



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 7 Monday 12th October 2026

HEADLINE NOTICES

Mental Health & Well-being Parent's Forum

The Kingsdale Mental Health & Well-Being team would like to invite all Year 7 parents, carers, and guardians of students who are interested in this high profile and important area, to join our online *Mental Health & Well-Being Parents Forum* on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 6pm. We fully acknowledge the importance of the engagement of parents, carers and guardians and the positive impact that this has on the well-being, behaviour, sense of belonging and intellectual development of children across all social and economic background. The forums will take place each half term to discuss items relating to the provision of mental health & well-being at Kingsdale and the needs of our students with a view to understanding them better and ensuring that the ongoing development of our well-being offer meets their needs. Please be advised that details of how to access the meeting will be forwarded to parents in advance of the meeting. For further information regarding our well-being package, please contact Mrs. V Turner at health&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Black History Month

Following our recent House Assemblies during which we have celebrated the start of Black History Month, we turn our focus this week to a former Kingsdale student, George Imafidon, MBE. He is a wonderful example of a local hero, meeting the criteria of this year's Black History Month theme, 'Honouring Our Communities'. We are proud of the difference he is making both, locally here in London, nationally and also on a global stage. Read his story below.....

THEME OF THE WEEK

Success or Failure

'My will shall shape the future.

Whether I fail or succeed shall be no one's doing but my own. I am the force; I can clear any obstacle before me, or I can be lost in the maze. My choice; my responsibility; win or lose, only I hold the key to my destiny.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

Esoteric

Very unusual and understood or liked by only a small number of people, especially those with special knowledge.

'The antique shop has an esoteric collection of old toys and games.'

SCHOOL NEWS

House Excellence Award



Noah, Year 10, has won the House Excellence Award. He was nominated by the Design & Technology department. Noah is an absolute D&T superstar in terms of theory in the subject – his common sense and interest in the world around him makes him an insightful

communicator. He is always committed to doing his best, stretching his creativity, and expanding his making skills. Last year he improved his 3D Cad/Cam skills as part of the skills section for the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) award, ending up with a new 3D printer for Christmas. He also supported the Young Designers club as part of his volunteering for DofE. This year, even though he hasn't got DofE as an excuse, he is still helping with the Young Designers Club and is planning on a bigger build for Christmas. Well done Noah!

George Imafidon MBE

Engineering, STEM
and youth opportunity.

**Your potential can
create opportunities for others.**

Idea → Skill → Solution → Impact

George's organisation Motivez works with young people from underrepresented backgrounds to improve access to STEM opportunities.

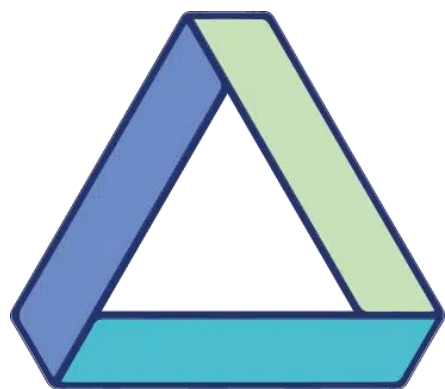
His own background includes growing up in Peckham and studying Mechanical Engineering and Programming at UCL.

George continues to show us that STEM isn't just about equations and machines. It can be about solving problems and creating opportunities for everyone.



**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

KINGSDALE FOUNDATION SCHOOL



MATHS NEWS

UKMT Maths Competition for Girls Results

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who achieved outstanding scores in the recent Maths Competition for Girls, a national competition arranged by the UK Mathematics Trust.

The Challenge is an annual competition designed to encourage girls for the STEM field and provide them with opportunities to apply their problem-solving skills in solving a range of questions.

Sample question

1. A rectangular apartment is divided into four rectangular rooms, by two straight interior walls which are parallel to the exterior walls. The rooms have areas A , B , C and D metres squared.

A	B
C	D

- (a) Find the value of D when $A = 8$, $B = 4$ and $C = 12$. [2 marks]
(b) Find the value of C when $A = 7.5$, $B = 6.5$ and $D = 26$. [2 marks]
(c) In this part of the question, A , B , C and D have the values found in part (a). Additionally, the length and the width of each room are whole numbers.

Let P be the perimeter of the apartment. Find all possible values of P .

Enter the following on the answer sheet:

- (i) The smallest possible value of P . [3 marks]
(ii) The largest possible value of P . [3 marks]

Over 50% of our candidates achieved top results! Further, congratulations to Evie who scored the highest score in school. All participants will receive a participation certificate.

We look forward to the upcoming Maths Olympiad results. Well done young mathematicians!

Name	Certificate
Sophie	Merit
Margo	Merit
Evie	Distinction
Margot	Merit
Hannah	Distinction

A LEVEL DRAMA
SCHOLARS PRESENT

CO MEE DY

2026

FESTIVAL

PLAYS
MUSIC
COMEDY

NOVEMBER 2026

Admissions



Open Days for Sixth Form (Year 12) September 2027

You can access details regarding our Sixth Form open events for Year 12 September 2027 entry [here](#).

The dates of the open events are as follows:

Wednesday 14th October 2026
1.30pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 4th November 2026
4.30pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 25th November 2026
4.30pm - 7.30pm

For all queries regarding admissions to the Sixth Form, please contact the Sixth Form Office via email at sixthform@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Sixth Form
Opens Events
taking place this
week!



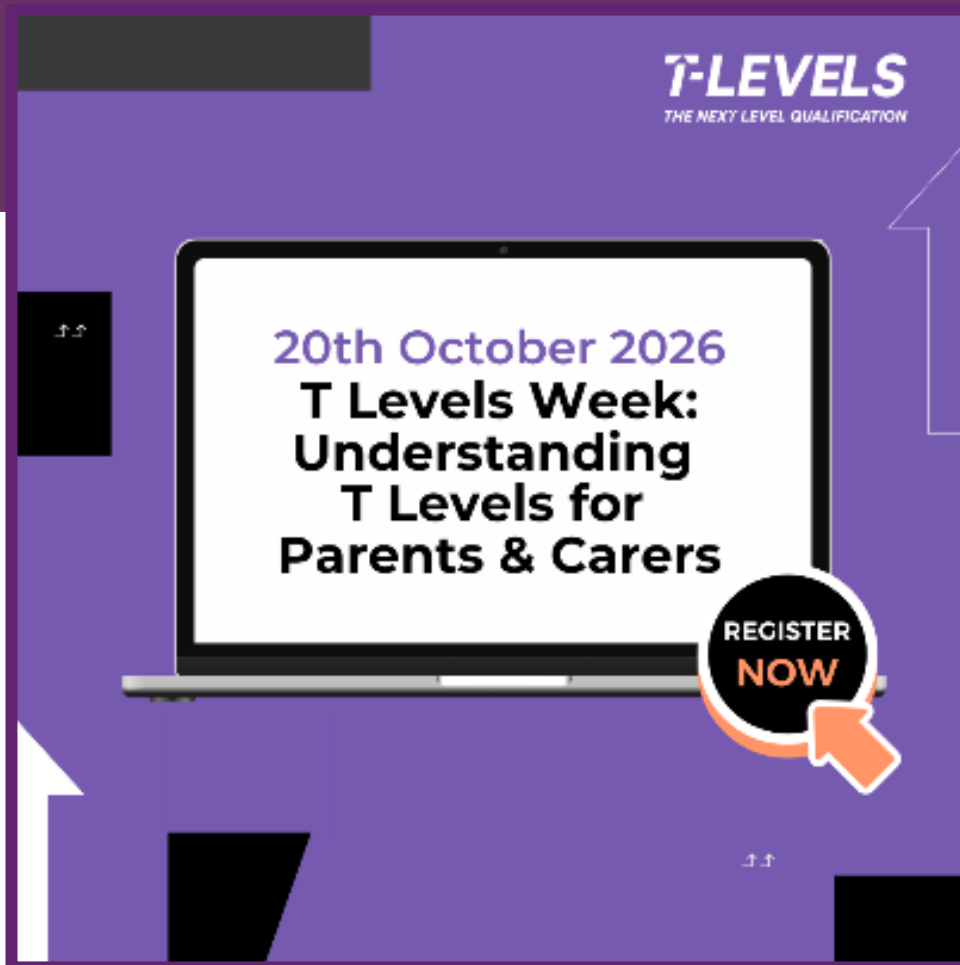
Parent & Carer Newsflash

CAREERS WEBINARS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

We've got lots of free webinars on offer throughout October to help you understand the career options and support available to your child.



Read on below for our highlights...



Understanding T Levels: Parent & Carer Webinar 20th October 6.30 - 7.15pm

National T Levels Week (19-23 October) is the perfect time to find out about T Levels - two-year technical qualifications for 16-19-year-olds, designed with employers to prepare students for skilled employment, apprenticeships or further study. Equivalent in size to 3 A-levels, a T Level course combines classroom learning (80%) with an industry placement (20%) and focuses on vocational skills.

[BOOK NOW](#)



How HTQs Can Support You to Develop New Skills and Prepare You For a Job

Thursday 22nd October 6.30 - 7.30pm

Do you support someone aged 18-24 who is thinking about their next steps? Maybe they're taking a break while they decide what to do next, in a job that isn't meeting their ambitions. Or maybe they're wondering how they might be able to combine higher education and work. HTQs can be a great option for those who want to learn and gain new skills early in their career. Join us to find out more about HTQs and what they can offer.

[BOOK NOW](#)

Explore the options to support and advise your child [Visit the Parent Zone](#)

 **CHILDREN'S
COMMISSIONER**

THE BIG FUTURE

**The Children's Commissioner,
Dame Rachel de Souza, has
launched The Big Future survey.**

It's your chance to have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today - what you love, what worries you, how you have fun, and the changes you want for a better future.

There are questions about voting, school, your area, online safety, and space for you to tell her what you think is important!

**It takes less than 10 minutes to
complete the survey.**



Take part now:

childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

#TheBigFuture  @childrenscommissioner





Year 8 Boys' Football A Team ESFA News Kingsdale v City Heights

Our Year 8 Boys' Football A Team hosted City Heights in their ESFA first round cup tie last week. Kingsdale put on an incredible display of teamwork and ball mastery. Kingsdale ran out worthy winners. A fantastic start to their season!

Final score: Kingsdale 13-1 City Heights

Goals scorers: Makai (4), Leo (1), Alex (3), Elijah (1), Jordan (3) and Joseph (1)

Year 8 Boys' Football A Team ESFA News Kingsdale v Ibstock School

Year 8 football A Team hosted Ibstock School in their ESFA second round cup tie. Ibstock defended really well in the first half however, Kingsdale 's perseverance and consistency to play their patterns or play eventually, Kingsdale ran out worthy winners!

Final score: Kingsdale 4-1 Ibstock School

Goals scorers: Alex, Jojo and Makai



KFS Cheerleading Club

Cheerleading is off to a great start this year!

Our Year 7 & 8 club takes place on Monday after school, with an additional session on Wednesday for Years 9, 10 & 11. It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and enjoying the sessions!

For further information please contact Ms King or Ms McGregor via pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

AERIEL SKILLS CLUB – Years 7 & 8 only



Sign up on Evolve to join the Club on a Tuesday P7 After School at MyAerial Home



KFS Hockey Club

The KFS Hockey Club is in full swing now for the start of the season. Lots of new players are beginning their journey in hockey along with established players improving their hockey skills. Students who would like to join should come along to the Astro on Wednesday mornings from 8am. Bring a gumshield and shin pads.

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

Sports Clubs Autumn Term 2026

The Health, Sport & Recreation faculty are pleased to provide details of our extra-curricular sports programme taking place during the Autumn term. Please be advised that you can book your child on to the club(s) of their choice via Evolve, our online booking system, details of which will be provided.

Please be advised that, in most cases, submission on Evolve will confirm your child's place, however, please be aware that places are limited for activities such as Horse Riding, Aerial Silks, Skateboarding, Cycling and Swimming. To ensure that all students have an opportunity to attend these activities sessions will be allocated to students in blocks during the course of the academic year. Please be advised that in instances such as this the member of staff in charge of the club will notify you via email when your child's place becomes available.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms V. Turner via pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk should you require further information regarding our sports provision at Kingsdale Foundation School.

Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday			
Football – Boys – Year 8	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Fitchett
Handball – Mixed – Year 7 and 8	8:00-8:40am	Sports Hall	Mr Roberts
Sports Scholars – Mixed – Year 7	11:00-11:45am	Astro	Mr Dash
Recreational Football – Boys – Year 7	11:00-11:45am	Astro	Mr Price
Swimming – Mixed – Year 7	12:55-3:40pm	TBC	Ms King
Cheerleading – Mixed – All Years	4:15- 5:15pm	Sports Hall	Ms King
Football – Boys – Sixth Form	3:45-5:00pm	Astro	Mr Price
Tuesday			
Football – Boys – Year 11	8:00-8:40am	Astro	Mr Foster
Table Tennis – Mixed –All Years	8:00-8:40am	GM1	Mr Price
Sports Scholars – Mixed – Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Astro	Mr Price
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 McManus
Aerial Silks – Mixed – Year 7 and 8	3:15-4:15pm	'My Aerial Home'	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
Basketball – Mixed – Year 7 and 8	3:45-5:00pm	Sports Hall	Mr Lord/Mr Dash
Wednesday			
Hockey – Mixed – Year 8, 9 and 10	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Ms Jaymes & Ms Marshall
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 8	12:00-12:45pm	Sports Hall	Mr Foster
Football – Boys – Year 10	12:00-12:45pm	Astro	Mr Lockett
Cheerleading – Mixed – All Years	4:15- 5:15pm	Sports Hall	TBC
Netball – Girls – All Years	4:15- 5:15pm	Sports Hall	Ms King/Mrs Sinclair
Rugby – Girls – All Years	4:15- 5:15pm	Playing Fields	Ms McManus
Rugby – Boys – Year 7 and 8	4:15- 5:15pm	Playing Fields	Mr Roberts/Mr Lord/Mr Jones
Rugby – Boys – Year 9	4:15- 5:15pm	Playing Fields	Mr Roberts
Rugby – Boys – Year 10 and 11	4:15- 5:15pm	Playing Fields	Mr Foster
Football – Girls – Year 7 and 8	4:15- 5:15pm	Astro	Mr Dash
Skateboarding – Mixed – Year 7 and 8	4:15- 5:15pm	Playground	Mr Owen
Rugby – Mixed – Sixth Form Enrichment	1:45-3:40pm	Playing Fields	Mr Roberts
Netball – Mixed – Sixth Form Enrichment	1:45-3:40pm	Courts	TBC
Football – Mixed – Sixth Form Enrichment	1:45-3:40pm	Plying Fields	Mr Jones
Volleyball– Mixed – Sixth Form Enrichment	1:45-3:40pm	Deep Dish	TBC
Gym – Mixed – Sixth Form Enrichment	1:45-3:40pm	Gym	TBC
Thursday			
Football – Boys – Year 9	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Price
Basketball – Boys – Year 9, 10 and 11	8:00-8:40am	Sports Hall	Mr Lockett
Volleyball – Mixed – All Years	3.45- 5:15pm	GM2	Mr Fitchetr
Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 7 and 11	3:45-5:00pm	Dance Studio	Ms McGregor & Ms Dookey
Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:15- 5:15pm	Dance Studio	Ms McGregor & Ms Dookey
Friday			
Football – Girls – Year 9, 10, 11 and Sixth form	8:00-8:50am	Astro	Mr Jones
Basketball – Girls – Year 9, 10 and 11	8:00-8:50am	Sports Hall	Mr McManus
Football – Boys – Year 7	3:45-5:00pm	Astro	Mr Owen



A new Drama Club run by Ms Wood



Year 7
Drama
Club



Wednesday P3
11:20-11:45



We will be doing lots of Games, Improvisation and Script work

How to sign up – just turn up!!

Find our more/Register your intrest by emailing me:

AWD@Kingsdale.Southwark.sch.uk

ART AND DESIGN CLUBS

2026 - 2027

MONDAY

Year 11

Get Ahead Graphics Club

11.00 to 11.55am
(Period 3)

Ms Gardiner TE1

Year 8

Young Makers Club

4.10 to 5.10pm

Ms Koch TE2

Year 9-11

Graphics Get Ahead Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Rix TE1

Year 10

Fly High Club

4.15 to 5.15pm

Ms Leung FS1

Scholars Club (by invitation only)

Year 8

MONDAY

4.10 to 5.00pm

Mrs Gregson AR3

TUESDAY

Year 10

Get Ahead Graphics Club

12.00 to 12.50pm (Period 4)

Ms Virgin TE1

Year 9

Fly High Club

4.15 to 5.15pm

Ms Leung/Mr Polin FS1

Year 9-13

Get Ahead Textiles Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Mrs Howell AR2

Year 9-11

Graphics Get Ahead Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Rix TE1

Year 7

Camera Club

3.45 to 4.30pm

Ms Hallas PS1

Year 10-13

Art Get Ahead Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Montero AR4

Year 7

Art/D&T Homework Club

3.45 to 4.15pm

Ms Stewart AR1

Year 7

Bronze Arts Award Club

4.10 to 5.00pm

Ms Fearn AR6

Year 9-13

Get Ahead Textiles and D&T Club

3.45 to 4.45pm

Ms Lewis AR7

THURSDAY

All years

Art Breakfast Club

8.00 to 8.30am

Mrs Smiley AR5

Year 7

Young Designers Club

11.00 to 11.55am

(Period 3)

Ms Virgin TE3

Year 11-13

Art Get Ahead Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Gregson AR3

Year 7 and 8

Love of Food Club

3.45 to 5.30pm

Ms Leung FS1

Year 11

D&T Get Ahead Club

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Koch TE2

Scholars Club (by invitation only)

Year 7

THURSDAY

3.45 to 4.45pm

Ms Stella AR4

(Starts 26th

November 2026)

FRIDAY

Year 11

NEA Workshop

3.45 to 5.00pm

Ms Leung FS1

Year 9-13

'Finish it Friday Textiles Club'

3.45 to 5.00pm

Mrs Howell AR2

Year 8

Textiles Club

12.00 to 12.50pm

(Period 4)

Ms Fearn AR6

SCHOOL CLUBS

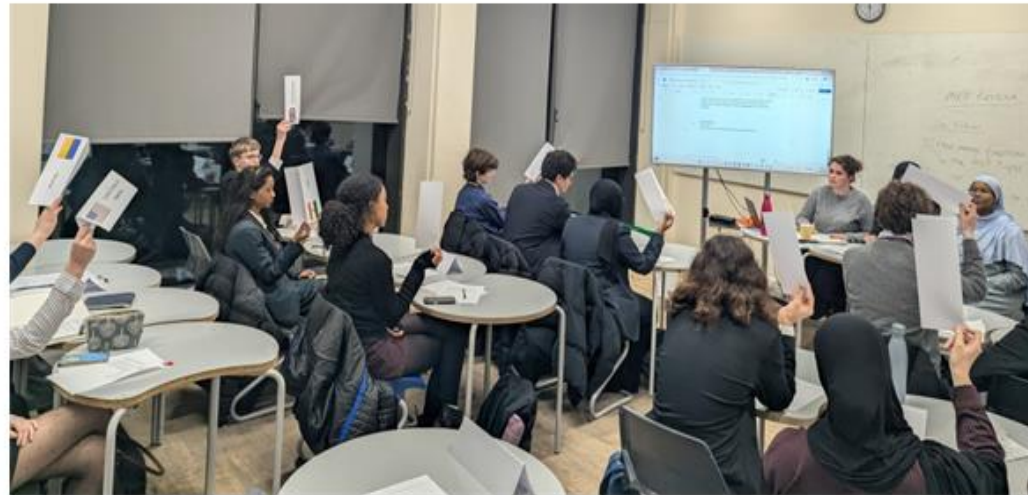


Model United Nations (MUN)

Building confidence, communication and global awareness through debate and diplomacy

OUR MUN PROGRAMME

Year 11 MUN Club – led by Mr Boyd, coaches students on debate fundamentals and public speaking.



Kingsdale MUN conference

WHAT IS MUN?

Model United Nations is an educational simulation of the real United Nations. Students step into the role of diplomats and act out how international decision-making actually works.

SKILLS DEVELOPED

- Public speaking
- Research
- Writing
- Negotiation
- Teamwork
- Confidence

Where we went

- St Paul's MUN
- Alleyn's MUN
- Dulwich College MUN
- LIMUN
- GODMUN

Every Tuesday P3 (lunchtime) in IT2!

SCHOOL CLUBS



Big History Club!

For Key Stage 3 and 4 in HU5
(Sixth formers also welcome!)

Every other Tuesday from 4.15 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.

In our next session on, Tuesday 13th October we will be
delving into some of Britain's oldest and strangest spooky
stories, including the Green Children of Woolpit and more!

Bring along any questions you have, and more ideas
for people, events or items from history you want to
know more about in future sessions!



English Department Clubs 2026–27

Free for every student, Years 7–13 — just turn up to a session that suits your year group!



Lunchtime Clubs

Bring your lunch & a book

Year 7 • Book Club

Wed P3, 11.20–11.50 • LSL
• Ms Nasi / Ms Smith

Year 7 • Creative Writing

Thu P3, 11.20–11.50 • LSL
• Ms Oduye

Year 8 • Book/Scrabble Club

Mon P4, 12.15–12.45 • LSL
• Ms James / Ms Ferguson

Year 9 • Book Club

Wed P5, 1.10–1.40 • USL
• Ms Casey / Ms Lane

Year 10 • Book Club

Mon P4, 12.15–12.45 • USL
• Ms Walker / Ms Parker

Year 10 • Creative Writing

Wed P4, 12.15–12.45 • USL
• Mr Harper / Ms Burrows



After School Clubs

Lights, camera, argument!

Years 8–10 • Film Club

Mon, 4.15–4.45 • EN2
• Mr Couling / Ms Buckenham

Years 8–10 • Debating Club

Wed, 4.15–4.45 • EN5
• Ms Santana / Ms Weisselberg



Sixth Form Clinics

Exam-ready & grade-focused

A Level Literature Essay Support

Wed, 3.45–4.30 • 6A1
• Ms Munslow

Film Studies Creative Clinic

Thu, 3.45–4.15 • 6M3
• Mr Hutchinson



Homework Support

One-to-one help to catch up & thrive

Year 7 • English Homework Support

Tue, 3.45–4.15 • IT3
• Ms Lewis / Mr Cannicott

Year 11 • English Intervention

3.45–4.15 (day tbc) • USL
• Ms Benmeriam / Ms Charles-Clark

Years 8, 9, 10 • Homework Support

Tue, 4.15–4.45 • IT3
• Mr Drysdale & Mr Tracey

Years 8, 9, 10 • Homework Support

Thu, 4.15–4.45 • IT3
• Mr Roberts & Mr Read

Questions?

whr@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



National Year of Reading Autumn 1

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies.

The man who never reads lives only one."

We are delighted to support the National Year of Reading 2026, launched by the Department for Education in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust.

At Kingsdale, our ambition is to build a strong culture of reading in which every young person sees themselves as a reader. Reading is fundamental to success across the curriculum, but its value extends far beyond the classroom. It develops knowledge, vocabulary, imagination and confidence, while opening up different perspectives, experiences and worlds.

The National Year of Reading encourages everyone to "Go All In", with the message "If you're into it, read into it." This reflects the approach we want to take at Kingsdale. Whether a young person is interested in music, sport, gaming, drama, film, fashion, science, baking or something entirely different, there is something for them to read and discover.

Reading across Kingsdale

Throughout the year, different subject areas will lead our whole-school reading initiatives. This half term, Performing Arts faculty is leading the programme, followed by English next half term.

Our Performing Arts programme includes:

Song of the Week

Celebrating musicians from South London and encouraging students to explore lyrics, themes, language and musical features.

Music Review of the Week

Students can submit a 150–300 word review of the featured song, considering its lyrics, musical features, message and their own response to their music teacher. A weekly winner will receive the featured artist's album on CD, with winning reviews celebrated in our Parental News Bulletin and Music Department. We have focused on songs like Rolling in the Deep by Adele and Unwritten by Natasha Bedingfield.

Play of the Week

Introducing students to plays representing a diverse range of voices and international perspectives. This week's play is 'The Importance of Being Earnest'

Reading Passports

students will undertake a range of challenges, from reading theatre reviews and interviews to reading plays, learning and performing monologues, writing scenes and creating podcasts. Bronze, silver and gold achievements will be celebrated.

Autumn Reading Challenge

Open to all Key Stage 3 students this term, providing another opportunity to read widely and celebrate achievement. Students are required to read books with magic and mystery as the theme and submit reviews latest by Friday 11th December 2026 to their English teacher.



Library News

We recognise that students have different starting points and that some require additional support to become confident readers. Year 7 students are receiving a Library Induction and paired reading will provide additional encouragement for reluctant readers in Year 7.

Book Clubs are taking place in the library as well.

Year 7 Book Club is on Wednesday lunch times in the Lower School Library

Year 8 is on Thursday lunch time in Lower School Library

Our libraries are open before school, at lunchtime and after school, giving students opportunities to read, discuss books and borrow or return them. We also want our library to reflect what young people genuinely want to read.

Students can recommend new books by speaking to their English teacher or emailing English@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk.

Reading Book Expectation

We ask that every student brings a reading book to school each day. Building a reading habit does not have to mean reading for hours. Regular reading, little and often, can help make reading a natural part of everyday life.

How parents and carers can help

Families are essential partners in developing positive reading habits. You can support at home by:

- encouraging your child to read regularly and ensuring they bring a book to school each day
- talking to them about what they are reading and asking for their opinions
- helping them find reading linked to their interests, whether that is a novel, biography, magazine, graphic novel, play, article or non-fiction book
- visiting libraries and bookshops together where possible
- encouraging participation in our reading challenges, competitions and clubs
- modelling reading at home. Young people seeing adults read sends a powerful message that reading is something we value throughout our lives.

Our aim is not simply to ask students to read more, but to help them want to read more. We hope the National Year of Reading will help us create an even stronger community of curious, confident and enthusiastic readers.

GO
ALL
IN.

National
Year of
Reading
2026



Author Visit for Year 7

On Monday 12th October, all Year 7s will be attending a special assembly in the Pod given by freestyle rapper/poet Kimba! Copies of his book *Shades of Black* are currently available in the library. Why not start reading it before the event takes place?

AUTUMN TERM 2026 READING CHALLENGE

COSY AUTUMN LITERATURE

Choose any book that suits the autumn theme.

HOW TO TAKE PART

- 1 **READ** a mystery, magical adventure, friendship story or classic.
- 2 **WRITE** a short handwritten review when you finish the book.
- 3 **ENTER** at the English Office or email your review to the address below.

rrd@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

BOOK TOKEN + ACHIEVEMENT POINTS FOR EVERY ENTRY

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2026

NOT SURE WHAT TO READ?

The Girl Who Speaks Bear
Sophie Anderson

Murder Most Unladylike
Robin Stevens

The Explorer
Katherine Rundell

READ ANOTHER BOOK
AND ENTER AGAIN!

GO
ALL
IN.

National
Year of
Reading
2026

National Year of Reading Department of Drama

This half term, the Performing Arts department is taking the lead on our whole-school reading focus, exploring how music, drama and dance can inspire us to engage with words, stories and ideas in different ways.

Year of Reading - Drama

We are celebrating Black History Month in drama through our annual August Wilson monologue festival. This sees students in years 7-10 performing a monologue from one of America's finest playwrights. This culminates in the competition final on Thursday 15th October, which will feature acting, dance and musical performance.



August Wilson: a century of stories

August Wilson wrote about people trying to earn a living, raise a family and make something of their lives. His plays explore Black American experience such as the barriers imposed by racism, the weight of family history, and the humour, pride and ambition of the people at their centre. His language draws on the blues and the rhythms of everyday speech, turning conversations, arguments and memories into powerful theatre.

Recommended Reading

As part of the year of reading we are encouraging students to read, watch and listen to a range of plays.



Read – Princess & The Hustler
By Chinonyerem Odimba

About the Play

It is 1963, and ten-year-old Princess dreams of winning several jobs and her brother, an aspiring photographer, r family's life. Outside their home, Bristol's Black community change, the play follows Princess as she begins to question belonging.

Script available from the Drama department

Watch – Barber Shop Chronicles
By Inua Ellams



About the Play

Over a single day, this heartwarming play moves between barber shops in London, Johannesburg, Harare, Kampala, Lagos and Accra. Sometimes they have haircuts, sometimes they listen, more often than not they talk. Barber shops are confession boxes, political platforms and football pitches... places to go for unofficial advice, and to keep in touch with the world. The play invites the audience into a unique environment where the banter may be barbed, but the truth always telling. The barbers of these tales are sages, role models, and father figures, they are the glue that keeps men together.

This play can be watched for free through the National Theatre Collection.

Contact the drama department to access this from home via ggg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

YEAR OF
READING

Drama

READING PASSPORT

This term, we are celebrating reading in Drama. All students will receive a reading passport with a range of exciting challenges. Complete the challenges to collect stamps!



1 POINT



Read a theatre review.



Read an interview with an actor, playwright or designer.



Read about a theatre practitioner.

2 POINTS



Learn and recite a poem or monologue.



Write a review of a play, film or television drama.



Read a modern play.

3 POINTS



Read a play from the Spanish Golden Age, Jacobean or Elizabethan.



Write an original scene from your own play.



Write and perform an original monologue.



Produce a short podcast discussing a play, production or theatre practitioner.

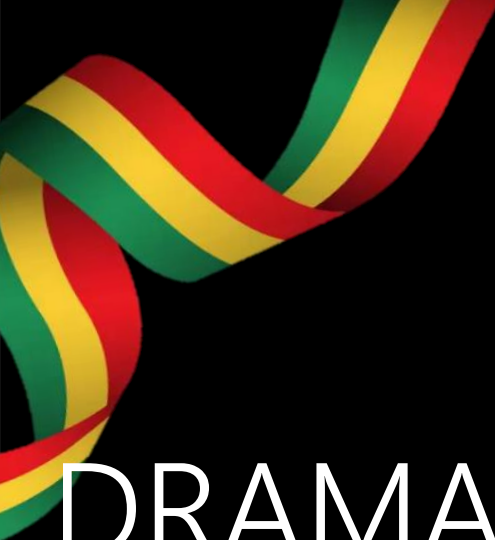


COLLECT STAMPS AND ACHIEVE

BRONZE, SILVER OR GOLD

TO BE CELEBRATED IN ASSEMBLIES. PRIZES WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Remember we are running our Drama passport with prizes available. Why not read one of these plays or watch it and write a review? Email ggg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk or drop by the Drama Office with your reviews. We also have a website devoted to inspiration for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. [Click here](#) to find videos and interview. You can win stamps on your reading passport by watching these and sharing your ideas back in class.



DRAMA NEWS

WATCH PLAYS ONLINE FOR FREE
NATIONAL THEATRE COLLECTION
OVER 30 PRODUCTIONS. FOR KS3 WE WOULD RECOMMEND

Antony and Cleopatra	Shakespeare, William
As You Like It	Shakespeare, William
Ballet Shoes	Streatfeild, Noel; Adapted by Feaver, Kendall
Hamlet	Shakespeare, William, adapted by Christian, Jude
Hex	Ronder, Tanya
I Want My Hat Back	Klassen, Jon, adapted by Joel Horwood
Jack Absolute Flies Again	Bean, Richard and Chris, Oliver
Jane Eyre	Brontë, Charlotte
Macbeth	in a new version by Justin Audibert and the Company
Much Ado About Nothing	Shakespeare, William
The Winter's Tale	in a new version for young audiences by Justin Audibert
Treasure Island	Lavery, Bryony; Stevenson, Robert Louis

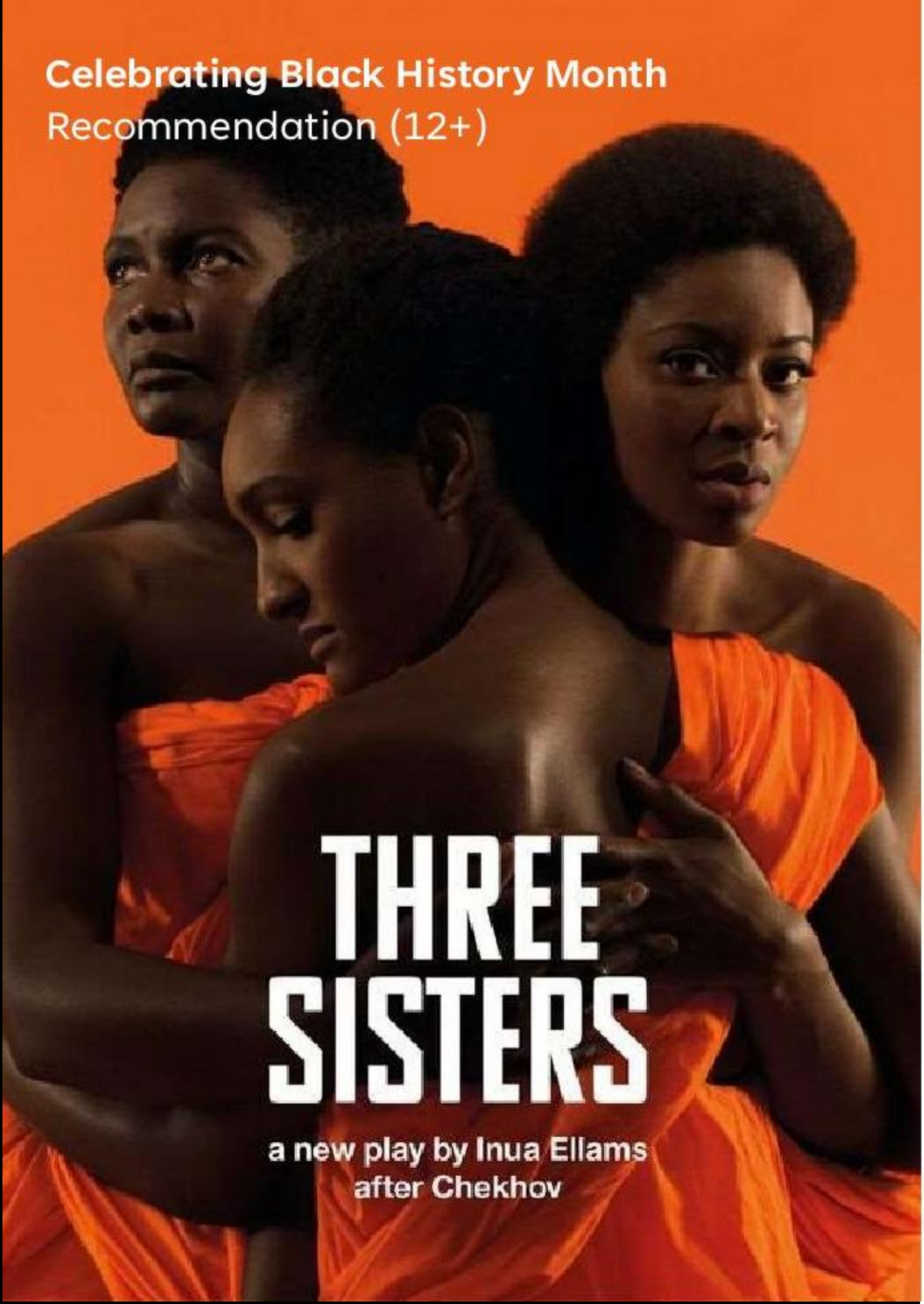


PLAYS WE WATCH IN CLASS (YEARS 7-8):

Barber Shop Chronicles	Ellams, Inua
One Man, Two Guvnors	Bean, Richard (after Carlo Goldoni)
Peter Pan	Barrie, J. M.

Want to watch at home? Contact the Drama department for the login details via ggg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Celebrating Black History Month
Recommendation (12+)



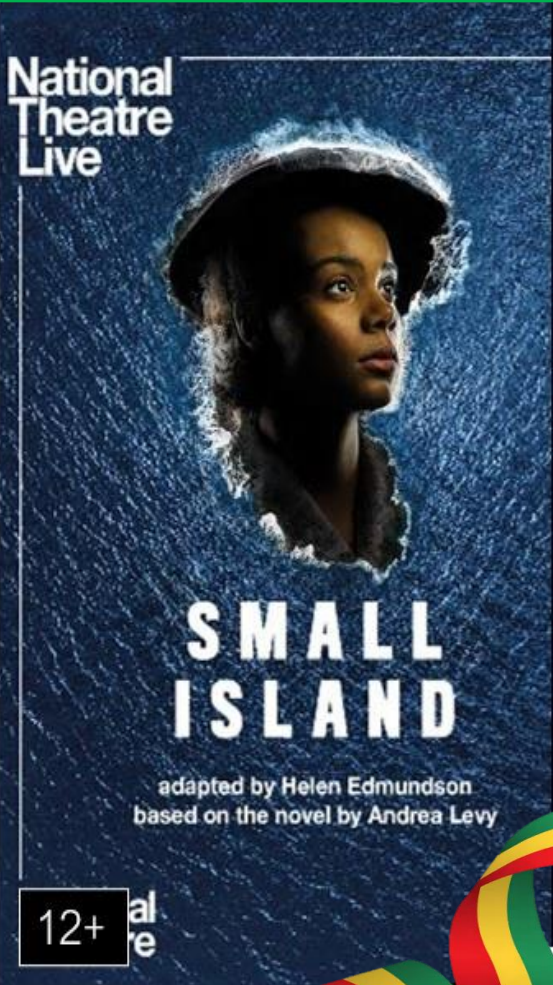
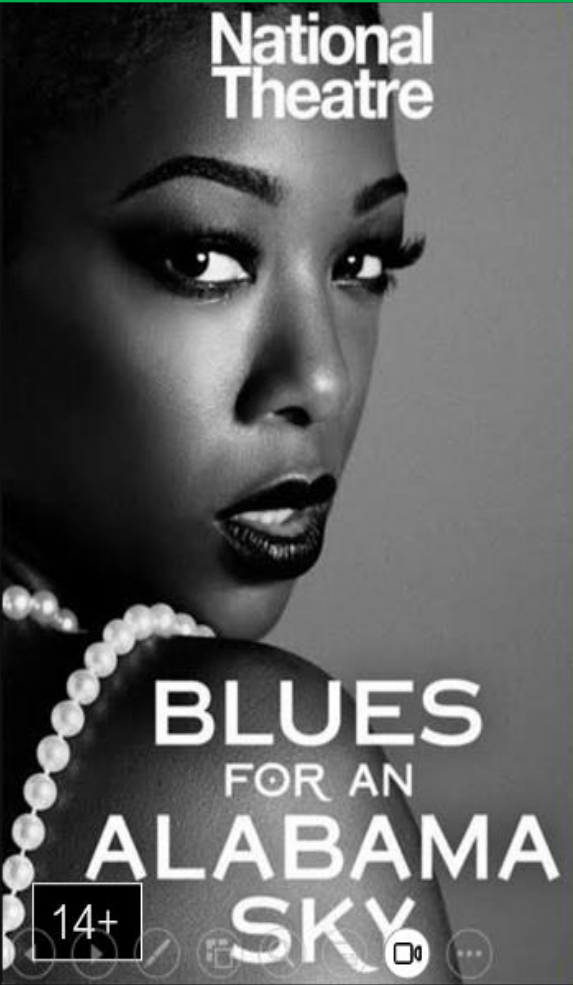
THREE SISTERS

a new play by Inua Ellams
after Chekhov

NATIONAL THEATRE COLLECTION Celebrating Black History Month

See individual titles for the theatre's age recommendations

Want to watch at home?
Contact the Drama department for login detail via ggg@kingsdale.southwark.sc.h.uk



Mental Health & Well-Being Weekly Focus for Students: Physical Activity & Joyful Movement

This week's mental health and well-being theme for students focuses on **Physical Activity & Joyful Movement**. The emphasis on exercise as "joyful movement" aims to shift the focus from physical activity being an obligation to something that can be an enjoyable experience with many physical and mental health benefits.

The Core Message for Students

When communicating this to teenagers, it helps to connect the science to their daily lived experiences:

The "Feel-Good" Science

Explain that movement is like a natural brain booster. It releases endorphins (which lift your mood) and lowers cortisol (the stress hormone).

Brain Power

Regular movement increases blood flow to the brain, which improves concentration, memory, and focus not least of all for exams.

Emotional Resilience

Clearing your head with a walk or a sport helps you hit the "reset button" when feeling overwhelmed by school, work or social pressure.

School-Wide Activity Ideas

To make the theme engaging there should be a focus on inclusivity and fun.

"Drop Everything and Move" (DEAM)

Allocate 5 minutes during a form period or the middle of the day for a school-wide movement break. This could be a guided stretch, a quick desk-yoga session, or a fun, low-stakes dance challenge.

The "Joyful Movement" Week:

Encourage students to try something new and sign up for extra-curricular clubs in either traditional or non-traditional activities that they haven't tried before.

Active Commuting Challenges

Create a friendly competition in your tutor groups to track who walks, cycles, or scoots to school the most over a week.

If a student is experiencing severe isolation, bullying, or distress related to their social environment please contact a member of the pastoral or safeguarding team. Please contact Ms V. Turner via mentalhealth&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk for further information on how to access our mental health and well-being provision.

OCTOBER HALF TERM

October Half Term: A Well-Earned Break

The first half term is complete! For many of our students, particularly those who have started a new year group or joined Kingsdale in September, the past few weeks have involved a great deal of change. New teachers, classrooms, routines, friendships and expectations all require considerable energy, so the October half term is a valuable opportunity to rest, reset and recognise just how much has already been achieved.

While two weeks away from school can be very welcome, we know that changes to routine can sometimes be challenging for children and young people with SEND.

Keep Some Routine, But Make Space for Rest

There is no need to recreate the school timetable at home! However, maintaining a few predictable routines around waking, meals and bedtime can make the break feel more manageable and can help with the return to school.

Most importantly, allow time to decompress. Some young people may be more tired, emotional or withdrawn than usual after managing the demands of the first half term. Quiet time, favourite activities and days without lots of plans can be just as valuable as organised activities.

Celebrate the First Half Term



Take a moment to recognise what your child has managed since September. Success does not have to mean a test result or a piece of homework. Getting used to a new teacher, navigating a busy corridor, making a friend, asking for help, joining a club or simply getting through a difficult day can all represent significant progress.

Try asking:

- What are you most proud of from this half term?
- What has become easier since September?
- Is there anything you would like us to help make easier next half term?

These conversations can give children an opportunity to share their experiences without making the discussion feel like a formal review of school.

Keep Learning Light

Reading, cooking, shopping, travelling around London, playing games, visiting a museum or even planning a day out all involve valuable skills.

Half term does not need to become an extension of school.

For students who find organisation or executive functioning difficult, everyday activities can also provide gentle opportunities to practise planning.



Ask them to help plan a journey, make a shopping list, work within a small budget or decide what needs to be taken on a day out.

Plan for the Return

Towards the end of the holiday, gradually returning to school sleep and morning routines can make the first day back easier. It can also help to check uniform, equipment, bags and timetables a few days beforehand rather than leaving everything until the final evening.

For children who find transitions particularly difficult, talk positively and calmly about returning to school and remind them of familiar people, lessons or activities they enjoy.

And Finally... Have a Break!

There can be pressure to fill school holidays with activities, revision and outings. Please remember that rest is productive too. Our students have completed their first half term of the academic year, and that is something worth celebrating.

We hope all of our SEND students and families have a happy, restful and enjoyable October half term, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the next half term.



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](#) under the 'SEND Policies & Report'

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

- [Southwark](#)
- [Lambeth](#)
- [Lewisham](#)
- [Croydon](#)
- [Bromley](#)
- [Wandsworth](#)
- [Merton](#)



Family Activities For October Half Term

Things to do

Relaxed Jurassic Oceans - Natural History Museum
Wednesday 21st, Saturday 24th and Wednesday 28th October, 10-11am
The Natural History Museum is offering relaxed viewings of its *Jurassic Oceans: Monsters of the Deep* exhibition. These sessions are designed for disabled and neurodivergent visitors and take place away from the usual daytime crowds, making them particularly worth considering for young people who find busy museums overwhelming. Tickets are from £15, with members free.

[More information and booking](#)



SEND & Neurodivergent Relaxed Opening
Sir John Soane's Museum
Tuesday 27th October, 3-5pm
A special relaxed museum opening exclusively for SEND and neurodivergent children and young people and their families.

Families can explore the museum and its Classical collections in a calmer environment than during normal opening hours. This could be a particularly good option for students who enjoy art, history, architecture or unusual places but may find a normal museum visit too busy. [More information and booking](#)

Early Explorer Morning
London Transport Museum
Wednesday 28 October, 8.30–10.00am
The London Transport Museum opens early especially for families with children with SEND, neurodivergent and disabled children. Families can explore before the museum opens to the general public, with many of the gallery sounds turned off to create a quieter and less overwhelming environment. This may be particularly appealing to young people with a strong interest in trains, transport, engineering or London.

[More information](#)



Free Gargoyles & Grotesques Clay Workshop
Southwark Cathedral
Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th October at 10.30-11.45am or 1.30-2.45pm
A free, hands-on workshop at Southwark Cathedral for children and young people aged 7+. Participants explore the strange gargoyles and grotesques around the Cathedral before using air-dry clay to make their own creature.

This could be a good option for young people who enjoy practical, creative activities. Children and young people need to attend with an adult. Tickets are free but booking is required. [Information and booking](#)

Free October Half Term at London Museum Docklands – 24th-31st October
London Museum Docklands has a whole programme of free half-term activities, including creative activities, storytelling and family events. Some activities require advance booking.

Although these sessions are not specifically SEND-only, families can choose individual activities rather than committing to a full day, which may work well for young people who find longer outings tiring.

[Full October Half-Term Programme](#)



SEND Family Activities in South London

There are some great SEND-friendly and neurodiversity-inclusive activities taking place locally over the coming weeks. Here are a few that families may want to explore.

SENSory Sundays, West Norwood Library Sunday 18th October, 1-4pm

A free afternoon for families including sensory arts and crafts, messy play and parent-and-child movement and co-regulation activities. The sessions are run with the National Autistic Society Lambeth branch and are free for Lambeth residents. Advance registration is required.

SEND Inclusive Cricket, Elephant & Castle From Monday 12th October, 4.15-5.15pm

Southwark's current programme includes inclusive cricket sessions for children and families. A great opportunity for young people who would like to get involved in sport in a more inclusive setting.

Autism-Friendly Cinema, The Ritzy, Brixton Sunday 18th October

The Ritzy is running an autism-friendly screening with reduced sound, low lighting and no adverts or trailers. Children are welcome to move around, make noise or leave and return during the film.

Active Lambeth SEND Sessions

Inclusive swimming, quieter gym sessions and sensory-friendly activities are available across Lambeth leisure centres, including Brixton, Herne Hill, Streatham and West Norwood.

Find sessions [here](#)

Southwark SEND Activities

Southwark's Local Offer has a searchable directory of SEND-friendly activities, clubs and events. You can filter by age, location and whether activities are free.

Explore activities [here](#)

South London Gallery – Family Space

Free, relaxed creative sessions where families can drop in and take part at their own pace. Sessions run on the last Saturday of each month, 11am–1pm, from September to November.

Find out more [here](#)

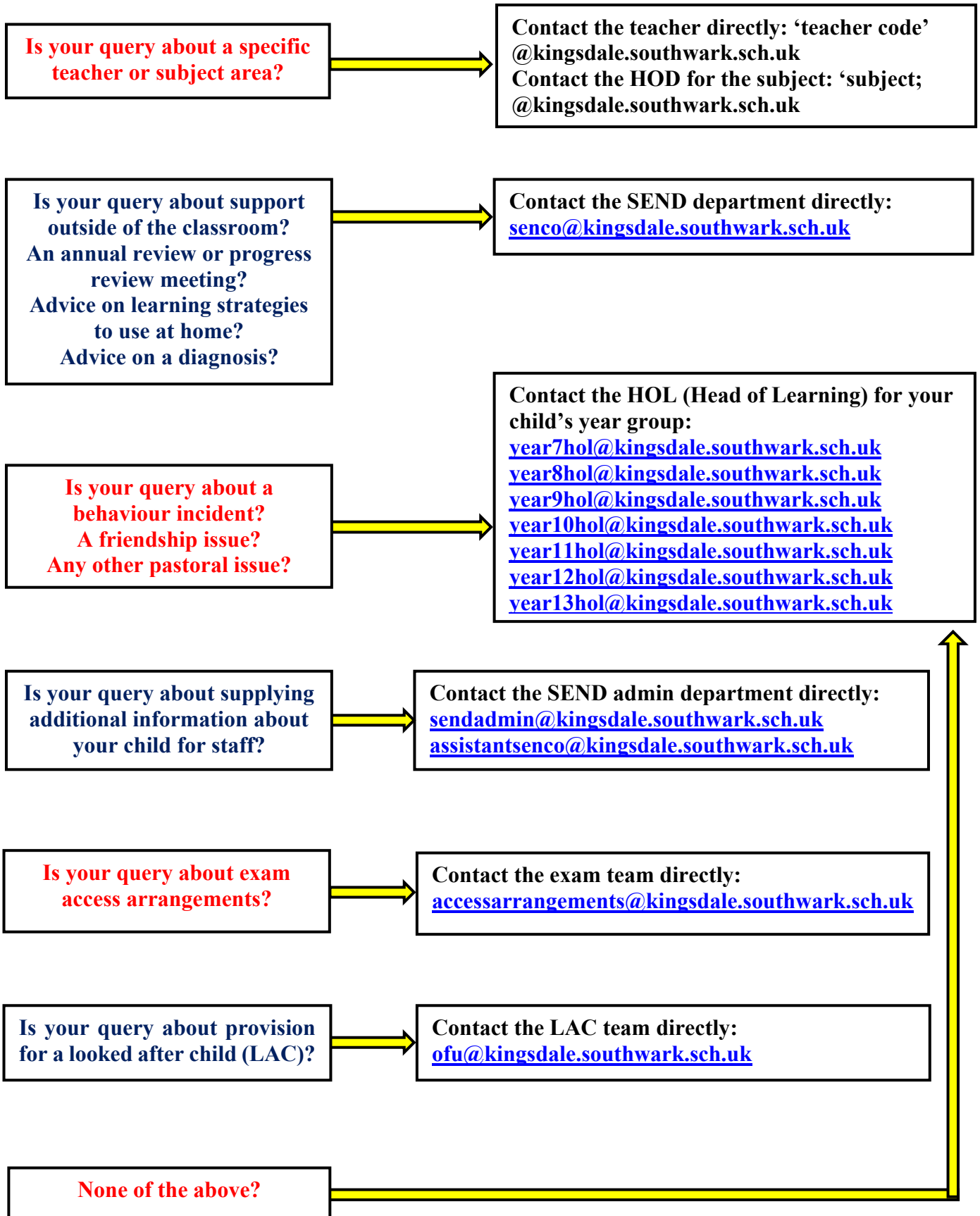
Lambeth SEND Activities

Lambeth Council also maintains a directory of local leisure activities specifically for children and young people with SEND.

Explore the directory [here](#)

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.



Please send us anything you think other parents would find useful and we can either share it here or we could even publish it on our website!

CAREER NEWS

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

Sixth Form Careers



It has been an exciting start to the year for Sixth Form careers with a variety of talks taking place to kick start the year, with over 100 students across Years 12 & 13.

We were fortunate to host solicitor Nick Tennant as our first speaker of the year. In front of a packed room, Nick spoke

extensively about his career in law, as well as his work at the Medical Defence Union. Students were fascinated by the mixture of intellect and people skills required in his role, as well as working through some scenarios of legal cases.

Our second talk of this term was from John Beech who spoke extensively about careers within investment banking and finance. John provided a reflection on his 30+ years career with banks and hedge funds such as JP Morgan and gave insights on routes into the industry as well as the day-to-day experience of a trading floor.

Youth Construction Trust

The Sixth form has continued its partnership with Youth Construction Trust, who run a groundbreaking programme designed to support students into degree apprenticeships, partnering with a variety of companies across the construction industry. They have already begun working with our Year 13 cohort on preparing applications as well as beginning their programme with Year 12.

Upcoming Sixth Form Talks

Wednesday 11th November University of the Creative Arts - Careers in the Creative Industry

Wednesday 18th November PR & Communications

Wednesday 25th November Civil Engineering and Chartered Surveying

Wednesday 9th December Accountancy & Finance

Wednesday 27th January Theatre Production and Wider Arts Industry

Would you like to speak to our Sixth Form students?

We are always keen to host parents to discuss their careers, if you are interested in delivering a talk please contact jbu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

At Kingsdale, we are proud to offer an extensive careers education programme that supports students in preparing for their future pathways and careers.

Our aim is to ensure every student is equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to make informed decisions about their next steps.



Careers in Languages

We'd love to hear from you!

We are organising a Careers in Languages event for our students and would love to hear from parents and carers who use a language, or multiple languages, as part of their career.

We are looking for volunteers to join a panel and share their experiences with students including how they use languages in their work, how languages have supported their career journey, and why language skills are valuable in the workplace.

Whether you work in business, finance, law, healthcare, education, travel, technology, international relations, the arts or another field, we would love to hear from you!

This is a wonderful opportunity to inspire our students and help them understand the many exciting ways that languages can open doors in the world of work.

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact Ms Delli at ddi@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk by Monday 2nd November.

Thank you for helping us inspire the next generation of linguists!

CAREER NEWS

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

Personalised Careers Guidance Programme

As part of this programme, personalised 1:1 careers guidance interviews have started for our current Year 12 and 11 students in the first instance and continue throughout the Autumn and Spring Term.

Each session will be led by our Independent Careers Advisor, Ms Ethney McCulloch, and will result in an Individual Careers Plan. These guidance interviews provide students with the opportunity to discuss their interests, strengths, aspirations, suitable courses, post-16 application processes and current labour market information to help them make informed decisions about their future.

Please contact our Year 11 & Year 12 pastoral team in case you have any relevant queries on this offer.



unifrog

Unifrog for Labor Market Information and Future Pathways Guidance

Kingsdale uses Unifrog as its online careers platform, bringing together up-to-date information and resources on careers, further education, apprenticeships, universities and the world of work.

Students can access Unifrog using their Kingsdale school email address and password at www.unifrog.org. Labour Market Information describes the real-world jobs market, including salary trends, weekly working hours, and future job demand. Please encourage your child to use Unifrog to explore live career and regional employment data.

This is available in the subjects library/ careers library sections on Unifrog. Parents and carers can also create a parent account using their own email address to support their child in exploring future pathways. Please log-in via www.unifrog.org/parent.

At Kingsdale, we are proud to offer an extensive careers education programme that supports students in preparing for their future pathways and careers.

Our aim is to ensure every student is equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to make informed decisions about their next steps.



Post-16 Options

Students may wish to consider a range of post-16 progression routes, including: School Sixth Forms, Sixth Form Colleges, Further Education Colleges, T Levels, Vocational Qualifications, Apprenticeships.

For impartial information on post-16 pathways, we recommend the National Careers Service website: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>

Apprenticeships are an increasingly popular route, enabling young people to earn while they learn and gain valuable industry experience. In order to receive monthly guidance, information and opportunities on apprenticeships, parents may sign up [here](#).

Assemblies on technical and vocational pathways have been booked for this half term. We will update the parents on this programme as it progresses this half term.

Careers Information on School Website

In addition, information about our Careers Programme, Careers Policy and useful careers resources can be found on the school website [here](#).

Supporting Our Careers Programme

We are always keen to hear from parents and carers who would be willing to support our careers education programme through careers talks or sharing insights from their profession with students across all year groups.

If you are interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact the Careers Team via careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk.

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



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

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



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.

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.sch.uk

Is My Child Eligible for **Free School Meals**?

Your child may qualify for free school meals if you receive certain benefits. Any parent or carer in England can check here, even if your child's school isn't signed up. It's free to use (run by LGfL, an education charity) and you'll get an instant result checked securely against government records.

☰ **Qualifying benefits include**

- ☑ Universal Credit
- ☑ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ☑ The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- ☑ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ☑ Child Tax Credit (if not receiving Working Tax Credit)
- ☑ Working Tax Credit run-on

Conditions apply to some benefits – the quickest way to find out is to run a check.

📅 **New from September 2026**

Free school meals are expanding to **every child in a household that receives Universal Credit**.

You don't need to wait until then to find out if you're eligible. Run a check now and you'll see if your child will be eligible from September.

IF ELIGIBLE



Your child gets a free, nutritious lunch every school day.



Save around £500 per child, per year on the cost of school lunches.



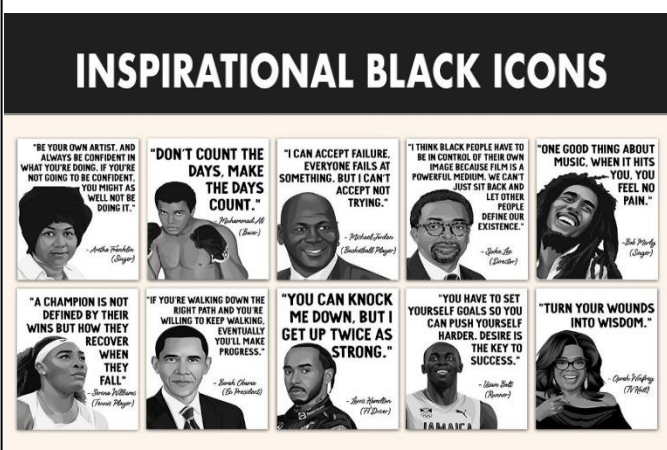
May unlock additional Pupil Premium funding for your school – supporting things like tutoring, trips and clubs.

Your child's school is notified automatically if they use the checker, or simply share your email receipt with them as proof of eligibility.



A Celebration of Black People and Their Achievements

October is Black History Month in the UK, an event that has been celebrated nationwide for more than 30 years. The month was originally founded to recognise the contributions that people of African and Caribbean backgrounds have made to the UK over many generations. Now, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just African and Caribbean people but black people in general.



STUDENT TASK: Create a piece of original artwork on the theme of: "A celebration of inspirational black people and their achievements."

HOW TO ENTER: Submit your entry to housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk. Ensure your entry is accompanied by your full name, tutor group and house.

Prizes will be awarded to outstanding entries. We look forward to seeing your work!



Kingsdale Cooking Challenge: National Baking Week

National Baking Week is a joyful celebration of the tradition of baking and the creativity that comes with making delicious homemade treats. This year, National Baking Week will take place from 14th-20th October 2026, providing a wonderful opportunity for families and baking enthusiasts to embrace the kitchen and share the fun with others.

- Here are some fun ways to get involved:
- **Bake Something New:** Challenge yourself with a new recipe or try a baking technique you've never attempted.
 - **Host a Baking Party:** Invite friends and family to join you in baking and sharing your delicious creations.
 - **Share Your Baking Tips:** Inspire others by sharing your best baking advice on social media or with your community.
 - **Support Local Bakeries:** Visit and appreciate the work of your local bakeries and pastry shops.
 - **Donate Baked Goods:** Spread the joy by donating baked treats to local charities, schools, or community events.

STUDENT TASK: If you decide to try out any of the activities above, send us a picture and a short description of what you did.

Don't forget permission from your parents or carers and have appropriate supervision in the kitchen.

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



National Honey Day
Wednesday 21st October 2026

What is National Honey Day?

National Honey Day is a United Kingdom awareness day that celebrates honey as a natural product with a strong sense of place. It is organised by the British Beekeepers Association, the largest organisation representing amateur beekeepers in England and Wales. The day promotes the sourcing and enjoyment of local honey and raises awareness about honey authenticity, encouraging shoppers to know exactly what is in their jar. It is a day for honey lovers, gardeners, and anyone curious about where their food comes from.

Why National Honey Day Matters

National Honey Day matters because honey authenticity has become a real concern. Investigations have found that a significant proportion of honey sold by large retailers shows signs of adulteration or mis-labelling, while honey bought directly from local producers is far more likely to be genuine. Buying local honey supports small beekeepers, keeps money in the regional economy, and helps sustain healthy bee populations that pollinate the wider countryside. Choosing local is good for your taste buds and good for the environment.

Why don't you...

- Buy a jar of local honey – Track down honey produced by a beekeeper near you, whether at a farm shop, market stall, or directly from an apiary.
- Taste honey side by side – Line up two or three honeys from different regions or floral sources and compare colour, aroma, and taste.
- Cook or bake with honey –Drizzle it over porridge, yoghurt, or warm crumpets for a seasonal treat.
- Visit a local apiary or beekeeping association – Meet beekeepers, see a hive up close, and learn how honey is harvested.
- Read the label carefully – Check where your honey is from.
- Plant for pollinators –Autumn is a good time to plan and plant for the year ahead.
- Give honey as a gift – A jar of local honey makes a thoughtful, sustainable present that supports a small producer at the same time.



CALENDAR 2026-27

You can also find lots of other useful sources of information on the school website [here](https://www.kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk). 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 2026
First Autumn Half-Term
Tuesday 1st September Friday 16th October
INSET DAYS – School closed to all students
Tuesday 1st September – Wednesday 2nd September
Half-Term Holiday
Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October
Second Autumn Half-Term
Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

SPRING TERM 2027
First Spring Half-Term
Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February
Monday 4 January INSET DAY
School closed to students except those in Year 11 by invitation
Half-Term Holiday
Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February
Second Spring Half-Term
Monday 22nd February – Friday 25th March

SUMMER TERM 2027
First Summer Half-Term
Monday 12th April – Friday 28th May
Monday 12th April INSET DAY
School closed to students except those in Year 11
Mayday Bank Holiday
Monday 3rd May 2025
Half-Term Holiday
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June
Second Summer Half Term
Monday 7th June – Friday 23rd July
Friday 26th July INSET DAY
School closed to students except by invitation

'Apps' are designed to run on certain devices and are written for a specific operating system, such as Apple iOS, Windows, or Android. The official store for the Apple iOS operating system is known as the 'App Store' and it's where you can browse and download more than 2 million apps and games to use on the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch and other Apple devices. When your children are using the app store, you need to be aware of the risks...



What parents need to know about

THE APP STORE

IS YOUR CHILD 13+?

To download and buy apps from the App Store, your child will need an Apple ID. If they have used other Apple services, such as iCloud, they can sign into the App Store with the same Apple ID. If they are aged 13 and under, they cannot sign up for an Apple ID on their own, but an adult can create an Apple ID for a child.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Apps are either free, paid-for or free with in-app purchases. In-app purchases are optional transactions that can unlock extra functionality, virtual goods or unique content. Unless you change the settings, once your child has entered a password to make an in-app purchase, they can make additional purchases for 15 minutes without re-entering a password. This makes it extremely easy for children to accidentally run up huge bills.

LOOKALIKE APPS

Some developers release apps that copy the functionality, user interface and even product names and branding of popular apps, in an attempt to trick unsuspecting users to install them. By downloading an app from an unknown developer, your child could find their device compromised. Experts warn that through app permissions, hackers can potentially take photos using the camera and access media remotely, track your child's location, record any passwords they enter for other accounts, and send text messages from phones.

INAPPROPRIATE APPS

Some apps and games have content that is unsuitable for younger children – even the most popular or innocuous looking apps may feature adult-themed content, violence or cruelty to other people or animals, unmoderated chat, pornographic or sexual content.

THIRD-PARTY APP STORES

Because the official Apple App Store has a very stringent policy about what apps it approves, children may look elsewhere for apps and games they've heard about from friends. As well as the Apple App Store for iOS, there are hundreds of other third-party app stores, but the danger is they may not apply the same level of scrutiny toward the apps they allow to be listed. There's a higher chance of apps that infect devices with malicious codes or put user privacy at risk by extracting sensitive information.

Top Tips for Parents

CREATE YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT

You can create an Apple ID for a child under 13 and add them to your family group to keep an eye on their activity. Go to Settings > [your name] > Family Sharing > Add Family Member > Create a Child Account > Next. Enter your child's birthday and tap Next. Review the Parent Privacy Disclosure and tap Agree. With Family Sharing, you can add up to six family members to share App Store purchases, as well as iTunes and Apple Books.

SWITCH ON 'ASK TO BUY'

If you have a child that is over 13 years of age and has their own Apple account, make sure that you only allow them to make purchases with gift cards. You can also activate the 'Ask to Buy' feature if you are using Family Sharing, so that whenever a family member who isn't an adult initiates a new purchase, a request goes to the account organiser. You can also limit what content your child can access on the devices they use.

RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASES

You can restrict your child's ability to make in-app purchases. On an iOS device, open Settings, tap General and then Restrictions. Tap 'Enable Restrictions'. You can put a limitation that requires a password every time there is a purchase made in the App Store or iTunes Store.

BROWSE APPS BY AGE

To find apps and games that are right for your children, check the age ratings. On an iPhone or iPod Touch, this can be found in the information section on an app's product page, and on an iPad or desktop, the age range is near the Buy button. On the Kids page, you can find apps for age ranges, including 5 and under, 6 to 8, and 9 to 11.

AVOID OTHER APP STORES

Put a rule in place that your child can only use the official App Store to download apps and games. Explain why it is wise to only install applications from a trusted source to ensure their device is not affected by security issues or virus attacks.

HOW TO KNOW AN APP IS SAFE TO INSTALL

Advise your child that just because they're downloading an app from an official store, it doesn't make it safe. Fake or copycat apps will often include misspelt words and poor grammar, so always read the app description, and double check the developer name and title for warning signs. Be wary of apps that come with a long list of permission requests. Check the app's reviews and ratings – one star, one-line reviews complaining that an app didn't work on a certain device, or that there was a billing issue, is not a good indication.

SPOT FAKE REVIEWS

When checking the customer reviews within the app store, make sure they aren't vague and generic, or overly effusive, as some developers will try to manipulate their apps' positions by posting fake ratings and reviews. Check the number of downloads the app claims to have – the higher the number, the more likely it is to be safe. Your child can also check the company's website to see if the app is a

SOURCE: <https://www.engadget.com/2017/12/18/fake-cuphead-itunes/> & <https://mashable.com/2017/11/06/fake-whatsapp-app-google-play-store-android/?europa=true>

SPORTS FIXTURES

Monday 12th October 2026

- Under-13s Boys' Football Home Match v Bishop Thomas Grant School. Leave school at 1.30pm. Start 2pm. Return at 4pm approx.: Mr Fitchett
- Under-12s Boys' Rugby Away Match v St Cecilia's CoE School at Barn Elms, Richmond. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: Mr Lord/Mr Price

Tuesday 13th October 2026

- Under-15s Girl's Football B Team Away Match v Bromley High School. Leave school at 1.30pm. Start 2.30pm, Return at 5.15pm approx.: Mr Jones
- Year 8 Girls' & Boys' Sports Scholars' Badminton/Volleyball workshop in the Sports Hall. 1.50pm Start. Finish 3.45pm: Mr Roberts/PE Staff

Wednesday 14th October 2026

- Under-14s Boys' Football Home Match v Orion Edan Park School. Leave school at 2.30pm. Start 3.30pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: Mr Price

Thursday 15th October 2026

- Years 8-11 Girls' Football Tour to the Netherlands. Details issued separately.

Friday 16th October 2026

- No planned fixtures/events

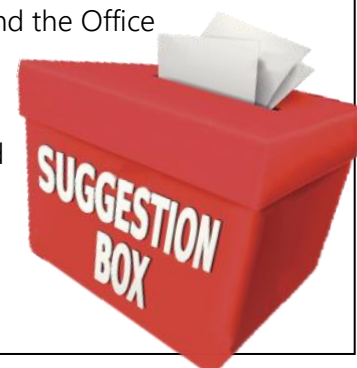
<http://www.kingsdaleschoolsports.org.uk>

Don't forget to check out our extra-curricular sports programme on Page 8

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.



HOUSE NEWS

Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus in the adjacent column we are looking at 'What Parents & Educators Need to Know about App Store'. Get a greater insight here. Remember to keep an open dialogue with your child about their activities online.

The House Leader Board 2026-27

Week ending
9th October 2026

Follow each week for the progress of each House

1st Place – Falcon 22,473 points

2nd Place – Albatross 22,127 points

3rd Place – Eagle 22,083 points

4th Place – Dove 21,877 points

5th Place – Swift 21,829 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.