



## 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 31**

**Friday 15 May 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers

### ESU Shakespeare Competition

On Monday, we took Lily Alexander (Year 9) to the regional finals of the ESU Shakespeare Competition at Chesterton Community College in Cambridge. Lily delivered an extraordinary performance as Mercutio, capturing the character with authenticity, confidence, and real emotional depth. Her interpretation impressed both the audience and the judges, and she represented herself and the entire school with great pride. Lily's performance was simply magnificent, and we are incredibly proud of all she achieved. She was a wonderful ambassador for the school and should be thoroughly congratulated on this fantastic accomplishment.



students have shown exceptional commitment, maturity, and enthusiasm as they have prepared for this once-in-a-lifetime international opportunity.

Through our dedicated China Lunchtime Club, students have taken part in leadership activities, cultural workshops, team-building challenges, Mandarin learning, and preparations for the "Share Life" Farewell Tea Party performance that they will showcase alongside their partner school in China. We are incredibly proud of the level of personal growth, confidence, resilience, and teamwork that we have seen develop within the group.

The itinerary promises an unforgettable educational and cultural experience. Students will explore iconic landmarks including The Bund (reputed as "An Exhibition of International Buildings"), Yu Gardens, and Zhunjiajiao Ancient Town, while also taking part in leadership exchanges, STEM learning, martial arts experiences, cultural discussions, collaborative activities with students from our partner schools in Shanghai including having a meal with a host family. The visit reflects our commitment to developing global citizenship, leadership, and cultural understanding.

A particular highlight of the trip will be the opportunity for our students to work closely with their Chinese buddies and participate in the "Share Life" Farewell Tea Party, where they will present performances and cultural showcases they have been rehearsing together over recent weeks.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support throughout the preparation process. We would also like to thank the staff involved in organising (Miss Doxon, Ms Sweny, Mr Spooner and Mr Grey) and supporting this exciting international partnership opportunity.

### China Leadership & Cultural Exchange Trip 2026 – Ready for Departure!

Excitement is building at King Edward VI School as our China 2026 Leadership & Cultural Exchange group prepares to depart for Shanghai this week. Over the past several months,

A huge thank you to Mr Last for ensuring the students had everything they needed.

We will keep the school community updated throughout the visit, and families will be able to follow our journey, experiences, and student highlights via the school website during the trip.

We wish all students and staff a safe journey and an incredible experience in Shanghai!



### Tennis News:

Congratulations to the U13 Girls tennis team who played some lovely tennis to beat Ipswich High School 4-2.

Team members: Cordelia East (c), Maya Ionescu, Florence Griffin, Alexandra Beasley and Nell Thomas.

Amazing! Well done all!

### Under 13 Football trials

Taking place at Culford School on 21 and 28 May for under 13s

### Progression Fair – Year 10s and Year 11s From Abbeygate Sixth Form College:

Abbeygate Sixth Form College are delighted to invite you and your young person to attend the Progression Fair taking place at Abbeygate Sixth Form College from 4 – 6 pm on 19<sup>th</sup> May.

The event will welcome universities from across the country as well as a range of employers to discuss, face to face, potential progression pathways for young people.

There will be employer and university stands and a short talk in the Hall at 4:30pm and 5:30pm

Advisers from the Eastern Education Group (EEG) Futures Team will also be on hand to discuss Careers, Progression to Higher Education, Apprenticeships and opportunities at the University and Professional Development Studies in Bury St Edmunds.

If you would like to attend, please click on the link here to register your interest: [Progression Fair Parent Information Evening ASFC – Fill out form](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to Abbeygate for this event.

The EEG Futures Team

## PE Kit request

As Year 11 students come to the end of their time at King Edward VI School, we would be very grateful for any donations of PE kit that is no longer needed.

Any clean, good quality PE kit can be handed into the PE department and will help support other students within the school community.

## Preloved Uniform

Any old, and no longer needed, items of branded uniform are very welcome; particularly school jumpers. Parents wishing to help should drop off clean items at the main reception.

## Fidget Tools and Classroom Expectations:

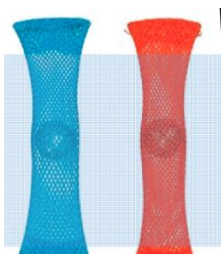
We recognise that some students benefit from using fidget tools to support concentration and regulation in lessons. Where appropriate, approved fidget tools may be agreed through the SEN team and recorded as part of a student's support arrangements.

To ensure consistency across the school, only approved fidget tools that have been agreed with SEN will be permitted in lessons. Please see picture below.

Please be aware that any fidget items brought into school that have not been agreed with SEN, or are being used as toys rather than learning tools, may be confiscated by staff.

Our aim is to support students in using appropriate strategies that help learning, while also maintaining a focused classroom environment for all students.

Thank you for your continued support.

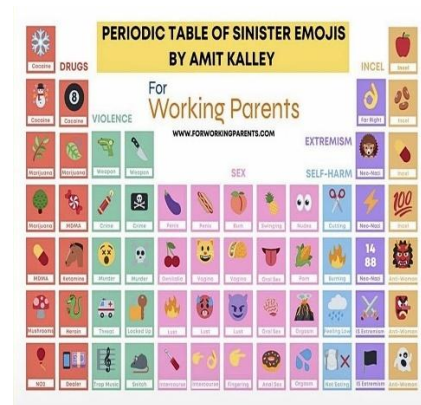


## The Periodic table of sinister Emojis

This periodic table of emojis helps parents and carers understand the sinister alternative

meanings behind many emojis used on a daily basis.

## Periodic Timetable of Sinister Emojis



## Careers

### Are you interested in Care?

Fornham House Care Home in Fornham St Martins is hosting an open week to encourage community engagement. It would be a wonderful opportunity for anyone considering a career in the Care sector to come along and see what Careers in Care are all about.



## Future Skills Programme in STEM

This programme is designed to inspire students, broaden their understanding of STEM careers,

and equip them with the skills and confidence needed to make informed choices and succeed in future applications and the workplace.

**Who is this for? Students in Years 9-10 - S3-S4**

**When is this course running?** 26th-29th May

**How long will it take to**

**complete?** Approximately 30 hours flexibly

**How much will it cost?** £50 (Fully funded bursaries are available for eligible students, criteria is [here](#)).

**The course will include a [series of live sessions](#):**

- Live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals in four key STEM areas Net Zero futures, Digital AI futures, Health and Life Sciences futures and Engineering, Infrastructure and Manufacturing futures.
- A session with early careers professionals on how to make successful applications including how to showcase their skills on their CV, applications and interviews.
- Hear from apprentices and universities about opportunities available in STEM in interactive panel Q&A sessions.
- A session with early careers professionals on how to succeed in the workplace including how to ask questions, networking and writing professional emails.

The course is suitable for **all abilities**, enthusiasm and curiosity are far more important than prior knowledge and at the end of the course, students will graduate as **Bronze-level Industrial Cadets**, a **nationally recognised award** they can use as evidence of their experience to support future applications and career journeys.

[The Future Skills Programme: Careers in STEM Flyer](#)


**Get Your Foot in the Door: Careers in Construction with Untypical**


A free, hands-on careers evening for students and parents.


Students will take part in a fun, interactive round-robin, meet industry professionals, and try


practical activities to explore different roles and discover their strengths.

**Event details:**

 Tuesday 19 May

 17:30 – 19:00

 1st Floor, Blenheim House, Newmarket Rd, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3SB

 Free to attend

**Sign Ups:**

Parents and students must **register separately** if attending together.

Spaces are limited, so register soon!

 [Event Registration Link](#)



**BUILD YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE: CONSTRUCTION CAREERS WORKSHOP**

Discover the wide range of careers in construction — from design to delivery.  
For parents and carers of students in year 7 - 13

An engaging, interactive workshop where students and parents can explore real career pathways in the construction industry.

In this FREE workshop, you'll:

- ✓ Understand the variety of careers in construction (not just trades)
- ✓ Hear from industry professionals about real opportunities
- ✓ Learn about routes into the industry (college, apprenticeships, university)
- ✓ Get practical advice on how to support your child's career decisions
- ✓ Discover local opportunities, including work experience

Helping you support your child's future  
We connect families with employers, training providers, and real career pathways — so you can feel confident guiding your child.

All vacancies can be found here  
— Jobs | untypical

**Event Details**  
Date: Tuesday 19th May  
Time: 5:30 - 7pm  
Location:  
1st Floor, Blenheim House,  
Newmarket Rd, Bury St Edmunds,  
IP33 3SB

 [REGISTER TODAY](#)

A great opportunity to explore future career pathways together.

**Follow us on Facebook**

[King Edward VI School Facebook](#)

**Follow us on Instagram**

[King Edward VI School Instagram](#)

**Follow our SEND Instagram page**

[KEVI Learning Support Instagram](#)

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



Deri O'Regan

### D Dates for your Diary

Term Dates [2025-2026](#) & [2026-2027](#)

Additional information can be found on the [calendar page](#) of the website.

Thurs 7 May - Wed 17 June (GCSE Contingency Day 24 June)	GCSE Exams
Fri 15 May – Fri 22 May	Shanghai Trip
Mon 18 – Tues 19 May	Y10 Art and Photography Exam
Fri 24 May – Sun 27 May	Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice
<b>Mon 25 May – Fri 29 May</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
15 June – 16 June	Year 10 Mock Exams
Mon 22 – Fri 26 June	Year 5 School Tours
Wed 24 June	GCSE Contingency Day

Thought for the Week:

**A heart filled with love is like a phoenix that no cage can imprison.  
(Rumi)**

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