

Friday 1st December 2023

King James's School Newsletter

Inside this issue:

- Learning Cycle 1 Reports
- Christmas Concert
- Attendance Update
- Happy News
- Stockeld Park Fun
- Rotary Shoebox Appeal
- Christmas Plans
- Knaresborough Fitness & Wellbeing Centre - opening date
- Stars in our Schools
- Procedures for School closures
- Coat donations
- Year 7 Advent Competition
- The Week Ahead

The Headteachers Message

I hope you enjoyed having your children at home on this week's training day. For staff, the day was focused on Raising Achievement – looking at strategies to ensure that all our students make the best progress they can.

Whilst our 2023 results were in line with national, we are determined that KJS students should do even better! Alongside teachers refining their approaches, we will continue to work closely with you as parents to address any barriers, encourage ambition, and keep students focused on doing the best they can - every lesson, every day.

Clare Martin
Headteacher

Happy News!

The Happy News has landed in the library! Full of uplifting stories, articles and ideas, we invite you to come in and enjoy some lovely and positive reading. This issue's focus is gratitude and will help you stop to recognise a moment of goodness.



Learning Cycle 1 Reports

We have issued Learning Cycle 1 reports to students today, and these will also be available for parents to view via MCAS. Please take the opportunity to have a look at these reports over the weekend and to commend your child on his/her attitude to learning and progress in learning. Students will have an extended form time on Monday to talk to their tutors and please feel free to contact them if you would like to discuss anything.

Christmas Concert

A reminder that our Christmas Concert is next Thursday, 7th December starting at 7.00pm in S1. We hope you are able to come along and support this event to get the festive season underway.

Tickets are priced at **£4.00** and can be purchased on the night.

Card payments only please, no cash.



Attendance Update

Thank you so much for all your support so far this term in ensuring our school attendance is as good as it can be. Currently our attendance is above National Average and has gone up in comparison to the same time last year.

Traditionally the Autumn Term is a very long one and attendance can dip over the last few weeks, especially during the final week as students get tired. Listed below are lots of enrichment and personal development opportunities that we have planned during the final few weeks which our students will benefit from as well as to help celebrate Christmas.

- Week of 4th December: Reviewing and target setting LC1 with from tutors
- 6th December: St Nikolaustag celebrations
- 12th December: Y7 & 8 Christmas Dinner
- 13th December: Y9-11 Christmas Dinner
- 14th December: Y10 Pizza and Movie Night
- 19th December: Year 8 Christmas Disco
- 20th December: School Christmas Concert
- 21st December: Year 7 Christmas Disco
- 22nd December: Christmas Jumper Day





Christmas Plans

Our Christmas Jumper Day will be on Friday 22nd December. Students are asked to wear something festive, fun or fancy- it does not necessarily need to be a jumper, as we understand that not all students have them. Any donations of Christmas jumpers before the event would be most welcome so we can offer pre-loved items to students who may like them or wish to swap.

Donations can be made via Parent Pay and the money will be divided equally between Save the Children and Children in Need. A reminder that school will close at 12.30pm on Friday 22nd December.

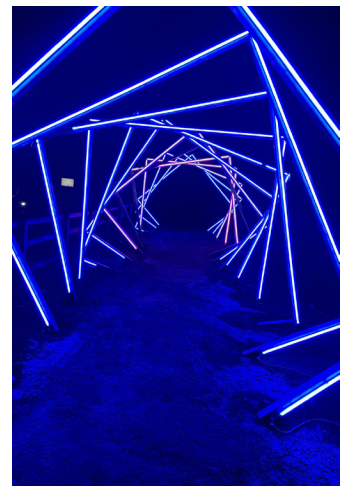
Rotary Shoebox appeal

Thank you to parents who contributed to filling the Rotary Club shoe boxes for disadvantaged people. In total, we made 177 boxes – an amazing contribution to spreading a little happiness at Christmas.



Stockeld Park Fun

On Thursday 30th November, 104 students from year 9 attended the Stockeld Park Christmas trip. The trip was a great opportunity to celebrate all the students hard work during the first term of year 9. The trip included Ice skating, entrance to the Maze and opportunity to see the colourful extravaganza of the Enchanted Forest. It was a very chilly night but the hot chocolates (with all the extras) soon warmed the students and staff up! Mr Atkinson is now in the process of planning the next trip which will happen in the new year!



The Week Ahead: 4th December 2023

Personal Development Focus: Ready - Resilience "celebrating success and coping together with set-backs"				
Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon				
Tue	Year 13 Parents Evening	13	4.30-7.00pm	Video call
Wed	St Nikolaustag celebrations Area Cross-Country Y9 Ski Trip Parents Information Evening	7 and 8 Y9 parents	Break and Lunch 6.00-7.00pm	Tetra area S1
Thur	Christmas Concert	All	7.00pm	S1
Fri				

Knaresborough Leisure and Wellness Centre

We are delighted that Knaresborough's refurbished leisure centre is due to open in time for Christmas, on 11th December. This will be an excellent facility for the community, supporting fitness and wellbeing for all. Thank you to parents for navigating the various traffic measures in place while building work has been going on, ensuring that students have been at school on time.

[Our locations – Brimhams Active](#)



Stars in our Schools

Last week was National Stars in our Schools day – an annual event when schools acknowledge the huge contribution of support staff in creating a positive learning environment.

We are incredibly lucky to have an amazing support staff team at KJS, who make a huge difference every day. Many of these roles may be unnoticed – from cleaning the school, securing the site, cooking meals, managing attendance, helping with admin, managing our fantastic library, supporting families, providing pastoral care, or improving attainment through learning support and assisting teachers in the classroom.

If you would like to extend your thanks to a member of our team, please click [here](#) to complete a short form, and we will make sure the message reaches them. Thank you!



King James's Big Christmas Thank you!

Rudfarlington Farm and christmas shop has very kindly donated a 12ft christmas tree to the school. Please see next weeks newsletter to see it all decorated!

Procedures for Snow Closures

We have had some beautiful wintery scenes this week and it has prompted us to remind parents of our procedures in cases where snow requires us to close school for the day.



In the case of significant adverse weather, where we cannot guarantee the safe opening of school due to staffing levels or health & safety considerations, we aim to make the decision to close school by 7.30am. We will send a text to parents to let you know as soon as possible so that you can plan for the day.

Over the next few days, we are putting work for English, Maths and Science into a folder on ITSLearning called 'SNOW WORK'. Students should access this and complete work for each core subject. As a real snowfall is rare, we would like students to have time to get outside and experience the outdoors. Additional work is always available via Oak National Academy or BBC Bitesize.

Coat Donations

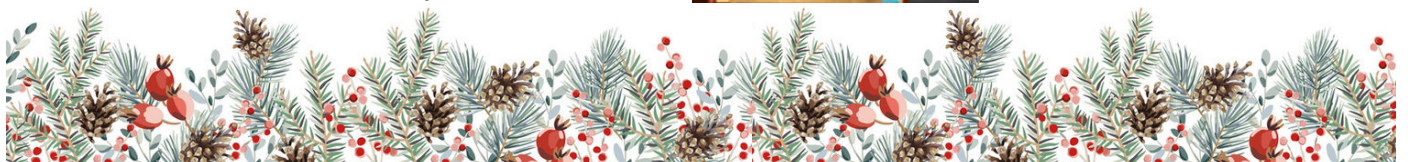
We have seen the first of real winter this week and have become aware that some students do not possess a coat. We would like to support families with this by creating a stock of pre-loved coats. If you have any coats at home that you are able to donate, please could you send them into school or drop them off at Chain Lane Community Centre. We will take any coats that we receive to Chain Lane Community Centre so that families who need them can collect them from there.



Year 7 Advent Calendar Competition

To get Year 7 into the Christmas spirit, Miss Key is running an advent calendar competition.

The student with the most positives will be announced on the screens in Chaloner each morning and can collect their prize from the Y7 office.



An open arched window with a view of a coastal landscape. The window is made of dark wood or metal with multiple panes. The view outside shows a blue sky, a body of water, and a hillside with trees and buildings. The window is open, with the shutters swung out to the sides.

THE WINDOW

Write a story or poem of up to 1,000 words with the title 'The Window' and email it to library@king-james.co.uk by 31st December 2023 to be in with the chance of winning.

***SKRENTNY CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
KING JAMES'S SCHOOL LIBRARY***



King James's School
Presents

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

£4.00
On the
door

Thursday 7th December
Performance start: 7pm
Hosted in S1

