

Friday 13th December 2024

King James's School Newsletter

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Community Christmas Cheer

A group of our talented music students visited Aspin pre-school on Monday morning where they were delightful with the little ones. They then played at the assembly at Aspin Primary School, and were an absolute credit to the school, interacting with staff and students so maturely. They will also be performing at next week's Christingle Service and may also make a pop up surprise around school one lunchtime next week!



Message from the Headteacher

I am sure families will be starting to enjoy the festive season as we are now less than two weeks away from Christmas. In school, we need to maintain our focus on learning as every lesson really does count! Please support us by ensuring your child is present at school and ready to learn, every day up to and including Friday 20th December.

Clare Martin
Headteacher

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 20th December we will have our annual Christmas Jumper Day! Students can wear Christmas jumpers should they wish to do so. This is not compulsory, but it would be brilliant to see as many students as possible getting into the festive spirit!



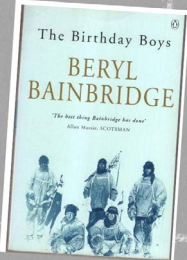
Sankt Nikolaustag

The Languages Department brought some festive cheer to KJS this week with the celebration of Sankt Nikolaustag, a German tradition when children put out their (cleaned!) shoes in the hope that Sankt Nikolaus will come and fill them with sweets and small gifts. Sankt Nikolaus is similar to our Father Christmas figure, but makes an early appearance on 6th December. He is accompanied by Knecht Ruprecht, who leaves twigs if the children have not been good. There were no twigs for our students - they were treated to Stollen (a German Christmas cake with marzipan), Lebkuchen (a spiced gingerbread) and Spekulatius (spiced biscuits). Frohe Weihnachten!


Sixth Form Open Evening

A date for the diary for YR11 parents. Sixth Form Open Evening is taking place on Thursday 16th January 2025 from 6:30 - 8pm. We look forward to seeing you. Further details are available on the Sixth Form section of the school website.

Mrs Rose (English department) loves...



BERYL BAINBRIDGE
The Birthday Boys



BERYL BAINBRIDGE - THE BIRTHDAY BOYS

Bought this second hand, on a whim, and was really surprised how much I enjoyed it. It tells the story of Captain Scott's ill-fated expedition to the South Pole through the eyes of several of the men, revealing the tensions and friendships of those who were there. The descriptions of the conditions are both beautiful and terrifying, perhaps warning us that there are certain places of this globe which we should really just leave to nature.

STAFF BOOK RECOMMENDATION



Cycling to School



To keep everyone safe, please could parents of students who cycle to school make sure that they have lights mounted on the front and rear of their bike, and that they wear a helmet. Students should dismount when entering school grounds and push their bike to ensure safety of pedestrians and prevent accidental damage to cars.

Access to School Site

Please be aware that school is not open to students until 7.45am at which time they are able to go to the dining hall (only) for breakfast. The library is open at 8.20am. Students may sit and enjoy this space with their friends, but they must not use mobile phones on school site at any time.

Cross Country Success

Last week saw lots of cross country action. The Year 7 girls cross country team competed at the Area School Championship at Ripon Grammar School.



There was further success as four students qualified for the Harrogate and Craven cross country team. Well done to Izzy L (Y11), Jack S (Y9), Islay C (Y7) and Ivy R(Y7).

Football News

On Wednesday last week, the Year 11 boys managed a 1-0 win over Queen Ethelburga's and on Friday the Year 8 boys beat St Bede's 6-3, both in their national cup matches.

Both teams are now through to round 6 of the National cup. Well done to both teams!



KING JAMES'S SIXTH FORM

Your future in safe hands

OPEN EVENING 2025

Thursday 16th January

6:30pm - 8:00pm



The Week Ahead: 16th December 2024

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	3D Design Mock Exam	11		
Tue	Y9 Christmas Reward Bowling Trip Y7 Christmas Disco	9 7	3.30pm 5.30pm	S1
Wed	Senior Prize Giving	13 (2024 leavers)	7.00pm	S1
Thur	House Dodgeball Y10 Christmas Shopping trip	12 & 13 10	3.30pm 3.45pm	Meadowhall
Fri	Christmas Jumper Day Autumn Term ends School closes at 12.35pm	All		



GCHQ Christmas Challenge

On Wednesday pupils in some Maths classes had chance to get stuck into the annual Christmas Challenge set by GCHQ, which you may have seen on BBC breakfast that morning. Requiring resilience, logic and code breaking skills the Christmas card design sets a series of seven initial problems which need to be linked to the image on the front of the card to decode a secret message.

The first of the seven problems is below and once decoded will lead to the name of a UK landmark, if this whets your appetite, you can access the full challenge [here](#).



What does this say?



SEMH Hub Breakfast Provision – Request for Support

We are seeking your support for our SEMH (Social, Emotional, and Mental Health) Hub, which aims to provide a nutritious breakfast to students in need. To help, we have set up an Amazon wish list with breakfast provisions, and we would greatly appreciate any contributions. You can view and purchase items directly from the list here:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1TLEP8N-BE21T0?ref=wl_share.

Alternatively, if you would like to explore other ways to contribute or learn more, please don't hesitate to contact the school directly, any donations would be greatly appreciated, especially supermarket vouchers so that we can buy fresh fruit.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure all students start their day with the nourishment they need.

Warm regards, Ashleigh Bassett and Lindsay Cooper

Christmas Silent Discos at the Kingfisher Kiosk, HG5 9AX

Friday 20th December 6-8pm <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/knaresborough/the-kingfisher-kiosk/silent-disco-age-16/2024-12-20/18:00/t-rpoqyzd>

Sunday 22nd December 3-5pm <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/knaresborough/the-kingfisher-kiosk/silent-disco-family-friendly/e-dmxdz>

Careers

We have a great opportunity for students who have an interest in finding out more about what it means to be an Army Officer, as well as to find out more about the different roles available as well as financial support for university and the application process.

The Northern Army Officer Insight Day will take place at Imphal Barracks in York on Saturday 25th January. The day will commence at 9.30am and run until 4pm.

The day incorporates a day in the life of a newly commissioned officer, including a tour of the barracks and all its facilities and lunch in the Officers' Mess. You will have opportunity to chat to serving Officers in a plethora of different roles and our expert careers advisors, as well as attend career and lived experience presentations. There are only a limited number of places, so please register as soon as possible. Spaces will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, with all attendees required to be over the age of 16 years old.

[Click here to register](#).

Thought for the Fortnight

Thought for the Fortnight for the weeks beginning 9th and 16th December is: “

No-one has ever become poor from giving” (Anne Frank)

The key takeaways are:

It's important to realise that the act of giving can bring happiness to both the giver and the receiver. It doesn't necessarily mean giving materialistic things but can also mean giving time, support, care, and love.

Although Christmas time is seen as a time for giving, it's important to remember that being kind and generous are qualities we can practice in our daily lives, all year round.

Assemblies

On Monday, Year 7 will be having their Accelerated Reader celebration assembly and Year 11 having a presentation delivered by Ms Watson (Associate Assistant Headteacher) on KJS Sixth Form as part of their Post 16 careers programme.

Year 8,9,10, 13 and 13 will be enjoying There are also a range of Christmas celebration assemblies taking place throughout the week across a range of year groups.

*King James's School
Presents*

WE WILL ROCK YOU

Music and Lyrics by *Queen*

Story and Script by *Ben Elton*

Date: 11-13th February 2025

Time: 7pm

Concession £8

Adults £10