



Issue 118

14.11.25

Heads up



Dear KWS Family,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well after a relaxing and rejuvenating October half-term break. It is wonderful to have the school community back together, and we have had a busy and successful start to the second half of the term.

I had the privilege of accompanying the year 7s on part of their residential trip last week to Manor Adventure, as they enjoyed an itinerary of thrilling activities. Think high-flying **climbing**, challenging **caving**, and splash-tastic **kayaking**!

This wasn't just fun - it was real-world development. They significantly boosted their **teamwork**, demonstrated fantastic **problem-solving**, and proved just how **resilient** they are. The smiles were infectious, and they have definitely made memories they'll treasure forever.

Remembrance Day is always a poignant and important occasion for us all. I was incredibly proud of how respectfully and maturely all our students conducted themselves during the two-minute silence observed across the school. Our community was also proudly represented at the Harpenden War Memorial, where Mr. Bowsher and Mr. Laing attended with senior students to lay a wreath and pay our respects to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Year 11 mock examinations have now concluded, and I want to commend the students on their truly fantastic effort, commitment, and preparation. Undertaking these exams is a significant task, and they approached it with admirable maturity. This valuable experience serves as a great practice run, providing essential feedback as they continue their preparation for the summer GCSEs. Well done, Year 11!

We were delighted to welcome the talented children's author, Lesley Parr, to school recently. Her visit was a wonderful opportunity for our students to engage directly with an author. Lesley's book

'Fallout' has a special significance this year as it was the Year 6 into 7 transition book, which our students read over the summer. Thank you to Lesley for an inspiring visit.

Finally, a massive thank you to everyone who supported the Katherine Warrington Association of Friends (KWAF) Fireworks Night. The event was a huge success, largely due to the dedicated efforts of all the volunteers. A wonderful and truly community-spirited evening for everyone who attended. Thank you for helping to make it such a memorable night.

We look forward to an exciting and productive time here at school leading up to the Christmas break.

David Martin
Headteacher

House Points

This weeks house point winner are **Keller**. **Congratulations!**



[View All News](#)

Conquering Challenges: Year 7's Triumphant Trip to Manor Adventure!



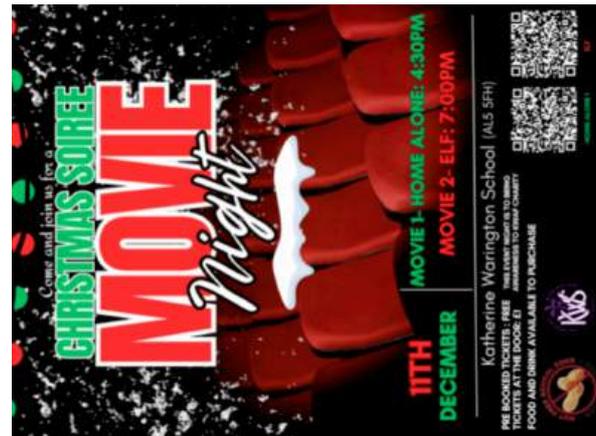
The Year 7 Students recently returned from an exhilarating and highly successful residential trip to Manor Adventure, and we couldn't be prouder of the resilience, teamwork, and sheer enthusiasm they displayed throughout the trip. The students were faced with a packed itinerary of challenging outdoor activities, designed to test their comfort zones and encourage collaboration. From the moment they arrived, ...

[Read more](#)

A Christmas Soiree Movie Night

Get ready for some holiday magic! Join us for A Christmas Soirée Movie Night — a cosy evening filled with laughter, snacks, and festive cheer, all organised by our amazing Year 13 Business students! We will be showing two Christmas favourites: Home Alone and Elf! Bring your friends, family, and holiday spirit for a night of fun and classic Christmas ...

[Read more](#)



Anti-Bullying Week 2025



This term, our Year 7 students have been taking part in form-time anti-bullying workshops. They have explored the different types of bullying, created inspiring anti-bullying posters, and written their own form pledges to promote kindness and respect. Across the rest of the school, students are participating in assemblies this week under the theme 'Power for Good', reminding us all that

...

[Read more](#)

Literacy Spotlight

We may only be a few weeks into the academic year, however, there is already so much amazing progress that we are seeing in literacy across the various subjects. We know that having strong literacy skills allows our students to succeed at KWS and it was so lovely to see some of our students taking pride in their literacy on ...

[Read more](#)

New Free Webinar Series: 'In Conversation' with Industry Professionals for Students/Parents and Carers.

InvestIN has launched a new series of free webinars to connect students with professionals in some of the most competitive careers. Each webinar is led by an industry professional who will answer your questions live, share their experiences and offer tips and guidance for students seeking a career in the industry. The events are suitable for all students in Years ...

[Read more](#)

Congratulations, Year 11! A Successful Mock Exam Fortnight

The past two weeks have seen our Year 11 students navigate their crucial mock examination fortnight, and we are absolutely delighted with their efforts and the mature way they approached this significant challenge. We want to extend a huge congratulations on your exemplary conduct throughout the exam period. The atmosphere in the exam halls was one of serious focus and ...

[Read more](#)

Author Visit

It's been a very exciting week in the library for our year 7 students. At the start of their journey with us they were all gifted a copy of Lesley Parr's book, *Fallout*, to read as a whole year group. And this week we were very lucky to have Lesley come and visit us! She talked to all the students ...

[Read more](#)



Debating Success



On Monday, the KWS Debating Team participated in an excellent event hosted by St George's, engaging in five debates - one junior, two intermediate, and two senior - on a diverse range of topics. Among these were discussions on the sustainability of electric cars, and the extent to which celebrities should have influence in politics. All students did brilliantly, with ...

[Read more](#)

Bank of England Museum

Our Year 11 GCSE Business students had a fantastic opportunity to visit the Bank of England this week. The trip provided them with a genuine insight into how the Bank operates, its fascinating history, and the crucial role it plays in managing the UK economy. Students explored the museum's interactive displays and participated in discussions about key topics, including inflation, ...



[Read more](#)

Year 12 PSHE Day

On Friday 7th November, Year 12 pupils were off timetable to look at various topics within our Key Stage 5 PRE and PSHE curriculums. Within their form groups, pupils had three hour long sessions with the amazing team from STEP, and looked at the topics of Ethical Shopping, Why Bother? and Identity. The fourth session was learning about Animal ...

[Read more](#)

Remembrance Day Service



On Tuesday 11th November, Mr Bowsher (Head of History) and Mr Laing (Head of Sixth Form), accompanied by the KWS History Subject Ambassadors (Mia T, Ethan H, Jessica H and Sam J B), represented the school at the annual Remembrance Day service in Harpenden town centre. They joined members of the local community to pay their respects and to observe ...

[Read more](#)

UCAS Applications Underway

Congratulations to our Year 13 students who have started submitting their UCAS applications! We are thrilled to see so many students applying for exciting and aspirational courses at a wide range of prestigious universities. Those applying to Oxbridge and for dentistry have already had their applications submitted, with the final deadline for all applications at the end of November. Good ...



[Read more](#)

UOH Computing visit



On Wednesday, along with some of my Computer Science peers, I attended a trip to Hertfordshire University to see the Spectra Building. This building facilitates the physics, computer science and engineering units of the university. I found the experience very eye-opening and my favourite part of the building was the astrophysics department, where there were multiple flight simulators and where ...

[Read more](#)

Leadership Programme run by STEP

Over the past six weeks, our Year 12 students have taken part in a leadership programme run by STEP, designed to strengthen key skills. Throughout the course, students have engaged in activities that developed teamwork, communication, confidence, organisation and bravery - competencies highly valued at KWS. Well done to all the Year 12 students who participated with enthusiasm and commitment ...



[Read more](#)

KWS Vacancies

There are no current vacancies. Please keep an eye out on mynewterm for any updates.

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.

KWAF Tree-Planting Morning – Sunday 16th November, 9:30am

This year, we're helping our school grow - literally! We'll be planting **hundreds of new saplings** around the school grounds to create greener spaces, support wildlife and make an environment our children can be proud of.

We'd love your support!

You can **come along and plant a tree** (or a few!) from 9:30am – even half an hour of your time makes a huge difference. **Bring gloves, a shovel or a pick-axe if you have one...** and your enthusiasm!

If you can't make it on the day, you can still help by **donating just £2 on Arbor to sponsor a tree**. Every tree planted today grows into a gift for the future.

Let's come together as a community and help our school *grow greener*.

See you there!



Festive Wreath Workshop – Friday 28th November

Join us for a wonderful creative evening led by talented local artist Catherine Lawrence. You'll create a fully green wreath, then embellish it with foliage, berries and seasonal extras to make a stunning piece for your door – one that your neighbours will definitely be jealous of!

Date: Friday 28th November

Tickets: £45 each

Includes: A complimentary glass of mulled wine

Book here: <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/wreath-workshop-28th-november-2025>

This event is always a warm, friendly and festive evening – perfect to enjoy with a friend!

KATHERINE WARINGTON ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS (KWAF)
The PTA of Katherine Warington School



invites you to...

OUR HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS WREATH NIGHT



7.00PM-8.30PM | KATHERINE WARINGTON SCHOOL | £45 PER PERSON

Are you ready to kick off the Christmas season with creativity and cheer?
KWAF invites you to our make your own Christmas Wreath Workshop led by

Caroline Lawrence of Rock n Wool Creations

Complimentary glass of mulled wine on arrival and price includes a pre-greened wreath base, materials and all the support you need.



[ORDER YOUR TICKET HERE](#)

Order Your Premium Nordmann Fir Christmas Tree & Support Our School!

We're offering freshly cut, locally grown Nordmann Fir Christmas trees in 3 sizes - all top quality and long-lasting. Even better, for every tree sold, £10 will be donated to KWS!

Sizes & Prices:

5ft+ – £48

6ft+ – £55

7ft+ – £66

Order by: Monday 1st December 2025 at 12 noon

Collection (Free):

Harpenden Academy, Vaughan Road

Friday 5th or Saturday 6th December 2025 (9:30–10:30am)

Delivery (Charges Apply):

Within 7 miles of Harpenden Academy £5 (AL5)

£8 (beyond AL5, max 7 miles)

Note: Friday delivery only for addresses beyond AL5

To order and find out more:

Christmas Trees — Friends of Harpenden Academy

It's a simple way to tick something off your festive to-do list and help the school at the same time!



Upcoming Events

- Thursday 20th November - Year 9 Reports Issued
- Wednesday 19th November - Year 8 Shakespeare Performance Day
- Wednesday 26th November - Rotary Technology Competition
- Wednesday 26th November - Year 13 Parents Evening
- Thursday 27th November - Year 9 Vaccinations
- Thursday 27th November - Bronze DofE Twilight Training 2/3
- 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
- Thursday 4th December - Year 11 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 at 12.05pm)
- Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January - Christmas Holiday

Monday 5th January - INSET DAY

Notices

Careers: Range of Apprenticeship Opportunities

Upcoming Trips

We are excited to announce that the KWS trips department has launched a new software system called Evolve to manage all school trips. This new platform will streamline the entire trip process, making it easier for you to stay informed, handle paperwork, and manage payments. Evolve also comes with a mobile app, which you can download by searching for "MyEvolve" on your phone's app store.

To get started, please use the link below to register your account. Be sure to use the same email address that you use for Arbor. This will automatically link your account to your students. <https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/myevolve/setup.asp?id=KWSTrips>

Keep your eyes peeled for news of our EW26 schedule!

Non KWS Events/Publicity

Harpenden and Wheathampstead Gang Show

HARPENDEN AND WHEATHAMPSTEAD
76th
GANG SHOW
2026

13th - 17th Jan 2026

Tickets on sale
www.harpenden.gs

The Eric Morecambe Centre
Harpenden

Scouts 

Is your home leaking heat and money?



Use the Thermal Imaging Camera for **FREE** to:

- Identify draughts and cold spots.
- Review radiator efficiency.
- Check insulation.
- Save energy.

1. Attend a free online info session to learn how to use the camera.
2. Pay refundable deposit.
3. Borrow the camera for 24 hours for **FREE**.



FIND OUT MORE:

 SustainableStAlbans.org

 [SSA Thermal Imaging Camera Project](#)



Christmas Opening Hours

All foodbank sessions will run as normal on
22nd, 23rd and 24th December

THURSDAY

25

DECEMBER
CLOSED

MONDAY

29

DECEMBER
CLOSED

FRIDAY

26

DECEMBER
CLOSED

TUESDAY

30

DECEMBER
OPEN -
CHRIST CHURCH
NEW GREENS
1PM-3PM

SATURDAY

27

DECEMBER
CLOSED

WEDNESDAY

31

DECEMBER
CLOSED

SUNDAY

28

DECEMBER
CLOSED

THURSDAY

01

JANUARY
CLOSED

Normal hours resume from Friday 2nd January

If you are unable to get a foodbank voucher, please attend
anyway and one will be issued.

For more information call us on 01727 613019 or email
info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk



@StAlbansDistrictFB



@st_a_and_dist_foodbank

Christmas appeal



Help support your food bank this Christmas

In the three weeks leading up to Christmas, the food bank will provide over 1,100 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your local community.

Donate money



Scan the QR code to donate. You will help us get food to local families in crisis, cover the costs of distributing food, and develop sustainable community projects that tackle the root causes of hunger.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish

Tinned veg/fruit

Cooking sauces

Coffee

Milk (UHT)

Cereals

Fruit juice (long-life)

Tinned pudding

Jam

Tea bags

www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

☎ 01727 613019

✉ info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Facebook: [@StAlbansDistrictFB](https://www.facebook.com/StAlbansDistrictFB) Instagram: [@st_a_and_dist_foodbank](https://www.instagram.com/st_a_and_dist_foodbank)

WAREHOUSE ADDRESS
Unit 3 Redbourn Industrial Park
Redbourn AL3 7LG

St Albans & District
Foodbank
Together with Trussard

WAREHOUSE OPENING TIMES
Tuesday: 10:00 - 15:00
Wednesday: 10:00 - 12:00
Thursday: 10:00 - 12:00
Friday: 10:00 - 15:00

Reverse ADVENT CALENDAR

Christmas can be a difficult time for many, especially for those living on a tight budget. With increased winter fuel bills, alongside the seasonal pressures, many will find themselves in food crisis.

Can you help someone this year?

For 25 days, from **Monday 17th November**, please could you donate an item daily from the list below. Pop it in a box or bag and drop it off to our warehouse by **Friday 12th December**. Your donation will help someone in need and make a really big difference this Christmas. Please register your donations on *Bank The Food App*.

Please scan the QR code or visit our website to make a monetary donation
www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Thank you!

Please scan the QR code or visit our website to make a monetary donation
www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Please follow your School or Organisation's 'Nut-free' Policies!

@st_a_and_dist_foodbank

@StAlbansDistrictFB

17 Nov	Custard
18 Nov	Long Life Fruit Juice
19 Nov	Sponge Pudding / Desserts
20 Nov	Festive Biscuit
21 Nov	UHT Milk
22 Nov	Cooking Sauce
23 Nov	Long Life Fruit Juice
24 Nov	Jam or Spread
25 Nov	UHT Milk
26 Nov	Tinned Soup
27 Nov	Long Life Fruit Juice
28 Nov	Cooking Sauce
29 Nov	Savoury Snacks
30 Nov	Tinned Rice Pudding
1 Dec	Tinned Peas / Sweetcorn
2 Dec	UHT Milk
3 Dec	Christmas Chocolates / Sweets
4 Dec	Cooking Sauce
5 Dec	Noodles
6 Dec	Long Life Fruit Juice
7 Dec	Tinned Soup
8 Dec	Festive Biscuits/Chocolates
9 Dec	UHT Milk
10 Dec	Cooking Sauce
10 Dec	Non-perishable food item of your choice No mince pies or alcohol please!
11 Dec	

Kings Chamber Orchestra - The Light Fantastic

KO THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

AFTERNOON CONCERT
Sat Dec 6th
4:30-5:45pm

EVENING CONCERT
Sat Dec 6th
7:30-9:00pm

Registered Charity Number: 119863

KINGS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

THE TEDDY BEAR CONCERT

Saturday December 6th
2:00pm-3:00pm
The Chapel, Highfield Oval

Registered Charity Number: 119863

KINGS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

<https://www.hampshire.gov.uk/charities/concerts/>

DSPL7 Newsletter

Click [here](#) for more information.



Delivering Special
Provision Locally

Parenting Support

Autumn term 2025



DSPL7

St Albans District, Harpenden and Villages
Redbourn, Wheathampstead and Kimpton

Christmas with St Nicholas Church

FREE ENTRY

Christmas Starts with St Nicholas

A Family Festival

Find out about St Nicholas
and his role in our Christmas

Cafe Serving Homemade Cakes
and Mince Pies, Live Christmas
Carols, Hand Crafted Gifts,
Children's Crafts, Father
Christmas in his Grotto, Raffles,
Tombola and other festive stalls

St Nicholas Christmas
Christingle Competition

(see flyer or contact parish office for entry details)

Saturday December 6th
2.00pm - 5.00pm

St Nicholas Church
Church Green
Harpenden
(01582 765524)



Carols and Festive Music
from 2.00


Christmas 2025 at St Nicholas' Church
 Harpenden, AL5 2TP

We warmly welcome you to join us at Christmas.

We offer traditional Christmas services, informal and family-focused worship, carol singing, a Christmas festival...or a quiet space to reflect by candlelight. We hope you will find something to feed your soul.

Sunday 30 Nov	6:30pm	Advent Carol Service
Fridays 5, 12 & 19 Dec	1pm	Soup & Carols
Tuesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 Dec	7.30pm	Compline by Candlelight
Saturday 6 Dec	2-5pm	St Nicholas Festival
Sunday 7 Dec	9.30am	St Nicholas Day Service
	4:30pm	Christingle*
Saturdays 13 & 20 Dec	10.30-12noon	Outdoor Carols*
Sunday 21 Dec	6:30pm	Nine Lessons & Carols
Christmas Eve	10-12noon	Visit the Crib, Café & Outdoor Carols*
	3 pm	Christmas Crib Service*
	5 pm	Christmas Crib Service*
	11 pm	Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day	8am	Holy Communion with Carols
	9:30am	Holy Communion with Carols
	11:30am	Morning Praise with Carols*

**All are welcome at all of our services, but these events are particularly suitable for those with small children*

www.parishofharpenden.org





School Newsletter

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