cpl A Carle, L/Cpl O Wix, L/Cpl J Ling and L/Cpl A McConnell have already achieved their Bronze Leadership awards.

On Thursday 30 January 2025, a presentation ceremony is being held for our long serving officers and SSI. Col Professor Sir Jonathan Van Tam MBE is awarding Coronation Medals to Mr C Bufton, Lt Col R M Ogg BEM, Cpt P Brister, Cpt P Dunlop, 2 Lt T Dunlop, Flt Lt P Barton, F Off M Davis and SSI S Pulfrey.

A cheque for £355 is being presented to the Contingent by the local Masonic Lodge. This will be used to subsidise the cadets at our Summer Camp in Warcop.

As is clear from the above, the Contingent is continually delivering high level training. A CCF cadet is given the



opportunity to develop a variety of different skills that will be useful regardless of the career path they choose. Students in Year 9 and above are welcome to speak to SSI Pulfrey about joining the CCF and benefitting from the training and experiences that are on offer.

R M Ogg BEM

Lt Col CCF Contingent Commander King's School Grantham







## DEBATING SUCCESS AT THE ESU MACE ROUND TWO COMPETITION FOR THE KING'S SCHOOL

Three students from The King's School have secured a place in the Regional Final round of the English Speaking Union's Schools MACE national debating competition. Oli Calder, James Diamond and Alex Gleed impressed judges with their eloquence, critical thinking, and persuasive arguments. The competition was held at Stamford School on 24 January. There were six teams in

total taking part in the competition.

The round two competition saw the King's School team oppose the motion "This House Believes that globalisation perpetuates social inequity." Their ability to articulate their viewpoints clearly and respond to challenging counterarguments set them apart from the competition, combined with a distinct style and humour which ultimately allowed them to continue to the next round, having made it to the final 72 teams of 360.

Oli, James and Alex, with the support of Arun Ratcliffe, have spent weeks preparing for the event, refining their debating techniques under the guidance of their mentor, Mrs. Cunningham who has provided a great degree of help to the students to allow them to excel in the competition.

The next stage of the competition promises to be even more challenging, with teams from top schools across the region seeking a place in the national finals. However, the King's School team remains confident to build on their success.

James Diamond, Year 12

Stamford School hosted an amazing evening with plenty of refreshments. In between debates, we had the brilliant opportunity to connect with students from across the region.

As the first debate of the evening, the pressure was on. With only three teams advancing to the regional finals, we were anxiously hopeful that we could be among them. In the other debates, we saw tough competition — a standard we would need to match for the next round! Though somewhat daunted by a complicated motion, we felt confident for the debate thanks to our thorough preparation. After several weeks of research, we put on an impressive performance together. Max Lygo, Noah Koro, Charlie Hatchman, Ollie King, Arun Ratcliffe, and William Gray helped us prepare for the debate, providing valuable insight and perspectives.

Thankfully, our efforts paid off. Alongside two other schools, we advanced to the regional finals, which will take place on 17 March at The King's School.

Oli Calder, Year 12





### Nottingham University Schools' Debating Competition

The Nottingham University Schools' Debating Competition took place on Saturday, 1 February.

With four rounds per team followed by the finals. A total of 52 teams from across the country participated. The King's School debating teams consisted of Oli Calder, James Diamond, Alex Gleed, Will Gray, Noah Koro, Max Lygo, Thomas Mitchell, and Arun Ratcliffe. The KGGS teams, who train with us on Mondays after school, also entered the competition and competed against us in many of the rounds.

The King's School teams reached the top 8, with Max and Noah competing in the silver final. Additionally, Oli and Will won the top 9-12 teams bronze final.

Out of 104 speakers, Max and Noah were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> speaker overall, respectively. Judges praised the depth of arguments, confident delivery and strategic rebuttals from all teams making it a highly competitive and enjoyable event.

Mrs Cunningham - Head of the Religious Education and Sociology Department



The Nottingham Schools debating competition was a thrilling and stimulating day.

In total, we competed in five British Parliamentary style debates. The five motions were varied in topic and complexity. One of the most interesting debates addressed the question of Al juries — should we replace human juries with Al equivalents? The motion ensured a stimulating and contentious debate that highlighted some interesting perspectives on the issue of justice. In our final debate, the bronze final, we were presented with a unique debate considering "Love is Blind", a blind-dating experiment. This light-hearted motion provided a much-needed break from the political and social issues that we debated earlier, but it was no less difficult to argue!

The event featured schools from across the country, giving us the chance to meet a range of new people. We had incredible support from Mrs Cunningham, Liz Tibbett, and Mr Baker from KGGS, whose feedback and moral support gave us the confidence to compete at our best.

In the end, William Gray and I were thrilled to win the bronze final and we were all proud to see that Max Lygo and Noah Koro achieved the two highest 'speaker scores' of the day!

We are now looking forward to the Oxford Schools debating competition later in the month.

Oli Calder, year 12

### House News

Dear Students, Parents and Carers.

I am delighted to be able to share some of our successes in the House System as House Coordinator.

Since September, we have been busy running various house activities across all year groups, to start the points bidding for that all-important end of year trip to Alton Towers. These competitions have included sporting activities such as Dodgeball, House Rugby, (run by Mr Lindsay), Basketball and also non-sporting events such photography competitions, Landscapes in Box (run by Mrs Meanwell), music and art competitions. Students have also participated in two whole-school interhouse activity mornings, in which all year groups were involved with our usual array of challenges to gain house points.

In November 2024, we ran a poetry competition around the theme of Remembrance. Tashnim Md Shah (7M) wrote the winning entry, which was judged by an external author.

I share Tashnim's poem with you here.

The cold winds whispering, Heavenly absence of gunfire existing. Every soldier, exhausted from war, Come together as Christmas dawns. Hand in hand, they lay down their arms, Respecting the spirit, embracing the charms. In the middle of war, singing Silent night, Holy night. Sharing laughter, forgetting the upcoming twilight. The sound of a whistle, a game to occur, Men from both sides, the odds so absurd, A football kicked gently, a truce in the air, Smiles exchanged, a joy they can share. Through the cold fields, they run with delight, Rivalry paused, for this magical night. Under the stars, they play side by side, Celebrating peace, with hearts open wide. Entering the waterlogged trenches,

Full of jovial remembrances.

In December, we welcomed the return of House Christmas dinners after they were cancelled last year due to the Old School needing repairs. It was good to see students from their houses coming together, sharing a meal, and slowly starting to get into the festive spirit.

The Interhouse activity morning in December involved a Year 10 Basketball shootout, Year 12 and Y13 competing in Tug of War, the Year 7 students playing a Pool tournament and Year 8 showing their skill with Articulate. Year 9 and Year 11 competed in a Christmas music quiz. The students showed huge enthusiasm, and all houses benefitted from the extra points that were won. All house totals now surpass 25,000 points. These totals include all entries of competitions by the boys, as well as their everyday Class Chart points, which are awarded by staff for good work. Every point counts!

Students from Year 7 and 8 gained points for their house by participating in the King's School Carol Service. As the director of both school choirs, I am hopeful that it will not be just points that the boys will gain by participating in events such as the Carol Service, but an experience they can be proud of and enjoy.

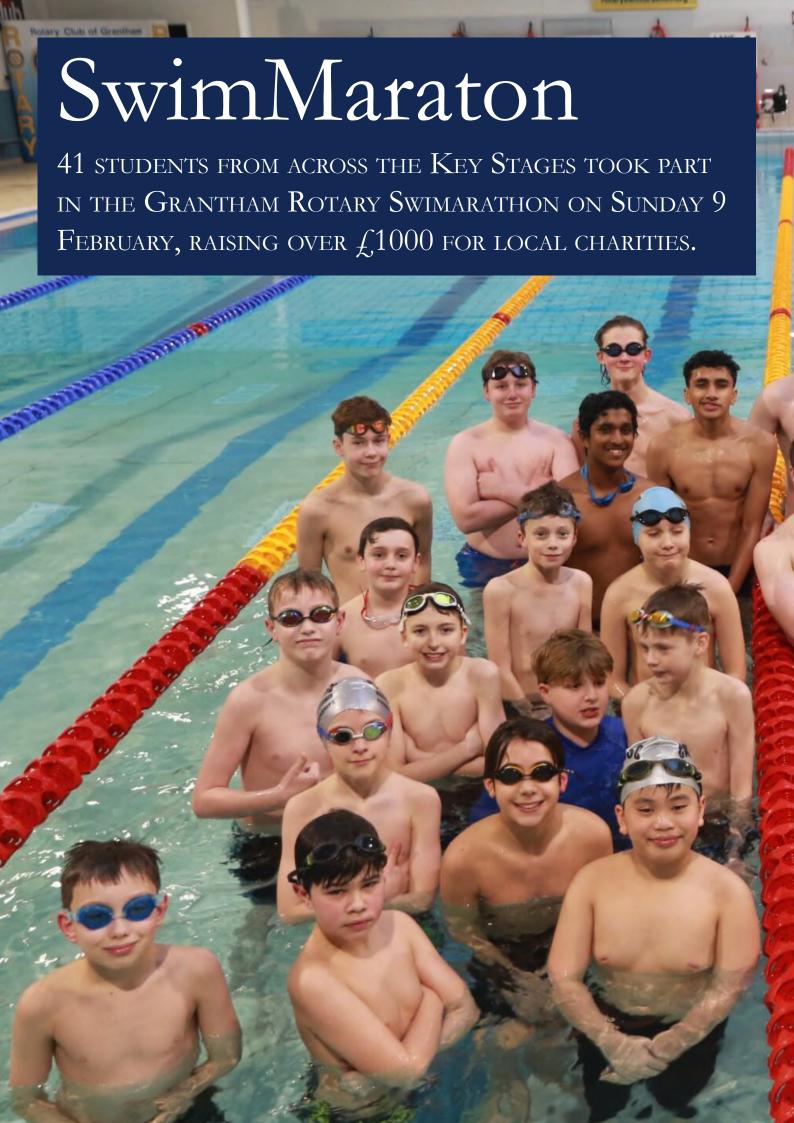
Lastly, House Social space in the Main Hall returned after Christmas. The boys have benefitted from brand new pool tables, pool balls and cues, as well some new technology, provided by funds from the School PTFA.

And a final thank you to the leaders of each house who work hard to make all the events a success.

- ♦ Burleigh Mrs L. Evans
- ♦ Curteis Mr A. Hirst
- ♦ Foxe Mr J. Davies
- ♦ More Mr C. Cook
- Newton Mrs H. Meanwell
- ♦ School Mr T. Deller

Mr C. D. Cook - House Coordinator/Head of More House







## Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education

Our PHSE programme is designed to give students the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe and to prepare them for life and work in modern Britain and the wider world. PSHE ensures that every student has the knowledge on how to be safe, how to make a positive contribution, how to achieve economic well-being, and to live long healthy lives. PSHE is split into six different themes The key themes are covered in different terms throughout the academic year during form times, assemblies and with external speakers:

Term	1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Financ Educat		Careers	Health Education	Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)	Society	Future and Values

This term, Year 7 looked at how to support one another with health. Lessons included: Keeping Our Bodies Healthy; Healthy Eating; Keeping our Minds Healthy; and Helping Others Stay Healthy. Year 8 students looked at healthy eating, exercise including keeping our hearts healthy, as well as mental health. Lesson topics included: You Are What You Eat!; Let's Get Moving; and A Healthy Brain. Year 9 students looked at healthy living and mental health. Personal hygiene was also discussed along with viruses and how they can be spread and how they can be prevented. Lesson titles included: Healthy Living; Managing Emotions; Anxiety; and Health and Prevention of Illness. During this unit Year 10 students looked more deeply at drugs, alcohol, vaping and tobacco. Students investigated the damaging effects on the body. This unit also looked at emotions and how to balance feelings we may have. Finally, this topic looked at getting the right nutrients for our bodies. Lesson topics included: Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco; Recognising and Balancing Emotions; and Getting the Right Fuel. Health Education in Year 11 further developed on learning from previous years. These sessions focused on mental health stigma and where to get further support. The unit also looked at reproductive health and addiction. Topics included: Keeping Healthy; Mental Health Stigma; Getting further support; Marriage and Reproductive Health; and Addiction. All PSHE Resources are available to access through students' school accounts <a href="https://kingsgr.sharepoint.com/sites/KSG Subjects PD">https://kingsgr.sharepoint.com/sites/KSG Subjects PD</a>

### Supporting With Healthy Lifestyles at home:

You may find the following websites and resources useful to support with these topics at home.

NHS Healthier Families: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/">https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/</a> YoungMinds Parents Helpline: <a href="https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent">www.youngminds.org.uk/parent</a>

### LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT TERM IN PSHE.

Next term we will be studying Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) which will include age-appropriate material designed to support your child to understand a variety of topics related to emotional and physical relationships. These topics have been selected to follow the statutory government guidelines related to the teaching of SRE and resources have been carefully selected and created to meet the needs of our students. The restructuring of this aspect of the PSHE resources has taken place following our full annual review of this aspect of the curriculum which includes the opinions gathered from stakeholders including students, families and staff. This aspect of PSHE is also fully supported by expert speakers in assemblies and during drop down days which are hosted by external agencies.

### SUPPORTING WITH SRE AT HOME:

You may find the following websites and resources useful to support with these topics at home:

https://www.brook.org.uk/

https://fumble.org.uk/handy-guide-sexual-health-services/

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education https://www.greaterlincolnshiresexualhealth.nhs.uk/

If you have any questions or comments about the PSHE Curriculum, please feel free to contact me: T Deller – Head of PSHE tom.deller@kings.lincs.sch.uk

# Co-curricular Activities Monday

Activity	Room/venue	Time	Member of staff responsible	Year groups who can attend
GCSE History Revision Club	C201	12.40pm-1.10pm	Mrs McKenna	Year 11
Chess Club	T103	12.45pm-1.25pm	Mr Davies	KS3
KS4 Basketball	Gym	12.45pm-1.30pm	Head Master	KS4
Clarinet Ensemble	C203	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
Senior Soul Band	Rehearsal Room	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
Brass Ensemble	C204	1.00pm-1.30pm	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
Current Affairs Discussion Group (Week A)	B206	1.00pm-1.30pm	Mr Martin	Year 11, 12 & 13
English Literature Club	T302	1.00pm-1.35pm	Mr Hollingworth	Year 13
French Speaking Support Club	N205	1.05pm-1.35pm	Mrs Copeman	Year 11
Languages Club	N301	1.05pm-1.35pm	Emilie Hammoumou Mrs Roberts	KS3
Warhammer	N205	3.45pm-4.45pm	Mrs Copeman	All Year Groups
Cross Country	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Hollingworth	All Year Groups
Football	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Whales	Year 7
Badminton	Sports Hall	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Hulme	All Year Groups
Rugby 7s	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm		Year 7
Inter-school Debating Society (One per term)	Alternates Old School – King's & Roberts Hall - KGGS	4.00pm-5.30pm	Mrs Cunningham	All Year 11, 12 & 13 welcome
Competitive Debating Society Term 2, 3 & 4 only) (When inter-school is not on)	S101	4.00pm-5.30pm	Mrs Cunningham	Year 12 & 13

## Co-curricular Activities Tuesday

Activity	Room/venue	Time	Member of staff responsible	Year groups who can attend
Basketball Club	Gym	12.40pm-1.30pm	Mr Hulme	KS3
Classics Club	C201	12.40pm-1.10pm	Mrs McKenna	Year 7 & 8
Warhammer	N205	12.40pm-1.30pm	Mrs Copeman	All Year Groups
Grade 9 English Club	T401	12.40pm-1.40pm	Mr McLauchlan	Year 11
GCSE Biology Revision	B104	12.40pm-1.40pm	Mrs Haywood	Year 11
Business Essay Writing	S203	12.50pm-1.20pm	Mr Hirst Mr Rushall	Business Students
Economics Essay Writing	S201	12.50pm-1.30pm	Mr Anderson	Year 13 Economics Students
Whist Club	N103	1.00pm-1.30pm	Mr J Hill	All Year Groups
Concert Band	Rehearsal Room	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
French Revision Club	N304	1.05pm-1.35pm	Mrs Woolerton	Year 11
Art – Studio Time	N302	3.45pm-4.45pm	Mrs Warley	KS4 & LS5 Students
Football	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Hulme	Year 9
Rugby 7s	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm		Year 8
Rugby 7s	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm		Year 10



## Co-curricular Activities Wednesday

Activity	Room/venue	Time	Member of staff responsible	Year groups who can attend
Marching Ensemble	Rehearsal Room	12.40am-1.00pm		Invitation Only
Fitness	Fitness Suite	12.50pm- 1.20pm	Mr Rowe	All Years
Knotso's	Rehearsal Room	12.40pm-1.00pm	Rehearsal Room	Invitation Only
Eco-Committee	N204	12.40pm-1.10pm	Mrs Evans	All Year Groups
Grade 9 English Club	T401	12.40pm-1.40pm	Mr McLauchlan	Year 11
KS4 Debating Society	S201	1.00pm-1.35pm	Sixth Form Prefects	Year 10 & 11
French and Biscuits	N305	1.05pm-1.35pm	Mrs Roberts	Invitation Only
Philosophy Club (Term 3 & 4)	S102	1.05pm-1.35pm	Ms Chesson	Year 10, 11, 12 & 13
Rugby 7s	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm		Year 9



## Co-curricular Activities Thursday

Activity	Room/venue	Time	Member of staff responsible	Year groups who can attend
Senior Choir - Trebles	Old School	8.45am-9.10am	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
Senior Choir - Tenors	Old School	8.45am-9.10am	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
A level English Club	T401	12.40pm-1.40pm	Mr McLauchlan	Year 13
RPG, Magic the Gathering and Pokemon Club	N205	12.40pm-1.30pm	Mrs Copeman	All Year Groups
RS GCSE Revision Clinic	S102	12.40pm-1.10pm	Mrs Cunningham Ms Chesson	Year 11
Homework Club	B101	12.40pm-1.35pm	Sixth Form Prefects	Year 7 & 8
A-Level Business Essay Writing	S203	12.50pm-1.20pm	Mr Hirst	Year 13
Cricket House Competition	Gymnasium	12.50pm-1.20pm	Mr Richardson	Year 7
Junior Percussion Ensemble	Rehearsal Room	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
String Ensemble	C203	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
Musical Theatre Society	T402	1.05pm-1.35pm	Archie Conron Mrs Misquitta	Year 7, 8 & 9
Football	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Richardson	Year 8
Football	Sports Field	4.00pm-5.00pm	Mr Hulme	Year 10
CCF	Quad & Classrooms	3.45pm-5.30pm	Lt Col R Ogg SSI S Pulfrey Mrs P Barton Mr M Davis Mr R Gait	Year 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 CCF



## Co-curricular Activities Friday

Activity	Room/venue	Time	Member of staff responsible	Year groups who can attend
Senior Choir - Altos	Old School	8.30am-8.45am	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
Senior Choir - Basses	Old School	8.30am-8.45am	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
Junior Choir	Old School	8.45am-9.10am	Mr Cook	Invitation Only
History Society	C201	1.00pm-1.30pm	Mrs McKenna	All Year Groups
Dungeons and Dragons Club	N205	12.40pm-1.30pm	Mrs Copeman	All Year Groups
Lego Club	Tombs	12.40pm-1.30pm	Mrs C Clark	Invitation Only
Geography Film Club		12.40pm-1.30pm	Mr Bufton	All Year Groups
Film Club	S201	12.40pm-1.40pm	Mr Rushall	All Year Groups
Chess Club	T103	12.45pm-1.25pm	Mr Davies	KS4 & KS5
Law Society	S101	1.00pm-1.35pm	Mr Evans & Sixth Form Prefects	Year 12 & 13
Christian Union	S102	1.00pm-1.30pm	Pastor Rob, Mr McGibbon & Sixth Form Prefects	All Year Groups
Saxophone Ensemble	C203	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
Senior Percussion Ensemble	Rehearsal Room	1.00pm-1.30pm		Invitation Only
KS3 Debating Society	B206	1.00pm-1.35pm	Sixth Form Prefects	Year 8 & 9
Big Band	Rehearsal Room	3.45pm-4.45pm	Mr Lond	Invitation Only
CCF Shooting Club	Gym	3.45pm-6.00pm	SSI Pulfrey Mr P Dunlop Mrs P Barton	CCF – Year 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13



### Calendar

Monday, 24 February	Term 4 Starts Year 13 Study Leave - Mock Examination Week 2 Year 11 Mock English Literature examination Year 11 Careers Meetings
Tuesday, 25 February	Year 11 Careers Meetings PTFA Meeting - 18:30 in the Library
Wednesday, 26 February	Year 11 Parents' Evening - 16:15 - 19:15 in person in the Hall Burleigh House Assembly during Form period Tim Ward [Counsellor]
Thursday, 27 February	Year 12 Geography Fieldwork
Friday, 28 February	
Saturday, 01 March	Silver D of E Training Day
Monday, 03 March	Year 12 Careers Meetings 16-18 Catch-Up Engagement Session in the Sixth Form Centre Alumni Meeting - 19:00 in the Library
Tuesday, 04 March	Year 12 Careers Meetings Positive Regard Review
Wednesday, 05 March	Curteis House Assembly during Form Period Tim Ward [Counsellor]
Thursday, 06 March	ELSA Study - Year 7 & Year 8 who sign up Year 13 Stratford Visit
Friday, 07 March	Year 10 Elevate Revision Workshop 16-18 Immunisation Catch Up Session
Saturday, 08 March	CCF Exercise Stoke Rochford
Monday, 10 March	LIBF Multiple Choice examinations during the week Year 11 French Mock 2 Speaking Examinations Year 12 Careers Meetings
Tuesday, 11 March	Year 12 Careers Meetings Year 11 SRE Workshop Year 11 French Mock 2 Speaking Examinations
Wednesday, 12 March	Foxe House Assembly during Form Period Tim Ward [Counsellor] Year 11 French Mock 2 Speaking Examinations Bronze D of E Meeting - 17:15 to 18:15 in the Hall
Thursday, 13 March	Year 9 Armouries Trip - Y1, Y3 & X1
Friday, 14 March	Year 9 Armouries Trip - Y2, X2 & X3
Monday, 17 March	Year 12 Careers Meetings Year 11 German Mock 2 Speaking Examinations Year 11 French Mock Speaking Examinations ESU Schools' Mace Regional Finals - 16:45 - 20:30 in the Old School

### Calendar

Tuesday, 18 March	A level English Literature Lectures Year 12 Careers Meetings Year 12 Handmaids Lectures LIBF Written examination - 09:00 Year 11 Mock English examination Year 11 German Mock 2 Speaking Examinations School Council Meeting Governor Meeting - 18:00 in the Library
Wednesday, 19 March	More House Assembly Tim Ward [Counsellor] Year 11 German Mock 2 Speaking Examinations Year 12 Reports issued to parents Spring Concert - 19:00 - 20:30 in the Hall
Thursday, 20 March	Year 10 Careers Fair Year 11 French Mock Speaking Examinations Year 10 Parents' Evening - 16:15 - 19:15 - online
Friday, 21 March	Year 12 History Non Examined Assessment (NEA) day at Bishop Grosseteste University Year 10 Artist visit Year 11 French Mock Speaking Examinations
Monday, 24 March	A level Music Recordings During the week Year 12 Careers Meetings Year 12 Head of Year Intervention Meetings
Tuesday, 25 March	Year 11 French Mock 2 Speaking Examinations Year 12 Careers Meetings Newton Lecture - Old School Year 9 MenACWY Vaccinations Year 13 Reports Issued to Parents
Wednesday, 26 March	Newton House Assembly during Form Period
Thursday, 27 March	Blood Brother Trip at the Peterborough New Theatre
Friday, 28 March	Year 11 GCSE Drama examination
Saturday, 29 March	A Streetcar Named Desire Theatre Trip
Monday, 31 March	Year 12 Careers Meetings Year 12 Houses of Parliament Trip Year 11 French Speaking Examinations Year 13 Head of Year Intervention Meetings
Tuesday, 01 April	House Awards Evening - 18:30 - 20:00 in the Hall
Wednesday, 02 April	School House Assembly during Form Period GCSE Art Examination
Thursday, 03 April	PTFA Easter Choc Fest GCSE Art Examination
Friday, 04 April	Iceland Trip departs and returns on Tuesday, 8 April End of Term 4
Saturday, 05 April	Iceland Trip
Sunday, 06 April	Iceland Trip





Bishop Richard Foxe 1448 – 1528

Sir William Cesil 1521 – 1598

John Still 1543 – 1608

Dr Henry More 1614 – 1687

SIr Isaac Newton 1643 – 1727

Colley Cibber 1671 – 1757

John Newcombe

John Cust 1718 – 1770

Frederick Barker 1808 1882

Sir William Robertson 1825 – 1889

Bernard Smith FRS 1881 – 1936

Joseph Tombs VC 1884 – 1966 🛧



Mark O'Neill 1959 –

The King's School

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