



# KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

## KNARESBOROUGH

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you had a good summer and have enjoyed spending some quality time with family and friends.

It has been lovely to welcome all our students back – particularly our new cohort of Year 7's who have made a great first impression on all their teachers and are settling into the new routines and environment happily and with confidence.

For any parents who are interested about learning more about your child's emotional development, the NHS is providing free online courses. Please see the information at the end of this letter.

In this letter you will find:

1. The Week Ahead
2. Academic success
3. School Development
4. Sixth Form
5. School meals
6. Free School Meals
7. Uniform
8. Extra-curricular clubs
9. Community notices

### 1. The Week Ahead: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

<b>Personal Development Focus: READY</b>				
<i>Integrity - "embracing the school ethos and the importance of having strong values"</i>				
Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon				
Tues	Expectations evening	7	6pm	S1
		8	7pm	S1
Weds	Expectations evening	9	6pm	S1
	GCSE Support evening	10	7pm	S1
Thur				
Fri				

## 2. Academic Success

We are extremely proud of our GCSE and A-Level students who achieved great success in their exams this year, despite having experienced the various challenges brought about by the pandemic.

This year marked a return to exams, following centre-assessed grades (CAGs) in 2020 and teacher-assessed grades (TAGs) in 2021. This different form of assessment meant that grades in those years were higher than normal, and so in 2023 grades have been re-calibrated in line with the 2019 profile. Schools were advised to expect grades to fall, in line with this national policy position. Despite this, we are pleased to report that our GCSE, BTEC, A-Level and vocational results remained strong.

The percentage of students achieving GCSE grades 9-4 was 71.7%, above the national 67.8%. The percentage achieving the top grades 7 and over was 23.6%, above the Yorkshire and Humber percentage of 18.2%.

A-Level students sat external exams for the first time this year and KJS students rose to this challenge fantastically well. Our sixth form is thriving, and we had a cohort of 120 A-Level students, 84% of whom were entered for 3 A-Levels. All students have secured high-quality post-16 pathways, with nearly 90 students choosing to go to university and over 25% of them to Russell Group universities to study a range of courses from Architecture to Veterinary Medicine, and at a range of universities from Bristol to UCL. Many others have secured great apprenticeship positions or have chosen to take a gap year.

## 3. School Development

Our school motto is 'to set no limits on what we can achieve' and building on our 400+ years of success to provide excellence in all we do is our key priority. We were delighted when Ofsted identified so many strengths at KJS last year, judging us to be 'good' overall, and that this has been evidenced in this year's results. However, we are far from complacent and have been working on our improvement plan for the next phase of our development. Please find a summary of our strategy on our website by clicking [School Development Plan](#).

## 4. Sixth Form

King James's *'sixth formers flourish!'* (Ofsted January 2023)

We still have a few available places in our fantastic sixth form and welcome applications from ex-students or students from other schools. There is a broad range of courses available, and students are *'well supported by the pastoral team'* and *'well prepared for adulthood'*. Please see information on our website [King James's Sixth Form](#) including our entry requirements or email [sixthform@king-james.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@king-james.co.uk).

## 5. School Meals

For the start of this year, we have developed our meal offer to include a range of new exciting, healthy, options for your child. This includes;

- ✓ A rice and noodle bar
- ✓ Two pasta bars offering five different sauces
- ✓ A hot sandwich bar
- ✓ A cold sandwich bar – with a range of new speciality breads
- ✓ A hot meal every day - menus can be found on our website [here](#)
- ✓ A salad bar

## 6. Free School Meals

Did you know that registering your child for Free School Meals means that you could save around £532 per year?

If your child is eligible, it means they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals without the bills and the fuss of making packed lunches. The daily allowance is currently £2.80. This is updated on your child's lunch account each weekday and can be used at break or lunchtime. We will always have a range of different hot and cold meal deals available at lunch time which include a dessert and a drink costing £2.50-£2.80.

We operate a cashless system which means that at the till all students feel the same – other students will not know your child has free school meals.

Claiming free school meals also helps the school get extra money that can help your child in lessons or with resources.

There is nothing healthier for your child and your family's budget than free school meals! If you meet the eligibility criteria below then please [Apply for Free School Meals here](#). It only takes a couple of minutes, but if you need any support with your application, please contact school and we will help you.

To qualify you must be receiving:

- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are also not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual household gross income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please note that contributions-based benefits, including contribution-related Jobseekers' Allowance do not entitle you to claim free school meals.

[Apply for Free School Meals here](#)

## 7. Uniform

We have returned to school this week to glorious sunshine and hot temperatures and therefore allowed students to wear the summer uniform until the end of this week. However, as temperatures are set to fall at the weekend, from next week students will be expected to wear the full uniform once again. Please could parents remind students that ties and blazers are required. Please check they are wearing formal black shoes (not trainers), not modifying uniforms, and that make-up is minimal. Thank you for your support with this, it is much appreciated.

We have a range of pre-loved uniform that is available for families free of charge or for a small donation. Please contact Sarah Kinsey-Stephens on [kinsey-stephens@king-james.co.uk](mailto:kinsey-stephens@king-james.co.uk) to discuss your requirements and arrange collection.

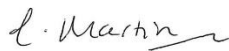
### 8. Extra-curricular clubs

Information about all extra-curricular clubs for this academic year will be provided to students next week, with the booklet being available to view on the school website. Below are details of the clubs that the PE department will be running this term; the numbers refer to the year group. These clubs will start week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> September and will finish between 4.15-4.30pm

### 9. Community Notices

Please see flyers below for some events and activities taking place in the local community that may be of interest.

Best wishes for a sunny weekend,



Clare Martin  
Headteacher

Extra - Curriculum Timetable			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
10 & 11 Rugby - PMC 7 Football - KWI & MTP 11 & 6th Form Football - DBE 7 Netball - BAN & LCR 9, 10 & 11 Fitness - RTA/GBA	9 Football - AAK 8 Football - GBE & PKE 7, 8 & 9 Gymnastics - BAN 10, 11 & 6th Form Netball - RWA & RBU 10 & 11 Fitness - LDA	10 Football - KHL 8 & 9 Netball - SRA, RBU & LCA 10 & 11 Fitness - JPE	
Thursday	Friday		
7, 8 & 9 Rugby - SFO 9 & 10 Hockey - EAP 9, 10 & 11 Badminton - RBU 7 & 8 Football - BAN & MTP 10 & 11 Fitness - GBA	9, 10, 11 & 6th Form Basketball - ECH 9, 10 & 11 Football - KHL (Fitness Room Closed)		Who can attend? ● Boys only sessions ● Girls only sessions ● Mixed group sessions



KING JAMES'S SCHOOL  
KNARESBOROUGH

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Girl's Football Player Development Centre** Ages 8-16 yrs

**Autumn Booking Details**

**Wednesdays**  
Years 4-7 - 6-7pm  
Years 8-11 - 7-8pm

**Block 1: (7 weeks)**  
Sept 13th, 20th, 27th  
Oct 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

**Block 2: (7 weeks)**  
Nov 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th  
Dec 6th, 13th, 20th  
Harrogate Grammar School  
Astroturf Pitch

**Why Choose Us?**

- FREE TASTER SESSION (New players only)
- Personalised training
- Specifically for girls
- Experienced and qualified coaches
- All abilities welcome

**How? 2 Simple Steps**  
1) Payment to be made to: Future Lioness Ltd. (Natwest)  
Acc no. 85258156 / Sort code: 55-81-11  
Ref: Players Name

2) Please e-mail info@futurelioness.co.uk to confirm your payment and booking

**What Next?**  
We will e-mail you within 48 hours of payment to confirm receipt of payment and your booking

**Cost**  
One-off Registration Fee: £20 (New players only - covers cost of training t-shirt)  
Block 1: £60  
Block 2: £60  
Block 1 & 2: £110 (sibling discount available - please enquire)

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
Receive a Future Lioness beanie hat or fleece headband with your block booking

[www.futurelioness.co.uk](http://www.futurelioness.co.uk)

**Parent Carer Group**

for families of neurodivergent or disabled children and adults, including those awaiting assessment

second **Thursday** of each month  
**6.30-9.00pm**

**Location:**  
**Time Together**  
Unit 10  
Provincial Works  
Laundry Road  
Starbeck HG1 4QE

Upcoming 2023 dates:  
14<sup>th</sup> September,  
12<sup>th</sup> October,  
9<sup>th</sup> November

**Time Together** Registered charity number: 1050035  
Supporting disabled & autistic people to **live life well**

Free to attend, voluntary donations towards room hire and refreshments appreciated

For more information contact: [office@time-together.org](mailto:office@time-together.org) / 01423 883992

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD  
SOLIHULL APPROACH

**NHS**

**WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL**

**EXCITED, NERVOUS, ANXIOUS?**  
**NOT SURE HOW THEY'RE FEELING?**

EMOTIONAL HEALTH CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN'S PROSPECTS IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

In North Yorkshire, we believe in supporting children's emotional health development, and that's why we've invested in online courses in understanding your child for parents.

By understanding how your child's brain develops and responds emotionally, you can better support their needs as they navigate the big milestones in school.

- Learn to better read and understand behaviour
- Help them to communicate how they feel
- Gain psychologist-informed ideas to support your child

**GO TO INOURPLACE.CO.UK**  
AND ENTER THE CODE NYFAMILIES  
FOR FREE ACCESS TO THE ONLINE COURSES