King Edward VI School

Weekly Parent Newsletter

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

26/27 Issue No 7 **Friday 23 October 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers

The end of a half term always provides an opportunity to pause and reflect on all that has been achieved over the past seven weeks. I would like to thank our students for the commitment, effort and resilience they have shown in their learning, our staff for their dedication and support, and our parents and carers for the vital role they play in supporting our school community. Together, we have enjoyed a positive and productive start to the academic year.

A reminder to parents and carers that our school flu vaccination programme will take place after half term. The school vaccination team will visit on **Thursday 5 November** for students in **Years 8, 9 and 11**, and on **Wednesday 18 November** for students in **Years 7 and 10**, alongside any catch-up vaccinations. Vaccinations will take place in the Foundation Room. If you have not already done so, please respond to the parental consent email recently issued, which contains the information required to provide or decline consent. We would strongly encourage families to take advantage of this opportunity to help keep our students healthy, safe and in school throughout the winter months. Parents may also be reassured to know that the flu vaccine is administered as a **quick and painless nasal spray rather than an injection** for the vast majority of students.

We would also like to remind families that students in **Years 9 and 10** will attend the **Remembrance Service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral on Friday 6 November**. This annual event provides an important opportunity for students to join the local community in remembering those who have served and sacrificed in times of conflict. As students will be walking to and from the Cathedral, they should ensure they are prepared for the weather conditions on the day, including bringing a suitable coat if required. Students are also encouraged to bring a poppy to wear with their school uniform as a mark of respect.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support throughout the first half of the autumn term. I hope that students and families can enjoy some quality time together over the break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back after half term for what promises to be another busy and successful period of school life.

Remembrance Service – Years 9 and 10

A reminder to parents of students and students in Years 9 and 10 – students will be attending the Cathedral on the Morning of 6 November to take part in a Remembrance Service. We urge students to look extra smart, making sure you wear your uniform with pride, make sure that you bring coats and please wear a poppy. Thank you.

Poppies

Please note that Poppies will be for sale in Student Services the first week we return from Half term.

Old Burians Association Photography Competition 2027

We are really very excited to launch the OBA Photography competition for all our budding student photographers.

Each year the OBA run this wonderful competition and this year's theme is 'My Favourite Walk'

Please make sure you include your full name, date of birth, Year Group and the date your photo was taken.
Full details are on the poster below, and in addition, we have posters up around school. Closing date for this competition is 28 February 2027. Good Luck!



Sports News update

Cross Country Championships



We took 52 students from Years 7 - 11 to the Cross Country Championships at RHS last Thursday.

20 have qualified for the next round at Woodbridge School in January.

A special mention to Erin who finished 2nd in her age group and achieved a Personal Best Time.

U14 Boys Football:

The U14 Boys Football travelled to Finborough School for the 1st round of the County Cup, the boys started well by getting a couple of early goals. After playing some nice football, they were 6-0 up at half time. The boys continued to show great composure passing the ball around well in the 2nd half eventually winning the game 10-0.

Young Coaching Academy

On behalf of myself and Miss Ward I want to extend a huge thank you for the amount of interest we have had in the Young Coaching Academy. It has been amazing reading the applications and seeing how passionate the students are about this endeavour.

In terms of updates for the Young Coaching Academy, a letter will be going out by the first Friday back after half term. This will include

which Wave they are in for training and what dates the training is going to be on.

If there are any questions in the meantime please feel free to send me an email: DS@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk"

Mr Davis

School Flu Vaccinations 5 and 18 November

The school flu vaccination team will see **all students** in the following year groups:

- **Thursday 5th November:** Years 8, 9 and 11
- **Wednesday 18th November:** Years 7 and 10, plus catch-up vaccinations

Parents and carers will receive the relevant information and consent forms directly from **Vaccination UK**.
Please look out for their communication and complete the consent form as appropriate.
Thank you for your support.

Lunchtime Supervisor opportunities

We are looking for people to join our lunchtime team - 1 hr 15 mins a day. If interested, and you'd like more details, please email recruitment@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk.

School Attendance

As we are now moving into the winter months, absences may be more likely to be on the increase with colds, coughs and other nasty bugs flying around. Deciding whether to keep your child at home as they may not feel 100% is a very tough decision. The NHS has put together a document to help parents with this issue, and with helpful advice on other common illnesses. Please have a look by clicking on this link: Is my child too ill for school? - NHS If after reading the NHS article, you decide that your child is too unwell to attend school then please always inform us, by 9am, by the following methods:
Email: attendance@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

Absence Telephone number: 01284 761393 option 1. Please only use the official attendance email or phone line as other emails may not been seen – especially if the staff member is off. If we do not hear from you, our automated system will send you a message, please reply and let us know the reason your child is absent. Please only use this system once you have received a message, do not report your child absent via a previous message, as it is not monitored before 10am. Stay healthy and well and have a great half term break.

Year 10 Spoken Language Assessments

Year 10 Spoken Language Assessments are taking please after half term. Please ensure your child knows their time and is prepared with their speech. If you have any questions, please contact RD@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk





Join us on 7 November for a magical evening beneath the historic skyline of the Abbey Gardens.

With spectacular fireworks, food and drink, fairground rides and family entertainment, it's set to be another fantastic community event. We're delighted to be working alongside St Edmundsbury Theatre Services and Bury St Edmunds Town Council to bring the evening to life.

Advance booking is recommended as numbers are limited.

Abbey Gardens Fireworks 2026 | St Nicholas Hospice Care



See the attached link – This Christmas we warmly invite you to join St Nicholas Hospice care in remembering the lives of those who hold a special place in your heart at one of their Life events across West Suffolk and Thetford.

See link attached:

Light Up a Life 2026 | St Nicholas Hospice Care

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Suffolk Against Fraud:

Suffolk Against Fraud is a countywide partnership dedicated to preventing fraud and protecting communities across Suffolk. Fraud is now one of the most common crimes affecting individuals and organisations, with criminals using increasingly sophisticated methods to target businesses, employees, customers, and vulnerable residents.

In school, we have been alerted to a small number of students and families, who have been victims of extortion and as such we would like to draw your attention to the following guide which you may find helpful to read and discuss as a family.

Please see the link here ERSOU student online safety guide

Or check out this website for more advice UK's Home for Reporting Cyber Crime & Fraud - Report Fraud

Suffolk Against Fraud

Careers news:

Year 10 Work Experience Week (5-9 July 2027)
All relevant information will be placed on MS TEAMS today and will be sent to parents via a letter. Students should read all the information and are encouraged to look for their placement now!

Please email workexperience@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk with any questions.

Year 11- Virtual Employability skills workshop- build skills and boost confidence!

Join the Virtual Career Experience Day, part of the Sainsbury's KickStarter Experiences, taking place during the October half-term.

Explore exciting career opportunities, develop new skills, meet members of the Sainsbury's team, and gain a better understanding of careers in retail and the supermarket industry.

Monday 26th October 2026
Tuesday 27th October 2026
Wednesday 28th October 2026

For more information, check out Sainsbury's - Introduction

Year 11- Engineering Apprenticeship with EDF
EDF Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship.

This four-year apprenticeship gives you the opportunity to complete an Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship and achieve a BTEC Level 3 qualification, with a starting salary of £17,606.

You'll spend your first two years at the National College for Nuclear based in Somerset, developing practical engineering skills in mechanical, electrical and instrumentation trade disciplines at industry-leading facilities, including virtual reality environments, while living in outstanding student accommodation. Along the way, you'll build confidence, develop independence and learn alongside other apprentices starting their careers in the industry.

In years 3 and 4, you'll put your learning into practice at Sizewell B nuclear power station, working alongside experienced professionals and gaining real-world experience. By the end of the programme, you'll have achieved recognised qualifications and developed the skills needed for a rewarding career in engineering.

Applications for the Engineering Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship open on 1 October 2026.

For more information, and to apply, see here https://careers.edfenergy.com/job/engineering-maintenance-technician-apprenticeship-in-leiston-jid-2332

Year 11- Are you interested in studying Medicine or Dentistry?

Applications for the online King's College London Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series 2027 are now open! They have supported over 14,000 students since they introduced the free programme five years ago.
This programme is for students across the UK in Year 11, 12, and 13 interested in becoming a doctor or dentist.
Over the course of the programme students will hear from a wide variety of speakers to help build their understanding of the opportunities and challenges of being a doctor and dentist, as well as guidance on the application process. Last year's lectures included the following:

- Medical and dental specialties: cardiology, oral surgery, renal transplant, and many more!
- Q&A's each week with speakers and current medical/dental students
- Support with the application process: UCAT, personal statements, and interviews
- Q&A with admissions colleagues at KCL

Most importantly participants will become part of a community of like-minded students all interested in applying to medicine and dentistry and finding out what being a doctor and dentist really entails!
Lectures will run from January to April, with sessions taking place online via Zoom every Tuesday evening, from 5:00-6:30pm.
For more information and to apply, students should follow this link. The deadline is Tuesday 1 December 9pm.
Are you interested in a career in Speech and Language Therapy?
Career in SLT Flyer template.pdf

Year 11- Applications to Hills Road Sixth Form, Cambridge are now open!

Students can apply through Applicaa via this link:

https://hillsroad.applicaa.com/01a0a4bc-3bfe-75dc-9ac2-c7990d44cce1

As part of the Applicaa application, students must provide the name and email address of a staff member to act as their referee and to supply their

predicted GCSE grades.Once a student submits their application, we will send an automated email to their nominated referee with instructions on how to provide the required information.
We ask students to submit their applications by 5 January 2027, allowing referees sufficient time to provide references and predicted grades before the 12 January 2027 deadline.





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KEVI Learning Support Instagram

Everyone at King Edwards would like to wish you a tremendous weekend and a wonderful half term.



Mr T Grey
Interim Headteacher

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Dates for your Diary Term Dates 2026-2027 Additional information can be found on the calendar page of the website.	
Autumn Half Term	Monday 26 October 2026 – Friday 30 October 2026
Start of Autumn Term	2 November 2026
Whole School Flu Vaccination	5 November 2026 and 18 November 2026
Remembrance Service	6 November 2026
Autumn showcase	10 November 2026
Year 10 PSHE Day	11 November 2026
Year 11 Mock Examinations	16 Nov – 27 Nov 2026
Year 7 Parents Evening	26 November 2026
A Christmas Carol Performance	2 December 2026
Year 11 Celebrations Evening 25/26 Cohort	1 December 2026
GCSE Theatre Royal Performance	10 December 2026
Year 11 Art and Photography Mock Examinations	14 – 17 December 2026
Carol Service	15 December 2026 7pm
Christmas Lunches	16/17 December 2026
Autumn Term Ends	18 December 2026

Question of the Week:

Remembrance: Why is remembering important?

All past issues of this Newsletter are available on our website.