

THE KING'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER!



Issue No.27 - December 2024



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

The Autumn Term is the longest in the school year, but with so much going on it always seems to fly by and before we know it we're more than a third of the way through the year! This 27th edition pays tribute to the long-serving Mrs Hyllton, highlights more sporting success, reports back on a multitude of trips and events and has a double page spread of our recent Christmas celebrations. Being able to meet together to worship Jesus, the Son of God, and give glory and honour to Him is such a special part of school life at this time of year. We are so blessed by the children we have to work with. Thank you, parents, for entrusting them to our care, especially at this turbulent time financially, with the VAT on fees and other pressures on everyone's finances. We trust in Him, who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

Andy Reeves, Headteacher

YEAR 5 EXPERIENCE BIBLE TIMES!

On the 14th of October, all the Year 5s went to the Jerusalem Experience at Lattimore Gospel Hall in St Albans. We all had a splendid time, there was a colossal wooden sculpture of Noah's ark. We all loved it and got to watch an awesome 3D movie of Jerusalem and

VISIT JERUSALEM in St Albans



Jesus being crucified! We assembled an amazing 3D printed model of Herod's temple. There was a model of Israel labelling all the towns and rivers. All in all, we really liked it and would love to come back to Lattimore Gospel Hall with our parents and siblings on a Sunday afternoon.



You are invited...

... to a free exhibition at
7 Lattimore Road, St Albans AL1 3XL
Open to all on Sundays 2.30pm to 5.30pm
Details at www.jerusalem-experience.uk

Groups of up to 12 are welcome at other times
To make a booking call 01727 858869 or
email: bible.ventures@gmail.com
Presented by Bible Ventures, UK charity 1112501

COUNTY CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to three of our Table Tennis teams, who have won through to the District and County championships to represent Hertfordshire at the area finals in January. The U13 girls and U16 girls (pictured) won their events, with the U13 boys qualifying too as runners-up. Well done to all and a big thank you to Mr Jones for his support and coaching for our talented players. (See further sport reports inside)

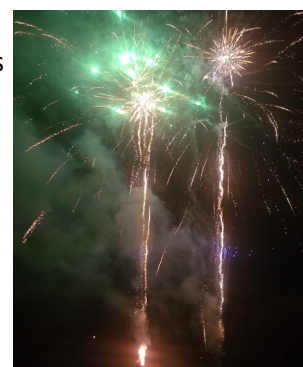


FANTASTIC FIREWORKS EVENING

What an amazing evening of fantastic fireworks and fabulous food. At nearly full capacity, the hall and the marquees were well used, keeping us warm and somewhere to enjoy our meals. Our pyrotechnics lit up the sky with their beautiful fireworks display, all set timely to music. The "oohs" and "ahhs" could be heard as the bangs and crackles died down.



This was preceded by a choice of yummy patties or deliciously warm and spicy chicken and jollof rice, combined with lots of laughter and chatting and meeting up with old and new friends. Thank you to the PTC for organising the event; thank you to the chefs for the freshly cooked food; thank you to the pyrotechnics for their enthusiasm in producing the beautiful display; thank you to everyone else who contributed to a fun and safe evening.

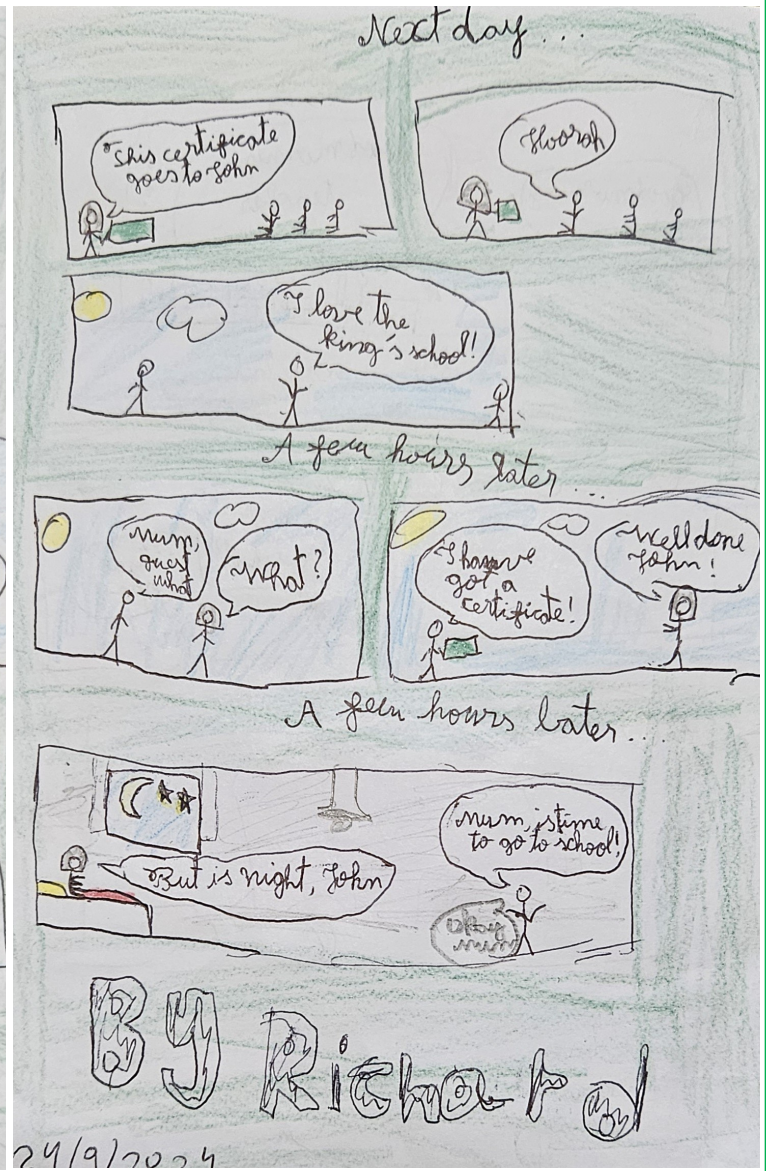
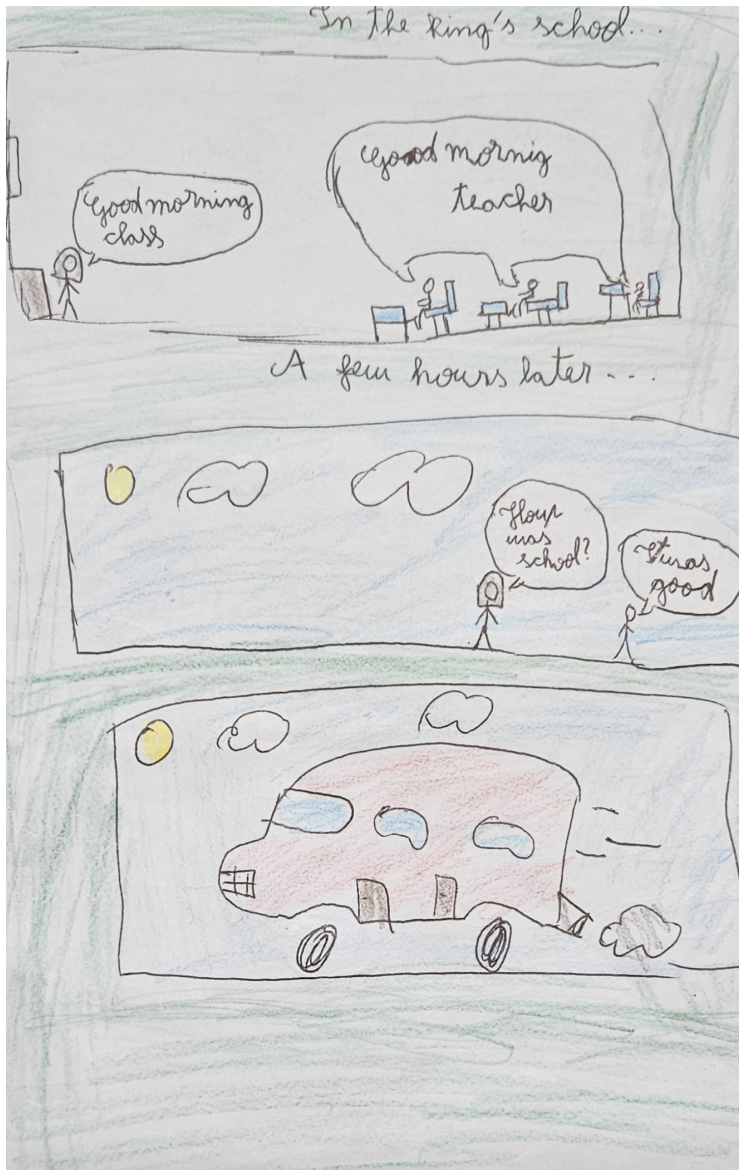


"IN THE KING'S SCHOOL" BY RICHARD HOSSI, YEAR 5



Richard Hossi joined The King's School last year from Angola. Although he had limited English when he started, he made an excellent effort to learn the language and is now very confident with his written and spoken English. Richard has a real talent for making comic books, so when he showed me this in September, I knew it had to make the Autumn Term Newsletter. I asked Richard what inspired him to write this particular comic and he said 'I love The King's School. When I first joined, I found this school amazing. If my Mum said I needed to change school, I would say no way!' Last year, Richard's class learned about the author Roald Dahl. They visited the Roald Dahl museum and Richard said this: 'What first inspired me to write comics was visiting Roald Dahl's shed. I decided to make comics and I have made over 50 now. I hope you enjoy my comic about The King's School.'

Colleen Edmonds



POPPY APPEAL

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who donated to this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. It was good to see the new style plastic free paper poppy as it is more environmentally friendly and fits in with The King's School's Bronze award as an Eco School. The money raised from the school for this year's appeal was £147.52. The District total to date is £26,000.



THANK YOU

The total raise so far from the clothes collected in the Astra Recycling Textile Bank is £201.50. This will go to the Kenyan Baobab School Mattress Project appeal. The school educates 90 children, most of whom do not have a bed to sleep on at home. Thank you to all who have contributed. Please continue to bring your bags of clothes, etc, and put them in the big green recycling bin so that we can raise more money for other worthy causes.

SOLVE THE ANAGRAMS

1. a f i o n n u t d
2. y o g e e t r m
3. l a k a l s e b t b
4. m s y b a s l e
5. h a r s i c t n
6. i i n n p t a g
7. i p s p u l
8. r i u m l c c r u
9. m o k h o e r w
10. u o n e i c a d t

Answers on back page!

YEAR 6 BECOME WWII EVACUEES

Year 6 took a jump back in time to be Evacuees in the Second World War. The day began by being greeted by the billeting officer, issued with name labels, and taken to our temporary home. We spent the morning listening to wireless broadcasts and building an Anderson Shelter. When the siren sounded we retreated to the basement until we were given the all clear. In the afternoon we sewed puppets to play with and shared our experiences as Evacuees in live interviews. The day closed with cake and celebration for VE day!



VISIT FROM EX PUPIL

It was lovely to see a past student Ashley Goodman come into school on Thursday 26th September. Ashley spoke to Years 10 and 11 and gave an amazing testimony of how God has worked in his life. Ashley was very honest about how he wished he had used his time at The King's School more productively. He discussed how, despite leaving King's with okay GCSE results but not enough to go onto to do A-levels, God had found a way for Ashley to now study law at university. Ashley gave our students advice about listening to their teachers and working hard to be the people who God wants them to be.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



We were pleased to be able to support those in need locally by giving our Harvest Festival collection to King's Pantry, the local foodbank in Harpenden. John Swain, who helps run the foodbank, came to collect the food. Thank you to all who gave donations.



CRAYFISH FOUND IN THE WRONG COUNTRY!

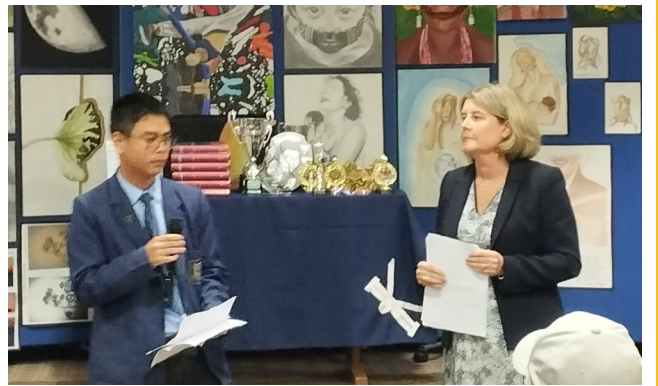
We had an unexpected visit from an American Signal Crayfish in DT! Mr Edwards had been clearing weed from a river and found the foreign crayfish, which he did not put back as they are an invasive species. They can grow from 16cm to 20cm and are located in freshwater. The females lay 200 to 400 eggs in the autumn and carry them until spring when they hatch. They are called Signal Crayfish because their claws are red and they wave them when threatened. They carry fungi which can wipe out our own native crayfish. This one caused quite some excitement. Daniella even held it correctly for thirty seconds! We then showed some of the staff who were very intrigued. If you find one in a pond take it out by the tail to waist as they do pinch, and do not let it breed!

By Yr 7 D&T Students



CELEBRATION OF THE KING'S SCHOOL

Our Secondary Awards evening was re-shaped this year to have a reduced number of awards and prizes, combined with reports and presentations on aspects of school life from the last



academic year. Musical performances, sports photos, trip reports and a German prayer all featured alongside the array of awards.

Congratulations to all winners, including Ethan Muchopa (Headteacher's award), Lara de Jong (Dennett Shield) and Lilly Hall (Michelle Hulford award), and thank you to all who took part.



WHAT'S IN THE NEWSLETTER?

1. How much did we raise for this year's Poppy Appeal?
2. Who wrote the book "The Dot"?
3. What kind of crayfish did Mr Edwards find?
4. Where did Mrs Judson and some Secondary pupils go on a YWAM Mission Adventures trip?
5. What do pyrotechnics do?
6. What project did we support this year through the Textile Recycling Bank?
7. What inspired Richard Hossi to write comics?
8. Who made friends with the Romans in Verulamium 2000 years ago?
9. When were Anderson Shelters build?
10. Who sends sapling trees to the school twice a year?

Answers on back page!



INTERNATIONAL DOT DAY!



ISA REGIONAL ART COMPETITION

The King's School is a member of the ISA, and work was entered by a number of students from across the school into the annual Regional Art Competition, two of the pieces of work shown above. One student came 2nd in the Regional competition, and another student got 2 firsts in the Regional and went on to the National ISA competition with both pieces. Congratulations girls.

Primary & Secondary pupils joined the worldwide International Dot Day, inspired by the book *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. The story encourages creativity and confidence, showing how a single dot can be the starting point for endless possibilities. Pupils let loose their imagination, being creative by drawing quick doodles starting from a simple dot.

YEAR 3'S WORKS OF ART

In Art this term Year 3 have been studying a variety of European artists and designers; both traditional and contemporary. As part of our theme of work we have been learning about the life and works of Claude Monet. Monet was a key figure in the Impressionist movement that transformed French painting in the second half of the nineteenth century. Year 3 have produced some wonderful paintings!



YEAR 2'S WORKS OF ART



Learning about Kings and Queens in Topic, the Year 2's enjoyed studying the life and times of Queen Elizabeth II. We had fun looking at her photos and drawing lovely portraits of the Queen.



This term, in Design /Technology, the Year 2 pupils worked very hard to design and create their own hand puppets. It was a great experience making the puppets as we spent time to draw, sew, cut, and glue the pieces together. They look beautiful. Thank you Mrs Morris for teaching us how to sew!

ONE VISION FAITH & HEALTH NETWORKING CONFERENCE

A group of our Year 11 students recently attended the One Vision Faith and Health Networking Conference in Watford. This event brought together representatives from various health services and faith communities to discuss the accessibility of healthcare and the role of faith in supporting community wellbeing. Our students had the unique opportunity to hear from prominent local figures, health professionals, and religious leaders. The experience encouraged them to consider how they can contribute to shaping the future of community health, creating a deeper understanding of collaboration between faith and healthcare in creating positive change.



MY IDENTITY IN CHRIST

In September, we began the term with a memory verse focus on **Finding Your Identity in Christ**, reflecting on powerful scriptures such as 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:10, and Romans 8:35. This half-term, we've developed this theme further with **Building My Identity in Christ**, exploring verses like James 1:5, John 14:6, and John 14:27. Each theme was introduced with a whole-school assembly, encouraging students to reflect on what it means to find and grow their identity in Christ in their daily lives. The last memory verse of 2024 - Romans 15:13.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

This term we have continued inviting Christian teachers and school workers from other Harpenden schools to our Staff Devotions (which are held each half term). This is a great encouragement to our guests, giving them the freedom to worship together with other Christians and share and pray for their schools in a school environment.

Along with these events, the staff regularly meet to pray specifically for all the pupils, weekly with as many who are free to meet, and often in small groups. There is also a small group of parents who meet each Wednesday morning in the Media Centre to pray for the school events, pupils, staff and parents of The King's School. There is room for more parents to join them, either in person or on Zoom, at 9am on a Wednesday morning, so please let Mrs Ball know if you would like to attend and she will put you in touch with the organisers. Our God is a big, big God. Let's continue to lift HIS school to Him in prayer.

POSITIVE NOTICING DAY

As part of our half-termly theme of **Kindness**, Primary School students celebrated **National Positive Noticing Day** with an activity. Each student encouraged someone else by writing a message or a note of recognition for them on a post-it note.

Teachers joined in too, adding their own kind words. The activity created a wonderful atmosphere of appreciation and encouragement, highlighting the importance of kindness in building one another up.

The King's School Way



Kindness

Helping and respecting others, whoever they are

Integrity

Doing the right thing, even when it's hard

Commitment

Giving our best in every situation

Togetherness

Playing our part in the school family

Growth

Becoming the best we can be

Thankfulness

Being grateful for all that we are given

Faith

Honouring Jesus Christ in all we do; the foundation of **The King's School Way**

DRAMA CLUB

Wednesdays 3.30-5.00pm
Years 7-11 welcome

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE THEATRE

BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE AND ACTING SKILLS

LOTS OF GAMES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO BE CREATIVE

TASTER SESSION ON WED 8TH JAN
REGULAR SESSIONS BEGINNING WED 22ND JAN



NEW DRAMA CLUB

Miss Cracknell has offered to run a Drama Club after school on Wednesdays from 3:30pm-5pm. Secondary students are invited to attend a free taster session on Wednesday 8th January. A sign-up sheet is in the Senior Block for all those in Years 7-11 who are interested.

PRIMARY NATIVITY CELEBRATION



'Hey Ewe!' was the title for this year's nativity play, with some catchy songs and a perspective on the story seen through the eyes of a curious sheep, who wondered what was going on around her. It ended up being performed three days in a row, initially to the whole school in assembly on Monday morning and then to family members the following afternoon. Finally, we performed it to the guests at the senior citizens' party on Wednesday 11th December and it was a highlight for many of our visitors. The pupils from Foundation Class and Years 1 & 2 did so well, narrating and acting with clear, expressive voices and singing with great



enthusiasm. However, the highlight had to be the dancing whether it was the cute sheep spinning around in their little groups, the angels swaying to the beat, or many other characters strutting their stuff at various points. It was great fun and had a clear message of the significance of baby Jesus coming into the world. Thank you to all involved, and especially to Miss Cracknell, Ms Miller, Mrs Jones and Mrs Salami who worked so well as a team to ensure the cast were well prepared.



SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Year 10 class once again hosted a Christmas party for local senior citizens, a tradition begun over 15 years ago! Our 27 guests included some former staff members, with Mrs Freeman, Mrs Kinahan, Mrs Hopkinson, Mr & Mrs Skipper, Mrs Matthews and Mr Dant all in attendance. Warm thanks have been received from guests, including comments on the confidence of the children in the wonderful Nativity, and how many smiles there are at our school! We sang Happy Birthday to a lady celebrating her 82nd birthday. This same lady had regained her health at the age of 8 when she convalesced here at Elmfield when the site was a hospital for children with TB. She also enjoyed a guided tour to revisit her old bedroom. Year 10 students helped to wrap gifts, decorate the tables, prepare and serve a festive lunch, and ensure everyone felt very welcome. Guests were offered a mini scroll with a Bible verse, and we pray that the message of Christmas will stay with them in the year ahead. Huge thanks to everyone who helped to make the event such a success.

THE KING'S SCHOOL

CAROL SINGING

We were blessed to have two opportunities to go into the local community and sing carols this Christmas. On Thursday 12th December a group of 15 pupils from Years 4-6, accompanied by Mrs Weldon, Mr Reeves and Mrs Edmonds, ventured along Ambrose Lane to Spire Hospital. Our visit has become an annual tradition and is a favourite amongst the pupils, as they are often generously rewarded for their singing efforts! We toured around eight different areas of the hospital, singing a song in each, and sometimes joined by the staff in that department. We sung Away in a Manger, Joy to the World, Silent Night, Hark the Herald Angels Sing and A Starry Night. After finishing in Outpatients we



were welcomed into the staff canteen and blessed with hot chocolate/squash, brownies and mince pies! There were even crackers on the table to pull, with the usual hats and terrible jokes inside. As if that wasn't enough, Santa then turned up (at least a man in a Santa outfit did!) and bestowed a gift upon each pupil. What an amazing time!



We were also invited to sing at the Airport Dart Terminal at Luton Parkway Train Station. Despite the cold, we sang with gusto through a similar repertoire of carols, and we were joined by some of the Secondary choir too. Lots of people coming to and from the airport enjoyed and appreciated our singing.

SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE AT HIGH STREET METHODIST CHURCH

The architectural splendour of High Street Methodist Church was the setting for our Secondary Carol Service on the evening of Thursday 12th December. Half the Secondary pupils took part in class items, small groups and choir, along with various readings about the birth of Jesus. There were even a couple of items prepared by the staff!



Thank you to all involved in what was a beautiful worship service. Also a big thanks to members of the PTC who arranged for some tasty refreshments afterwards, giving us all the opportunity to chat about how wonderful the singing and playing had been!



ST NICHOLAS VISITS YEAR 7

In Germany, St. Nicholas is known as "Nikolaus," and his story is deeply embedded in German culture. So, on the day just before St. Nicholas Day, Year 7 students were delighted when he made a surprise appearance in the middle of their German lesson! Dressed in his red gown, mitre, and staff, he looked as though he had stepped straight out of the 4th century. True to tradition, Nikolaus brought a sack full of treats in the form of tangerines, which the pupils happily enjoyed during the lesson. To thank him for his visit, we all joined in singing a special song, much loved by German children for Nikolaus Day: "*Lustig, lustig, trallalala!*"



VISIT TO THE POLICE!



The Year 2's visit to the Harpenden Police station was enlightening as we learnt that the police play various roles in the community while keeping people safe from harm. We had the pleasure of dressing up as police officers including having a go in the back of the police van.

BUSINESS IN THORPE PARK!

Going to Thorpe Park is always exciting and fun, and our recent trip was no different. We enjoyed thrilling rides, fun attractions, and great time with friends and our teachers. The visit also helped us



learn about the different business ideas we study in class. We saw examples of things like management, marketing, customer service, and safety. This trip not only boosted our classroom knowledge but also gave us valuable real-world insights for our studies.

Written by Davine, GCSE Business Student

COOKING AND NUTRITION

All the pupils at the school, from Year 0 through to Year 9, have the opportunity to learn some cooking skills in our kitchen classroom. We are blessed to have two excellent Cookery teachers to inspire the children to learn basic practical skills as well as nutritional value of food types, and enjoy cooking healthy recipes to take home. Some of the final creations are so delicious that they may not make it home!

Mrs Farahat teaches Years 7 to 9, as well as Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE level.

Mrs Langsdale teaches all the Primary classes periodically throughout the year. You can see the concentration in the faces of Year 2 children as they watch Mrs Langsdale demonstrate the recipe



VISIT FROM THE POLICE!

The Primary School welcomed PCSO Alex to our assembly. He told us all about the role of the police and how they do far more than just catch bad guys! We were able to ask him lots of questions about his job and what he does to keep the people of Harpenden safe. He then let us look around his van and even get into the cell at the back! He told us that was the only time he wanted to see any of us in the back of a police van! As an added surprise, he set off the lights and sirens which caused quite a stir around the school! Thank you to PCSO Alex and his team for all they do to keep us safe.



EXPANDING CAREERS PROVISION FOR YEARS 10 & 11

This term, we have significantly enhanced our careers provision, with a particular focus on Years 10 & 11. Our aim is to ensure students are well prepared for the decisions and opportunities that lie ahead. Year 11 students have been concentrating on study techniques, employability skills, and exploring career pathways during form time and LifeWISE lessons. These sessions have been designed to equip students with practical skills and the confidence to navigate the next stages of their education and careers. In November, we hosted our annual Careers Evening for Year 11 students and their parents, exploring immediate post-16 options and longer-term career planning. The event provided practical advice on navigating transitions, as well as tips on exam revision techniques tailored for both students and parents. Feedback from parents highlighted how useful this evening was. To complement this, a group of Year 11 students visited the 'What Next?' Careers Fair in London, and Ivana Ohuegbe wrote about the day: *"On Saturday 16th November, a few Year 11 pupils alongside a couple of teachers attended a Careers Fair in London. It was an enlightening experience with a myriad of organisations present including the NHS, The Royal Navy, The British Army and the top Universities in the country. The convention also held various one-one meetings for students to converse with professionals about their future careers and how to obtain them. This event encompassed a plethora of industries that attendees could venture into such as the medical field, marketing industry, the arts, etc. This Careers Fair was a prime opportunity for students to independently pursue insights into the future world of work for a few hours."*



MISSION TRIP TO ALBANIA

In October 2024, four Secondary students and Mrs Judson joined a YWAM Mission Adventure, along with two leaders from YWAM Harpenden. After six 'Mission Equip' training sessions at school and then a weekend at YWAM Harpenden, we set off for Elbasan in Albania. We were serving a small YWAM team there, which has started a small church among a Roma community.

The YWAM team in Elbasan, Albania, runs a children's club every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We ran this for the week and we also took part in a boys' youth group (boys) and a house visit (girls). The girls and ladies at the house were very keen to have their nails painted and their hair styled!



Elbasan, praying as we walked for people we passed. Among other things, we prayed that God would cause his word to grow in people's hearts, representing the seed falling on good soil.

We felt privileged to support workers in Albania who are bringing God's word to their local community.

We felt the Lord leading us to the theme for the children's club of planting the seed of God's word. We felt very encouraged that God seemed to tell us four times to pick the theme of planting God's word onto good soil.

During the three afternoons of children's club, we taught the children an action song, presented a Bible drama, led running-around games and settled down with a craft activity. We also did face painting and balloon sculpting, and Spiderman even made an appearance!

During the mornings, we were able to serve the Roma church in Elbasan by freshening up paintwork inside and outside the church building, including adding our own artwork. One morning we did a prayer hike into the hills above Elbasan so that we could pray over the town. Later in the week, we did a prayer walk through

YEAR 4 STEP BACK IN TIME

Year 4 had an exciting trip to the Verulamium Museum on the 19th November. We have loved learning about the Roman invasion of Britain in the classroom, and we were delighted to have the opportunity to handle artefacts from the period and learn more about the Catuvellauni who made friends with the Romans in Verulamium! We had a quick trot across the park to have a look at the beautifully preserved mosaic and hypocaust which we were amazed to see has lasted nearly 2000 years. Year 4 had such fun and are now well on their way to becoming experts on the Romans!



A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO MRS HYLTON!

After 17 years of serving our school community, Mrs Karen Hylton, our much-loved key cog in our Admin Team, moves on to exciting new things at the end of this term. In her time with us, Mrs Hylton has seen her children come through the school and move through further study and into the world of work. She has survived(!) working with two different Headteachers, no doubt aided by the continuity provided by Mrs Taylor as Bursar throughout that time. Mrs Hylton has been heavily involved in many school events, closely



working with the PTC, including school anniversary celebrations and Queen's jubilees! Her creativity is in evidence across the school, not least in these newsletters!

Thank you Karen, you have helped make this job a joy. You have prayed faithfully, laughed and cried in equal measure and given your all to ensure our school families and staff have a wonderful, supportive community to be a part of. We will be forever grateful for the love and care you have shown to us all.

Andy Reeves

ISA NATIONAL GIRLS' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

LVS Ascot was the venue for the annual girls' 6-a-side competition on 1st October. After making our debut last season, in both under 13 & under 15 age groups, we didn't get a space this time and had to go on a waiting list! A space opened up in the under 15 comp, although 50% of our team on the day should have been in the under 13s! Despite this age disadvantage, and lacking much game experience, our girls adapted really well to the difficult, wet conditions and defended resolutely throughout their three group stage matches, only losing late in each game. The knock-out match proved a step too far as a change of formation didn't work out too well (blame the coach!) but the girls stuck together really well as a team and did us proud!



DISTRICT & COUNTY TABLE TENNIS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

When October comes around each year we know that it is time for our team Table Tennis journeys to begin on consecutive Wednesdays, as we compete in the District champs. We are part of Harpenden district, which is combined with St Albans for most competitions. We have a rich history at what is considered 'stage 2' of the 6 levels of the Butterfly National Team championships. 'Stage 1' is school level, and is highly competitive to even get into our school teams in the first place! Once selected, our teams head off to the District champs, knowing that the winners and runners-up make it through to the County finals. This year our under 11 & under 16 boys finished 5th and the under 11 girls came 4th—a great effort by all. Our other three teams remained unchanged from last season, when they all went deep into the latter stages of the national competition. Could they make it through again? Well, with the district champs won, they moved on to Ridgeway Academy for the County finals on November 29th 2024...



In the morning both our under 13 girls' and boys' teams competed against other Hertfordshire district winners. Our girls' team of Elina, Erin, Holly and Hannah (*pictured left*) were in sparkling form. They remained undefeated in every game they played against five other Hertfordshire schools. They made speedy progress, and by noon they had won their competition and received their School Games County table tennis champions medals. Their coach and PE teacher Mr Jones commented "I was very impressed with their improvement in consistency, placement, attacking play and developing their serve with disguise and quality." This was something that all of the girls had been working on improving during their Thursday afterschool table tennis training sessions.

While our girls had finished, our boys' team were still involved in their competition. The team of Matthew, Nathanael, Ryan and Kellan and (*pictured below right*) were involved in a very hard-fought competition amongst nine Hertfordshire boys' teams. Each King's player displayed

much effort, skill and sportsmanship throughout. At the end of their group stage, our boys finished with two wins and one loss. The loss being against a very experienced and well drilled Haberdashers' boys' team.

This earned them a semi-final match against Group A winners, Hitchin Boys, and the team were able to hold their nerve to win by five games to three! With the knowledge (and relief) that they had qualified for the England Eastern Area finals in January, they could have a rematch against their earlier group conquerors in the final. The final score was 6:2 to Haberdashers but could so easily have been 4:4 after some brilliant matches.

Then in the afternoon we had our under 16 girls' team attending their event. They, like our younger under 13 girls' team, were too strong for all of their opponents. Congratulations to Megan, Abigail and Gabriella who won every game against their many opponents and therefore were also able to be crowned county champions. Our teams will now be representing Hertfordshire Schools in the next stage of the competition and competing against the county schools' champions from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Leicestershire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, and Suffolk. Mr Jones said, "Having the same team available will give us every opportunity to progress further and to play at even higher levels and in longer matches. It is a great way for every Kings' table tennis player to improve by putting their developing talent to use. Congratulations once again to all the players on their great achievement!"



THE KING'S SCHOOL

ISA REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

On 9th October we took a team of 11 pupils (pictured) to Abbots Hill School for the ISA cross country champs, which serve as a qualifier for the national champs in March. It was muddy underfoot and not especially warm, but our Primary students battled hard and all finished, Noah being the best placed in 51st. Later in the morning the Secondary races began, and we had two athletes in the competitive Year 8 races. Elina and Kellan (both pictured) each finished 4th to repeat their feat of last year by qualifying for the ISA Nationals. Well done to all!



ISA REGIONAL SWIMMING

On 12th October Barnet Copthall pool hosted the ISA Regional gala, which served as a qualifier for the ISA National swim champs at the Olympic Pool in London. With that goal in their sights, 6 of our pupils took part in what, for some, was their first gala of this kind. With former King's pupils, Amber & Nathan Hughes, helping as referee & starter (thank you both!), Mrs Hughes pacing the side of the pool to help check correct strokes and Mr Reeves helping to organise the event, there was plenty of King's involvement on a day which saw over 200 swimmers take part. Congratulations to Daniel (Y4) who took bronze in the 50m Backstroke and well done to all who got involved and represented the school so well.



AUTUMN TERM SPORTS RESULTS

Date	Day	Years	Activity	Venue	Opponents	Result
17-Sep	TUESDAY	5-6	Netball	Away	St Hilda's	Won 1, drew 1, lost 2
20-Sep	FRIDAY	10-11	Football	Away	Sherrardswood	Lost 1-2 (Leo)
20-Sep	FRIDAY	10-11	Netball	Home	Sherrardswood	Lost 5-6
25-Sep	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Football	Away	Mount House	Won 9-3 (Matt 4, Gabe 2, Kellan, Coleb, Alfie)
25-Sep	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Netball	Away	Mount House	Won 19-1 (Elina lots!)
01-Oct	TUESDAY	9-10	Girls' Football (6-a-side)	LVS Ascot	ISA National	Lost 0-1, 0-3, 0-2, 0-6
02-Oct	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Football	Home	Mount House	4 x small games - won 16-14
02-Oct	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Netball	Home	Mount House	Won 4-1
02-Oct	WEDNESDAY	9-11	Table Tennis (mixed)	Marlborough	District schools	fifth out of 7 teams
07-Oct	MONDAY	3-4	Netball	Away	St Hilda's	lots of short games
09-Oct	WEDNESDAY	4-11	Cross Country running	Abbot's Hill	ISA London North	Elina 4th, Kellan 4th, Noah 51st (best Primary)
09-Oct	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Table Tennis (mixed)	Verulam	District schools	Both teams 1st place
11-Oct	FRIDAY	10-11	Football	Home	NBH Hampstead	lost 3-8 (Leo 3)
11-Oct	FRIDAY	10-11	Netball	Home	NBH Hampstead	lost 7-16
12-Oct	SATURDAY	4-11	Swimming	Barnet	ISA London North	Daniel (y4) - 3rd place in backstroke
16-Oct	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Football	Home	NBH Hampstead	Lost 4-7 (Matt 2, Kellan, Gabe)
16-Oct	WEDNESDAY	7-8	Netball	Home	NBH Hampstead	Won 10-2
16-Oct	WEDNESDAY	5-6	Table Tennis (mixed)	Verulum	District schools	Girls 4th of 7, Boys 5th of 7
18-Oct	FRIDAY	10-11	Football	Home	King Alfred's	Lost 4-5 (Leo 2, Lucas 2)
Half Term						
08-Nov	FRIDAY	10-11	Football	Home	NBH Canonbury	Won 7-5 (Leo 5, Lucas 2)
08-Nov	FRIDAY	10-11	Netball	Home	NBH Canonbury	Won 8-4
28-Nov	THURSDAY	8-10	Football	Home	King Alfred's	Drew 4-4 (Matt 2, Gabe, Kellan)
29-Nov	FRIDAY	7-8	Table Tennis (mixed)	Ridgeway Academy	Herts Schools	U13 Girls Champs U13 boys R.Up
29-Nov	FRIDAY	9-11	Table Tennis (mixed)	Ridgeway Academy	Herts Schools	U16 girls Champs



PLANTING TREES

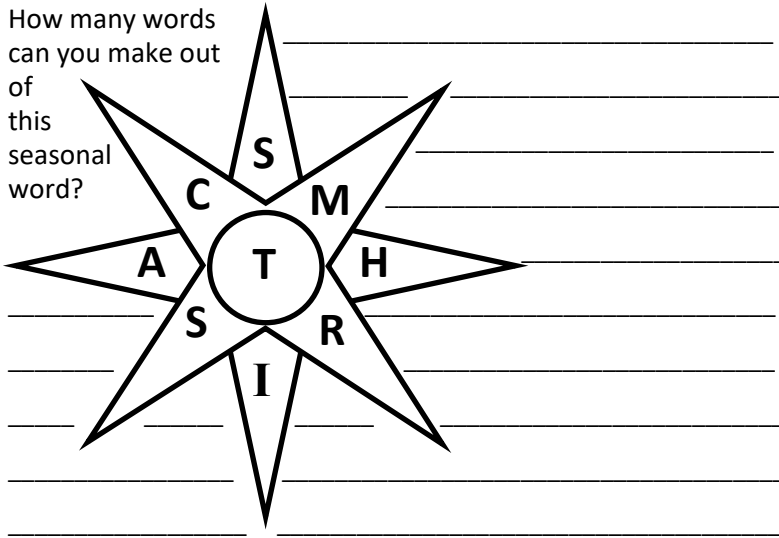
Recently, the school received another free pack of 30 native hedge saplings delivered from The Woodland Trust which Mr Chandler has planted to restore the hedgerows around the school

grounds. He plants up to 40 native trees and shrubs twice every year around the grounds in spring and autumn to improve the site and enhance the natural environment. Sometimes the pupils have the opportunity to help and learn how to plant saplings to ensure growth to maturity. The sapling species planted include:

- Dog Rose Dogwood Hawthorn
- Hazel Holly

All will be beneficial to wildlife in terms of food and habitat, and they will look nice too as they mature.

How many words can you make out of this seasonal word?



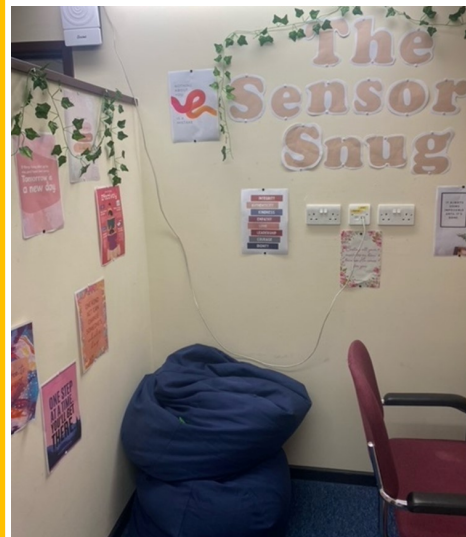
YEAR 3 GEOLOGISTS

Year 3 have been studying rocks in Science this term. We have been investigating igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. The children have used tools such as a rock hammer, magnifying glass and rock samples to help them to classify rocks and add scientific notes to their own 'rock journals'!



STUDENT VOICE & THE SENSORY SNUG

Our student voice groups have been meeting regularly this term. They are made up of representatives from each year group. The groups are: Learning, The Environment, Impact, Wellbeing, and Inclusion & Diversity. One of the Wellbeing's initiatives this term is



'The Sensory Snug', a space outside of Mrs Hart's office. This space is available for anyone who needs some timeout and somewhere to have a breather for a few moments. This area was kindly decorated by Lilly and Davine.

KEY DATES FOR SPRING TERM

Tues	07 Jan	First day of the Spring term
Mon	13 Jan	Year 7 Parent/Teacher consultations
Mon	27 Jan	Year 11 Parent/Teacher consultations
Wed	29 Jan	PTC Meeting
Tues	4 Feb	Prim & Sec Instrumental Concert
Mon-Fri	10-14 Feb	Yrs 5&6 Res. trip to The Frontier Centre
Tues	11 Feb	Year 10 Parent/Teacher consultations
Thurs	13 Feb	Secondary Life Skills Day
Mon	17 Feb	Start of the half-term week
Tues	04 Mar	Open Day am (<i>normal school hours for pupils</i>)
Wed-Mon	5-10 Mar	Yr 10 French Exchange to Switzerland
Thurs	06 Mar	Primary World Book Day
Mon-Wed	10-12 Mar	Years 0-6 Parent Consultations
Fri-Wed	14-19 Mar	French Exchange Swiss students here
Mon-Fri	17-21 Mar	Primary International Week
Fri	21 Mar	Secondary Culture Day
Fri	21 Mar	International Food & Quiz Evening
Mon-Fri	24-28 Mar	Year 9 Exam week
Fri	28 Mar	Primary Swimming Gala
Mon-Thurs	31/3-3/4	Secondary Arts Festival
Fri	04 Mar	End of Spring Term (12:15/12:30pm)
Wed	23-Apr	First day of Summer Term

ANSWERS TO QUIZZES:

1. foundation
 2. geometry
 3. American Signal Crayfish
 4. Elbasan, Albania
 5. Create firework displays
 6. The Baobab School Mattress Project
 7. Visiting Roald Dahl's shed
 8. The Catvellauni
 9. During the 2nd World War
 10. The Woodland Trust
- ANAGRAMS
1. £201.50
 2. Peter H. Reynolds
 3. American Signal Crayfish
 4. Elbasan, Albania
 5. Create firework displays
 6. The Baobab School Mattress Project
 7. Visiting Roald Dahl's shed
 8. The Catvellauni
 9. During the 2nd World War
 10. The Woodland Trust

Happy Christmas
from everyone at The King's School

