



Dear All,

We hope you like our new style newsletter which contains updates on what has occurred this term and highlights future events.

It has been a very successful start to our new academic year. Year 7 students have settled in well, supported by staff, peers and their Year 9 buddies. The Open Evening was incredibly well attended and very positive with many parents/carers commenting on how helpful and happy our students were.

I was delighted that the Year 11 Parents' Evening had the best attendance ever with almost 90% of parents attending on the night. Including follow up meetings this has now risen to 99.5%! We were all really pleased with yet another set of successful GCSE results in the summer. Many individuals performed exceptionally well, most notably Freya Marks with 5x A\*s, 3x As, 2x grade 9s, and 1x grade 8 and Bradley Stockhill with 5x A\*, 1x grade 9, 1x grade 8 and 3x As. I am very proud of all our students for their hard work, determination and perseverance.

The term has been very busy with many extra-curricular activities, education visits and charitable work having already taken place. The common spirit of our school is of the highest standard. There was a four-day trip to the Battlefields last week with some Year 7 students, Year 9 geographers have just returned from their weekend residential in the Lake District and the annual Santander trip leaves next week. Our students are very fortunate to have such wonderful opportunities presented to them to help make their learning fun whilst educational at the same time.

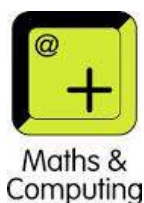
I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome all new staff to our school; Miss Draper, Mr Findlay, Mr Brindley, Miss Emerson- Thompson, Miss Trundle, Mr Turner, Mr Crookes, Mr Byrne and Miss Maeer. They have all settled in really well and I wish them all a highly enjoyable and restful half-term break.

We will continue to drive school improvement and strive for excellence in order to achieve the very best for every student. In light of this, further developments regarding the behaviour policy and changes in the use of Reception will be shared with you in a final letter on Thursday.

The King's School Newsletter will be produced during the last week of each half term and is a regular news round-up. We would welcome your thoughts; please email [epase@kings.patrust.org.uk](mailto:epase@kings.patrust.org.uk).

I am truly proud of the achievements, attitudes and commitment of our students and I hope you read through our more regular newsletters this year to gain a great understanding of the wonderful work and opportunities we deliver within our school.

Best Wishes,  
Elaine Briggs  
Head of School



# What's been happening in School?

## Year 10 Stood to Attention for a Work Related Day with the Army

The Army's Engineering, IT & Communication and Logistics team attended The King's School to deliver a half day Work Related Learning workshop to 40 Year 10 students. The activities consisted of a short presentation followed by practical hands on challenges. The tasks were fun, focused on problem solving, and were designed to develop teamwork, communication skills and decision making. A great morning was had by all.



## A Snap Shot of School Key Results for Academic Year 2016/17

63% of students achieved a grade 4 or higher in English and Maths.  
80% of students achieved a grade 4 or higher pass in English.  
68% of students achieved a grade 4 or higher pass in Maths.  
6% of students achieved A/A\* or equivalent in at least one subject.  
7% increase in students achieving a grade 4 (Grade C) or higher in English.

Single Sciences all above National Averages - Biology 96%, Chemistry 98%, Physics 91%.

15 students achieved the highest grade 9 in English or Maths.

Over 95% of students went on to further education, training or employment.



## Music Refurbishment is Music to Our Ears

Continuing with our commitment to improve the climate for learning across the school, a major renovation project for the music area was completed during the summer holidays. State of the art IT facilities, with software for music courses was installed and ready to use for the new term. The department now has two dedicated rooms equipped with the latest IT equipment. The first room, M7, is equipped with Windows based multimedia computers to serve our students to meet the requirements of their GCSE music course. The second room, M8, is equipped with Apple Mini-Macs to enable our students to meet the requirements of the BTEC Award in Music. Additional investment in furniture and a whole new look, resulted in transforming the music area to a very inviting and stimulating learning environment.

## The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) Welcomes Students

Come and join the LRC Club every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3.15pm to 4.15pm



The LRC Club is a perfect opportunity for any student to get a head start on their homework in a quiet, relaxed environment.

It has been set up to offer additional support for students who need help with reading or homework problems and is a great way to keep up to date and organised. There is full access to thousands of fantastic books, plenty of computers, printing facilities, as well as staff support and advice for those tricky questions.

Alongside the work, it is a great chance to make new friends, so come and join us!



Have you got the K factor?

Coming soon... Jan 2018

# What's been happening in School?

## Chartwells - Our New Catering Provider

Chartwells have been appointed as our new catering provider delivering a service at Breakfast, Mid-Morning Break and Lunch. The new menu includes meals such as Thai yellow curry, beef pepperpot stew and the old favourites of fish, chips and mushy peas alongside other high street snacks such as pizza, paninis and burgers.

All cooked to a healthy recipe using fresh ingredients.

Every day there will be a range of main lunchtime meals available with two sides plus a dessert and small drink priced at just £2.00. Other £2.00 meal deals include pizza, sandwich, baguette or jacket potato as the main meal with a drink and small dessert. Students engaged in lunch time clubs can pre-order a grab and go bag.

### SNAG Group

Want your say in how the catering service is delivered? Why not join the School Nutritional Action Group (SNAG) We are recruiting three students from each year group to help shape the way we deliver our catering service. Year Achievement Leaders will be asking for volunteers shortly and the first meeting will be held after the October half term holiday.

### Special Diets

Chartwells have a dedicated Special Diets Team to support all students that have an allergy or intolerance. They are available to help with any concerns and can produce a bespoke special diet.



## Song Writing Workshop Success!

The music department welcomed Rich Cottrell in school on October 3rd to work with Year 10 and Year 11 students in a song writing workshop. All students worked in groups, composing and performing original songs with the help of Rich, a professional singer and songwriter.

They composed some amazing pieces which can be heard in the Year 11 BTEC Music Concert to be held in the School Hall on Wednesday 22nd November 7-9pm. Tickets are £3 Adults and £2 Concessions.

Other opportunities to see the students perform next half term will be the annual Christmas Concert on Monday 11th December and the School Christmas Carol service Tuesday 12th December at St Giles Church, Pontefract.



## XPO ASOS Global Enterprise Challenge

30 students are participating in the XPO ASOS Global Enterprise Challenge. Their challenge is to work in small teams of 5 or 6 to decide how to transport 10,000 items from the supplier in Beijing, China to the XPO warehouse in Barnsley, UK, onto the sorting office in Sydney, Australia and finally onto each customer's home 20 miles away. The final will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> November at XPO Logistics, Barnsley.

## Year 7 'Yearbook' Theatre Performance

On Thursday 5th October, Yew Tree Arts Theatre Company came into school to deliver their 'Yearbook' performance and workshop to all of our Year 7 students.

'Yearbook' explores the decisions young people have to make about relationships and substance misuse as they grow up. It highlights insights into the risky behaviour through the experiences of the characters and the stories they tell of their peers.

Here are some quotes from students who were asked what they had learnt from the sessions:

*'I have learnt how to make a good decision'*

*'Don't feel pressured to do things that you don't want to do'*

*'I learnt how to handle bullying'*

# Sporting Success

## Year 10 Focus on the Yorkshire Cup after National Cup loss

The King's Year 10 team were sadly knocked out of the National Cup after losing to a well drilled Pocklington team. King's looked to be in charge in the first half, with the first try from Ben Walker, who sailed through an opening in the Pocklington defence to score. Man of the Match Taylor Hardwick was next on the score sheet, who came from a blind side run from the scrum. Skipping the defenders he got over the line to make it 10-0. Pocklington bounced back with a converted try, but with the support from Jack Bower and Sam Gilbert, Spencer Atkinson was able to score a typical dive-over scrum halves try, leaving the score at half time 15-14. In the second half, Pocklington took advantage of King's laziness, which led to a couple of quick fire tries putting Kings 28-15 down. King's tried to reform again, resulting in Josh Milthorpe converting a try to make the score 28-22 to Pocklington. King's continued to drive forward and battered the Pock line, but were held up and gave always a double movement penalty.

The King's boys fought to the end, but unfortunately it wasn't enough. The team now looks forward to maintaining their unbeaten run in the Yorkshire Cup against Crossley Heath.

### Men of the Match

1st- Taylor Hardwick

2nd- Kai Slatter

3rd- Oliver Cooke & Ben Walker



 Kings- 22 Pocklington- 28 

## Slam Dunk Success

The Under 16 girls basketballers made a strong start to the season with a 29-21 defeat against Queen Ethelburgas. The girls coped extremely well with the intensity and pressure through out the full game and did King's Proud. Keep up the good work girls!



## The King's School Girls Come Runners Up

Well done to the Year 10 Netball team who came runners up in the Pontefract and Castleford tournament. They played some strong teams and worked hard for second place. Good effort girls!

## 'Sportober'

On Wednesday 4th October, 30 Year 8 and 9 boys and girls spent the day at Pontefract Squash Club. Students tried out squash, table tennis and badminton as part of the clubs 'Sportober' festival. They played with students from other Pontefract schools and a great day was had by all.



## Cross Country

On Wednesday 11th October, 24 students from Years 8, 9 and 10 represented the school at Groves Park in Sheffield in the English Schools Athletics Cross Country Cup. The running conditions were incredibly challenging and our students were faced with a very high standard of competition from the other 11 schools involved on the day. King's did not achieve a high enough points score to progress any further in the competition, but the students involved should be commended for their excellent attitude and effort towards their running. Special mention should also go to James Goodall who achieved highest placed boy in the inter boys category, running against students a year older than himself.

# Sporting Success

## Rugby Success for Year 7 as they storm to victory.

On Thursday 5th October, Year 7 represented the King's School in their first ever rugby match against Silcoates. The boys played some good, structured rugby and made some great attacking moves. Defensively, King's were dominant and stopped the opposition from making ground. With the help of Ethan Grant dictating from 10, the boys secured a number of turnovers to take them into the lead. Ben Mason and Jake Hardwick were a strong attacking force, making wide channels for the team to play across.

### Men of the Match:

**1st:** Ethan Grant. Played an outstanding game from start to finish.

Adam Barnes. The tackling and rucking machine!

**2nd:** Tom Webly. Strong carrying and tackling.

Lucas Davies. Top class tackling technique and fast footwork.

**3rd:** Ben Mason. Made two tries and was a constant attacking presence throughout the game.



**Kings- 20 Silcoates- 5**



## James Goodall takes 'Man of the Match' against Outwood Academy!

The Year 9 boys travelled to Outwood Academy and made a great start to the season. The King's team started well, with James Goodall pouncing on to a loose ball in the box and making a superb finish. The King's boys pressed on with some impressive passing which resulted in striker Will Shaw hitting the back of the net. Shortly after, Sam Limb stepped up and provided a fantastic finish off the post to put King's 3-0 up before half time. Tom Hughes made an impressive save early on in the second half, but eventually, Outwood scored and the pressure was felt. Morgan Harris pulled the strings in midfield and got the team back on track, just before Tom Hunter made a top finish from a corner. Well done boys!

### Men of the Match:

1st- James Goodall

2nd- Will Shaw

3rd- Tom Hughes



**Kings- 3**

**Ossett- 0**



## English School's Athletics Awards

Joel Broadbent and Ashley Burrow have been challenged to walk 2000 meters in under 17 minutes! This involved walking five times around the athletic track. They are also working on their games skills by playing skittles, cricket and table hockey. As you can see by the smile on Joel's face, he is thoroughly enjoying these activities and Ashley is determined to win!



## Other results

Rugby- Yr 9 Boys vs Queen Ethelbergas **30-0**

Football- Yr 7 Boys vs Castleford Academy **2-1**

Basketball- U16 Girls vs Queen Ethelbergas **29-21**

Football- Yr 10 Boys vs Ossett **4-1**

Football- Yr 7 Boys vs Ossett **8-0**

### Rugby Natwest National School Vase

Yr10 Boys vs Hillhouse School **57-0**

Rugby- Yr 8 Boys vs Silcoates **21-35**

Rugby- Yr 8 Boys vs Queen Ethelbergas **15-15**

Netball- Yr 10 Runners Up in Pontefract & Castleford Tournament

Rugby National Cup Yr10 vs Pocklington **22-28**



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## Duke of Edinburgh at The King's School

Earlier this year, The King's School became a Direct Licenced Centre for the running of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Fifty-five students from our Year 10 cohort, have stepped up to the challenge and are currently undertaking their Bronze Award. They must work on developing a skill, a physical activity and also complete some work as a volunteer before completing an expedition later this year. Students have been getting involved in volunteering as a young leader at local Guide & Scouts groups; trampolining; creative writing; fencing; cooking; learning a musical instrument and volunteering in local charity shops.

Our current Year 9 students will have the opportunity to sign up for the Bronze Award following October half term.



## Christmas Craft Fair

The King's School is pleased to announce the return of its Christmas Craft Fair on Sunday 12th November 2017 10am - 3pm. The stalls will be selling a range of home-made crafts, perfect for Christmas presents and stocking fillers!

## Please Mrs Hewitt, can I have some more?

In February 2018, Mrs Hewitt and her extremely talented cast of King's students, will be taking to the stage to star in a production of 'Oliver'.

Mrs Hewitt has commented on how impressed she was with the talent at the auditions. She had some hard choices to make but the cast has now been selected and rehearsals are in full swing. We would like to wish everyone involved, a big good luck... Or should we say, break a leg?

Tickets will become available later on in the year.



## Head Boy and Head Girl 2017/18

In the Summer Term of last year, 11 boys and 12 girls decided to run for the Senior Student Leadership Team positions in School for 2017/18. The candidates planned out their campaigns and manifestos and presented these to staff and the whole of their year group in a speech in the school hall. They only had two minutes each, yet still managed to share their proposals enthusiastically and maturely.

All students within the year group and staff were given the opportunity to vote and once counted and verified, the positions were announced to all candidates by Mrs Tibbetts at the end of last year.

The results were incredibly close and resulted in the following appointments:

**Head Boy - Alex Hitchen**  
**Head Girl - Ruby Jones**  
**Deputy Head Boy - Max Hookham**  
**Deputy Head Girl - Tegan Mansell**  
**Assistant Head Boy - Alex Swift**  
**Assistant Head Girl - Brooke Douglas**



Since September, the team have already been very busy representing the School at Open Evening. Alex and Ruby have upcoming engagements in November, representing The King's School Student Body at the Pontefract Remembrance Day Parade and Service and GCSE 2017 Presentation Evening in November.

To support our Senior Student Leadership Team, we also have a group of 'blue tie' students who are carrying out a variety of additional roles and responsibilities across school with pride and endeavour. A special mention to Jasmine Mayfield who gave a prospective parent a 'wonderful, insightful and positive experience' when carrying out a tour of the School at Open Evening.

We continue to encourage Year 11 students to work towards earning 'blue ties' by showing exceptional attitude to learning, punctuality and by going above and beyond both in school and the local community.

## Fieldtrip to the Lakes

Year 9 geographers enjoyed a fantastic weekend recently in the Lake District. They travelled up on Saturday morning bright and early and after a five hour diversion we arrived in a windswept Lake District, ready to tackle a steep climb up the side of the U-shaped valley at Buttermere. Despite the tricky conditions, Year 9 tackled the steep slope well, with only one or two grazes! The view through the clouds was patchy but spectacular. Once safely down they did a gentle stroll around the lovely Buttermere - a terrific example of a Ribbon Lake. They then enjoyed an ice cream made by a local farmer.



In the evening, they stayed at Borrowdale youth hostel and enjoyed a splendid curry and the facilities in the games room. On Sunday, after a very stormy night, they travelled further south and tackled another steep path which led to a brilliant example of a corrie. The view from the top was an ideal place to notice the usual characteristics, such as a steep back wall and a lip. There was also a brilliant example of a hanging valley in the distance.

A fantastic weekend, was rounded off by a little bit of shopping in Ambleside and a very quiet set of mini buses on the way home. A big thank you to Year 9 for being so brilliant and a real credit to the school. Also to Miss Senior for organising the trip, Mrs Lacy for checking out the walks for safety in advance, and Miss Cook, Mr Banks and Mr England for giving up their weekends.



## Cake, Cake, Cake!

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, The King's School hosted a coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan. Year 7 students brought in vast amounts of baked goods, and friends and family of The King's School were invited to the event and gave donations in exchange for a coffee and a cake. The school raised almost £300, which will all go towards helping people who are facing cancer. A huge thank you to everyone that was involved and helped raise money for such a worthwhile cause!



## Daniel Davies - Maestro in the Making!

One of our talented students has passed his grade 1 singing exam with flying colours. Daniel has a passion for singing and performs at Cathedrals and Halls all over the country. To add to the list of successes, he has also been awarded a certificate of Merit from the Royal School of Church Music. We are very proud of Daniel and wish him all the luck for any upcoming events!



## Dates for the Diary...

Mon 30th Oct	School reopens
Sun 12th Nov	Christmas Craft Fair
Mon 13th Nov	Year 11 School Photographs
Wed 15th Nov	Parents Ski Trip Meeting (6pm-8pm)
Fri 17th Nov	Children in Need Day
Mon 20th Nov	Year 9 School Photographs
Thur 23rd Nov	Progress Review Day
Fri 24th Nov	INSET Day
Mon 11th Dec	Christmas Concert
Tue 12th Dec	Carol Service @ St Giles Church
Fri 15th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day

## Our Vision Statement

### Success for All

## Values of The King's School

### Safe Respect Learn

Our school Vision is Success for All and we aim to give all students life changing opportunities through educational achievement. This vision is underpinned by our values of safe, respect and learn.

We are a caring and supportive school with excellent Student Ambassadors who represent The King's School very well, displaying good behaviour and a positive attitude to work.

Relationships with parents / carers, staff and all stakeholders are of paramount importance, with effective communication and collaboration leading to successful learning for all students.

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## The Kings SEVEN

At The King's School everything we do is underpinned by our three values:

- The right to be respected
- The right to be safe
- The right to learn

To help ensure this, staff and students have worked together to write a list of core expectations known as 'King's Seven'. These are displayed in every classroom.

7

## The King's SEVEN

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(Core Expectations of student behaviour in our classrooms)

1. Enter the room **calmly**, quickly, **on time**, and **quietly**. Go the **toilet** at **break times**. Fill **water bottles** up well before lessons start.
2. Get on with the **DO NOW** task **after getting out your equipment**. Fall **silent straight away** when signalled.
3. In order to ask questions, **put up your hand** and **wait** to be selected.
4. Work as **hard you can**, and if you are stuck, ask for help in a **considerate way**.
5. When **working**, default practice should be **quietly (not distracting others)**, unless directed to have a discussion by your teacher. Earphones should not be routinely used.
6. Always **"track"** (look at) your teacher when they are explaining ideas and concepts.
7. At the end of the lesson, **pack away as directed by your teacher**, ensuring the room is tidy and **litter** is placed in the **bin**.