

King James's School Newsletter



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Assemblies

Assemblies next week will be delivered by the Associate Assistant Headteachers and will celebrate the hard work & resilience shown by our students throughout Learning Cycle 2.

Year 11 Revision

Many thanks for your attendance at the Year 11 supporting success evening. If you didn't make it the resources from the evening are on the website. There are also lots of revision materials for Year 11 on our website including our subject revision programmes which help them to structure their revision, useful online resources, revision sessions on offer in school and advice on the best ways to revise.

Please do look at our website for further information and we wish all our students the very best of luck in the summer.

[Year 11 Revision - King James's School](#)

Message from Ms Oakley

Dear parents, carers and students,



Spotlight on Safeguarding:

This week we welcomed a team of Local Authority advisors into school to review our safeguarding policies and practices. The team visited lessons, observed break and lunchtimes, attended assembly and met with lots of our students and staff.

It was lovely to hear how students felt that school is a safe and supportive environment and that they could identify a trusted adult in school to speak to if they were worried about something.

Mad-Hatters – Poets – and Masked Readers!

It's a been a wonderful week celebrating all things "Reading" in honour of Thursday's World Book Day. A special mention goes to the Library Team who have pulled out all the stops with a dazzling array of events taking place each day and to Mr Phillips who organised this year's Masked Reader; who knew that pineapples could talk!

And finally...

I'd like to take this opportunity to praise Year 11 for the mature way they have handled their additional mock examinations; their behaviour in the exam hall and in their practical Hospitality and Catering exams has been excellent!

Let's hope the sun stays out this weekend – and as always, thank you for your on-going support.

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley
Headteacher



The Week Ahead: 9 March 2026

| Day | Event | Year | Time | Location |
|------|--|------|---------------|-----------|
| Mon | House Science Week | All | Form | In school |
| Tue | Year 10 Parents Evening | Y10 | 4.30pm-7.30pm | Online |
| Wed | KJS: Music Unites | All | 6.00pm | S1 |
| Thur | TRAINING DAY - School closed to students | | | |
| Fri | | | | |

KJS: Music Unites

We're excited for our KJS Music Unites concert Wednesday 11th March 6pm in S1. As part of our ongoing work towards the RED award we are hosting an evening of music to celebrate our commitment to respect, equality, and diversity.

We have an abundance of talented students ready to share the stage and celebrate inclusivity; we even have the inaugural performance of the first ever KJS Staff Choir.

Tickets are still available on Parent Pay for £5; we would love to see you there to celebrate with us.

At KJS, we value and celebrate the diversity within and beyond our community. Through respect, equality, and diversity, our community is strengthened.



Race for Life - Student Fundraising Challenge

The message below is from Liv M, one of our Year 11 students:



1 in 2 people in their lifetime will be diagnosed with cancer. This means that everybody knows someone who has suffered from or is suffering from cancer, and unfortunately this includes me, my mum has been diagnosed with cancer.

Dealing with cancer is never an easy experience and is a question of the unknown as we don't know enough about it. We feel alone and afraid, but we don't have to be, as everyone can relate to these experiences and there is always someone to listen.

This May I will be taking part in the race for life run to raise money to provide better knowledge about cancer and help towards improved treatments. Being aware of the impact of the disease is essential as both staff and students will have the experience of the upsetting time in their lives. Whether its present or past; it's important to always treat people with kindness and compassion.

Any donations to help support would be highly appreciated. Thank you Liv x

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/livs-race-for->

Careers

We raised the profile of National Careers Week last week through assemblies for Year 8,9 and 10.

Year 8 had an assembly on Green Careers which are growing fast, protecting the environment and fighting climate change.

The Year 9 assembly focused on the message: the future is not something that happens to you, it is something you build. Following the completion of their GCSE options process, this assembly focused on what comes next and how to make a strong start to their chosen pathways.

Year 10 had the launch of their Post 16 pathway which was designed to help them begin to think seriously about their next steps after Year 11 and the opportunities they will have in school to explore the wide range of pathways available.



Attendance

Parent Workshop – When Getting to School Feels Hard, Boundaries, Anxiety and Practical Strategies for Parents (**This is an in-person event, taking place in the Sixth Form Common Room – Parking Available**)

Many of you will already be aware that our next parent workshop taking place on Monday, 9th March, 7pm – 8:30pm, here in school.

We are pleased to be hosting this event in person, giving parents and carers the opportunity not only to hear from our guest speaker, but also to speak informally with members of staff and connect with one another. We know that challenges around school attendance can sometimes feel isolating, and families may feel they are facing these difficulties alone. These workshops aim to create a supportive space where experiences can be shared, questions can be asked, and everyone feels understood.

The success of these evenings comes from learning together. As a school, we recognise that there is no single solution that works for every family, and our priority is always to work alongside parents and carers in a supportive and understanding way. Our focus is on offering help, guidance, and early support so that difficulties can be addressed collaboratively. While there are formal processes in place where concerns need to be escalated, there are always clear steps and opportunities to work together with the school long before this stage is reached.

Ahead of the workshop, we would like to introduce our speaker for the evening. Stella Forster is an Integrative Psychotherapist with over 450 hours of counselling experience supporting young people with a wide range of emotional and psychological difficulties. She brings strong ethical awareness and clear professional boundaries, alongside confidence working within structured environments where safeguarding and appropriate escalation are central.

Stella has supported young people presenting with anxiety and panic, low mood and depression, eating difficulties, self-harm and suicidal ideation, bullying, abuse, adoption-related issues, attachment difficulties and neurodiversity. We are delighted that she has begun working more closely with the school and look forward to the insight and practical guidance she will share.

If you have not yet registered and would like to do so, please click here: <https://forms.office.com/e/8L8BnTAzvA>

We warmly encourage all parents and carers to join us for what promises to be an informative and supportive evening.


| Year to date | Whole School | Y7 | Y8 | Y9 | Y10 | Y11 | Y12 | Y13 |
|--------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 90.94% | 94.49% | 92.74% | 87.54% | 88.97% | 90.91% | 94.31% | 91.02% |

When Getting to School Feels Hard,

Boundaries, Anxiety and Practical Strategies for Parents



Monday 9th March, 7pm - 8:30pm

Click [Here](#) to Register



- Understanding EBSA and school refusal
- Common causes, anxiety, overwhelm, emotional regulation and avoidance cycles
- Boundaries that feel supportive, balancing empathy with consistency
- Practical tools for mornings, transitions and reducing power struggles
- When to seek extra support, next steps and helpful resources for parents

Presented By The Well Connections Therapy Team

INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

INSPIRE SELF

READY FOR YOUR NEXT STEP? WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Are you aged 16-24?

Are you currently in education and experiencing challenges, or have you transitioned out of education and feel uncertain of your next steps, or currently struggling to find employment?

Our Youth Coach Service is designed to help you find your path, build confidence, and unlock opportunities.

WORKSHOPS

Held at Inspire Youth Yorkshire Community Hub, Halfpenny Close, Knaresborough HG5 0TG

- Friday 27th February 2026**
 10:30 - 12:30

 - Meet up - Arts based
 - support sessions
- Friday 6th March 2026**
 10:30 - 12:30

 - Meet up - Arts based
 - support sessions
- Friday 13th March 2026**
 10:30 - 12:30

 - Meet up - Arts
 - support sessions

Scan QR Code to sign up select your workshops and access your 1-2-1 youth coach



INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE

INSPIRE SELF

READY FOR YOUR NEXT STEP?

AGED 16-24 AND FACING CHALLENGES IN EDUCATION, UNSURE WHAT TO DO AFTER LEAVING EDUCATION, OR STRUGGLING TO FIND WORK?

JOIN OUR NON TRADITIONAL CAREERS WORKSHOP

LOCATION

Inspire Youth Yorkshire Community Hub, Halfpenny Close, Knaresborough HG5 0TG

Friday 13th March 2026
13:00 - 15:00

- Career Journeys
- Meet and greet employers

Scan QR Code to sign up or contact info@inspireyouth.uk for more information



Auditions

Studio Production 2026

"Winging It: Two Nights of Improv!"

Are you creative?
Are you confident?
Are you ready to think on your feet?


We are looking for students from **Y10-Y13** for our next Studio Production.

No Script!
No Safety Net!
Just Imagination!

Sign up outside the Drama Office

Auditions 3.15pm Friday 13th March 2026 - Balcony

There is nothing to prepare - but come prepared!







Opportunities! Sixth Form & beyond

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

https://wakelet.com/wake/hO_PLUy0Xrky73rMfYrlr

Opportunities



Creative Minds, Winning Words: Skrentny Prize Winners

To kick-start our reading festival, 'Fully Booked', we celebrated the creativity, talent, and hard work across our school community at the Skrentny Creative Writing Awards Ceremony. Winners were presented with certificates and prizes in recognition of their outstanding work.

KS3: Grace A (Y7)
KSS: Maggie A (Y11)
KS5: James F (Y13)
Staff: Mr Ratcliffe

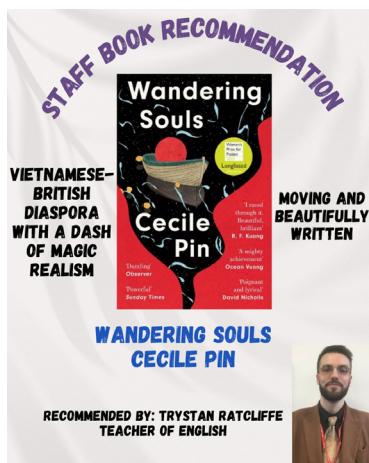
Many congratulations to Kate Bramley for winning the parent category.

A big thank you to Leonie Sewell, former KJS student, for judging this year's Creative Writing Competition. We really appreciate the time, care, and enthusiasm Leonie put into reading all the entries and sharing such thoughtful feedback.



Parentpay accounts

A gentle reminder for all parents / carers that if your child wishes to purchase food and/or drinks at social times, such as break time, please remember to ensure that their Parentpay account is topped up to cover these purchases. Thank you for your understanding



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

Arts Award

We're pleased to share a new opportunity coming to King James's School: a weekly Arts Award programme delivered by Yorkshire CREATE and generously funded by Knaresborough Rotary. Starting soon, students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 can take part in a one-hour after-school session on Wednesdays in the Library each week. The programme uses creative practice to build real-world arts and literacy skills - through research, creative writing, reflective journals, and exploring artists and organisations. Students can work toward Explore, Discover, Bronze, Silver, or Gold Arts Awards, with higher levels carrying UCAS points.

This is a great chance for your child/children to pursue personal creative interests, strengthen communication skills, and join a supportive, mixed-age creative community.

Places are limited. If you think your child may be interested in this fantastic opportunity, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at library@king-james.co.uk using 'Arts Award' as the subject heading.



Half Price Uniform Offer

The Uniform Shop in Knaresborough and Rawcliffe's in Harrogate are selling KJS long-sleeved rugby tops and PE hoodies for half price for current KJS students.

Full prices below, but currently with 50% off:

Hoodies full price
Xxs to small = £33
Med to XXL = £36.50

Rugby reversible shirts
Xxs to small £33.90
M to XXL £37

Grab yourself a bargain!

