

Friday 18th July 2025

King James's School Newsletter

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Summer Wellbeing Support



We are conscious that the summer break can be a difficult period for some families and young people. Therefore, we are even more mindful of support families may need over the break.

Please see our website for lots of useful sources of support and information if needed:

[Safeguarding and Wellbeing - King James's School](#)

In addition, www.thegoto.org.uk is a website developed by the NHS North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group. It is a single point of information that promotes different mental health support services (like a signpost). The website is designed primarily for young people but there is information for parents and carers too.

Sports Day 2025

Wednesday saw the annual Sports Day take place. The atmosphere was incredible, filled with excitement and energy. Support from both students and staff encouraged the competitors throughout, with a great sense of teamwork. It was fantastic to have the whole school together enjoying an afternoon in the sunshine.

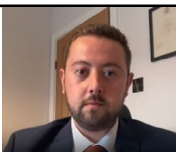



This year saw a new addition to the day - an Olympics style parade. Competitors from each house proudly did a lap of the field, led by their House Captains and a marching band.

The ever-popular staff races also took place. Well done to all staff who competed. It really did add to the atmosphere of the afternoon and the students absolutely loved it!



Pastoral Support in September

We are delighted to be able to confirm the pastoral teams for each year group from September. The structure will remain the same, with an Associate Assistant Headteacher being responsible for two year groups, with the exception of Year 7 who will also manage the transition from primary school. These Associate Assistant Headteachers will have oversight of each year group's behaviour, attendance and academic performance, and will lead their team of Year Managers to support students daily.

Year group	Name of Associate Assistant Headteacher		Year Managers
7	Tom King Y7@king-james.co.uk		Year 7: Lindsay Bramham & Sarah White
8 & 9	Dan Berry Y8@king-james.co.uk Y9@king-james.co.uk		Year 8: Lucy English & Ross Roberts Year 9: Gayle Flintoft & Ross Roberts
10 & 11	Ash Atkinson Y10@king-james.co.uk Y11@king-james.co.uk		Year 10: Michala Dennis & Sharon Lovell Year 11: Charlie Phillips & Keira Jarrett
12 & 13	Jo Watson sixthformpastoralofficer@king-james.co.uk		Years 12 & 13: Mandy Simmons and Sarah Austin

Returning to school in September

Arrangements for the first week back in September are as follows:

- Monday 1st September 2025: Staff training day; school will be closed to students.
- Tuesday 2nd September: Year 7 and 12 students ONLY. On arrival, Year 7 students should go straight to Chaloner Hall.
- Wednesday 3rd September 2025: All students return to school.

A reminder that access to the school site for students is from 8.20am, at which time staff will open gates and will be there to meet and greet students, who may go to their Year Hubs or to the dining hall for breakfast.

All students need to be onsite by 8.40am.

Access points into school are as follows:

- Y7,8,9 - enter via the S1 car park gate
- Y10,11 and Sixth Form - enter via the Sixth Form gate

As a reminder, Year Hubs are:

- Y7 Chaloner Hall
- Y8 Boys' Gym
- Y9 Girls' gym
- Y10 Dining Hall
- Y11 Swaledale Locker Area

Uniform reminders

Over the summer, parents may be buying new uniform. Below are some reminders about uniform expectations:

- Minimal modifications to kilts.
- Top button done up when wearing a tie.
- Shirts tucked in.
- Black socks or green or black tights.
- Formal black footwear or plain black, flat, leather-looking leisure shoes (examples below). Trainers are not permitted.
- No heavy makeup (including false eyelashes or nails).
- Minimal jewellery.
- No outdoor clothing (including the KJS hoody) to be worn in the building.



Cologne Trip

A group of 44 students and 5 staff have just returned from a trip to Cologne, Germany. During their stay there they visited the famous cathedral, climbing all 550 steps and enjoyed shopping in the centre. They also visited the lovely town of Boppard, appreciated the views from the chair lift and enjoyed a Rhine river cruise. They also stopped off to see the famous Deutches Eck where the Rhine and the Moselle rivers meet.

The group had the opportunity to visit the Lindt chocolate museum, walked through the old town and had an evening of bowling. They finished the trip at the theme park Phantasia Land. A great time was had by all!



School Production 2026

Next years' School Production will be Little Shop of Horrors. Look out for audition packs in September from the Drama Office and an audition date to be confirmed soon for years 8-13! We can't wait to get started!



SSG Summer Adventures

Last week, the Student Support Group enjoyed some amazing summer adventures to celebrate the end of term and the retirement of Mrs Vaux and Mrs Keogh. On Thursday we travelled by coach to Ripley Castle 'Live for Today' where we tried high ropes, bushcraft, axe throwing, paddle boarding and canoeing. The weather was amazing- perfect for activities on the lake - in fact, most of the students ended up jumping into the water to cool off!

On returning to school, Chef Richard prepared Michelin star pizzas and 'make your own' KJS ice cream sundaes which were absolutely delicious.

The fun continued in the Sports Hall which was transformed into a temporary campsite where staff and pupils enjoyed a very restful(!) overnight stay.

The next morning, after breakfast, the intrepid SSG students set off along the river on the final stage of their adventures to the Kingfisher Kiosk at Conyngham Hall where they played tennis, crazy golf, volleyball, badminton and many other games.

After lunch and an ice cream, provided by Clare from Community Stars, we walked back to school and the students went home tired but happy having made the most of their end of year celebrations.



Celebratory Summer BBQs

What a fantastic way for our students to round off the term! This week, Year 7-9 students have enjoyed afternoons of fun, laughter, and celebrations at their Year group BBQ and Celebration events. With the sun shining, students cooled off with ice pops while taking part in a wide range of activities — from football and rounders to lively tug-of-war competitions. There was even dancing and karaoke, with some impressive performances and enthusiastic singalongs! It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to relax, enjoy each other's company, and celebrate a great year together. Fun was truly had by all!



SEMH Hub Breakfast Provision - Request for Support

We are seeking your support for our SEMH (Social, Emotional, and Mental Health) Hub, which aims to provide a nutritious breakfast to students in need. To help, we have set up an Amazon wish list with breakfast provisions, and we would greatly appreciate any contributions. You can view and purchase items directly from the list here:

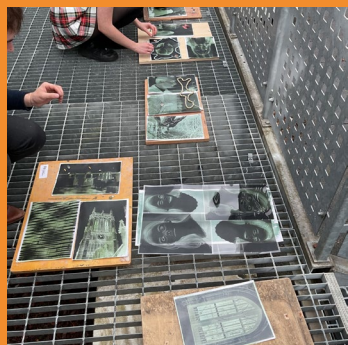
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/20CBYOJT76PBQ?ref=wl_share

Alternatively, if you would like to explore other ways to contribute or learn more, please don't hesitate to contact the school directly, any donations would be greatly appreciated, especially supermarket vouchers so that we can buy fresh fruit. Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure all students start their day with the nourishment they need.

Year 12 Photography

This week, Year 12 photographers have been experimenting with cyanotypes, making digital negatives and exposing them to UV light on coated paper to create stunning indigo coloured images.

Students also used a lomography action sampler film camera to create analogue photos in 4 frames which we will edit digitally in September.



Summer's here, but here's a quick look ahead...

As alarm clocks take a well-earned break and the summer mode kicks in, we hope your child enjoys every moment of the sunshine and relaxation! Before we dive fully into the holidays, here are a few helpful reminders to get you set for a smooth start to the new academic year:

- **Holiday Absences:** Please remember that, from September, fines may be issued for students missing five days (10 sessions) within a 10-week period
- **School Start Time:** The school day begins at 8:40am. Students must be in school by 9:15am for their morning attendance mark, and between 1:15pm and 1:145pm for their afternoon mark
- **Reporting Absences:** All absences should be submitted via the online form on our school website, it's quick and easy!
- **Attendance Goals:** Our expected attendance rate is 96% for the year (no more than 8 days off); every day counts.

If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school on Tuesday 2nd September (Year 7 and 12) or Wednesday (everyone else), our Attendance Champion will be in from Monday 1st September to support you.

Have a wonderful summer, we can't wait to welcome everyone back in September!

Free days out in Yorkshire

Yorkshire is a great place for free days out. There are plenty of museums, parks and adventure trails to explore.



<https://yorkshiretots.com/free-days-out-in-yorkshire/>

The Week Ahead: 1st September 2025

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	STAFF TRAINING DAY - School closed to students			
Tue	Autumn Term begins (Years 7 & 12)	7 & 12		
Wed	Autum Term begins (Years 8-11 & 13)	8-11, 13		
Thur				
Fri				

Work Experience

Over the last few weeks, a number of Year 12 students have been out of school gaining an insight into the world of work by completing work experience placements in industries they would like to pursue in the future. They have gained placements in areas such as marketing, education, event planning and some even went to the Local MP's office. All the students were a credit to themselves and the school and had a wonderful time gaining and using their skills as well as learning first hand how the company they were placed at operates.

A huge thank you to all the employers who 'hosted students', we are very appreciative of the time and effort put in to making these so very worthwhile. Thanks also to NYBEP and their representatives who were hugely helpful in sorting out the details of each placement.



Dance World Cup 2025

A huge congratulations to students Amelia B, Edie B, Liv C, Isabel C, Eleanor H, Flo H, Jess J, Olivia K, Lilly R, Gracie W and Mini W, who were all selected to represent Team England at this year's Dance World Cup, held in Spain.



The girls competed in the Commercial category, which was incredibly competitive – with South Africa putting on an unforgettable show. Our talented dancers performed in two group routines (Junior and Senior Large Groups) and achieved amazing results:

- Mad Hatter – 7th in the World and 1st in England!
- It's Britney – 6th in the World and 4th in England!

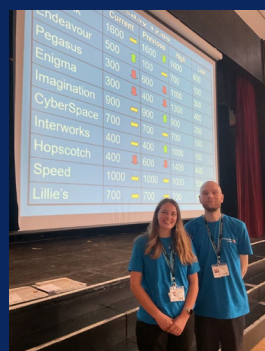
What an outstanding achievement on the international stage!



Careers

'Buy Low Sell High' was the key to students being successful in The Trading Game. We welcomed Sam and Olivia from NYBEP into school on Monday who were supported by Liam from the RAF to run The Trading Game for Year 8. It was a lively, fun activity that replicated what it is like to work in the stock exchange. Students used and developed many employability skills such as teamwork, communication and negotiation. They also had to use their maths skills, take risks and show resilience when their risk taking did not pay off!

Company	Current	Previous	High	Low
Yellpack	1400	1400	1400	600
Endavour	200	700	700	100
Enigma	500	1500	1400	500
Imagination	1000	1100	1300	800
CyberSpace	900	900	900	300
Interworks	1000	800	1000	100
Hopscotch	200	200	1000	100
Speed	700	700	1400	500
Lillie's	200	200	500	100



Charity Music Concerts

At the weekend (after annoying their neighbours with practising for a few nights) some current and former King James's School students joined forces with musicians from Harrogate Grammar, to play at two different concerts, voluntarily, to raise money for two causes.

The first was the Girl Guide Association, which was organised by former student Amelia A for the Girl Guides at Dishforth Townhall on Saturday night. The second was on Sunday evening at Pannal Golf Club in aid of a charity called 'Capture', which is raising funds for palliative care for teenagers suffering from cancer, after a Grammar school sixth former died of cancer last year.

The students who participated were:

Abs C, Toby O-H, Leon P-M, Lewis J, Elliot S and Diya P

Abs spent hours recruiting, begging, and borrowing additional musicians from Glasgow and Newcastle universities to make up the numbers and it was so nice to see the students of two KJS years groups having so much fun together.

Additionally, we are delighted to hear that Sam O-H (Year 12) got Merit in his recent Grade 8 Eb Bass (Tuba) exam. Sam plays in school ensembles and Knaresborough Silver Band.





One More Chapter

Our students continue to reap the benefits of our whole school reading initiatives including Pageturners in which Years 7-9 have enjoyed listening to their tutors read aloud powerful novels celebrating diversity, nurturing empathy, and sparking curiosity.

The programme has been so successful that we are extending it into Year 10 from September. Some of our students who are currently in Year 10 have been involved in selecting a variety of books they think everyone should read by the time they reach Y11 - we can't wait to reveal the titles in the new academic year!

Bake Sale

Seventeen of our Year 7 Regal Readers have worked tirelessly to plan, prepare, and execute an incredibly successful bake sale!



In their first ever endeavour into fundraising, they created their own posters and promotions, picked and prepared sweet and savoury goods, concocted the most delicious homemade lemonade and mocktails, handled the pressure of selling to a crowd of sweet-toothed students, adapted to changing situations, and so much more!

In total they raised an incredible £300 towards our £1400 goal for a book and rewards vending machine to further promote reading within the school. They are rightfully proud of themselves and are excitedly planning their next series of fundraising events!

Book Fair

Our whole school summer book fair is something which both staff and students look forward to each year.

The library receives up to 60% of the total sales in free books so this is a huge thank you to parents and carers who supported this event helping us to increase and renew our book stock.

Y7 Celebration of Achievements in Reading Assembly

Records have been broken in reading this year and we celebrated all our Y7 students' achievements in our special 'Reading Olympics' assembly led by Mrs Fletcher-Markin. So many of our students received certificates, trophies and books for their incredible achievements ranging from 'Star Readers' for effort and progress in reading, 'Reading Resilience' for students who have challenged themselves to read a diverse range of books to 'Commitment in Reading' which is awarded to students who have read 500,000 words or more.



Our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Eastaugh, was delighted to present so many certificates and trophies including our 'word millionaires' for students who have read and quizzed on books achieving at least £1,000,000 words. A special mention must go to Martha G who set a new KJS reading world record of 5,457,884 words!

Congratulations to all our students in Year 7 for a fabulous year of reading!





Parents/Carers

Looking for some summer reads to dive into over the break? Here are some summer reads that may be of interest. Please note that these are not reads that we would necessarily recommend to our students.

Summer Reads 2025

TOP RELEASES OF THE YEAR



← a story of love and ambition set in the 1980s romance following two rival writers who have the chance to tell a reclusive heiress' story →



← follow four women and their loves, longings and desires. (Longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction 2025)



← champagne-fuelled murder mystery set at an age-old manor house ↓

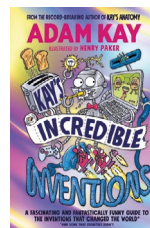


From romance to crime, find your perfect summer read!

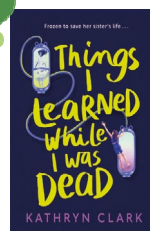
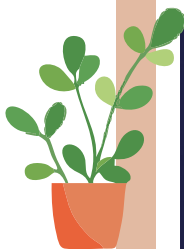


Students: Looking for some summer reads to dive into over the break? Here are some summer reads that may be of interest.

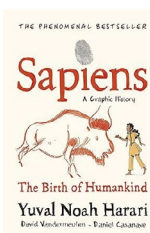
Book Recommendations



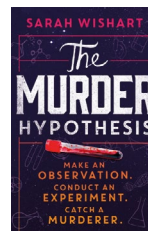
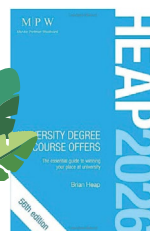
Year 7



Year 8



Years 9-11



6th Form



INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

Bilton SUMMER SESSIONS

FIND US AT: RICHARD TAYLOR SCHOOL, BILTON LANE, HARROGATE, HG1 3DT

COME AND JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER THEMED FUN, BEING ACTIVE AND A VARIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS THAT PROMOTE ENJOYMENT, KINDNESS AND SPENDING TIME TOGETHER. ALONGSIDE FOOTBALL COACHES FROM HARROGATE TOWN TO OFFER SOME MULTI SPORT ACTIVITIES.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED, OPEN TO AGES 11-16

TUESDAY 29TH JULY
6-8PM

TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST
6-8PM

TUESDAY 12TH AUGUST
6-8PM

TUESDAY 19TH AUGUST
6-8PM

NO NEED TO BOOK JUST TURN UP



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.INSPIREYOUTH.UK
OR CONTACT 07547 287892
MEMBERSHIP FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

NORTH YORKSHIRE TOGETHER | feast | NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL | Funded by UK Government

INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

Boroughbridge SUMMER SESSIONS

FIND US AT: RECREATION PARK, NEW ROW, BOROUGHBRIDGE, YO61 9AX.

COME AND JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER THEMED FUN, BEING ACTIVE AND A VARIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS THAT PROMOTE ENJOYMENT, KINDNESS AND SPENDING TIME TOGETHER. ALONGSIDE FOOTBALL COACHES FROM HARROGATE TOWN TO OFFER SOME MULTI SPORT ACTIVITIES.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED, OPEN TO AGES 11-16

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY
6-8PM

WEDNESDAY 6TH AUGUST
6-PM

WEDNESDAY 13TH AUGUST
6-8PM

WEDNESDAY 20TH AUGUST
6-8PM

NO NEED TO BOOK JUST TURN UP



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.INSPIREYOUTH.UK
OR CONTACT 07547 287892
MEMBERSHIP FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

NORTH YORKSHIRE TOGETHER | feast | NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL | Funded by UK Government

INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

Knaresborough SUMMER SESSIONS

FIND US AT: INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE COMMUNITY HUB, 9-10 HALFPENNY CLOSE, KNARESBOROUGH, HG5 0TG

COME AND JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER THEMED FUN, BEING ACTIVE AND DEVELOPING GREATER LIFE SKILLS, INVOLVING INTERACTIVE GAMES ALONGSIDE A VARIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS THAT PROMOTE ENJOYMENT, KINDNESS AND SPENDING TIME TOGETHER.

MEALS AND SNACKS PROVIDED, OPEN TO AGES 11-16

MONDAY 28TH JULY 12-6
FEAST FASHION

TUESDAY 29TH JULY 12-4
ARTS AND SOUNDS

MONDAY 4TH AUGUST 12-6
PICNIC IN THE PARK

TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST 12-4
PARTY IN THE PARK

TUESDAY 12TH AUGUST 12-4
SUMMER CHALLENGE

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK



VISIT WWW.INSPIREYOUTH.UK OR CONTACT 07547 287892

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INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

Knaresborough Drop in SUMMER SESSIONS

FIND US AT: THE HANGOUT, INSPIRE YOUTH YOUTH COMMUNITY HUB, 9-10 HALFPENNY CLOSE, KNARESBOROUGH, HG5 0TG

COME AND JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER THEMED FUN, BEING ACTIVE AND A VARIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS THAT PROMOTE ENJOYMENT, KINDNESS AND SPENDING TIME TOGETHER. ALONGSIDE FOOTBALL COACHES FROM HARROGATE TOWN TO OFFER SOME MULTI SPORT ACTIVITIES.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED, OPEN TO AGES 11-16

MONDAY 28TH JULY
6-8PM

MONDAY 4TH AUGUST
6-8PM

NO NEED TO BOOK JUST TURN UP



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.INSPIREYOUTH.UK
OR CONTACT 07547 287892
MEMBERSHIP FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

NORTH YORKSHIRE TOGETHER | feast | NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL | Funded by UK Government

SUMMER TRIPS

OPEN TO AGES 11-16

**LIVE
FOR
TODAY**

**MONDAY 11TH AUGUST
10-6PM**

OFFERING A FULL DAY OF OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES INCLUDING
RAFT BUILDING, PADDLE BOARDING AND ROPE ACTIVITIES.

MEET AND RETURN TO INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE
COMMUNITY HUB, TRAVELLING BY MINIBUS TO LIVE FOR
TODAY, RIPLEY. A PACKED LUNCH, SNACKS AND DRINKS AND
ALL EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED.

A THRILL FEST, FROM THE MOMENT YOU ARRIVE, VISITORS
WILL BE SWEEPED INTO A WORLD OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR
PLAY— GIANT SOFT PLAY ZONES, A NINJA OBSTACLE
COURSE, AND A ROLE-PLAY VILLAGE. MEET AND RETURN TO
INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE COMMUNITY HUB, TRAVELLING BY
MINIBUS THE WEB ADVENTURE, YORK. A PACKED LUNCH,
SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED



JOIN US FOR A BBQ, VARIOUS OUTDOOR GAMES, ACTIVITIES AND
OUTDOOR ROLLER SKATING AT THE WONDERFUL COMMUNITY
SETTING AT KIOSK AT CONYNGHAM KNARESBOROUGH.

PARTICIPANTS ARE WELCOME TO BRING THEIR OWN SKATES
AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT; HOWEVER, THESE CAN ALSO BE
PROVIDED. DINNER AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK



VISIT WWW.INSPIREYOUTH.UK OR CONTACT 07547 287892

feva Youth Events

8

BEACH PARTY AT CREATE

8

PROFESSOR DAN

8

COLLAGE & PAINTING — THE BFG THEME

8

SILENT DISCO (FAMILY FRIENDLY)

9

CONYNGHAM HALL PARKRUN: MUSICAL MARSHALS

9

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: ARTS AWARD DISCOVER IN A DAY

9

JAMES THE JESTER FROM CHESTER

9

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

10

FEVA FAMILY BIKE RIDE

10

THE KNARESBOROUGH ELEVEN

feva Youth Events

10 STORYTIME WITH YORKSHIRE CREATE

10 KNARESBOROUGH ALLOTMENTS OPEN DAY

10 TOWN CRIERS COMPETITION

11 LANTERN WORKSHOP WITH ARTVENTURERS

11 MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP DAY

11 PUNCH AND JUDY

11 AN EVENING WITH MARK WELLS, AUTHOR OF CAMBRIDGE GOTHIC

11 STUDIO 3 PRESENTS DANCE FEVA

12 PETE'S SUITCASE CIRCUS

12 THE KNARESBOROUGH ELEVEN MOSAIC WORKSHOP

feva Youth Events

12

JUNK MODELLING PEN POTS

12

SOCK PUPPETS

12

SILENT BOOK CLUB

13

KNARESBOROUGH FOREST FAMILY FUN DAY

13

CHILDREN'S DAY AT KNARESBOROUGH LIBRARY

13

KNARESBOROUGH FOREST DAY AT KNARESBOROUGH FOREST PARK

13

COLLAGE & PRINTING: CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

13

HAPA ZOME WORKSHOP

13

STUDIO 3 DANCE WORKSHOP PRESENTS SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE

14

THE GREAT MANDAVI

feva Youth Events

14

MEDIEVAL BESTIARY

14

ORB FEST

14

ORPHEUS: A NEW MUSICAL – LAUNCH EVENT

14

LEAF PRINTING

15

MAGIC KEITH

15

ROLLER DISCO

15

AN EVENING WITH ROGER MCGOUGH: ALIVE AND GIGGLING

16

PICNIC IN THE PARK

16

SPACE TO CREATE (JUNIOR – AGE 7–11)

16

SPACE TO CREATE (SENIOR – AGE 11–17)

feva Youth Events

17

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE: ARTS AWARD DISCOVER IN A DAY

17

STORYTIME WITH YORKSHIRE CREATE

17

CHORUS CREW

17

SPA SAX

17

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK TICKETS FOR
ANY OF OUR EVENTS AT WWW.FEVA.INFO

FEVA IS A VOLUNTEER-RUN ORGANISATION THAT
HOSTS A RANGE OF ARTS-BASED EVENTS DURING
AUGUST. WITH STREET ENTERTAINMENT AND FAMILY
FUN DAYS, MUSIC AND DRAMA EVENTS,
WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITIONS, THERE'S
GUARANTEED TO BE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT FEVA 2025!