

Friday 20th June 2025

# King James's School Newsletter

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## Bed Race Brilliance!

This year's Great Knaresborough Bed Race was an unforgettable event for our school, and we're absolutely bursting with pride at the efforts and achievements of our incredible students.

A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 10 team, who didn't just run the race—they owned it! In what can only be described as a truly iconic moment, they managed to overtake the staff team right in the middle of Knaresborough High Street. We've been assured by the staff team that they "graciously stepped aside" to "boost student morale"... but let's just say Year 10 aren't letting them forget it anytime soon!



Not to be outdone, the staff team won the hearts of the crowd with their phenomenal Churchill dog design—complete with wobbly jowls, a wagging tail, and a lot of character. We were genuinely overwhelmed by the support, smiles, and kind comments from spectators all along the route. The design was a true crowd-pleaser and brought joy to everyone who saw it.

A massive shout out to the one and only Dr Brodie, the creative mastermind behind Churchill (oh yes!). His imagination, craftsmanship, and attention to detail turned the idea into a show-stopping reality. Without his vision, Churchill might still be a sketch on a napkin!

Meanwhile, our Sixth Form team impressed with their fabulous Funky Pigeon creation—bright, bold, and full of flair. Their float was a firm favourite and showed off the sixth form's trademark humour and creativity.

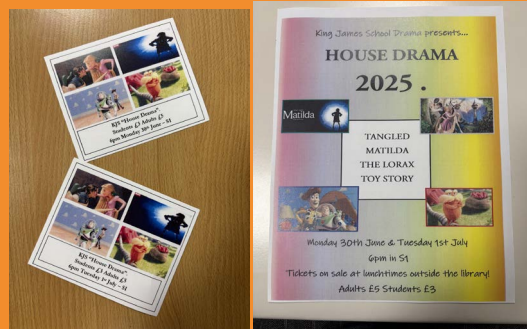
All of our teams did the school proud with their teamwork, energy, and community spirit. We're incredibly grateful to our sponsors HMCA and to Joanne, whose generous support helped make this fantastic experience possible. From the custom running vests to the materials that brought Churchill to life—we truly were racing in style.

Roll on next year—we'll be back, bigger, bolder, and maybe just a



## House Drama

Tickets are still on sale all of next week outside the library via cash or card for our annual 'House Drama' performances for just £3 for students and £5 for adults - a bargain night out at the theatre with four high quality performances each night. Expect song, dance, puppetry, larger than life characters and buckets of energy! There will be an interval with refreshments and House Drama is guaranteed to always be a fabulous evening! Opening night is Monday 30th June and Judges night is 1st July! All four houses perform both nights and casts are in all the time rehearsing after school and will be spending this (very warm) Sunday in school preparing with their technical rehearsals! We hope to see you all there! A reminder to all students attending to bring a packed lunch and plenty of water!



## “No One is an Island”

As part of Net Zero Week (5-12th July), Zero Carbon Harrogate is proud to host a special double screening on Wednesday 9th July at Harrogate Odeon Cinema in partnership with the Harrogate Film Society. Featuring leading climate scientists, the documentary “No One is an Island” features uplifting interviews and artwork from pupils at King James School in Knaresborough, giving voice to the future generation on the world they’d like to inherit, and the environmental and social values on underpinning that future. <https://www.king-james.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/News-Film-Screening-press-release.pdf> <https://www.king-james.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/News-Film-Screening-press-release.pdf>

## Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

“Students who feel genuinely cared for by their teachers do better at school. When children feel relationally safe, the learning brain opens wide up. Without relational safety, the brain will focus on getting ‘safe’ rather than learning.” Karen Young, heysigmond.com

At King James, every student matters. While we’re a mainstream school, we’re deeply committed to supporting the individual needs of each learner. We work closely with families to understand and respond to challenges, especially when coming to school feels overwhelming for a child.

Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) is complex, and there’s no one size fits all solution. That’s why we offer tailored, reasonable adjustments to help ease anxiety and build confidence. We’re always open to conversations about what might help your child feel more supported.

If you feel your child might be facing Emotionally Based School Avoidance, please sign up for our upcoming workshop, delivered by Lisa Poole, on Monday 23rd June 7 – 8:30pm. It is designed to

## YO1 Sport Awards

On Thursday night, the Year 11 Boys Rugby Team attended the YO1 Sports Awards at York Barbican, as nominees for the Secondary & Higher Education Sports Team of the Year.

The evening included a red-carpet welcome, entertainment, music, and special guests. Although the boys didn’t win the award, they did themselves proud and represented King James’s School exceptionally well.



## The Week Ahead: 23rd June 2025

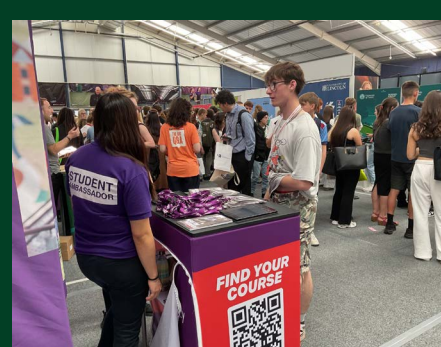
Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Year 10 Exams Week 2 Emotional Based School Avoidance talk	10 All	7.00p-8.30pm	
Tue				
Wed	Year 7 Parents Evening	7	4.30-7.30pm	Online
Thur	Year 6 Small Schools Transition Day Year 11 Prom	11	6.30pm	S1
Fri	<b>Year 13 Prom</b> <b>Y6 SEN Transition Day 2</b>	13		

## UCAS Event

On Thursday this week, the whole of Year 12 visited the UCAS Discovery Day at Leeds Beckett University. The weather was fantastic and so was the event.

Our YR12 students were able to speak to over 100 exhibitors including a variety of different universities and HE institutions, employers, and apprenticeship providers. They were also had the opportunity to attend seminars on student life, student finance, subject specific workshops, and wider support sessions from UCAS and other providers.

We hope that speaking with HE and careers experts and visiting a university campus will help them to start making some important decisions regarding their next steps.



## Thought for the Fortnight

The Thought for the Fortnight for the week beginning 23rd June is linked to National School Sports Week.

“Embracing movement isn’t just about fitness; it’s about unlocking a healthier, happier you”



Key Takeaways are:

- regular movement supports mental, emotional and social well being
- embracing movement means making physical activity a regular, enjoyable part of your weekly routine.
- movement can come in many forms, however, for any type of activity to benefit your health, you need to move quickly enough to raise your heart rate, breathe faster and feel warmer.
- school provides opportunities for you to be physically active on a regular basis through PE lessons and extracurricular clubs.

## Assemblies

We are looking forward to getting back to live assemblies the week beginning 30th June.



## Student Surveys

We value the opinions of our students and want to find out about their learning and reading habits, so we have set up two student surveys to complete. Students can access these surveys **on the Bromcom homework app** which will be open for two weeks from Friday 20th June until Friday 4th July.

Form tutors will publicise this next week with their tutor group so that we encourage as many students as possible to complete the surveys. If you can also support from home and ask your child to complete the surveys that would be hugely appreciated.

## Revealing the 2025 Carnegie Award Winners!

Throughout the last few months, our Year 8 Royal Readers and Year 9 and 10 book clubs have been busy reading, reviewing and discussing the Carnegie Medal shortlisted books:

<https://carnegies.co.uk/medals/>

The winning titles including *Glasgow Boys* and *King of Nothing* have just been announced at the awards ceremony, which can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/6Y1gJ5qQ1A>

Announcing the 2025 Information Book Award Shortlist. If your child enjoys reading non-fiction books, it's well worth exploring this diverse range of 12 titles that have made it onto this year's shortlist:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/childrens-book-awards-and-special-collections/sla-information-book-award/>





KING JAMES'S SCHOOL  
KNARESBOROUGH

**\*\* Free School Talk For Parents Who May Be Dealing With EBSA \*\***

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 7 -8:30pm  
Sixth Form Common Room**

## **Understanding Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA): A Collaborative Approach with Lisa Poole**

The term *school avoidance* doesn't always capture the full picture of what some children are going through. Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) is a complex and deeply felt experience — it's not about a child simply refusing to go to



school. For many families, it's not a matter of "won't" but "can't."

If your child finds attending school difficult, you're not alone. And it's not a failure on anyone's part—not the child's, not the parents', and not the schools. Instead, it's a signal that something needs attention, curiosity, and compassion.

This session invites parents into a shared space of understanding. Together, we'll explore some of the emotional and neurobiological reasons behind EBSA, offering insight into what children might be trying to communicate through their distress and how we can support them going forward.

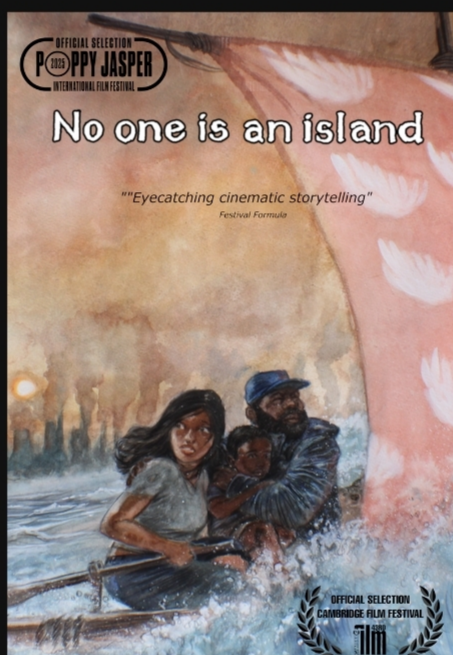
Click [here](#) to register

HARROGATE ODEON

SPECIAL EVENT

WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025

# DOUBLE FILM SCREENING



Join us during Net Zero Week for an inspiring double bill exploring what a positive, sustainable future could look like with two stunning films **2040** and **No One Is An Island** – plus stay for an exclusive panel discussion with the local filmmakers, David Bunting and James McKay!

## WED 9TH JULY 2025

START AT 19.00 | HARROGATE ODEON CINEMA



ODEON

FULL INFO & BUY TICKETS:  
HARROGATEFILMSOCIETY.ORG