

Friday 26th April 2024

# King James's School Newsletter

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## The Headteacher's Message

We are now only two weeks from the start of the exam season. The year has truly raced by and staff and students are eager to start (and finish) the culmination of their many years' education. Thanks again to parents for all your support in working with us to do the very best for your children. For any support in these last few weeks, please do contact us. Also, please see below for some useful sources of advice.

[Help your child beat exam stress - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

[Parents' Guide To Supporting Children At Exam Time | YoungMinds](#)

[AQA | Student and parent support | Managing exam stress](#)

[Revision | Anna Freud](#)

Clare Martin  
Headteacher

## Goodbye and good luck

This week we say goodbye to Maggie Somerville, who has worked at King James's School for almost 22 years, starting as Food Technician, moving into textiles and most recently as the Art Technician. Thank you to Maggie for all your hard work over the years and we wish you all the best for your retirement.

## Year 12 Charity Fundraiser

Year 12 students, Lewis Jauncey, Leon Perry Masey, and Charles Villaweaver, along with ex-KJS students Jude Bowlas, and Daniel McLean, are in a band called Yellow Number 5. On Thursday 18th April they performed in a charity concert at Ripon Grammar School. Will Paton also helped to set up and pack away.

In December 2023 a Ripon Grammar School student had a life-changing accident that left him paralysed from the waist down. Daniel, Yellow number 5's drummer, heard about this and started organising a charity concert to raise money for physiotherapy bills as part of his rehabilitation. The concert was entirely student led and included three bands as well as a raffle; it was a huge success. The goal was £1000, however they raised almost £2000 in total.



## Harrogate Music Festival

Some of our students took part in the Harrogate Music Festival and performed excellently, with many winning awards. Well done to them all on this fantastic achievement.



## House Drama

The annual House Drama auditions took place this week:

Airedale - Gnomeo & Julliet  
Nidderdale: Coraline  
Wharfedale: Mary Poppins  
Swaledale: Oliver

Cast lists are likely to be up by Monday on the House Drama notice board. Letters will be collected by pupils in the cast for dates and information. Reception will eventually have a list of days that each House will be performing. Should parents wish to contribute to each House budget of £50, any donations will be gratefully received.

## Wicked Musical trip



On Wednesday night, those students who are studying music went to see the production of "Wicked" at the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford. The show re-imagines the Land of Oz, and tells the story of the unlikely but profound friendship between two young women. It was an incredible show, the behaviour of the students was impeccable and they all had a fabulous time.



## Young Enterprise

This week, six of King James's aspiring entrepreneurs took part in the Young Enterprise North Yorkshire area finals, in Ripley. Throughout this academic year, our team have been working tirelessly to develop their successful company, Plant Pets. With a focus on innovation, creativity and sustainability, Plant Pets has not only achieved profitability but also paved the way for entrepreneurial success at King James's Sixth Form. The competition was made up of six finalist schools, each with their own company and unique product. The day consisted of setting up a trade stall, interviews from an expert panel and presentations to the other teams and judges. Not only did Plant Pets manage to clinch the Customer Service award,



but they also won the overall competition and took home the North Yorkshire Company of the Year Award. Their success here means they go through to the Yorkshire Regional Finals, at the York Guildhall in May. The judges praised their innovative idea, clear understanding of their target market and the financial success so far.

As for the product itself, each Plant Pet kit contains: a terracotta plant pot, a selection of different non-toxic paints, a colourful paint brush, a recyclable flyer with information and instructions, chemical and peat free soil and 3-5 surprise seeds from the 3 plants listed on the flyer. If you are interested in purchasing your own Plant Pet, please contact the team through any of the following channels:  
 Email - [Plantpetsye@gmail.com](mailto:Plantpetsye@gmail.com), Insta - [@plantpets.uk](https://www.instagram.com/plantpets.uk), TikTok - [@plantpets.uk](https://www.tiktok.com/@plantpets.uk), Facebook - [@plantpets.uk](https://www.facebook.com/plantpets.uk)

Each box costs £10 and it makes for a perfect gift for you or a loved one. Payments can be made by cash, card or by bank transfer, but you will need to see one of the company members to collect your product. Plant Pets is also proving to be incredibly popular so

## The Week Ahead: 29th April 2024

<b>Personal Development Focus: ENGAGED - Aspiration</b> <i>"Knowing my own strengths and personal qualities and realising their relevance to my future"</i>				
Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	GCSE Art Exam Day 1	11	All day	
Tue	GCSE PE External Moderation Performing Arts Final Performance Exam	11 13	All day All day	
Wed	GCSE Textiles Exam Y8 Parents Evening	11 8	All day 4.30-7.30pm	Via video call
Thur	Spring Concert (see poster below)		7.00pm	S1
Fri	Book Fair GCSE Art Exam Day 2 GCSE German Speaking Exams	11 11	All day Various	Library

## KJS uniform expectations

As stated in our planner and in previous communications, acrylic nails are not permitted in school. Please support your child with the removal of their acrylic nails by Monday 29th April. After this date students will be working in our 'consequence room' until the issue is rectified. Please note also that nail varnish of any description is not allowed to be worn in Food Technology lessons for hygiene, health and safety reasons.

In addition, kilts must be worn at a reasonable length which is below mid-thigh. Students will be asked to correct their kilt and issued a negative if it is being worn at an inappropriate length. We will monitor the amount of negative logs and if issues with the kilt persist then those students may be asked to wear our trouser option instead. Thank you for your support.



## GUNY survey - Students in Year 8, 10 and 12

Our school, along with the majority of North Yorkshire schools, has agreed to participate in the 2024 Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey for young people.

The survey has been running in North Yorkshire since 2006 and information gained from individual school and county level analysis of this survey provides knowledge and understanding about the well-being, safety and learning of children and young people and influences school, county and locality planning and evaluation of provision. The survey will be conducted in school with students in Year 8, 10 and 12 between the 30th April and the 24th May 2024 during your one of your child's PSHCEE lessons. A letter with more detail will be sent to the parents of students in these year groups.

## Spring Concert

We welcome everyone to attend our annual Spring Concert this year.

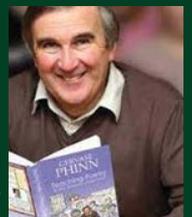


## Parking around school

We have received some comments from local residents this week regarding issues with parking during school drop off and pick up times. Please could we politely remind parents to be considerate when parking, particularly in the York Lane/ York Road area, and avoid waiting on double yellow lines or close to road junctions. There has also been a notable increase in speeding down Princess Avenue - this is a narrow road and excessive speed is a potential danger to all. Thank you for your support in helping to keep our community safe.

## Reading Evening with Gervase Phinn

A reminder about the above event on Tuesday 7th May 2024, 6-7.30pm (Doors open at 5.30pm)



Tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis. Please use the link/QR code on the attached poster to book your tickets. This should be a fantastic evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

## Vacancies

Current vacancies at KJS include the following:

- Teacher of Chemistry
- Site Cleaner
- Teacher of Geography
- Senior IT Technician
- Teacher and KS3 Co-Ordinator of Maths
- Head of English
- Attendance Officer
- Teacher of English
- Cover Supervisor/PE Technician

Further details are available on the school website:

<https://www.king-james.co.uk/vacancies/>



# Reading Matters!

An evening to inspire...

Presented by King James's School and Boroughbridge High School federation, we invite you to our **Reading Matters** event. We're offering a chance to browse our book fair, discuss the values of reading whilst exploring the variety of opportunities both schools offer. Furthermore, we will be providing you with information on how you can help support reading at home with your

We are delighted to be joined by Gervase Phinn, one of Yorkshire's most popular raconteurs, a best-selling author of hilarious and heartwarming tales from The Yorkshire Dales. This promises to be an evening to remember!



Gervase Phinn

**Tuesday 7th May 2024**  
**at King James's School**  
**5:30pm**

To secure your **FREE** place, please complete the attached form.

<https://forms.office.com/e/sY30jh1Lh9K>

If you have any additional questions, please contact [admin@king-james.co.uk](mailto:admin@king-james.co.uk)





# Gender



# Space



Providing support for:

- 13-18 year olds
- Trans (inc. NB) and gender questioning young people
- Parents and carers
- People based in Yorkshire



Online group sessions and one-to-one therapeutic support



Want to find out more?

Visit our website and download a referral form, or pop us an email and our friendly team will get in touch.

 [positiveidentities.org.uk](https://positiveidentities.org.uk)

 [positive.identities@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:positive.identities@barnardos.org.uk)

