

FEBRUARY 2025

New Year Edition

Exclusive info!



King's High Student Press



School News

Re-live exciting news from the Myton Road Campus this month

Politics and Current Affairs

Learn about recent events in the news and how it affects us



Student Voice

Read articles and columns from students across the school

KEEPING UP WITH KING'S

Awards

This term has been a greatly successful one for King's High and I'm certain Dr Burley is patting himself on the back in his office, whispering "Well done team!"

Firstly, King's High was ranked the 8th best Girl's school for sport in the School Sport Magazine top 200 Sports Schools of 2024. Just know that any of you who have played in any matches for the school have helped to secure this amazing accolade and should be really proud of your contribution.

However, the awards didn't stop there. After sitting for several days in fear that an inspector could come and place themselves beside you, it was all worth it for the result. The school achieved a coveted 'significant strength' within the inspector's report, something which less than 10 percent of schools are awarded. This is truly an impressive accomplishment and if anyone is nosy like me then they can read the full report on the school's website.

ALL THINGS SCHOOL

The English department want to say a big thank you to everyone who came to celebrate Walter Savage Landor's Birthday! It was lots of fun to sing him "happy birthday" and listen to some of his poems read aloud.

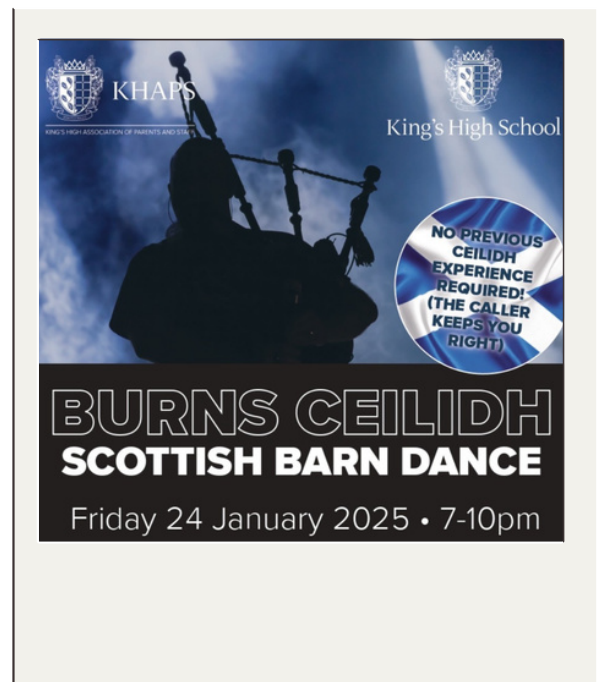
If you would like to get involved with writing columns or articles for our newspaper, please get in touch with Emily or Eleanor at:
25EmilClar@warwickschools.co.uk
23EleaORei@warwickschools.co.uk

Writing in a school publication can be really useful for university applications and for the King's High Baccalaureate

The Scottish Dance

As mentioned in assembly, on Friday 24th January, the KHAPS committee hosted a Burns Ceilidh for our school and it was a wonderful occasion. If you are unfamiliar with the history of this event or didn't attend: it is a celebratory Scottish Dance to commemorate and remember the life of Scotland's National Poet: Robert Burns.

It looked like an incredibly fun night, with amazing food from our catering team, teachers dancing and an authentic Scottish band! I'm sure it will be hosted again next year for anyone who missed out. A big thank you to our KHAPS committee for all the work they do for the school!





Navigating Friendships



Friendships both in and outside of school are amazing. Friends make life fun and engaging, whether that's providing an outlet for your weirdest thoughts, sharing laughter at terrible jokes, or providing reliable backup when you inevitably forget your pencil case or laptop charger. But friendships can also be confusing, difficult, and strange. So how can we navigate the ups and downs?

Finding and making good friends often starts with a commonality; whether it be that you both love or loathe Taylor Swift, you both hate maths with a passion, or simply that you are next to each other in a class or the register and you meet that way (my first sentence to one of my best friends was 'I like your name,' standing next to her in the register line on the way to our very first assembly as Year 7s. Admittedly, this was a weird way to start a conversation, but somehow it worked. We are still best friends today, in the last few months of year thirteen. But friendships aren't only built on these common interests; they also rely on shared values, mutual respect and good communication. Friends should always be people that make you feel good about yourself, so never be afraid to make the first move, even if it feels awkward.

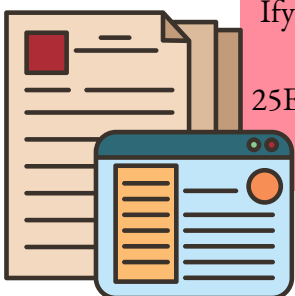
Friendships don't always have to start and develop over a long period of time. One of my best friends now, I had never even spoken to before year 12! Even for older year groups, where it feels like cliques have settled and moving between groups is frankly wrong - friendships do change! There is absolutely no reason why you can't still be making new friends, even in Sixth Form.

No one is perfect, but to be a good friend, you have to learn to communicate. Listen, support, respect boundaries- this means replying to messages (eventually...), apologising when you mess up, and celebrating your friend's successes. Arguments will happen, they always do, but the most important thing is to handle them maturely. Talk things out, listen, and don't judge.

However, inevitably, not all friendships will work out. Whether it simply be that you grow up and away from each other, or you slowly drift into separate friendship circles, this is normal. What is not normal, is when you constantly feel like you are walking on eggshells around the other person, or you feel neglected and put down, when they always make you feel like your problems are insignificant and small compared to theirs- it is likely time to rethink the friendship. Your priority when it comes to friendships should be yourself, but never to someone else's detriment. And if you spot these signs in yourself, it is maybe time to do some self reflecting.

At the end of the day, it is better to have a few, amazing friends, than loads whom you cannot depend on or be yourself around. Surround yourself with people who make you happy, make you laugh, and lift you up, and separate yourself from people who do the opposite.

Marlie Morison



If you would like to have an article published in the school newspaper, please email Eleanor or Emily at 25EleaORei@warwickschools.co.uk or 25EmilClar@warwickschools.co.uk! It can be on any topic of your choice, we love to include new things :)

SPORTS REPORT

Spring Term sport begun with great success with all U12 netball teams superbly defeating Bromsgrove. The highlight being a 21-0 thrashing for the F team, demonstrating the high quality and strength in depth that all teams' possess. The U13s had a difficult start to term, with unfortunate cancellations against Solihull school. None the less, the A Team were victorious, 33-25, against Berkhamsted. The quality of the U14s is clear with a season highlight, a 48-2 victory versus Ratcliffe College. The strong displays against Ratcliffe continued with an exceptional performance in the U15s resulting in victories for both the A and B team. With the looming presence of GCSE and A-Level mock examinations, the senior teams have struggled for fixtures, however we would like to wish them good luck for the rest of the season.

King's Hockey has also continued this term, following a series of positive results in the Autumn Term. The 1st Team have had fixtures against Solihull school and Clifton College and, despite not getting the desired results, the performances are showing signs of improvement. Lower down in the school, block fixtures occurred against Bromsgrove, with 75% percent of fixtures ending in victories for the school. Congratulations to every team involved in these matches.

The U13A football team had a great start to the season with a 3-2 win against Princethorpe. In a compelling match, both teams played with an attacking style with lots of goals and exciting moments throughout. Unfortunately, the U15 team were not as successful, suffering a 1-5 defeat to Repton however the team showed vast amounts of resilience all the way until the final whistle.

We are immensely proud that King's High School has been named as the Warwickshire Lawn Tennis Association's "School of the Year." This is an amazing achievement and reflects the hard, outstanding work of King's tennis players.

The Sports Department are immensely proud of all the players for their contribution to King's High Sport and are excited for all fixtures which are to be played in the coming weeks. We hope that the students are enjoying their sport and encourage all members of the school to get involved.

Issy Bradley-Pandya and Grace Mooney

★ KEY STAGE CATCH-UP ★

Year 7 - The Year 7s had their first taste at King's drama with their play in a day - it really was a spectacle!

Year 8 - Mrs Didlick was blown away with how many of you offered to help on Open Evening, usually the Year 8s prefer the comfort of their beds.

Year 9 - It comes to that time of year again when you have to start considering your GCSE options, make sure you choose wisely.

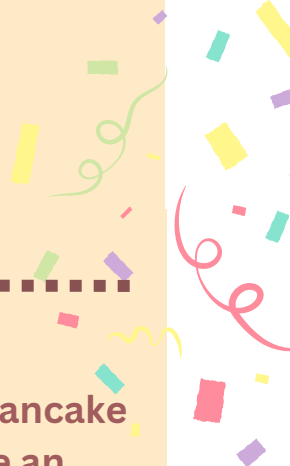
Year 10 - Be grateful that you were able to enjoy your Christmas and didn't have mocks to worry about, unfortunately next year your Christmas presents will be some extra flashcards - and you'll need them!

Year 11 - A big well done for completing your mocks. They can be really nerve-wracking, but now you have had your first taste of exam experience, the real GCSEs won't be so scary.

HOUSES

THIS TERM

It's been a slow start to the term for Houses as many of us are still reeling from the results of the Christmas House Singing competition. After being sprayed with water guns, dealing with sound issues and watching way too many inflatable animals, it is safe to say that it was a very chaotic but fun event. I know many people weren't satisfied with the ranking of their house, but there is always next year to up the game and blow everyone away with your Christmas cheer!



COMING UP

There is so much coming up next half term, with the beloved pancake race, joint quizzes and a new business programme. We have an opportunity for collaboration and innovation with the new 'Dragon's Den' house project where we will work with our house families to come up with an original idea to implement into houses. This is your chance to be creative and have your voice heard. But if it isn't your thing, than get stuck into House Drama rehearsals which are starting in the upcoming weeks.

HALF TERM HIGHLIGHTS

This half term's key events



The Year 7 'Play in a Day':

I'm sure many King's students look back fondly (or with horror) at the memory of our Year 7 'Play in a Day' where we had the opportunity to wear unnecessarily bright t-shirts and frolic around on stage. However despite the chaos of the day, the plays always turn into a spectacle!

This year, the renowned Highly Sprung physical theatre company returned to collaborate with Year 7 in their dramatic endeavours. Apparently not tired of the overzealous enthusiasm, they attempted the ambitious 'Tempest' and it turned out wonderfully. The intense storms were perfectly represented by the keenness of the Year 7's movements, using their bodies to depict the famous scenes from the play.

It looked like a joyous event and I'm sure it will be one which they remember in their older years. It truly is wistful to reminisce about being lifted up and thrown around in the name of theatre - a thrill which I don't think is comparable to any other.

The fact that they were able to give testament to such a well-known play shows the talent and hard work on display, so well done Year 7!

Chinese New Year

A big thank you needs to go to our catering team after a special Chinese New Year lunch! The sticky rice was a firm favourite and I'm sure many of us will be wishing for it every week from now on. What a wonderful way to welcome the year of the snake by eating traditional Chinese foods to celebrate.

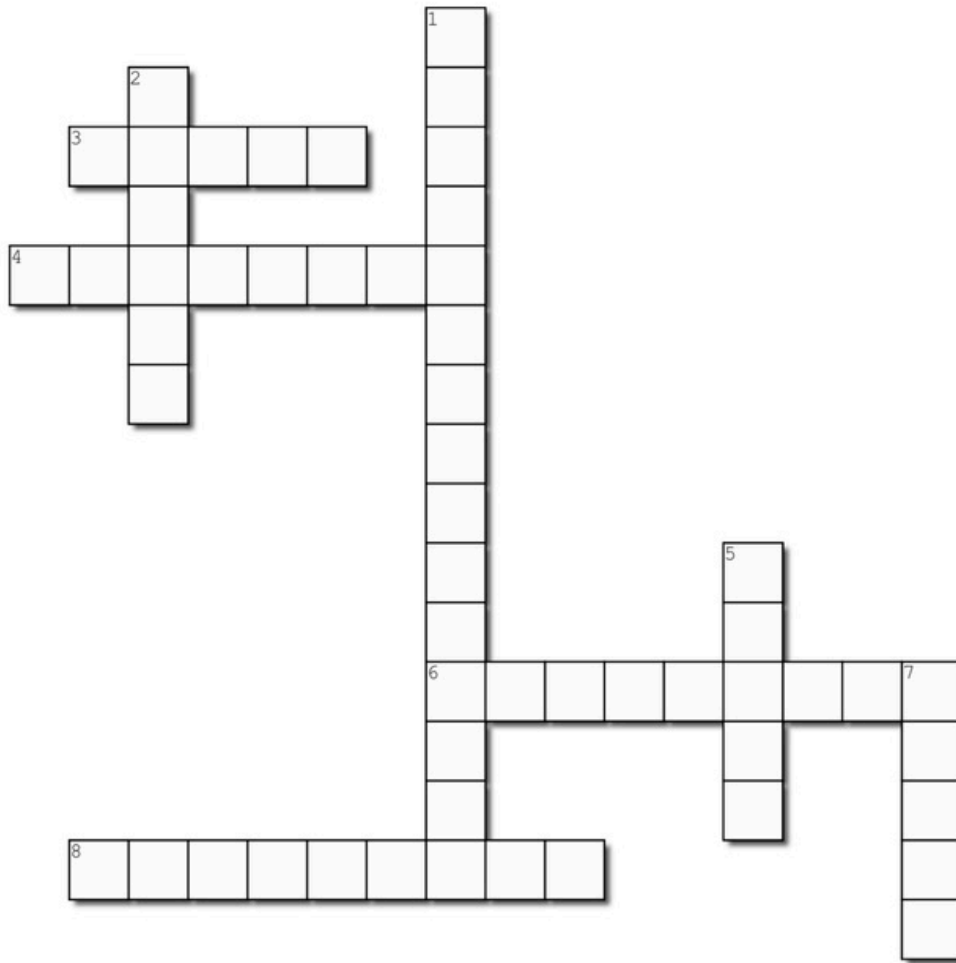
Mrs Didlick and Mrs Watson

Gasps echoed through Warwick Hall when it was announced that Mrs Watson and Mrs Didlick would be retiring, with images of the school falling into disarray and destruction flashing through our minds. Without our chief shusher and long skirt swisher, surely there is no way for the school continue! We worry that without the watchful eye of Mrs Didlick, Dr Seal might start plastering the King's High wheel on every empty wall.

In all seriousness, these two teachers have been the backbone of King's High for so long, and will be greatly missed by all of the students

KING'S CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Across

3. What are all the year 11 and 13s still recovering from?
4. Did the faithful or traitors win this years game show?
6. The name of the event we remember on the 27th January every year...
8. The best Easter treat which we are all looking forwards to...

Down

1. What is the name of San Fender's new song?
2. What is the name of the leading male character in the new movie 'We live in time'?
5. What year is it according to the Chinese calendar?
7. Who was the 2024 person of the year?



Email 25emildar@warwickschools.co.uk
or
25leaorci@warwickschools.co.uk with
your answers to win a prize!!

CURRENT AFFAIRS

A rundown of recent national news



BOOKS

Now that Christmas is over, I bet you are all ready to settle down with a nice book, maybe one which you were gifted over the holidays?

For Year 13s and 11s maybe sticking to the trusty CGP books is your best bet, but for anyone wishing to dive into different worlds these are for you!

Maybe some classics, (don't worry not Wuthering Heights). I was thinking more Heartstopper, The Hunger Games, Twilight or Divergent (trust me the book is much better than the movies - but no Theo James!)

POLITICS

There has been exceptional progress regarding the war residing in the Middle East. It has been announced, as of January 15th that there will be a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas after nearly 15 months of war. This will last 42 days in which Hamas will release their 33 hostages, Israel will release about 1,900 Palestinian prisoners. Additionally they have promised that they will leave populated areas alone and allow hundreds of aid lorries into Gaza each day so that help can be provided for those struggling.

★ SPORT ★

It is time for the 6 Six Nations once again! England, France, Ireland, Italy, Scotland and Wales are up against each other in a 5 week tournament that has been running since 1883. In the first week, France and Wales were up against each other with France coming out victorious (a score of 43:0) whilst in their home stadium. Scotland vs Italy and Ireland vs England also happened on the 1st February, with Scotland and Ireland leaving very happy. Stay tuned for the next month of rugby, where there are lots of important upcoming matches!



GRAMMYS

The 2025 Grammy Awards took place on the 2nd of February. With such a variety of nominations across the board everyone was at the edges of their seats waiting to see who would win. Well, the results are in, Chappell Roan won Best New Artist while Beyoncé stole the show with Album of the Year for Cowboy Carter. With over 90 prizes handed out over the course of the night and many big names, the 67th Grammy awards was a sure success!



GADGETS

With Apple introducing new AI features to their iPhones at the end of 2024, and their new wave of adverts left a sour taste on their audiences' tongues. This is because they praised AI over real work and effort and so sales have begun to slip in the New Year. Some AI features such as news summaries that had already been released to the public have been scrapped due to failures. It really does make you stop and think if you always need the next best version, if your current phone seems to work even better?



GLOBAL

While in England we welcomed the new year with the usual dreary cold and rainy weather, the people of Los Angeles have been met with raging wildfires. These fires began on January 7th and burned until the 31st of the same month. They reached from LA's metropolitan area to San Diego County in California. Burning for a total of 24 days due to unpredictable weather patterns it was confirmed the effects of the fire were increased by climate change. Our thoughts are with the citizens of Los Angeles.



ASK US...

This is a new concept we have introduced to our newspaper. We ask you all to ask us some questions over email about the school and our newspaper - and we do our best to answer them.

Here are a few questions we have been asked so far...

QUESTION... ?

I'm In Year 8, I don't understand all the societies - are younger years allowed?

answer:

Societies (unless specified otherwise) are for all year groups to get involved with! There are so many different types that there is something for everyone, ranging from Hobbs Society which runs talks and debates on current affairs, Café Scientifique which focuses on science matters and the Ruth Court Maths Society. You can email Dr Seal if you would like a full list of all of the societies and look out for posters and emails about them. Many society heads are explicitly trying to get more younger students to join, I know it can be intimidating to go to an event with lots of Sixth Formers, but the society events are so enjoyable and you will learn so much.

QUESTION... ?

How can I join the School Newspaper?

answer:

The newspaper is always looking for more creative people to contribute to the press. All you have to do is email our new heads: Lucy Clark and Rosie Heath if you want to be a part of the team. Just explain a little bit about yourself and why you want to get involved and they will review your application.

If you are not a fan of writing than do not worry, we also have roles for people who want to be a part of the creative and design side of the Newspaper if that is more your thing!

QUESTION... ?

I'm really struggling with Maths and I don't think I will get my target grade - could you help please?

answer:

Maths is a subject which so many people struggle with and sometimes it just does not click. But there is so much help available at school if you are struggling. There are always lunch time clinics happening, so check with your Maths teachers when they may be. If you want a quicker solution, then I found YouTube really helpful, there are so many Maths experts offering advice, often for the specific question or topic you are looking for.



ASK US...

QUESTION... ?

What is going on with the Plaza?

answer:

This is a question which is asked more frequently as you move up the school years. Instead of excited anticipation at entering the plaza, you will begin to feel distress and confusion as you attempt to walk through completely divided groups of boys and girls who appear to be communicating solely through squeals and pushes. Honestly I don't think there is an answer to this question, no one seems to know what is happening. I guess what happens on the Plaza, stays on the Plaza?

QUESTION... ?

Is gradual improvement and being acknowledged or rewarded for it, better than success straight away??

answer:

This is an incredibly interesting question and the newspaper team would be thrilled to receive some more questions of this kind! I think there is a division between the long and short term of this. Initially when you experience success, you feel satisfied and happy, however in the long term if you begin to become less successful or stay at the same level, you may begin to feel dissatisfied due to your stagnancy.

However, working hard at something and gradually improving is difficult in the short term, but eventually the rewards will be so much greater. So I suppose the answer depends on the time scale which you are considering.

QUESTION... ?

Is the Sixth Form Café really all that great?

answer:

I don't know a single Sixth Former who would answer "no" to this question. There is nothing better than grabbing a panini or Diet Coke after a hard A-level lesson! The food is really incomparable to any other café - there is nothing quite like Mel's snacks. It is certainly a treat to look forward to when you are in Sixth Form , and I hope you will enjoy it as much as the current Sixth Formers do.

THE STUDENT PRESS TEAM

Eleanor O'Reilly Yr13

Emily Clarke Yr13

Taya Ashley-Timms Yr13

Charlee Ash Yr13

Yaz Bradley-Farrar Yr13

Marlie Morison Yr13

Olivia Phillis Yr12

Evie Clegg Yr12

Rosie Heath Yr12

Lucy Clark Yr12

Issy Bradley-Panja Yr12

Grace Mooney Yr12

Erica Corigall Yr12

Melanie Ward Yr12

Subrita Khanal Yr11

Carys Howes Yr11

Arabella Henderson Yr11