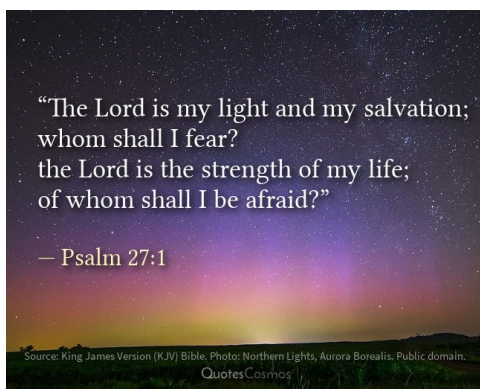




Headteacher's Update

No 274 6th December 2024



Theme of the week:
Why do we need?....
English

Dates for your Diary

Week Commencing Monday 9th	Timetable week Two
Saturday 7th December 10-	King's Community Carols Rehearsal
Thursday 19th De- cember	Final Day of Term

**Please read on for details of our
Christmas events!**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that your children enjoyed their extended weekend last weekend due to the INSET day and that it was well placed to provide some rest and respite in the middle of a long half term.

We are now moving into the final fortnight of term and there are lots of Christmas events planned to keep morale high and the community pulling together! You are warmly invited to attend our Community Carols Service at St Leonard's Church next Wednesday 11th December, starting at 6pm and please feel free to bring family members and friends. We are very grateful to local Christian charity Off the Fence who are running our annual Advent Prayer Space in school next week. This provides students with an opportunity to engage in a range of activities that lead to prayer and/or reflection at a very busy time of year. The Advent Prayer Space is always very well received and we are grateful to those who make it possible for our students.

A reminder that Wednesday 18th December is a non-uniform day. Students may wear their own clothes in return for a donation to charity to be made through Parent Pay please. Christmas jumpers are encouraged! Students should be in normal full school uniform for our final day of term which is Thursday 19th December. Please note that students will be dismissed at 12:25pm (Key Stage 3) and 12:30pm (Key Stage 4) on this date.

I wish you all a pleasant weekend. Good luck with the Christmas shopping if you're braving the shops!

Mrs Price

Student of the Week

- Year 7** Maryna L for her positivity.
- Year 9** Philip M for the kindness he has shown to younger pupils in extracurricular activities
- Year 10** Madison S for great effort and work in Spanish
- Year 11** Santiago M-L-For excellent work in English this week



Mathematics Stars of the Term

- Year 7** - Maryna L
- Year 8** - Lola C
- Year 9** - Sherlock R
- Year 10** - Veronia M
- Year 11** - Mia K



Theme of the Week:

Why do we need?..... English

I am passionate about my subject and one of the reasons why is that words, both spoken and written are how we communicate with each other and therefore are the root of human connection. The ability to both express yourself fluently and persuasively, as well as engage with the ways in which others express themselves, is a vital tool in both work and in life.



You can have the most amazing ideas in the world, but if you don't know how to communicate them effectively, you may never have a chance to place them out there in the world. The ability to read any content with a deeper appreciation and investigation is an essential skill that will only increase in importance as the platform for sharing news and views — that will be published — grows.

A love for and appreciation of language will open up new worlds to you and provide you with a wealth of enriching experiences you may never have had, through both reading and through engaging with real-world texts. Finding and developing your own confident critical voice will serve you well as you progress through your education and into life beyond school or university. The world is made of stories, and we need to experience as many of them as possible, as well as telling our own.

Mrs Butcher

King's School Christmas 2024 Events

We have several school events planned to celebrate the Christmas season. We would especially like to invite parents, carers and wider members of the King's community our **King's Community Carols**, held at St Leonard's Church, Hove on Wednesday 11th December at 6pm. More information about these events will be communicated home nearer to the time, but for now our key dates are below.



Date	Event
Monday 9 th December - Wednesday 11 th December	Advent Prayer Space <i>Off the Fence will be running our annual Advent Prayer Space. This provides students with an opportunity to engage in a range of activities that lead to prayer and/or reflection at a very busy time of year.</i>
Wednesday 11 th December 6.00pm-7.00pm	King's Community Carols at St Leonard's Church, Hove <i>We would love to welcome all parents, carers and wider members of the King's community to this event. This will also include a community choir piece. If you would like to join us in singing we will have two rehearsals this year on Monday 25th November 5.00-6.30pm and Saturday 7th December 10.00-11.30am, both on the school site.</i>
Monday 16 th December	Whole school Carol Services at Bishop Hannington Church <i>These services, during the school day, are for our students only. Students will be walked down to Bishop Hannington Church from school for a carol service and dismissed from there.</i>
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day <i>We will be serving Christmas lunch on the penultimate day of term. We will also be taking the opportunity to fundraise for local charities through our Christmas Jumper Day. Please use the link in your child's ParentPay account.</i>

Reverse Advent Calendar

As part of our outreach to our local community during Advent we have historically run a reverse Advent calendar, collecting items local charities. Once again this year, we are asking for donations for our local foodbank, run out of Oasis church. In addition, we would also like to support the work of **Fresh Start Community Association** whose Christmas Cheer Project, provides hampers of food and presents to families and individuals facing challenging circumstances in the city. You can find out more about these projects on the Brighton and Hove Food Partnership website

[Oasis Foodbank – Brighton and Hove Food Partnership \(bhfood.org.uk\)](http://bhfood.org.uk)

and the Freshstart webpage

<https://www.freshstartbrighton.org.uk/christmas-cheer.html>



For our reverse advent calendar this year we would like students to bring in donations of toiletries, non-perishable food items (particularly those that could go in a Christmas Hamper) or a new gift for an individual of any age. We will be collecting items between 4th December and 17th December. Items will be collected in form rooms and gathered together at the end of term to be given to the charities.

We know that some families may be unable to make a contribution. If any student would like to participate but cannot provide an item, they would be welcome to collect an item to donate from Mrs Vincent's office. If you would like to make a financial donation, please do so through the ParentPay link in your child's account. Financial contributions will be split evenly between these two charities.

Attendance

Congratulations to Year 7 who have again achieved above the school target of 96% for attendance this week. Well done Year 7 - keep it up!!

Studybugs

Studybugs is designed to support you in notifying the school quickly and simply if your child is not able to attend because of illness or an appointment.

Studybugs seamlessly interacts with our attendance system in school and ensures your child's absence is recorded instantly and accurately.

You can register for online via the Studybugs website:

<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Or download the free Studybugs App.

Then all you have to do is send us a free text when your child is absent.



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs 

Sixth Form

Please [visit our website](#) for more information about our Sixth Form.

[Video for Parents 1: Choosing your sixth form courses | Resources | Net Sixth Form](#)

For any Year 11 student that is struggling with what subjects to study post 16, please see this helpful video to help you make your decisions. If you need further help in school, please do contact Mrs Coles at sixthform@kingsschoolhove.org.uk who will be more than happy to have a conversation about options across the city and at our sixth form.

There is also a useful resource to help you decide your options across the city if you are struggling to decide where to go [Best Next Steps - Colleges and FE application portals \(padlet.com\)](#)

Apply Here

[King's School Hove](#)

We have reminded Year 11 students that it is really important that they apply for at least two sixth form providers, to keep their options open.



**YEAR 11, APPLICATIONS
ARE OPEN TO KING'S SIXTH
FORM!**

*Apply as soon as possible to
secure your place.
Any questions please email
sixthform@kingsschoolhove.org.uk*

**HTTPS://KINGS.RET.SYSTEMS/APPLICATION
/LOGIN**

Year 11 Workshop at Brighton Museum



Last Tuesday 15-year 11 Art students went to a fabulous workshop at Brighton Museum .
After looking at the LGBTQ+ exhibition and some of the protest art that went along side it, they went on to making their own protest zines .
The trip was broken up with a takeaway pizza and badge making. A great way to end the day!
They all went away with new ideas, a protest zine to add to their coursework and doggy bags of pizza!

We kindly remind you to check and top up your child's school meals account to ensure they have sufficient funds for their meals.

Please log in to the payment portal to check the balance and make any necessary payments at your earliest convenience.



Big Questions

If there is a God who is in control, why is the world in such a mess?

Can rational people really believe in God?

Is God really listening; it doesn't feel like my prayers are ever answered.

Next half term our themes of the week will be around big questions that our students might have about life or faith. We'd love to be addressing the Big Questions that they have, so if your child has something that comes to mind then please encourage them to complete the Big Questions form here

<https://forms.office.com/e/xGnrs4H415>.

Music

On Tuesday 3rd December our wonderful Chamber Choir performed a beautiful little concert of Christmas carols and songs for the residents of the Poet's Nursing home in Worthing . As ever, they did us proud with their lovely singing, hearty enthusiasm, and general professionalism.

They received big cheers from the residents and a round of applause after each song, plus a delicious selection box of chocolates each at the end.



A massive well done to all our amazing performers who took part in the Winter Showcase on Thursday 28th December. We had a sell out concert and a non-stop evening of music, with acts from students of all year groups showcasing music from a range of genres.

As ever, students supported each other beautifully, cheering each other on and singing from the back of the hall. It was wonderful to welcome newcomers to the stage but also enjoy performances from our more established ensembles and soloists.

Well done everyone and thank you for all your hard work.



Sport Fixtures—Year 7 and year 9

Year 9 Girls Rugby

Year 9 took part in the first round of the Sussex Rugby Cup. In their first game they beat Uckfield College 55-20, with Iris, Maisie, Erin, Thea and Amelie scoring the tries. King's then played Downlands who had several strong runners. King's stood up to challenge and put in a solid defensive effort, with the standard set by Maisie who was relentless in bringing down a Downlands player who came anywhere near her! King's then put some attacking moves together and dominated the game 40-5. Lots of the team were playing their first every game of rugby so it was great to see their improvement during the two games and grow in their understanding of the game. A special mention to club players Amelie, Maisie, Thea and Iris who were outstanding in both games and helped coach their teammates and give them a positive rugby experience.

Year 9 Boys Rugby

On Monday, the year 9 boys lost 28-21 to Cardinal Newman who scored a try to win the game with the last play of the game. King's started well and some good defensive play set up a counterattack with Arthur running from his own half to score. Newman then got some momentum in the game and scored 3 first half tries to lead 21-7 at half time. King's changed the momentum in the second half and put some phases of play together, with Arthur scoring a second try, and Huw scoring the try of the game with a lovely show and go leaving the Newman defence tackling shadows. However, despite a much-improved defensive set towards the end of the game, the pressure told and Newman took the victory with the last play of the game.

On Wednesday, King's played a triangular match against Patcham and Varndean. King's dominated an inexperienced Varndean side and scored 10 tries in 20 minutes of rugby, with Matanios and Jude getting some of the tries. Patcham provided a stronger challenge but the quality of the King's attacking play, with good offloads and finding 2v1 on the outside, meant King's scored 5 tries to 0.

Year 7 Boys Rugby

The year 7 boys team played in a development tournament last week against other local schools. For most of the boys it was their first rugby tournament so the focus was on their skill and tactical development. In their first game King's lost to Blatch by a couple of tries, with good direct running from Guy and Isaac, as well as some good team tackling on some bigger Blatch runners. King's then drew with Newman in their next game, with more support runners allowing for more offloads, leading to some nice team tries. King's played Lewes Priory in their last game and dominated, scoring 5 tries without conceding. Overall, a great first tournament for the team showing how much they have progressed this term.

Year 8 Netball

Our fantastic Year 8 netball squad had a huge win against Varndean on Wednesday afternoon. The girls won 24-2, with some outstanding play from every student. After taking a very early lead, we were able to mix up some positions and try some new combinations. Ella G was given 'player of the match' by Varndean, and was also voted as 'players player' by her King's team mates. Well done to Emma, Erin, Libby, Amy, Millie, Amber, Nathania, Ella (captain) and Eleanor.



Year 10 Explore Hampton Court Palace

Year 10 Explore Hampton Court Palace with a Focus on Elizabethan England

On a crisp autumn day, Year 10 students ventured to the historic Hampton Court Palace, where they immersed themselves in the world of Elizabethan England. The trip offered a perfect blend of discovery, debate, and insight into one of the most fascinating periods of British history.

The day began with a teacher-led tour of the palace's gardens and grounds. Students were captivated by the breathtaking landscapes, from the geometric formal gardens to the lush greenery of the Privy Garden. The tour highlighted how these gardens served not only as places of beauty but also as symbols of power and prestige during the Tudor period.

The group then moved indoors for a bespoke teaching session on Elizabeth I's reign, led by the brilliant and ever-enthusiastic Toby, whose energy and expertise made history truly come alive. Students examined the symbolism in Elizabeth's famous portraits, delving into how she carefully crafted her image as the "Virgin Queen" and a powerful monarch. They also explored the dramatic tale of Elizabeth's near-fatal bout with smallpox, which left the royal succession hanging precariously in the balance.

The session culminated in the Privy Council Chamber, where students took on the roles of Elizabeth's advisors in a lively debate about the future of the crown. Split into two camps, they argued passionately over whether Mary, Queen of Scots, or Catherine Grey should be named as Elizabeth's heir. The intensity of the debate was palpable, with students showcasing both their historical knowledge and their flair for persuasion.

Reflecting on the day, one student commented: *"The debate was my favourite part. It felt like we were really part of history, trying to solve the same problems Elizabeth's council faced."*

Toby's engaging teaching style proved to be a highlight, with many students praising his ability to make complex historical events accessible and exciting. *"Mr. Toby was amazing—he made us laugh and think at the same time,"* said another student.

The trip not only deepened students' understanding of Elizabethan politics and culture but also gave them a fresh perspective on the challenges of monarchy and governance. A huge thank you to Toby, the History Department, and the staff at Hampton Court Palace for a truly memorable day.

This experience will undoubtedly inspire Year 10 as they continue their studies of the Tudor period!





The Wellbeing Hub



King's School

We are proud to support the whole school community with

The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teen Tips —

Creating an environment that nurtures mental health and wellbeing is a top priority at our school.

We are delighted to provide you with free access to this interactive online portal, designed by experts.

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[CLICK HERE](#)



The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teen Tips —

This week's content
Week commencing 9th December

VIDEO: Gang culture and why all parents need to understand it with Jordan Ignatius, founder of Reaching Higher and Gavin English, Deputy Head (Pastoral), Alleyn's School

Watch now: club.teentips.co.uk

[CLICK HERE](#)

Thank you to Jamie at

[Local Christmas Trees | Brighton and Hove Christmas Trees](#)

for our lovely tree that is bringing Christmas to our hall. You can use the code **KINGS5** for £5 off your own tree!



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WWW.LOCALCHRISTMASTREES.CO.UK



Corridor Projects are delighted to let you know about our upcoming free creative programme.

The Wonder Club

Free, for ages 13 – 18

Join the next Wonder Club starting this November for young people interested in experimental filmmaking and visual arts.

Explore early filmmaking with Chahine Fellahi and other guest artists. Fuse analogue and digital and rekindle the spirit of discovery, enchantment and innovation that marked the early days of filmmaking.

Saturdays (11am - 3pm) at Hove Museum of Creativity:

Saturday 14 December

Saturday 11 January

Saturday 22 February

Saturday 15 March

Register at: <https://forms.gle/VvjweniSwUXzCbb6>

Find out more at <https://www.corridorprojects.org.uk/days-of-wonder>

Raising money to enrich and expand our students' experiences.

Visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/kings-school-fund> or click on this image to be taken to the page.

Every donation has an impact on a student's education experience.

Thank you for your support



King's School Fund



FOOD SOS CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES FOOD DONATIONS AND SUPPORT IN THE LEAD UP TO CHRISTMAS

The Brighton & Hove Food Partnership has revealed that more than 6,300 people rely on food banks, social supermarkets, and community meal providers each week. This includes working adults, 1,400 children, and nearly 660 pensioners.

This snapshot from the recent Emergency Food Network (EFN) report only reflects figures from school holidays, meaning even more children could be in need during term time.

The FOOD SOS campaign was launched in response to the cost of living crisis in 2022. Its purpose is to encourage those who can afford it to donate to their local food bank while also offering useful links to local support for those experiencing food insecurity. Unfortunately, the situation has not improved, and the recent EFN report cites a drop in donations from supermarket bins and larger surplus food donations coordinated by organisations like [Fareshare](#).

A perfect storm has been brewing for quite some time, with the number of people in need of food support starting to outweigh the available food donations. Currently, many food banks are dipping into their own funds to make up the shortfall, but this cannot continue indefinitely.

Join us in supporting our community as part of the city-wide #FoodSOS campaign to increase donations to local food banks and projects.

Here's how you can help:

Convince your workplace to have a food donation collection – [click here](#) for more info.

- **Fundraise** for your local food bank or project.

Spread the word about the current food insecurity plight and encourage friends and family to donate next time they pass a food donation collection bin.

For more information on how to support the FOOD SOS campaign, please visit <https://bhfood.org.uk/foodsos/>.

If you are experiencing food insecurity, please visit <https://bhfood.org.uk> and go to our '[Emergency Food](#)' page for a list of helpful links and contacts to support you through this challenging time.