



# School Newsletter



## **KWS Newsletter - Issue 79 - 17.11.23**

### **Heads up**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all been shocked and shaken by recent events in Israel and Gaza in the past few weeks. It is not our place to address the political context or express any political opinions on the matter but we do express our deepest sympathy with all those in the school community who have been affected by the events that have taken and continue to take place.

Staff work hard to ensure our school is a place where children can feel safe, be heard, and feel able to discuss their feelings and concerns without fear or worry. KWS is a community of learners and families that recognise we all share the same hopes and fears and where we encourage each other to see the humanity of each person in our midst. Our school promotes equality, diversity and inclusion along with one of our key values of respect. We will continue to promote these key messages to our students through our classroom discussions and assemblies.

If you or your child have any concerns or are experiencing difficulties, please feel confident to approach your child's form tutor or Head of Year. We will do all we can to help, to listen and to act as and where necessary. We might be able to refer you on to support or advice that you will find helpful.

I am very proud of our school and a large part of that is because of the children and their families. We are a close and supportive community who have the best interests of everyone at heart. Whilst we are all affected by events locally and globally, we will work together to help our children feel

safe, valued and confident.

**Yours sincerely**  
**David Martin**  
**Acting Headteacher**

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We want to say a big well done to year 11 students who have had their mock exams over the last couple of weeks. They have shown great resilience and this will set them up well for their real exams next year. We are very proud of them.

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The term dates for 24/25 are now on the website and the calendar for 24/25 will be added by the end of the summer term.

Please click the link below to view to term dates.

**<https://kwschool.co.uk/term-dates-2/>**

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At Katherine Warrington School we work hard to provide a supportive environment where well being is prioritised. We also try to make sure that we signpost parents to the right resources to support their children through difficult times. Below are some really useful resources that we hope you will find useful and easy to access.

This can be a difficult time of year and there are undoubtedly both local, national and global challenges that we are aware could affect children and families within our community.

Please reach out to key staff if you feel your child may be in need of support (e.g Form Tutor/Head of Year) or please look into some of the resources and services below.

### **The OLLIE Foundation**

OLLIE offers a comprehensive programme that includes suicide prevention training, well being workshops, informative talks, and a range of holistic activities. Furthermore, we're equipped to provide guidance on coping with bereavement after sudden loss.

OLLIE are extending a warm invitation to parents and carers to join free online suicide prevention training, "Talk Safe." During this session, CEO, Debi Roberts, will lead a supportive discussion addressing the challenges of seeking support and reaching out for help when it's needed the most. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with Debi and ask questions during a Q&A session at the end of the training. There are dates available from December onwards.

To secure fully funded tickets for this training, please follow this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/part-1-talk-safe-tickets-406151388737?aff=oddtcreator>

Should you wish to find out more about the work OLLIE does, please click [here](#)

### **NESSie**

NESSie is funded by Hertfordshire County Council to support parents/carers of children and young people with emotional and mental health issues. The aim of this provision is to help parents/carers in developing a positive and more confident approach to supporting their young person, whilst offering a chance to gain peer support, useful strategies and practical tools.

Topics covered may include, but are not limited to:

- Anxiety and Building Resilience
- Self-harming Behaviours
- School Avoidance
- Bereavement and Loss including Divorce and Separation
- Disordered Eating
- Supporting a Child or Young Person who is Gender Questioning
- Managing Meltdowns

Follow the link [here](#) to find out more about their service. They also have a great website to help signpost you to other services; just scroll down to the bottom of their parent support page.

## **School Counselling Service**

Our counselling service is accessible to ALL students. Sessions are 50 minutes and take place during lesson times. We endeavour to ensure students miss as little curriculum time as possible but there is an expectation that if content is missed for counselling sessions that students will make an effort to catch up or ask for the missed work.

Students are considered for counselling based on the level of need and it may be that other students on the waiting list are prioritised as they need the support more urgently. It is the decision of the Mental Health Lead, in consultation with trained professionals, which students receive counselling. If our counsellors cannot meet the needs of a student they will support families to make referrals to external services or will offer appropriate signposting.

School based counselling sessions are regularly reviewed and on average, we offer 6-8 sessions of counselling. The work of the counsellor is confidential. However, in some circumstances (and with the consent of the student) the counsellor may engage with parents if this would help to support the student. Counsellors may also share information with the Safeguarding Team if they deem a student to be at possible risk of harm.

For more information about our counselling service please make contact with our Senior Mental Health Lead, Grace Aikman [g.aikman@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:g.aikman@kwschool.co.uk)

If you feel your child would benefit from this support, you can encourage them to make a self referral using the form below. Their information will be kept confidential and only accessed initially by the Senior Mental Health Lead.

[Student Self Referral Form](#)

Students who cannot access the counselling service can access our lunchtime drop in service which takes place every day. Students can find information about how to access drop ins on the Student Site by clicking on the Wellbeing page.

**Mrs Aikman**  
**Assistant Head/ Safeguarding Lead**

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## **House Points**

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



ALI

30,407



ARMSTRONG

30,332



FRANKLIN

29,895



KELLER

28,676



NIGHTINGALE

30,425



TESLA

31,422

[View All News](#)

## KWS Sports Update

In PE, we've had a large number of successes in sporting fixtures over the last few weeks. In rugby, we've had a full on few weeks with consecutive Saturday fixtures against Sandringham, Samuel Ryder and Sir John Lawes either side of half term. All games have been highly competitive and there have been some outstanding performances and commitment, most notably ...



[Read more](#)

## Norfolk Manor Adventure trip



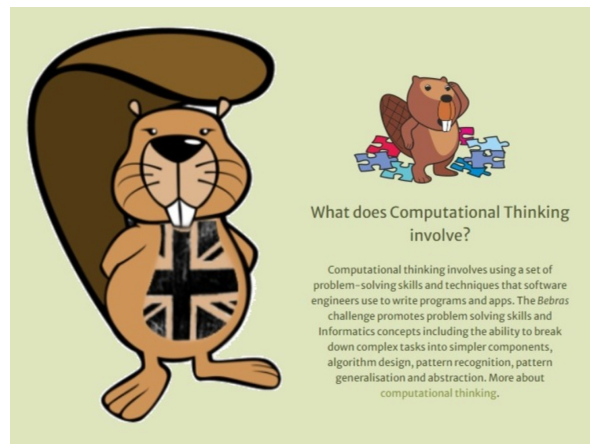
Last week, we took the wonderful year 7s to Norfolk to develop students' social skills and to build new friendships. The students had the opportunity to try exciting activities such as kayaking, fencing and caving. The experience offered students a safe and supportive environment to try new activities outside of the classroom. For a lot of our students, this was ...

[Read more](#)

## 2023 Bebras Challenge!

This week all students in Computing lessons took part in the Bebras challenge. The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students. Each participant answers questions that focus on computational and logical thinking. Students in the top 20% of the Country go through to the next round. Good luck all!

[Read more](#)



## "Beyond Year 11" Drop Down Day



On the "Beyond Year 11" drop down day, we had lots of great opportunities to have sessions with different colleges, universities and companies offering apprenticeships, to look at careers and education opportunities post-16. Firstly, my form had a speaker from Parker Hannifin (Gail Anthony), a manufacturing company, who talked to us about how their creations were used all around the ...

[Read more](#)

## Diwali at KWS

This last week we have had an array of activities to mark Diwali at KWS including the very popular (and what has now become annual) event of Rangoli. Students really enjoyed themselves using the decorative sand to make traditional patterns one lunchtime while listening to some traditional music chosen by older students who celebrate Diwali at home as well. A ...

[Read more](#)



## 3G Pitch Update - November 2023



I am pleased to say that our 3G pitch is progressing well and we are on track for the pitch opening in January 2024. The fence posts are now up and the lighting columns are currently going up. The final stage which is the carpet being laid is likely to take place over the next couple of weeks.  
Wheathampsted Wanderers ...

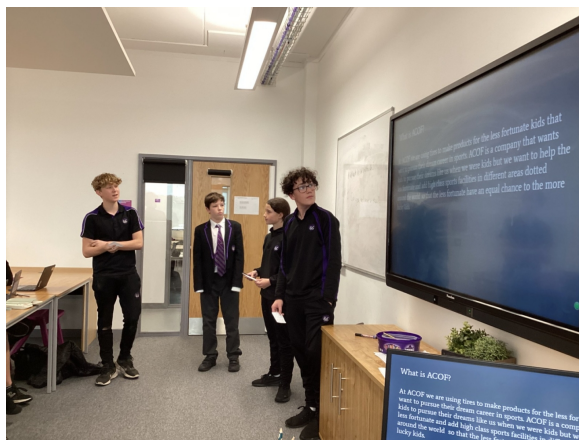
[Read more](#)

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## The Tyre Challenge

On Friday 10th November, all Year 9 students took part in the Tyre Challenge. For this we were given the problem of trying to use tyres in a sustainable and useful way for the community. Each form would get into groups of 3 to 5 and we had a budget of £3000. We had to make a slide show to ...

[Read more](#)



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## KWS Vacancies

The following vacancies will be rolled forward with closing date of 9am on Monday 27th November:

Head of Chemistry  
Performing Arts Technician

The following vacancy is also being advertised:

Medical Administrator

## 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!

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.

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Elevate the Spirit of Giving: Join Katherine Warrington Association of Friend's Festive Fundraising Activities!

As the festive season approaches, we are excited to announce four fantastic ways for you to support our school and make this festive season extra special. The Katherine Warrington Association of Friends (KWAF) is dedicated to enriching the educational experience for our students, and we need your help to do it.

Here are the wonderful ways you can get involved and make a difference throughout November and December:

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP - £45 per person.

Join us for a delightful wreath-making workshop! For just £45, you'll have everything you need to create a beautiful wreath and even enjoy a complimentary glass of mulled wine. It's the perfect opportunity to get into the festive spirit while creating a unique decoration for your home.

**[www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/nov-25th-wreath-workshops](http://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/nov-25th-wreath-workshops)**

FESTIVE RAFFLE - £2 per ticket.

Feeling lucky? Purchase a raffle ticket for just £2 and get a chance to win one of over 30 incredible prizes. Our raffle is filled with amazing gifts and surprises that could make the festive season even brighter. Link to tickets will be available soon.

LOCALLY SOURCED CHRISTMAS TREES – Donate £10 to the school with each purchase!  
When you buy a locally sourced Christmas tree, £10 of your purchase will be generously donated to our school. Decorate your home with a beautiful tree while giving back to our educational community. [www.foha.co.uk](http://www.foha.co.uk) Remember to select Katherine Warrington School in the drop down menu.

SIGN UP TO EASYFUNDRAISING – Raise funds for free!

Shopping for gifts and supplies this Christmas? Sign up for Easy Fundraising, a simple way to raise funds for our school every time you shop. With no additional cost to you, a portion of your purchases will be directed towards supporting KWAF.

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kwaf](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kwaf)** Only 9% of our school is currently signed up to donate, imagine how much we could raise if everyone was using easy fundraising when shopping.

Your support is essential in ensuring that we can continue to provide our students with enriching educational experiences and opportunities. Your contribution will make a significant difference, no matter which of these four options you choose to participate in.

To get involved or learn more, please follow us on Facebook

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/kwafkws/?mibextid=c7yyfP>** or contact us by email at **[kwaf@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:kwaf@kwschool.co.uk)**

Thank you for your continued support, and we wish you a joyful festive season.

Warm regards,

The KWAF team.



Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KWAF)

# Festive Fundraising



UP COMING EVENTS FOR KWAF

## *WREATH WORKSHOP*

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2.30-4PM AND 7.30PM-9PM

BOOK YOUR PLACE TO CREATE A WREATH FOR £45 AT

[WWW.PEOPLESFUNDRAISING.COM/EVENT/NOV-25TH-WREATH-WORKSHOPS](http://WWW.PEOPLESFUNDRAISING.COM/EVENT/NOV-25TH-WREATH-WORKSHOPS)

## *FESTIVE RAFFLE*

TICKETS ON SALE SOON

£2 A TICKET WITH OVER 30 PRIZES TO BE WON

## *CHRISTMAS TREE SALES*

BUY A LOCALLY GROWN CHRISTMAS TREE AND £10 WILL BE DONATED TO KWAF

COLLECTION OR DELIVERY ON 8TH & 9TH DECEMBER  
ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.FOHA.CO.UK](http://WWW.FOHA.CO.UK)

## *EASY FUNDRAISING*

RAISE FUNDS FOR KWAF AS YOU DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SIGN UP FOR FREE AT

[WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK/CAUSES/KWAF](http://WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK/CAUSES/KWAF)



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## Upcoming Events

Tuesday 21st November - Year 9 Drama Theatre Trip

Thursday 23rd November - Year 8 Performing Arts Theatre Trip

Friday 24th November - Year 11 GSCE Art Tate Modern Trip

Monday 27th November to Saturday 2nd December - Performing Arts Show Week

Thursday 30th November - Year 11 Mock Results Day

Tuesday 5th December - Year 11 Synagogue Trip (1/2 Year Group)

Wednesday 6th December - Year 11 Synagogue Trip (1/2 Year Group)

Wednesday 6th December - Year 9 Careers in Tv Workshop

Wednesday 20th December - Early Finish for Christmas Holiday (12.05pm)

Thursday 21st December to Thursday 4th January - Christmas Holiday

## Notices

Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 11s

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## KWS Events/Publicity

Supporting Links Parent and Carer Support

please click [here](#) to find out more



Once again we are offering Parenting Support Groups [countywide](#) and ONLINE for the **SPRING TERM** of 2024.

We are pleased to bring you the details of **7 online** courses starting in the new year, as well as **2 face to face** groups. We are really excited to be supporting parents in person again. We ask that organisations in Welwyn Hatfield and Three Rivers districts share details of their courses far and wide please! If they fill - we will be able to justify offering this service to other districts.

Each group runs over 6 weekly sessions and is offered **FREE** of charge to parents thanks to funding from Herts County Council:

**Talking Additional Needs** (1 Three Rivers course)

**Talking Families** (1 online / 1 Welwyn/Hatfield course)

**Talking Teens** (2 online courses)

**Talking Dads** (2 online courses)

**(NEW) Talking Anger in Teens** (1 online course)

**(NEW) Talking Anxiety in the Family** (1 online course)

**BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN**

## Parent & Carer Support Spring Term 2024



**FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire**

### TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-19, covering:

- The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



**Thursdays 7.45-9.15pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Jan to 8<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**Online Course: ID 624**

**Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm**

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb to 20<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**(no session in half term)**

**Online Course: ID 625**

### TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-19, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



**Tuesdays 7.45-9.30pm**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Jan to 5<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**(no session in half term)**

**Online Course: ID 626**

### TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of all ages, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



**Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jan to 7<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**Online Course: ID 627**

**Tuesdays 7.45-9.15pm**

**6<sup>th</sup> Feb to 19<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**(no session in half term)**

**Online Course: ID 628**

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The Hub ASC/SEND Coffee Mornings

# The Hub

## ASC/SEND Coffee Mornings

Vista St Albans are hosting coffee mornings with a School Family Worker to help support Parents/ Carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, diagnosed or not. This is an informal and safe place for Parents/Carers to share information and chat.

Running alongside our coffee mornings, there will also be the opportunity to pre-book an appointment with a member of staff from the SEND Specialist Advice and Support Service (These sessions are for ASC advice).  
Times available are: 9.30am, 10.00am, 11.00am and 11.30am

**Time:** Coffee Morning starts at **9.15am** until **11.00am**  
(no need to book)

**Venue:** The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW  
(The Hub is situated to the right hand side of the School building)

**For more information about this service or to book an appointment please call Vista/St Albans Plus on 07584 798528**  
Email: [vistastalbans@gmail.com](mailto:vistastalbans@gmail.com)



**Next date:**  
Wednesday 28th June  
Wednesday 4th October  
Wednesday 29th November  
Wednesday 31st January 2024  
Wednesday 13th March 2024  
Wednesday 8th May 2024  
Wednesday 26th June 2024

[www.vistastalbans.org.uk](http://www.vistastalbans.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/Vistastalbans](https://www.facebook.com/Vistastalbans)



## Emotional Based School Avoidance Coffee Morning



Delivering Special Provision Locally

Services for Young People

### Emotional Based School Avoidance

Suitable for parents/carers of children in year 7 - 11, in DSPL7 & 8.

This EBSA coffee morning is aimed at parents and carers who have a child in year 7 - 11 who is not attending school as a result of emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues. The children and young people can also attend. This event is being run by DSPL7 & 8 with Services for Young People.



This will be taking place at Young People's Centre, 1st Floor, XC centre, Hemel Hempstead from 9:30 - 11:30am on the following dates:

- 19th October
- 28th November
- 25th January
- 21st March
- 7th May

There is no need to book this event.



[admin@d脾17.org.uk](mailto:admin@d脾17.org.uk)



01727 519229



[www.d脾17.org.uk](http://www.d脾17.org.uk)

## SERIES 3 EPISODE 9 AVAILABLE NOW!

In the final episode, Rachel Burden is joined by Santina Bunting who, at the age of just 18, is already well into her degree apprenticeship with civil engineering firm ARUP, has been shortlisted for the multicultural apprenticeship awards and won an Institute of Civil Engineering quest scholarship award.



THE PARENT PERSPECTIVE - EPISODE 9 - SEASON 3

### The Engineer: how an apprenticeship can kick start your engineering career



00:00 | 25:43

SUBSCRIBE SHARE MORE INFO



## INVESTIN - Summer Career Experiences

**SUMMER CAREER EXPERIENCES**  
**In London | This Summer 2024**

**INVESTIN**  
TEENAGERS' CAREER EXPERIENCES

We are pleased to announce the launch of our 2024 Summer Experiences in London. Taking place at the prestigious University College London (UCL) and offering the opportunity to visit iconic industry locations across London, InvestIN provides teenagers with the chance to experience life beyond school, as well as receive unparalleled career preparation.

Our Summer Experiences run during the summer holidays and include the opportunity to:

- Work with world-class industry professionals across 15 top careers
- Participate in hands-on career simulations
- Visit exclusive professional venues
- Receive personalised industry reference letters and certificates to showcase on university and job applications

**VIEW & REGISTER:**

**VIEW AGES 15-18**      **VIEW AGES 12-14**

**EXPERIENCE YOUR DREAM CAREER**

**WATCH OUR 2024 SUMMER TRAILER**

info@investin.org      +44 (0) 203 488 5089      www.investin.org

## St Nicholas Hall Advent Party

You are invited to our

# ADVENT Party

St Nicholas Hall  
Harpenden

Fun  
Games  
Craft  
Party Food

Sat 2nd Dec  
10-12pm

To book contact Revd Cath Rindl

07961564385 /

[assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org)

Cost: £1 per child, payable on the day

All children are welcome and will need to have a parent or carer with them for the whole event.

**Places are filling up quickly**

**so Book NOW!**



# Routes into STEM Virtual Experience 2023/24

Routes into STEM virtual experience provides an exciting opportunity to explore the various routes you can take towards your STEM career. This course is designed to enable young people to work through activities and projects at their own pace, tour a variety of institutions virtually and also have access to live career sessions and mentor panels with STEM employers.

## Who is it for?

- Students in **Year 9 or 10 / S3 or S4 / equivalent** who are interested in exploring a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- All you need is an interest in STEM and curiosity about the future. The course is open to all academic abilities

## What's involved?

- Approximately 20 hours of study virtually at a pace that suits you
- Exploring different Routes into a STEM career including College Courses, University Courses, and Apprenticeships and learning from industry what is involved in a STEM career as well as enhancing your skills
- Live interactive sessions over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school, allowing you to listen and ask questions to STEM students and professionals
- Getting to work on a project set by a STEM company to look further at a career area that interests you

## What do you get out of it?

- Find out about different Routes into a STEM career from industry experts, college and university leaders, as well as young people who are currently on that path
- Engage in projects and activities that will enhance your problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and innovation skills and inspire you to find career motivation. Projects include a Biopharm challenge from GSK, a Design challenge from Balfour Beatty, an RSC Chemistry challenge and many more exciting challenges in all areas of STEM.
- Create your own personalised action plan to see your own Route into STEM
- Learn about your career skills and how you could write about this in your CV/ Personal Statement or Application form
- Receive an Industrial Cadets Bronze Award showing all that you have achieved on the course



[www.etrust.org.uk](http://www.etrust.org.uk)



School  
Newsletter

Unsubscribe

