

Friday 8th November 2024

King James's School Newsletter

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Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely break. This half term, we wish our Year 11 students every success in their mock examinations; look forward to celebrating the success of last year's cohort at Prizegiving; and of course anticipate lots of festive fun as we approach Christmas!

Clare Martin
Headteacher

Miss Bowe
(Maths Department)
loves...



ELIZABETH IS MISSING -
EMMA HEALEY

This is written from the viewpoint of a lady with dementia so it's sad but thought provoking and a gripping read. Also, it's not too long so doesn't feel too imposing if you don't read a lot!

STAFF BOOK
RECOMMENDATION

Quality Assurance

Over the next three weeks, senior and middle leaders will be visiting lessons, looking at books, and speaking to students to evaluate the quality of teaching and inform our school improvement planning. It is great to get a taste of students' experience at KJS and lovely to see their progress in action.

Assemblies

Year 8 & 9 will be having a Remembrance Day assembly on Monday delivered by Mr Green from the History Department. The assembly links to our school value of RESPECTFUL and the focus is raising awareness of the annual day of remembrance which honours and remembers the bravery, sacrifice, and dedication of those who have served and continue to serve our nation.



Year 7,8,9,10 and 11 have assemblies delivered by Mrs Knight and Mrs Kingston raising the profile of Anti Bullying Week. The assemblies link to our school value of RESPECTFUL and focuses on how students can contribute to a culture of kindness.

Thought for the Fortnight

The Thought for the Fortnight for the weeks beginning 11th and 18th November is "the smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." — Oscar Wilde "



Key take aways are:

- Kindness requires you to put others needs before your own.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Being kind to someone else can have a positive impact on our own wellbeing.
- It's important to be kind to yourself.

Harvest Festival Collection

Thank you to all the families that donated to our Harvest Festival Collection. The donations will be divided up between Gracious Street Helping the Elderly, Resurrected Bites, and the Knaresborough Food Bank. Thanking you all for your generous donations during this time of year. From Family Support & Business Services"



Movember

This November, myself, along with a group of dedicated staff members - Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Berry, Mr. McIntosh, Mr. Foster, Mr. Bell, Mr. Hall, Mr. Dumont, Mr Waters, Mr Frey, Mr Green and Mr. Ratcliffe are participating in Movember to raise awareness and funds for men's health, with a particular focus on mental health.

Movember is not only about growing a moustache; it's a movement aimed at encouraging men, especially young men, to take charge of their health and well-being and to feel empowered to seek help when they need it.

Our mission is to foster an open and supportive culture within our school community, where students, especially boys, feel comfortable speaking up about mental health, stress, and burnout. The Movember focus for 2024 aligns with this goal, spotlighting the importance of mental health conversations. We're hoping our moustaches will spark curiosity and open the door for these crucial conversations.

As part of this campaign, I'll be creating a video that explains the significance of Movember and why we, as staff, are committed to this cause. The video will be shared with students during form time to give them a better understanding of the importance of mental health awareness and support.

We'll be keeping the students engaged by sharing progress pictures of our moustaches on the school TVs throughout November. At the end of the month, they'll have the opportunity to vote for their favourite moustache—a fun way to involve them while reinforcing the message behind the cause.

We would be extremely grateful for any donations you can make to support the Movember Foundation. All funds raised will go directly to Movember, contributing to life-saving projects in men's mental health, suicide prevention, and other critical areas of men's health.

Please see the link to our team's Movember page below. Your support, whether through donations or simply discussing the importance of mental health at home, helps us make a difference in the lives of our students and the wider community.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to raise awareness and promote mental well-being within our school community. Together, we can encourage young people to prioritise their mental health and build resilience for the future.

Warm regards, Mr. Phillips

[Donations for Movember](#)



School Production 2025 "We will Rock You"

The cast and band are working exceptionally hard to prepare for what promises to be an outstanding show.

This year, we are hoping to transform the space in S1 to create an arena-style experience, adding a unique dynamic to the performance. However, this ambitious setup comes with additional costs and loss of capacity, and we would greatly appreciate any assistance parents might be able to offer. If you can help us source staging rostra, rails, or other resources or recommendations, your support would be invaluable. This is all about providing the best possible opportunities for our students.

Please contact Jo Jones, Head of Drama, if you can assist in any way.

Thank you for helping make this experience memorable for everyone involved!



The Annual Skrentny Creative Writing Competition 2024

We invite parents/carers, staff and students to participate in our annual creative writing competition.

Do you aspire to be the next voice of your generation? If so, this competition will be perfect to get you started on your creative writing journey. Your challenge is to write no more than 1,000 words based on the title 'Dear Diary...'

You might decide to write a short story, a poem, a graphic novel, song lyrics, a diary or perhaps a diary entry of your favourite fictional or historical figure. It's entirely up to you!

The competition will be judged externally, and prizes will be awarded for the best entries in KS3, KS4 and KS5. There will also be additional categories for entries from staff and parents/carers.

For further details on how to enter, please see the attached flyer at the end of the newsletter.



Careers Opportunity

We're excited to invite you to an exclusive opportunity with one of the most prestigious law firms in the world—Slaughter and May! If you're a Year 11, 12, or 13 student with an interest in commercial law, this event is for you.

Event Details:

Date: Wednesday 13th November

Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Location: Virtual via Zoom (link will be provided upon registration)

Why Attend?

At this event, you'll get a unique chance to dive deep into the world of Slaughter and May, one of the UK's elite law firms. Known for their innovation and expertise, Slaughter and May has been at the fore front of the legal industry for decades. They handle some of the most complex and high-profile cases globally, working with top-tier clients from every industry. This is your chance to hear directly from professionals who have shaped their careers at one of the most influential firms in the world.

What You'll Learn:

- **Career Opportunities:** Discover what it's like to work at the firm, and gain an insight into the solicitor apprenticeship programme that can kickstart your legal career.
- **A World of Difference:** Hear about the four distinct differences that set Slaughter and May apart from other global law firms.
- **Exclusive Networking:** Gain access to legal experts and discover how you can stand out in the competitive world of law.

Register now:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Slaughter-and-May>

Babysitting Course

Inspire Youth have new dates coming up for their popular babysitting course aimed at 13-18year olds, who look after other peoples children. This is a great opportunity to improve their CV and benefit from increasing their employability skills.

The dates of the course are: November 16th, 23rd and 30th , 10-3pm at Inspire Community Hub, 9-10 Halfpenny Close, Knaresborough HG5 0TG.

The course covers a number of topics including first aid awareness offered by St Johns Ambulance, a fire safety talk along with a live baby experience. The course cost is £40 per participant with a certificate of attendance.

For booking or further information please [Visit What's On |](#)

Virtual Work Experience Opportunity for future Vet, Veterinary Nurse, Researcher or Technician in vet research

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/results/?opp=EC6188E0-AEB6-4452-76C7-08DCFA68BAF7>

Park & Stride

We have once again partnered with North Yorkshire County Council on their active travel project 'Open Harrogate' and with Harrogate Borough Council to reinstate our Park and Stride scheme. Park and Stride encourages those who have to drive to school to park in a specified location and walk the remainder of the way. This will not only keep the school gates clear of congestion but also mean pupils will be able to get active on their journey to school.

Please speak to reception if you would like to sign up for a free Park and Stride Permit for this academic year 2024-2025.'

The Week Ahead: 11th November 2024

| Day | Session | Year | Time | Location |
|------|--|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Mon | Maths Week England Y9 Science Exams Last Post Performance Y11 PA Performance Exams | 9 Various 11 | 11.00am | |
| Tue | House Football & Netball GCSE Drama Component 2 Practical Exam | All 11 | | |
| Wed | A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies Component 2 Practical Exam Careers Steering Group GCSE Prize Giving | 13 Y11 (2023-2024) | 3.30pm 7.00pm | Chaloner Hall |
| Thur | Y10 Pastoral Parents Evening | 10 | 4pm-6.30pm | In school |
| Fri | | | | |

November Time



Mr Berry



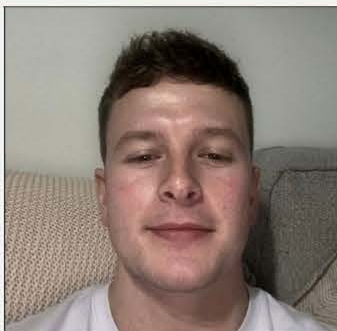
Mr Ratcliffe



Mr Waters



Mr Hall



Mr Foster



Mr McIntosh



Mr Bell



Mr Phillips



Mr Atkinson

***Our staff are prouder partaking in Movember this year!
Along side these wonderful gentlemen, we also have
Mr Frey, Mr Green and Mr Dumont taking part.***

We will provide updates with their 'stache growth over the coming weeks!



DEAR DIARY...

Skrentny Creative Writing Competition

Do you aspire to be the next voice of your generation? If so, this competition will be perfect to get you started on your creative writing journey. Your challenge is to write no more than 1,000 words based on the title 'Dear Diary ...'


You might decide to write a short story, a poem, a graphic novel, song lyrics, a diary or perhaps a diary entry of your favourite fictional or historical figure. It's entirely up to you!

Complete your entry in Microsoft Word and email it to us at Library@king-james.co.uk with the subject Dear Diary...

You must include your name and for student entries also add your Tutor group.

Please submit your entry by 12^{PM} on 31st December 2024

We can't wait to read your stories!





KNARESBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB

**An inclusive tennis club based at
Knaresborough King James School**

**We offer coaching, social tennis, team
tennis and much more for a very affordable
membership price.**

**Coaching is available on Monday &
Thursday evenings and Saturday
afternoons for children aged 4+ through to
adults**



CONTACT US



enquiries@ac-tenniscoaching.co.uk
www.knaresboughtennis.org.uk