



# School Newsletter



## **KWS Newsletter - Issue 53 - 21.7.22**

### **Heads up**

It was pointed out to me by one of my Year 9 students that this is the first time they have finished a full academic year since joining KWS. With two previous years being disrupted by Covid, it really is third time lucky. But what a year. While Covid has not been too far from our minds, we have been catching up on areas that have been delayed because of it- school trips, music and drama performances, student character development and leadership.

I am delighted to announced that, after whittling down over twenty hopefuls through a process of application and interview, our senior student leaders from the start of next term are: Becky D and Harry H with Tristan H, Jacob T and Jasleen N as deputies. The Year 9 prefect team will be confirmed in September.

A highlight of any school calendar is Sports Day. Now those of you reading this will put yourselves in one of two camps: you really enjoyed sports day at school or you really hated every gruesome, stomach churning minute as you were pushed and cajoled into events you did not want to do. Our Sports Day is very different. There is an opportunity for everyone to participate in individual pursuits from foam javelin, penalty shoot out, sit and reach test, 1 minute sit-ups, Illinois Agility Test, Standing Stork test, speed bounce, netball and basketball shot, football throw-in and Beat the Goalie as well as the eye catching 100 metres, 800 metres, tug of war and relay races. It is by far

the most inclusive sports day I have ever seen and it is not at the expense of being competitive. It works brilliantly and it's all down to the Head of PE, Mr Alexander.

Ofsted were due to visit new schools in their third year but due to Covid this can be delayed for up to a further two years. Over the last few years the criteria for Ofsted has changed and, as teaching unions track inspection outcomes, it is clear the criteria has tightened significantly. Whereas previous figures of 25% of inspections resulted in an 'outstanding' rating', the current figure is nearer 5%. We anticipate and welcome an Ofsted visit in the next academic year. However, it is also true to report that tracking our parent survey against the national responses of parents to Ofsted surveys, we are positively ahead in all categories. Thank you to those parents who came to our parent survey feedback evening with SLT last week.

One point of feedback from parents was the ability for parents to get an accurate picture of what their child will be taught in the year ahead. While students can see the full picture on the student google site, parents do not routinely have access to that unless their child shares their log in details. Following this feedback, in early September we will publish web pages specific to each year group to keep you informed and understand more about the year ahead. This will cover curriculum, the pastoral team, key dates and areas of focus. We have also updated the calendar on the website to include all known events next academic year, that is everything from parents' evenings to trips, inter-house sports and vaccination dates.

In the words of Arrow, it's been 'Hot Hot Hot' as the term ends. The ice creams went down well and were very much appreciated by students and staff alike. As the school summer holidays approach, those who have spent several years in teaching fully expect it to be cloudy and raining for the next few weeks! I hope all our families have an enjoyable and restful break over the recess period and we look forward to welcoming our existing students and new students back in September. Please note the staggered start of new Year 7 students joining on Monday 5th September and the remaining year groups returning on Tuesday 6th.

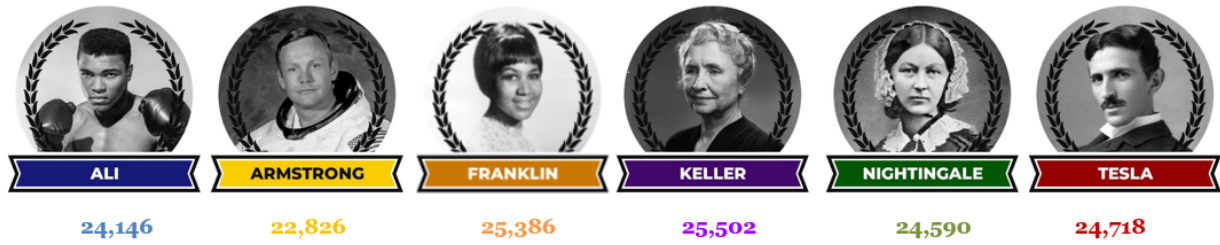
**Tony Smith**  
**Head Teacher**



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**House Points**

The house point winners for this term are **Keller**. Congratulations!



[View All News](#)

## Sponsored Walk 2022 Prizes

Well Done to all students who took part in the Sponsored Walk last Friday. This has helped KWAf complete their fundraising of £10,000 towards the School Gym. They have today presented Mr Smith with a cheque for £10,000 towards the School Gym! Well done to the students who raised the most money in each year group who have won an ...

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## Sports Day Update



Friday 15th July provided an opportunity for students from all year groups to participate in a range of sporting activities during Sports Day. The morning session allowed students to circulate around 15 different events and collect points individually and also for their House. Students engaged fantastically well throughout and there were so many that showed the best of themselves, not ...

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# Reading Challenge Success

In the English Department, our annual Reading Challenges have come to an end. Congratulations to all students who have embraced the Friday Reads lessons, our wonderful Library and our wonderful Librarian along the way to succeed in reading a book a month this year. This year 160 of our students completed their reading challenge and 2943 books were read across ...

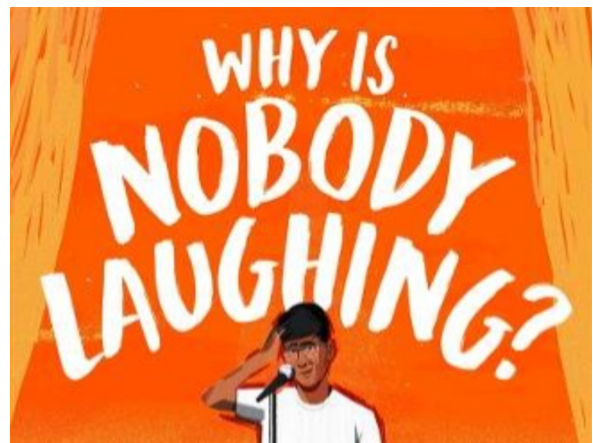
[Read more](#)

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# Young Adult Literature Convention

Last Saturday a group of ten intrepid explorers from across the school went on a trip to London's Olympia to attend the Young Adult Literature Convention. This was an event that our wonderful Librarian and published Young Adult Author, Miss Rahman, has attended in the past and was attending on Sunday to be part of an Author's Book Panel on ...

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# Year 9 Trip to Cambridge University



On Monday this week ten of our Year 9 students went to visit Cambridge University for the day. We spent the morning at Gonville & Caius College where we were given a tour of the college, learnt about the history of Cambridge University, visited the College Library and had lunch in the College dining hall. We saw Professor Stephen Hawking's ...

[Read more](#)

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# 2021-22 Production Photographs for Sale

As the year draws to close and we look back on a successful year of performances (and prepare for what is happening next year) I am writing to let you know that the full range of photographs and headshots from the Winter Showcase and Buggy Malone are now available for sale on the Performing Arts Website. Professionally shot by Elizabeth ...

[Read more](#)



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## Skills Builder Accelerator

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### Member of the



We are delighted to announce that KWS has been granted funding to run the Skills Builder Accelerator Programme next academic year. During form times, students across KS3 and KS4 will use the programme to develop some of the soft skills that employers desire when appointing staff. These skills are: Listening, Speaking, Problem Solving, Creativity, Staying Positive, Aiming High, Leadership and ...

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## Latest News from the KWS Garden

We have had a successful few months in the KWS garden growing a variety of vegetables and fruit. The rhubarb and strawberries were a big hit and we now have potatoes, onions and garlic ready to go. Hopefully the hot weather won't cause too much stress to our remaining crops - we still have beans, carrots, sweetcorn, squash, leeks, tomatoes ...

[Read more](#)



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## ESSA Water Centre - Year 9 Activities Week

# Trip

Please find below a video created of the Year 9 ESSA trip.

[Read more](#)

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## Trustee News

What a beautiful sunset there was over school as we left the last Trust Board meeting of this academic year. The glowing sky reflected the sense of energy and pride in the room as we discussed progress to date and plans for the future. As a whole school community it is important that we take time to reflect and to grow.

The Trustees would like to thank each member of Staff for all their hard work and for always enriching the school experience for students. The recent activities week and Duke of Edinburgh Award weekend sounded great fun & we were pleased to hear so many students were able to take part and gain so much.

Thank you to the Parents and Carers who completed the recent survey. This is an important data set for school and we were delighted with the results, especially when compared to national benchmarks.

To the Students - well done! It sounds like you got your heads down and tried your best to showcase your knowledge in exams week. We hope you enjoyed your trips and sports days. There have been some fantastic speakers visiting school and some great opportunities for you to experience this year.

Finally, thank you to all those who have been part of the Trust Board this year for your help, support and commitment to school.

We wish you all a pleasant break. We hope everyone can find time to relax and eat ice cream, be active and creative so that we come back in September with fully charged batteries.

**Jenny Howarth**  
**Chair of Trustees**



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## **KWS Vacancies**

### **Current Vacancies:**

Office Assistant Apprentice - Full time

Office Assistant - Part time

Finance Assistant Apprentice - Full time

Finance Assistant Including School Trips) - Part Time

### **School cleaners required.**

Immediate start as deep clean work will be taking place during the summer break.

16 hours per week 5pm start ( some flexibility) Monday to Friday.

Apply online or come to our open day – see below.

**An open day** is being held on Wednesday 27th July between 11am and 1pm so come along and take a look at this lovely school and potentially become a part of our cleaning team.

## **Katherine Warington 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!

## **Upcoming Events**

Thursday 1st September - INSET day - No students in school

Friday 2nd September - INSET day - No students in school

Monday 5th September - Year 7 Start

Tuesday 6th September - All years groups back in school.

Thursday 8th September - Year 7 photos 1-3pm

## **Notices**

GCSE Drama Trip

2021 - 2022 Production Photos For Sale

## Non KWS Events/Publicity

Looking to reduce the cost of going out this summer? A number of local companies are offering low cost or free food for children throughout the summer holidays

**Where KIDS EAT FREE or for Less  
in Summer 2022 🙌**

**KIDS EAT FOR FREE  
OR LESS DURING SUMMER 2022**



**MORRISONS**  
Spend £4.99 to get a free kids meal after 3pm daily, normally all day during half term.

**ASDA CAFE**  
Kids eat for £1 every day with NO need for a paying adult from 25th July - 4th Sept, 2022.

**DUNELM**  
One free mini main, two snacks and a drink for every £4 spent in the in-store cafe.

**YO!** Kids eat free from 3pm-5:30pm Mon-Thurs for every £10 spent on food.

**BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE**  
Free breakfast for two children under 16 with every paying adult.

**HUNGRY HORSE**  
Free kids breakfast with an adults breakfast from 9am-12pm daily.

**IKEA**  
Get TWO kids hot meals, fruit, drink and jelly for £5 in their Swedish restaurants (subject to availability).

**BELLA ITALIA**  
Kids eat for £1 with each adult meal from 4-6pm on Mon-Thurs.

**DOBBIES**  
Kids eat free with an adult main meal.

**TABLE TABLE**  
Two children under 16 get a free breakfast with one paying adult every day.

**CAFE ROUGE**  
Kids eat for £1 with an adult meal excluding Saturday.

**MORE TO COME!!**  
M&S, TESCO and more expected soon, see websites for latest information.

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## Food Banks

We are opening a **NEW** distribution centre at The Cottonmill Community & Cycling Centre, this week. It will open from **Wednesday**, 20th July 2022, from 13.00-15.00

At: Cottonmill Community Centre  
12 Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane  
St Albans, AL1 2EF

At several of our distribution centres on a regular basis we are now able to offer a CAB officer to



talk with clients. At the moment they have been attending New Greens, London Colney and Harpenden distribution centres every two weeks.

As a reminder our distribution centres are:

**Monday Morning**

The Vineyard Church  
7 Brick Knoll Park, St Albans, AL1 5UG  
10.00am- 12.00pm

**Monday Afternoon**

Redbourn Methodist Church,  
North Common, AL37BU  
2.00pm-3.30pm

**Tuesday**

Christchurch, New Greens  
1.00pm – 3.00pm  
3 High Oaks, St Albans; AL3 6DJ

**Wednesday**

Cottonmill Community Centre  
12 Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane  
St Albans, AL1 2EF  
13.00-15.00

**Thursday**

Hillydyke Community Centre  
17 Hillydyke Road, Wheathampstead  
AL4 8TU  
12.30pm-2.30pm

**Friday Morning**

London Colney Parish Council  
Caledon Community Centre, Caledon  
Road, London Colney, AL2 1PU  
10.00am-12.00pm

**Friday Afternoon**

Crabtree Church-Harpenden  
139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden  
AL5 5RD  
1.00pm- 3.00pm

If you have any queries or want to discuss particular issues please let us know. You can either contact the ware-house: 01727 613019 or myself on 07799 296444

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[Unsubscribe](#)

