



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 17 Monday 26th January 2026

HEADLINE NOTICES

Kingsdale Winter Music Concert Thursday 29th January 2026 at 6pm

A reminder that our annual concert will take place this week with performances from the majority of our ensembles. The following groups are scheduled to perform:

Junior Strings, Junior Woodwind, Junior Jazz, Flute Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Sweet Recorder Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Senior Woodwind, Mr Parkes Percussion, Mr Lewis Percussion, Senior Steel Pans, Gospel Choir, Chamber Choir, Musical Theatre Choir, Orchestra and the Barry Graham Big Band.

All students in these ensembles have been rehearsing since September for this important concert and will be required to attend to ensure each ensemble is at its full strength. This is a non-ticketed event which starts at 6pm. Further details issued separately.



House Excellence Award

Mariam Balde, Year 8, has won the House Excellence Award. She was nominated by the English Department. Mariam is a dedicated student who not only answers questions thoughtfully and intelligently but asks challenging questions of her teacher; she participates enthusiastically in group discussions and her text readings are engaging, dynamic and

creative. Mariam always gives her best effort, and she is a delight to work with. Congratulations Mariam!

Kingsdale Valentine's Music Concert Thursday 26th February 2026

Don't forget our Valentine's Music concert returns on Thursday 26th February, featuring performance from students, staff, community members and KFS alumni. This is an extra special concert this year as we will be joined by guests from the United States who we collaborated with on our Jazz tour last year. The school ensembles currently due to perform at this will be: Senior African Drumming, Senior Guitars, Folk Band, Senior Percussion and Senior Jazz Ensemble. We have a number of spaces reserved for parent and community acts. Please email performarts@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk if you or anyone you know would like to join us to perform at this special event. Feel free to share this information and email with any community organisations or musical friends of the school. This concert is scheduled to start at 6pm. We hope to see you there!

THEME OF THE WEEK

Achievement and Success

'Draw a distinction between achievement and success. Achievement is the knowledge that you have studied and worked hard and done the best that is in you. Success is being praised by others. That is nice but not as important or satisfying. Always aim for achievement and forget about success.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

Covenant

'A formal agreement or promise between two or more people.'

"The two parties entered into a covenant to share profits equally."

SCHOOL NEWS

We will be back in the KFS garden for our first volunteer session of this year on **Saturday 7th February 10.30am-12.30am.**



No experience necessary
All welcome!
Refreshments provided

Coffee Mornings

Our Coffee Mornings for parents are a great opportunity to meet staff and learn more about the curriculum for each year group.

The upcoming dates for this term's meetings are:

Friday 30th January 2026 Year 9 & 10

Friday 6th February 2026 Year 7 & 8

The event starts at 11am in Conference Room 1

Any queries please contact Mrs Chaudhary,

Acting Deputy Headteacher via

sca@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



Holocaust Memorial Day



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST**

#HolocaustMemorialDay / 27 January

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2026, *Bridging Generations*, reminds us that remembrance is a shared responsibility. While we honour the voices of survivors, their stories live on through future generations and through all of us.

The theme highlights the importance of learning from the past and passing these lessons forward, connecting memory to action and hope for the future. It also invites us to honour every life lost in the Holocaust, including those who left no family behind, ensuring their legacies continue through education and remembrance.

You can mark Holocaust Memorial Day by:

- Watching the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony, which will be available online;
- Spread awareness of injustice;
- Holding a moment of reflection;
- Finding out about heroes of the Holocaust.





Kingsdale Symphony Orchestra

Join students from around Southwark in a
half-term orchestral course.

Sign up using the QR
code below

Dates: Wednesday 18 February to Friday 20
February

Times: 9:30am to 3:00pm Wed/Thurs
2pm to 6pm Friday

Concert at 5:30pm on Friday 20 February





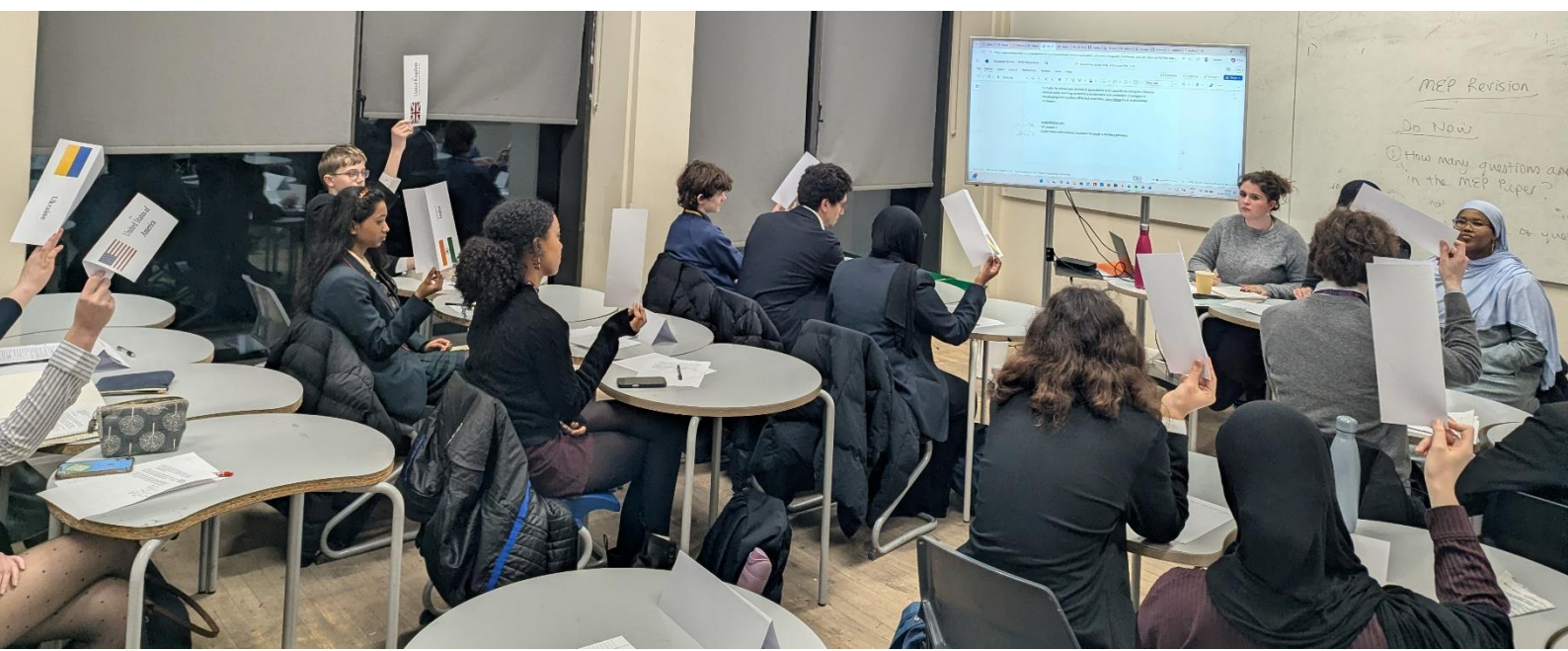
Kingsdale Model United Nations (MUN) 2026

Last week saw Kingsdale host its inaugural MUN evening, after attending conferences across London over the past few years, our students were keen to chair and lead their own debates alongside students from - Charter School North Dulwich, Dulwich College, St Michael's, Trinity Academy & Bullers Wood. All schools who are active within the South London MUN community.

It was a brilliant evening, with 94 students participating in 2 hours of engaging debate across 5 committees. Topics included - climate change, the current situation in the Middle East, AI and lunar exploration. The Historical Council meanwhile revisited the Suez Crisis to see if a different political outcome could be achieved. It was great to see many students participating in their first ever MUN conference, developing their public speaking, problem solving and negotiating skills.

The best thing about MUN is that it is entirely student led and a big thank you to our wonderful Chairs for leading on each committee - Seth Rogers, Jess Gavin Elias, Aurelia Savini Gonzalez, Zaineb Hussain, Ugbad Hassan, Gaia Menin, Renee Vuong, Conor Cavanagh, Zahira Bloch, John Toohey & Iris Walker. Thank you also to our visiting schools for both their enthusiastic debating and supporting with MUN across the area, giving so many students access to these opportunities.

MUN SIXTH FORM NEWS





EXHIBITION YTO BARRADA

by Yorkabel Abraham and Lena Aldridge



In the last week of term, the Arts Awards and Art Scholars went to see Yto Barrada at the South London Gallery. We were introduced to her work by the kind art educator. Slowly, she guided us through the tour, showing us the wonders of Barrada's art world.

As the exhibition continued, we explored Yto Barrada's different eras of art. For example, one of our favourite pieces was a series of black and white cubes piled high up in the gallery that looked like chess pieces. As Bronze Art Award students, she has inspired us to start natural dying (which we will be exploring in our upcoming sessions).

This piece of information shows that Yto Barrada has experimented with several different forms of art. Not only has she become a well-known artist she is also involved in film and social activism.

HOW TO
DO NOTHING
WITH
NOBODY
ALL ALONE
BY
YOURSELF

'Barrada also works as an artistic director for the Tangier art house movie theatre'





ARTiculation



Last Wednesday 14th January, Year 13 student Evelyn Brookes took part in the regional heat of the ARTiculation Prize at the Dulwich Picture Gallery. Evelyn delivered an inciteful talk about Jeff Wall's 'Summer Afternoon' 2013 and was awarded 2nd place.

The judges were very impressed with Evelyn's presentation and gave this feedback:

Dr Nick Makoha described Evelyn's analytical approach as exemplary, noting that she demonstrates the qualities of a budding artist. He observed that she engages deeply with art rather than simply speaking about it, and that her desire to make a difference through her work is clear. Dr Makoha emphasised that her passion - particularly evident in the story of her perfect day - should not be underestimated and encouraged her to share it confidently.



GCSE ART, TEXTILES, GRAPHICS & PHOTOGRAPHY

To support the launch of the Year 11 Art, Textiles, Graphics and Photography GCSE exam, we are offering the opportunity for students to participate in these one-off drop-in workshops. Students just need to bring their exam sketchbooks and lots of enthusiasm!

Year 11 Workshops

3.45pm-4.45pm

Tuesday 20th January - Drawing with Stitch
AR2 - Mrs Howell

Wednesday 21st January - Cyanotype
PS1 - Ms Wallner

Thursday 22nd January - Heat Transfer Printing
AR7- Mrs Brocklesby

Tuesday 27th January - Relief Mono Printing
TE1 - Ms Rix

Tuesday 3rd February - Plaster Casting
AR1 - Miss Farley

Thursday 5th February - Abstract Painting
AR4 - Ms Montero

Young Artists' Summer Show 2026

We are encouraging students to submit artwork to the Royal Academy Student Summer Show. The school is registered for applications and students can speak to their Art teacher for support.

RA Royal Academy of Arts

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4-18 living and studying in the UK.

Students can submit one artwork for consideration which will be judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals. Selected artworks will be displayed at the Royal Academy of Arts either onsite or online. The RA will award prizes for inspiring artworks.

How to enter

From 5 January 2026, teachers will be able to register their school. Next, teachers and parents/guardians can submit artworks via the RA website until 4 March 2026.

Important dates

5 January - 4 March 2026

Registration and submission open

May 2026

Judging

14 July 2026

Online exhibition opens

14 July - 30 August 2026

Display at the RA open

Sign up and find out more

roy.ac/youngartists

@royalacademyarts

Made possible by Robin Hambro

CAREER NEWS



University Insight Talks begin!

Last week saw the launch of our university insight talks for Year 12. Students heard from Sam Tewodros, a former Kingsdale student currently in his third year studying Land Economy at Homerton College, Cambridge.

Sam gave a truly inspirational talk to 60 Year 12 students, giving an insight into studying at Cambridge, both in terms of his course and the experience of college life including societies and trips. He also provided a series of study tips and advice on how to ensure students work effectively during their A Levels and beyond.

Sam, who started Year 12 in 2021, is an amazing example of a Sixth Form student who made the most of every opportunity offered to him, both at school and when he has gone to university. It proved a real inspiration to attendees and we are excited for the next few talks!



Careers in Advertising

**Tuesday 3rd February, 1-1.45pm in CR1
for Students in Years 9 & 12-13**

Interested in how the products you buy are promoted and how companies persuade you to want things? Want to know how big advertising campaigns are conceived of and put together? Interested in the combination of project management and creativity? Come along to CR1 on Tuesday 3rd February to find out about careers in Advertising! Advertising is a hugely diverse and interesting field which offers many opportunities for people of all skillsets, from creatives to managers to technicians. Susanne Ashley-Tagoe is an Executive Producer which means that she manages the whole production of adverts, building teams and project-managing campaigns. She will help you see the diversity of opportunities available and how the different roles connect.

Students should come to CR1 at 1pm on Tuesday 3rd February to find out more! They can sign up using [this link](#).

For more information on future careers talks, go to Page 12.

South London Children and Young People's Community Immunisation Service

Years 8 & 9 Immunisation Information

The South London Children and Young People's Community Immunisation Service are hosting two parent information sessions explaining the immunisations offered to teenagers during secondary school.

These sessions will cover:

1. the HPV vaccine
2. the 3-in-1 teenage booster
3. the Meningococcal vaccine
4. the MMR vaccine

These information sessions are aimed at parents of students in Years 8 and 9, or any parents whose young people missed their routine vaccines in Years 8 and 9. For more information about the vaccinations click [here](#).

Alternatively, you can join the following Teams meetings on Thursday 29th January 4 – 5pm: [click here](#).

**Your child is now due their
teenage vaccines**

Protect them against:

- diphtheria,
- tetanus,
- polio, and
- meningococcal disease

**Make sure your
parents complete
your consent form
today!**



SPORTS NEWS

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

Under-15s Girls Sisters in Sport National Cup Kingsdale v The Latymer School for Girls

Congratulations to the Under-15s Girls' Football team who progressed into the 3rd Round of the Sisters in Sport National Cup last week.

Hattricks from Sofia Jex and Caliyah Byfield and a brace from Marlena Westaway, secured a 8-0 victory against The Latymer School for Girls. After a disappointing last week, it was great to see the squad returning to winning ways and in great spirits as they attempted to make their way to the final of the competition.

Final Score: Kingsdale 8-0 Latymer School

Player of The Match: Cecilia Hollowell with an outstanding performance assisting 4 of the goals.



JNR NBA Workshop

30 KFS students thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon's Jnr NBA workshop at the UEL Sports Dock on Wednesday 14th January. This was a very engaging session run by expert coaches some of whom happened to be current and ex-professional basketball players.



PE Department Extra-Curricular Sports Activities Timetable - Spring Term 2025-26

Sports Clubs Spring Term 2026

The Sports Faculty at Kingsdale Foundation School are delighted to announce that our Extra Curricular Sports Programme for the Spring term 2026 has now launched. Please be advised that students will be required to submit a completed parental consent form before attending sessions held before or after school. However, students are not required to have parental consent to attend any of our published lunchtime clubs. Please find attached our programme of extra-curricular clubs for the Spring term. If you have already signed your child up for a club that has been running since the Autumn term and is on the same day and at the same time for the Spring Term then you do not need to complete the form again.

If your child wishes to attend any of our published sports clubs, please follow the link below, where you will be able to access further information and a consent form for your child’s chosen sports club(s). Please be advised that all students are required to wear full school PE kit when attending any of our extra-curricular clubs.

KFS Extra-Curricular Sports Online Booking Form

Please be informed that all students attending our extra-curricular clubs and representing the school at sporting events are expected to be excellent sports ambassadors for the school and are therefore required to adhere to and sign our Sporting Code of Conduct which can be accessed by following the link [KFS Extra-Curricular Sports Online Booking Form](#). Please be assured that all students are welcome to attend our clubs whether for recreational or competitive enjoyment and we very much look forward to welcoming you to what is sure to be another year of sporting excellence at Kingsdale Foundation School.

For further details please contact Ms V. Turner, Director of Sport, Health & Recreation via pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



LIBRARY NEWS

Carnegie Book Club

If you’re in Year 7 and love reading, join Ms Redfern and Ms Walker for the Carnegie Medal Book Club! The club allows students the opportunity to read, discuss and review the books shortlisted for the 2025 [Carnegie Medal for writing](#), so it will be a great chance for students to read some of the best titles in teen fiction! We will be meeting every Wednesday during period 3 (Year 7 lunch) in the Lower School Library.



Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday			
Football – Boys – Year 10	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Hall & Mr Foster
Recreational Football – Boys – Year 7	11:05-11:50am	Astro	Mr Price & Mr Foster
Table Tennis – Mixed – Year 7	11:05-11:50am	Gym 1	Mr Hutchinson
Swimming – Mixed – Year 7	11:15-1:45pm	Crystal Palace	Ms Jaymes
Recreational Football – Boys – Year 8	12:00-12:45pm	Astro	Mr Dash
Netball – Girls – Year 8&10	12:00-12:45pm	Sports Hall	Mr Foster
Recreational Football – Boys – Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Astro	Mr Price
Fitness – Boys and Girls Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Fitness Suite	Mr Dash
Football – Boys – Year 8	4:15-5:15pm	Astro/Playing Fields	Mr Price
Basketball – Boys – Year 9, 10 & 11	4:15-5:15pm	Sports Hall	Mr Hall
Rugby – Girls – All Years	3:45-4:45pm	Playing Fields/Astro	Mr McWhirter
Tuesday			
Basketball – Girls – Year 8, 9, 10 & 11	8:00-8:50am	Sports Hall	Mr Roberts
Table Tennis – Mixed – Year 9	8:10-8:50am	GM1	Mr Price
Rugby – Boys – Year 8&9	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Lord
Football – Boys – Year 7 A and B Squad	11:05-11:50am	Astro	Mr Fitchett
Basketball – Girls – Year 7	11:05-11:50am	Sports Hall	Ms McManus
Table Tennis – Boys and Girls - Year 8 and 10	12:00-12:45pm	Gym 1	Mr Roberts
Fitness – Boys and Girls - Year 8 and 10	12:00-12:45pm	Fitness Suite	Mr Lord
Sports Scholars – Mixed – Year 8 and 10	12:00-12:45pm	Astro	Mr Johnstone
Dance – Mixed – Technique – Year 8 and 10	12:00-12:45pm	Dance Studio	Ms McGregor
Dance – Mixed – Technique – Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Dance Studio	Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey
Cycling – Mixed – All Years	3:00-5:00pm	Herne Hill Velodrome	Ms McGregor
Badminton – Mixed – Year 8,9, 10 & 11	4:15-5:15pm	Sports Hall	Ms Jaymes
Football – Boys – Year 11	3:45-5:00pm	Astro/Playing Fields	Mr Foster
Football – Girls – Year 10 and 11	4:10-5:15pm	Astro/Playing Fields	Ms Jaymes
Dance – Mixed – Contemporary – Year 7 and 11	3:45-5:00pm	Dance Studio	Ms Dookey
Dance – Mixed – Contemporary – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:15-5:15pm	Dance Studio	Ms Dookey
Wednesday			
Football – Boys – Year 9	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Johnstone
Netball – Girls – Year 11	8:00-8:50am	Sports Hall	Mr Foster
Horse Riding – Mixed- Year 7	10:45-12:15pm	Dulwich Stables	Ms McGregor
Horse Riding – Mixed- Year 7	12:45-2:15pm	Dulwich Stables	Ms McGregor
Sports Scholars – Mixed – Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Sports Hall	Mr Foster
Football – Mixed – Sixth Form	1:50-3:40pm	Playing Fields	Mr Price & Mr Dash
Rugby – Mixed - Sixth Form	1:50-3:40pm	Playing Fields	Mr McWhirter
Rugby – Boys – Year 7	3:45-5pm	Playing Fields	Mr Roberts
Football – Girls – Year 8&9	4:10-5:15pm	Astro	Mrs Sinclair & Mr Foster
Thursday			
Hockey – Mixed – Year 8,9,10 & 11	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Dash & Mr Jones
Sports Scholars – Mixed - Year 7 and 11	11:05-11:50am	Astro, Gym 2	Various
Badminton – Mixed – Year 7	11:05-11:50am	Sports Hall	Ms Jaymes & Ms Marshall
Fitness – Boys and Girls Year 7 and 11	11:05-11:50am	Fitness Suite	Mr Price & Mr Fitchett
Hockey – Mixed – Year 7	11:05-11:50am	Astro	Mr Dash
Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 7 and 11	3:45-5:00pm	Dance Studio	Ms McGregor
Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:15- 5:15pm	Dance Studio	Ms Jaymes
Football – Girls – Year 7	3:45-5:00pm	Astro	Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey
Friday			
Basketball – Boys – Year 7 & 8	7:45-8:50am	Sports Hall	Ms McManus
Rugby – Boys – Year 10&11	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr McWhirter
Netball – Girls – Year 7	3:40-4:45pm	Sports Hall	Mr Lord
Netball – Girls – Year 9	3:45-5:00pm	Sports Hall	Mr McWhirter

CAREER NEWS

Careers Talks Coming Up

We have a wide range of talks coming up in the coming months. To express interest for your child, please use [this link](#).

Date	Time	Years	Talk
Tuesday 3 rd February	Period 5 1-1.45pm	9, 12 & 13	Advertising
Wednesday 4 th March	Period 4 12.10-12.45pm	8 & 10	Interior Design
Wednesday 18 th March	TBC	TBC	Metropolitan Police
Tuesday 28 th April	TBC	TBC	Data Centres
Friday 1 st May	Period 4 12.10-12.50pm	8 & 10	Nursing
Tuesday 12 th May	4.15-5.00pm (after school)	All Years	Archaeology
Spring – date TBC	TBC	TBC	Video Publishing & Media

GCSE Literature Catch Up Sessions

Wednesdays 3.45 – 4.30pm in the USL

Year 10s and 11s welcome. Please let your teacher know if you would like to attend.

The sessions will focus on poetry but there will also be time to ask for help with other texts.

POEM 1	POEM 2	DATE
Half Caste	No Problem Catrin	7 th January
Catrin	Cousin Kate	14 th January
Belfast Confetti	War Photographer	21 st January
A Poison Tree	The Man He Killed	28 th January
The Destruction of Sennacherib	Extract from The Prelude	4 th February

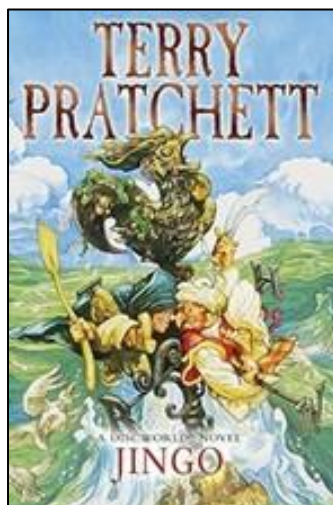
National Year of Reading 2026

We are proudly supporting the National Year of Reading 2026 and the theme of 'Go All In.' Watch this space for more information regarding the exciting programme of initiatives we have planned to support this important focus. As a 'Do Now' activity, we ask all parents to ensure that their children have a reading book in their school bag every day which they can obtain from the school libraries.



National
Year of
Reading
2026

Reading Recommendations



Teacher Recommendation
Ms Smith recommends
Jingo
by Terry Pratchett

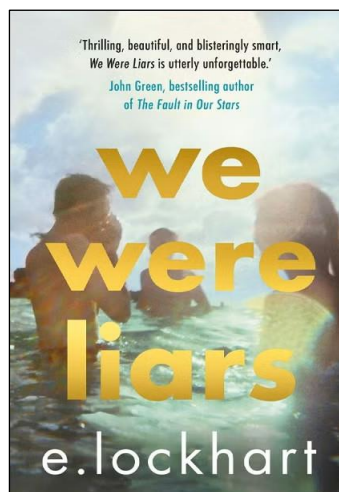
When the neighbours in question are the proud empires of Klatch and Ankh-Morpork, those are going to be some pretty large garden tools indeed.

Of course, no-one would dream of starting a war without a perfectly good reason...such as a 'strategic' piece of old rock in the middle of nowhere.

It is after all every citizen's right to bear arms to defend their own. Even if it isn't *technically* their own. And even if they don't have much in the way of actual weaponry. As two armies march, Commander Vimes of Ankh-Morpork City Watch faces unpleasant foes who are out to get him... and that's just the people on his side. The enemy might be even worse.

Ms Smith enjoyed this satirical take on imperialism and nationalism and adored its characters.

Suitable for Year 7 students and over!



Student Recommendation
Year 9, Lia Wilson-March recommends
We Were Liars
by E. Lockhart

A beautiful and distinguished family.

A private island.

A brilliant, damaged girl; a passionate, political boy.

A group of four friends-the Liars-whose friendship turns destructive.

A revolution.

An accident.

A secret. Lies upon lies.

True love. The truth.

Lia really enjoyed the 'twisty' plot of this 'rollercoaster of a story!'

Some mature themes; best suited for Year 9 and older!

CALENDAR 2025-26



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 at attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

SPRING TERM 2026

First Spring Half-Term

Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Second Spring Half-Term

Monday 23rd February – Friday 27th March

SUMMER TERM 2026

First Summer Half-Term

Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May

Monday 13th April INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

Mayday Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2025

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Second Summer Half Term

Monday 1st June – Friday 24th July

Friday 24th July INSET DAY

School closed to students except by invitation

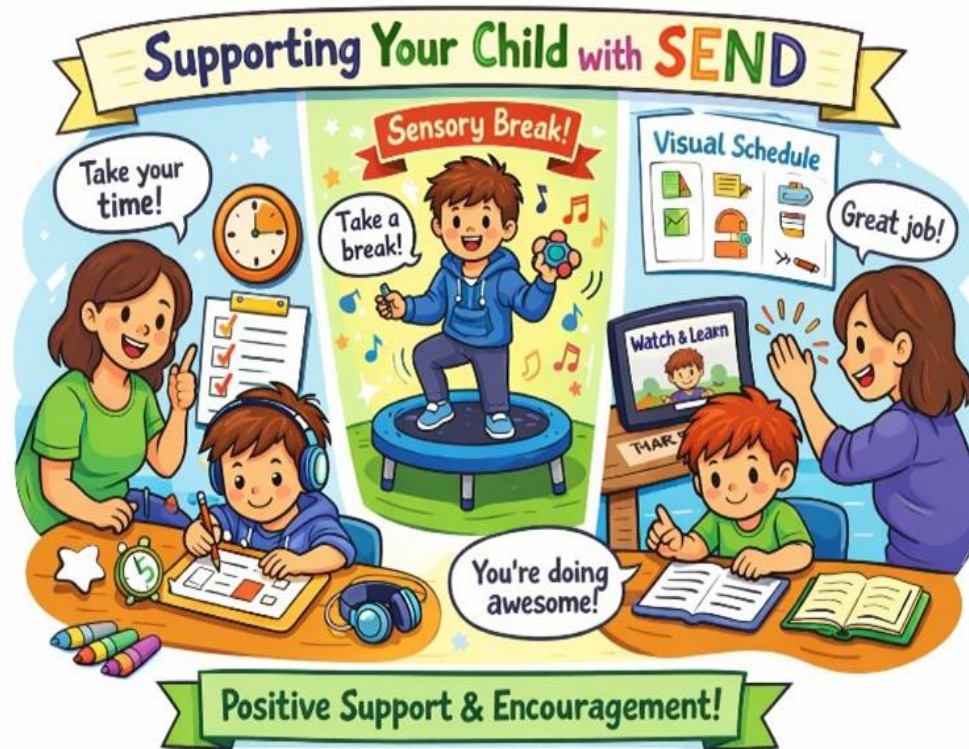
2026/27 Term Holiday dates now published [here!](#)

Supporting your Child with Homework

For many children with SEND, homework can feel tiring or overwhelming, especially after a full day at school. With the right support at home, it can become a more positive and manageable experience. Here are some practical ways you can help:

At Home Tips

- **Create a routine:** Choose a regular time for homework that suits your child's energy levels. Predictability helps reduce anxiety.
- **Set up a calm space:** A quiet, comfortable area with minimal distractions can improve focus.
- **Break tasks down:** Encourage your child to complete one small step at a time. Large tasks can feel daunting, but small successes build confidence.
- **Use visual supports:** Checklists, timers, or visual timetables can help children understand what to do and how long it will take.
- **Allow movement and sensory breaks:** Short breaks to stretch, walk, or use calming strategies can help your child refocus.
- **Praise effort, not just results:** Celebrate trying, persistence, and progress. Learning looks different for every child.
- **Reassure and encourage:** Let your child know it's okay to find things difficult and that mistakes are part of learning.



Helpful Websites for SEND Homework Support

- BBC Bitesize – clear, accessible lessons and videos: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- Twinkl – printable resources and SEND-friendly materials: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk>
- National Autistic Society: <https://www.autism.org.uk>
- British Dyslexia Association: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk>
- ADDitude (ADHD strategies for learning at home): <https://www.additudemag.com>

Working together between home and school helps ensure homework remains a positive opportunity for learning rather than a source of stress. Your patience, encouragement, and belief in your child make a powerful difference.

Extra Support at School

The LSC runs Homework Club every day from 3:45pm. This is a calm, supported space where students can complete homework with guidance from staff.

SEND FACULTY NEWS

National Autistic Society Coffee Morning Friday 6th February 2026 at 9.30am

Join us at Carnegie Library Hub for a free relaxed coffee morning with regular guest speakers. This is an opportunity for parents & carers of autistic people to meet other parents of autistic people over coffee and biscuits.

Each month a guest speaker will chat about a different autism related topic such as advice on the EHCP process, speech & language therapy, SEN services in the local area, transitioning young adults to the workplace, support with mental health, etc.

No diagnosis necessary.

Find out what's going on in the world of autism in Lambeth and our plans for 2026.

This month we will be joined by neurodiversity consultant Simon Airey who will share a fresh perspective on supporting our autistic children/adults. As an autistic person himself, Simon moves past the clinical labels so instead of focusing on what's 'wrong,' we'll discuss how to lean into your child's natural strengths and set up a home environment that cuts down on daily friction.

Parents/carers can book their place via eventbrite [here](#).



SEND Local Offer

Information and Local Offers

The Learning Support department would like to remind you that you can find lots of useful information in our SEND Policy and Report which can be found here:

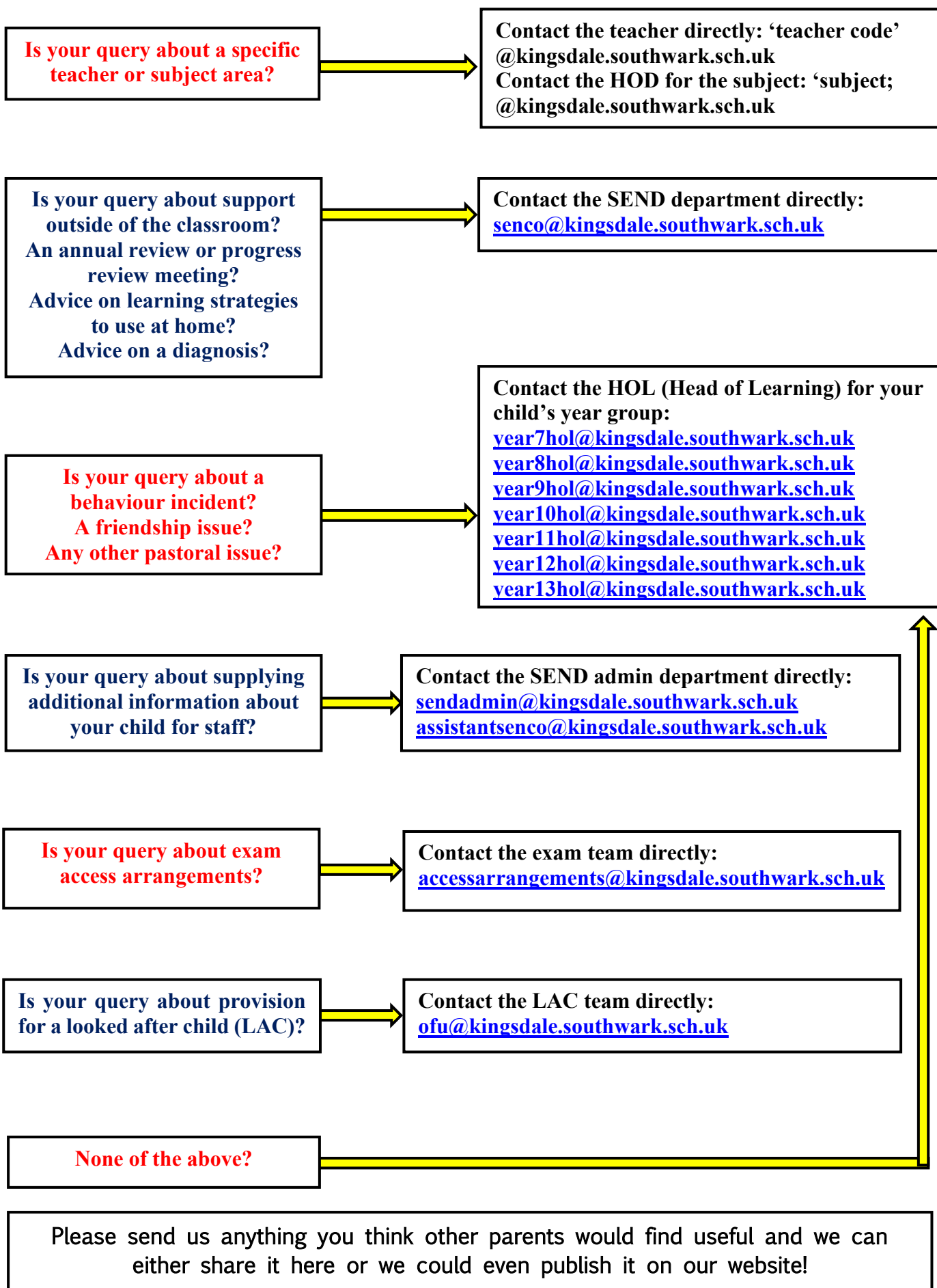
<https://kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk/information/statutory/> under the 'SEND Policies & Report' tab.

You can also find out information regarding your local SEND offer here:

- Southwark: <https://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/>
- Lambeth: <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/lambeths-send-local-offer>
- Lewisham: <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/children-and-young-people-service/local-offer>
- Croydon: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/special-educational-needs-and-disability-support/local-offer-special-education-and-disability-support-directory>
- Bromley: <https://www.bromley.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-disability-send-local-offer>
- Wandsworth: <https://fis.wandsworth.gov.uk/kb5/wandsworth/fsd/localoffer.page?jsessionid=E8917B191BB385C792E73B8A458458B2?newfamilychannel=2>
- Merton: <https://directories.merton.gov.uk/kb5/merton/directory/localoffer.page?localofferchannel=0>

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.



SEND

Special Connect for 16 to 25 year olds

Empower. Engage. Excel.

Join our inclusive and empowering program designed to help you achieve your goals, develop essential life skills, and build lasting connections.

Sessions are FREE!

Come and Meet!

Our neurodiverse young adults, who take part in self-express art therapy workshop with time to socialise and meet new people, and discuss what's important to you.
We offer: Beauty and art therapy, music, drama, story telling, reading circles, film making, multisports, cooking club, gaming, poetry etc.

Contact:

Email: angelsbreakfastafterschoolclub@gmail.com

Telephone: 07957472504

Location: Pelican Plus Hall, Crane House, Grummant Road SE15 5NF

Start Date: 19th August 2023

Every Saturday 2PM-4PM

Every Half-term Holidays

Mon-Fri 10AM-2PM





Young
People
Southwark

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

Change Grow Live Registered Office: 3rd Floor, Tower Point, 44 North Road, Brighton BN1 1YR. Registered Charity Number 1079327 (England and Wales) and SC039961 (Scotland). Company Registration Number 7361208 (England and Wales).



Drug and
Alcohol Service
Southwark



Young
People
Southwark

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



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**

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

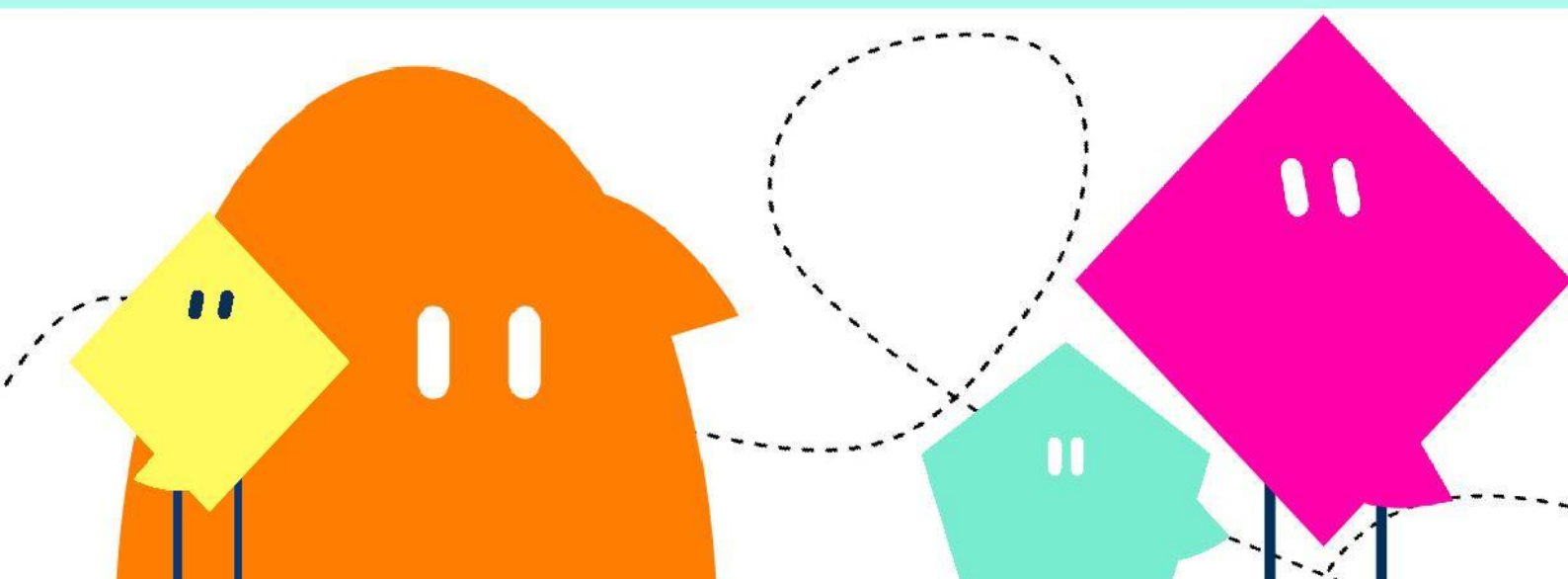


Education from
the National
Crime Agency

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.



shorespace.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

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



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

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

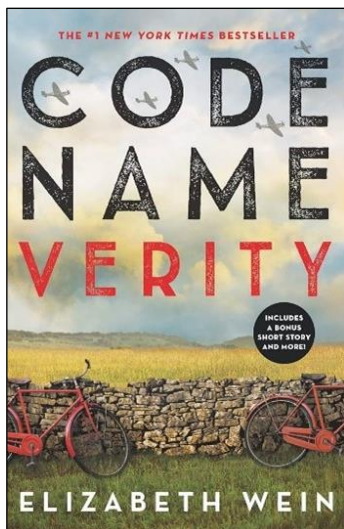
Please contact **Ms V Turner** for further information regarding this provision or any matters relating to mental health & well-being at Kingsdale School.

Eagle House Students Share Their Favourite Books

To mark the beginning of the National Year of Reading, our Eagle House Captains have shared their favourite books and are encouraging everyone to give them a read.

Their recommendations highlight a wonderful range of stories and authors to inspire a love of reading across our community.

Thank you to all the Captains for your thoughtful contributions and enthusiasm for reading.



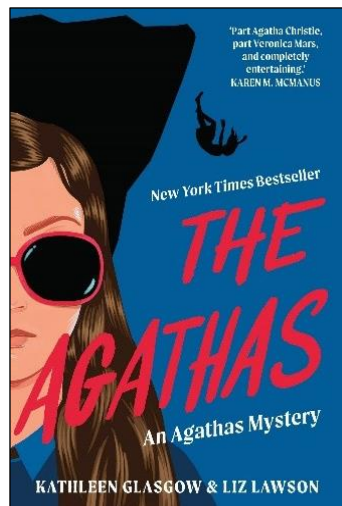
Prince Cararra Wright
(Year 7)

Code Name Verity
by Elizabeth Wein

This book is my favourite because it has great characters, is well-researched and detailed, and every scene comes alive and pops with tension. It also has that slippery, clever writing that I

really appreciate. Furthermore, it is about two gutsy women - one a spy and one a pilot - and a friendship that will last the ages.

I believe others should read this book because it is interesting in so many different ways.



Rachel Benghiat (Year 8)

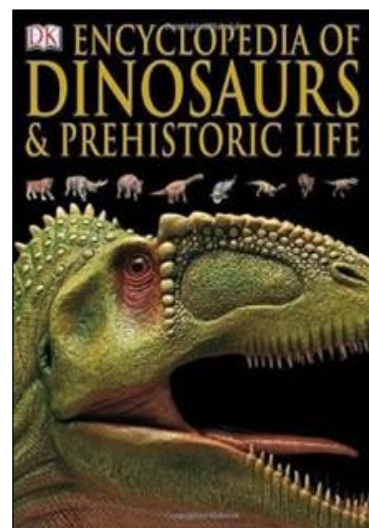
The Agathas
by Kathleen Glasgow and Liz Lawson

My favourite book is *The Agathas*, part of the series also called *The Agathas* (which includes *The Agathas* and *The Night in Question*).

The main reason I really like this book is the way

it shares two different perspectives. Having the points of view of two narrators from contrasting circumstances (poor and rich, unpopular and popular, etc.) adds extra depth and makes the plot more interesting.

I think students at Kingsdale Foundation School could also enjoy this book. It is inspired by Agatha Christie novels but is written for teenagers, so if you enjoy detective books or shows, it is definitely worth reading.



Arlen Hewitt (Year 7)

The Encyclopaedia of Dinosaurs and Prehistoric Life by DK

A book I have loved since essentially the beginning of time is DK's *The Encyclopaedia of Dinosaurs and Prehistoric Life*.

Written in the early 2000s, it focuses on

the ancient beings that once inhabited the Earth.

The book is written in a formal style while also using colour to show how these creatures may have looked. It explains tricky concepts clearly, making it accessible to a wide audience who may not have heard the terms before.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 60 games and products over the past year.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

SPORTS FIXTURES

HOUSE NEWS

Monday 26th January 2026

- Under-18s Girls' Hockey Away Match v James Allen's Girls School. Leave school at 3.30pm. Start 4.15pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Ms Jaymes**
- Under-16s Boys' Rugby Away Match v Rutlish School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: **Mr McWhirter**

Tuesday 27th January 2026

- 30 Dance Students Attending Years 7-11 Laban Dance Work Shop at Trinity Laban Music and Dance Conservatoire. Leave school at 10.50am. Start 11.45am. Return at 3.30pm approx.: **Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey**
- Under-14s Girls' Football Away Match at Burgess Park against James Allen's Girls School. Leave school at 1.15pm. Start 2.15pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Jones/Mr Price**
- Under-16s Girls' Netball Away Match v Sydenham High School. Leave school at 3.30pm. Start 4pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mrs Sinclair/Mr Foster**

Wednesday 28th January 2026

- Under-16s Girls' Football Away Match v Surbiton High School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.15pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: **Mr Jones/Mr Price**
- Under-16s Boys' Football B Team Away Match v Hampton School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mr Foster**
- Under-13s Girls' Touch Rugby Home Match (School Astro) against Coloma Convent Girls School. Start 2.30pm and Finish 3.45pm approx.: **Mr McWhirter**

Thursday 29th January 2026

- Under-14s Boys' Hockey Away Match v Alleyn's School. Leave school at 2pm. Start 2.45pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: **Ms Jaymes/Mr Price**
- Under-14s Boys Regional Rugby Finals against Dorothy Stringer School at Chiswick RFU. Leave school at 10am. Start 12.30pm. Return at 4.30pm approx.: **Mr Lord/Mr Foster**

Friday 30th January 2026

- Under-13s Boys Football A Team Away Match v The Broxbourne School. Leave school at 11.30am. Start 2pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mr Price**

Please note that fixtures maybe postponed or rearranged due to weather conditions.
<http://www.kingsdaleschoolsports.org.uk>



Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus we are looking at 'Top Tips for Setting Boundaries Around Gaming.' 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 2025-26

Week ending

23rd January 2026

- 1st Place – Swift 65,847 points
- 2nd Place – Dove 65,613 points
- 3rd Place – Falcon 64,894 points
- 4th Place – Albatross 64,288 points
- 5th Place – Eagle 64,237 points



Ways we communicate with Parents and students

We communicate with students & parents via:

Student & Parent Email

Please ensure we have your correct email and mobile phone contact details. Students should also be regularly accessing their student email accounts.

MS Teams

Used to share schoolwork, assignments and files.

Twitter/Website

You can find us at @kingsdalefs. Our website at: www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk

SatchelOne (previously SMHW)

Used to share homework details and other school news via the Notice Board feature with students and parents. Login [here](#).

MyEd app

Downloaded for free at:

<https://www.myedschoolapp.com/>

This app provides a range of useful info for parents.

