



## Issue 126 - 24.4.26



### Heads up

Dear KWS Family,

I hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating Easter break. It has been a pleasure to see our students return with such energy and purpose as we head into the busy summer term. The Easter break was far from quiet for many of our students. We saw two truly incredible international trips depart for China and New York. The photos shared on our social media platforms looked fantastic, but hearing the students speak about their experiences since their return has been even better. From navigating the bustling streets of Manhattan to experiencing the rich cultural heritage of China, the learning and personal growth gained from these opportunities are immeasurable.

A massive thank you must go to the staff who organised these trips and gave up their own holiday time to support our students. Without their dedication, these life-changing experiences simply wouldn't happen.

I highly recommend tuning into the latest school podcast. Our current Head Students recently sat down to interview three of our four newly appointed Head Students. It is a brilliant listen, showcasing the passing of the baton and the vision our new student leaders have for the coming year.

Next week is Diversity Week, a vital time for us to celebrate the rich tapestry of backgrounds that make our school community so special. As part of the week we will have our first Culture Day (1st May): We are asking all students and staff to attend in clothing that represents their culture. This is a non-uniform day. This could be a traditional outfit, a tribute through accessories (such as

jewellery or head-dresses), or clothing in the colours of a national flag. Students are also welcome to wear their uniform if they belong to Scouts, Cadets or another uniform group if they prefer. We will conclude the week with our Diversity Week Finale Evening on Friday 1st May from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. We hope to see many of you there!

Our Year 10 students have just reached the end of their Year 10 Exams. These exams are a crucial opportunity to practice the stamina and techniques required for next year, and we have been extremely proud of the effort, commitment and resilience shown by this cohort over the past fortnight. We also wish the Year 10 boys football team good luck as they represent the school in tonight's County Cup Final, being played at the Harpenden FC ground.

We have been incredibly impressed by the Saturday Revision Morning turnout from our Year 11s. The dedication shown by students who are utilising this time is exemplary; a hive of focused, productive energy. My thanks again to the staff who gave up their Saturday to facilitate such a high-quality working environment that is sure to reap rewards for the students with their upcoming GCSE exams.

Following some detailed planning for the next academic year, we have made a small adjustment to the published 26/27 term dates:

- INSET Day Change: moved from Monday 28th June to Monday 5th July 2027.

This change ensures that our Enrichment Week can take place effectively around the exam schedules for all year groups. We will publish the full 2026/27 calendar on our website towards the end of the Summer term.

### **Parent/Carer Survey Launch**

Our school is a community built on partnership, and your voice, alongside that of our students and staff, is a vital ingredient in our continued growth. We are launching our annual parent/carers survey because we truly want to hear from everyone; every perspective helps us paint a complete picture of our vibrant school life. This is a wonderful opportunity to pause and celebrate the successes of our students and our school over the past year. While there are sections to provide constructive feedback, I particularly encourage you to use the later questions to highlight and thank staff members or teams who have made a positive difference in your child's journey. Your recognition means the world to our hardworking staff, and by sharing what we are doing well, you help us ensure that those strengths remain at the heart of everything we do.

### **Online Survey link**

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

**David Martin**  
**Headteacher**

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## **House Points**

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



[View All News](#)

## Year 10 Mocks



The Year 10s have shown exceptional dedication over the last two weeks during their mock exam series. Their attitude toward these assessments was exemplary, with students demonstrating the high levels of effort required for academic success. Throughout the fortnight, the year group truly embodied the KWS Character and our Three Rs. They showed great Responsibility by arriving fully prepared, incredible ...

[Read more](#)

## House Cup Update: The Race to the Finish Line!

As we head into the final stretch of the school year, the atmosphere is electric. The leaderboard is still shifting, the points are piling up, and every student's contribution is making a difference. Here is everything you need to know about where we stand in the race for the prestigious House Cup. The current Leader is Nightingale How the Winner ...



[Read more](#)

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## Revision assemblies



Mr Inman has led inspiring assemblies to years 7, 8 and 9 this week motivating and guiding them towards their upcoming end of year exams (8th - 12th June). The key messages are: start revision early, take a long term approach, quiz yourself on key knowledge and practice with brain dumps and exam style questions. More revision tips and guidance ...

[Read more](#)

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## A Life-Changing journey: Our 2026 China Trip

Our 2026 Easter China trip was an unforgettable journey that took a group of our dedicated Mandarin students across to three remarkable cities - Shanghai, Suzhou and Hangzhou over 10 days. From the dazzling skyline and cutting-edge innovation of Shanghai to the timeless beauty of Suzhou's classical gardens and the serene landscapes of Hangzhou's West Lake, students experienced a country ...



[Read more](#)

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# New York Trip with Sixth Form



While many enjoyed a quiet break at home, our Sixth Form students swapped the classroom for the lively streets of New York City during the Easter holiday. The city skyline was impressive, but our students truly stood out. They were attentive in the subway and showed real maturity at the 9/11 Memorial. Their excellent behaviour made us proud and helped ...

[Read more](#)

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## Upcoming Careers Events

Year 12 students: GSK Summer Holidays STEM Work Experience – applications now open! GSK are pleased to share the details about a fantastic opportunity to apply for their Stevenage STEM Work Experience event which year 12 students may have an interest in. They are running an on-site work experience this year from 27th July to the 30th July 2026. The application ...



[Read more](#)

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## World Book Night in the Library



Whilst we're sure everyone has heard of World Book Day, World Book Night is probably a less well known event. Following hot on the heels of World Book Day, World Book Night was held on Thursday 23rd April, and shifted the focus to adult reading. It encouraged everyone to join in with a special reading hour between 7 and 8pm, ...

[Read more](#)

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## Trustee News

Hi all

The summer term is already well underway for students, staff, and the trustees. Like the rest of the school, this is a busy period for the board as we look forward to the next academic year and beyond. One of our key roles is to review and monitor the vision and values of the school. There really is no better time to see Knowledge, Wellbeing and Success in action than during the summer term!

You will soon see adverts for new trustees published. This is because we will be saying a fond farewell this term to two of our trustees at the end of their four years of service. I would like to thank Sally and Dani for all their invaluable contributions and their support and friendship to the school.

At Katherine Warrington School we want our board to represent all voices within our school community. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in learning more about volunteering as a school trustee, please email me on [j.howarth@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:j.howarth@kwschool.co.uk). School governors and trustees are the biggest group of volunteers in the UK so there is lots of training and advice available through governance networks and online. We are also very fortunate in Harpenden to have a collaborative community of schools who all support one another as we navigate changing government policy, a challenging financial environment, rapidly developing technology and many other pressures within the education sector.

I look forward to seeing many of you at next week's Diversity Evening. At a time when there are so many divisions in the world it is a fantastic opportunity to come together and celebrate one another.

Have a good weekend. Let's hope the spring sunshine lasts!

Jenny Howarth  
Chair of Trustees

## KWS Vacancies

Teacher of food: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145890/EDV-2026-KWS-16288>  
Sixth Form Manager: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145890/EDV-2026-KWS-71273>  
Teacher of PE (with potential TLR): <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145890/EDV-2026-KWS-93466>

## 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.

A huge congratulations to all of our incredible performers at our first Battle of the Bands – it was a fantastic evening showcasing the talent, creativity and energy of our young musicians.

Special congratulations go to the winners:

- **Offset** (Roundwood)
- **Tritone** (Sir John Lawes)
- **Violet** (Katherine Warrington School)

An amazing achievement – very well deserved! We look forward to seeing you perform at Festival on the Field 2026.

We would also like to give a special mention to **Violet**, who is part of the Katherine Warrington School community.

If you're planning to attend Festival on the Field on the 4th July, you can also support KWS by purchasing your tickets through our referral link. Every ticket bought via this link generates a donation to the school:

<https://buytickets.at/festivalonthefield1/1927211/r/kws-fotf-referral>

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our students – it truly was a brilliant celebration of young talent.

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday 29th April - Junior Maths Challenge

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday

Friday 8th to Sunday 10th May - Silver DofE Practice Expedition

Monday 25th to Friday 29th May - HALF TERM

Thursday 4th June - Year 10 Parents Evening

Friday 5th to Sunday 7th June - Silver DofE Expedition and Gold Practice

Monday 8th June - 6th Form External Offer Holders Evening

Monday 8th to Friday 12th June - Year 7, 8 and 9 Exams Week

Monday 8th to Friday 12th June - Year 10 Work Experience

Thursday 11th June - Kwaf Cinema Evening

Monday 15th June - Year 8 Vaccinations

Monday 15th to Friday 19th June - Year 12 Mock Exams

Tuesday 16th June - Art Awards Evening  
Wednesday 17th June - Year 11 Prom  
Thursday 18th June - New Yer 7 Single Joiners Morning  
Friday 19th June - Expected Year 12 Induction Day  
Monday 22nd to Tuesday 23rd June - Sports Day  
Wednesday 24th to Saturday 27th June - Enrichment Week

We would like to flag a small change to the term dates published for the 26/27 academic year. We have moved an INSET day from Mon 28 June to Mon 05 July, following some detailed planning of the next academic year. This is to ensure our Enrichment Week can still take place around exams for all year groups. We will publish the full calendar for next academic year on the website towards the end of the Summer term.

## Notices

HCL Feedback  
Education App Registration - Year 11 ONLY

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## Upcoming Trips

### School Trips & Enrichment Update

It's an exciting time for our students as we look ahead to some fantastic upcoming opportunities! Please take a moment to review the following notices regarding current and future school trips.

### Enrichment Week 2026 (EW26)

The countdown to EW26 is officially on! To ensure all arrangements and bookings are finalised, please remember that the next instalment/final payment for all activities is due by Friday, 1st May. Payments should be completed via the Evolve portal.

### Performing Arts: Oliver!

Consider yourself part of the family! We are thrilled to announce a performing arts trip to see the spectacular production of Oliver!. Full details and booking information will be launching next week, so please keep your eyes peeled for the letter and the booking link on Evolve.

### History Trip to Berlin: February 2027

We are already looking ahead to next year! We are excited to open applications for our History Trip to Berlin, taking place in February 2027.

- Eligibility: This trip is currently open to our Year 10 History students (who will be Year 11 at the time of travel).
- Availability: Should spaces remain, we will be opening the trip to the wider Year 10 cohort at a later date.

- Focus: This immersive experience will bring the curriculum to life, exploring key historical sites and museums.

More information on how to secure a place via Evolve will be sent home shortly.

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## Careers



### Registrations Open: New Webinar Series

Have you heard that InvestIN is hosting a new series of free webinars for parents over the next few months?

Launching with a session exploring how parents can support their children during exam season on **Wednesday 29th April**, the webinars aim to provide parents with practical advice and the latest information from experts in the field.

Explore all our sessions below and register for those most useful to you. Remember, if you can't attend live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording!

[VIEW SESSIONS](#)

### Upcoming Webinars

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## HIGHER AND DEGREE LISTING

**APRIL 21, 2026**

Explore **950+** Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the **April 2026 mini-edition** of the Higher and Degree listing.

Discover vacancy details from **38** employers, including GXO, KPMG, Devon and Cornwall Police, British Army, ARUP and many more!

Visit our [Higher and Degree page](#) to find out more.

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## Who are Barratt Redrow?

Barratt Redrow is one of the UK's biggest homebuilding companies. We design and build new houses and communities across England, Wales and Scotland, creating places for people and families to live.

We also offer apprenticeships and graduate programmes where young people can learn real construction skills such as bricklaying, carpentry, planning and project management.

At Barratt Redrow, people work together to plan, build and deliver quality homes and long-lasting places for the future.



## Roles & Applications

Apprenticeships with Barratt Redrow support your development to learning real skills in construction while earning a wage. You work on real building sites, learn from experienced professionals and study towards recognised qualifications. It's a great way to start your career, gain hands-on experience and build your future.

Open Nationwide Roles:

- Apprentice Bricklayer, Carpenter/Joiner, Plumber or Electrician
- Higher & Degree Apprenticeship in Quantity Surveying
- Higher & Degree Apprenticeship in Technical
- Higher & Degree Apprenticeship in Construction

[Apply now](#)



## Supporting students futures



We'd love to be part of your careers event! The team at Barratt Redrow is excited to inspire the next generation of builders, designers and future leaders in construction.

Ready to bring construction careers to life at your school?

Email [barratredrow@school-outreach.com](mailto:barratredrow@school-outreach.com) to find out more and book us for your event!

## Non KWS Events/Publicity

Children's Well being Practitioner Workshops

**Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops  
April – June 2026**

Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered with a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.



All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each workshop covers and to book a place onto a workshop, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787>

Workshop	Date & Time
<p><b>Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem and Resilience</b> A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their self-esteem and resilience.</p>	<p>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 10am-12pm Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 6-8pm</p>
<p><b>Supporting with Sleep Difficulties</b> This workshop focuses on supporting children and adolescents with managing their sleep difficulties and things parents/carers can do to help.</p>	<p>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 6-8pm Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 6-8pm</p>
<p><b>Developing your Child's Emotional Literacy</b> A workshop focused on parents supporting their child with developing emotional literacy.</p>	<p>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 10am-12pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 6-8pm Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 10am-12pm</p>
<p><b>General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents/Carers</b> A workshop focused on parents supporting their child's general emotional wellbeing and ability to emotionally regulate.</p>	<p>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 6-8pm Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 10am-12pm Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 6-8pm</p>

To access the recorded **Emotionally Based School Avoidance Webinar** please visit:  
<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-21/>

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FACE - May Timetable



## May 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
<b>FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep</b>	<b>28 May 7-8pm</b>

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### Mr Harris Fundraising

In April Mr Harris, headteacher at St Helen's, will be running the London Marathon to raise money for Emily's Fund. This trust was set up by friends of his who tragically lost their wonderful daughter Emily aged just 8 years old in 2022 to an incurable brain tumour. Emily was at Redbourn Primary School at the time, and her mother is a teacher at Roundwood Primary. He was left shocked and numb by the news. How can it be that a family can be told their daughter has a 0% chance of survival and that there is no cure for the type of tumour Emily had?

In the months after Emily's death, the Smith family set up 'Emily's Fund' - a supporter group within The Brain Tumour Charity. The money raised in Emily's name goes directly into research to help find a cure for the devastating disease that took Emily's life. It is saddening to learn that only 3% of the government spend on cancer research goes to brain cancer. It is up to charities to fund the desperately needed research. Brain tumours kill more children and adults under 40 than any other type of cancer. As a father of two daughters himself, he struggled to imagine the pain that the Smith family must go through every day without Emily. A cure **MUST** be found. Your donation today,

will give hope for families in the future facing a brain tumour diagnosis. The dedication shown by Sarah and Andy, along with their son Harry, to raise money and awareness for this cause is inspirational in the face of intolerable pain that no parent should have to face.

Emily's Fund site- <https://www.thebraintumourcharity.org/get-involved/our-supporter-groups/supporter-groups/groups/emilys-fund/>

Fundraising page- <https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-harris-1773736774722>

Meet your Neighbours - Street Party

 **Meet Your Neighbours**

**Make your street a place to play + meet**

**Big Lunch**  
**5 - 8 June 2026**

Are you interested in holding a **Big Lunch Street Party?**  
Millions of people will coming together with their neighbours for friendship, food and fun.

You can close your road for the afternoon and hold your Big Lunch.  
Could this be your start to holding regular street get togethers where you live?

The Meet Your Neighbours team can help you every step of the way, enabling you to throw the perfect get together for your neighbours!

**Contact Sophie at**  
**[playingout@sustainablestalbans.org](mailto:playingout@sustainablestalbans.org)**  
**[www.sustainablestalbans.org/meet-your-neighbours/](http://www.sustainablestalbans.org/meet-your-neighbours/)**  
**[www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch](http://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch)**



 Hertfordshire Community Foundation  
 St Albans City & District Council  
 Hertfordshire  
 Playing Out  
 OUR STREET PARTY  
 SUSTAINABLE St Albans  
Registered charity no 1173118

DENS - Castle Walk



In partnership with:



# CASTLE WALK

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
Charity 10 mile walk + 2 mile family and dog-friendly walk starting from Berkhamsted Castle

**FUN ACTIVITIES ★ CASTLE TOURS ★ RAFFLE ★ REFRESHMENTS**



**DENS.ORG.UK/WALK**

Registered charity number: 1097185



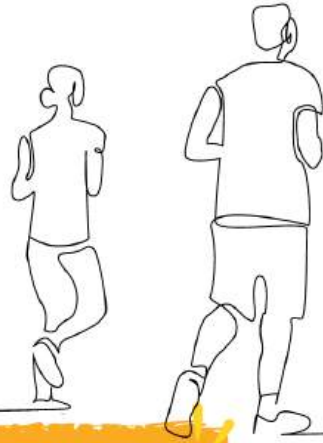
Funded by UK Government

**LEVELLING UP**



BeeZee Youth

**Beezee**  
**YOUTH**



Ready to make a change?

The first step starts with you

Join our **FREE** 8-week health and wellbeing programme. It's made with the help of young people, for young people. This is a chance for you to talk about topics that matter to you.

Achieving Goals

Body Image

Communication

Exam Stress

Motivation

Physical Activity

Relationships

Self-Love



+ 700



# School Newsletter

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