



# School Newsletter



## **KWS Newsletter - Issue 83 - 26.1.24**

### **Heads up**

On the evening of Monday 15th January we hosted our KWSixth Form Open Evening, welcoming current Year 11 students and parents along with students and parents interested in joining our school. I would like to thank Mr Laing, our Heads of Subject and the Sixth Form team for organising such an excellent and informative evening. We are extremely excited about the next phase in our school's development. For those who managed to attend, I do hope you gained all the vital information you needed. There was much to find out about: our curriculum, the subjects and the academic and pastoral support that is all part of our Sixth Form offer. For further information please do look at the Sixth Form section of our school's website. Please note that the application deadline for September 2024 entry is 2nd February 2024. We look forward to welcoming some new faces in September, as well as the majority of our current Year 11 students.

The new 3G pitch has been a fantastic asset, so many are keen to get out onto the wonderful new pitch (including Mr Hiscock who organised a staff football match versus another local school). The students have been using the facility brilliantly at break and lunchtime and I'd like to thank them for respecting the expectations around wearing the correct footwear.

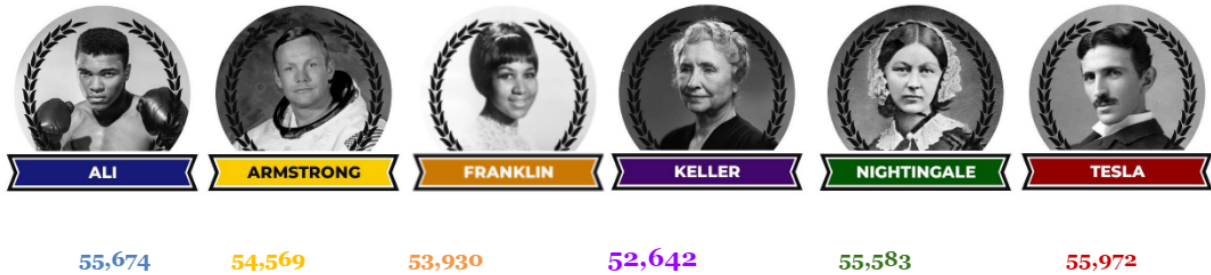
It was a pleasure to talk to many Year 7 parents at the recent Year 7 consultation evening. The year group have settled extremely well into the school and overall are making excellent progress in their studies. I'd like to thank those who took the time to find me and share their kind words of appreciation, for the staff at the school, who are supporting the year group with their start to secondary school education.

**David Martin**  
**Headteacher**

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## House Points

This weeks house point winners are **TESLA** Congratulations!

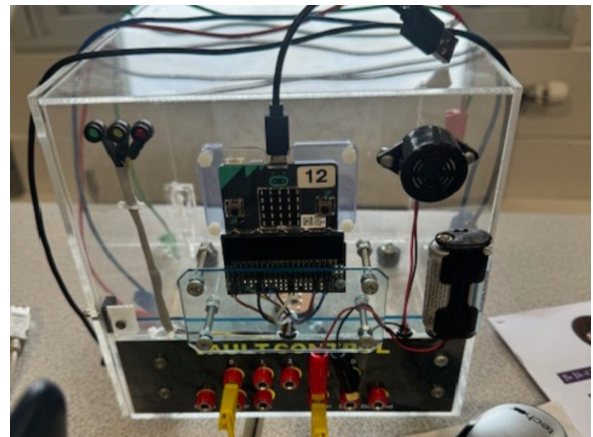


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## Year 8 coding trip

On Thursday 25th January, 13 year 8 girls had the opportunity to visit St Clement Dane School in Chorleywood for a coding session. Lucy Wilson writes "I thoroughly enjoyed going on the computing trip. It was full of interactive activities and was a lot of fun! I loved creating HTML websites and building on what I learnt in year 7 ..."

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## University of Hertfordshire visit

When we arrived at the University of Hertfordshire, we were greeted by University Ambassadors who study a range of subjects from Engineering, Computer Science to Fashion. We started off with a seminar on the different routes to apprenticeships. Some of these apprenticeships included working for the Metropolitan police (MET) at a level 7 apprenticeship which could earn you £30K/annum all ...



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## Sports News

It's been fantastic to see so much usage of the astroturf over the last few weeks and how well students have adhered to ensuring that the space is getting looked after and being maximised. Long may that continue! We have also had a series of fixtures recently. Our Year 11 netball team had a superb 17-11 win against Stags and ...



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## 3G Pitch Opening Ceremony



On Friday 12th January 2024, the Katherine Warrington School Community Pitch, our new artificial pitch, was officially opened by some special guests: Mick Harford, the former LTFC player, manager and ex England international, Annie Brewster, who has worked at parish, district, and county council level for over 15 years and Dr Tom Gilham, a local GP partner. A collaboration between ...

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## University of Hertfordshire, Year 10 School trip

When we arrived at the University of Hertfordshire (UH), we were greeted by University Ambassadors who study a range of subjects from engineering and computer science to

fashion. We started off with a seminar on the different routes to apprenticeships. Some of these apprenticeships included working for the Metropolitan Police (MET) at a level 7 apprenticeship which could earn you £30K/annum all the way to working as a chef with a level 2 apprenticeship which could earn you £12K/annum. Next we found ourselves in a careers workshop delivered by career coaches. We learnt that jobs need applicable skills; we put this to the test by getting into groups of 3/4 we were then given spaghetti and marshmallows to try and build the tallest tower without it falling over. We used many shapes to try and create the most stable structures, they were then measured and ranked in height order.

After this we had a talk about the many career opportunities that one could pursue whilst studying at university and how having a job could benefit you massively and improve the skills needed. We looked at how career services worked: they can help with CVs and cover letters exploring different career options available to students. You can also have mock interviews with them. There are lots of different part time job opportunities at the university, such as becoming a student career coach. For lunch we got to go to their canteen called The Forum. There was a restaurant, a premier, subway, a coffee place and much more. There was a vast seating area where you can have lunch whilst you study or just socialise with your friends.

After lunch, we received a seminar on the benefits of going to university and what it would be like learning there. The lecturer explained to us how the university provides a wide range of opportunities across many courses provided by the university. There are many clubs and social groups for students to join at the university, which allow students to further improve their employable skills. Along with these clubs, many housing arrangements are available to be used by students, such as studio rooms, en-suite rooms and shared rooms. It was also explained how university life is vastly different to primary and secondary school life; no longer being jam packed with lessons and instead having many free periods for students to enjoy, socialise, study and work.

The final event of the day was the University of Hertfordshire Campus tour. We were shown the entire campus. We first visited a housing block in the College Lane Campus and saw what the living spaces looked like. Next we were shown around the various facilities the University had. We had the chance to see several flight simulators that the engineering department uses. We saw the University's Formula One car that students designed and created. We were told how students from all faculties are involved in this and have the chance to go abroad to race in various races. Following this, we were given the chance to visit the student support areas such as the student union and the careers support team. The tour was definitely the best bit of the day, getting to see so many different facilities at the university and seeing students going about their normal day.

***Jack Fox and Dean Hall - Year 10***

### **Year 8 coding session, St Clement Dane school**

On Thursday 25th January, 13 year 8 girls had the opportunity to visit St Clement Dane School in Chorleywood for a coding session.

Lucy Wilson writes "I thoroughly enjoyed going on the computing trip. It was full of interactive activities and was a lot of fun! I loved creating HTML websites and building on what I learnt in year 7 along with coding the vault which was a brilliant way to build on the coding we already knew. Overall it was a fantastic trip, full of brilliant coding and new lessons to be learnt about how to code in real life."

Isla Webb writes "First we had a course on cloud computing where we improved our understanding of HTML. We learnt how to create websites using code to include images and text. The other part of our day consisted of a lesson on micro-bit block code where we programmed a safe to alert the user when it was being broken into with lights and buzzers. Overall we enjoyed this day and we learnt a lot about computer science. This trip helped us consider Computer Science GCSE and told us

about its usefulness in modern jobs.”

## **KWSixth Open Evening Monday 15th January 2024**

On Monday 15th January, KWS hosted our first ever sixth form open evening. It was a pleasure to welcome so many families into school to see our brand new sixth form area, and our state of the art modern teaching facilities and classrooms. Visiting families listened to speeches from Mr Martin (headteacher) and Mr Laing (head of sixth form) about the outstanding sixth form experience students can expect from September 2024, as well as a talk from Tristan, one of our year 11 head students, who spoke about why KWSixth is his first choice for post 16 study; recordings of speeches can be found here : [KWSixth Application page – Katherine Warrington School \(kwschool.co.uk\)](#)

Families then participated in subject talks led by curriculum leads, to find out more about the wide range of A level and vocational courses on offer. Families also had the opportunity to sample our wonderful catering facilities which will be available to sixth formers next year throughout the day.

If you would like to know more please visit the KWSixth section of the school website [KWSIXTH Welcome – Katherine Warrington School \(kwschool.co.uk\)](#) and if you are interested in joining us please book a tour with Mrs Hall, our sixth form manager, by emailing [KWSixth@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:KWSixth@kwschool.co.uk)

Year 11 guidance meetings are taking place for all year 11 students this week and a reminder that the KWSixth applications deadline is 2nd February.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hall or Mr Laing via email.

## **Exam Success**

We are delighted to announce that our first ever candidates to sit ABRSM music examinations passed with flying colours in the autumn examinations series. Ellie, Esme and Oliver who study with our piano tutor Sophia Russell-Belgrave took their Grade 1 exams only a year after starting.

The spring exam series looks to be even busier with more ABRSM examinations and our first cohort of LAMDA exams.

If you would like more information about music lessons, or LAMDA tuition, please visit our website at [www.kw-arts.co.uk/peri-lessons](http://www.kw-arts.co.uk/peri-lessons) or email [peri@kw-arts.co.uk](mailto:peri@kw-arts.co.uk)

## **Absence Reporting Important Reminder**

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, urgent appointments or other reasons please telephone the 24hr school absence line on 01582 314800 or email [absence@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@kwschool.co.uk) by 8.30am at the latest, on the first day of absence and every subsequent day thereafter.

- Please provide your child's name and tutor group
- Please give as much detail as possible for the reason of absence avoiding using terms such as 'unwell' or 'under the weather'
- If you fail to contact the school to inform us of your child's absence, this will be referred to our safeguarding team who may consider it is appropriate to complete a safe and well check

This is a reminder to all parents/carers that informing the school is a key responsibility of yours. When staff from both the attendance and safeguarding team take time out of

their day to chase families, it detracts from the support we can offer to students in school. Therefore, please ensure all reports are made by 8.30am.

Where possible, please give plenty of notice for any planned absence, for example hospital appointments, and provide a copy of any medical/dental appointment letters/cards to the school. We would appreciate all dental and non-urgent doctor appointments being made out of school hours.

***Grace Aikman, Assistant Headteacher & Chrissy Dicks, Attendance Manager***

## **Trustee News**

The Trustees hope that everyone had a happy Christmas and New Year and that you were able to recover some energy before what already feels like a very busy term!

It was wonderful (if slightly chilly) to be present at the opening of the new 3G pitch, a wonderful new facility for the school and local community alike. We also very much enjoyed coming along to the Sixth Form open evening. There were presentations from Mr Martin and from all the different subject offerings, and it was brilliant to see how engaged students were with the exciting choices ahead of them.

Finally, we would like to wish a warm welcome to our two new parent trustees, Liz Wilson and Louise Smith. They are already busy attending meetings and helping us to support the school as it continues to grow and develop.

## ***The Trustees***

### **KWS Vacancies**

Head of Business and Economics (closing date: 9am on Monday 5th February)

Learning Support Assistant (closing date: 9am on Monday 29th January)

### **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](https://www.facebook.com/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:**

Friday 2nd of February

Year 10 Talk by Tesco CEO - MPH

Tuesday 6th of February 9am to 4pm

Y10 Devising (Drama) Master Class (2 groups 9-12, 1-4) - JCH

Monday 12th of February

Theatre trip Y10/11 Drama - JCH

Spring Concert 15th of February

The Performing Arts Faculty are delighted to announce that our Spring Concert will be taking place on February 15th 2024 at 7pm.

Featuring a range of performances from the orchestra, choir and string ensemble as well as soloists and student ensembles, the concert is always a highlight of our annual programme.

Tickets cost £6 / £4 concessions and all proceeds go to support the work of the Performing Arts Faculty.

Tickets go on sale on 1st February from our box office at [www.kw-arts.co.uk/box-office](http://www.kw-arts.co.uk/box-office)

### Half Term Performing Arts Camp 22nd-24th of February

We are delighted to partner with SASA performing arts to offer a three day performing arts camp during half term, taking place at KWS from the 22nd – 24th February from 9.30 to 4.30pm.

More information can be found at [www.sasa-arts.co.uk/intensives](http://www.sasa-arts.co.uk/intensives) or by emailing [phoebe@sasa-arts.co.uk](mailto:phoebe@sasa-arts.co.uk)

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Royal Air Force



The poster features a blue background. At the top, the text "Your Squadron needs you!" is written in white. Below this, four stylized human figures are shown in various Royal Air Force uniforms: a white dress shirt with a bow tie, a dark blue uniform with a peaked cap, a dark blue uniform with a peaked cap and a skirt, and a light blue short-sleeved shirt with a peaked cap. At the bottom left is the Royal Air Force Training Centre crest, which includes a crown, a central figure, and the motto "WE RISE ABOVE". To the right of the crest, the text "Adult Staff Wanted" is written in white, followed by "Why not become part of a team that provides a wide-range of activities and opportunities to young cadets." Below this is the email address "oc.795@rafac.mod.gov.uk". At the bottom right is the Royal Air Force logo, which consists of a red bullseye and the text "ROYAL AIR FORCE AIR CADETS the next generation".

BBC

 WHAT'S HOT 

## IN CAREERS EDUCATION

**BBC's #BringTheDrama Careers Festival is all  
you need to know about this week**

1st February - 1st April

For all young people across the UK

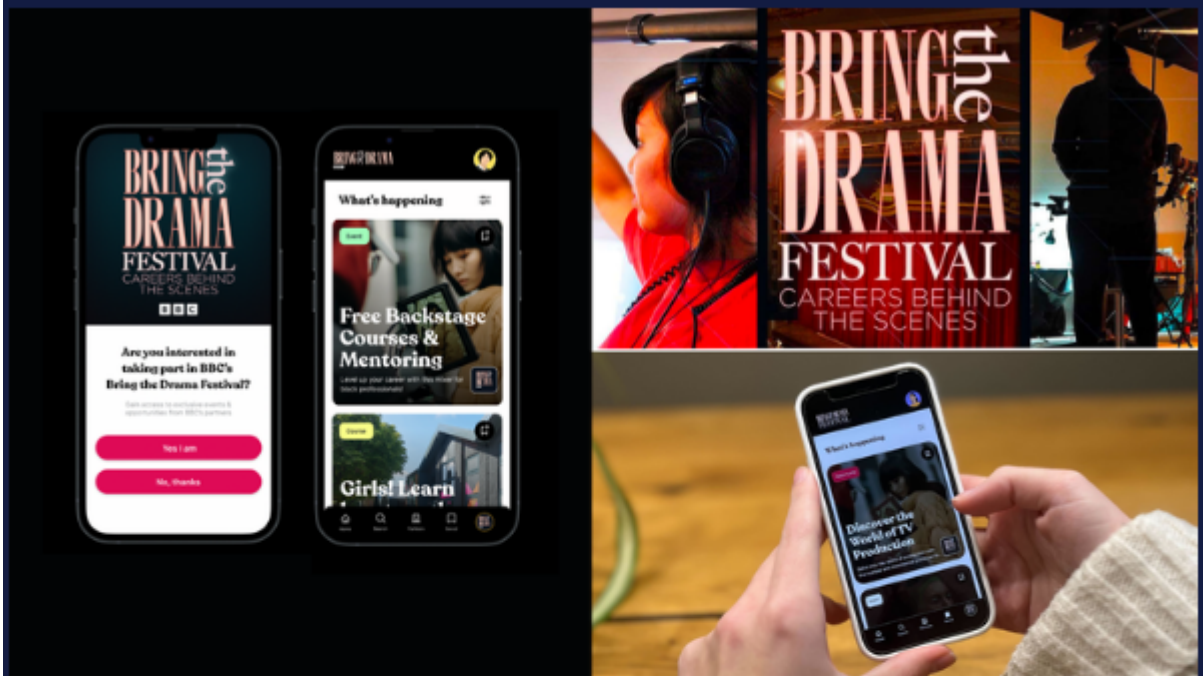
Free for all students from schools, colleges & universities to take part

**Access all career activities, events, experiences & opportunities  
local to you, by simply downloading the ERIC app**

IF YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR STUDENTS MORE INFO - [CLICK HERE](#)

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**ERIC is delighted to be the delivery partner for BBC's #BringTheDrama Careers Festival.**

We're working with the BBC to help connect young people across the UK to exclusive local work experiences, career events and other exciting creative opportunities.

All organised by hundreds of employers, creative hubs and charities who are taking part in the festival to help inspire and educate young people in their local area.

## Here's how students can join the festival

Step 1: Download the ERIC app now ([free to download](#)).

Step 2: Sign up & opt in to take part in #BringTheDrama.

Step 3: Unlock an exclusive area of the app that shows you everything going on near you as part of the festival.

Step 4: Wait for the full list of things happening, dropping on 1st Feb.



### **IMPORTANT LINKS:**

<https://www.westendtheatre.com/215554/news/bill-bailey-announced-as-host-of-bbc-acting-talent-show-bring-the-drama-new-bring-the-drama-festival-partners-with-cameron-mackintosh-national-theatre-more/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5zqcFFwj2KKMHspNrV1jSvd/welcome-to-the-bring-the-drama-festival>





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## IMPORTANT LINKS:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/the-apprenticeship-assembly-film/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-parent-perspective-podcast/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/parents-carers-pack-december-23/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/hints-tips-for-parents-carers/>

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Supporting Links- Talking Families

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**Oaklands College organises open events for prospective students to explore their campuses, meet the faculty, and learn about the courses offered. Different courses are available at different campuses, so it's important to visit the [college's website](#) and register for your preferred areas before booking an open event. This will help you make the most out of your visit and gather all the necessary information to make an informed decision.**

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Rotary Young Photographer

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Revision workshop

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[MailPoet](#)