



Issue 117 - 24.10.25

Heads up

Dear KWS Family,

As we reach the end of our first half term, of the academic year, I want to start by thanking all of our students, staff, and you, our families, for an incredibly positive and productive start. The atmosphere in school has been vibrant, focused, and truly reflects the spirit of the Katherine Warrington School community.

Student safety is one of our highest priorities, and I must highlight the recent school communication regarding drop-off and collection times. With over 1100 students accessing the site, the main driveway and car parks are exceptionally busy. To ensure the safety of everyone, please be reminded: only vehicles displaying a purple school parking permit are permitted to drive onto the school site. For all other families, please refer to the school Travel Plan and maps for designated drop-off and pick-up areas. We strongly encourage car-sharing and walking the last 10 minutes of the journey. Thank you to all the families who have created their travel plan, taking this advice into consideration, to help support student safety and to ensure we are good neighbours in our community.

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 6 students from St Helen's Primary as part of our transition process this week. They worked wonderfully with our Art Department, creating artwork for their new art space alongside our talented KWSixth Form artists. A brilliant demonstration of collaboration and creativity. We are reaching out to all other local primary schools and are looking forward to building stronger connections across the local education community.

A reminder for our Year 11 students: your mock examinations will take place immediately after the half-term break. These are not simply 'practice' tests; they are a critical element of your preparation and success in the real examinations. Mocks provide invaluable experience of the formal exam conditions, allowing you to fine-tune your timing and exam technique. Most importantly, the results and feedback from the mocks offer the most accurate indication of your current progress and highlight specific areas where you need to focus your revision. They are your opportunity to identify and close knowledge gaps before it truly counts. Please use this time wisely to study and prepare. For all other students, I encourage you to engage with the Academic Programme of extra-curricular activities designed to stretch and challenge, available via the website. And a reminder that the

fantastic online library is available with thousands of titles to choose from.

Finally, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break. Please take this time to rest and recharge. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 3rd November and seeing many of you at the annual KWAF Fireworks display, hosted by the school on Friday, November 7th.

Warmest regards.

David Martin
Headteacher

House Points

Today marks the first result of the school House Cup for 2026! Each house has been collecting points from three key events:

1. Staff House Curling
2. The house that collected the most recognition's
3. The house with the least consequences

This system is designed to reward those students who are always Ready, Respectful, and Responsible.

The current standings are:

4th **Ali** and **Tesla**

3rd **Armstrong**

2nd **Keller** and **Nightingale**

1st **Franklin**

[View All News](#)

Bikeability October 2025



This week, 42 of our Year 7 students completed their Bikeability level 2 and 3 cycling training. The instructors split students into small groups and took them to Crabtree School, Harpenden Town and to Roundwood Park School. The students learned a variety of skills, such as good observation skills, how to communicate intentions effectively and clearly, choosing and maintaining the most ...

[Read more](#)

KWS Sports News

Basketball Well done to our undefeated Year 9 basketball team beating Marlborough, RPS and Beaumont in the past couple of weeks.

Football A shout out to the year 9 boys' football team who twice came from behind to take St Joan of Arc to penalties in the County Cup on Tuesday evening. A last minute strike from Josh R was ...

[Read more](#)



KWSixth Degree Apprenticeship Talk



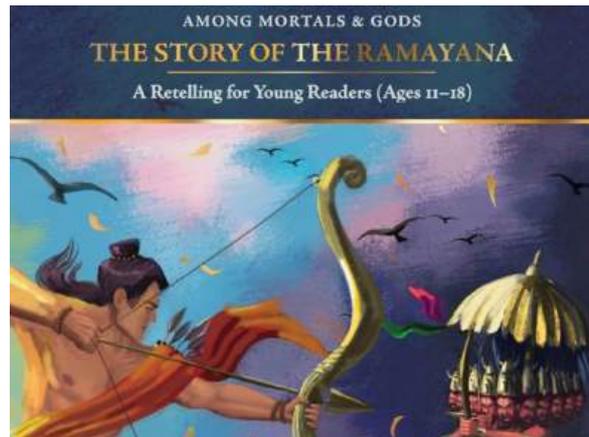
On Wednesday 22nd October, Alison Moore from the University of Hertfordshire visited KWS to deliver a presentation on Degree Apprenticeships to students in Years 12 and 13. It was an insightful and engaging session that provided students with valuable information about Degree Apprenticeships — an increasingly popular post-18 pathway for those finishing sixth form. Alison explained how these programmes allow ...

[Read more](#)

Diwali celebrations

This week we celebrated Diwali with a delicious Diwali-inspired menu served by HCL on Tuesday, which was also explored by students who don't usually have school dinners. We had a number of students who said they enjoyed trying new flavours and they were likely to have hot dinners more often, especially as the weather gets colder. In the build up ...

[Read more](#)



Library news



We've had a fascinating collection of new books arrive in our library recently, donated by the Chinese Embassy, including some that are bilingual. Many of them feature wonderful works of art, there are some poetry books, and an absolutely beautiful book about the giant panda, which will likely become a firm favourite in the library; the photos of the pandas ...

[Read more](#)

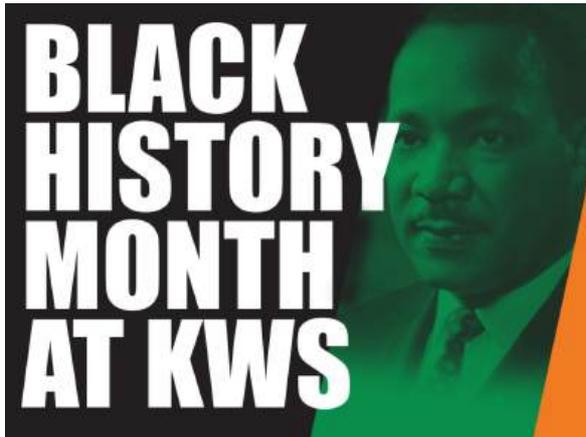
Y6 Students from St Helen's Visit KWS

Last Friday we were delighted to welcome Year 6 pupils from St Helen's School, Wheathampstead, to visit us here at KWS. They started their visit with a comprehensive and engaging tour of KWS in small groups, led by Year 7 & 8 St Helen's alumni. The tours allowed them to immerse themselves in the sights and sounds of a secondary ...

[Read more](#)



Black History Month



The last few weeks have seen our students and staff take part in a variety of activities around the school to mark Black History Month. As well as assemblies for each year group discussing the theme of 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride' which recognises the strength and resilience of Black communities globally, our students were invited to take part ...

[Read more](#)

EDI Parent Forum invitation

Dear parents/guardians, As part of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion vision at KWS, it is crucial to me as the EDI Lead to enable a platform for our students' parents/guardians to share their experiences based on their time at KWS so far. Therefore, I would like to invite you to an EDI Parent Forum meeting at KWS, where members of ...

[Read more](#)

GCSE Drama Theatre Trip - The Woman in Black



Our Year 10 and Year 11 Drama students took a thrilling trip to the historic Alexandra Palace Theatre to watch The Woman in Black - and it certainly didn't disappoint! From ghostly whispers to heart-stopping jumps, the performance brought live theatre to life in the most spine-tingling way. Students will now use this unforgettable experience to analyse and evaluate the ...

[Read more](#)

Train to teach at Katherine Warrington School through the Alban TSH

[Read more](#)



KWS Vacancies

We have no current vacancies but please keep an eye out on mynewterm for any new updates.

Trustee News

Dear all,

As we come to the end of our first half term, I wish everyone in our school community a restful and enjoyable half term break. The weeks seem to have flown by with lots accomplished and much more planned for the rest of the term.

Following our exciting trip to the NGA Awards at the Houses of Parliament, the Trustees are back to our day-to-day duties and had our first committee and full board meetings of the year last week. The Education Committee reviewed the Key Stage 4 data in detail, celebrating the many successes and evaluating the school's plans for continual development and improvement. The Resources Committee focused on finalising the budget and reviewing the risk register. At our Board meeting we enjoyed discussion on various strategic issues as we got engrossed in our work with the school for this academic year.

We said thank you to Simon Laing who has finished his four year term on the Board, and welcomed our newest Trustee, Karen Dervin who will be picking up from Simon as Trustee for SEND. Karen is looking forward to working alongside the team as she learns all about KWS. You can learn more about the work of the Trust board & read more about the Trustees on the school website. Have a lovely week.

Jenny Howarth

Chair of Trustees

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 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 and not the main KWAF email.

Don't forget the KWAF fireworks night is taking place on Friday 7th November. Click [here](#) to buy tickets.

A promotional poster for a fireworks night event. The background is dark blue with numerous golden and white fireworks exploding. In the top right corner, there is a logo for 'PHOENIX CONSTRUCTION' featuring a stylized bird icon. The text on the poster reads: 'Katherine Warrington Association of Friends' in a white serif font, followed by 'Fireworks Night' in a large, white, cursive script font. Below that, 'FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Underneath, 'AT KATHERINE WARRINGTON SCHOOL' is in a smaller white sans-serif font. A QR code is located on the right side of the poster. At the bottom, the website 'www.tickettailor.com/events/katherinewarringtonschool/1833809' is listed, followed by 'Doors Open at 6pm Fireworks at 7pm' and a list of amenities: 'MUSIC • BBQ • BAR • TUCK SHOP • MULLED WINE'.

KWAF School Lottery

Katherine Warrington Association of Friends (KWAf)
The PTA of Katherine Warrington School

RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR SCHOOL JOIN OUR LOTTERY

**It's the easiest way for YOU
to HELP US raise money**

- Tickets for the school lottery are £1 per entry - less than a coffee!
- When you buy tickets to play our lottery and support our school you have a chance to win the top Jackpot prize of £25,000!
- You'll automatically be entered into a guaranteed weekly cash prize for one supporter at Katherine Warrington School.

WINNER

£25,000

JOIN HERE

www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/katherine-warrington-school



Upcoming Events

Monday 27th to Friday 31st October - October Half Term

Monday 3rd to Friday 14th November - Year 11 Mock Exams

Wednesday 5th to Friday 7th November - Year 7 Manor Trip

Friday 7th November - Year 11 Beyond Year 11 Drop Down Day

Friday 7th November - Year 12 PSHE Day

Thursday 13th November - Year 12 Reports Issued

Thursday 13th November - Year 8 Reports Issued

Thursday 20th November - Year 9 Reports Issued

Thursday 20th November - Year 8 Shakespeare Performance Day

Wednesday 26th November - Rotary Technology Competition

Wednesday 26th November - Year 12 Parents Evening

Thursday 27th November - Year 9 Vaccinations
Thursday 27th November - Bronze DofE Twilight Training
Thursday 27th November - Year 12 Othello Royal theatre Haymarket
Friday 28th November- Occasional Day
Monday 1st to Friday 5th December - Book Fair Break/Lunch/After School
Monday 1st to Friday 5th December - Year 9 Options Change Window 2/3
Thursday 4th December - Year 8 Reports Issued
Thursday 4th December - Year 9 Shakespeare Performance Day
Thursday 4th December - Year 11 Mock Results Afternoon
Monday 8th to Friday 19th December - Year 13 Mock Exams
Friday 19th December - Last day of term (Early Finish 12.05pm)
Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January - Christmas Holidays

Notices

Careers: STEM Virtual Work Experience Event

Upcoming Trips

Give your student the unforgettable opportunity to join the interdisciplinary New York School Trip!

This exciting journey is tailored to enrich the curriculum for students studying Art, Business, Economics, and Sociology. Art students will immerse themselves in world-class museums and galleries, drawing inspiration from contemporary and historical masterpieces. Business and Economics pupils will gain first-hand insight into global finance and commerce with visits to the Financial District and key institutions, observing theories in action. Meanwhile, Sociology students will explore the city's diverse neighbourhoods, examining urban life, cultural dynamics, and social inequality. This trip isn't just a sightseeing tour; it's a practical, real-world extension of the classroom, promising significant academic and personal growth, enhancing understanding across all four subjects. Ensure your child secures their spot for this essential educational experience!

Check out this video on YouTube to see a little about the New York trip! - <https://youtu.be/-JxEFVcjMpU>

Please use Evolve to secure your child's place!

Non KWS Events/Publicity

Supporting links courses

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.



Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Jan to 9th Feb

Online Course: ID 804

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

4th Feb to 18th Mar

F2F Course: ID 802

St Albans (venue tbc)

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course: ID 803

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children & 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

6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course: ID 805

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.



Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course ID 797

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am

3rd Feb to 17th Mar

Online Course ID 796

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TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

8th Jan to 12th Feb

Online Course ID 799

Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 798

Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 800

TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-12**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.30am

4th Feb to 18th Mar

Online Course ID 801

TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, 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

7th Jan to 11th Feb

Online Course: ID 806

Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

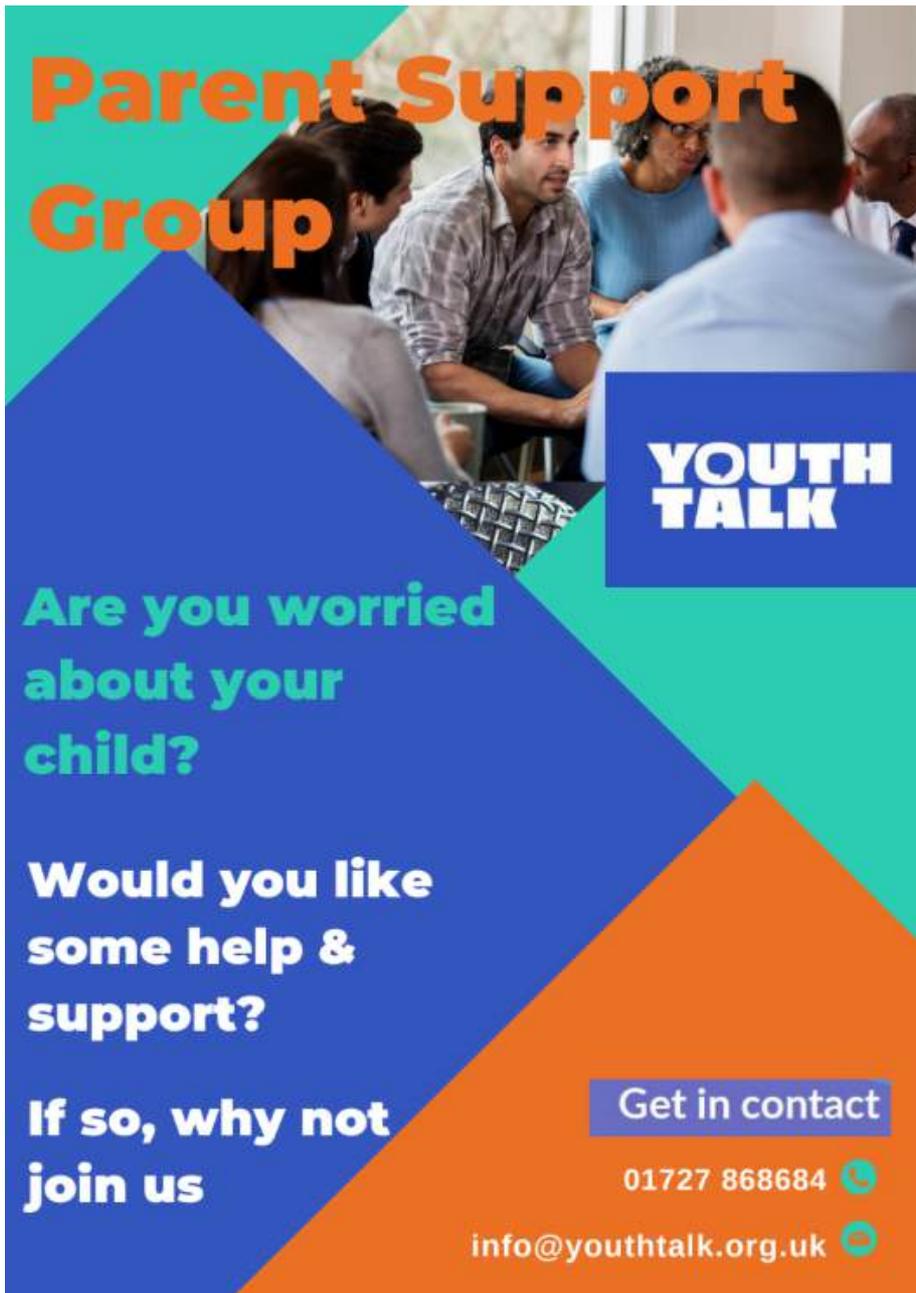
2nd Feb to 16th Mar

Online Course: ID 807

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on:
07512 709556 or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund
Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request



Parent Support Group

YOUTH TALK

Are you worried about your child?

Would you like some help & support?

If so, why not join us

Get in contact

01727 868684 

info@youthtalk.org.uk 

Youth Talk is running a series of groups for parents of young people 13-25 in St Albans District who are looking for support and help. The group will enable parents to share experiences, learn from each other, offer mutual support and discuss the challenges that come with parenting young people who are growing up.

The group will run for 6 weeks on Saturdays 10.00am-11.15am for parents of young people who are not already accessing Youth Talk or other mental health services.

Two experienced therapists will facilitate the group to provide a safe, confidential, reflective space to explore concerns and ideas together. A commitment to attending all 6 sessions is helpful to build a sense of cohesion and trust.

The group will be run in Southdown, Harpenden, where there is plenty of parking and close to other transport links.

Interested in joining? Email us at info@youthtalk.org.uk or call 01727 868684

**Free,
confidential
support**



Make a difference ...



This is a friendly school where pupils are polite and welcoming...
Ofsted, May 25



Become a School Governor

Our Community Primary School in Harpenden is on the lookout for a Community Governor to join our Governance Team.

Governors play a vital role in providing strategic oversight, supporting school leadership, and ensuring the best outcomes for our pupils. **No prior experience in governance is required—just a commitment to making a positive impact.**

We meet 5 evenings a year during term time, face to face in Harpenden and have 1 full Governor Day in the Autumn. Most Governors also choose to take part in a short school visit once a term.

If you are enthusiastic, committed, and able to dedicate some time to this voluntary role, we would love to hear from you.



For more information contact:
Michelle (Chair of Governors)
chair@sauceywood.herts.sch.uk

ART
COMPETITION

What does the
Knife Angel
mean to you?

Create a piece
of art, photography,
film, music or
poetry that shows
its impact.



Police & Crime
Commissioner
FOR HERTFORDSHIRE

Deadline: 7th November 2025



For more details visit: tinyurl.com/28np4hh8

Silent Disco



Diwali in Harpenden





School Newsletter

[Unsubscribe](#)