



King's High
School

INSPIRE

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

SPRING TERM 2022



Aspire. Achieve. Enjoy.



Introduction

The world is changing rapidly, and so is education. Technology is transforming the way that young people access and evaluate information, and a variety of exciting knowledge domains are developing fast, from AI and Big Data to Global Citizenship and Social Justice. It is an exciting time for schools everywhere, and despite the logistical challenges we face due to the pandemic, now should be a time when educators and young people everywhere reflect on how the classroom can keep up with the wider developments afoot in the world.

We are very proud of our Inspire Programme at King's High, which for the past five years has helped to shape our pupils as creative, independent thinkers who are curious about the world around them. I hope that this booklet gives you a taste of some of the events and activities that go on at King's High, all of which help equip our pupils to discover new ideas, engage in new ways of thinking, and enable new ideas to be formed within our school community.

We are especially excited about the Encounters Programme, which involves an incredible array of speakers during the coming term. A huge thank you to Mr Jefferies, our colleague from Warwick School, for all the work that has gone into making the Programme so impressive. Pupils across the Foundation joining together to hear from voices of national and international significance – what better example could there be of our Best of Both Worlds philosophy?

Dr P Seal

Deputy Head (Academic)

Academic Societies

Full details of our academic societies, with times and locations, are available on the co-curricular programme. All pupils who wish to form a society of their own should contact Dr Seal directly.

ACT (Aspiring Creatives in Theatre)

Don't be fooled by the name - this club is everything BUT acting! A brand-new Friday lunch time club, open to all. We will explore technical & design roles, hear from visiting speakers working in the Performing Arts Industry and watch live theatre together.

Ancestry Society

This brand new, student-founded society will enable students to reflect on the importance of ancestry in self-understanding, as well as providing tools to conduct personal research into your own family history.

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 Writing

Building on the success of our KS3 creative writers, who published a termly anthology last year, look out for new opportunities to craft your writing style, have it in print, and attend workshops with like-minded creatives.

Da Vinci Society

A new, student-founded and student-run society that is already doing outstanding things. Look out for invitations to hear artists speak about their life and work.

Dissection Club

For Lower Sixth students 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.

History Society

The student-led History Society hosts an outstanding range of speakers on a host of fascinating topics. For all students who want their historical knowledge elevated beyond the curriculum.

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 Sixth Form 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.

Junior Mathematical Challenge

Members of Years 7 and 8 are presented with problems that will stretch and challenge them in preparation for the Junior Maths challenge in the summer.

KS3 Science Club

Calling all young scientists. If you are ambitious about learning more about 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!

Language Society

Student-founded and student-led, this society promotes the spirit of the Inspire Programme by introducing cultures and languages not normally covered by the syllabus. Prepare to have your perspective widened!

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

For all Sixth Formers and keen GCSE students who want to delve deeply into the world of literature, criticism and theory. The society looks at seminal authors, with a focus on combining enjoyment of reading with developing a thoughtful response to literature.

Medic Support

Through our Medic Support programme, pupils preparing applications for Medicine and Allied Sciences receive a wealth of help preparing for the different aspects of their application.

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.

Reading Programme

Watch out for a host of events and initiatives from our Library team that encourage a simple activity that benefits you emotionally and intellectually: reading for pleasure.

Ruth Court Mathematical Society

For all keen mathematicians interested in looking at Mathematics in a new way, applying ideas and solving problems, as well as learning about fascinating new ideas.

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.

Wildlife Conservation Society

Founded and led by Sixth Form students, this society focuses on educating and inspiring on the topics of ecological sustainability, with a focus on conservation techniques.



Calendar of Events

Week commencing 4 January

LAUNCH OF INSPIRE HOMEWORK IN KS3

This Inspire Homework will ask KS3 pupils to design a community-based initiative to inspire positive change. Whether you focus on environment, inequality, education or something else, your aim will be to inspire change in a community that you belong to.

Tuesday 11 January

SIMON WESTERN OBE: AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE FALKLANDS WAR: 40 YEARS ON Bridge House Theatre, 16.00PM

Simon was a 21 year old soldier in the Welsh Guards and suffered terrible burns when HMS Sir Galahad was set on fire by Argentine missiles during the Falklands War. Simon will be talking about the war 40 years on and how he remade his life following his life-changing injuries.

Thursday 20 January

INSPIRE MUSIC SERIES: PROFESSOR GEORGE CAIRD Auditorium, 16.15-10.05PM

Prof Caird is the Principal of the London School of Speech and Drama. He will offer a masterclass focusing on how deep inspiration can enable pupils to link diverse topics, from music to architecture and beyond.

Friday 21 January

STEPHEN SIDAWAY: AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE ATLANTIC Science Lecture Theatre, 16.15PM

Stephen Sidaway is a retired Detective Inspector from Warwickshire Police, who turned to rowing later in life. With the opportunity of time afforded to him he wanted to truly test himself by rowing across the Atlantic Ocean. He will talk about the challenge and his reflections on the lessons it provided.

Thursday 27 January

COLLABORATE WORKSHOP: BUSINESS ETHICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Can you help to make a local business more environmentally friendly? The first workshop in the “Collaborate” series will focus on business ethics and the environment. It will offer the chance to problem-solve topical issues with peers from King’s High and Warwick.

Thursday 27 January

DR TIM MIDDLETON: IS CHRISTIANITY AN ECOLOGICAL DISASTER? King’s High Hall, 13.20-13.50PM

A Café Philo discussion by Dr Tim Middleton who works in the theology and religion faculty at the University of Oxford. Dr Middleton first trained as a scientist, completing a DPhil (2016) in Earth Sciences at the University of Oxford. He will be discussing Christianity and religion in relation to the modern day world and the very prominent topic of our world and ecosystems.

Friday 28 January

SIR ANTHONY SELDON: THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF PRIME MINISTERS King’s High Hall, 16.15pm

Sir Anthony Seldon is the author of numerous books on British Prime Ministers and UK government. One of the most influential Headteachers of recent years, Sir Anthony also served as Vice-Chancellor of Buckingham University. He has recently completed a 1,000KM pilgrimage along the western front.

Saturday 29 January

KING’S LINKS TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE (KS4 AND 5)

This is a chance for senior girls to explore one of the world’s most prestigious universities, and speak to the people who know it best: the current students! Recent King’s High leavers now studying at Cambridge will hold a Q&A session over a buiffet lunch, and there will be walking tours of the university environs.

Week commencing 31 January

CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

This world-wide competition of questions set by the Royal Society of Chemistry is designed to challenge our keenest scientists and to introduce them to challenging new ways of thinking.

January (date TBC)

ESU MACE DEBATING COMPETITION ROUND 2

Our Senior Debating Team will take part in Round 2 of the ESU Mace Debating competition. Wish them well!

Wednesday 2 February

LIT AND PHIL SOCIETY TALK: UNDERREPRESENTED VOICES (venue TBC) 13.15-13.45PM

Rose Agnew (Year 11) will speak about underrepresented voices, including those from Africa and Asia, leading pupils in a reflection on equality and social justice.

Wednesday 2 February

ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS COMPETITION

Pupils from King’s will take part in the Rotary Youth Speaks competition, hoping to build on the success of our entries in previous years. Wish them luck!

Friday 4 February

INSPIRE DINNER WITH DAVE EAGLE FRAS

Our second Inspire Dinner of the year will be led by Dave Eagle, an astronomer, planetarium operator, presenter and author.

Friday 4 February

OWEN JAMES: THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN Live Link to the Science Lecture Theatre, 16.15PM

Owen commissioned from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst into the Welsh Guards and served in Afghanistan in 2009 where he led an infantry platoon in combat at the height of the conflict.

Week commencing 7 February

UNITED KINGDOM LINGUISTICS OLYMPIAD (UKLO)

Linguistics is the scientific study of language which involves analysing language form, language meaning, and language in context. This well-regarded international competition is intellectually rigorous and is suitable for talented Linguists as well as those interested in Maths, Science and Coding.

Thursday 10 February

LAETITIA STOTT: INSPIRE MUSIC SERIES Auditorium, 16.15-10.05PM

Laetitia Stott is a French Horn Specialist and founder of Big and Shing, a company focusing on women who play brass. She will focus on the role of women in music through history, aiming to challenge gender stereotypes and reframe misconceptions.

Friday 11 February

JANINE WEBER: AN ENCOUNTER WITH SUFFERING, ENDURANCE AND EVIL Live Teams Link to the Science Lecture Theatre, 16.15PM

Janine was born to a Jewish family in Lwów in Poland (now L'viv, Ukraine) in 1932. When the Nazis invaded her father was shot and the family were sent to the ghetto where her mother died of typhus. Janine now regularly shares her testimony with schools.

February (date TBC)

ESU PERFORMING SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION

Calling all Shakespearean actors and performers. This competition will give you the chance to brush up on your soliloquies and monologues and to have a chance of entering a national competition.

Wednesday 2 March

GERMAN CULTURAL DAY

A day spent in London sampling various aspects of German culture, including a German Escape Room, a meal in a German restaurant and a German language film.

Friday 4 March

LUKE HANRAHAN: AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE MEDIA AND JOURNALISM

Following university, Luke worked as an investigative reporter for the BBC. A Royal Television Society Award winning reporter, for past three years Luke has been working freelance. His most recent interviews have been with Nancy Pelosi and John Kerry at COP26 in Glasgow.

Monday 7 – Friday 11 March

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

We will be running a host of events to celebrate national Careers Week. A chance to hear from industry experts, get advice from professionals on how to break into their chosen career, and so much more.

Friday 18 March

PROFESSOR PETER VARNISH: AN ENCOUNTER WITH SCIENTIFIC BRILLIANCE Science Lecture Theatre, 16.15PM

Professor Peter Varnish OBE FREng has spent time as a diplomat, in the MoD, Foreign Office and Defence Research Agency. His present work includes responding to cyber warfare, identifying the threat from China; data mining and the benefits from genome sequencing.

Thursday 24 March

DAVID BLUNKETT: AN ENCOUNTER WITH AN INCREDIBLE LIFE STORY Bridge House Theatre, 16.15PM

David Blunkett’s political career began on Sheffield City Council. First elected an MP in 1987 he was Education and Home Secretary under Tony Blair and now sits in the House of Lords. Blind from birth and brought up in one of the poorest parts of Sheffield, David will reflect on his remarkable political career.

Saturday 26 March

KS3 TRIP TO COMPTON VERNEY

Calling all keen artists, art critics, designers and creative thinkers. After more than 100 pupils attended our last KS3 trip to Oxford, this trip is an opportunity to see exhibits from the Portrait Artist of the Year competition at beautiful Compton Verney.

End of March

A RIGHT TO FOOD: FOOD POVERTY AWARENESS

A talk from students at University of Warwick focused on the research they are undertaking as part of their initiative to put human rights into action. A fantastic opportunity to hear from students engaging in real world issues and to ask them questions.

Friday 1 April

INAUGURAL KHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE: CHANGE, CHALLENGE, AND CHOICES

The inaugural King’s High School Annual Conference is delighted to invite abstracts for papers on the theme of Change, Challenge, and Choices. The theme has been deliberately chosen to encapsulate all subject areas, and so abstract proposals from a wide range of disciplines are welcome.

Friday 1 April

PROFESSOR SARAH RICHARDSON ON WOMEN AND POLITICS

As keynote speaker for the King’s High Annual Conference, Prof Richardson will speak about her research on Women and Politics, outlining the role that feminism has played in a variety of major historical events.



King's High School

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