

Friday 10th October 2025

King James's School Newsletter

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Year 11 Mock Revision

Year 11 mock exams start the week beginning 17th November 2025. To support our students with their revision they have had an assembly on the best strategies to use and are revising during form time. All subjects have produced revision programmes which outline what students need to revise and direct students to subject specific revision resources. We wish all our students the very best of luck in their exams!

Please use the link below to find the resources on the school website:

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

York Theatre Royal Trip

It was such a pleasure taking many of our Y11 & Y13 students to see 'Frantic Assembly's' 30 Year Anniversary Production of 'Lost Atoms' in York on Tuesday. The show was fantastic and an incredible example of physical theatre.

The students represented the school wonderfully as always and we were very proud!



Open Evening

On Thursday evening we were thrilled to welcome so many visitors to our annual Open Evening event. It was a busy and vibrant event, with both our curriculum areas and wider personal development, wellbeing and enrichment departments proudly showcasing the outstanding work happening across the school. A special mention goes to our student speakers, who impressed everyone with their confidence, passion, and pride in their school. They are true ambassadors for King James's School.



Reading

Friday 10 October is Take10ToRead Day; this coincides with World Mental Health Day and promotes the value of reading for just ten minutes per day on our wellbeing and mental health. Today has been a training day at King James but what a fabulous use of students' day off getting lost in a book would be!

On Monday we will be having a late celebration and all teachers will choose something to read to their classes for 10 minutes at 10am.

National
Literacy
Trust
Change your story

Take 10 to read

Reading is a great way to calm your mind,
boost your mood and escape elsewhere.
That's why we're supporting #Take10toRead.

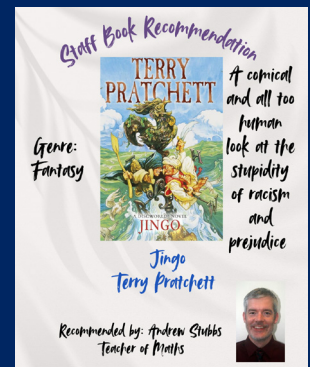
Join us at 10am on 10 October
and see where it takes you.



Supported by



This week's Staff Reading Recommendation



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

READY RESPECTFUL ENGAGED

Year 11 Photography Mock Exam Shoot

Year 11 photography students had a brilliant time this week during their mock exam, which took place in the school forest. As part of their Apart and/or Together coursework, the students set up a range of unusual props, fabric, mannequins, mirrors, and even apples to create a truly eye-catching scene. To add a bit of drama, teachers set off smoke bombs, helping students capture atmospheric and imaginative shots. The whole experience gave everyone a chance to experiment with new materials and techniques and the results were fantastic.

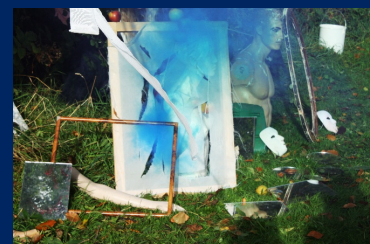
Here's what some of the students had to say:

"Best shoot so far and the teachers were so helpful." Jude L

"The shoot was very successful." Mollie T

"The mock shoot turned out really well. We got loads of photos and the teachers were brilliant at helping us." Abbie B

Well done to all the students for their creativity and enthusiasm and a big thank you to the staff for making it such a memorable shoot!



Respect Equality Diversity

Hate Crime Awareness Week: 11th – 18th October



At King James's School, we are proud to promote our core value of being **RESPECTFUL** and expect all members of our community to communicate with kindness. In tutor time next week, all students will have a session focusing on Hate Crime Awareness week. Students will be able to:

- Understand what a Hate Crime is.
- Consider how Hate Crimes affect victims.
- Be aware of how they can report Hate Crimes and the avenues of support available to victims and witnesses.

As a school, we are committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment for all. Any incidents of intolerant behaviour, particularly those that go against the protected characteristics outlined in the 2010 Equality Act, will be addressed with appropriate sanctions and supportive interventions. We believe that working together with families is key to promoting understanding and kindness, and we truly appreciate your continued support at home in reinforcing these values.

KJS shared values of

RESPECTFUL



“ Treat others as we would want to be treated ourselves, showing kindness and understanding. ”

Set no limits on what you can achieve

IN LESSONS

- We show** good listening skills by giving our full attention to others when they are speaking.
- We behave** in a way that embraces diversity and makes everyone feel valued & included.
- We communicate** with empathy and try to understand other people's perspectives before we respond.

AROUND SCHOOL

- We show** patience & good manners by walking around school quietly & calmly on the left.
- We behave** safely & take responsibility for our own actions.
- We communicate** politely, using appropriate language which is considerate towards others.

KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

Sixth Form News

MacMillan Cake Sale.

The Sixth Form recently hosted a very successful coffee morning and cake sale, and raised a very fantastic £381.47 for Macmillan Cancer Support. There was an impressive array of cakes on offer, with a whole host of prizes awarded, a selection of which are shown here. Well done to everyone involved.



Save the Date!

Two important upcoming dates for your diary:

- Thursday 23rd October: Career Fair
- Wednesday 12th November: GCSE Prize Giving (invitations for this have been sent out this week).

Opportunities Bulletin



https://wakelet.com/wake/hO_PLuy0Xrky73rMfYrlr

Assemblies

It's HOUSE assembly week next week and we are looking forward to our first opportunity of the year to bring students from different tutor groups and year groups together to celebrate the achievements of their HOUSE so far and to promote and encourage participation in the upcoming HOUSE events!

- Airedale – Thursday
- Nidderdale – Monday
- Swaledale – Tuesday
- Wharfedale – Tuesday

It's a busy week for Year 11. As well as their HOUSE assembly, they also have external speakers coming into school to deliver assemblies on Wednesday and Friday. On Wednesday, they have an assembly delivered by Lilly from Yor Sexual Health. To find out more about this service, please see the information below.



Free and confidential services across North Yorkshire and York



@YorSexualHealth

/YorSexualHealth

@yshyorkn.yorks

01904 721111

yorsexualhealth.org.uk

17 and under text line:- 07973 775692



On Friday we have York College coming into school to speak to Year 11 about the courses & apprenticeships they offer, the application process and to provide details on open events.

For more information on what York College offer, please visit their website <https://www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/school-leavers>

Student Sporting Success

Honour C in Year 8 has recently earned a place on the Under-13 Girls Harrogate Area Team, and not long after joining, she was put forward to take part in the West Riding County trials (under 13 girls). After three rounds of trials, Honour has been successful and will now be playing for the county.

Honour is also a member of her grass roots team, Ripon Panthers under 13s, where she is the only girl on the team, playing center midfield.

Honour has worked incredibly hard and is delighted that her hard work has paid off. Well done Honour on this fantastic achievement.



U16 Girl's Football

The U16 girls football team travelled to Barnsley on Wednesday for the National Cup Round 2 match.

They were a credit to the school and played some excellent football, winning 2-0. Goals came from Liv B & Fiona C with player of the match going to Jess T. It was a great team performance and we wish them luck for their next match.



Harvest Festival Collection

Thank you to everyone who generously donated items to our Harvest Festival Collection. This will make a real difference in our community, helping us to provide much needed support to our two chosen charities.

The donations will be taken to Gracious Street Church and will be added to their collection for the Harvest Festival Service on Sunday.



Spotlight on SEND

SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service) are leading a Transitions to Secondary School webinar to provide informed support when choosing a secondary school for their child.

Date: Thursday 16th October
Time: 10 - 11:30am

This session will help families know what to look for and what questions to ask when looking around prospective secondary schools as well as providing important information to ensure the most supportive/effective transition. There will also be the opportunity for Q&A.

To sign up, please use the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1729978495249?aff=oddttdtcreator>

The Week Ahead: 13th October 2025

Day	Event	Year	Time	Location
Mon	"Take 10 to Read"	All	10.00am	Various
Tue				
Wed				
Thur				
Fri				

Harrogate College

Applications for 2026/27 are now open for Harrogate College. Information about the courses they offer can be found here: [Courses – Harrogate College](#)



Harrogate College open evening is on 16th October 5:30-7pm. For more information and to book a space please visit the following page: [Harrogate College October Open Event - Harrogate College](#). They also have an open event on 12th November 5:30-7pm. Students can apply to college at the open events and can be allocated their interview date too.

York College

York College next open event is Saturday 8th November 10am-12.30pm. For more information visit their website <https://www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/school-leavers>

Browne Jacobson Law Virtual Work Experience Opportunity

Tuesday 28th October 9am - 4.15pm



This event is packed with unrivalled legal insights, an incredible lineup of exclusive speakers, and hands-on career advice from the most prestigious legal figures in the UK. In addition, you will be the first to hear about the brand-new Barrister Apprenticeship programme. Browne Jacobson will be one of the first UK law firms to offer this route, and they will launch their applications at the event!

The keynote speaker is Ellie Reeves (Rachel Reeves' younger sister, the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer), a British barrister and politician who has served as Solicitor General for England and Wales since September 2025. Eleanor was also the chair of the Labour Party and has held many other high-profile positions within the political and legal landscape.

Other Speaker Line-up

- Jonathan Tardif, Head of Commercial Disputes at Browne Jacobson – an unparalleled opportunity to hear directly from one of the UK’s best litigators (and how to ‘win’ when on a huge case).
- Barbara Mills KC, Chair of The Bar Council and Deputy High Court Judge – hear from one of the leading barristers in the UK who specialise in high conflict cases featuring allegations of severe abuse.
- Mark Evans, the brand new President of the Law Society of England & Wales, and widely recognised as one of the most influential legal figures in UK law.
- Nirmal Shant KC HHJ, a Specialist in criminal and fraud cases, has worked with some of the most dangerous criminals in the UK. One of the most influential South Asian women in law and an incredibly successful High Court Judge.
- Dr Sally Penni MBE, Criminal and Employment Law specialist, published author, and diversity advocate for women in the legal profession.
- Caroline Green (Senior Partner, Browne Jacobson) A rare opportunity to hear from the leader of a UK Top 50 law firm and commercial solicitor who has advised the likes of Louis Vuitton, and many other leading luxury brands for almost 40 years.

This event is your direct access to the brightest minds and most successful people in law and a chance to gain actionable advice on navigating your legal career. Register now to secure your spot: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BrowneJacobson-VWEX-2025>

Young Professionals Parent / Guardian Information Evening virtual event - on Thursday, 16th October, 6pm - 7:30pm

We are excited to share with you the opportunity to attend an online parent/guardian event designed to provide valuable insights into how you can support your child in making informed career choices when they leave school/university. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn how to help your son or daughter gain a foothold in the world of work with the many major brands (mentioned below) from various sectors who will be joining the event.

This event will touch upon applying to corporate roles and the application process, commercial awareness and how young people can develop these skills as well as highlighting degree apprenticeships, what they are and key deadlines to make applications. There will also be breakout room sessions with sector-specific panels and workshops that you and your child can participate in throughout the evening. Please note that to join the breakout rooms, you will need the Zoom app on your laptops or phones.

Employers Involved:

- Law: Mishcon de Reya, Clifford Chance, A&O Shearman, University of Law
- Business/Finance: KPMG, PwC, BDO, CIMA, RSM
- STEM: Wates, RAF, The Army, National Grid

This event will provide you with an in-depth understanding of the career and work experience prospects for your child in sectors such as Finance, Data, Technology, Law, Engineering, and different Corporate Functions. We would encourage you to join this event with your child to get the most out of this session.

Sign up below to secure your place: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Childs_Future_25

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Attendance

At King James's, we recognise the importance of working in partnership with families to support every child's school attendance. As part of this commitment, we are pleased to offer termly parent workshops that explore key topics related to school avoidance and student wellbeing.

Our next workshop will take place on Monday November 10th, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, when 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.

As parents and educators, we understand how crucial emotional wellbeing is in helping children feel confident and supported when coming to school. This workshop will provide practical insights into how we can approach these conversations in ways that help reduce anxiety and remove some of the barriers to attendance.

Feedback from our previous session was overwhelmingly positive. Parents appreciated not only the expert guidance but also the sense of community that came from sharing similar experiences with others facing similar challenges.

We warmly encourage all parents and carers who are navigating attendance concerns, no matter how small, to join us for what promises to be another supportive and informative session.

To sign up, please click [here](#).

	Whole School	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
29th Sept - 3rd Oct	95.6%	98.2%	96.4%	93.5%	95.3%	94%



All to play for....

Next week the students have not one but two opportunities to earn some fantastic rewards!

SPOOKTACULAR ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE:

If your child had 100% attendance this week, they're already halfway there! Maintain perfect attendance next week, and they'll be entered into a draw to win a Halloween themed surprise from our witch's cauldron. One lucky winner per year group, but remember, you have to be in school to take part.

POWER PLAY:

Next week also brings a Power Play twist! Students can earn double points each day by achieving:

- Zero negatives for the day
- Zero lates in the day
- 100 Percent Attendance for the Day

This means instead of earning up to 15 positives for the week, students could collect a whopping 30 points!!!

Let's make it a week full of positivity, attendance and spooky surprises.

**** 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

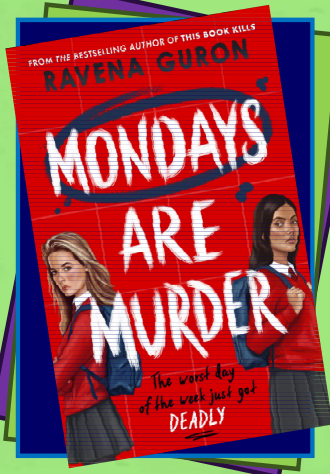


Click [here](#) to register

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?"

This Week's Book Reviews



This book is an amazing murder mystery, perfect for anyone loving twisty and confusing mysteries. It follows a young girl who returns to her childhood home a year after the death of her best friend Ivy. Now she is back, she is receiving anonymous messages, threatening ones including her murder on Monday!

I would rate this book 4.5/5 stars!

Martha Garrett Y8



For someone who really loves drawing fantasy creatures, this is an amazing book!

The beautiful illustrations by T. DiTerlizzi are inspirational and I even used them for ideas in my Art GCSE. Also, the descriptions of all the magical creatures make you think they are real. The book is even more amazing if you've watched the film 'The Spiderwick Chronicles' as this is the main feature in that film!

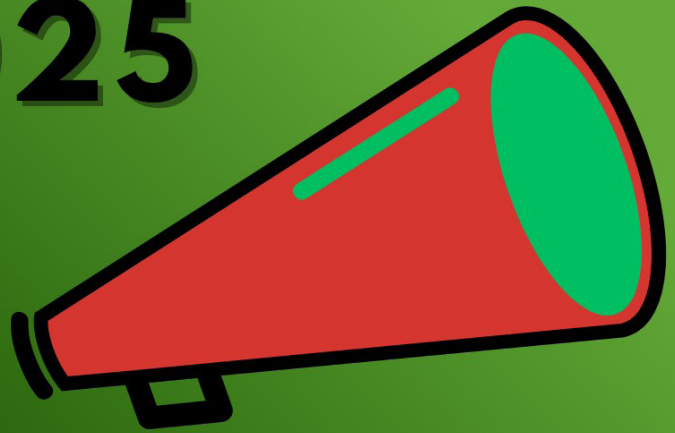
I would rate this book 5/5

Mia McKay 11S1

STUDENT COUNCIL

2025

THE YEAR 13 SENIOR STUDENT
LEADERS WANT YOU TO JOIN
THEIR STUDENT COUNCIL!



WHY SHOULD YOU APPLY?

- MAKE REAL CHANGES AT KING JAMES'S
- GAIN LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK SKILLS
- STAND OUT ON CV'S AND UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS
- REPRESENT YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS

SCAN HERE!

- OPEN TO YEARS 7-12
- DEADLINE TO APPLY: 17TH OCTOBER
- HOW TO APPLY: SCAN QR CODE AND FILL OUT FORM

WHAT YOU WILL DO...

- VOICE YOURS AND YOUR PEERS CONCERNS OR IDEAS
- HELP PLAN EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL
- WORK WITH STAFF TO MAKE CHANGES
- BE A ROLE MODEL FOR STUDENTS

Eye Tests for Children

Please take your child for a FREE eye test.

- Check this website to find your local opticians: Sight Tests - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
 - Encouraging children & young people to manage their screen time and get outdoors more often can help their eyesight.



Has your child had their eyes tested yet?

This leaflet provides important information on looking after your child's eyes and booking an eye test for children

Children in North Yorkshire should visit an optician for a free eye test

When should you get your child a free eye test?

Ideally children should start having regular eye tests from the age of 4. But they can be tested at any age, even if they can't read or speak.

How do you book a free child's eye test?

Please book your child an eye test at an optician, even if you have no concerns about their vision. To do this contact your local opticians at nhs.uk/service-search/find-an-NHS-sight-test/location

What will it cost?

Children under 16 are entitled to NHS-funded (FREE) eye tests. If your child needs glasses, they will receive a voucher to help with the cost.

Why should you get your child's eyes tested?

- ✓ Being able to see clearly will mean your child is able to learn and develop at school and socially.
- ✓ Eyes are still developing in early childhood. An eye test helps pick up and treat any problems. This can help to **avoid** or **prevent** longer-term eye problems.
- ✓ Even if you think your child has normal vision it is still important to get their eyes tested.
- ✓ They are no longer tested in school.

How can you tell if your child has an eye problem?

Some eye problems don't show any signs, so it is always best to **take your child for an eye test**.

Signs of a possible eye problem can include:

- having one eye that turns in or out
- difficulty concentrating
- behavioural problems
- headaches
- rubbing their eyes a lot
- sitting too close to the TV
- screwing up/closing one or both eyes
- holding things close to them



An eye test is very **important** especially if there's a **history** of early glasses use, childhood **eye problems**, **squint** or **lazy eye**, in your family.

Did you know?

Short-sightedness is on the rise and has been linked to a range of factors including **screen use**. Help your child's eyes stay healthy by **managing screen use** and encouraging them to **get outside often** (this helps their eyesight).

More Information:

- NHS information: nhs.uk/conditions/eye-tests-in-children/
- Find an optician: nhs.uk/service-search/find-an-NHS-sight-test/location
- Information on Vision/Eye tests Humber and North Yorkshire ICB hnyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers/keeping-your-child-safe-and-healthy/eye-screening-and-tests
- Information on Vision/Eye tests for families in Craven, West Yorkshire ICB wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers/your-childrens-development/vision
- Looking After Your Children's Eyes - College of Optometrists lookafteryoureyes.org/eye-care/childrens-eye-health/
- Children's eye health - Association of Optometrists aop.org.uk/advice-and-support-for-patients/childrens-eye-health

This October Half-Term at Ripon Museums

Courthouse Museum	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Daily: Whodunnit?	
25th October until 2nd November:	Use cryptic clues to solve a crime mystery. Included in price of museum entry.
Prison & Police Museum	10:00am - 4:00pm
Daily: Craft Your Own Seary Witch	
25th October until 2nd November:	Included in price of museum entry.
Workhouse Museum & Garden	10:00am - 4:00pm
Daily: Spooky Story Cards	
25th October until 2nd November:	Create a spooky story with Halloween-themed cards. Included in price of museum entry.
Monday 27th October:	Autumn Storytime with Ripon Library Booking essential via ripn.library@north-yorks.gov.uk 11:00am until 12:00 noon FREE
Wednesday 29th October:	Ghastly Goo Create your own ghost goo. 10:30am-12:30pm Included in price of museum entry. 1:00pm-3:00pm
Friday 31st October:	Ghost Hunters! Investigate haunted happenings, make your own ghost goo, listen to a spooky story and grab your torch for a ghost treasure hunt. 11:00am - 12:00pm £5 per child. Adults are free. 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday 1st November:	Bulb Planting Plant up and take home heritage hyacinth bulbs. Included in price of museum entry. 10:00am until 4:00pm
'All Hallows at the Workhouse' Theatre Performance Ripon Museums Theatre Group will perform. Included in price of museum entry. 1:30pm and 3:30pm	

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO BOOK GHOST HUNTERS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.RIPONMUSEUMS.CO.UK

Preparing for Adulthood Opportunities Event

Tuesday 14 October 3.30-6.30pm
Askham Bryan College

For parents and carers, and young people in year 9 and above with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities in York, Leeds and North Yorkshire.

Drop in any time and:

- ✓ **Get inspired and explore** post-16 options in employment or education
- ✓ **Speak to** education providers, employers and support services
- ✓ **Book onto** provider open days

For more information, email skills@york.gov.uk or scan the QR code to book a place (not mandatory)

Quiet space available and quieter time usually from 5.30pm

We are using Eventbrite to help run our event, find out more about what they do with your information at [Eventbrite Privacy Policy](http://Eventbrite.com/Privacy-Policy) (eventbrite.co.uk/help/en-gb/articles/460838/eventbrite-privacy-policy)

Improving supported internship provision in England.