



Today's Prayer

Listen or read the Prayer for the Day and join in with thousands of others saying these words.

[Today's Prayer | The Church of England](#)

25/26 Issue No 06

Friday 10 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As part of our commitment to providing additional challenge for keen learners, we have been developing some **Super-Curriculum** activities. The purpose of these is to inspire students who want to go above and beyond the normal curriculum offer and delve deeper into areas of interest. Please locate English, Maths and Science ideas for Years 7 and 8 [HERE](#).

Thank you for all parents and students who supported our Shanghai visit. This is an amazing cultural experience for those who engaged. Let's build a more connected world together.

Netball Team – County Finals!

Our Under16 Girls Netball Team played some fantastic netball at the County Finals in Ipswich this week. They won two matches (against Kesgrave and Framlingham), and lost to Ipswich by just one goal. It's not all about winning; we are really proud of the girls for their sportsmanship.



Thriving in Exams – Year 11 Student Workshop

[CLICK HERE](#) for a copy of the parent letter sent out this week, regarding an important workshop running for the next two weeks, which provides students with practical strategies to manage exam worries. Information was presented to students in Year 11 this morning during their assembly. Attendance to the workshop is voluntary, but we would encourage as many students as possible to sign up and would ask you to have a conversation with your child about the benefits of doing so.

Thank You for an Unforgettable Shanghai Visit!



We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Shanghai 2025 visit. A special mention must go to our amazing Year 9 students, who gave our guests the warmest of welcomes.

Monday was bursting with excitement as we officially welcomed our Shanghai guests with a vibrant morning celebration.

Our Prefects truly shone, leading engaging tours of the school and showcasing the very best of our school. Our 'Student Buddies' went above and beyond, guiding our visitors through lessons and helping them feel right at home.

The Shanghai students also enjoyed a feast of refreshments throughout the day – with special thanks to Mr Punchard and his team for their

delicious culinary creations, which received glowing praise.

As the week unfolded, the sense of community continued to shine. Hosting families provided our guests with unforgettable experiences, from games and local park visits to shared meals, karaoke, and heartfelt gift exchanges. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive:

“They were chatty, friendly, and an absolute credit to their school. We had a fantastic evening playing games and sharing dinner. The students brought us beautiful gifts and lovely thank you notes – it was a joy to host them.”

“Tim, Sandy, Haru, and Damien were polite, enthusiastic, and inquisitive. After a visit to the park, they played table football and Twister, exchanged gifts, and ended the evening with Disney karaoke. A wonderful experience all round.”

We are especially grateful to Ms Stenning for generously hosting multiple students across the week — your support made a huge difference.

The week ended on a high note, quite literally, with an incredible farewell party. Our student bands, Parallel and Full Circle, delivered amazing musical performances, while our Drama students wowed the audience with scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Family Conflict*. Our guests from Shanghai stunned us with their own performances — singing, dancing, acting, and even a beautiful piano piece, *River Flows in You* by Yiruma, played by Richard.



This was more than just a visit – it was a true cultural exchange, filled with connection, creativity, and community spirit. Thank you to all our students, staff, and families for giving our Shanghai visitors such a warm and memorable welcome. You have made us all incredibly proud.



Year 11 – Post 16 Applications



Applications for Eastern Education Group are now open, along with lots of other further education providers, students should be proactive in completing these. In order to support these applications, you will now find a predicted grades report on Go4Schools.

If there are any issues with these please contact admin@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

Thurston Sixth Form's open evening is this Thursday, 16 October 6-8pm.



Bury St Edmunds Literature Festival

From Thursday 9 October, Bury Literary Festival are hosting a range of local authors in the Unitarian Meeting House on Churchgate Street as well as several other venues around Bury St Edmunds.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the festival schedule with a range of different authors and some creative writing workshops.

All events are **free** for under 18s but tickets for under 18s **must be booked in advance**. This would be an excellent opportunity for your child to develop their interest in literature and reading by getting to hear from real local authors. On Friday evening, there will be an event called "constructing a witch" with Helen Ivory. If students sign up for this event, they can sign up for the Open Mic and read their own poetry. Last year, we had several students impress the speaker with their own poems. Miss Reynard will be in attendance from 6pm (seeing a talk with Louis de Bernieres) that evening if any students plan to share their poems and want some support. Miss Reynard will also be hosting a session with Emma Healey and Marie O'Hare called "No Fury - Women Getting Even." For more details go to their website: [Bury St. Eds Lit Fest | Literature Festival | Bury St Edmunds, Bury Saint Edmunds, UK](#)

TikTok - Recommending Adult Content to Children



With the Online Safety Act now in force, it should be no surprise that companies are under a lot of scrutiny right now, with their failings in safety settings being highlighted in the media.

This week saw the outcomes of some new research by a campaign group called Global Witness. As part of their research, they set up a number of fake accounts as a 13-year-old and importantly, they turned on the 'restricted mode' feature, which is supposed to restrict certain content, however it didn't. The research showed the user was actively shown highly inappropriate content using similar words to circumvent the safety features with ease, such as corn not porn. If you would like to read more here is a link to the research article on the Global Witness website: [HERE](#).

App Safety Settings

This highlights again why safety settings are important; they're not perfect and never will be, but they are there for a reason. Here is a

reminder for some of the more popular social apps, all from the Internet Matters website:

Discord app settings - [HERE](#).

TikTok parental controls - [HERE](#).

Snapchat parental controls - [HERE](#).

Instagram parental controls - [HERE](#).

Pinterest privacy and safety settings - [HERE](#).

FaceTime privacy and safety settings - [HERE](#).

WhatsApp privacy guide - [HERE](#)

Vaccinations

We have had the Vaccination UK team into school this week, and again next Monday. Click the links below for information and FAQs about the Flu Vaccine offered to all students.



NHS

flu: 5 reasons to have the vaccine

- 1. Protect yourself**
The vaccine will help protect you against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect your family and friends**
Having the vaccine will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid lost opportunities**
If you get flu, you may be unwell for several days and not be able to do the things you enjoy

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Most children have the nasal spray vaccine which is the preferred vaccine. A vaccine injection is also available which does not contain gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine).

Flu Immunisation
Helping to protect you against flu

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- [Vaccination FAQs](#)
- [Information for those in secondary school](#)

Kooth

Join Kooth on this 45-minute webinar where they will guide you through emotionally based school non-attendance and explain how digital mental health support can help: [Emotionally based school non-attendance and the role of digital mental health support](#)



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Everyone at King Edward VI would like to wish you an Autumnal weekend.



Deri O'Regan

Dates for your Diary Term dates <u>2025-2026</u> & <u>2026-2027</u> Additional information can be found on the <u>calendar page</u> of the website.	
Mon 13 Oct	Flu Immunisations KS4
Tues 14 – Fri 17 Oct	NEA Investigations
Wed 22 Oct	Year 11 PSHE Day
Thurs 23 Oct	Open Mic Night – 4.30-6.30pm
Fri 24 Oct	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Mon 27 – Fri 31 Oct	Half-Term
Mon 3 – Wed 5 Nov	Year 10 English Spoken Language Assessments
Tues 4 Nov	Year 11 Drama Devising Practical Assessment
Thurs 6 Nov	Year 10 Parents' Evening (in-person)
Fri 7 Nov	Remembrance Service

Thought for the Week:

**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to
change the world.
Nelson Mandela**

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