



# School Newsletter



## **KWS Newsletter - Issue 72 - 14.7.23**

### **Heads up**

Dear Parent/Carer,

As another academic year draws to a close, we would like to remind our community about the high standards and expectations we expect once students return to KWS in September 2023, where we will - for the first time - have a full school with years 7-11.

### **RESPONSIBLE - High Standards and Expectations**

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. With effective partnerships between school and home, KWS is a school that the community is proud of, a school that is in demand and a school where each and every one of the students achieves well and makes strong academic progress. As a parent or carer, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Students spend only approximately 14% of their time between the ages of 5 and 16 in lessons. The vast majority of time is spent at home with yourselves as their primary educator. The role you play in signing and agreeing to the '[Home School Agreement](#)' and supporting the school by establishing the high standards and expectations that then continue within school is essential. Both parents and teachers want the same thing for our children - the best possible education. When we all work together, we make a strong team.

### **READY - The Importance of Excellent Attendance and Punctuality**

Great attendance equals better academic performance. It is no surprise that those students who have excellent attendance and punctuality make far better progress and achieve better grades. For example, even 95% attendance equates on average to a child missing half a day of school every two weeks. This is roughly 10 days missed over an academic year; a significant amount of learning time lost. Therefore, every student should aim for 100% attendance as this will ensure they do not miss any learning.

Whilst we accept that there are rare times when absence from school cannot be avoided, these occasions must be kept to a minimum. In line with the national directive, the school will not authorise holidays in school time. We make no apologies for this hard-line approach: regular attendance is one of the key factors in ensuring that children make progress at school and it is our duty to safeguard our students' learning. Please support your child by ensuring that they attend school every day.

We ask for your support in ensuring that your child arrives on time for the start of the school day. Form time Mon- Thu and Period 1 on Friday start at 8.30am and so students should be in school by 8.25am to provide movement time to form/class and to ensure they have checked they have the correct equipment and used their lockers, setting themselves up for a successful day. The school is

therefore moving to closing the main gates at 8.25am each day from September. Students will be recorded as late if they arrive after 8.25am. Having students in place, settled, and ready to learn is the best way to start our academic day. We want to avoid disruptions as much as possible to ensure the best educational experience for your child and so we will be focusing on punctuality to school and to lessons within the first term of our next academic year.

### **READY – The Importance of Uniform**

At KWS we believe that uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the student body. These factors contribute to students' wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear and added stress of meeting the expectations of their peers. Uniform removes the points of difference between students, thus unifying the student body and providing a greater focus on academic work.

Students are representatives of KWS and must be aware that they carry responsibility for the school's reputation. Students must wear full school uniform when travelling to school, whilst in school and when travelling home from school. Our [Uniform Policy](#) and [Behaviour Policy](#) clearly outlines expectations.

Students not compliant with the uniform policy will be sent to the Pastoral Office to explain why and may be sent home to change, unless they have a signed letter from home explaining the exceptional circumstances. Where the correct clothing or footwear is not worn students will be required to wear the correct uniform on loan from the school for that day

- e.g. school plimsolls.

The only jewellery permitted at school is a non-smart wrist watch and a single pair of plain

- gold or silver small, stud earrings worn at the bottom of the ear lobes.\*

Students wearing 'obvious' make-up, fake eyelashes or nail polish will be required to remove it. Please note that any refusal to remove any article, e.g. acrylic nails, may result in further

- sanctions.

\*Parents and carers are recommended to use the first week of the summer holidays if they are supporting their child to have additional piercings. This provides a full six weeks, the recommended time to allow piercings to heal. Having additional piercings during the school calendar will require the piercings to be removed each day for school.

Ensuring your child sets off each day for school compliant with the uniform policy will set them up for success for the rest of the day. It will also avoid them being challenged as their first interaction with a member of staff. We want our students to start each day with a positive interaction.

#### READY – The Importance of Being Equipped for the Day

Evidence shows that low level disruption, including not bringing the correct equipment, accounts for up to an hour of learning lost each day in English schools. This equates to 38 days teaching lost per year. A large number of students are being denied a significant amount of learning time. This year we had a drive, focusing on students being ready for school, ensuring they had the correct equipment. We have been pleased with the progress we have made in this area but we are aware that we still need to maintain this momentum. We therefore ask that you continue to work with your child to ensure they have the correct equipment for each day and have their Chromebooks charged each night ready for the next day.

#### **Communication**

We have taken onboard parental and student voices regarding the use of Arbor as a way of providing information regarding successes and behaviour in school. From September we will be moving to a new app called ClassCharts. ClassCharts will provide access to your child's progress at school including rewards and consequences. The app is more user-friendly and keeps parents informed of attendance, behaviour and homework. ClassCharts is also available for pupils and supports them monitoring & reflecting on their own behaviour, homework and attendance. More information will be provided on how to access ClassCharts at the start of the next academic year. We will also be providing a webpage, on the 1st September, that will contain information specific to each year group to aid planning for the upcoming academic year.

#### **Partnership**

As mentioned previously, the importance of an effective and respectful partnership between home and school is vital. If parents and the school work in unison, demanding the same high standards in all aspects of behaviour and academic achievement, then great learning will follow. We would like to thank all the parents/carers who have given their support this year and we ask for your continued support as we set even higher standards and expectations over the next academic year and



beyond. Staff will be checking all equipment and uniform from the first day back in September and we thank you for your support with this.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can support you with any aspect of your child's learning and progress.

Yours faithfully,

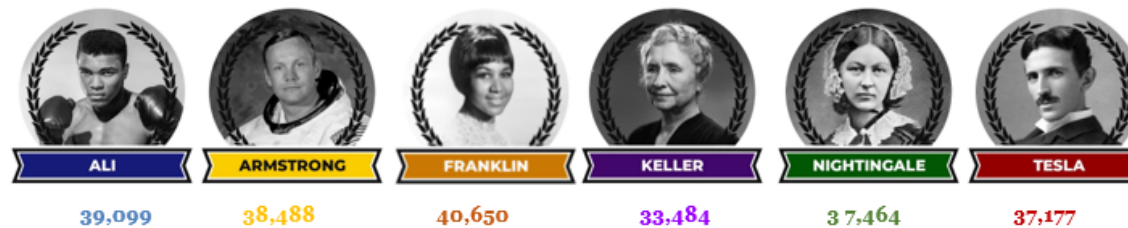
**Mr Martin**

**Deputy Headteacher (Acting Headteacher from September 2023)**

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## House Points

This weeks house point winners are **Franklin**. Congratulations!



[View All News](#)

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## PE Update

Wednesday provided an entertaining afternoon of cricket, which saw our Year 9 & 10 combined side lose agonisingly in the last over against St George's. Posting a credible 126, St George's chased down our total with 2 balls of their innings remaining, despite a late flurry of wickets. Well done to Marco (31) and Henry (23) for solid batting performances, ...

[Read more](#)



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## Year 10 History trip to London (Tuesday 27th June)



Written by Becky D. and Annalisa R. (Year 10)  
As part of activities week, the Year 10 history students had the opportunity to go on a trip into London. To start with, we went to the Imperial War Museum which is the world's leading museum of war and conflict. We looked around the First and Second World War galleries which ...

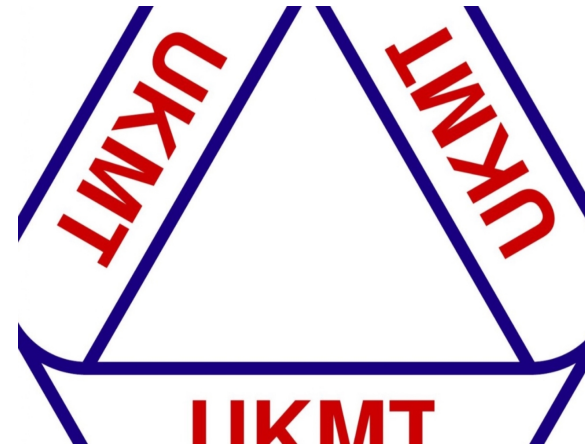
[Read more](#)

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# UKMT Olympiad and Junior Kangaroo competitions

Well done to Joel D and Henry G in Year 8 who competed in the UKMT Olympiad and Junior Kangaroo competitions respectively. Henry achieved a Certificate of Merit and Joel a Certificate of Distinction and we are very proud of them in the KWS maths department.  
Miss Anderson

[Read more](#)



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## Performing Arts Update



Arts Week This week we have been celebrating Arts week at Katherine Warrington School. There have been a number of activities including an Art Exhibition, and a Music, Drama and Dance festival where over 60 students performed in front of our guest adjudicators – Siobhan Cha Cha and Vaneeka Dhadria winning points for their house as well as receiving feedback ...

[Read more](#)

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## University of Hertfordshire Trip

A group of y10 students had a great time at the University of Hertfordshire at an event run by Advance Mathematics Support Program. There were several speakers including Ben Sparks whose topic for discussion was 'where do numbers come from?' They had the chance to mix and problem solve with other students from Hertfordshire schools. The highlight was building their ...



[Read more](#)

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## Escape Room Trip



clueQuest In Activities Week, 60 year 10 students visited the clueQuest Escape Rooms in Islington, London. The escape rooms are themed on Mr. Q's spy agency and participants take on the role of secret agents tasked with a variety of missions. For example, in one room, students must identify the double agent, prove that the evil Professor BlackSheep is behind ...

[Read more](#)

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## Transition Day 2023

Thursday 6th July saw the final Transition event held at KWS for our new Year 7 students. Thank you to all staff who helped make it a success. I am sure it will be a day to remember for all 186 of our new students coming from a mammoth 32 different primary schools. Both Mr Jones and I have spent ...

[Read more](#)





# KWS Library Something Summer Reading Challenge



This summer, KWS Library would love all students to take part in our Something Summer Reading Challenge. Students are asked to read Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed and Something Blue and to either email us a review of anything they read on [library@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:library@kwschool.co.uk) or post it on Instagram @kwschoollibrary and tag us in. They can complete just one category ...

[Read more](#)

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## KWS Vacancies

Learning Support Assistant  
Caretaker

Cleaning Supervisor required- 4hrs per day £11.42 ph, 4pm start term time only. Duties are supervising a team of cleaners, checking cleaning, ordering stock, cleaning a small area, arrange cover when a cleaner is absent and liaising with Area Manager.

We will shortly be looking for admin support



## **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!

If you have any requests regarding the KWAF second-hand uniform, please email [uniform.kwaf@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:uniform.kwaf@kwschool.co.uk) and not the main KWAF email.

## **Upcoming Events**

Monday 17th July - Year 8 Holocaust Speaker

Friday 21st July - Term ends at 12.05pm - Non Uniform Day

Monday 21st August - Wednesday 23rd August - Summer School (New Year 7s)

Friday 1st September - INSET DAY - NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL

Monday 4th September - INSET DAY - NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL

Tuesday 5th September - Year 7 Start

Wednesday 6th September - Year 8 - Year 11 Start

## **Notices**

Expectations for Next Academic Year

Flu Vaccination

Summer Immunisation Catch up Clinics

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## **Non KWS Events/Publicity**

**Harpenden Live**

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Tickets from **£12**

# Harpden LIVE

Saturday **15th July 2023**

NEW FESTIVAL FOR NEW MUSIC

**INDIA ARKIN** *Barbara*

**DARLIN** **EAR CANDY** *Will Matthew*

**THE GREAT LESLIE**

+ SPECIAL GUESTS

The Hanging Bandits - Baby Eleanor  
 Owen Kennedy - LEO - Abbie Gathard  
 Sam Clift - Jahleel (DJ Set)

 [tricks.prono.urban](https://tricks.prono.urban)

**Craft Beer · Gin Bar · Food Festival · Family Entertainment**

Proud sponsors of the festival

**AMTHAL**  
FIRE & SECURITY

[www.harpden-live.com](http://www.harpden-live.com)  
 Gates open 12pm · Warrington Fields  
 Lower Luton Road AL5 5FH



**Dacorum and St Albans - Quarterly Newsletter**



# Welcome! Summer 2023

To our Summer edition of the Schools Stay Safe Newsletter.  
Read on for advice on ways to stay safe for you and your family.

## Cooking Safely with **disposable BBQ's**

Last year during the very hot weather we saw an increase in fires caused by portable BBQ's. By following a few simple guidelines, you can minimise the risks!

### Before your BBQ:

- Never use your BBQ near fences, sheds, trees and shrubs or garden waste, or on a balcony.
- Never use in enclosed spaces as they produce deadly carbon monoxide!
- Check your surrounding environment is not likely to catch fire.
- Place on a flat fireproof surface, and not straight onto grass. It wouldn't hurt to keep a bucket of water nearby.
- Never add additional lighting agents, e.g., petrol, white spirit.

### After your BBQ:

- Please extinguish your BBQ with water or sand if you can.
- Do not attempt to move the BBQ immediately after use, even if you have extinguished it, as they get incredibly hot.
- Ensure that it has completely cooled down before attempting to dispose of it.
- Never just walk away and leave it there still alight.

**ALWAYS** keep children and pets well back from a lit BBQ.



Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

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**Stanborough Park Watersports Centre**



# STANBOROUGH PARK WATERSPORTS CENTRE

RYA Sailing Courses  
Kayaking & Canoeing  
Birthday Parties

Paddleboarding  
Rafting  
GO Sessions



[www.better.org.uk/  
leisure-centre/welwyn-hatfield/stanborough-park-  
water-sports-centre/activities](http://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/welwyn-hatfield/stanborough-park-water-sports-centre/activities)

**BETTER**

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**NIHR Clinical research network**



## Rebo's Research Round-Up

Summer 2023



Your school's invited to be part of health and care research!



Your local NHS team is carrying out research to help find new ways to care for people with health conditions like anxiety, dyslexia and diabetes.

Well, now schools are getting involved and yours could be part of it too!

### Why get involved?

Taking part in innovative research studies that focus on the health and well-being of children and young people can:

- help shape the future of health for everyone
- mean your school gets extra funding and equipment
- boost staff development
- inspire students' future careers!

Mental and physical health problems among children and young people are on the rise.

We need schools to join us in global research studies which focus on the health and wellbeing of children and young people.



### Don't miss your chance to join Rebo's Research Adventure!

Rebo, the NHS research robot, is helping to spread the word about health and care research.

Go to page 2 to find out how you can join Rebo, and learn about one of the latest studies you can get involved in...



# Netball4Fun



Years 4 - 9 September 2023

Enjoy great coaching with experienced Level 2 coaches

Develop netball skills while having fun & developing teamwork

Fun, friendly & supportive sessions

Opportunity to play match competitions with N4F Netters



Y4/5: 12.00-1.00pm  
Y6/7: 1.00pm - 2.30pm  
Y8: 2.30pm - 4.00pm  
Y8/9: 4.00pm - 5.30pm



Saturday 9th September - 9th December



Katherine Warrington School (Indoor), AL5 5FH

Email for details on how to book: [netball4funcontact@gmail.com](mailto:netball4funcontact@gmail.com)

[www.netball4fun.co.uk](http://www.netball4fun.co.uk)





# TENNIS COURT RE-LAUNCH

SATURDAY 22ND JULY 2023

10AM - 12NOON

ROTHAMSTED PARK TENNIS COURTS

## JOIN IN!

**FREE PARK TENNIS TASTER SESSIONS  
FOOD AND DRINK STALLS  
CRAFT ACTIVITIES**



All ages welcome. Please wear suitable footwear.  
Equipment will be provided, however if you have  
your own racquet please bring it with you!

For more information follow us on social media or visit our website for updates:  
[www.harpenden.gov.uk](http://www.harpenden.gov.uk)



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**Supporting a child with ADHD Online Session**

# Supporting a Child with ADHD

## 2 hour online session



FACE Lead Facilitator, Jane Keyworth  
is delivering this session on 20th July 2023  
as a one off talk from 6pm to 8pm

Book Now Online via  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

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**Design your own skateboard**



# DESIGN YOUR OWN SKATEBOARD

To help celebrate the redevelopment of the Rothamsted Skatepark, PARC is inviting you to design a skateboard. The winning entry in each category (7 and under, 8 to 11, 12 to 16 and 17 and over) will win a skateboard with their design.

For terms and conditions, including how to enter please visit our website <https://parc.charity>

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HARPENDEN EST. 1982

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text **NEW**

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text **SKATE**

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