Principal's Newsletter

The King's CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Aspire Belong Care

12th June 2026 Issue #16

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

As we reach the end of another busy and successful week, I would like to take a moment to reflect on some important events from across our school community.

This week, we have been recognising Cystic Fibrosis Awareness, a charity close to our hearts. Students have engaged thoughtfully in activities and discussions designed to increase understanding of this condition and the challenges faced by those living with it. Thank you to everyone who supported this important awareness campaign and a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Gosling for everything you've done this week! 💛

Looking ahead, Monday marks a significant milestone as we say goodbye to our Year 11 students. As they complete their final examinations and prepare for the next stage of their education and training, we would like to thank them for the contribution they have made to school life over the years. We are incredibly proud of their resilience, determination and achievements, and we wish them every success for the future.

Year 10 have a busy few weeks of Mock examinations before their work experience week which is also our Y6 Transition week in school. Time never slows in a school and this term has to be one of the busiest!

Next Thursday is National Thank a Teacher Day. This provides a wonderful opportunity to recognise the dedication, commitment and care shown by all those who work in education. Our staff work tirelessly to support, challenge and inspire young people every day, and we are grateful for the positive difference they make to the lives of our students.

This week I sent out a questionannire asking for Parent's opinions on a slight change to the school week from September. Please could I encourage parents to share their views.

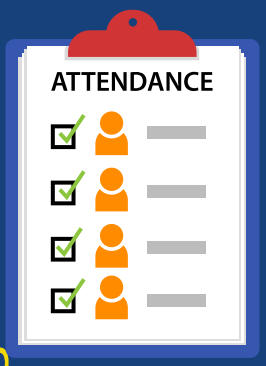
As always, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another productive week ahead.

Upcoming Events

- 15 June- Year 11 Leavers assembly
- 15 June- Y10 Mock Art exam
- 16 June- Y10 Mock exams start (2 weeks)
- 17-19 June- Y7 Big Bang trip
- 26 June- Y9 Reports to parents
- 29 June- Y10 Work Experience week and Y6 Transition
- 2 July- Y7 Parents evening
- 3 July- Year 11 Prom
- 10 July- Sports Day
- 17 July- Last day of term

Mrs Beswick-Pepper

Attendance



Spotlight on The Attendance Team

Mr Worthington
Assistant Principal & Attendance Champion

Mrs Beswick-Pepper
Attendance & Welfare Officer

Mrs Thorne
Home School Link Worker

Friday Freedom Challenge Launched

This week, we launched our Friday Freedom Challenge for students in Years 7 to 10. From Monday to Thursday, attendance was tracked across each year group. The year group with the most improved attendance compared to previous weeks was crowned our Friday Freedom Challenge Champion.

The winning year group received a free non-uniform day on Friday.

The challenge was designed to celebrate the importance of excellent attendance. Every day in school matters, helping students stay on track with their learning, build positive routines and make the most of every opportunity available to them.

Thank you to our parents and carers for supporting students in arriving on time and ready to learn throughout the week.

Well done to everyone who took part in our first Friday Freedom Challenge.

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

The King's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Nut Allergy Reminder

Please be aware that we have staff and students in school with **severe nut allergies.**

To help safeguard everyone in our school community, please **do not send your child into school with nuts or products containing nuts.**

Thank you for your understanding and continued support in helping us keep **everyone safe.**

Aspire | Belong | Care

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

Looking for Activities This Summer?

Are you thinking ahead to the upcoming six-week summer holiday and wondering how to keep your children entertained?

Did you know that our local libraries offer a range of exciting workshops, activities, and events for children and young people throughout the holidays? From creative crafts and reading challenges to STEM activities and special events, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Take a look at what is on offer in your local area and make the most of these fantastic opportunities.

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

In light of the recent tragedies reported during the warmer weather, it is more important than ever that our students understand the dangers of swimming in open water.

Although rivers, lakes, reservoirs and canals may look inviting in hot weather, they can be extremely dangerous. Cold water shock, hidden currents, sudden drops, weeds, rubbish beneath the surface and difficulty getting out can all put lives at risk very quickly.

We are reminding all students to stay safe, make sensible choices and never swim in open water unless it is part of a supervised activity in a safe, approved location.

Please speak to your child about the importance of water safety, especially during periods of increased temperatures. A quick conversation could make all the difference.

At The King's, we want every member of our community to enjoy the warmer weather safely and responsibly.

Mrs. Smith

SEND Support–Meet the Team

Our Learning Support area is looking amazing!

The space has been carefully developed to create a calm, welcoming and supportive environment for our students. It is wonderful to see such a positive area in school where students can feel safe, supported and ready to learn.

A huge thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make the area feel so inviting. It truly reflects our school values of Aspire, Belong and Care.

Mrs Keay

Christian Distinctiveness

As a Church of England academy, we believe every young person is known, valued and loved by God, and we seek to create a community where all can experience "life in all its fullness." A key focus has been the theme of hope. Students have been encouraged to think about what hope means in their own lives, in our school community and in the wider world.

We were especially grateful to Mr and Mrs Gosling, who shared their family's personal journey during Cystic Fibrosis. Week They spoke about the uncertainty and emotion of this time, but also about the comfort and hope they found through their faith.

They shared how the words from Psalm 139:14 brought them strength:
"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."
This verse reminded them that Elijah was wonderfully made by God, deeply loved and full of purpose. Their faith helped them to hold onto hope, even in moments of worry, and to trust in God's love and presence.

Through assemblies, awareness activities and fundraising, students have been invited to learn more, show compassion and stand alongside those affected by CF.
Through worship, reflection, charity and service, we continue to live out our values of Aspire, Belong and Care, helping our students to understand their worth, support others with compassion and look to the future with hope.

Whole School

Enrichment

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Music coursework catchup Year 11	Rounders Whole school	Samba Band Year 7, 8, 9	Football Year 7 and 8
Football Whole School	English Master class Year 11 set 3	Football - Year 9,10 and 11	Jam Session Year 10 and 11	Chess and Board Games Club Whole School
GCSE Science Drop in Year 10 and 11	Christian Union Whole school	Choir - Year 9, 10 and 11	Spiritual Quiet Space Whole School	Creative Writing Whole School
GCSE Science Higher tier Masterclass Year 10 and 11		English Masterclass - 11 set 2	KS4 Art Masterclass	English Masterclass 11 Set 6
11-4 ENG Masterclass		English Masterclass- 11 set 1	Pioneers Year 7,8,9	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
Nail Art Club Limited to 8 students in Yr 8 and 9	Badminton 16 Students max	English Masterclass 11 set 5	Musical Drama Group Whole School	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
India drop in Year 9 students going to India		English Masterclass 11 hi2	GCSE Science foundation class Year 10 and 11	
Rotary		School biodiversity club Whole School		After school 15.05
IT Masterclass Year 11	It Masterclass Year 10			
Enterprise Masterclass Year 11		KS4 Art Masterclass Yr 10 and 11		Lunch 13.20
		Mindful Colouring Club Whole school		
Computing Masterclass - Yr 11	Humanties games and support club Whole school	KS3 Science club WEEK A ONLY		
KS4 Art Masterclass- Yr 10 and 11	KS4 Art - Year 10 and 11			
KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11				

The King's CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Year 10 Football 7 a side

Last week, a group of Year 10 students represented the school in a 7-a-side football tournament at Newcastle-under-Lyme College, organised by the Andy Griffin Football Academy. The students competed with great enthusiasm, demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day.

In addition to taking part in the tournament, students had the opportunity to learn more about the Football in Education programme delivered by the Academy. They gained valuable insight into the range of academic and sporting opportunities available, as well as the pathways that football can provide beyond secondary school.

Mrs Thorne

Home-School Links

🔥 FREE Youth Sessions at Unit 1 Indoor Skatepark! 🔥 Come and join us for a FREE youth skate every Sunday between 12:30-2:00pm 🛴Sign up your young person here 👇
https://eequ.org/book/unit-1-skatepark-youth-session-with-dizzy-heights-23079 🚀

📌 Unit 1 Park Works
📅 Every Sunday
🕛 12:30pm – 2:00pm
👥 Ages 11–18 years

What's included?
🛴 Free scooter hire
🔥 Full access to an amazing indoor skatepark
👫 A welcoming space for young people of all abilities
🙌 Fun, confidence building and good vibes every week

What a fantastic facility for young people to come along, get active, learn new skills and have fun in a safe and supportive environment!

Delivered in partnership with Unit 1 Indoor Skatepark 🤝

We also run another skate session during term time on Wednesdays for young people aged 7–11 years 👌

A huge thank you to #MillionHoursFund and The National Lottery Community Fund for making this fantastic opportunity possible ❤️

We'd love to see some new faces this Sunday! 🚀
https://dizzyheights.org/

Mrs Perry

English

GCSE English Revision Guides – Available to Purchase via Arbor Pay

CGP revision guides for GCSE English will soon be available for our current Year 9 and Year 10 students to purchase through Arbor Pay.

There will be a range of bundles available to support the AQA texts studied in school, including:

Macbeth

An Inspector Calls

A Christmas Carol

Power and Conflict Poetry

English Language

These bundles are being offered at a significantly reduced rate compared to the usual retail price.

An early-bird offer will be available for orders placed before 19th June, with prices ranging from £4.48 to £8.72 per bundle, depending on the product.

After this date, prices will increase to between £5.60 and £10.90, which still represents a substantial saving.

We strongly encourage parents and carers to take advantage of this offer to help students prepare confidently for their GCSE English studies.

Mrs Wilson

Science

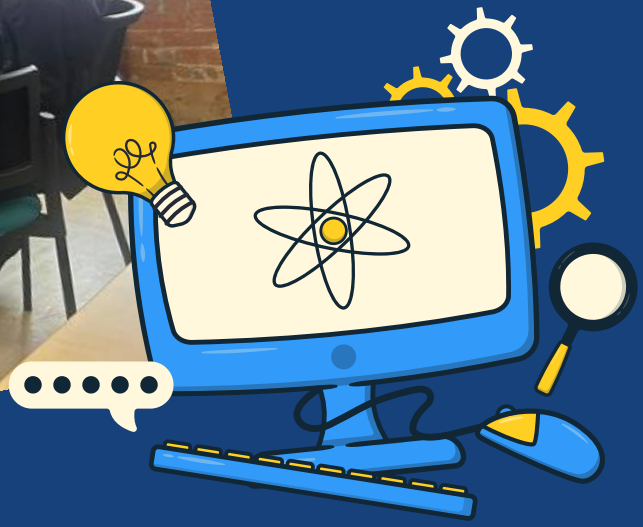
Students who attended The Big Bang Trip yesterday had an amazing time. The day was packed with exciting activities, inspiring displays and thought-provoking experiences, giving students the opportunity to explore science, technology, engineering and innovation in a fun and engaging way.

It was fantastic to see our students asking questions, getting involved and making the most of every opportunity throughout the day. The visit was a brilliant experience and a great way to spark curiosity about future careers and possibilities.

Well done to all students who attended.

Mr Aslam

Computer Science



Our students had a fantastic time during their visit to Web Goddess. The day was filled with creativity, learning and digital discovery, as students explored how websites are built and developed valuable skills linked to technology, design and future careers.

Students worked on designing their own web pages, using their creativity to think about branding, layout and key messaging. It was wonderful to see them engaging so enthusiastically, asking questions and bringing their ideas to life.

A huge thank you to Web Goddess for welcoming our students and providing such an exciting and inspiring opportunity.

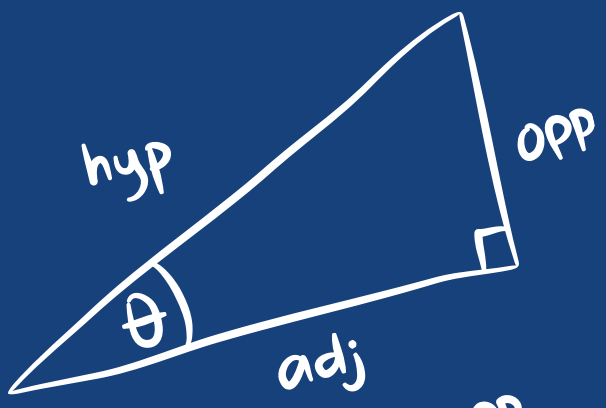
Mrs Turner

Maths

Well done to all of our GCSE Maths students who have officially completed their GCSE exams.

Your hard work, effort and commitment throughout the exam season has been fantastic to see. From revision sessions to independent study, you have shown real resilience, focus and determination, and you should be incredibly proud of everything you have achieved.

We would also like to wish our A Level students the very best of luck in their exam later today. You have worked so hard to get to this point, the end is in sight, so keep going and give it everything you've got!



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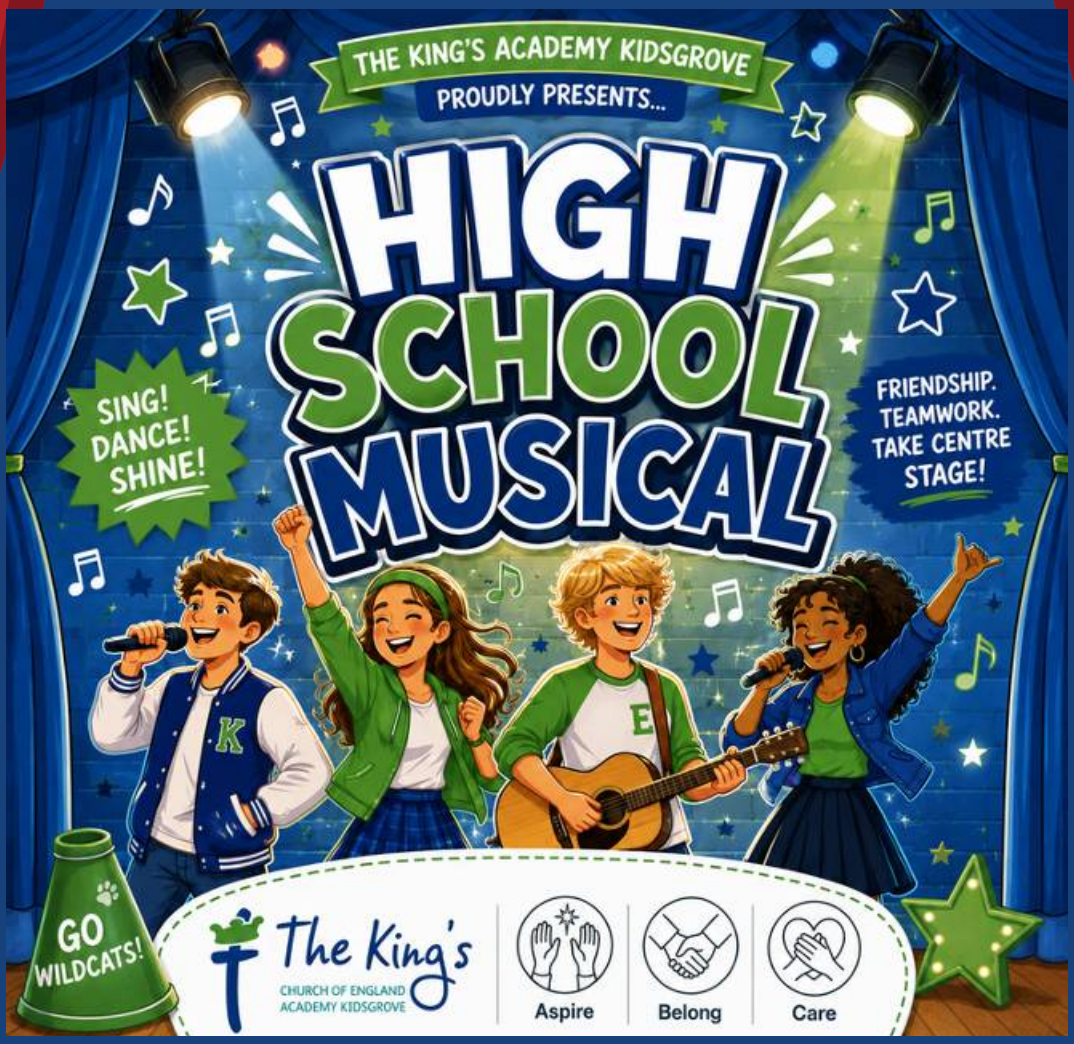
Miss Richardson

Performing Arts



Our students taking part in the end of year production of High School Musical have been rehearsing incredibly hard, and their commitment has been fantastic to see.

From learning lines and choreography to developing their confidence on stage, they have shown brilliant teamwork, energy and enthusiasm throughout rehearsals. It is clear how much effort has gone into preparing for the show, and we are so proud of their dedication.

We cannot wait to see all of their hard work come together on stage, it is going to be a fantastic performance!

Miss Kaminskas

Wellbeing Hub

Sixth Form Tittesworth Trip

Our Sixth Form students recently visited Tittesworth Water Sports Centre, where they took part in a range of exciting enrichment activities including orienteering, archery, axe throwing, catapulting, kayaking and Mega SUP boarding.Throughout the day, students demonstrated excellent enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork, embracing every challenge with a positive attitude. While students quickly adapted to most activities, the Mega SUP boarding proved particularly challenging and certainly provided plenty of entertainment! A little more practice may have been needed, as much of their time seemed to be spent falling into the water rather than staying on the board.

Miss Kaminskas

Wellbeing Hub

On Thursday, students were treated to a highly anticipated Year 7 vs Year 8 football match, organised by Mr Ponsford. In the lead-up to the game, both year groups were tasked with organising their own teams, which only added to the excitement and friendly rivalry. The anticipation around school had been building all week, with plenty of discussion about who would come out on top.

The match certainly lived up to the hype. Year 8 made a strong start and raced into a 2-0 lead, looking in complete control. However, Year 7 showed tremendous determination and resilience, battling back to level the score at 2-2 and setting up a thrilling finale.

With neither team able to find a winner in normal time, the contest was decided by a dramatic penalty shootout. Both sides held their nerve under pressure, but it was Year 8 who eventually emerged victorious, claiming bragging rights after an entertaining and fiercely competitive encounter. Congratulations to all students involved for their excellent attitude, sportsmanship and effort throughout the match.

Miss Sharrock

Humanities

Key Stage 3 students are invited to take part in the Geographical Association's 2026 Model-Making Competition.

Theme: Fragile Environments

Create a 3D model of a fragile environment using recycled cardboard and other reused materials. Your model should show:

The features of the environment

Why it is vulnerable

At least two threats it faces

(Optional) How it can be protected

Possible environments include coral reefs, tropical rainforests, sand dunes, mangroves, deserts and polar regions.

Closing date: Friday 31 July 2026.

Please see Miss Sharrock in 2.4 to show your interest.

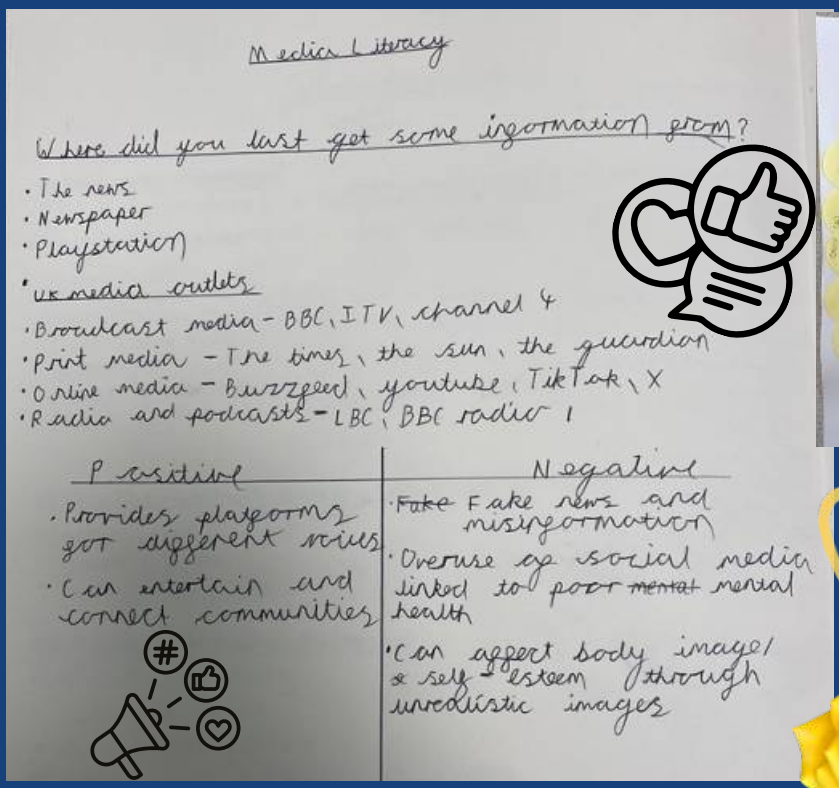
We can't wait to see your creativity and geographical knowledge brought to life!

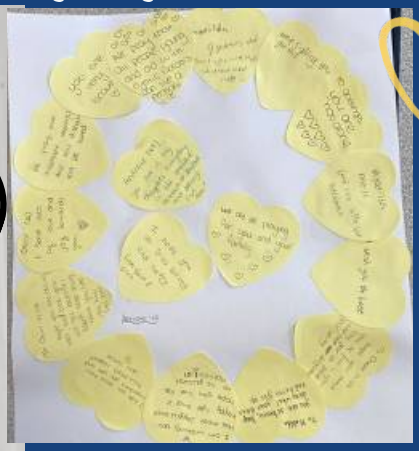
Geographical Association

Mrs Danks

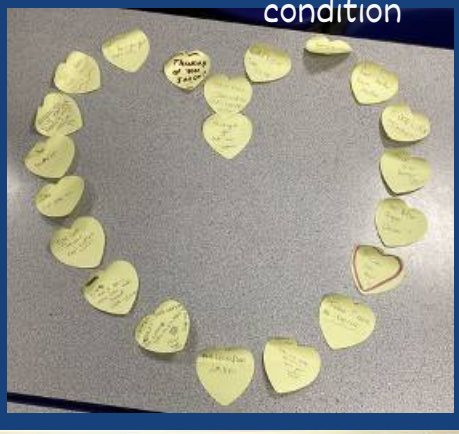
RSHE

Over the last two week our forms groups have worked really hard on their form time RSHE, here are some examples of the amazing work that has been going on!





Some examples of the cystic fibrosis hearts that will be made into roses to honour those with the condition



This week Mrs Massey has been working hard on a new display board for you all! This is a great place for you to find out some more detail about well being and self care, it will also have signposts to support students to seek help they may need. You can ind it outside of learning support.

The current hot topics are:

Exam Stress and Self Care

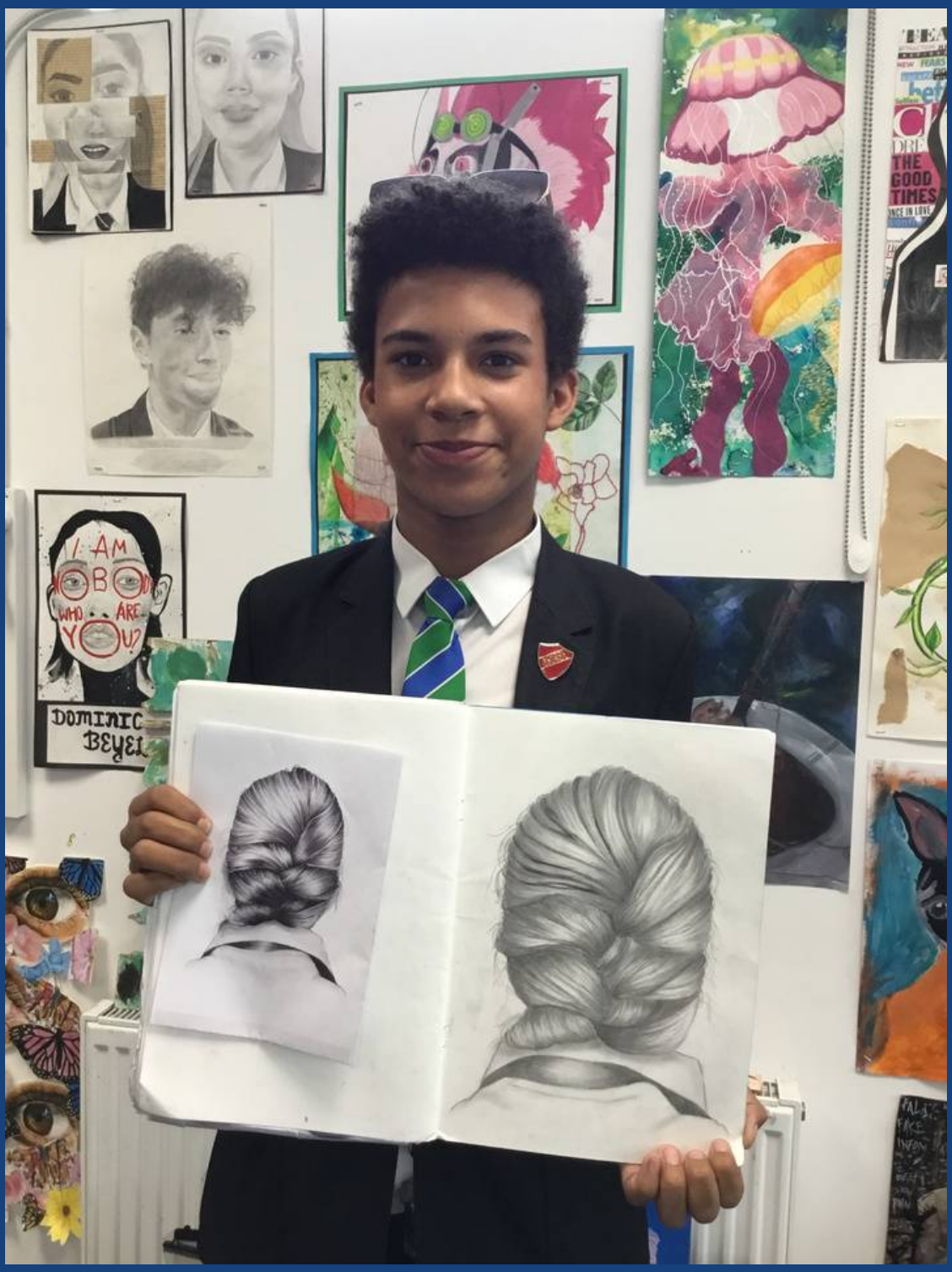
Energy Drinks-The Facts

Why we need to stay hydrated

Healthy Eating and Nutrition

Miss Pattinson

Art



Star student Jaleel has completed this outstanding duplicate of hair for homework going above and beyond the minimum expectation showing true dedication and a passion for Art - well done!

Miss Pattinson

Art

On Saturday, Miss Pattinson visited Staffordshire University to view the final-year degree exhibition of one of our former students.

Arabella studied both GCSE and A Level Art at The Kings, so it was a real privilege to see how far her artistic practice has developed. We were delighted to learn that her work was also selected for exhibition by the North Staffordshire Art Society, where she was awarded a prize.

Arabella's collection, Revisiting Home, explores landscapes that reflect her memories while examining themes of displacement and belonging. The large-scale canvas hangings incorporate a variety of media, including charcoal, pastel and coloured pencil, creating a powerful and immersive body of work.

Congratulations, Arabella, on this outstanding achievement. We wish you every success for the future — the Art Department is incredibly proud of you!

Mr Smith

Music

Our Samba Band students have been hard at work practising, and they are sounding fantastic!

It has been wonderful to see their confidence, teamwork and rhythm developing with every rehearsal. Their energy and enthusiasm have been brilliant, and we cannot wait to see them perform soon.

Mrs Wright

Careers

Calling Parents, Carers and Local Businesses

Could you help make a difference to the future of one of our wonderful Year 10 students?

As part of our Year 10 Work Experience programme, we are looking for local businesses and organisations who may be able to offer placements and provide valuable real-world experiences for our students.

Work experience plays a vital role in helping young people build confidence, develop important workplace skills, explore career pathways and prepare for their future.

If you feel you may be able to support a student with a placement opportunity, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact: AWright@thekingscofeacademy.org

Your support can have a lasting impact on a young person's future. Thank you for supporting our students and our community.

#Aspire #Belong #Care #WorkExperience #Future

Mrs Goldstraw

Transition

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

We are proud to be hosting our Transition Week during the week commencing Monday 29th June.

We are incredibly excited to welcome our new students as they begin their journey with us and take their first steps towards joining The King's family. Transition Week is a wonderful opportunity for students to get to know our school, meet staff, make new friends and begin to feel part of our community.

This year, our theme is Ticket to the Future, as we support students in looking ahead with confidence, excitement and ambition.

We cannot wait to welcome you.

Mrs Goldstraw

Mrs Goldstraw

Year 7

Congratulations to you all for your consistently brilliant equipment and uniform – we really are showing the rest of the school how to belong at The King's!

Please can I remind you about some of the key messages shared this week:

- be careful with tie's
- be careful where you go after school, ensuring you are not on someone elses' property

Student shout out!

Lucy T made 50 yellow ribbans to share around school in support of CF week – well done Lucy!

Miss Stanyer

Year 8

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attend Progress Evening last week. Thank you for your continued support. Opportunities like this are so important in strengthening the relationship between home and school, helping us work together to support every student to achieve their very best.

Year 8 were also lucky enough to be part of the Operation Spitfire launch, where members of the RAF spoke to our students. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to hear from inspiring professionals and learn more about teamwork, resilience, ambition and future pathways.

A reminder to all Year 8 students of the importance of excellent attendance and being fully prepared for school each day with all Super 6 equipment. I want to see as many students as possible attending the next big rewards event to Alton Towers, and positive choices in school every day will help make this happen.

Finally, a huge well done to Year 8, who were the winners of the Friday Freedom Challenge for the most improved attendance. As their reward, students were able to wear non-uniform today. Well done, Year 8 — let's keep this momentum going!

Mrs Kelly

Year 9

Fundraising EVENT

We are delighted to invite our school community to our Fundraising Fair on Sunday 28th June, running from 12:00pm until 4:00pm. There will be a range of stalls, activities and refreshments for families to enjoy, all while helping us raise funds and support our school community.

It promises to be a lovely afternoon, and we would love to see as many families, friends and members of the local community there as possible

Miss Stevens

Year 10

This week, it was announced to our Year 10 students that their Prom next year will be held at the beautiful Keele Hall.

We are already so excited to celebrate this special occasion with them and know it will be a wonderful evening full of memories, celebration and pride. Keele Hall is such a stunning venue, and we cannot wait to see our students enjoy what promises to be a truly beautiful event.

More details will be shared in due course, but for now, the countdown to Prom has officially begun!

Year 10 mock exams begin on Monday 15th June, and attendance during this time is incredibly important.

These mocks are a valuable opportunity for students to understand where they are currently working, what they are doing well, and which areas they need to focus on before Year 11.

Every lesson, every revision session and every mock exam matters. Being in school, on time and fully prepared gives students the best chance to show what they can do and receive the right support moving forward.

We are so proud of the hard work Year 10 have already shown. Keep going, stay focused and make every day count.

Mr Barber

Year 11

As you come to the end of your time with us, I wanted to take a moment to say how incredibly proud I am of each and every one of you.

It has been a privilege to watch you grow, mature and overcome challenges along the way. You have shown resilience, determination, humour and strength, and I hope you leave knowing just how much you have achieved.

Please know that you have shaped me, just as I hope, in some way, I have helped to shape you. The memories, conversations, laughter, challenges and moments we have shared will stay with me, and I am grateful to have been part of your journey.

As you take your next steps, whether that is sixth form, college, apprenticeships or something completely new, remember that you carry with you the values and lessons that have shaped your time here. Keep aiming high, keep believing in yourself, and never underestimate what you are capable of.

A verse that feels especially fitting is:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Year 11, thank you for the memories. We will miss you, but we are excited to see all that you go on to become.

Wishing you every success and happiness for the future.

Mr Barber

Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form

Proverbs 16:3

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."

Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form

Applications are still open for places in Sixth Form commencing study in September 2026 in:

- Hospitality and Catering
- T Level Engineering
- Health and Social Care
- Sport

If you need further help or guidance, please speak to Mrs. Finnemore or Mrs. Harnett, or visit our website: www.thekingscofeacademy.org

Miss Collins

The Fifth on Fourth

The King's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Aspire Belong Care

W/C 15/06/2026

*The restaurant is open for lunch on **Wednesday** and **Friday** this week*

STARTERS (£2.95)

Soup of the day (gf,v)

Aubergine parcels, filled with mozzarella, tomato and basil, topped with a green pesto sauce (gf,v,mk,ns)

Both starters served with a bread roll

MAIN DISHES (£6.50)

Beef Lasagne served with garlic bread and salad (ccg,mk)

Creamy salmon and leek potato bake (f,mk,gf)

Goat's cheese and watercress tart (ccg,mk,v)

Served with new potatoes and salad

DESSERTS (£2.95)

Crème brulee

A baked egg custard with a crunchy caramel topping (mk,eg,v)

Raspberry Cheesecake (ccg,mk,v)

Note: For information on allergens, please consult the sheet in your menu folder at the back. If you have any questions, please ask a member of staff.

Allergy abbreviations: CLY - Celery, CCG - Cereals containing gluten, CSN - Crustaceans, EG - Egg, F - Fish, LN - Lupin, MK - Milk, MLS - Molluscs, MSD - Mustard, NS - Nuts, PNTS - Peanuts, SM - Sesame, SYA - Soya, SDE - Sulphur dioxide, GF - Gluten free, V - Vegetarian, VN - Vegan

TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Send an email to **fifthfourth@kingscofe.com** or call us on **01782 794064**

Reservations should be made at least 24 hours in advance.

This menu is also available as a takeaway. Prices will be **Starter: £2.95 Main: £5.95 Dessert: £2.95.**
Please advise on booking if you would like your meal hot or cold. Served between 11.30 - 14.00.