

King James's School Newsletter

Inside this issue:

- Message from Ms Oakley
- UCAS Discovery Day
- The Week Ahead
- Student Musical Success
- Thank you!
- North East Athletics Final
- House Drama
- Bed Race 2026
- Year 11 Leaving Day 2026
- "Winging it" - Improv Success
- Uniform donations
- Year 13
- Attendance - World Cup Fever
- Reading
- FEAST
- Summer Art Competition

UCAS Discovery Day Leeds

Yesterday, Year 12 had a day out to Leeds Beckett in Headingley for the UCAS Discovery Day, as part of our Careers provision and Post-18 planning and preparation.

The students were able to experience university life first-hand at the campus-based event. They explored lecture theatres, libraries, the student union, & sports facilities, attended taster lectures with real academics, and chatted with current students about everything from workloads & budgets to making friends and joining societies.

There was a wide range of stalls available for the students to visit, staffed by universities & colleges, employers, and apprenticeship providers - something for everyone.

The students also managed to bag themselves a nice selection of freebies!!



Message from Ms Oakley

Dear parents, carers and students,

Celebrating Community

What a wonderful week this has been celebrating not only the school community but our local and international community as well.

Starting on Saturday with the fabulous Bed Race – I must confess it was my first ever Bed Race experience, and I was quite simply blown away! I felt so proud to see staff and students not only representing the school but also representing community and charity groups. Well done to all involved, and here's to next year (rumour has it the staff are already in training to avoid the sixth form beating them again!)

The Bed Race was made even more enjoyable when I opened my emails on Monday morning to this lovely email:

"I was marshalling at the most recent Bed Race on Saturday, I was positioned on the Waterside near the Tear Drop and steps leading up into the town/train station. A small number of your students were sat on the bottom steps waiting to watch the race. Throughout the whole waiting time and as the race was moving along I feel it needs to be celebrated because these students were sensible, respectful and immensely encouraging of every bed that passed by. I would like to say they represented your school with exceptional behaviour and respect. It was such a joy to be surrounded by pleasant members and simply made my role a whole lot easier!"

On Monday we welcomed delegates from Ukraine as part of the Knaresborough Town Twinning Project. It was so interesting to show them around our school and hear just a little about what school is like in Ukraine. As always, our student leaders were brilliant ambassadors, although perhaps the most interesting part of the afternoon was the chocolate tasting!

And throughout the week our Year 7 students have also had the chance to experience the international community by visiting France. Throughout the trip their behaviour was superb, but a special thank you must go to the staff involved – a huge thank you to Ms Davies, Mr King, Mrs White and Mr Bell, we are so very lucky to have staff who are willing to go the extra mile to enable our students to have these experiences.

It's a Sell Out

There's no stopping our Drama Department! Flushed by the success of our first ever comedy improv night (which really was brilliant!) I am delighted to share with you that our House Drama nights are completely sold out!!! "Break a leg" to all involved, and remember, this judge cannot be bribed!

And finally...

Parents and carers please look out for two important letters – one is about attendance and a reminder of our expectations in relation to attendance. The second letter outlines the enrichment activities and arrangements for the final week of the academic year. Please do take the time to read them.

Thank you as always for your on-going support,

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley
Headteacher



The Week Ahead: 22nd June 2026

Day	Event	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Year 10 Exams Week 2 Year 12 Work Experience begins			
Tue				
Wed	Year 7 Parents' Evening	7	4.30-7.30pm	Online
Thur	Year 11 Prom	11	From 6.30pm	S1
Fri	Year 13 Prom	13	From 6.30pm	Majestic Hotel

Student Musical Success

Many congratulations to Lottie H in Year 10, who recently passed her Grade 3 clarinet exam.

Well done Lottie, a brilliant achievement!



Thank you!

Mrs Scott, one of our Finance team, would like to thank everyone who donated to her family's twilight walk at the end of March, in support of Mrs Scott's sister and The Brain Tumour Charity.

The walk managed to raise an incredible £2855 with gift aid, smashing the original target of £500.

Mrs Scott's sister also decided to add a llama costume element, which made for an interesting walk and some funny looks!



North East Athletics Final

On Wednesday this week, two teams competed in the North East Athletics final, featuring the top 8 schools in the region.

Both teams produced some great performances in the Track and Field cup final and were fantastic ambassadors for King James's School through their conduct and achievements.



The junior boys managed to finish 6th overall which was a great outcome and by far their best performance of the year.

The Inter boys achieved a record points score for a Inter boys at King James's and managed to win the final.

This now qualifies them for the National finals in Chelmsford on July 4th, where the top 12 school teams in the country compete - a fantastic achievement.

House Drama

House Drama tickets are now SOLD OUT! Thank you to everyone who has bought a ticket.

Students will be in school all day on Saturday, when they will be working hard for their technical rehearsal.

We are excited to see audiences at the performance nights!



KJS HOUSE
DRAMA 2026
29th & 30th June 6pm S1



Tickets £5 - available outside the library at lunchtimes!

Athletics training - change of day!

Please note that due to Year 7 Parents' Evening, next week's Athletics training for Years 7-10 will be moved to Monday 22nd June 2026.

Bed Race 2026

What another fantastic day at the 2026 Knaresborough Bed Race!

On behalf of the KJS staff team, we would like to say a huge thank you to our incredible runners: Mr Atkinson, Mr Berry, Mr Godsell-Wright, Mr Frey, and Mr Phillips. The effort, determination and team spirit shown throughout the day were outstanding, and Iwe couldn't be prouder of what they achieved together.



The team were delighted to finish the race in a time of 17:33, placing 23rd out of 90 teams. In such a competitive field, this was a brilliant result and a testament to the hard work and commitment of everyone involved.

A special thank you must go to Marie Hewitt from our DT Department for her fantastic work designing and creating our Addams Family-themed bed. The bed looked absolutely superb, stood out from the crowd, and deservedly received a Highly Commended Rosette. Ms Hewitt's creativity, dedication and attention to detail played a huge part in making our entry such a success.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to HMRC for sponsoring the KJS team for a second consecutive year. Their support is greatly appreciated and helps make our participation in this wonderful community event possible.

Finally, thank you to all of the students, families and members of the local community who came out to support the team. The encouragement along the route was overwhelming, and it was fantastic to see so many KJS students cheering them on throughout the day. Your enthusiasm and school spirit made the event even more special.

Once again, the Knaresborough Bed Race proved to be an unforgettable occasion. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making it such a memorable and successful day for KJS.



The Sixth Form would like to extend a huge congratulations and well done to the Sixth Form Bed Race Team and helpers, plus all other students who were involved in the day. What a wonderful community event. With extremely limited time and resources (in the middle of their internal exams) they managed to produce a wonderful World Cup themed bed and achieve a top 20 position in the overall race results. It was great to see some friendly rivalry with the KJS Staff Team too; the Sixth Form Team beat the staff and all previous Sixth Form Team times. We are very proud of our new record - one to beat next year!



Year 11 Leavers Day 2026

Year 11 marked the end of their KJS journey with a memorable and emotional Leavers Day celebration on Tuesday. Students arrived as usual, greeted on the gates by the Year Team for one final welcome, before heading to form for the last time.

The morning continued in the sports hall, where students enjoyed shirt signing and photographs with friends, capturing special moments from their time together. They then moved up to S1 for the leavers assembly, which brought the whole cohort together for a wonderful celebration.

The assembly featured a mix of heartfelt speeches, awards, musical performances and memory videos, reflecting on the past five years and celebrating the achievements, growth and character of the year group. There were plenty of laughs, a fair few tears, and every emotion in between.

Special mentions to the Year teams choice award winners:

- Mr Atkinson's Choice Award- Hannah L
- Miss Jarrett's Choice Award- Rosie M
- Mr Phillips's Choice Award- Matilda K



A Message from the Year 11 Team

Now that the tears have finally stopped flowing, and we've had time to reflect on the celebrations, we just wanted to say what an amazing morning it was with you all. Celebrating the journey you've been on throughout your time at KJS, and looking back at the memories we've made together, was incredibly special. We are so grateful to have shared such a successful and meaningful celebration with you all.

Thank you again for your excellent behaviour throughout the morning – you were a true reflection of the positive and supportive year group you have become.

We are already feeling the absence of Year 11, but preparations for one final celebration at prom are keeping us busy! We are really looking forward to what promises to be one very special night! In the meantime, we encourage you all to rest, recharge and enjoy the well-earned extra long summer break.

The past five years have been a fantastic journey, and one we would do again in a heartbeat.

Class of 2021, you are a truly special cohort – it has been a pleasure.



Join us for the Year 11 Prom Arrivals – Thursday 25th June 6:30pm

On Thursday 25th June, we are delighted to welcome our Year 11 students back for one final celebration together. Our "Night Under the Stars" themed prom promises an evening filled with dancing, celebration, awards, and more.

Students will begin arriving from 6:30pm—always a highlight of the evening, with a fantastic range of arrivals, from glamorous cars to other wonderfully creative ideas. We warmly invite members of the KJS community to gather outside school and help us give them a memorable welcome as they arrive in red carpet style.

We hope to see you at the arrivals—don't miss out!



Uniform donations

As we approach the end of the school year, we would be very grateful for any donations of school uniform items in good, clean condition, such as green kilts/ties, blazers, jumpers, PE tops etc.

Donated uniforms help support other families within our school community by providing affordable access to quality school clothing.

By donating your unwanted uniform, you will be helping to reduce waste, support sustainability, and assist fellow students. Every contribution, no matter how small, can make a real difference.

Any uniform donations can be dropped off at school before the end of term.

Thank you for helping us build a caring and environmentally responsible school community.



“Winging It!” Improv Success

Students in our Studio Production performed an energetic evening of short-form improvisation theatre titled “Winging IT!” on Wednesday 17th June.

The show featured a fast-paced collection of improvised games and scenes, with performers creating characters, locations, and storylines entirely in the moment.

We were thankful for our amazing audience participation, with brilliant and imaginative suggestions that helped shape many of the scenes and added to the overall energy and humour of the performance.

The cast demonstrated strong teamwork, creativity, and adaptability throughout, responding instantly to prompts and building comedic moments on the spot. The audience response was extremely positive, with comments including “10/10”, “Fantastic!” and “It was wonderful, I just laughed for an hour.”

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event. There are plans to bring “Winging It!” back for new improv performances in the future – keep an eye out for details.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

We are delighted to share some fantastic news about the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). Out of a large number of applicants, two of our King James students have been successfully selected for the fully funded RYLA course taking place in August.



This is an incredible and rare opportunity, with only two places available across North Yorkshire. We are therefore especially proud to celebrate the success of Bohdan (Year 12) and Isla (Year 11), who have both secured a place on this prestigious programme.

We hope they have an amazing experience and gain valuable skills and confidence from the course. Congratulations to them both—we are very proud and wish them every success!

Year 13
PROM
-MASQUERADE BALL-



-Includes-
DJ, Buffet, Photobooth, Awards 🏆

-Date & Time-
Friday 26th June, 6.30-Midnight

-Location-
Double Tree by Hilton Harrogate Majestic Hotel
(@ Spa HG1 2HU)



Tickets - £84.50
Buy here!

Year 13

A-Level exams finally come to an end on Monday 22nd June. Good Luck to those final students and well done to each Year 13 student for completing this exam season - it has been a long one!

We look forward to celebrating with you at our Year 13 Masquerade Ball at the Majestic Hotel in Harrogate on Friday 26th June. Arrival from 6.30pm; food served at 7.00pm; awards ceremony at 8pm; bar, disco and photos; carriages at midnight.

Opportunities! Sixth Form & beyond

Bespoke opportunities for Years 12 & 13 updated weekly from KJS Sixth Form Knaresborough:

https://wakelet.com/wake/hO_PLuy0Xrky73rMfYrlr



Attendance World Cup Fever Hits School



As we reach the end of the first week of the World Cup Attendance Challenge, we can confirm it has been a fiercely contested competition. Clearly, the incentive of pizza is having the desired effect!

Next week sees the tournament enter the knockout stages, with the Round of 16, quarter-finals and semi-finals all leading up to the grand final on Thursday. Not only have we seen the students embracing the competitive spirit, but tutors have also been keeping a close eye on the standings, searching for any advantage they can find.

Every appeal and request has seen careful adjudicated by our own version of VAR, the Attendance Champion, ensuring that all decisions have been fairly considered. With another week to go, we look forward to seeing the most deserving team lift the trophy, well, pizza slice! See the posters below for the results from days 1-5.

A special mention must also go to Year 10 who have maintained excellent attendance whilst sitting their mock exams this week. Turning up is sometimes the hardest part, so congratulations and well done to all of you. Keep it up!

	Whole School	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
8th-12th June	90.54%	94.28%	92.41%	87.19%	88.64%	-

DAY 1 GROUP STAGE FIXTURES RESULTS

ENGLAND	0	VS	4	BRAZIL
MOROCCO	0	VS	0	JAPAN
FRANCE	4	VS	2	ARGENTINA
AUSTRALIA	0	VS	0	NETHERLANDS
SPAIN	3	VS	0	PORTUGAL
BELGIUM	4	VS	0	DENMARK
GERMANY	2	VS	0	ITALY
CROATIA	4	VS	0	SWITZERLAND
NIGERIA	2	VS	3	URUGUAY
EGYPT	0	VS	0	TURKEY
GHANA	0	VS	0	COLOMBIA
SENEGAL	0	VS	0	IRELAND
POLAND	2	VS	3	CHILE
NORWAY	0	VS	0	CZECH REPUBLIC
SWEDEN	0	VS	2	PERU
AUSTRIA	4	VS	0	NEW ZEALAND

DAY 2 GROUP STAGE FIXTURES & RESULTS

FIXTURE	RESULT
England VS Morocco	0-0
Canada VS Brazil	0-0
France VS Australia	4-2
South Korea VS Argentina	4-2
Spain VS Belgium	0-0
Mexico VS Portugal	0-0
Germany VS Croatia	0-1
United States VS Italy	0-4
Nigeria VS Egypt	4-0
South Africa VS Uruguay	4-3
Ghana VS Senegal	0-0
Wales VS Colombia	2-1
Poland VS Norway	2-0
Scotland VS Chile	0-0
Sweden VS Austria	2-4
Northern Ireland VS Peru	0-0

DAY 2 HIGHLIGHTS

- HIGHEST SCORING MATCH: South Africa 4-3 Uruguay
- BIGGEST WINNING MARGINS: Nigeria 4-0 Egypt, Italy 4-0 United States
- TOTAL GOALS SCORED: 37
- DRAWN: 8
- CORRECTED RESULT: Wales 2-1 Colombia

DAY 3 WORLD CUP CHALLENGE RESULTS

★ GROUP STAGE FIXTURES & RESULTS ★	
1 ENGLAND 0-0 JAPAN	9 NIGERIA 2-4 TURKEY
2 CANADA 3-0 MOROCCO	10 SOUTH AFRICA 0-0 EGYPT
3 FRANCE 4-4 NETHERLANDS	11 GHANA 0-0 IRELAND
4 SOUTH KOREA 4-0 ARGENTINA	12 WALES 2-0 COLOMBIA
5 SPAIN 3-0 DENMARK	13 POLAND 4-0 CZECH
6 MEXICO 0-4 BELGIUM	14 SCOTLAND 0-0 NORWAY
7 GERMANY 2-0 SWITZERLAND	15 SWEDEN 4-0 AUSTRIA
8 US 0-0 CROATIA	16 NORTHERN IRELAND 0-2 PERU

EVERY DAY COUNTS! ATTEND TODAY, SCORE TOMORROW!

WORLD CUP GROUP STAGE DAY 4 FIXTURES & RESULTS

ENGLAND	2-0	CANADA	BRAZIL	4-2	JAPAN
FRANCE	0-4	SOUTH KOREA	ARGENTINA	0-0	NETHERLANDS
SPAIN	0-0	MEXICO	PORTUGAL	4-0	DENMARK
GERMANY	0-0	US	ITALY	2-0	SWITZERLAND
NIGERIA	4-0	SOUTH AFRICA	URUGUAY	4-4	TURKEY
GHANA	0-0	WALES	COLOMBIA	0-4	IRELAND
POLAND	4-0	SCOTLAND	CHILE	0-0	CZECH
SWEDEN	2-0	NORTHERN IRELAND	PERU	4-0	NEW ZEALAND

THE WORLD. ONE GAME. ONE DREAM.

DAY 5 GROUP STAGE FIXTURE RESULTS

BRAZIL	4	0	MOROCCO
JAPAN	0	0	CANADA
ARGENTINA	0	0	AUSTRALIA
NETHERLANDS	0	0	SOUTH KOREA
PORTUGAL	0	0	BELGIUM
DENMARK	0	0	MEXICO
ITALY	0	0	CROATIA
SWITZERLAND	1	0	US
URUGUAY	0	0	EGYPT
TURKEY	0	0	SOUTH AFRICA
COLOMBIA	0	0	SENEGAL
IRELAND	0	0	WALES
CHILE	0	0	NORWAY
CZECH	0	0	SCOTLAND
PERU	0	2	AUSTRIA
NEW ZEALAND	0	0	NORTHERN IRELAND

ONE GAME. EVERY NATION. ALL TOGETHER.

FROM OVERWHELM TO CONFIDENCE: Supporting Anxious Children Without Losing Yourself

**Parent Workshop: Speaker, Jo Cheetham
Monday 22nd June | 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Sixth Form Common Room
Parking Available**

This workshop is particularly relevant for parents and carers of children who experience anxiety, especially where anxiety impacts school attendance, wellbeing, confidence and day-to-day functioning.

The workshop will cover:

- The impact of chronic stress, burnout and overwhelm on parents.
- Helping parents recognise anxiety and threat responses within themselves and their children.
- Understanding how parental responses can unintentionally reinforce anxiety cycles and avoidance patterns.
- Boundaries as structures that create predictability and emotional safety.
- Maintaining consistent boundaries from a calm and regulated position.
- Supporting children through distress without immediately rescuing or removing discomfort.
- Practical scripts for challenging situations.
- Grounding techniques for parents and children.
- Compassionate strategies to help parents feel more confident and emotionally resourced.

Register Here

Jo Cheetham | Forensic Psychologist
Psychologist with over 14 years' experience supporting children, young people and adults with anxiety, trauma and emotional wellbeing difficulties.

WELL CONNECTIONS
www.wellconnections.co.uk

KING JAMES'S SCHOOL
ENNERBROUGH

KJS IS A READING SCHOOL
We are all readers



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I really recommend this brilliant book about Cristiano Ronaldo. It tells the story of his childhood and how difficult things were for him growing up. One of the most important moments in his life was when he played in a match with a friend and that one game helped him take his first steps towards becoming a professional footballer.

I would rate this book 4/5 stars.
(Recommended reading age – KS3)

Harry Ogden (Y7)

This book is a highly engaging and thought-provoking novel, combining a compelling narrative with sharp and insightful social commentary. The story explores complex themes such as class, identity and moral responsibility. Overall, it is not only an absorbing read but also a text that prompts deeper consideration beyond the page.

I would rate this book 5/5 stars.
(Recommended reading age – KS4+)

Josh Alderman (Y12)

FEAST Summer 2026

Fully-funded summer holiday activities with [FEAST](#)

FEAST is back this summer, offering holiday activities with food for children and young people across North Yorkshire. Better yet, if you're eligible for benefits-related free school meals, your place is fully-funded.

What's happening when?

- From Monday 15th June – browse activities on the FEAST website or view the offline activity listings to see what's on in your area.
- Midday, Monday 22nd June – vouchers go live. Eligible families will receive a text or email from HolidayActivities to redeem their voucher and request places.
- From Friday 24th June – activity providers begin allocating places.

Funded places are available for children who receive benefits-related free school meals (or who are eligible by exception – see the [FEAST FAQs](#) for details). Each activity you book includes a free healthy meal for your child.

If you believe your child is eligible and do not receive your voucher on 22nd June, please contact your school office.

Families who are not eligible for free places may be able to book paid places directly with providers.

Visit the [FEAST](#) website from 15th June to explore what's on this summer.



Yorkshire
Gliding Club



Summer 2026 Art Competition

If you can paint your dream, the sky's the limit!



Enter our free art competition



Open to all artists 18 and under



An excellent opportunity to create
a design for the front of the club
hangar doors



And win a gliding experience



Submission deadline:

5 September 2026

Email submissions to:

artcompetition@ygc.co.uk