



INSPIR

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME AUTUMN TERM 2020

Aspire. Achieve. Enjoy.

INTRODUCTION

Autumn Term 2020

One of the many inspiring things we've learned in recent months is that the passion and dedication of King's High students remains unbowed in challenging circumstances. Our Inspire Programme of academic enrichment has continued apace, and in significant ways has grown and developed in response to the 'new normal' brought on by the global situation.

The number of our students attending talks by academic experts in their fields has more than tripled since March. Last term, students from King's had the opportunity to attend sessions by experts from UCL, Edinburgh, Warwick, Ontario, Sheffield, Cambridge and more talking about Space Science, Literature, Ocean Biogeochemistry, Medicine, Law, Neuroscience, History, Game Theory, Classics, Al, Cognitive Psychology, The Arts, Ethics, and Medical Imaging. To reflect this exciting development, we have replaced our regular single Inspire Lecture for the term with a choice of remotely delivered talks. King's students will have the chance to hear Prof Angie Hobbs (of Desert Island Discs fame) on 'The Ethics of Coronavirus', Dr Jess Wade (award-winning physicist) on her scientific research, and Gillian Bishop (top London lawyer) on the intricacies of family law.

We continue to believe that the academic enrichment we provide throughout the School, with our particular focus on creative thinking, makes us a national leader in the field. This booklet outlines many of the enrichment opportunities on offer, including launch dates for our through-school programme of creative research.

As ever, the aim of the Inspire Programme is to foster intellectual curiosity, creative thinking, and independent ways of looking at big questions and challenging ideas. We hope the opportunities outlined in this booklet will help students across the year groups to grow in each of these ways.

Dr P Seal

Director of Studies



ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

This term our well-established academic clubs and societies will be run in a range of ways to reflect the global situation. Some will meet in person and some will take the form of meetings on Microsoft Teams. If you have any questions at all about joining a society, please contact Dr Seal.

Book Club Chat

A student-founded and student-run group for those who love reading and talking about books. Genres for discussion include the Classics, Mystery, Fantasy and more.

Café Philo

Café Philo is a student-led discussion group. Each session focuses on a topic of interest related to philosophy, politics, ethics and current affairs.

Café Scientifique

An innovative science group. With its own blog and regular visiting speakers, Café Scientifique is a fun and exciting way to discover more about science and the mysteries of the physical universe.

Creative Writers

Calling all Year 7, 8 and 9 students who enjoy working with words. Our club gives students space to develop their style and learn new techniques as young writers.

Dissection Club

For Year 12s with a passion for learning through practicals. This is a chance to extend your scientific knowledge beyond the classroom in a hands-on way.

French Cultural Club

For Sixth Formers looking to extend and enrich their understanding of all aspects of French culture.

Geographical Society

Calling all students looking to take their geographical learning further. The society looks into some of the key issues within geography that are shaping our world today.

Higher Education Seminars

These seminars are for current Sixth Formers interested in Oxford, Cambridge and similar, with a focus on high level thinking skills, interviews and pre-admissions tests.

Hobbs Society

The Hobbs Society, named after philosopher Angie Hobbs, meets at least once every half term. The Chair and Secretary invite distinguished guests to address students on a range of topics.

Investigating Science (KS4)

A club for the scientifically inquisitive in KS4. Come along if you want to start building a profile of scientific knowledge beyond the GCSE syllabus.

IRIS Genome Project Decoders

Open to Year 12 and 13 biologists interested in extending their knowledge of genome sequences and how genes can be identified from unannotated genomic data. This is a novel research project run in collaboration with the Institute for Research in Schools and the Wellcome Sanger Institute.



Inspire Research Club

These sessions are open to all intellectually ambitious students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who want to have their thinking extended. We look at how to develop a personal profile of research interests, and teach research skills that will be useful for essay competitions and research components later on in school.

KS3 Science Club

Calling all young scientists. If you're ambitious about learning more science and extending your knowledge beyond the classroom, this is the society for you.

Landor Journalism Club

This student-run journalistic venture is for all students wanting to hone their writing skills. The club works towards producing a professional final product using advanced formatting software.

Landor Dining Society

Our Sixth Form student-led Dining Society invites speakers with diverse specialisms and expertise. The visiting speaker addresses girls after a three-course meal, which may take on the form of a 'remote meal' this term!

Law Society

Our student-run Law Society encourages students to think critically about the complexities of case law and the wider issues involved in forming and applying legal concepts.

Lit & Phil Society

The Lit & Phil Society is for anyone interested in exploring ideas beyond the classroom. It meets every half term, with each session run by students or teaching staff.

Lit Soc

Model United Nations

MUN is a superb way for students to learn about international perspectives on topical issues, as well as to learn how to articulate their views in front of others.

Moventis Scientiam

A newly formed society for students hoping to study science at top universities. This club will offer stretch and challenge to all ambitious students with a long-term passion for science.

Prism Creative Writing Magazine

Our new student-run and student-designed creative magazine showcases some of the wonderful literary talent on display throughout King's High.

Science Journal Club

For all students seeking to combine their writing skills, scientific knowledge, and research skills.

Senior Debating

Led by our Head of Public Speaking, Senior Debating is in an exciting phase. As well as honing the skills required for high-level debate, students will prepare for competitions such as the ESU MACE Schools Debate.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2 September

LAUNCH OF EPQ

Students in L6 will begin this term's work on their Extended Project Qualification, an independent project that requires 120 hours of work, including attending a series of talks on high-level research skills. From space science to sustainable architecture, our students will embark on an extraordinary intellectual journey.

Week starting 7 September

INSPIRE ESSAY COMPETITION RESULTS

Students in KS3 wowed us last term with their entries for the Inspire Essay Competition. Topics included animal psychology, String Theory, naval history, and the future of technology. Winning essays will be printed in our prestigious Inspire Essay Competition booklet.

Weekly throughout term

INSPIRE CHALLENGES

Each half term students in KS3 complete openended challenges during their Inspire Homework slot. Highlights last year included students designing and pitching their own businesses, designing new forms of society, and using SCAMPER design tools to produce new inventions. Watch this space for our focus for the coming term!

Weekly throughout term

INSPIRE CLUB

To support students in their completion of Inspire Challenges, students will have opportunities each week to attend a lunchtime club. Students will be able to talk on Microsoft Teams with King's High staff about their projects, receiving tailored supervision, as well as having fun shaping their own ideas.

Week Starting 7 September until the end of term

CREATE

Students in Year 10 will begin our 'Create Programme', a course designed at King's High that involves learning skills and techniques that enable innovative creative thinking. From morphological analysis to the methods of TRIZ, students will be supported as they produce their own extended creative thinking project over the course of the year.

Weekly throughout term

INSPIRE HIGHER EDUCATION SEMINARS

Students in U6 who are putting together applications to top universities such as Oxford and Cambridge can attend our weekly course on thinking skills, interview preparation, and how to shape wider reading and interests to strengthen a top-level application. These seminars will be led by King's staff, alongside our Graduate Seminar leaders from Oxford and Cambridge.

Wednesday 30 September

INSPIRE LECTURE WITH PROFESSOR ANGIE HOBBS King's High or Remote, 1615-1715

Professor Angie Hobbs, a widely known philosopher with a focus on Ancient Greek ethics, and a champion of philosophy in schools, will speak about the ethics of coronavirus. Learn more about her in preparation by listening to her appearance as the castaway on Desert Island Discs.

Wednesday 30 September

INSPIRE LECTURE WITH DR JESS WADE King's High or Remote, 1615-1715

Jess Wade is an award-winning physicist whose electrifying talks have inspired thousands of young people in their scientific explorations. Dr Wade's academic research investigates light emitting diodes; she will also speak about the scientists and ideas that first sparked her passion for science.

Wednesday 30 September

INSPIRE LECTURE WITH GILLIAN BISHOP King's High or Remote, 1615-1715

Gillian Bishop is a founding member of Family in Law in Partnership, and is regularly cited in leading legal directories as one of the top family lawyers in the UK. Ms Bishop will talk about the variety of skills required to go into Family Law, and talk about some of the interesting cases that have shaped her career.

Wednesday 7 October

OXFORD UNIVERSITY MASTERCLASS King's High or Remote, all day

In partnership with Oxford University Physics
Department, students will have the opportunity to
hear from world-leading experts about contributions
to science by underrepresented groups, as well as
a range of workshops aiming at fuelling passion for
pursuing STEM subjects at a higher level.

Saturday 10 October

INSPIRE TRIP FOR KS3

The logistics of making one of our regular Inspire Trip visits to Oxford, Cambridge, London, Stratford and beyond may be difficult this year, but never fear. Get this date in your diary, as we'll be taking you on a remote tour of some of the most fascinating online museums and intellectual hubs the world has to offer. This 'trip' will include one of our legendary Inspire Trip Competitions, so don't miss out.

Wednesday 4 November

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIP EXAM DAY

All students in Year 11 hoping to win a Sixth Form Scholarship at King's will sit one or more papers in their chosen subject, as well a thinking skills test. We wish all applicants the best of luck.

Tuesday 17 November

SECOND ROUND OF INSPIRE LECTURES King's High or Remote, 1615-1715

Following up on last term's series of over fifteen talks from university experts from around the world, free your diary for our second Inspire Lecture event of the year. Letters will go out about the speakers we will have coming into school, following up on Prof Angie Hobbs, Dr Jess Wade, and lawyer Gillian Bishop on 30 September.

Saturday 28 November

KING'S LINKS PLUS

Another date for the diary, for all students in year 10 and above wanting to develop their thinking about university life. This will be a day devoted to giving students insight into the life of a particular university, including tours (virtual or otherwise), talks from Old girls, and a chance for Q and A about what student life beyond King's might hold. Details to follow.



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