



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 13 Monday 9th December 2024

HEADLINE NOTICES



Please be reminded that the Autumn term finishes for the Christmas break on Friday 20th December 2024. The New Year (Spring Term 2025) will commence on Friday 3rd January 2025 for Year 11 students only. The school will re-open for all students on Monday 6th January 2025 at the usual times. Further details regarding these arrangements have been circulated to parents separately. Please be reminded that parents can find full details regarding school and holiday dates for the 2024-25 academic year on our website [here](#).



House Excellence Award

This week, Mr Dennington has nominated Gwen Leopold, Year 7, for her excellent use of the LSC when engaging in independent work (Learning Support Centre). 'Gwen is a very mature individual who needs no encouragement to work. She leads and others follow.' Well done Gwen!

WINTER MUSIC CONCERTS

Please be reminded that last of the Winter Concerts

will take place in the New Year on

Thursday 23rd January

Steel Pans: All groups

All Students perform at 5pm

For any enquiries please email:

musiclessons@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

THEME & WORD OF THE WEEK

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards each other in a spirit of brotherhood.
- Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
- No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Ambivalent

Having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone.

SCHOOL NEWS LONDON MUSEUM



Careers talk: The Museum Sector
Years 8 & 10 – Room CR1 at 12pm
Tuesday 10th December

On **Tuesday 10th December** at 12 noon we have a fascinating careers talk for our students lined up by Jemma Perkins who works at the Museum of London (recently rebranded as the London Museum). If your child has ever wondered what goes into creating a museum, or they are interested in heritage, art, design or culture – this talk is for them. The London Museum is one of the foremost museums in the country and is a real treat. Its main site is currently being moved and so we are sure Jemma will have lots to say about the future of the sector. Students should come to **CR1 at the start of Period 4 with their lunch**. If they would like to get a school lunch slightly early, they should come to the Humanities office during PM registration on Monday 9th December 2024, to get a slip. To sign up, students must complete the form [here](#), or e-mail Ms Markes dms@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk More Careers Information on Page 12



MUSIC NEWS

Barry Graham Big Band Wins Platinum Award!

On Sunday 24th November 2024, the Barry Graham Big Band performed at the Regional Heat of the National Concert Band Festival. Conducted by Harry Brown, Kingsdale's young musicians performed 4 pieces for the judges and the viewing public in the Auditorium at Trinity School, Croydon.

Our musicianship was highly praised in the feedback, including notable solos from trumpet player Aureliano (Year 12) and singer Maia (Year 13). The judges were also impressed by the variety of styles on display, with a jazz standard, a ballad, a vocal solo and a funk number part of the programme.

The band achieved the highest possible award of Platinum, meaning they will be invited to attend the National Showcase in April 2025 taking place at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

Well done to all participants!



ENGLISH NEWS

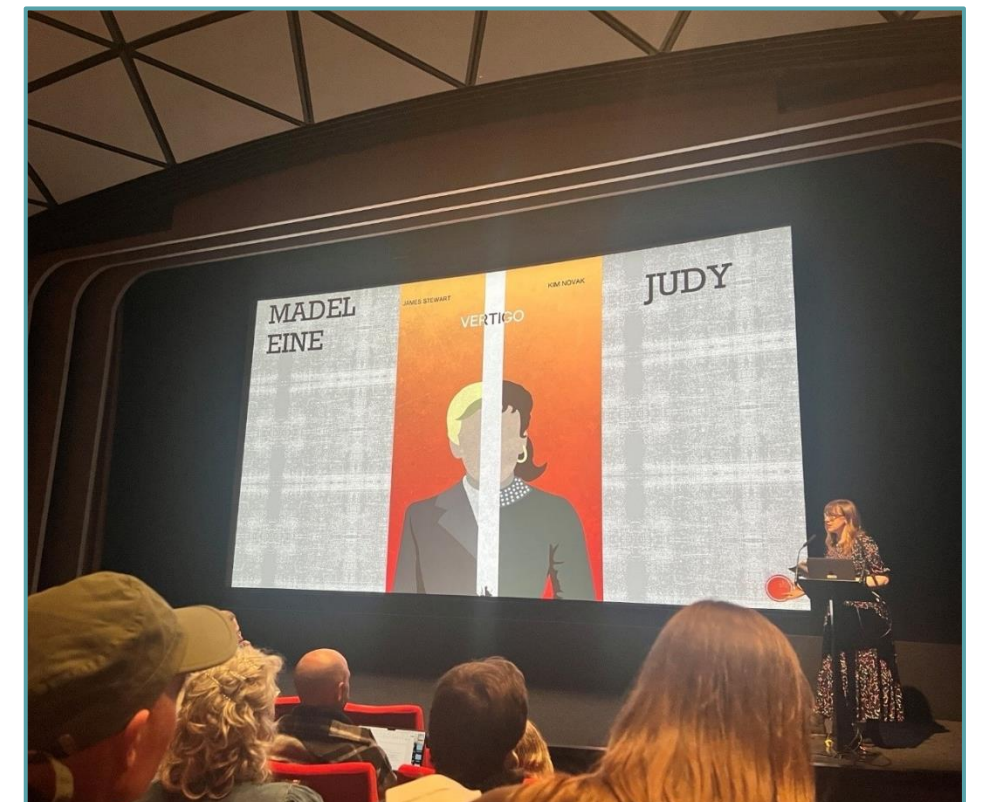
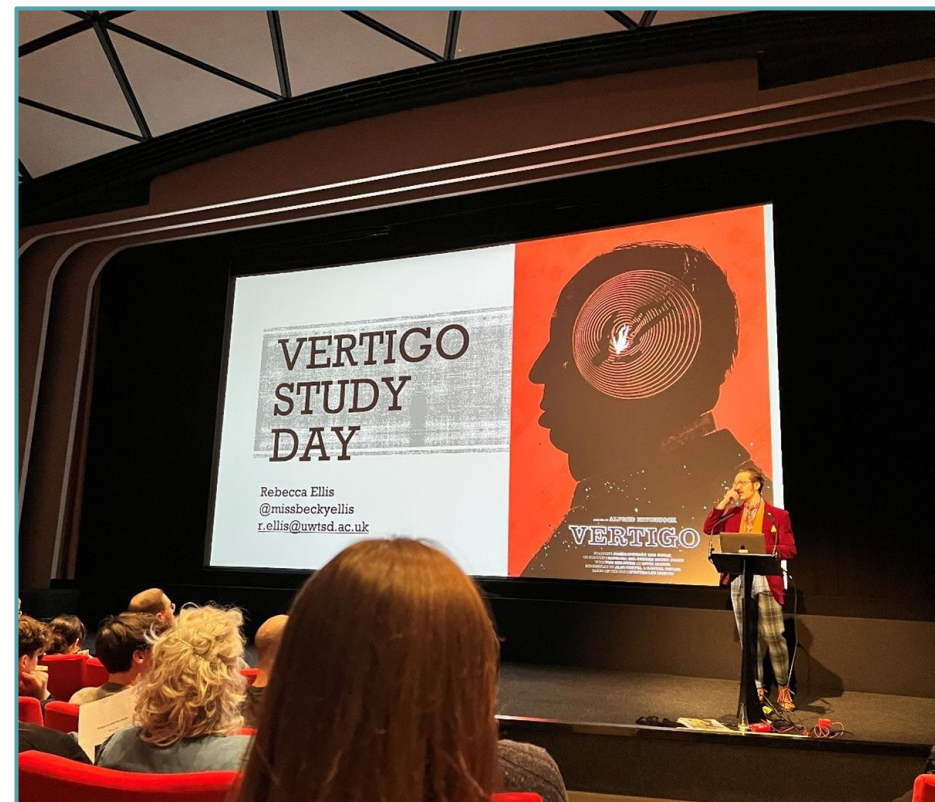
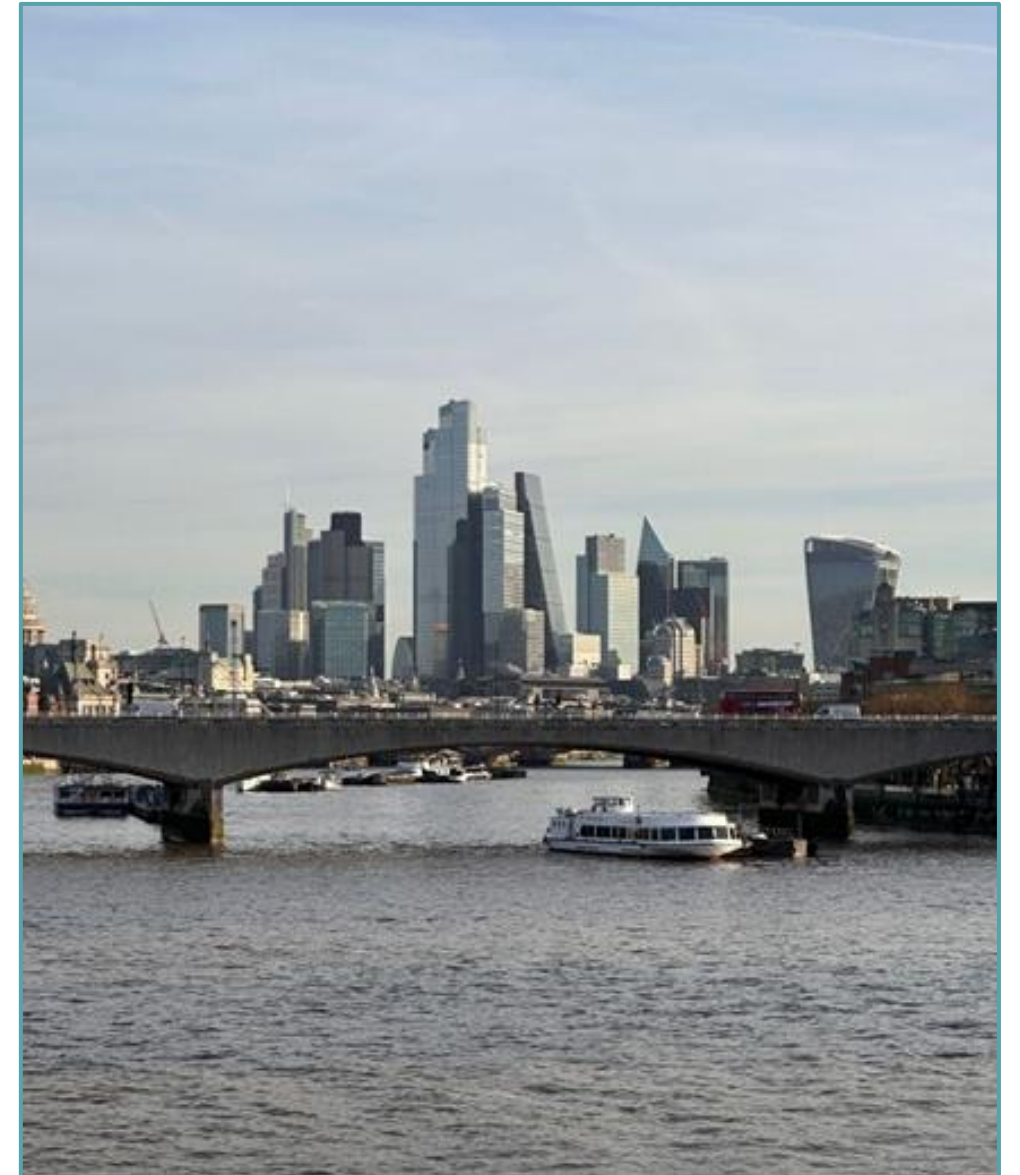
Successful BFI Southbank Trip to Study *Vertigo* by Hitchcock

Last week, forty-nine of our Sixth Form students had the exciting opportunity to visit the BFI Southbank for an in-depth study of Alfred Hitchcock's classic film, *Vertigo*. Led by Mr Harper, this enriching trip allowed students to dive into the cinematic brilliance of one of the most celebrated directors in film history.

The day began with a comprehensive lecture by film experts at the BFI, exploring the themes, cinematography and psychological depth of *Vertigo*. Students were highly engaged, demonstrating excellent analytical skills and contributing thoughtful questions during the discussions. Their enthusiasm and curiosity truly stood out, impressing the BFI team.

This trip wasn't just about studying film; it was also an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their horizons and connect with peers from other schools attending the event. Many students bonded over their shared passion for cinema, exchanged ideas, and formed new friendships. The collaborative atmosphere was inspiring, and it was wonderful to see our students' building relationships that extended beyond the classroom.

Mr Harper remarked how proud he was of the group for their exemplary behaviour, insightful contributions, and enthusiasm throughout the day. Trips like these highlight the value of stepping outside the school environment to engage with professional resources and peers in a real-world setting.



Michael Craig-Martin Exhibition at Royal Academy of Art



On Monday 2nd December, a group of Year 7 students visited the Michael Craig-Martin exhibition at the Royal Academy. They were blown away as they dived headfirst into his early, thought-provoking conceptual pieces, then journeyed through his minimalist silhouettes.

The group then took part in a workshop where they created their own images and layouts, by drawing with washi tape on acetate and then, using a torch, enlarged them onto the wall by tracing the shadows.

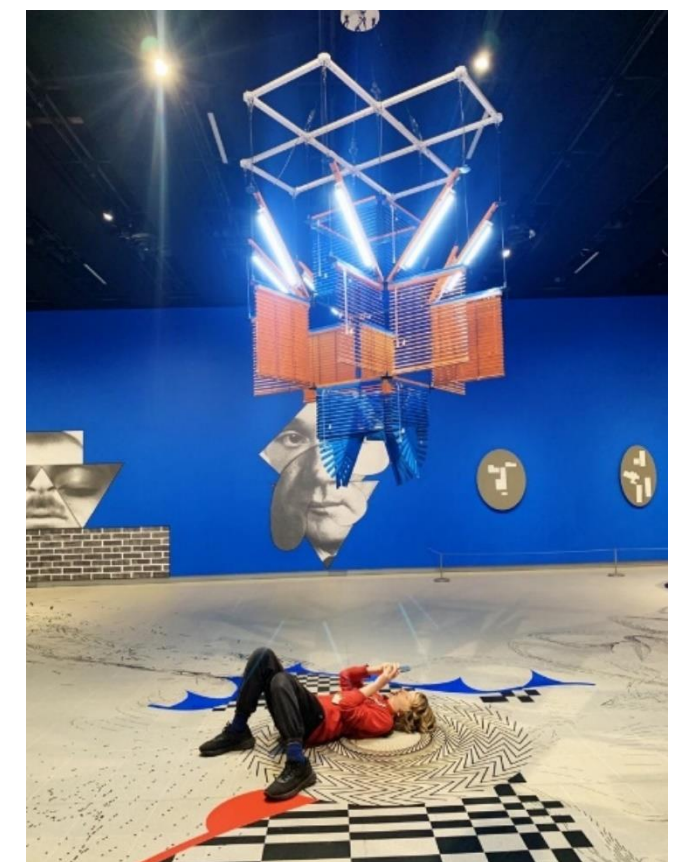
Well done everyone!



Haegue Yang Exhibition at Hayward Gallery

Last week, our Bronze, Silver and Gold Arts Award students visited the Hayward Gallery to view the Haegue Yang exhibition as part of their qualification to experience and review and Arts event.

They enjoyed seeing a varied range of multi-sensory sculptures, installations and collages from the South Korean artist.



DEBATE NEWS

Sixth Form at Model United Nations (MUN) Competitions

It has been a busy few weeks for Sixth Form debate and MUN with students participating in a variety of competitions.

Over 20 Year 12 students have participated in two MUN conferences at Dulwich College and Bullers Wood School, representing countries such as Russia and France and debating topics including women's rights, the war in Ukraine, cyber warfare and even Taylor Swift.

Students have been fantastic ambassadors for the school, engaging in fruitful debate. Several students were also recognised for their speeches and amendments with Adisa Macdonald being awarded best delegate for his committee, while Seth Rogers and John Toohey dominated a very busy general assembly as France looked to expose the actions of Russia in a cyber-attack. It was also brilliant to see students trying MUN for the first time.

Meanwhile, the Year 13 debate team took part in the English Speaking Union Competition heats, debating against local schools on the issue of building more houses on the green belt. The team finished 3rd in the heat so sadly did not progress to the regional final. They did however give an excellent account of themselves. Well done to Daniel Lilstone, Aminat Awolesi, Nikki Onyema and Katla Clarke.

2025 will see the sixth formers attend more MUN conferences and competitions.



HUMANITIES NEWS

Year 12 and Year 13 Enrichment: Bar Mock Trial Competition

On Saturday 30th November 2024, Year 12 & 13 students took part in the Bar Mock Trial Competition at Oxford Crown Court. Over the course of three challenging trials, they assumed roles as prosecutors, defence lawyers, jurors, witnesses, and defendants.

Although the team didn't progress to the nationals, their confidence grew throughout the day as they argued cases before real judges. They received excellent feedback on their courtroom performances, a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Having prepared for this competition over the past two months, the students should be incredibly proud of their achievements and the skills they have developed along the way!



SCIENCE NEWS

Year 10 Motivez Sustainability Southwark

Following the success of our Year 10s in last year's final in the Motivez Sustainability Southwark Programme at UCL, this year's Year 10 cohort has been given the opportunity to undertake the challenge to jump the next hurdle to achieve gold. The workshops kicked off on Monday and Wednesday at the start of the Autumn term in our Conference Rooms with vibrant ideas and group presentations with Motivez mentors guiding through this challenge. Fingers crossed for them to make to the finals again this year. Motivez is an award-winning youth-led organisation pioneered by one of Kingsdale's alumni George Imafidon (MBE). They are committed to innovation and adaptability to create a brighter future for underrepresented youth in STEM.



KINGSDALE
FOUNDATION
SCHOOL
PRESENTS

Les Misérables

SCHOOL EDITION

Performed entirely by students

A musical by ALAIN BOUBLIL and CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

School Edition special adaptation licensed by

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MACKINTOSH (OVERSEAS) LIMITED



MONDAY 9TH DEC 6PM

TUESDAY 10TH DEC 6PM

THURSDAY 12TH DEC 6PM

FRIDAY 13TH DEC 6PM

SATURDAY 14TH DEC 11AM & 4PM

TICKETS -

ADULTS £7

CONCESSIONS £3

ON SALE IN THE DRAMA OFFICE

@ KINGSDALE'S DRAMA STUDIO

Contains older themes which may not be suitable for younger audiences.

Any questions or queries, please contact Mr T Tilley on tty@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



ORIGINAL ORCHESTRATIONS BY JOHN CAMERON
NEW ORCHESTRATIONS BY CHRISTOPHER JAHNKE
STEPHEN METCALFE AND STEPHEN BROOKER
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY CAMERON MACKINTOSH
SCHOOL EDITION SPECIALLY ADAPTED AND LICENSED BY
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL AND CAMERON MACKINTOSH (OVERSEAS) LTD

A MUSICAL BY ALAIN BOUBLIL AND CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG BASED ON THE
NOVEL BY VICTOR HUGO
MUSIC BY CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG
LYRICS BY HERBERT KRETZMER
ORIGINAL FRENCH TEXT BY ALAIN BOUBLIL AND JEAN-MARC NATEL ADDITIONAL
MATERIAL BY JAMES FENTON
ADAPTED BY TREVOR NUNN AND JOHN CAIRD

PG-13

Christmas Food Drive

The tutor that donates the most (**in weight**) will receive a prize!

Priority items

any donated will be **x2** of the weight

sanitary items will be **x3** of the weight!

- Cooking Oil
- Tuna
- Pasta Sauce
- Rice (500g) bags
- Sugar
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Sweetcorn
- Tinned meat
- Washing up liquid
- Tea
- Rice pudding
- Biscuits
- Long life milk
- Halal tinned meat
- Non dairy milk
- UHT milk
- Strong carrier bags
- Instant Coffee
- Vegetarian meals
- Toilet rolls
- Baby wipes and Nappies



Back and Front gates of school
25th Nov - 14th December

Get Rid of and Donate is a charity that are proud to be the first award winners of Lambeth Council's winners of the Climate Change Award 2024. They want to extend their work to more secondary schools in Southwark & Lambeth. The Kingsdale community can help them.

Parents can donate and drop off to the school at Main Reception, for the notice of Mr Lewis and/or Ms Dalrymple.

Get Rid of and Donate collects unwanted clothes (**not school uniform – send this to KFS Uniform Bank**), shoes, small kitchen and household textiles, bedding, curtains, personal cosmetics, musical instruments electrical/ gadgets, IT equipment, toys, books, garden equipment etc.

We want to support the reduction of risk of any contamination or viruses and as such, all items **MUST BE** in good condition and clean.

ITEMS SHOULD BE DONATED IN BAGS FOR LIFE OR BOXES - NO PLASTIC OR WASTE BIN DISPOSAL BAGS

Get Rid of and Donate **DO NOT ACCEPT** the following items:

1. **Used Baby Items** - baby bottles, steamers, teething rings, bowls & cutlery, potties, baby baths, changing mats, baby underwear & socks, baby bedding, sleeping suits, baby/Children bike or car seats
2. **Old/damaged/stained bed sheets & pillowcases or duvets** - (will collect only if in good condition)
3. **Damaged Kitchen/houseware** - any broken or items with missing items, porcelain ornaments, framed pictures, ceramic cups, and drinking glasses.
4. **Commercial Publications** - magazines, newspapers, season wrapping paper, trees or decorations
5. **Specific Plastic Items** - plastic bags, clothes hangers, food containers, bottles or plates
6. **Animal Items** - cat litter trays, baskets, housing, play toys, dog cages (only new items accepted)
7. **Out of Date Food**
8. **Certain Furniture** - furniture made of MDF, dismantled furniture
9. **Damaged/Faulty Appliances/Electronics** - items that are faulty, damaged or not working.



Get Rid of and Donate rescues unwanted items – preloved good quality clothes, shoes, household/textiles, books, toys, tech/electrical, furniture, musical equipment/music/cd/DVDs and more recycling giving back to those in need.

Join our campaign to help those in need, making an impact and support GROAD's global green agenda in local communities.

Something that you no longer want can still be used by someone else giving a 2nd or 3rd life span!

Donations benefit the beneficiaries of the project refugees, asylum seekers, vulnerable families and the homeless.

The UK creates 26 million tons of waste, of which 14 million ton end up in landfill sites. *Landfill is the second most used waste treatment in the UK in 2018 with 23.6% of waste sent to landfill. We all have contributed to this in some way.

The alternatives are the three R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!



 @Getridofit

 @getridofitansdonate

 @groadonate_cic

 @groadonate_cic

Join us in our mission to others help and Get Rid of and Donate.

07944 102 112

info@getridofit-donate.com

www.getridofit-donate.com

If you are worried someone's drinking or drug use is affecting your child, we're here to help.



We help children and young people to cope with difficult family situations and feel stronger in themselves.

You can speak to us on 0203 404 7699
or email Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk

Free Workshops for Parents and Carers

Do you want more guidance on how to talk to your children, teens and young people about vaping, alcohol or drugs? Do you want to be informed on the current themes and trends we come across working with young people in the borough?

Substances are more accessible today than ever before. For parents, carers or anyone responsible for children and young people, it can feel overwhelming and difficult to know how to respond.

We're offering FREE online workshops for parents and carers in Southwark, to give advice and guidance to help you navigate this quickly changing landscape.



We'll cover:

- Current trends amongst young people
- Strategies for talking to young people about substances in an open and supportive way
- Practical advice on how to keep your children safe from the dangers of substance misuse



For further information contact:

- Email: Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk or scan the QR code for a direct link to the eventbrite page.
- You can call us on: **020 3404 7699**

SCAN ME



CAREER NEWS

Careers Talks 2024-25

We still have a range of careers talks for our students coming up this year – details below. Students who are interested should please sign up [here](#) if interested.

Our next talk for Lower School students is on 10th December on the Museum Sector where we have a representative of the Museum of London attending to talk about their work in this sector.

Any student who has signed up will receive an e-mail and should note that the talk is during their lunchtime so they should bring a packed lunch, or can get a slip to be released 10 minutes early from their lesson.

Careers Talks Programme

Museum Sector

Years 8 & 10
10th December 2024 at 12 noon

Medicine

Years 8 & 10
14th January 2025 at 12 noon (*date changed*)

Business: Vodaphone Customer Success Manager; Energy Investment Banking (ex-students)

Years 9, 12 & 13
28th January 2025 at 1pm

Apprenticeships: Red Carnation Hotels

Years 8 & 10
11th February 2025 at 12 noon

Neuroscience

Years 8 & 10
4th March 2025 at 12 noon

Data Centres

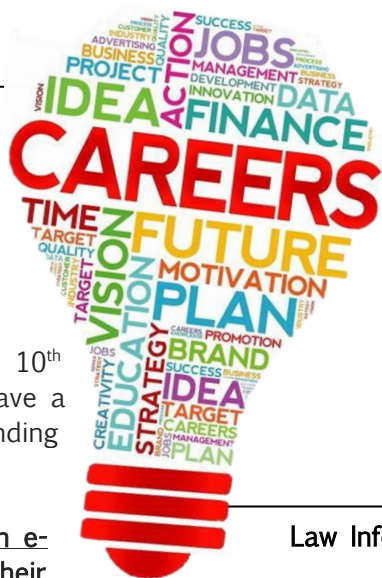
Years 9, 12 & 13
11th March 2025 at 1pm

Medicine Information Session

Year 12
12th March 2025 during enrichment

Architecture

Years 8 & 10
18th March 2025 at 12 noon



Law Information Session

Year 12
7th May 2025 during enrichment

Charity Sector: Amnesty International

(*focus on data*)
Year Groups TBC
13th May 2025

Health Economics

Year Groups TBC
6th June 2025

Humanitarian & Development Aid

Year Groups TBC
24th June 2025

Later in the year, we plan to offer talks on the following careers amongst others: economics, journalism; theatre hair & make-up, humanitarian & development aid, law, architecture, neuroscience; and information about apprenticeships.

Details of these will be sent nearer the time.

Kingsdale Careers Programme 2024-25 Volunteers Invited!

Parents! We still need your help to support our careers programme for 2024-25!

If you think you would be able to support us with any of our Careers programme, including the lunchtime talks, the Careers Fair, or in any other capacity, please contact us via the email below.

careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Year 8 JNR NBA Kingsdale v St Joseph's College

Last week, Round 1 of the JNR NBA was a game of ups and downs from the start with missing players and teams dropping out, but we managed to play. The first quarter was extremely close, ending 9-9 for both teams as neither could get the upper hand. However, in the second quarter, Kingsdale started to find their groove and put in a dominating display finishing it 24-15. As the third quarter started, Kingsdale were confident and continued to exert their dominance, putting in a good performance. The scoreline started closing between the two schools. Kingsdale missed a few opportunities finishing the third quarter 32-28. In the last quarter, St Joseph's came out of the block firing, making the score 38-38 but KFS managed to find the win in the last few minutes to finish with a great win! Well done boys!

Final score: Kingsdale **40-38** St Joseph's College



Skyler Cook's International Cricket Debut



Skyler Cook, Year 10, made his international debut for Japan's Under-19s Cricket team, on Tuesday 3rd December in Dubai, playing against Pakistan's Under 19 teams. This is a huge achievement, and one Skyler will remember forever! Huge congratulations for this amazing feat, the Kingsdale PE team are extremely proud of you and wish you an amazing career ahead. Well done!!

SPORTS NEWS

KFS disclaimer. Please be advised Match reports produced and presented by student reporters.

PESSN Indoor Athletics Southwark Schools' Championship

On Wednesday 29th November, Year 7 Kingsdale teams simply blew away their opponents at the PESSN Indoor Athletics Southwark Schools' Championship.

The teams were superb representing the school and delivering good team performances in all the categories. Strong running, throwing and jumping saw them win Gold medals.

The Girl's team retained last year's winning title, adding another pair of winners' trophies, making them 2023 and 2024 Champs!

This year's teams will now go on to represent Kingsdale and Southwark in February 2025 at the LYG London youth games at Redbridge Sports Centre.

Huge congratulations to all the teams.



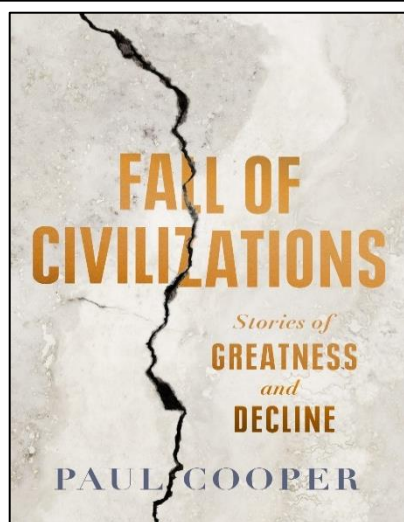
Sports Scholars Copper Box Trip

Last week, our Sports Scholars had the opportunity to attend a night out to watch London Lions Men's Basketball Team play Surrey 89ers at the Copper Box arena in the British Basketball league.

The Surrey 89ers won 87-83.

The students had a great time and were a credit to the school.

Reading Recommendations



Teacher Recommendation
This week, Ms Smith recommends *Fall of Civilisations* by Paul Cooper

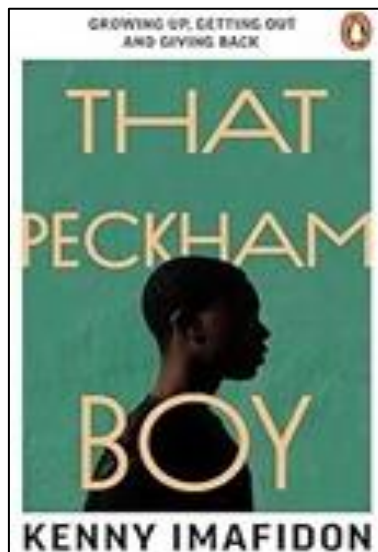
The world is full of ruins. From the Colosseum of Rome to the crumbling suburbs of Detroit, the vine-wreathed temples of the Maya to the shell-pocked

buildings of Bakhmut and Gaza. Each of these ruins have a different history, but they share a single truth: they are all places where, one day, the future ended.

In *Fall of Civilizations*, historian Paul Cooper tells the stories behind our greatest civilizations, how they rose to power and what life was like for the people who witnessed their downfall. Based on the critically acclaimed podcast, this extraordinary book turns a clear eye on to humanity's past mistakes – and whether we are doomed to repeat them.

Ms Smith, a self-confessed history nerd, really enjoyed learning about lesser-known civilisations and now wants to visit Peru because of the chapter about South America.

Suitable for all age groups.



Student Recommendation
A year 9 student who wishes to remain nameless recommends *That Peckham Boy* by Kenny Imafidon.

Two days after his eighteenth birthday, Kenny Imafidon was charged with the murder of a seventeen-year-old boy in south-east London. The middle

child of a single mother with ambitions for her children, Kenny grew up near an estate in Peckham where deprivation and hopelessness were rife, and gang culture flourished in his community. Kenny faced a minimum of thirty years behind bars - longer than the life he had lived. When the case against Kenny collapsed, he quickly realised that his name was still inextricably linked with a horrific crime he hadn't committed. He decided to rewrite his story. It began with The Kenny Report, which he delivered to the House of Commons and which detailed the experiences of marginalised young people who drift into gangs, and has led to extensive work with charities, communities and policy-makers that is helping to change the narratives of other young people just like Kenny.

Our mystery student found the book 'fascinating, because I can see myself in Kenny.'

Some mature themes and language; best suited to Year 9 students and over.



Big History Club!

For Key Stage 3 and 4 in HU6
Every other Tuesday from 4.15pm to 5pm

Do you want to dive into the past?

Is there something we don't cover at school that you would like to learn about?

In Big History Club we use history and fiction books, films, art, music and more to **enquire into diverse World Histories** from ancient times to modern day.

Join us on Tuesday 10th December for our last session of 2024, on

The Origins Of Christmas Traditions

with Ms Preston.

Bring along any ideas for people, events or items from history you want to know more about!



Activities to help soothe your child when they're worried or anxious

If your child feels worried or anxious, you can help them to learn some techniques to feel calmer and more in control. Try some of the methods below. Practise them over time with your child when they need a bit of extra help. Be available to talk to your child about their worries and how calming activities can help.

Breathe In 'Threes': 30-Second Activity

This breathing exercise helps quieten anxious thoughts. Practise it together with your child, and talk about when it might be useful to breathe like this.



- Breathe in slowly for the count of three
 - Hold your breath for the count of three.
 - Breathe out slowly for the count of three.
- Your child can repeat this as many times as they like until they feel calmer.

Recognise What's Going Well: Two-Minute Activity

When we worry, we often imagine all the bad things that might happen. This exercise helps your child stay present by remembering safe or comforting thoughts.



- Ask your child to name or write down:
- One thing that's going well for them right now.
 - Two people they can count on for a warm hug or kind word.
 - Three things they're looking forward to.

The Circle of Control: Five-Minute Activity

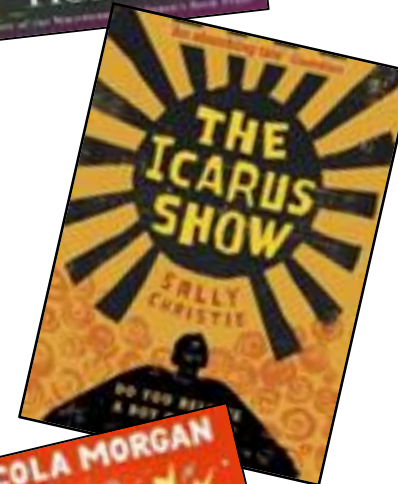
Practising the circle of control can help limit which thoughts become worries.



Ask your child to draw a circle on a piece of paper. Inside the circle, write down "Things I can control". For example:

- What I wear.
 - What I choose to read or watch online.
 - Washing my hair and keeping healthy
- Outside the circle, get your child to write "Things I can't control." For example:
- The weather.
 - What other people post online.
 - How my friends or family feel.

Supporting Your Child With Reading - The Teenage Years



As your child moves into secondary school, reading can be seen by them more as work than fun, and teenagers may stop reading for pleasure or stop reading at all. Here is some advice to support your teenager through these years:

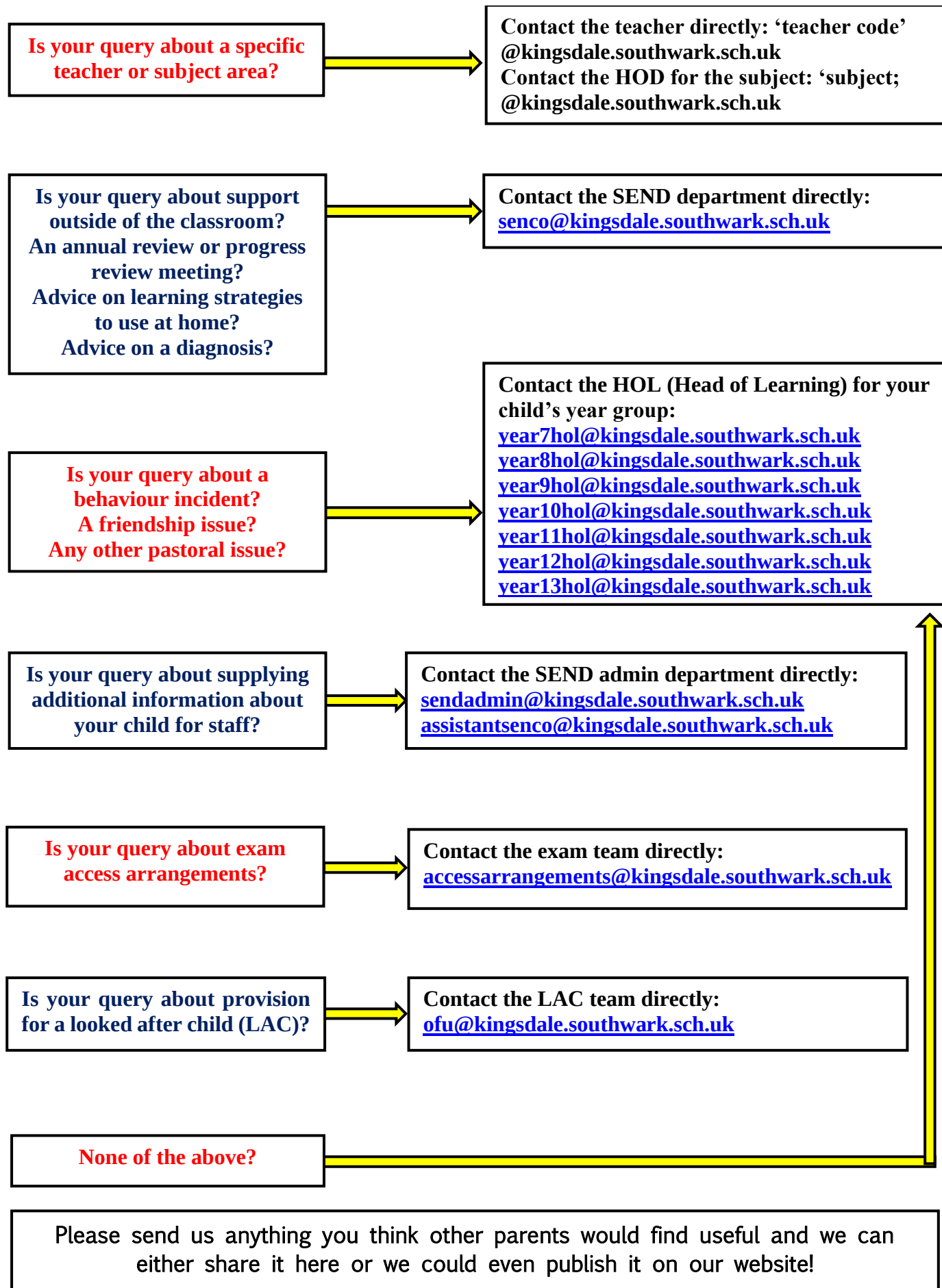
- **Young Adult (YA) novels** tackle the edgy issues teenagers struggle with, from romantic longing to peer pressure to grief and trouble at home or school. Teenagers will gravitate toward relatable subject matter whether they are personally grappling with these issues or are seeking vicarious thrills.
- **Merge movies with books.** Hollywood is turning to teen literature for ideas more than ever. Offer your teenager the print version to read before or after a big film comes out and discuss with them the similarities and the differences between the two. Which was better? The book or movie? Why?
- **Graphic novels**, once dismissed as comic books, are now recognised as literature. These books may be the key to getting some teenagers hooked on books and are available in a wide range of genres, from adventure and fantasy to historical fiction, memoir, and biography, so certainly, there is a graphic novel out there to suit your teenager's taste.
- **Encourage your teenager with appropriate adult-level books.** Find non-fiction titles on subjects your teen's curious about, such as climate change, race, political corruption, or true crime. Check adult non-fiction bestseller lists to see what is going viral.
- **Try some poetry.** Novels in verse and performance poetry are an increasingly popular trend. Poems are easy to read as they have all that white space on the page. The spare and lyrical approach to poetry can pack a punch.
- **Let your teenager get an audiobook** to listen to on the way to school or on long drives. They can download audiobooks to their smartphones to not risk looking uncool because they will be under headphones or have their earbuds in.
- **Model reading at home**, where your teenager can see you. Express your interest and enjoyment and talk about what you are reading. Always take a book with you when you go to the beach or waiting in a long queue. Demonstrate to your teenager that reading is a pleasure and not a chore.
- **Keep reading material around.** Children who grow up with heaps of books around them tend to read more. Fill the bathroom, car, dining table (wherever there is a captive audience) with comic books, graphic novels, and magazines geared to their interests. There is nothing wrong with "micro-reading."

"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away, and in its place, you can install a lovely bookshelf on the wall."

Roald Dahl

Communication Flowchart: SEND

At Kingsdale we would like our communication to be as effective as possible. Please see the flowchart below to help us support your child effectively and get the information needed to the right people.



REGISTER FOR FREE



VRU | MAYOR OF LOND

FOOTSTEPS FORWARD

- For ages 14-18
- Drop-in's welcome
- Parental consent is required



4-6PM, every Thursday,
Aug 15th - Dec 19th



Rotherhithe Community Centre,
30 Plough Way London SE16
2LJ, UK



Have you been bereaved or affected by youth violence?

Come together for

Weekly sports

Well-being activities

Youth Club+ Workshops

Group/ Individual therapy

Contact Allison Vitalis for info + referrals: :
a.vitalis@rj4all.org

SCHOOL NEWS

CALENDAR 2024-25



You can also find lots of other useful sources of information on the school website [here](#). This includes further details about the operation of the school, including Term Dates, Assessment and Uniform.

Should you have any suggestions for additions to our website, please contact Mr Karp, via email tkp@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

For further information on term & holiday dates, please contact the Attendance Team via attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Second Autumn Half-Term

Monday 4th November – Friday 20th December

Christmas Break

Monday 22nd December – Thursday 2nd January

SPRING TERM 2025

Friday 3rd January INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

First Spring Half-Term

Friday 3rd January – Friday 14th February

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Second Spring Half-Term

Monday 24th February – Friday 4th April

SUMMER TERM 2025

First Summer Half-Term

Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 23rd May

Tuesday 22nd April INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

Mayday Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Second Summer Half Term

Monday 2nd June – Friday 25th July

Friday 25th July INSET DAY

School closed to students except by invitation

The School Shop

A reminder that our School Shop is now open during the school day to enable students to purchase a range of useful items that they might need.

This includes stationary and uniform items; all of which can be purchased using their school fob.

The School Shop is located in the main Atrium nearest to the green stairs.



Lost Property

We are still receiving a large number of items that have been mislaid or lost by students.

In many cases, these items are unlabelled, making it very hard for them to be quickly and successfully reunited with their owners!

Please can we ask parents to label all items of their children's property at school, including water bottles, blazers and coats.

Lost property queries can be directed to lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.school.uk

KFS Uniform Bank

Our uniform is a key part of our identity and as such we are able to help parents and carers in providing quality uniform items. Sadly, the cost of living is still rising and some families are finding it a challenge to cover all bases in bringing up a family. There is also the negative environmental impact in design and disposal within the clothing industry to consider. Kingsdale community families can acquire cleaned and sanitised pre-worn uniform blazers (Belmont Dry Cleaners in Croxted Road have been most generous with their time and costing in this matter) and other items, dependent on availability, at a much, reduced rate.

The Uniform Bank will also be open between 3.45pm and 4.45pm each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please, always check for availability of items prior to making a purchase. This is a rolling programme that continues throughout the entire academic year and as such we are always looking for donations. Please leave washed and folded clothes at the main Reception area. Items of uniform will be available at other times of the year depending on supply. If you would like to help in any way please make yourself known to the team.

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact: Mr Lewis at jls@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



Talking to your child about

SHARING IMAGES ONLINE

For children and young people, socialising online is part of normal life. Chatting online and sending messages, photos and videos can be a good way of strengthening friendships. Sometimes, however, they can misjudge boundaries and may not realise the impact of their actions.

They can also be manipulated or pressured by others into sending inappropriate content, such as nude or semi-nude images. These can be sent for reasons including humour, shock-value, revenge or exploring bodies and relationships. Once images are shared, they can't be retrieved, leaving them vulnerable in many ways.

Having conversations with your child at an early age about what is and isn't ok to create and share can help keep them safe.



What can you do to keep your child safe online?

S

Set clear boundaries.

Agree with your child what they can do online and their access to certain apps/websites.

T

Talk with your child and be supportive.

Listen to what they already know so you can start a conversation about what normal use is.

E

Educate everyone in the family.

Make sure all family members know what isn't appropriate and how to stay safe online.

E

Evolve with the internet.

Keep up to date with technology used by your child and their features such as smartphones, VR headsets etc.

R

Research, review and regulate the apps and websites your child uses. This will allow you to decide whether they should use them and how to keep them safe online.



Prosecutions of children are very rare but there can be legal consequences to sharing nude or semi-nude imagery of a child (photos, cartoons or other picture formats), even if the person doing so is a child. If you think your child has shared an inappropriate image, speak to an advisor at the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP). Details below.



FOR SUPPORT AND ADVICE, PLEASE VISIT:



ParentZone – Resources for parents/children to help keep kids safe online.



CEOP Education from the National Crime Agency – Advice, information and resources to use with your child to help keep them safer from online child sexual abuse.



Internet Matters – Comprehensive resources and expert guidance to help parents/carers keep their children safe online.



A safe space for teenagers worried about sexual behaviour

Our new website for young people with concerns about their own or someone else's sexual thoughts and behaviour.



shospace.org.uk

Why Shore?

- It is one of the only resources of its kind in the world, designed specifically for young people with concerns about sexual behaviour
- It has reliable information to get anonymous help if they or a friend has acted harmfully online

SCHOOL NEWS

Safe Travel to School

At school, we have shared the key messages about keeping safe with the students. Some of the key messages are outlined below:

“LOOK UP LOOK OUT”

- **BE AWARE** of your surroundings.
- **BE AWARE** when using your mobile phone.
- Know your route home.
- Keep to busy roads.
- Try to be with other people.
- If someone tries to stop you keep walking.
- **SHOUT** for help and make **NOISE**.
- If anything happens speak to a trusted adult as soon as you can.
- **RUN HIDE TELL**.
- There is no right or wrong response as each situation is different but remember that **YOUR SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT**. Only **YOU** can assess the risk.
- Possessions are replaceable, but **you are not**.

Your child must contact the Police immediately on 999 if they are concerned about their safety or if they are the victim of a mugging/attempted mugging.

Students and Parents should also inform the school so that we can offer pastoral support and liaise with our Safer Schools Officer – PC Crampton.

Please contact Mr Harding via dhg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk with any queries.



Kingsdale is a Safe Space

We would like to take this opportunity to once again remind students and their families of our two confidential emails which are operational both during and outside of school hours.

This provision is available for any member of our school community wishing to seek advice, discuss any matters relating to mental health & well-being or report an incident or concern confidentially via email.

We appreciate that students, parents, carers or guardians may wish to speak to someone outside of school hours or may wish to disclose an incident or concern confidentially or anonymously.

Our two confidential emails are:

health&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

tellsomeone@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Please contact **Ms V Turner** for further information regarding this provision or any matters relating to mental health & well-being at Kingsdale School.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Eagle House Captains Reflect on Human Rights

In recognition of Human Rights Day, our Eagle House Captains have been exploring and discussing their understanding of fundamental human rights. They have considered the importance of these rights in creating a fair and just world. Below, two of our House Captains share their thoughts on which rights they believe are the most vital and why. Let their reflections inspire us all to think about the value of human rights in our lives and communities!



STUDENT TASK:

Write a poem/speech to express which Human Rights are most important to you.

HOUSE ACTIVITY:

Submit your work to the House Team:
housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk
Ensure your entry is accompanied by your full name, tutor group and House.

An important Human Right is the Freedom of Speech. I believe this as people in some countries face oppression. This is a note to let everyone speak for what they believe in, even if you don't like someone or you're not friends with them, you should all be heard by the audience of the world and the school.

Sophia Nguyen, Year 7

I believe the most important human right is **the right to say what you think**. This is important because it lets people share their ideas, talk about problems, and stand up for what's right without getting in trouble. If we couldn't speak freely, it would be hard to make things fair or better for everyone. It's also how we learn from each other and come up with new ideas. Being able to say what you think helps make the world a fairer and kinder place.

Oscar Keneyinboh, Year 7

The most important human right to me is '*You Have Rights No Matter Where You Go*' because it incorporates all the other human rights into this one. It means that everyone globally is not exempt from giving or getting their basic human rights, regardless of their race, gender, religion or community. This sits alongside other rights, such as *Freedom from Torture*, *No Slavery* and *Don't Discriminate*. Overall, I think that the right: '*You Have Rights No Matter Where You Go*' is the most important as it takes all the other rights and mixes them together, so in my opinion, it is the best.

Cassius Cooper, Year 9



Christmas JUMPER DAY



Kingsdale will celebrate Christmas Jumper day on Monday 16th December 2024. On this day millions of people up and down the country will come together – at their workplace, school or with friends – to make the world better with a sweater.

The first Christmas Jumper Day took place on December 14th, 2012. It had been proposed by *Save the Children* as a way to highlight the plight of millions of children worldwide who are living in poverty. It got the endorsement of numerous celebrities and ran under the slogan, '*make the world better with a sweater*'.

STUDENT TASK: Design your own Christmas Jumper in preparation for Christmas Jumper Day.

HOUSE ACTIVITY: Submit your Christmas Jumper to the House Team:
housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk
Ensure your entry is accompanied by your full name, tutor group and House.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of G@Recon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

SPORTS FIXTURES

HOUSE NEWS

Monday 9th December 2024

- Under-12s Boys' Elite Football Away Match v Warden Park Academy at Burgess Park. Leave school at 12.30pm. Start 1.30pm. Return at 4pm approx.: **Mr Dash**
- Under-12s Boys' Football B Team Away Match v Whitgift School. Leave school at 12.45pm. Start 2pm. Return at 4.30pm approx.: **Mr Price**
- Under-13s Boys' Football B Team Away Match v Rutlish School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.15pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Johnstone**

Tuesday 10th December 2024

- Under-15s Girls' Hockey Away Match v St Dunstan's College. Leave school at 3pm. Start 4.15pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mr Pizzey**

Wednesday 11th December 2024

- Under-13s Boys' Rugby Home Match v Rutlish School. Leave school at 1.30pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 4.30pm approx.: **Mr Lord**

Thursday 12th December 2024

- Under-14s Boys' Rugby Away Match v Rutlish School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.15pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Roberts/Mr Price**
- Under-13s Boys' Elite Football Away Match v Northampton School for Boys. Leave school at 10am. Start 1.30pm. Return at 6.30pm approx.: **Mr Johnstone/Mr Foster**
- Under-15s Mixed Girls'/Boys' Volleyball Away Match v Bishop Thomas Grant School. Leave school at 2.30pm. Start 3.30pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mr Fitchett/Mr Hall**

Friday 13th December 2024

- No planned fixtures/events

***Please note Fixtures/Events may be cancelled due to wet pitches.**

Extra Fixtures may be organised at short notice.

All fixtures can be viewed via the link below:

<http://www.kingsdaleschoolsports.org.uk>



Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus, we are looking at everything Parents/Carers need to know about 'In-Game Chat'. Get a greater insight here.

Please read! Remember to keep an open dialogue with your child about their activities online. **See page 22 above.**

The House Leader Board 2024-25

**Week ending
6th December 2024**

- 1st Place** – Dove 36,061 points
- 2nd Place** – Swift 34,669 points
- 3rd Place** – Albatross 33,501 points
- 4th Place** – Eagle 32,853 points
- 5th Place** – Falcon 32,724 points



Falcon and Eagle are neck and neck! Nobody wants to be bringing up the rear, do they?

Student Suggestion Boxes

To promote our well-established and highly effective Student Voice programme, there are suggestion boxes, which are located outside of the Attendance Office in the Main Atrium and the Office of The Headteacher at the bottom of the Green Stairs.

Please encourage your child to use this facility to make suggestions about how we can continue to improve our provision.



Remember!

You can access the school's Extra Curricular Sports page via clicking the following link here.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Turner at pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk should you require any further information regarding the KFS sports programme.



Kingsdale Foundation School, Alleyn Park, Dulwich, London, SE21 8SQ

Web: www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk Tel: 0208 670 7575 (To report student absence use Option 2)