

Friday 12th April 2024

# King James's School Newsletter

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## The Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to the summer term!

I hope you had a relaxing Easter break and enjoyed some family time together.

As we return to school there are just 21 days until the start of the exam season and our Year 11 and 13 students are focused on making the most of these last few weeks. We have had a huge increase in sixth form applications, and this week I have had personal meetings with students to discuss their plans. Our students are delightful! It has been lovely to hear about their ambitions, aspirations, and to get a sense of their determination to succeed. We wish them every success and look forward to having them join our thriving sixth form in September.

Clare Martin  
Headteacher

## ESA CANSAT Regional Launch

Year 12 Computer Science students attended the ESA CanSat Regional Launch in March. They designed a satellite that fits into a 3D printed can with a parachute. The team designed a program that read data from the satellite as it was launched 300m into the air by a rocket..



## Drama Residential 2024

Forty Drama and Performing Arts students enjoyed a jolly jaunt across London at the start of the Easter Holidays. They were lucky enough to see two West End Productions, The Play That Goes Wrong and Hamilton, engage in two workshops from industry professionals, and explore the sights and sounds of London including a backstage tour of The National. The students were a credit to the school and took advantage of all the wonderful opportunities across 4 fun-filled, exhausting days.



## Year 10 & 12 Ski Trip, Morzine, France

Over the Easter Holidays Mr Atkinson, Mr Phillips, Mr Foster, Miss Andrews and Mrs Coldrick took 38 students skiing to the Morzine/Avoriaz area. All students showed remarkable progress during the trip - they displayed confidence and determination on the slopes. The ski instructors were thoroughly impressed by their ability to grasp techniques quickly, resulting in some truly amazing skiing moments! The staff were proud to have witnessed their growth both in terms of character and skill. As part of the ski trip students also enjoyed a pizza and bowling night and opportunity to watch Morzine vs Mount Blanc in the Ice Hockey grand final.



## Year 9 Ski Trip, Overtauern, Austria

It was an early start from School as we got on the coach at 6am on the Saturday morning, with lots of parents with tears in their eyes as they waved their children goodbye. These were clearly not tears of sadness but tears of joy at having a whole week without their little cherubs!



47 students and 6 staff through airport security and we were on our way to Munich, before transferring by coach to Obertauern.

We were staying at the Gottshallam, a typical, Austrian-styled guesthouse set high among the pine trees and mountains of the Alps (which we would later regret due to the climb back up to it from the slopes).

As the resort is 1,740 metres above sea-level, climbing to 2,863 metres at its highest peak, the snow conditions were excellent, with an initial snowfall as we arrived and then a number of blue-sky days to follow.

The beginners were initially catastrophic, with many students not believing they would ever be able to ski or, more importantly, stop. But I've been here many times before and one of the joys of running the trip is to see students' confidence and progression exponentially increase until, by the end of the week, everyone has skied from the top to the bottom of the mountain, which includes blue and red pistes, along with a timed slalom race.



The outdoor swimming one evening was a big hit, as was the Tyrolean folk-dancing evening, where we live-streamed to the parents the students getting fully involved in the thigh-slapping, bench-slamming and hat swapping dances, along with bell-ringing and Alpine-Horn-blowing.

The journey back home went smoothly, and we arrived back at school the following Saturday at 1.30am to a set of parents who all looked strangely fresh-faced and happy, which was no doubt due to getting their cherubs back... or was it the lovely, relaxing week they had just had without them?

As usual, the kids were brilliant throughout the trip and were a real credit to both their families and the school, which made the staff very proud to spend the week in their company.

## Safeguarding Update

For any Safeguarding concerns, please contact the following members of staff:

Mrs A Knight - SENCO

Mrs L Holdsworth - Director of KS3

Miss L Baker - Director of KS4

## The Week Ahead: 15th April 2024

### Personal Development Focus: Respectful - Resilience

*"Creating and understanding good learning habits by listening and responding to feedback and advice".*

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	Year 10 Exams continue School Council Meeting Week KS4 House Week 3 Holocaust Memorial Museum trip Walking Talking English Mock 2	9 11	9.00am - 4.00pm 9.15am-3.15pm	Nottinghamshire
Tue				
Wed	Year 12 Parents Evening	12	4.30pm-7.30pm	Online appointments
Thur	Young Enterprise Regional Final	12	1.00pm - 5.30pm	
Fri				

## Bebra Exchange

The year 2024 marks the 50th Anniversary of exchange between King James's School in Knarborough and Brüder Grimm Gesamtschule in Bebra; a partnership first established in 1974 by former member of staff, Alan Hemsworth, who still to this day, despite having retired over ten years ago, plays an important role in the existence of the exchange. He worked closely with Jochen Hasse, an English teacher in Bebra to establish this amazing partnership. Before our departure, we were fortunate to receive some funding from Knarborough Town Council to help celebrate this milestone. All participants were bought hoodies displaying our logo depicting our strapline "50 Years of Friendship". In addition to the hoodies, we were able to gain entrance to Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, a UNESCO World heritage Centre, on a joint day visit with our German partners as well as enjoying an evening of bowling, thanks to the generosity of the town Council. What a fabulous way to celebrate this momentous occasion between the two schools!



During the week, students attended lessons in the German school, toured the town of Bebra, went bowling at the Hyppo Bowling alley, sampled German cuisine and there was even a group of families who travelled to Frankfurt to see the sights.

The evening of celebration to mark the 50th anniversary took place in the Lokschuppen in Bebra, a well renowned and impressive event venue in the town. The venue was thronged with 180 guests most of whom had either present involvement with the exchange or who were themselves previous participants on the exchange. The 50th anniversary event was a true highlight, not just during exchange week but a remarkable milestone event during our 50 years of friendship between the two schools and communities.

Our final full day in Hessen was spent in school, followed by a visit to Bad Hersfeld, a spa town in the vicinity. A tour of the town with our hosts was followed by shopping time for gifts and souvenirs before our last evening with our German families and friends.

Our twenty-hour journey culminated in us arriving back at KJS at 3:45 am...we were all very tired after an eventful and most memorable trip to Bebra! We will see our friends back in Knarborough in 2025.



## Vacancies

King James's School is a great place to work, having a lot to offer to prospective candidates. First and foremost, the students here are great to work with and reflect the full range that you would find in any area. The local community is supportive of the school, the extra-curricular life of the school is rich and there is a vibrancy here which is difficult to match. Current vacancies include the following:

### Senior Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Full year, full time, permanent.

NYC Grade JK: £35,745 - £40,221, Closing date: 23/04/2024

### Art Technician

Term Time Only plus training days

24 hours per week

NYC Grade C/D: £12,785 - £13,435

Closing date: 23/04/2024

### Site Cleaner

Full year, 15 hours per week

NYC Grade B: £11.59 per hour

Closing date: 23/04/2024

### Lead Exam Invigilator

Supply / Relief, Term Time Only

NYC Grade E: £12.39 - £13.02 per hour

Closing date: 16/04/2024