

Friday 25th April 2025

King James's School Newsletter

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Thought for the Fortnight

Thought for the Fortnight for the week beginning 28th April is linked to the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which is on 8th May.

Mr Green will be delivering assemblies to all year groups across the fortnight beginning 28th April and the Thought for the Fortnight is an opportunity for students to focus on honoring veterans and remembering the sacrifices made during World War II.

"Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It's the courage to continue that counts" - Winston Churchill.

The key takeaways are:

- Success is not a permanent state, it requires continuous effort.
- Failure is not the end, it's part of growth. Many successful people faced multiple failures before achieving success.
- Courage is what drives people to keep going, despite set backs.

Term-Time Holidays

As we continue our commitment to providing the best possible education for all our pupils, we are writing to inform you of an important update regarding student attendance, particularly around requests for term-time holidays.

In line with government guidelines, we are required to remind all parents and carers that any absence from school due to holidays during term time will be recorded as unauthorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These regulations are in place to ensure that every child has consistent access to their education and the full breadth of learning opportunities available to them.

Additionally, from September, the school will, unfortunately, be reserving the right to issue fines for unauthorised holiday absences. This step is being taken in accordance with local authority and national policy, and is not a decision we make lightly.

We understand that family time is precious and that holidays are often planned with care. However, we respectfully ask that these plans align with the school holiday calendar to avoid disruption to your child's learning and potential penalties.

If you have any questions or believe your circumstances might be considered exceptional, please feel free to contact the school office or Mrs Sutherland, Attendance Champion, directly. We will always approach each case with empathy and understanding, within the framework we are required to follow.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us provide the best environment for your child's education.



Epic Everest Achievement

Earlier this month, Jessica W in Year 7 climbed over 80 miles to Everest base camp in 11 days.

She also visited monasteries and learnt about the culture, history and geography of Nepal. What an amazing achievement Jessica, well done!



Fundraising for St Michael's Hospice

Emily-May R in Year 9 has raised £100 for St Michael's Hospice as it's important to her family. She made cupcakes and sold them to raise money for her charity for her PSHE project for raising awareness.



Assemblies

Year 7, 10, 12 & 13 have a VE Day Assembly delivered by Mr Green.

Year 8 & 9 have a Sports Celebration Assembly delivered by Miss Burn, Head of PE.

Year 11 have their final full year group assembly this week delivered by Mr Atkinson.

Welcome to our new SENCo

We would like to welcome Mrs Amy Fearnley to King James's school as our new SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator).

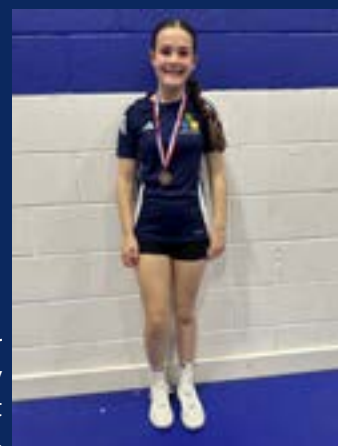


Mrs Fearnley will be working alongside Miss Riley in the SEND department, supporting students and families.

Mrs Knight moves into a full time role as DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead), and will remain the SLT link with SEND, assisting with the more complex cases when required.

Netball Success

One of our Year 7 students, Orla S, has been nominated as the U12 section trainer of the month by her coaches at Grangetown Netball Club. Below is the write-up from her coaches:



"Orla has only been with us for a few weeks and has already shown great commitment and passion for the sport. Orla has fitted in nicely with the team and has worked extremely hard during training sessions to develop her knowledge of the game and skill level.

Recently Orla played in the U13 league as part of the U12 team winning both matches against very good oppositions. Orla has also played with the team in the Bury league which again shows great commitment and potential for her future with us at Grangetown!

Keep up the hard work Orla, we are excited to see what the future holds for you with us at your new club."

Orla also represented the U13 North Yorkshire Performance Netball squad this season, which has now come to an end. At the final county tournament, the two squads finished with Gold and Bronze, and they were also runners-up at a recent South Durham Netball Festival.

Careers

It's been a busy week for Careers and we have welcomed a large number of visitors into school to work with students from a range of year groups. Photographs of the event can be found at the end of this newsletter.

On Wednesday our Careers Fair took place in Chaloner Hall. Year 8,9, 10 and 12 students enjoyed visiting the range of employers, colleges and universities throughout the day and we welcomed parents and students from all year groups at our evening session. A big thank you to the 25 exhibitors who came into school and engaged in conversations with our students and answered their many questions.

On Friday we welcomed 12 Employers from the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) industries who worked with 50 of our Year 10 students with the aim of inspiring more females into STEM Careers. Students engaged in conversations with the employers about the employers career paths and asked questions to develop their knowledge and understanding of the range of STEM career opportunities available to them.

We have gathered feedback from students and exhibitors so that we can continue to ensure the Careers Fair is the best it can be. It would be really helpful to have feedback from any parents who attended the evening session.

If you came to the Careers Fair for the evening session, we would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the short feedback form that you can access via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/yGnAK5r35y>

The Week Ahead: 28th April 2025

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Year 10 Geography Fieldtrip 1	10	All day	
Tue	Year 10 Geography Fieldtrip 2	10	All day	
Wed				
Thur	Junior Maths Challenge Year 7 Rewards Trip	7	3.30pm	
Fri				





GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN KNARESBOROUGH

Join us for a clean up day to make our community beautiful and litter-free.

Come along to 2, Butter Lane to collect your litter pickers, bin bags and suggested route maps.

**SUNDAY, 27 APRIL 2025,
10-2PM**



**Organised by Knaresborough Wombles &
Knaresbotough Youth Council**

Young People Drop-in



A safe space to be heard. Talk to one of our qualified practitioners about your feelings and devise coping strategies to move forward and improve your wellbeing. We are here to listen.

Who is it for?

The mental health drop-in is for anyone aged 11 – 18.
This drop-in is not a crisis service or a youth club.

When and where is it?

Wednesday, 3 – 6pm

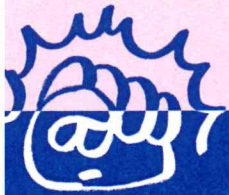
Acorn Centre, 101a Station Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1HB

How to access the support?

No referral or appointment is needed, just turn up, fill in a short form and access the drop-in.

 mind in Harrogate District

Counselling for Young People



Our face to face service offers compassionate support for young people aged 11 to 18 with emotional and mental health challenges.

Our counsellors provide a safe and non-judgmental space to explore feelings and build coping strategies.

This confidential, professional service is offered at an affordable price and accredited by the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP).

www.mindinharrogate.org.uk 01423 503335 office@mindinharrogate.org.uk

Mind in Harrogate District (a charitable incorporated organisation)
Registered charity number (1151271)