

Friday 23rd May 2025

King James's School Newsletter

Inside this issue:

- Year 13 students & UCAS
- Ready for School
- Pride Month
- Thought for the Fortnight
- English School Athletics Competition
- Careers
- Transition visits
- The Week Ahead
- The Wonderful World of Dissocia
- Piano Recital
- Assemblies
- Uniform donations
- The Importance of Punctuality

Year 13 students

Our Year 13 students are now well into their final exams. We are immensely proud of them for the work they continue to do towards these exams and for their resilience throughout this challenging period. We hope they enjoy their well-deserved break from exams over the Half Term holiday and continue to wish them luck for their remaining exams.

From Monday 2nd June, there is no need for Year 13 students to attend Sixth Form, other than for their exams or for pre-arranged revision sessions, however they are always welcome to revise or access the support on offer. Please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form should you need any help or support throughout the exam season.

UCAS

It is now UCAS decision time. Most students must reply to their offers by Thursday 5th June 2025. If not, their offers will be automatically declined. Students can check UCAS Track to see their personal deadline. Please contact the sixth form if you need help or guidance with this decision and process.

Ready for School

At King James School we are committed to upholding our core values of being Ready, Respectful, and Engaged, which help ensure that all students maintain high expectations of themselves in all areas of school life.



One aspect of being Ready to Learn is wearing the correct school uniform at all times. Over the past few weeks, pastoral staff have had to remind students on several occasions about wearing their uniforms in a professional and respectful manner, in line with our uniform policy, which is conducive to learning. Please visit the school website for clarity on our [uniform policy](#). In summary, branded sweatshirts, coats and jackets cannot be worn inside the school building – we are proud to be KJS students and we need to be recognised as one. This is also important for safeguarding reasons, so we can be identified as a KJS student whilst on school site.

Canvas sports trainers are not to be worn for school. We appreciate and understand our students need to feel comfortable to learn, but we also need to balance this with providing an education to our students in a more formal setting, where their attire aligns with this and is different to their leisure time. Therefore, students have the choice to wear either traditional black school shoes or black leather, flat soled leisure shoes.

As we prepare to begin a new half term, we would greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing our expectations at home, so that we can work together to ensure consistency and readiness for learning across the school. Thank you for your support.

Pride Month



June is PRIDE month. During the month of June people around the world celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community. Pride is about being proud of who you are and making sure everyone is treated with respect and equality, and we all continue to work towards a world where everyone feels safe, accepted and valued. Whether or not you are a part of the LGBTQ+ community, PRIDE month is about kindness, inclusion and standing up against discrimination.

We will be raising awareness of PRIDE month through tutor time activities and through the Thought for the Fortnight.

Thought for the Fortnight

The Thought for the Fortnight for the week beginning 2nd and 9th June is linked to PRIDE month.



“Human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent. They are not reserved for the few – they apply to everyone, everywhere. It is essential to reaffirm this fundamental principle and join forces to make it a reality.”

- Key Takeaways are:
- Human rights belong to everyone.
- All Human rights are equally important. They can't be separated or ranked
- Human rights must constantly be protected and promoted.
- Achieving true equality and justice requires teamwork

English Schools Athletics Competition

On Tuesday, 60 students went to York to compete in the first round of the English Schools Athletics Competition. The students were fantastic and were a real credit to the school. There were lots of standout performances and the Inter Boys (year 9 & 10) not only won the day but scored the most points across the whole Area. Well done.

3 of the teams (7&8 boys, 9&10 girls, 9&10 boys) have secured a place in the A final in Middlesbrough. This is brilliant for all the athletes involved and superb for KJS to have 3 teams going to such a high-quality event.



Careers

Lloyds Banking Group

Boost Your Employability – Join Lloyds' Virtual Workplace Skills Day!



Join Lloyds Banking Group for a 1-day virtual work experience designed to give you a real edge in today's job market. If you're in Year 11, 12 or 13 and thinking about your next steps, this is your chance to gain career-ready skills that employers are actively looking for.

Taking place on Tuesday, 27th May from 10:00am – 2:00pm, this free session will focus on key workplace behaviours, confidence, time management and professional communication – all delivered by one of the UK's largest employers.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain insight, boost their CVs, and build the confidence to take their next step into apprenticeships, university, or employment.

Event: Virtual Workplace Etiquette Day – Get Work Ready

Date: Tuesday, 27th May 2025

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Location: Online (link provided upon registration)

Who Can Join: All school students in Years 11–13

What You'll Learn:

- Professional values & behaviours – How to act like a young professional, not a student
- Self-efficacy – Taking ownership of your own success
- Time management – Planning your workday, handling change and staying organised
- Personal development – Making an impact in your first 90 days
- Workplace etiquette – Using Microsoft Teams, email tone, and behaviour in the office

Sign up here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBG-Workplace>

Transition visits

This week has seen several of our Year 7 Transition Ambassadors return to their Primary Schools to visit our next cohort of students joining us in September. Our ambassadors were on hand to answer all manner of questions Year 6 had regarding their transition to KJS. We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 7 students represented themselves and the school. We look forward to visiting more schools in the weeks ahead as well as welcoming our new cohort to KJS in early July for their Transition Days.



Assemblies

There will be no assemblies the week beginning 2nd June due to GCSE and A-Levels exams.

The Week Ahead: 2nd June 2025

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Second half Summer Term begins Rhine/Mosel trip Parents' information evening		6.00pm	
Tue	House Rounders/Softball week begins			
Wed	Holocaust Memorial Museum trip			
Thur				
Fri				

The Wonderful World of Dissocia

The last chance to purchase tickets for this special performance is the first week back after half term. Tickets are on sale outside the Library at lunchtimes, £5 per ticket. The cast and crew have been working so hard and they would love you to come along and support them.

10th & 11th June 2025, 6.00pm in the Drama balcony.



Piano Recital

Congratulations to all our piano students who took part in a piano recital last week. Many parents commented on what a fantastic evening it was and were so impressed by the standard of performance from our students. We would like to thank Nataliia Smirnova, our piano teacher, for organising the evening.

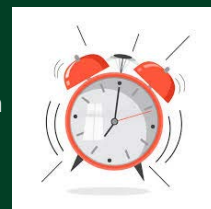


Let's Make Every Minute Count: The Importance of Punctuality

This academic year has brought some important updates from the Department for Education, including a change to how school attendance is recorded. As of August 2024, schools now have a 30-minute registration window both in the morning and afternoon. At our school, these windows are:

Morning Registration: 8:45 – 9:15am

Afternoon Registration: 1:15 – 1:45pm



If a student arrives after these times, it is recorded as an unauthorised absence, which directly impacts their attendance record and, more importantly, their experience at school.

As we move into the second half of the summer term, we are renewing our focus on punctuality. For a ten-day period, we will be closely monitoring students who are persistently late, and letters will be sent home to keep families informed. This initiative isn't about punishment, it's about partnership. We want to work with parents to build a strong, consistent morning routines that support your child's success.

Why does punctuality matter so much?

Because those first few minutes of the day are vital. They're when pupils settle in, connect with their teachers and peers, and get a clear view on the day ahead. Arriving on time means starting calm, confident, and ready to learn.

More than that, punctuality teaches life skills, like discipline, time management, and responsibility. Children who consistently arrive on time not only perform better academically, but also build habits that will benefit them throughout their lives.

We know mornings can be challenging, and every family's routine looks different, but with your support, we believe we can make a real difference. Together, let's help every child start their day with confidence, and on time.

Uniform Donations

In order to support our pre-loved offerings, we would be very grateful for any good quality PE kit items, especially from our Year 11 leavers. In addition, once the exams are over, we would welcome any other uniform items, including ties, from Year 11 students or those students moving key stages. Many thanks in advance.



We wish everyone a enjoyable May half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2nd June.

