

Friday 24th October 2025

King James's School Newsletter

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Careers Fair

Thursday's Careers Fair brought together an exciting mix of exhibitors, students and parents and enabled networking, information gathering and inspiration for Post 16 and Post 18 pathways.



We'd like to extend a big thank you to all of the employers, colleges, universities and training providers who took part, as well as the students and staff volunteers who made the event a success.

Assemblies

During the first week back after half term, we have Mr Green from the History department delivering assemblies on Armistice Day to Year 7, 8, 10, 12 & 13. Year 9 and Year 11 will be having their Armistice Day assemblies the following week.

UKMT Success for Sixth Form

We were delighted to receive the results of another two challenges hosted by the UK Maths Trust this week.

Two Year 13 students took part in the Maths Olympiad for Girls in September. Well done to Sesathmee A who received a merit for her performance.

Sesathmee was also the top scorer in Year 13 on the Senior Maths Challenge in October. Best in school for this challenge, however, went to Luke R in Year 12. In total KJS students were awarded 1 gold, 12 silver and 19 bronze awards.

Well done to all who took part who earned points for their houses. Anyone interested in having a go at the challenge can find it online [here](#).



The Week Ahead: 3rd November 2025

Day	Event	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Second half Autumn Term begins			
Tue				
Wed				
Thur				
Fri	Wuthering Heights Watch Party	12		

READY RESPECTFUL ENGAGED

Year 10 Art Trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park

On Tuesday, our Year 10 Art students enjoyed a trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. The purpose of the visit was to explore and draw sculptures by renowned artists Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth.

The students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day and thankfully, the rain held off! Everyone clocked up an impressive 7,500 steps while discovering a wide variety of artworks across the park.

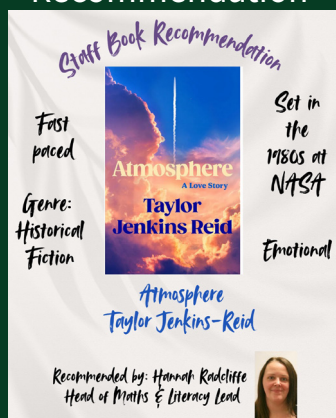
This experience will form an important part of the students' coursework development, giving them valuable first-hand insight into large-scale sculpture within a landscape.

A big thank you to Mr Bowden and Miss Fisher for joining the Art Department and supporting the students on the trip.

Well done to all the Year 10 artists for representing the school so well.



This week's Staff Reading Recommendation



Please note that the staff recommended reads are for KS5 students and adults.



Save the Date: Wellbeing Fair – Thursday 27th November 2025

We are excited to announce that on Thursday 27th November, Miss Jarrett will be hosting our first ever Wellbeing Fair here at school.

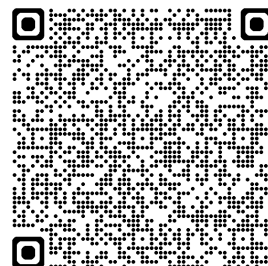
All parents and carers are warmly invited to join us in the evening to meet and speak with a range of health and wellbeing services. This is a fantastic opportunity to explore how these services can support both our students and their families.

More details will be shared after half term, but for now, please save the date – it's going to be a really important evening that you won't want to miss!

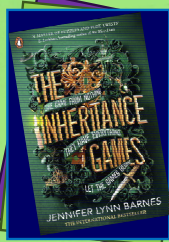
Independent Learning/Wider Reading

The link and QR code provide our students with direct access to an archive of educational magazines suitable for GCSE/A-level wider reading. It is a fantastic resource that will really help with their coursework, research, and university applications.

[GCSE/A-Level Magazines](#)



This Week's Student Book Reviews



Words cannot express how brilliant this entire series is. The main characters' personal development are nice to watch; the plots of the books are excellent and the riddles and games they must play are unbelievably enjoyable to go along with. The books are must reads!!

If I could give this book 7 stars I would!

Hazel Brodie Y8



I found this book really interesting and I constantly wanted to read on. Although each chapter has a specific moral, they are well embedded within an interesting plot, and I love the dynamics between all the girls and their parents. Some chapters remind you not to take the simple things in life for granted and Beth is someone you'll become attached to with her quiet confidence and relationship with Jo.

I would rate this book 4.5/5 stars!

Olivia Rowntree Y11

Curtain Up on the KJS Showcase, A Night of Comedy, Chaos & Creativity



Get ready for an evening of laughter, music, and pure entertainment! On Tuesday, 3rd December, our talented Key Stage 3 students will take to the stage for this year's KJS Showcase and it's set to be an absolute treat!

This isn't just any performance, it's a show about putting on a show! Follow a lively group of students as they attempt to create their own showcase. Of course, nothing quite goes to plan... expect a little chaos, a lot of comedy, and plenty of heart as the cast navigate forgotten lines, unexpected mishaps, and moments of pure magic.

Featuring songs from some of your favourite musicals, alongside original acting and dancing pieces, this performance captures the spirit of teamwork, creativity, and fun that makes KJS such a special place to learn and perform.

Our students have been absolutely fantastic throughout rehearsals, full of enthusiasm, ideas, and infectious energy. Every rehearsal has been filled with laughter and dedication, and we cannot wait to share their hard work with you.

Join us on 3rd December for a night of musical mayhem, joyful chaos and unforgettable performances as our amazing KS3 students bring the KJS Showcase to life. Tickets will be available on ParentPay next week, so make sure to grab yours early, this is one performance you won't want to miss!

Attendance

We've made it to Half-Term!!!! It may have only been eight weeks, but for staff and students alike it has felt more like eight months of hard work, energy, and commitment; we've finally made it to the October half-term!

There has been so much to celebrate this term. Our attendance remains in line with the national average, and what's been particularly heartening is the level of engagement we've had with our families. We've been working closely with those who face challenges getting their child into school, and those conversations have made a real difference.

While we don't have magic wands to solve every problem, we've been able to offer support through reasonable adjustments and by connecting families with some of the fantastic services available, including CAHMS, Wellbeing in Mind, and Early Help, to name a few. These partnerships allow us to better understand the barriers some young people and parents/carers face, so that we can find the right ways forward together.

The October half-term is the perfect opportunity to rest and recharge. For some, that means catching up on sleep and relaxation; for others, it's about taking time to focus on wellbeing in all its forms. However, you spend it, we hope it brings you a well-deserved break.

Physical Rest	Emotional Rest	Mental Rest	Sensory Rest	Social Rest
- Sleep - Napping - Yoga or Meditation - Sitting or lying whilst gaming - Reading - Scrolling	- Not having to put a mask on - Not putting on a brave face - Not trying to keep it together - Reducing demands which create stress	- Disengaging from cognitive activities including: • making conversation • planning • problem solving • decision-making	- Reducing sensory stimuli - Having needs met	- Being alone or with people that don't drain your battery - Stepping away from group chats if overwhelming

Finally, if you haven't already signed up for the upcoming Parent Workshop on Monday 10th November, 6:30 – 8:30pm, please click [here](#). We will be joined by Jude Crooks from Wellspring Therapy and Training, who will be leading a session on "Strengthening Connections", focusing on the importance and value of parental emotional availability in conversations with your children (see flyer).

Enjoy your week away from school and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the next half-term on Monday 3rd November.

	Whole School	National Average	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
13th - 17th Oct	92.8%	93%	96.2%	94.1%	89%	91%	93.5%

** Free Parent Workshop **

Join us and Jude Crook, CYP Counselling Services Manager from wellspring therapy and training, on

Monday 10th November, 6:30 - 8:30pm as she explores the following:

Strengthening Connections

The importance and value of parental emotional availability in conversations with their children

Click [here](#) to register

A UK DfE-commissioned review in 2018 found that emotional wellbeing is a key protective factor against persistent absence. – Source: DfE, 2018 – Mental health and wellbeing in schools

A 2021 Ofsted report noted that emotionally secure children are more likely to re-engage with school after long absences. – Source: Ofsted (2021) "Why do children miss school?"

KJS Rewards Celebrations at the end of Half Term 1

Every half term, our Associative Assistant Headteachers Mr King, (Y7) Mr Berry (Y8 & Y9) and Mr Atkinson (Y10 & Y11) recognise a group of students and reward them for their contributions to school life. At the end of this week students have been acknowledged for the following reasons and have received a small treat and some extra time to celebrate their achievements with their Year Managers and Assistant Headteachers.

- Year 7 – 20 students have been named our Values Visionaries for going beyond in modelling our school values. These students had morning celebrations with cakes and hot chocolates with Mrs White, Miss Bramham and Mr King.
- Year 8 – 30 Students have been recognised for going above and beyond in meeting our school values. They had cupcakes and an early fun breaktime with Miss English, Mrs Roberts and Mr Berry.
- Year 9 – 30 students have been rewarded for making great progress and making some positive changes at the start of Year 9. They had cupcakes and an early fun breaktime with Miss Flintoft, Mrs Roberts and Mr Berry.
- Year 10 – Celebrated 8 students after receiving amazing feedback from their new teachers and for starting their GCSEs in such a positive way. They have received gift cards to spend in our local shops and had hot chocolates with Miss Dennis, Mrs Lovell and Mr Atkinson.
- Year 11 – 8 focused and committed students have been recognised for being fully engaged with Revision Rockstars as well as for being organised in their preparation for their Mock exams. They have received gift cards to spend in our local shops and had hot chocolates with Miss Jarrett, Mr Phillips and Mr Atkinson.

Half Term 1 Recognition Points:

Every week students are awarded with Bromcom Points for meeting our school expectations of Ready Respectful and Engaged. They can achieve a maximum of 15 points each week and points are awarded each day for:

- Attending School
- Having no lates to lesson
- Receiving no negative comments

These points have been accumulating over this half term and the average number of Recognition Points achieved per student is 102.79. Across the school we are really pleased with how our students are responding to these as a way of reinforcing the importance of our key values. Congratulations to Year 7 who have set the bar extremely high in half term 1!

- 1st – Year 7 113.05
- 2nd – Year 12 107.10
- 3rd – Year 8 104.62
- 4th – Year 11 103.14
- 5th – Year 12. 107.10
- 6th – Year 9 95.90
- 7th - Year 10 95.44

Well done to the winning Forms with the best average points for this first Half Term.

- Year 7 7N1–Mr Walker Average Points 119.44
- Year 8 8S1 – Miss Cermak Average Points 114.43
- Year 9 9A3 – Mr Radcliffe Average Points 106.15
- Year 10 10W1 – Mrs Taft – Average Points 106.00
- Year 11 11W1 – Mrs Jackson – Average Points 112.67
- Year 12 12N1 – Mr Foley – Average Points 111.45
- Year 13 13N1 – Mr Aughton – Average Points 112.06

Looking Ahead - End of Term 1 Rewards

As an incentive at the end of next Half Term, year groups will be organising a celebration event or an enrichment trip for any students who have achieved an overall positive point balance for Term 1. Some students will also be awarded with Ready, Respectful and Engaged Tokens with the aim of trying to collect all 3 before the end of the academic year. These tokens will be given out for the following reasons:

- Ready – Awarded by Form Tutor for always arriving to school on time, in correct uniform, with the correct equipment and in the right mindset.
- Respectful – Awarded by Year Mangers for always being polite, well mannered, kind, and helpful towards others and an excellent role model for others in their year group.
- Engaged – Awarded by subject teachers for always getting involved, competing work to the best of their ability and listening carefully to any feedback they are given.

