

King James's School Newsletter

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King James's
Sixth Form

Year 12 work experience

This week has seen the first of 30 students go out on work experience to a variety of local companies and organisations. Feedback from the students was that they had really positive and worthwhile placements and thoroughly enjoyed being fully immersed in the world of work. T

he companies hosting them had nothing but praise for the way the students have conducted themselves, working hard and fitting in really well with existing teams. Well done to everyone involved!

New Year 12 Student Induction Morning

On Tuesday 7th July, the Sixth Form will host an induction morning for students who have applied to King James's Sixth Form from other schools. We look forward to meeting them all in person and hope this will help their transition to a new school and sixth form in September.

Message from Ms Oakley

Dear parents, carers and students,

You've been incredible!

There is no doubt that this week's weather has tested us all, but my goodness the students and staff have been truly incredible; and school as we know has continued as usual. Well done to all, especially to Year 10 who completed their first set of Pre-Public Examinations today.

A Tale of Two-Halves

This week has also been a week of mixed emotions as we celebrate key milestones for Years 11 and 13 with their proms; at the same time as welcoming some of our new Year 7 students on site for the start of our transition programme. It's hard to believe that some of our Year 13 (and to be honest Year 11) were ever that small, or that nervous! I know that for those not returning, as well as those just starting, this period can be one filled with emotions – just remember, we are all so proud of you.

Preparing for the End of Term

We have lots of different things planned for the end of term, with a real focus on Enrichment and preparing students for being "Safe beyond the Gate." Please take time to look carefully at the information below for each year group.

Remember – students are expected to bring their school bag and equipment every day, and to follow the specific uniform guidelines for their year group on each given day.

And finally...

Thank you so much for your support this week – remember, it's back to full school uniform from Monday!

Thank you as always for your on-going support,

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley
Headteacher



Year 10 Taster Day

The Sixth Form Team are looking forward to welcoming KJS and Boroughbridge students to our Sixth Form Taster Day on Friday 10th July. Students will be able to experience taster lessons in up to five Level 3 subjects and use the facilities in the Sixth Form building for the day.

We hope this will help them to start thinking about their Post-16 plans and inspire them to work hard next year, to achieve those plans.



Year 7

Summer Festival - Friday 10th July

Students will enjoy a BBQ lunch followed by an afternoon of fun team games and challenges.

Students need to come to school in KJS PE kit

STEM Challenge - Thursday 16th July

Students will spend 2 periods (either am or pm) applying their science, technology, engineering and maths skills to solve a problem through creative design.

Students need to come to school in school uniform

Year 8

Summer Festival – Monday 13th July

Students will enjoy a BBQ lunch followed by an afternoon of fun team games and challenges.

Students need to come to school in KJS PE kit

Experience of the Workplace Careers Event - Tuesday 14th July

Students will spend half a day experiencing what it is like to work on the stock exchange. Working in teams, students will use their communication, negotiation and financial decision making skills to buy, sell and trade shares.

Students need to come to school in school uniform

Year 9

Safe Beyond the Gate – Monday 13th July

Students will spend the day in workshops each focused on a different area of safeguarding and wellbeing. We have a range of guest speakers coming into school to help students learn more about road safety, water safety, peer influence, safeguarding in the community and maintaining wellbeing and connection

Students need to come to school in school uniform

Summer Festival – Tuesday 14th July

Students will enjoy a BBQ lunch followed by an afternoon of fun team games and challenges

Students need to come to school in KJS PE kit

Year 10

Post 16 Taster Day – Friday 10th July

Students will have the opportunity to experience life beyond Key Stage 4 through a range of taster A-Level sessions. The taster sessions will help students explore different subjects, pathways and future opportunities. The day is designed to support informed decision making and raise aspirations.

Students need to come to school in school uniform

Lunchtime Town Reward – Friday 10th July to Thursday 16th July

Students who have consistently met the expectations throughout the Year 10 mock exam period will be rewarded with a lunchtime town pass which enables students to spend their lunchtime in Knaresborough

Students who have NOT been successful in achieving this reward will be notified by Wednesday 8th July

All Year Groups

Sports Day - Wednesday 15th July

Sports day field events and some track events will take place during Period 1,2,3. During Period 4 & 5 students will compete in short distance track events with the rest of the school supporting. Students can sign up for sports day events during tutor time the week beginning 29th June.

Students competing in a sports day event need to come to school in KJS PE Kit. Students not competing in sports day event need to come to school in school uniform. Although students who are not competing in any of the sports day events will wear school uniform, we are maintaining the House spirit by encouraging students who are spectating to wear house-coloured accessories, display banners, sit in team areas and cheer on the competitors.

Non-Uniform Day - Friday 17th July

Students will gather for their final assembly of the academic year, celebrating achievements, recognising effort and reflecting on the successes of the year. The assembly will also provide the opportunity for students to find out the results of the 2025/2026 House competition. Which House will be crowned champion this year?

Students will finish school at 12.30pm

Year 7 French Trip

Last week, 40 Year 7 students, accompanied by 4 members of staff, went to St Omer in France. They set off in the early hours of Monday morning enjoying 3 full days staying at a French chateau.

Whilst in France they experienced traditional biscuit making at a French 'biscuiterie', visited a snail farm and tried the French delicacy. They also met some baby goats at the local Cheverie.

Taking advantage of the lovely weather, the group visited the beach and the seaside town of 'Le Touquet'. They also spent time at Bagatelle theme park and took part in evening activities including archery tag, French games and crepe making.

Students were fully immersed in the French culture and they also improved their French language skills by ordering ice creams and learning new vocabulary.

A great time was had by all!



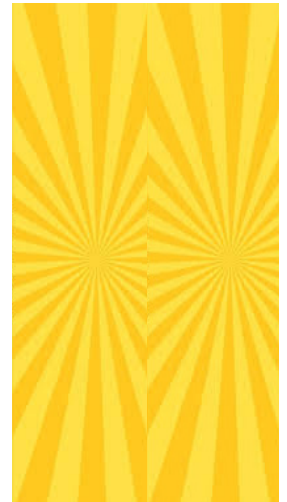
The Week Ahead: 29th June 2026

Day	Event	Year	Time	Location
Mon	House Drama 1		6.00pm	S1
Tue	House Drama 2 HPV Immunisations	8	6.00pm	S1
Wed	Year 6 Transition Day 1			
Thur	Year 6 Transition Day 2 Year 6 Transition Evening			
Fri	STAFF TRAINING DAY - School closed to students			

House Drama Technical Rehearsal

A huge congratulations and thank you to the more than 100 students who gave up their Saturday to attend the House Drama technical rehearsal. Their professionalism, focus and enthusiasm throughout the day were outstanding, and it was wonderful to see such commitment and teamwork on display.

With two sell-out performances next week, excitement is building, and we cannot wait to see all of their hard work come to life on stage. Well done to everyone involved!



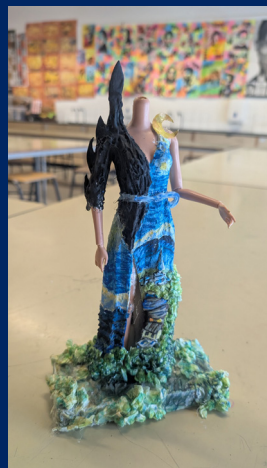
Barbies Wanted for Art!

Do you have any unwanted Barbies tucked away at home? The Art Department would be delighted to give them a new lease of life!

Each year, our students use Barbie dolls as part of an exciting set design project and we are looking to collect some for next year's classes. If you have any old Barbies that your children no longer play with, we'd be very grateful for your donation. It doesn't matter if they're a little well-loved, have wild hair or are missing a few accessories, they'll still be perfect for our creative projects.

Rather than throwing them away or taking them to a charity shop, please consider donating them to the Art Department.

Take a look below at some of the incredible outcomes produced by our current Year 11 students using donated Barbies as part of their work!



Year 9 Girls Football

On Tuesday the Year 9 girls team (comprising a number of Year 8 students) braved the heat to play St John Fishers in the Harrogate Area Cup Final.

The girls performed admirably against a very good team and battled hard despite the heat. The game was split with a hydration break in each half and we found ourselves 3-1 down at half time. The second half proved more difficult and we couldn't get the game back but huge credit to the girls for a fantastic season and a great performance.





'Class of 2021' Celebrating in Style at the Year 11 Prom

What a fantastic evening we had celebrating our incredible Class of 2021 at this year's Year 11 Prom!

Students arrived in style, making unforgettable entrances in everything from luxury cars and classic vehicles to tractors, with each arrival receiving a huge round of applause from staff, family and friends. It was wonderful to see the excitement and smiles as students walked the red carpet to begin a well-deserved evening of celebration.

Our Year 11s certainly dressed for the occasion. The students looked absolutely incredible, with stunning dresses, sharp suits and polished shoes making for a truly glamorous evening. Despite the very warm weather, spirits remained high throughout the night as everyone enjoyed celebrating the end of an amazing five-year journey together at King James's.

The evening was filled with laughter, dancing, great food, photographs and plenty of memories that will last a lifetime. It was a fitting way to mark the end of an important chapter before students move on to exciting new opportunities in sixth form, college and apprenticeships.

A huge thank you must go to Miss Jarrett, whose meticulous planning, creativity and tireless hard work over many months made the evening such a tremendous success. Every detail had been carefully considered, and the event was a real credit to her dedication. We would also like to thank all of the staff, the Site Team and the Catering Team who gave up their evening and worked behind the scenes to ensure everything ran so smoothly.

Finally, to the Class of 2021 – thank you for being such a fantastic year group. It has been a privilege to watch you grow over the past five years, overcome challenges, celebrate successes and support one another. We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and have no doubt that each of you has a bright future ahead.

We wish you every success with your GCSE results and whatever comes next. Once a member of Team KJS, always a member of Team KJS.

Congratulations, Class of 2021 – we will miss you!



House Drama mementos

It's not just the cast and crew making final preparations for House Drama next week... Our Student Support Group students have been busy creating these fantastic keychain keepsakes – the perfect memento for House Drama participants and supporters alike!



They will be on sale at the door and during the interval on both show nights next week, at just £3 each. With a different design for each house, they make the perfect keepsake while supporting our students' creativity, dedication and entrepreneurial skills. Every purchase will help fund exciting activities, trips and opportunities for our SSG students.

Be quick – stock is limited, and once they're gone, they're gone!



Keeping Children Safe Around Water

Please find on the links below two important safety communications from North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service.

[Keeping Children Safe Around Water](#) - focuses on helping parents and carers speak to children about staying safe around water, highlighting key risks such as cold water shock and providing simple, potentially life-saving advice like "float to live."

[School Leavers and Water Safety](#) - The second is aimed at school leavers, offering practical guidance to support them as they gain independence, with key messages around water safety, wildfires, and road safety to help them make informed and safe choices.

Opportunities! Sixth Form & beyond

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



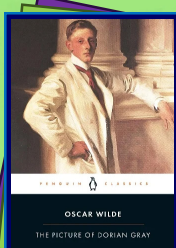
https://wakelet.com/wake/hO_PLuy0Xrky73rMfYrlr



Great for anime lovers, this is an amazing, action-packed series with a brilliant storyline. It's especially good if you're not sure what to read next, as it's easy to get into and really exciting. It might even help you discover a love for different novels and manga!

I would rate this book 5/5 stars.
(Recommended reading age – 13+)

Brendon M (Y7)



This book really dives into the connection between beauty and art, making you question what it truly means to be human. It explores what we value most in life and challenges you to think beyond the surface. A great read if you enjoy philosophical ideas and reflecting on deeper meanings.

I would rate this book 4/5 stars.
(Recommended reading age – KS4+)

Philomina (Y13)



KJS ISA READING SCHOOL
We are all readers



Follow us
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Heat, Workshop, and Football, Oh My!

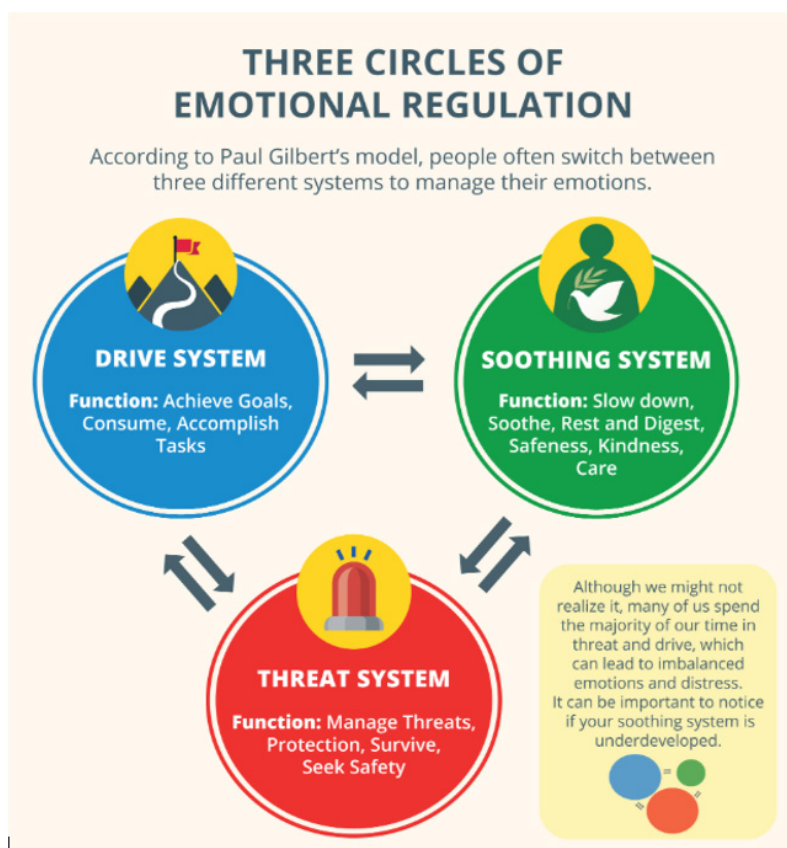
Firstly, may we begin by recognising how exceptionally well our students have done with their attendance this week despite the blazing heat. We know there may have been a few attempts at negotiation at home about staying in the cool rather than coming into school, so we are incredibly grateful for the support you have shown in encouraging your child to attend. It has certainly been a challenging week for everyone, but together we made it through.

Secondly, we would like to thank everyone who attended our parent workshop on Monday evening. The event was extremely well received, and it felt as though we struck exactly the right balance between practical advice and meaningful discussion. We are particularly grateful to Jo Cheetham from Well Connections for delivering such an engaging and thought-provoking presentation.

One message that really resonated with many of us centred around the importance of maintaining balance across all aspects of our lives and those of our children. A key takeaway was how we respond when children experience anxiety. Our natural instinct is often to reassure quickly or remove the source of distress altogether. However, anxious children do not necessarily need the problem taken away; they need trusted adults to help them feel safe enough to face it. The most helpful responses are those that do not rush to fix the situation or dismiss the feeling. Instead, they begin with empathy, acknowledging the child's experience, before gently supporting them to develop coping strategies and confidence. Rather than removing every challenge, we help our children face difficulties with the reassurance that they are not facing them alone.

Finally, we are delighted to announce our Attendance World Cup champions: Sweden, otherwise known as Tutor Group 10W3. They were worthy winners, claiming victory with an outstanding attendance record and earning themselves a well-deserved lunchtime pizza celebration. Congratulations to everyone in 10W3 on a fantastic achievement.

With any luck, some more traditional school-weather conditions are on their way. Until then, we hope you enjoy a restful and well-earned weekend.



HERE COMES Summer!



Our Beverley Park and East Barnby teams can't wait to welcome you!

**MONDAY 20 JULY
TO THURSDAY 20 AUGUST**

If you're looking for fun and adventure in the great outdoors, our action-packed activities are available to book now for the school holidays. From Adventure Club and skills courses to Family Activity Days, there's something for everyone!



outdoored.co.uk/schoolholidays



North Yorkshire
Outdoor Learning Service

