

# THE KING'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER!



Issue 25 - March 2024



This term has flown by and, with so much going on, I'm sure we will have missed some important things to report on! There have been trips out, a visit from the Mayor, ISI inspection, national Table Tennis semi-finals, new computers, Elina, Jasmine and Nathanael all winning national competitions, not to mention the amazing musical theatre show 'The Golden Days'. We are so proud of the character our pupils show and the effort they put in, giving their all in whatever they commit to. As we approach Easter time, and our thoughts inevitably focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are reminded of the significance of His life here on earth and that He came that *'...they may have life and have it to the full'*. I pray every blessing on us all as we discover what that truly means for each of us this Easter.

*Andy Reeves, Headteacher*

## ISA Young Musician Competition 2024

Huge congratulations to **Nathanael McEachran** (Y7) who not only made it through to the ISA Young Musician Final in Oxford on 31<sup>st</sup> January but went on to win this prestigious national competition with his



expert Saxophone playing. Well done for all your hard work, Nathanael. Keep playing!



## Table Tennis England Team Semi-Finals

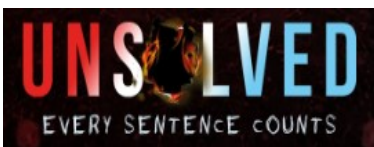
There are 6 stages to the Butterfly Championships and two of our teams made it to stage 5 - the national semi-finals - amazing! First it was the turn of our U13 team (*pictured*) who travelled to Grantham on 9<sup>th</sup>



March. They played brilliantly and were within a point of making it to the national finals after close matches between all four schools! Well done Holly, Elina and Erinayo. The following week our U16 team of Gabby, Megan and Abigail travelled to Bristol, also competing really well in a high level tournament. Thank you to Mr Jones for coaching the teams.



Well done to all our pupils whose stories were published after entering the Young Writer's competition. Jasmine (Y10) was one of four national winners - congratulations!



## The Breach

By **Jasmine Kanagaraj** from The King's School, Hertfordshire  
Published in 'Unsolved - The Hunt Is On'

## COMPUTER UPGRADE

We have upgraded the desktop computers in our main ICT suite and are actively improving other technology such as the recent complete switch-over to the new phone system. The focus is on providing a better user experience and improved reliability. Thank you to Mr Grayson for his dedication and hard work in these upgrade projects. We are very grateful for the generous financial donation that helped finance this project and continue to value the support of our wonderful parents.





## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

In D&T students are taught design theory and are given hands-on practical experience, which are aimed at giving them useful life skills. The following projects are two such examples.



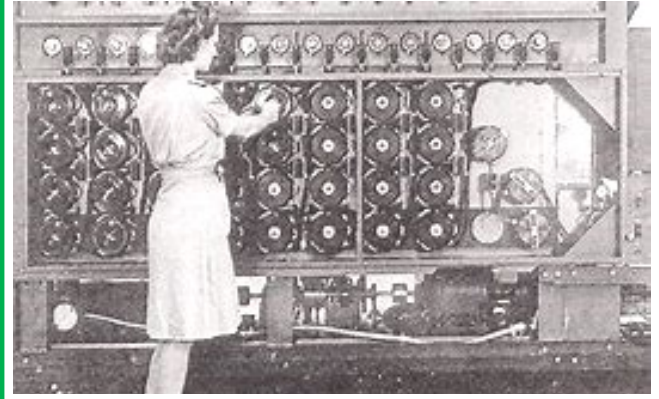
**Year 7** - Jeremy, Olivia, Tofunmi, Erinayo and Joseph proudly show off the nestboxes they built. They learned how to draw plans, measure and cut timber and then build the nestboxes.



**Year 8** - Matei, Zackarie, Fiyn and Camillo stand on the first part of the bridge they and their fellow students have been building in The Dell since the summer. Year 8 students have done around 90 per cent of the build, which includes budgeting, designing, accurate measuring, drilling, cutting, fixing, concreting and the use of various tools to ensure that the bridge is built correctly.

**Year 8** - Matei, Zackarie, Fiyn and Camillo stand on the first part of the bridge they and their fellow students have been building in The Dell since the summer. Year 8 students have done around 90 per cent of the build, which includes budgeting, designing, accurate

## YEAR 6 VISIT BLETCHLEY PARK



In February Year 6 had a lovely sunny day to explore the grounds and history of Bletchley Park. The class had a fascinating workshop that taught them all about the achievements of Britain's WW2 Code Breakers. They had a challenging time learning how to crack various codes as spies. Daniela said, "The Morse code was the trickiest because you had to listen really carefully," David and Judah enjoyed the time limit spies had to crack 6 codes in 10 minutes! The class all had the chance to press a button on one of the original coding machines that are now valued at over a million pounds! The workshop was followed by a tour of the Mansion and the Museum, which was bursting with artefacts, interactive displays, and faithfully recreated WW2 rooms to guide them on a tour of the past. The children were able to step back in time to understand the extraordinary achievements of the men and women that worked there. A great day was had by all!

## LUTON TOWN FC ACADEMY



Many of you will remember Kuda Takawira who finished Year 11 last academic year after spending his whole schooling at The King's School and even went to Highfield Preschool before that. Kuda is a passionate football player and chose to pursue a career in Football as a football scholar with Luton Town FC. Kuda was featured in the Luton Town vs Aston Villa Match Programme on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024. We know him as 'Kuda', but in the Academy he is known as 'Matthew'. Here is the article:

"Matthew was born in Luton and has been in the academy set-up since he was an under-12 so he really comes into the category of 'one of our own'. His best attributes are what all good strikers need: pace, power and finishing and we are encouraging him to make the most of these in game situations. Matthew also is a very committed and hard-working player and we are looking forward to seeing how his development continues for the rest of his scholarship."



### GETTING TO KNOW MATTHEW TAKAWIRA:

**Place of birth:** Luton

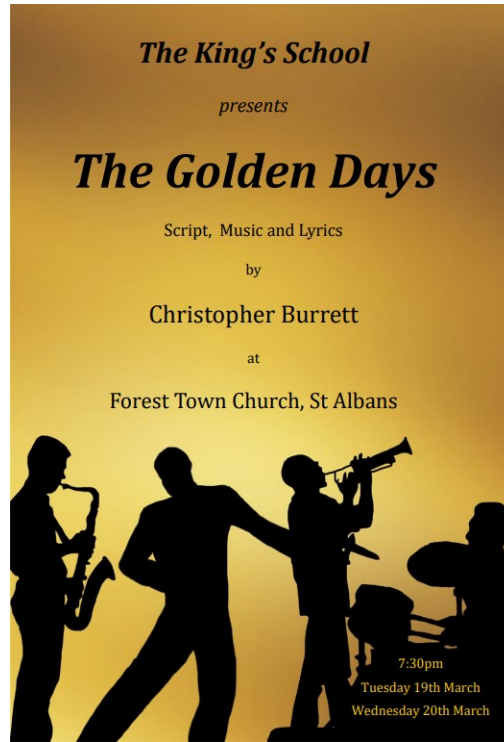
**Year joined the academy:** As an under-12

**Position:** Striker

**What boots do you wear?** Puma Kings

\*My aims are to start week in, week out, score lots of goals and represent Zimbabwe at youth level. \*The proudest moment of my career so far is signing for my boyhood club as an under-12. \*In the playground, I was Wayne Rooney because I was very aggressive on the pitch, and strong and fast. \*At school my favourite subject was religious studies because I am religious myself and I enjoy learning about the topic. \*A career outside of football would see me become a football coach because I love helping people, so I'd help them improve themselves to get better. \*The one teammate who I'd say is the most talented is Claude Kayibanda. He is a leader at the back and is very strong in the tackle. He always performs well week in, week out. \*Of the first team squad, the player I look up to most is Carlton Morris because he has very similar traits to myself: strong, fast and an eye for goal. \*The best thing about Luton Town is being around ex-professionals and coaches and learning off them and developing under them every day, ensuring myself and teammates improve and become better players. \*If I was to describe myself, I would say I am a very strong and fast player who likes to make things happen on the pitch - and score lots of goals.





What an amazing performance! Having putting on many shows over the years, we are always stunned by the quality of show that our small school manages to produce. 'The Golden Days' was



no different! Our pupils worked incredibly hard to master the jazzy songs and to get into character as they rehearsed over the last six months. We hope they feel it was worth the effort. Our thanks go to the pupils for all they put in and to the staff for their unwavering commitment and patience over the long preparation time. Special thanks to Miss Cracknell for producing it all and to the talented Mr Burrett who wrote & composed the whole show!





# SPORT AT THE KING'S SCHOOL

## ISA NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

On the 26<sup>th</sup> January our school went to Nottingham to play Table Tennis against some tough players, but everyone did really well. In the Boys U11 competition there were 3 different competitions which were the Cup, Plate and Bowl. Judah and Nathan were both in the Bowl competition, and Judah came 2<sup>nd</sup> and Nathan came 4<sup>th</sup>. In the Girls U11 competition, since there were less girls than expected they did only one competition, and Alana came 3<sup>rd</sup> and Zoe came 5<sup>th</sup>. There was also a doubles competition, but no one really knows which place they came in! They all had a good day and enjoyed the tournament. Judah said, "I think it was great. It went really well. Elina won the U13 Cup competition and Hannah won the U13 Plate competition. It was very hard to play against."

By Zion & Nathan

Massive congratulations to Elina, who became ISA National U13 Girls Table Tennis Champion when she won the 'Cup' competition, which is for the highest ranked players. Well done to all who took part that day!



## ISA U11 TAG RUGBY TOURNAMENT

On the 29<sup>th</sup> February a Tag Rugby Tournament was held at Woodford Wells Cricket Club. Although JJ (Zion's nickname) was late, he still experienced loads of games. They did really well, even when things got a bit hard, and even through the rain and mud. Nathan in Year 6 commented, "We did quite good even though we made a few mistakes. I really enjoyed the fun experience."

By Year 6 Boy

## DRAMA ON THE M1

As we drove to our U12 Football match on 13<sup>th</sup> March we found ourselves parked up at the front of a queue on the M1 whilst 4 fire engines sped to the scene to put out a lorry fire. No one was hurt and we made it to our match 45 minutes late and won the game 5-1!



## ISA REGIONAL TABLE TENNIS

Once again we hosted the ISA Regional Table Tennis in January and had medallists in five of the 6 categories! Pictured are Ryan (*winner U13 boys*) and Megan (2<sup>nd</sup>) & Abigail (3<sup>rd</sup>) in U16 girls. Alana was runner-up in U11 girls and Jonny won the U16 boys in his final year. The U13 girls got a clean sweep, with Elina (1<sup>st</sup>) and Eliza (2<sup>nd</sup>) (*pictured*) and Erinayo (3<sup>rd</sup>). A great effort by all in a high standard tournament!



## INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS



Winners this term:

- Boys' TT Singles** — Ryan (Y7)
- Girls' TT Singles** — Megan (Y9)
- TT Mixed Doubles** — Megan (Y9) & Matthew (Y7)
- Chess**— Fiyin (Y8)

## ISA NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

Elina & Kellan (both Y7) qualified to represent our region at the ISA National Cross Country champs on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Their warm up for this race was our own annual inter-house cross country at The Oval on 14<sup>th</sup> February. This is for pupils in Years 5-8 and this year all 48 runners finished! Elina & Kellan were the girl and boy winners. Bunyan won the boys and Secondary, but Campbell were top for girls and Primary, and took the overall title by a single point. So close!



## RESULTS IN THE SPRING TERM...

Years	Activity	Opponents	Result
7-8	Table Tennis (mixed)	ISA London North	Ryan win, Elina win
9-11	Table Tennis (mixed)	ISA London North	Jonny win, Megan 2nd
5-6	Table Tennis (mixed)	ISA London North	Alana 2nd, Arit won plate
7-11	Boys' Football (6-a-side)	ISA National	U16 2nd in gp, U13 4th in gp.
5-10	Table Tennis (mixed)	ISA National	Elina win, Abigail 2nd, Megan 3rd
7	Boys' Football (9-a-side)	Northbridge Canonbury	Won 8-2 (Matt 3, Gabe 3, Kellan, Jez)
5-8	Girls' Netball Tournament	ISA London North	Primary 2 D, 2 L Sec 3 L
10/11	Boys' Basketball	North Bridge House	Lost 25-40 (Daniel 16)
9-11	Girls Table Tennis	TT England East Area	2nd place (won 7-0, lost 1-6)
7-8	Boys Table Tennis	TT England East Area	(team of 3 due to illness)
7-8	Girls Table Tennis	TT England East Area	1st place (won 7-0, won 4-3)
7	Boys' Basketball	North Bridge House	Lost 7-12 (Jez 2, Nath 2, Matt 2, Kell 1)
7	Boys' Basketball	King Alfred	Lost 14-18 (Matt 8, Kellan 4, Nath 2)
5-6	Tag Rugby (mixed)	ISA London North	Lost all games
10-11	Girls' Netball	Immanuel, Romford	Won 10-1
10-11	Boys' Basketball	Immanuel, Romford	Won 35-15
7	Cross Country Nationals	ISA Nationals	Kellan 22nd, Elina 41st
7	Girls TT National Semifinals	TT England Semi-finals	Won 4-3, lost 3-4, lost 3-4 = 3rd
9	Girls TT National Semifinals	TT England Semi-finals	4th place
7	Boys' Football (9-a-side)	Dwight School	Won 5-1 (Matt 3, Kellan 2)

## GIRLS ISA NETBALL TOURNAMENT

At the end of January, the Years 6, 7 and 8 girls all went to an extremely competitive netball tournament. We had to leave school at 8:00am in the morning and arrived back at school at 3:00pm. All the girls had quite a few matches to play and it was very cold and windy. When we got there the Years 7 and 8s went to their matches and the Year 6s went to theirs. Our first two matches we won both and our last two matches we lost but after all the effort we did not make it to qualifiers, but it was an amazing effort from all of us. We are all especially happy we went because afterwards we met - Alesha Dixon! By Year 6 Girl



# ART AT THE KING'S SCHOOL

## GCSE ART TRIP TO LONDON

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> of March Year 10 & 11 GCSE Art students went on an Art Trip to London to help enhance the work they are doing on their new projects. Year 10 are starting their City Life projects and Year 11 their exam projects titled "Power". Tate Modern was the ideal place for our trip being an old power station and being right in the heart of London. We took the train to Blackfriars Bridge and were able to walk across the Millennium Bridge as well and see St Paul's Cathedral. We also had great views down the river seeing Tower Bridge, The Shard and much more. Although not our favourite art, the Art pieces in Tate Modern were interesting and a chance to see Modern Art, see Art on a large scale, as well as being immersed in the Art itself with the many installations and interactive pieces in the Art Gallery space.



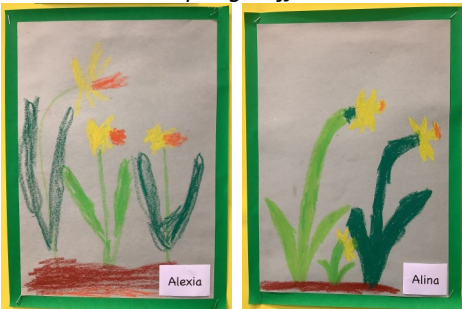
## YEAR 10 GCSE POTTERY CLASSES

Year 10 had their final trip to The Oval for their last pottery lesson. They have been working diligently and creatively, and, after being painted and glazed, their creations went through their second firing in the kiln. These beautiful ceramic pieces contribute to the pupils' GCSE coursework. They really enjoyed doing them and are delighted with the results. Below are some of the pieces created.



**PRIMARY ART** Beautiful pieces of artwork appear in the Primary classrooms and on the Primary notice boards. Here are a sample of some of our artistic pupils' work.

Year 1: Spring Daffodils



Year 6:  
The Oval Chapel  
(Inspired by the work of John Piper)



Foundation Class: The Great Barrier Reef



Year 5: Pop Art





## WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, our Primary School joined with others around the country to celebrate World Book Day. Each class spent the day doing activities relating to books, reading and writing. We had the opportunity to dress up as a favourite book character and it was great to see so many of the children (and all the teachers!) engaging with this.

2025 marks 40 years since World Book Day was first held so look out for a big celebration coming next year!



## THE GOSPEL SHOW

Year 6 decided to enter the ISA Drama competition this year and had to learn a script and perform the show in just 6 weeks! The performance was called the 'Gospel Show' and told the story of Jesus' life through a child's eyes. The class travelled to Warwick for the performance on a huge stage in front of judges and an audience. They made Mrs Weldon very proud by singing, dancing and acting confidently and with great expression. A fantastic experience for them all.

## BIBLE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

This special after school club is on Mondays, Tuesday & Thursdays and the children are enjoying learning from the Bible through reading and discussion, dancing during praise and worship, and enjoying food together.

If you have children in Years 1-4 and would like them to join, come and pick up the leaflet from the Reception Desk.



## A visit from The Mayor of St Albans, Councillor Anthony Rowlands



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, at the end of Inspection week, we were incredibly privileged to have a visit from The Mayor of St Albans, Cllr Anthony Rowlands. The Mayor wore his full outfit and explained to the pupils the history of the role, the clothing and the mace, which was carried in front of him. The Mayor met members of the Student Voice groups and Primary School Council and took questions from them, including how much he earns for being Mayor! (£0!)





## PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL WEEK

Once again our corridors were filled with flags for our annual International Week. Each class spends the week learning about another country. We learn about their language and culture, their food and their history. It is a fantastic week which all the children really enjoy. This year our classes learned all sorts of facts about China, Australia, Jamaica, Sweden, France and Nigeria, including recognising their national flags.



## LIFE SKILLS DAY

Our annual Secondary School 'Life Skills Day' took place on 8<sup>th</sup> February. The day gave students an opportunity to have outside speakers into school to share some of their life experiences with them. We had Chief Inspector Paul Mitson come in from Hertfordshire Police to talk about police duties and powers, and Mrs Nichols from YWAM to discuss prejudice in society. Mrs Lees organised for her guest, Mr Sloan, to cover campaigning and pressure groups, and our chair of trustees, Mr Farahat, shared his testimony. We also had sessions run by our teachers on first aid, diverse Britain, the law, useful finance and an important discussion about where our faith is taking us. We even managed to fit in a sport challenge organised by Mrs Norling and Mr Jones. Thank you to everyone involved in this valuable day.

## STUDENT VOICE

On the 9<sup>th</sup> February, Student Voice Inclusion & Diversity Group hosted a "Culture Day" for the whole of the Secondary School when we all had the choice to wear mufti or traditional dress from different countries. On this day each member of the Inclusion & Diversity Group presented a PowerPoint slide to represent 6 countries from 6 different continents to each of the different Secondary Year groups:



- \* North America - Jamaica
- \* Asia - South Korea
- \* Europe - France
- \* Africa - Nigeria
- \* South America - Peru
- \* Australasia - Australia

During the presentation we played traditional cultural games with our assigned year group for 50 minutes, then went on to have cultural foods / snacks from many countries in the hall. We also collated a Culture Day playlist that we used during the refreshments period.

*Written by Student Voice Inclusion & Diversity Leaders, Aleesha & Gracelyne*



## INTERNATIONAL FOOD & QUIZ EVENING

The PTC once again put on a great evening for all ages to end the Primary International Week. What a fun evening we had celebrating the differing cultures and cuisine represented at The King's School. The food on offer was fantastic and we had a real range of delicacies to try. The quiz was tough and it ended with a tie between two teams. In the end, it came down to an arm wrestle! The Primary classes also set some pretty difficult questions - all based on the things they had been learning throughout the week. We again had to be creative with Duplo and build a landmark to represent a country. Christ the Redeemer Statue was immediately recognisable for Brazil!





## YEAR 3 SCIENCE FAIR AT ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL

On March 6<sup>th</sup> Year 3 went on an exciting trip to St Albans Cathedral, consolidating all of the topics we have covered in Science so far this year. The day started with an exciting 40-minute introductory science show. The children then took part in a variety of light experiments; exploring diffraction, absorption and reflection of light. They experimented with UV lights, white light and laser light, as well as discovering all about the Electromagnetic Spectrum. Next, the children found out about Saint Alban and the history of the cathedral. They explored reversible and irreversible changes, before creating their own butter and slime! In the final workshop, the children studied gravity and air resistance. They were able to explain how unsupported objects fall to earth, before assessing the effects of air resistance by making parachutes for teddy bears, which were thrown from the inside of the Cathedral tower! The trip proved to be a wonderful experience for all.



## EASTER SPORTS CAMP 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 FOR YEARS 1-6

It's not too late to book your child on the Easter Sports Camp which is being run by Mrs Weldon at the school during the second week of the Easter break. The cost is £25 per day from 10am until 3pm for King's pupils in Years 1—6, and attendance can be for one or more days. The camp will involve playing a variety of sports, and games inside and outside, enabling the children to develop co-ordination, balance, ball handling skills and teamwork. In addition, there will be an assortment of arts and crafts on offer. The children will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks, extra fruit will be provided. Email Mrs Weldon if you would like to book a place for your child ([rachel.weldon@thekingsschool.com](mailto:rachel.weldon@thekingsschool.com)) ensuring you let her know what days your child will attend. Payment should be by bank transfer to The King's School account, reference "Child's surname)/E.Camp".

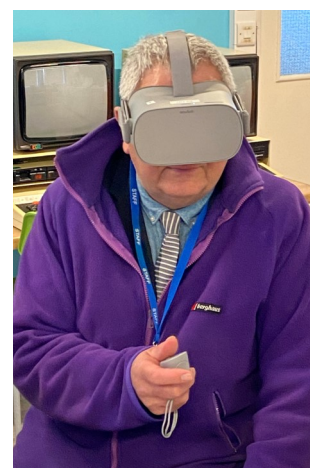


## KEY DATES - SUMMER TERM

<b>Mon</b>	<b>15-Apr</b>	<b>First day of the Summer term</b>
Mon-Fri	15-19/04	Year 9 exam week
Tues	23-Apr	PTC Meeting
<b>Sat</b>	<b>27-Apr</b>	<b>Work Day (improving the site - all welcome)</b>
Mon	29-Apr	Secondary Arts Festival Week
Thurs	02-May	Year 9 Options Evening
Fri	03-May	Year 11 Leavers' Day & Garden Party
<b>Mon</b>	<b>06-May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Tues-Fri	7-10/04	Year 9 Outdoor Pursuits Residential Trip
Thurs	09-May	Start of Year 11 GCSE exams
Mon	13-May	Primary Arts Festival Week
Tues	21-May	Primary Arts Festival Concert
Thurs	23-May	ISA Regional Athletics in Bedford
Mon	27-May	Half-term week
Mon-Wed	03-12/06	Year 10 Exam Period
Thurs	13-Jun	District Athletics Champs in Watford
Mon	17-Jun	ISA National Athletics (in Birmingham)
Wed	19-Jun	Last day of scheduled Year 11 GCSE exams
Thurs	20-Jun	Secondary Arts Festival Concert
Fri	21-Jun	School Sports Day (Yrs5-10, Stockwood Park)
Wed-Tues	26/6-2/7	Years 7 & 8 Exams
Thurs	27-Jun	Year 11 Leavers' Dinner
Wed	03-Jul	Christian Schools' Sports Day
Thurs	04-Jul	Primary Picnic & Sports Day
<b>Sat</b>	<b>06-Jul</b>	<b>Fun Day</b>
Mon-Tues	08-9/07	Year 10 Geography Fieldtrip
Tues	09-Jul	Primary Awards Afternoon
Thurs	11-Jul	Induction Day (New Year 7) & Prim move-up
<b>Wed</b>	<b>17-Jul</b>	<b>End of term</b>

## COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIP

Mr Dant took the GCSE Computer Science students to the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park in February. He had great fun trying to defuse a virtual bomb (pictured) with Ethan. However, they weren't very successful as they exploded 5 times in total! Not a new career option for either of them then...!



## Easter Holiday Crash Course 2024

Swimming lessons for children from 3½ years and up are running during the Easter break, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Sandringham School in St Albans.

Join us for a 4-day crash course! Choose from 8:30, 9, 9:30, 10 or 10:30am. Suitable for absolute beginners through to experienced swimmers! Our expert instructors will be there every step of the way. Same time every day with the same teacher, and we have helpful assistants in the water too. Each lesson is 30 minutes long. Bookings are being taken now. Either call Millie on 07507 038250, email [milliesmakingwaves@gmail.com](mailto:milliesmakingwaves@gmail.com) or complete a booking form via our website [www.makingwaves-swimschool.co.uk](http://www.makingwaves-swimschool.co.uk). We look forward to hearing from you.

