



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 19

Friday 30 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It was great to have Year 9 parents in school this week for Parents' Evening. If any Year 9 parents missed Parents' Evening and would like a general review of academic progress from the Headteacher, please contact Ms Swift: GDS@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk to arrange an appointment.

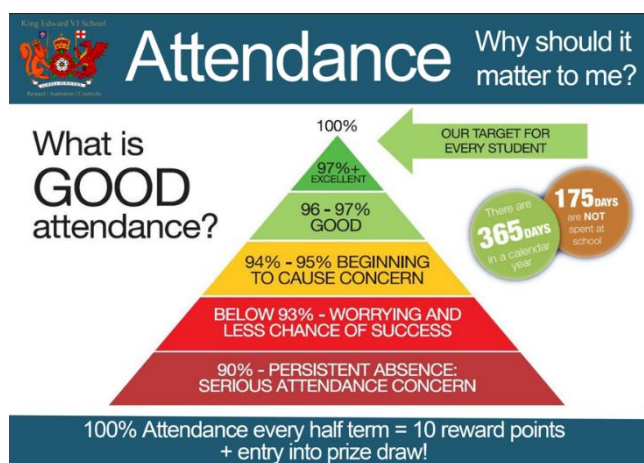
All Year 9s and their parents are expected to attend the school next Thursday for Options Evening. This is the first major curriculum choice your child will take in their education, so it is essential that you support them in choosing the right GCSEs.

Attendance Matters

At this time of year, children can wake up feeling a little below their best, and it can be tempting to keep them at home "just in case." However, if they're well enough to be up and about, they're usually well enough to benefit from being in school. Every lesson matters, and even short periods of absence can mean students return feeling less confident as they try to catch up on what they've missed. By encouraging your child to attend whenever they're able, you are helping them stay connected with their classmates, maintain learning routines, and continue making steady progress. Together, we can ensure they don't miss out on the experiences that help them thrive and achieve their full potential.

Excellent attendance (over 97%) is extremely important for academic outcomes. Students with strong attendance in secondary school achieve significantly better GCSE outcomes, with those attending nearly every day having almost double the odds of securing a grade 5 in English and Maths compared with students attending 90–95% of the time.

Please speak to your child's Tutor or Head of Year if you have any concerns about attendance.



Tchoukball

Our U16 Tchoukball Team are through to the Regional Finals after impressive wins against County High School winning 19-3 and Thurston Community College, beating them 15-4. This means that the team are through to the Regional Finals to defend the trophy that they won last year!



Year 9 GCSE Options Support

Watch the Future Steps assembly delivered by the Eastern Education Group to all of Year 9 this week: [Year 9 Future Steps Assembly](#)

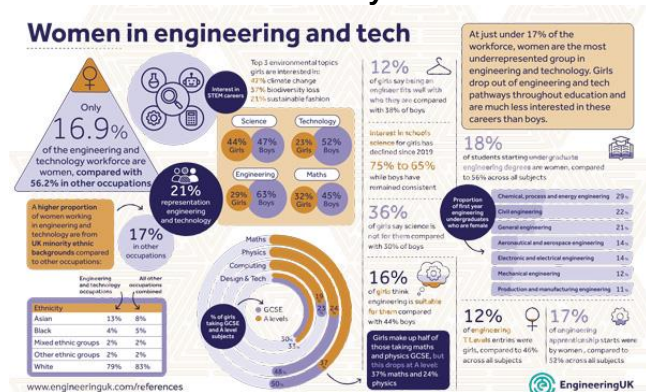
You may also like to watch the Apprenticeships assembly delivered by West Suffolk College

Apprenticeship Team [Apprenticeship Explained Assembly](#)

For more information and guidance on GCSE Options, please ensure to come to the Year 9 Options Evening and click the link below to a helpful guide from Higher Horizons:

[GCSE-Options-support-booklet.pdf](#)

Year 10 Engineering Opportunity for International Women's Day



UK Power Networks have invited up to 30 female students from Year 10 to attend their site in Risby to learn about electricity, distribution and to see the UK Power Network for International Women's Day. At just under 17% of the workforce, women are the most underrepresented group in engineering and technology - UK Power Networks want to fill that gap. This is an incredible opportunity for female students interested in Engineering.

Activities will include:

- Jointing and Fitting exercise
- First Aid session
- Networking event with female employees
- Short circuit street activity.
- Overhead Line session (going up in the bucket!)



It is going to be an incredible hands-on and busy day, allowing students to learn more about the engineering industry and the roles and responsibilities of staff.

If your child is interested, please email our Careers Co-ordinator Miss Granger: tlg@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk or ask them to visit Miss Granger in the Library. Places are on a first come, first served basis and Year Teams will confirm attendees.

Are you interested in winning a visit to MIT in the USA?

The theme of the competition is: *Sustainability and AI*. MIT are looking for projects that champion innovation and sustainability.

The challenge enables students to submit one of the following:

- A concept
- Business Idea
- Design Prototype

These will outline and propose solutions for current and future industry challenges.

Deadline to apply is: Friday 13 March 2026

The winners will embark on a life-changing educational and cultural adventure to the USA.

For more information click the link below:

[HRUC's National Innovation Challenge](#)

Years 10 and 11 Students - Are You Interested in Medicine or Dentistry?

For aspiring Doctors: there is a free live virtual 'Get Into Medicine' conferences on the following dates:

Saturday 31 January, 9am – 1.30pm

Sunday 1 February, 9am – 1.30pm

Saturday 7 February, 9am – 1.30pm

For aspiring Dentists there is a free live virtual 'Get Into Dentistry' conference on the following date:

Sunday 1 March from 9am – 1.30pm

Students and parents can register for free via the links below:

Medicine: [Conference Sign Up](#)

Dentistry: [Conference Sign Up](#)

These conferences cover range of crucial topics:

- Understanding Medical/Dental Career
- Skills Needed in Medicine/Dentistry
- Extra and Super-curricular Activities
- Accessing Work Experience
- Application Timelines
- Personal Statements
- Medical/Dental School Interviews

- UCAT Entrance Exam
- Accessing Scholarships

Keeping Children Safe from Exploitation



The Iverson Trust is a national charity working to keep children safe from exploitation by supporting parents, disrupting exploiters and working in partnership with police and family service. Their work is grounded in a trauma-informed approach, family-centred approach. During March 2026, the Iverson Trust is delivering a series of live webinars for parents and carers focused on county lines and criminal exploitation.

The sessions help parents understand how exploitation happens, how children are groomed, what warning signs to look out for, and where to access advice and support. Each webinar includes local context, time for questions, and input from a parent with lived experience.

Their interactive webinar will also give you the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns and connect with others. The sessions are delivered with a parent whose child has been a victim of exploitation, they will share their experiences and advice on responding to the risks.

What you will learn

- Learn what county lines is
- Understand what is happening in your local area
- Learn how exploiters groom children
- Understand the signs that your child might be at risk
- Know where to access support and advice if you have concerns

If you would like more information or would like to register, please click the following link.

[Parent webinars - county lines and criminal exploitation - Iverson Trust](#)

Photography Competition 2026

The Old Burians' Association photography competition is still live! Your child has until Saturday 28 February to be in with a chance to win a cash prize!



Old Burians' Association
Former Students of King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2026



PRIZES

Fourth Prize	£10
Third Prize	£20
Second Prize	£30
FIRST PRIZE	£50

The winning entries will be published in the 2026 "Old Burian" Magazine and on the www.oldburians.org website

ONE ENTRY PER PERSON

HOW TO ENTER

Send your photo as an attachment (any common picture format, but at least 1600x1200 pixels, please) to: OBphotocomp@mail.com by 28 February 2026

Don't forget - Please include:
Your full name
Your date of birth
Your college

The date your photo was taken (must be between 1 March 2025 and 28 February 2026)

IMPORTANT: You can use your artistic skills to manipulate your photo with Photoshop™ or your favourite program, but the entry **MUST** be based on a photograph taken by you. We reserve the right to ask to see the original, un-manipulated image with proof of the date taken, camera used, etc., in cases of doubt.

Local Events

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SETTING

EUSTON ESTATE
JUST OFF A11
APRIL 25TH & 26TH 2026

ADVANCE TICKET PRICES: ADULT £23.00 (17+) CHILD £8.00 (5-16YRS) FAMILY £59 (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN)
ON THE GATE PRICES: ADULT £27 (17+) CHILD £9.00 (5-16YRS) FAMILY £70 (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN)

DISCOUNTED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WWW.UKGAMEFAIR.CO.UK

SAVE MONEY - BOOK TICKETS BEFORE MIDDAY MONDAY 20TH APRIL!

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Follow our SEND Instagram page
[KEVI Learning Hub Instagram](#)

Everyone at King Edward VI would like to wish you a spiffing 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 2 Feb	Year 7 & 8 EHCP & Pupil Passport meetings
Tues 3 Feb	Year 9,10 & 11 EHCP & Pupil Passport meetings
Tues 3 Feb	Taster Tuesday
Thurs 5 Feb	Year 9 Options Evening
Fri 6 Feb	Student UN Climate Change Conference - Online
Mon 9 Feb – Fri 13 Feb	NEA Y11 Practical Exam
Mon 9 Feb	Open Mic night 4.30-6.30pm
Tues 10 – Fri 13 Feb	Barcelona Trip
Tues 10 Feb	Azores Trip - Parent Information Evening
Tues 10 Feb	Taster Tuesday
Wed 11 Feb	Careers Fair
Fri 13 Feb	Report 2 Available on Go 4 Schools
Mon 14 – Fri 20 Feb	Ski Trip
Mon 14 – Fri 20 Feb	Half-Term
Mon 23 – Fri 27 Feb	PraySpace

Thought for the Week:

Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than to be able to decide.

Napoleon Bonaparte

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