

King's Easter Newsletter

Newsletter – Issue 4 - April 2017

Message from the Head

What a fantastic collection of events and achievements from the year so far. Welcoming our foreign visitors has been a particular highlight, alongside the success of the BBC School News Report and Buggy Malone and "Extremism" Drama performances. Well done to everyone involved and we look forward to yet more celebrations of the gifts and talents of our students next term.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter holiday!

B Tibbetts

Yorkshire Squash Success

Year 8 student, Amy Royle, and her Yorkshire team recently won the Girls u13 National Squash County Championships.

The competition started last October and the girls won all of their matches in each of the qualifying stages around the country. This resulted in them getting to the finals and achieving a well deserved 1st place. Well done to Amy & her teammates!



Numeracy Board Game Comp

On Tuesday 21 February, all Year 7 students took part in a full day activity to design a board game to help them develop their Numeracy, STEM and Enterprise skills.

The activity was delivered by Engaging Education and the winners with the best overall design from the day will represent The King's School in the Wakefield District Board Game competition,

for the chance to win a professionally produced version of their game.



The King's School Careers Fair

On Friday 3 February, The King's School hosted a Careers Fair for all Year 8 and Year 10 students. Year 11 were invited to drop in at break, as well as Years 8 and 10 parents.

Stallholders included Wakefield College, York University and the NHS. Feedback from students was very positive.



'Extremism' Drama Performance



The King's School Drama department staged a performance of 'Extremism' on Tuesday 28 February and Wednesday 1 March. It was part of the school's participation in National Theatre Connections and our students have been rehearsing under the expert direction of Miss Southwell, who directed the play.

An Adjudicator from The National Theatre attended the performance on Tuesday, who has the difficult decision to make as to whether or not we are successful in performing at the National Theatre in London. We are competing against many schools across the UK.

Yorkshire Rugby Champions!

On Saturday 18 March, the Year 9 boys' rugby team became Yorkshire champions for the third year running.

The King's boys turned up in a determined mood and prepared professionally for the final against Ripon at QEGs. It was a superb



game and all players performed fantastically, resulting in a 15-0 win. Man of the match was Taylor Hardwick. Well done to all involved! Can the boys make it 4 years in a row in 2018?

The LRC Refurbishment



During the last few years the Library has seen a total transformation with the addition of new tables and chairs, a large smart screen television and a full range of new bookshelves and books. Having lighter coloured tables and bookshelves, in a more informal layout, adds to the room taking on a more modern feel in what is one of the oldest parts of our school buildings. We are sure that even more students will enjoy spending time in the Library as they continue with their school work and reading!

Google Expeditions Day

On Thursday 23 March, students from Years 8 & 9 took part in a virtual reality 'Google Expedition' STEM activity day, where they had the opportunity to take a virtual journey to Earth's stratosphere. Students used Google Cardboard headsets to explore a series of three-dimensional panoramas that took them from ground level to the edge of space.

Students enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to using the technology in the future in lessons across school.



Yr 8 Technology Tournament

On Tuesday 7 March, eight Year 8 students and four Year 9 students attended the Wakefield District Rotary Technology Tournament, held at Featherstone Rovers Clubhouse. Working in teams of 4 the students applied Science, Technology,



Engineering & Maths (STEM) learning to design and build a prototype space launch vehicle, and create an accompanying design portfolio.

All students worked very well and a team of Year 8 students took second place overall in the Key Stage 3 challenge.

Well done to everyone involved!

The School Shop

Did you know that you can pay for catering, trips and music lessons online?

All you need is an email address and link code for your child. If you have not already received the link code please call the Finance team on 01977 601701.

The school shop opening times are:

Monday - Wednesday 8.40am - 4.00pm

Thursday - Friday 8.40am - 3.00pm

Students will not be served at the school shop during lessons (unless approved by a member of staff)

GCSE Food Technology Exam



GCSE Food Technology students recently completed their controlled assessment practical exam. They had to produce a dish that would be suitable to be sold at Farmer Copley's. Each dish included local ingredients to help support the local economy, as well as seasonal foods.



All students were successful in creating a variety of sweet and savoury dishes including fruit flan, meringue pies, breads and pastry dishes. Well done!

Yr 7 Fundraising for Lepra



Year 7 students have been busy raising money for Lepra. Some wonderful highlights include: A Bake Sale, where forms 7KM, 7MM and 7BS raised £99.61; Leanne Ma raised £80 by not eating candy for a week; a disco for Years 7 and 8 students; Richard Taylor 7TMI £47.50- made brownies and sold to family and friends.

In addition to the above, there were various bike rides, swims, bake sales and sponsored silences... some fantastic fundraising efforts!

The total raised was £1450.91. Well done to everyone involved!

Double Basketball Winners

On Saturday 25 March, King's U14 girls and boys won their respective basketball competitions, representing Wakefield at the West Yorkshire Youth Games. Well done to both teams!



BBC News School Report



As part of our BBC News club, our team at The King's School were involved in 'News day' on Thursday 16 March.

The BBC School News Report day is a well publicised, world wide event, which gives pupils the opportunity to learn more about the world of journalism, produce and present their own news stories and experience working in teams under pressure.

The day was particularly successful, as the students featured in their own news bulletins and successfully edited the material for a 2pm deadline. The content can be seen at: <http://kings.wakefield.sch.uk/bbcnewschoolreport>

The BBC School News Report team will continue to meet every Monday lunch time in M9. Students of all age groups are welcome and it is preferred if you bring a packed lunch.

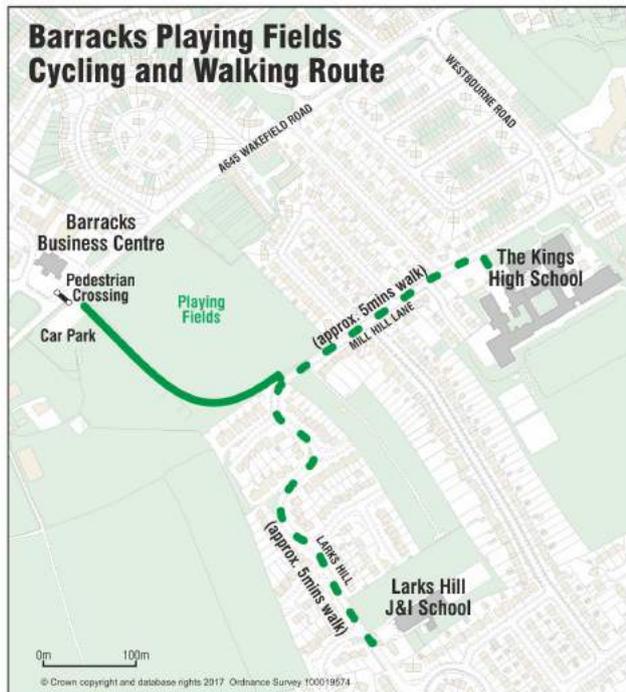
E Factor Enterprise Event

Over 100 students attended the E Factor with 12 business links from TK Maxx, Learning Curve and British Gas. The day was to increase enterprise understanding and raise awareness of different departments within a business.



Wakefield Council has this week completed the construction of a new surfaced path across the Barrack's Playing Fields to help cyclists and pedestrians travel from the Wakefield Road area to Mill Hill Lane and Larks Hill. The path, which starts at the council run car park opposite the Barrack's, provides a great link to both The King's School and Larks Hill School and offers a convenient 'pick up and drop off' space for parents that usually drive up to the school gates. As you know there are significant problems with parking and passing traffic outside the school and this 'Park and Stride' offers a safe, convenient and direct alternative to dropping off on Mill Hill Lane.

Please make the effort to try out this new facility – especially now the better weather is on its way!



Sports Leadership Award

Several students from Year 10 have recently received their Sports Leadership Award certificates from Featherstone Rovers player, Misi Taulapapa.

The year-long course is run by The Featherstone Rovers Foundation at The Big Fellas Stadium and includes various modules including Healthy Living, Fairness in Sport, Communication, Teamwork and Roles & Responsibilities of a sports leader.

The students have enjoyed the course, especially working with 1st team players such as Misi and Jamie Cording.



Yr7 Netball Champions



On Wednesday 29 March, the Year 7 girls netball team played in the Pontefract & Castleford round robin netball tournament.

Other teams included Castleford, Carleton, Minsthorpe, De Lacy and St Wilfrid's. The result all came down to goal difference and King's were the ultimate WINNERS! Well done to the whole team who shot, defended and played so well!

Teachers' Lip Sync Battle

The King's School held a very successful Lip Sync Battle on Tuesday 21 February. Members of staff dressed up and lip synced to songs by various artists and groups. Acts included Mr Webb as Tina Turner, Mrs Gardner as Jo Jo Swaine, Mrs Chamberlain as Elvis and Mrs Levey & Mrs Ryan as The Blues Brothers.

They performed to a full audience and the WINNERS were Mr Mitchell, Miss Batters, Mrs Cole & Miss Senior! Well done!

Refreshments were available on the night and over £500 was raised, split between The Prince of Wales Hospice & the Yr 11 Prom Fund.



Bugsy Malone Performance

On Thursday 30 March, 50 year 8 students performed an abridged version of Bugsy Malone to a packed hall of family and friends. The performance was electrifying with all cast members, musicians and backstage crew working as a professional theatre company. The students have been working on this production in their lunch times and after school since October and for some it was the first time that they had performed on stage, especially to such a large audience.

The students were all amazing and we are extremely proud of their achievements.



Shanks Drama Performance

On Monday 27 March, 200 Year 8 students attended a 40 minute drama based performance designed to inspire young people to



reduce the amount of waste across Wakefield District and see the benefits of the 3rs – reduce, reuse and recycle. It was a great performance and hopefully very beneficial to students.

Our International Visitors

During the last week of the Spring term we welcomed staff and students from five visiting schools from Germany, Romania, Turkey and Spain, to take part in a student exchange.

18 King's School students have welcomed a visitor into their home for a week, for them to experience British culture. This is part of the Erasmus project on successful careers and aspirations to Higher Education.



Visit from Yvette Cooper

On Friday 31 March, the Citizenship department were pleased to welcome Yvette Cooper to a question and answer session. Citizenship students across years 9, 10 and 11 had been preparing for the visit by researching Westminster and the role of an MP. Mrs Cole said "we are really grateful that Ms. Cooper took time out of her busy schedule to come and speak to our students. I think we've inspired a new generation of politicians". Students had prepared a variety of politically charged and challenging questions for Yvette Cooper and were im-



pressed with the politician's answers. Ashleigh Gibbins said "It was very helpful in understanding the role that MPs play in parliament and it was inspiring to meet a woman in such a high role". Watch this space... the next

generation of politicians have been born!

Important dates for your diary

INSET Day - Monday 24th April 2017

May Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2017

