

Friday 9th February 2024

King James's School Newsletter

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The Headteacher's Message

What a fantastic week this has been! The school performance of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' was spectacular - a true celebration of the talent of over 100 KJS students from Year 7 to 13. I am sure that families who were able to come to see it were just as awe-struck as I was. Please see further pictures on page 3. Congratulations to everyone involved and thank you to all staff and parents who supported it - what an achievement!

So we end this half term on a high and wish you all a happy and relaxing break.

Clare Martin
Headteacher

Art News

Key Stage 3 students have been looking at repeat patterns, creating their own designs to trace and transfer before colouring them in.



Uniform Standards Drive

We are proud to have high expectations and, as you are aware, after half term we are having a sustained drive to improve the standards of uniform. Most students are very smart anyway and we thank parents for your support. We hope that by working with parents since Christmas, together we have resolved any ongoing issues and that we will have very few issues to deal with when we come back from our break. Just a final reminder of things to check with your children please so that we can have a positive start to next half term - thank you!

Entry to school - students will be warmly welcomed into school via the gate for their year group (Y7, 8, 11 - S1 gate, and Y9, 10, 6th Form - Sixth Form gate). Their uniform will be checked as they enter school and again in their year Hubs and again at form time. Students will be supported to correct their uniform if necessary, by being offered a loan item for the day where possible. In addition it may be appropriate to contact home to see if missing or correct items can be brought in. Any students who refuse to adhere to our expectations will be kept out of circulation until the matter is resolved.

Shoes - must be a plain black shoe style. It is preferable that students wear the formal shoe, but we now accept the plain black, flat-soled leather 'leisure shoe' as an alternative. Trainer-soles are not permitted.

Kilts - must be appropriate for a school setting and be a reasonable length (below mid-thigh). Students will be asked to unroll kilts that are too short and students with kilts that are still too short will be asked to wear trousers and will be kept out of circulation until the matter is resolved.

Trousers - all students can wear trousers, which can be slim-fit but must not be leggings / jeggings. A useful rule of thumb is that they should have a zip and/or buttons.

Outdoor clothing - must be removed in school. This includes coats and hoodies (including the KJS-branded PE hoodie).

Blazers/jumpers - should be worn at all times on corridors but may be removed in lessons so that students are comfortable.



Celebrating students' success

Many congratulations to Lottie H in Year 8, who won two bronze medals at the English Karate Federation Kyu Grade Championships in Sheffield last weekend.



Many congratulations also to ZaH in Year 9, who is currently ranked 5th in the UK at U15 level for 200metres. Zak represented Harrogate Harriers in the Northern England Competition. He came 1st in the 200m with an incredible time of 23.91 seconds. We wish him good luck in his next race

Celebration breakfast

The year 10 team hosted a celebration breakfast for the year 10 show cast, following an amazing second night of the performance. Hot chocolate and croissants were provided to keep them going for their final night!



Community Noticeboard

Please take a look at the [Community Noticeboard](#) area of the school website for events, clubs and activities taking place in the local area.

Young Enterprise

Some of our year 12 students have created a new company, Plant Pets, as part of their Young Enterprise project. They have released a new product, designed to increase creativity and improve mindfulness. By purchasing a Plant Pets box, you will receive a terracotta plant pot, soil, a paint brush, a selection of paints, a product flyer, and importantly, your seeds to grow. Each Plant Pets box is priced at £10 and can be bought by cash or bank transfer, from one of the team. You can also support the students by following them on social media (@plantpets.uk).



Year 9 Options Process

Thank you everyone who attended the Key Stage 4 Options Evening on the 31st January. We were delighted to welcome so many students and parents. We look forward to supporting you through the next, very important, stage of school life.

We have now reached the deadline for Options Forms to be returned to school. In case anybody is still to complete it, please access the Key Stage 4 options page on our website, or via this link. <https://www.king-james.co.uk/ks4-options/>. If there are any further questions, please email school and the relevant staff will follow up your query after half-term

The Week Ahead: 19th February 2024

Personal Development Focus: Respectful - Honesty

"actions speak louder than words"

Day	Session	Year	Time	Location
Mon	SECOND HALF SPRING TERM BEGINS Art Mock Exam Day 1 Parent revision support evening	13 10 & 11	6.00pm	
Tue	Art Mock Exam Day 2 Drama Residential Parents Info Evening Ski Trip Parents Info Evening	13 10 & 12	6.00pm 6.30pm	Drama Circle S1
Wed	Bebra Exchange Parents Info Evening		6.00pm	Library
Thur	Y11 breakfast visit to Sixth Form	11	8.45 - 9.10am	Sixth Form Centre
Fri	Y12 Options Deadline			

Sixth Form Taster Day

On Wednesday this week our YR11 students were given a taste of what September might feel like if they join the Sixth Form at King James's. The students had a busy day experiencing life as a Sixth Form student which included attending five subject tasters plus access to the Sixth Form Centre and cafe at break and lunchtime. We were joined on the day by a number of students from Boroughbridge High School who are also applying to the Sixth Form.

Sixth Form taster day forms a vital part of the application process, giving students the experience and insight they need to make informed choices about their future.

As part of the day, some students attended talks from Harrogate and York College, Askham Bryan College and the Army. They also received support and guidance about employment and apprenticeships from ASK.

Student feedback was really positive. They enjoyed the day and found the opportunity helpful in their decision making. Their behaviour and engagement during the day was excellent. If the queues in the Sixth Form cafe at break and lunchtime are anything to go by, they also enjoyed the food and drink!

The Sixth Form application deadline is Friday 23rd February - using this link <https://www.king-james.co.uk/joining-our-sixth-form/> any enquiries email sixthform@king-james.co.uk



GCSE and A Level parent revision evenings

A reminder about the GCSE parent revision evening for Year 10 and 11 on Monday 19th February and the A Level parent revision evening for Year 12 and 13 on Monday 26th February. Both will take place at 6pm in S1.

These meetings will explain the best ways to revise and how to support students in preparation for their exams. We will also discuss the revision opportunities and sessions available for students at school.

