



Issue No 13

Friday 10 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Today King Edward VI school raised **£418.44** for Save the Children!

We have all been through so many ups and downs and battled so many uncertainties, big and small, this year as well as last. So, this Christmas Jumper Day, pop on your Christmas jumper, grab a mince pie, and enjoy some words of hope and songs of joy!



Storehouse Collection

The bags under the tree in these photos are part of our collection for Storehouse. Please keep the donations coming for this, the deadline is on Monday and we will be delivering to them next week.

Join Save the Children tonight (Friday 10 December) from 7-8pm for their own virtual carol celebration. [Register for free here](#). Save the Children want to say thank you for our continued support. Students are helping other children get the food, healthcare and education they need to see the wonder in the world.

Here are some 'Jolly' Jumpers to inspire you:



Thought for the Week

“He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under the tree.”

Roy L. Smith

Last Day of Term Arrangements Friday 17 December 2021 – Panto Time

Next Friday, the school day will be normal for all students in Years 7–10. As a special treat for Year 11, they will be attending the Year 11/Staff Panto during Session 3. We want to use this as an opportunity to raise money for the 2022 Year 11 Prom, therefore we ask that students make a minimum donation of £1 on the door to watch several staff humiliate themselves in front of a live Year 11 audience! The show will be recorded and watched back by the rest of the school in Session 4.

Face Masks

As mentioned in last week's bulletin please remember to provide your child with a face covering (and spares in case of loss or damage) to wear in school every day. We can supply masks in an emergency but cannot continue to provide them in the large quantities that we have been in recent weeks. A charge will be made for masks from next week.

Year 11 Trial Exams

We are now at the end of the two weeks of trial exams. Due to the high number of absences, and the importance of giving as many students as possible the opportunity to sit their exams, we have scheduled in two additional days next week to give students who have missed English Language, Literature, Maths, Science and some option subjects the opportunity to sit them before the end of term. Where students have their Art/Textiles or Photography exams next week, these will remain as scheduled.

These exams will take place in the Foundation Room on Monday 13 December 2021 in sessions 2, 3 and 4, and Wednesday 15 December 2021 in session 2, 3 and 4.

Individual timetables were given out in tutor time this morning (or emailed home). If your son/daughter has not received a timetable and is expecting one, please ask them to come to the Exams office.

Any subjects that we are unable to reschedule will be scheduled into class time next term. Should you have any questions please email Caroline Blyth, Examinations Officer clb@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

We value your opinion, this is your last chance to complete our surveys for both parents and students. Please take a moment to complete it and ask your child/ren to as well.

Parent/Carer survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/z568LwJCiq>



Student survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/JrNZaX6rWU>



Always a King Edward VI Student

With a school history as long as ours, once a King Edward's student, always a King Edward's student. We always tell our school leavers that if they ever need our help or support in the future, we are here for them.

We are working with the Old Burians Association (our Alumni network organisation) to raise awareness of the work they do for students (and parents) and build a strong network in the future. Here are some of the ways the Old Burians Association have helped ex-students: [Stories from some of our Award winners - Old Burians Association](#)

Bowling Event at Bury Bowl



On Monday after school Mrs Leppard took five of our SEND students to a Youth Sport Trust inclusive bowling event. The students were competing against five other local schools and did an

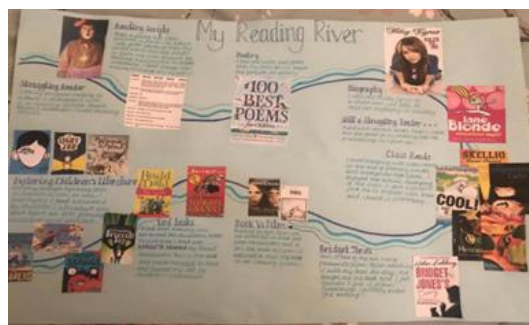
excellent job in representing the school. They were given two free games and all improved on their scores for the second game.

Activities for students entitled to Free School Meals

The Christmas holidays are just around the corner and Abbeycroft Leisure and Explore Outdoor have been working with West Suffolk Council to offer lots of exciting FREE events and activities open to children and families entitled to Free School Meals. [Details can be found here and include Park Cooking Days and Adventure Days.](#)

Christmas Holidays Homework

As part of our reading for pleasure focus, the whole of KS3 will be set homework over Christmas to create a reading river. This is a creative response (in any form you like) to document books that have had a positive impact on you in your life. Please see some examples below:



Creative responses will be displayed in Reception as part of our celebration of reading and its influence on us. You could even create a reading river with your child as a model of how and why reading can have such an influence on us.

Safeguarding

Online safety continues to be an ongoing concern and we are aware that young people can be contacted online by adults who try to manipulate, groom and exploit them.

The [Gurls Out Loud](#) web page has some facts and advice which we have shared with our staff as it could be useful for in-class discussions. We would encourage all parents to have a look at the Gurls out Loud website to read their advice and to strike up conversations at home as a result.

Beverley Tucker
Co-Headteacher

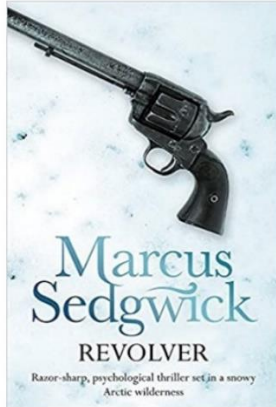
Tom Grey
Co-Headteacher

Reluctant Reader Tip 3: If your child is ready, you might select a 'grittier' book, then verbally hum-and-haw about whether or not they are old enough to read the book. Tell them maybe they should wait six months as 'there is some language and some blood'. Pretty soon they will be begging you for the book, and you can eventually give in, saying 'since you are now in Year ..., I guess it is okay'. Charlie Higson's *Enemy* series is a gritty series written for teens, as is *Zom-B* by Darren Shan.

All past issues of this Bulletin are available [on our website](#).

Book Advent Calendar Days 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8

Book Advent Calendar 6th December



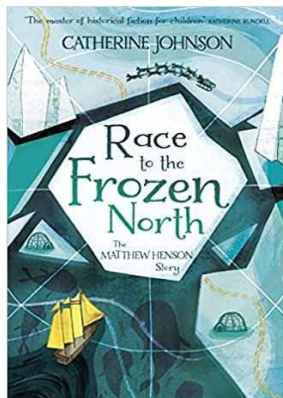
1910. A cabin north of the Arctic Circle. Fifteen-year-old Sig Andersson is alone. Alone, except for the corpse of his father, who died earlier that day after falling through a weak spot on the ice-covered lake. His sister, Anna, and step-mother, Nadya, have gone to the local town for help.

Then comes a knock at the door. It's a man, the flash of a revolver's butt at his hip, and a mean glare in his eyes. Sig has never seen him before but Wolff claims to have unfinished business with his father.

As Sig gradually learns the awful truth about Wolff's connection to his father, his thoughts are drawn to a certain box hidden on a shelf in the storeroom, in which lies his father's prized possession - a revolver.

As the stakes rise and Wolff begins to close in, Sig's choice is pulled into sharp focus. *Should he use the gun?*

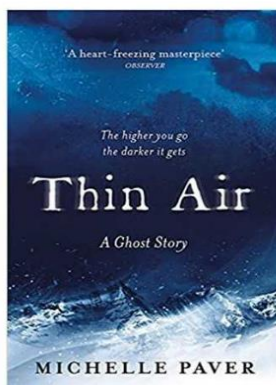
Book Advent Calendar 7th December



Matthew Henson was simply an ordinary man. That was, until Commander Robert E. Peary entered his life, and offered him a chance at true adventure. Henson would become navigator, craftsman, translator, and right-hand man on a treacherous journey to the North Pole. Defying the odds and the many prejudices that faced him to become a true pioneer.

This is his incredible and often untold story.

Book Advent Calendar 8th December



Thin Air by Michelle Paver is a ghost story that takes place over the course of a British expedition to reach the summit of Kangchenjunga in the 1930s. The narrator, Stephen, is part of a small team of British climbers led by his older brother Kits, with whom he has little in common.

The team are following in the footsteps of a previous, failed attempt at the summit by an Edwardian group led by a man called Lyell, who went on to write a book about his doomed expedition which Stephen and Kits both read as climbing-obsessed children. Kits is enthusiastic about the journey to the summit, but as the ascent continues, Stephen becomes increasingly uneasy as he senses an oppressive, malevolent presence on the mountain and begins to see a dark shape moving on the crags above.

Book Advent Calendar 9th December

JOHN MASEFIELD

The BOX of DELIGHTS



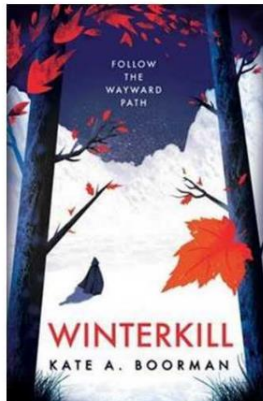
illustrated by Quentin Blake

Kay Harker is returning from boarding school when he finds himself mixed up in a battle to possess a magical box. It allows the owner to shrink in size, to fly swiftly, to go into the past and to experience the magical wonders contained within the box.

The current owner of the box is an old Punch and Judy man called Cole Hawlings whom Kay meets at the railway station. They develop an instant friendship, which leads Cole to confide that he is being chased by a magician called Abner Brown and his gang, which includes Kay's former governess.

For safety, Cole entrusts the box to Kay. The schoolboy then goes on to have many adventures as he protects the box from those who wish to use it for bad deeds.

Book Advent Calendar 10th December



Emmeline lives in a walled settlement where they must all obey the three virtues: Bravery, Honesty and Discovery. Anyone who goes against the community is considered a Wayward and is banished outside the walls to face the freezing winter and the terrifying *malmaci* who inhabit the woods. When Emmeline discovers she is to be married to the community leader, a man she distrusts and fears, she feels more trapped than ever. She has to decide between living in claustrophobic security or trusting her dreams and the whispers in the woods that are calling her outside into the unknown.

Boorman's debut novel is an exciting and atmospheric adventure story. Emmeline is a great protagonist, brave, independent and curious, yet she also battles with her self-worth, fearing her family's stained history and her disability make her less worthy than those around her. This is the first in a series and is sure to gather many fans. A great read