



Katherine  
Warrington  
School

## HEADS UP

### Newsletter no. 25

12th March 2021

I am happy to report that the return to school has been a smooth transition for KWS. The focus for the next two weeks is simply to reacquaint students to the school, to lessons and to their friendship groups. I was asked if I felt there were any positives to be taken from the lockdown experience and I think there are a number of initiatives that we will carry into our regular practices going forward. Adversity can be a learning experience.

I'd like to thank all the students, staff, parent volunteers and parents/carers for the work put into ensuring that the testing process was efficient and effective. Special thanks to our Year 7 hero Raphael for agreeing to demonstrate the testing process on video. The last series of in-school testing takes place next Monday (Year 7) and Tuesday (Year 8). At the end of these respective days students will be given their home testing kits, together with instructions on how to administer the test and report the result.

More heroics were on view in the virtual school concert last Friday evening. It was a lovely way to remind ourselves how talented our young people are and how brave and confident they can be. We are eagerly anticipating the KWS talent show before the end of term.

There was a strong response to the #ChooseToChallenge 'Hands Up High' campaign for International Women's Day at the start of this week. We also ended our Move for a Month challenge, raising a total of £1,196 for Save The Children. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated.

Thank you to parents/carers who were kind enough to drop in gifts for staff as we returned to full schooling. Our biscuit tin truly runneth over.

We are at the end stage of teacher recruitment in readiness for September. Our final vacancy is for a Design and Technology teacher. After that we move on to recruitment for our support staff. If you are looking to join us then please keep an eye on the recruitment section on our website and our page on LinkedIn.

Finally, congratulations to all the current Year 6 students who found out last week that their application to join us in September has been successful. We look forward to meeting you in the coming months. For those who were not offered a place, please consider going onto our continued interest list via Herts County Council.

Tony Smith  
**Headteacher**

## House Points

The house points winners for this week are **Keller** congratulations!

<b>Form</b>	<b>Totals Year 7</b>	<b>Totals Year 8</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Ali	797	535	1332
Armstrong	627	683	1310
Franklin	714	582	1296
Keller	1052	570	1622
Nightingale	877	709	1586
Tesla	634	581	1215

## Sports Notices

### **Netball is Coming Back!**

Mrs McPartlin is very excited by the return of netball and wants all of our netball players to be aware of a couple of things they could be doing to get their heads and their bodies back in the game!



Firstly, watch live netball! The entire new Vitality Netball Superleague is being broadcast weekly and is free to view on YouTube which is a first for netball coverage in this country. Take a look at the [Team Bath vs Loughborough Lightning](#) match from last week. It was a cracking game. You could even try getting netball-fit using England Netball's free [Virtual Netball Club](#).

Secondly, make plans for Easter! Our local Superleague team, Saracens Mavericks are hoping to run real live netball Masterclasses (on outdoor courts) again in the Easter holidays. They are led by Superleague players and are excellent fun. See here for more details and booking [Mavericks Netball Camps](#).



I'm looking forward to seeing you all back on court soon!

***Mrs McPartlin.***

### Face Masks

Students are expected to wear face masks in communal areas unless they are exempt. If students are exempt from wearing a mask, they **MUST** be wearing a lanyard to identify them and if you haven't already, parents **MUST** inform us why they are exempt, even if they were exempt prior to lockdown. To prevent students from being without a mask please ensure students have spare masks available in case of loss or damage.

In classrooms, students who are not exempt are expected to wear face masks unless directed otherwise. If a teacher is comfortable for a student to remove them for the benefit of the learning, then they can be removed. Otherwise, students will be asked to keep their face masks on.

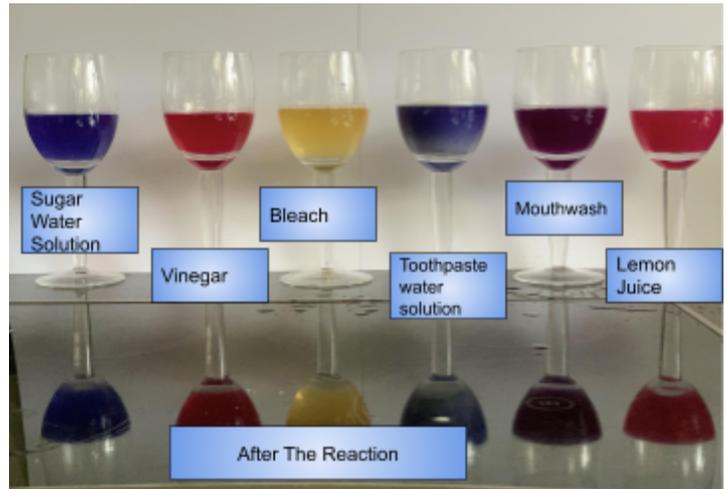
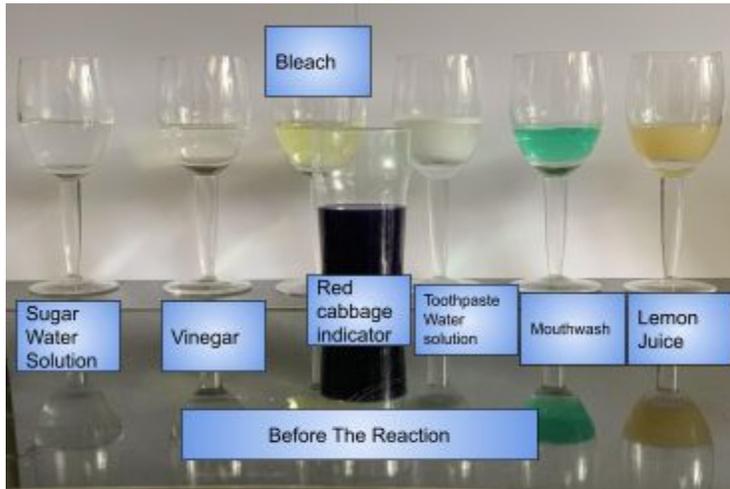
### Science

Well done to all of our students for their hard work, dedication and 'perseverance' shown throughout the recent period of studying science remotely. Even if the 'Wows' were typed instead of heard, it was lovely to see students' reactions and virtual 'lightbulb moments' as experiments were demonstrated over Google Meets, some favourites were the Rubens tube with Year 7 and the Alkali metals reacting with water for Year 8.

We saw Tom R from Year 7's fantastic water distillation project in the newsletter a few weeks ago; this week the limelight turns to Year 8 and their excellent 'Make your own indicator' investigations that the vast majority of students were able to complete at

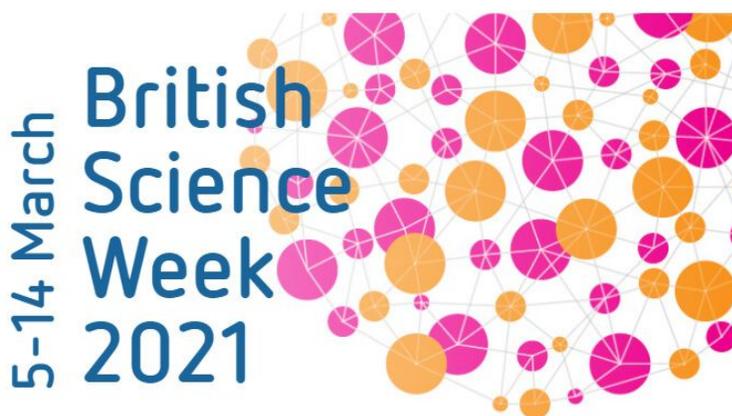
home. They ground up red cabbage to extract the pigment and added it to different household chemicals to see the colour change produced. This indicated whether or not the substance was an acid or an alkali.

The photos below are courtesy of Harry H, Ali B and Leo M - Well done everyone though, unfortunately, we couldn't include all of the great pictures of your Science@Home investigations.



***Mrs Creamer***

## British Science Week



While we've made the decision to delay celebrating British Science week at KWS until we're all nicely settled back into the school routine, there are still plenty of online events going on over the next few days. Check them out at [www.britishscienceweek.org](http://www.britishscienceweek.org)

Daily highlights are being tweeted [@ScienceWeekUK](https://twitter.com/ScienceWeekUK) and the annual poster competition is running along the theme of 'Innovating for the Future'. Information can be found by [clicking here](#). The deadline for submitting entries is Friday 30th April.

In the wake of the exciting news that NASA successfully landed their rover Perseverance on Mars a couple of weeks ago; there are lots of upcoming events relating to space and its study and exploration, as well as lots of long-running information platforms that we felt were worth sharing with you now.

### Friday, 12th March (Today) at 4:30pm

Cambridge University is streaming an astronomy session suitable for young people entitled 'Perseverance: Looking for Life on Mars'. The session details NASA's Perseverance rover which has just landed on Mars, and will spend the next few years looking for signs of ancient life! You can join astronomer Dr Matt Bothwell to find out all about this amazing mission, and wonder whether we might not be alone in the Universe...' Click [this link](#) to watch.

### Thursday, 18th March - Mars Day



We will be sharing footage from Mars Day on our screens around school live throughout the day. For information on the sessions visit: [www.marsday.org.uk](http://www.marsday.org.uk). There are also two sessions after school which may be of interest.

Click on the links below for further information and to register a booking for the free sessions [click here](#).

## **16.15 – 17.00 - From the moon to Mars - Your place in space**

Humankind is ready to return to the Moon and go on to Mars. Dr Aldrin (son of Buzz Aldrin) will discuss how space missions are becoming accessible to the general public and tell us about his experience of seeing his dad on the Moon.

## **18.30 – 18.55 Driving on Mars with curiosity and Perseverance**

Hear from Sophia Mitchell, Lead Systems Engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and driver of the Mars Curiosity rover since 2018.

## **Space Calendar**

For general updates on what is going on in the 'world of space' the Space Calendar outlines both natural and human-related 'space events'. The calendar includes things like comets passing by Earth, planets being in conjunction with each other as well as rocket launches and special events, such as the landing of Perseverance on Mars.

[Click here](#) for more information.

## **Spot the Station**

While there's still a bit less to do in the evenings, but the weather is getting a little milder it's nice to pop out on clear nights and see the International Space Station (ISS) go overhead. In theory you can see it almost any night of the year, but the weather, its height above the horizon and how long it is visible before it passes into the Earth's shadow all affect the chance of a sighting. It's pretty hard to miss on a clear night when it's visible for a couple of minutes and the maximum height is 60-90 degrees above the horizon. Unfortunately for the next few weeks most of these opportunities are around 4.00am - 5:30am, but check back in a few week's time and it may be visible at a more palatable hour!

The website below shows all upcoming opportunities to see the ISS from the St Albans area for the next few weeks, you can also sign up for alerts for good viewing opportunities. [Click here to spot the station](#).

## **NASA Live:**

You can watch the official stream of NASA TV, showing live space walks, interviews with astronauts and engineers and more by [clicking here](#).

## Oxford University Computing Challenge (OUCC)

Congratulations to Charlie B, Sam C, John D, Hayden L, Marco R, Mia T, Louisa T, Hannah W, Alex C, Becky D, Finley M, Thomas M, Tom M, Max O and Walt R who all took part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge (OUCC) at the end of February.

The OUCC is “An invitation challenge for talented UK students to produce programmed solutions to computational thinking problems”. Students have to score within the top 10% of students across the country in the Bebras competition to be able to compete - so just taking part is a huge achievement in itself.

A big shout out to John D, Marco R and Hannah W who achieved a Merit in the Junior age category, and to Max O and Walt R who achieved a Merit in the Intermediate age category. Well done!

The biggest of congratulations to Charlie B in Year 7 who achieved a Distinction in the Junior age category and has been invited to compete in the OUCC Final next week - something that only 20 students across the country are invited to complete in. Wow, well done Charlie!

***Mrs Coomber and Mrs Wall***

### Move for a Month Summary:

As we roll into March our Move for a Month competition has come to an end and what a month it's been!

A huge well done to all of the staff that ran and cycled and a big thank you to everyone who supported our teams and donated to Save the Children. We have managed to reach our goal and raise an amazing £1,196 so far!

Our Just Giving page is still open so to donate go to:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katherine-warrington-school](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katherine-warrington-school)

After everyone's hard work, the results are in and the overall winners for the month were **Team Run**, with Mr Alexander individually running the furthest. Team Cycle was just behind with Mr Smith individually cycling the most.



They have been in the lead since the beginning and for the house competition **Nightingale** has come out on top, earning 268 points for their house!

See below for the individual distances travelled:



**Team Run**

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NAME: Mr Cain  
HOUSE: Tesla  
MONTH GOAL: 40 km  
DISTANCE RUN: 42 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Ms Bailey  
HOUSE: Franklin  
MONTH GOAL: 15 km  
DISTANCE RUN: 16.4 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Reid  
HOUSE: Nightingale  
MONTH GOAL: 40 km  
DISTANCE RUN: 107.2 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Miss Anderson  
HOUSE: All  
MONTH GOAL: 75 km  
DISTANCE RUN: 78.5 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Wall  
HOUSE: Keller  
MONTH GOAL: 40 Km  
DISTANCE RUN: 40 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Coomber  
HOUSE: Tesla  
MONTH GOAL: 40 Km  
DISTANCE RUN: 40.1 Km

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**Team Cycle**

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NAME: Mr Smith  
HOUSE: N/A  
MONTH GOAL: 200 Km  
DISTANCE CYCLED: 237 Km

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**Team Cycle**

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NAME: Mr Burke  
HOUSE: All  
MONTH GOAL: 100 Km  
DISTANCE CYCLED: 108 Km

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**Team Cycle**

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NAME: Mr Martin  
HOUSE: Armstrong  
MONTH GOAL: 100 Km  
DISTANCE CYCLED: 216.1 Km

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**Team Cycle**

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NAME: Mrs Malone  
HOUSE: Nightingale  
MONTH GOAL: 100 Km  
DISTANCE CYCLED: 137.1 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Creamer  
HOUSE: Keller  
MONTH GOAL: 40 Km  
DISTANCE RUN: 106.82 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Aikman  
HOUSE: Armstrong  
MONTH GOAL: 20 Km  
DISTANCE RUN: 21 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Francis

HOUSE: Keller

MONTH GOAL: 40 Km

DISTANCE RUN: 31 Km  
(injury incurred)

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mrs Grainger

HOUSE: Franklin

MONTH GOAL: 70 Km

DISTANCE RUN: 98 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Mr Alexander

HOUSE: Nightingale

MONTH GOAL: 100 Km

DISTANCE RUN: 115.3 Km

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**Team Run**

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NAME: Ms Kelly

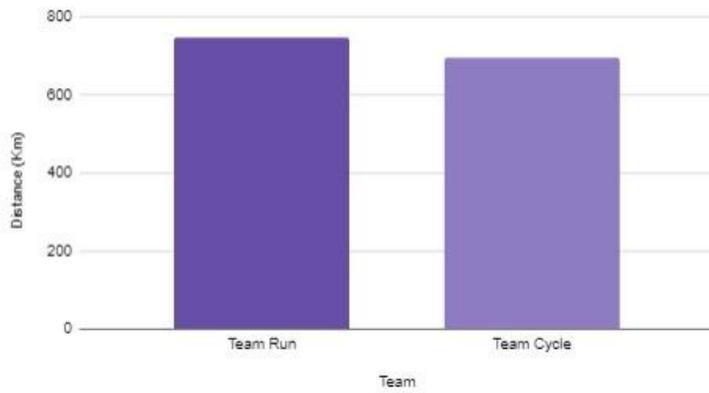
HOUSE: Armstrong

MONTH GOAL: 30 Km

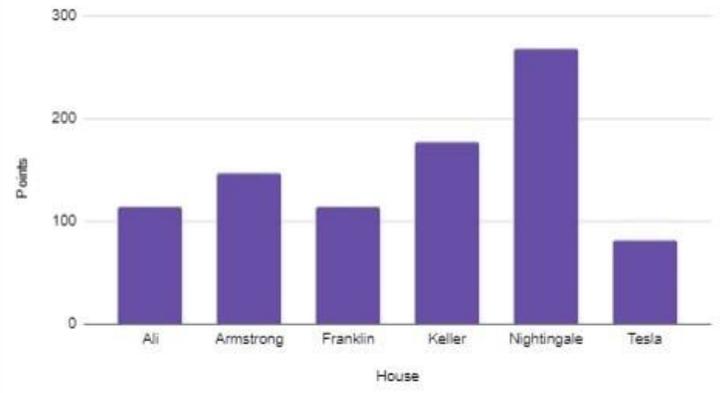
DISTANCE RUN: 53.6 Km

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Final Team Totals



House Point Totals



## Eco Garden



Mr Hutchins has been working exceptionally hard making wooden planters for our eco garden and we now have four ready to plant up. Following our request in our previous newsletter we have received a fantastic delivery of soil courtesy of Mrs Whittle and Ms Drackett which was much appreciated. Toby G in Year 8 has been assisting Ms Brandon and doing a sterling job filling the planters. We have received our free sample of seeds from Thompson and Morgan which are currently being sown indoors and will be replanted outside once the weather allows.

***Ms Brandon***

## Upcoming Events

Friday 26th April - Spring Talent Show Video Showcase (deadline for entries is 17th March)

## This week's notices to parents/carers

- Pick up and drop off arrangements reminder
- Headphones are required for drama lessons.

## Katherine Warrington Association of Friends (KwAF)

If you would like to get involved and support your school's parents' association please email [kwaf@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:kwaf@kwschool.co.uk) or look out for updates on [Facebook @kwafkws](#). If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us!

## Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms by clicking on the links below:

[Facebook @KatherineWarringtonSchool](#)  
[Facebook @KWSchoolSport](#)

[Twitter @KWSHarpندن](#)

[Instagram @kwschoolharpندن](#)  
[Instagram @kwschoolsport](#)

## Non KWS Events / Publicity

### Letter from Herts County Council's Director of Public Health

Please [click here](#) to read a letter from Herts County Council's Director of Public Health, Jim McManus, which outlines some of the latest changes and encourages families to take part in the lateral flow testing available to parents and carers.

### Playing Out St Albans

Playing Out St Albans District is a community project from the local charity Sustainable St Albans working in partnership with St Albans District Council.

The scheme allows residents to apply to close their road to through traffic up to 8 times a year for play and community building.

We would like to encourage residents to apply for this on their own streets and reap the community benefits it brings.

[Click here to join the session](#)



## Free Playing Out Information Sessions



Make your street a place to play

Monday 15th March, 8.00pm or Tuesday 16th March, 10.30am

on Zoom

Book via <https://playingoutstainfo.eventbrite.co.uk>

Find out how to apply to open up your street for play and community building up to 8 times a year at this free, informal zoom session with the Playing Out St Albans District team

[www.sustainablestalban.org/playingout](http://www.sustainablestalban.org/playingout) | [playingout@sustainablestalban.org](mailto:playingout@sustainablestalban.org)



Registered charity no 1173118

## Harpenden Lion Trail Easter Challenge

### Join the Harpenden Lion Trail Easter Challenge!



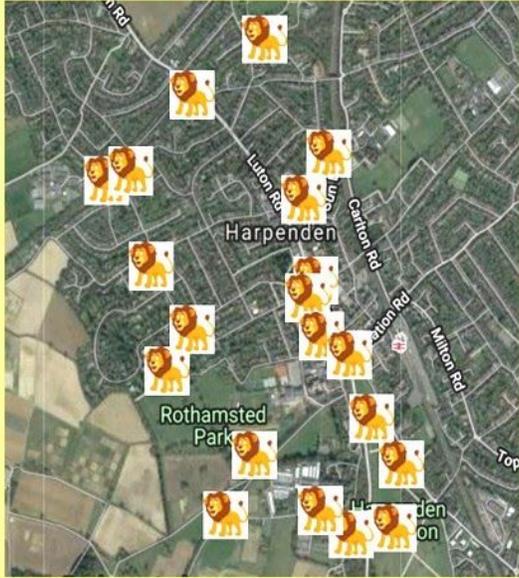
Find the answers to the clues

Follow the trail on your phone

Sign up (entry fee £5) to receive a GoogleMaps link and clue sheet

Send us your answers

Win an Easter Egg!



Families - here's something a little different as we head towards Easter - sign up to the Lion Trail Easter Challenge and with the aid of your phone's location tracking find answers to the 20 clues at the locations marked by a lion (clicking on a Lion icon shows the clue number and the clue). The route is approximately 6.5 km and you can start and finish at any point. Allow 2 - 2 ½ hours, but you do not have to complete the trail in a single session.

Sign up at [www.harpenden-lions.co.uk](http://www.harpenden-lions.co.uk) between 8th and 30th March to receive the GoogleMaps link and clue sheet. Follow the trail in your own time and send us your answers by Monday 5th April to win an egg (one egg per entry). Entries cost £5.

By participating you will also be supporting the Harpenden Lions Life Skills Programme that helps to fund the delivery of PSHE education to 10,000 children in 29 local schools. Since 1991 Harpenden Lions, through our Charitable Trust, have raised and donated over £250,000 to our local schools to help them purchase the resources and services they need.



Harpenden Lions Club

[Click here to take part.](#)