

# KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL



Spring 2026

TERMLY NEWSLETTER



## Welcome to the second School newsletter of 2025-2026.

It is a pleasure to reflect upon the many achievements and memorable moments that have taken place across our School community during the spring term.

This edition of the newsletter captures just a snapshot of the energy, talent and commitment that our students and staff demonstrate every single day. From inspiring trips and fixtures on the sports field, to outstanding individual successes and the creativity showcased in our drama experiences and spring concert, there is so much to celebrate.

I have been particularly proud of the continued progress we are seeing across the School, both academically and in our wider curriculum. Our students have approached their learning with determination and maturity, supported by dedicated staff.

The events captured in this newsletter are powerful reminders of the breadth of experience and opportunities we provide for our students and staff.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter.

If you would like to keep up to date about the School on a regular basis, please follow us on Bluesky; [@kessheffield.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/@kessheffield.bsky.social).

If you have an article that would be of interest to our School community, please email it to [jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk) for consideration.

Warm regards  
Linda Gooden  
Headteacher



## Important Dates

- Tuesday 9 June - Year 6 Information Evening, 6pm - 7.30pm
- Half term break - Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2026 - School closed
- School returns on Monday 1 June 2026 until Friday 17 July 2026

## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2026: BRIDGING GENERATIONS

*Mrs S. Davis, Curriculum Leader of History and Politics*

On 27th January 2026, four Year 10 History students represented King Edward VII School at Sheffield City Council's civic event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. The students reflected on the importance of Holocaust education for them and for future generations. Their words are printed below.



**George:** The Holocaust was a global tragedy that claimed the lives of over six million Jewish men, women, and children. By the end of the Second World War, the full extent of this horror was only just being discovered by ordinary people across the world. Today, as we move further into the 21st century, the generations who lived through it are passing away. The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2026 is 'Bridging Generations'. It is a call to action for us, the younger generation, to take responsibility for remembrance.

**Kaitlin:** As 14-year-olds, we feel this responsibility deeply. We are the active custodians of these stories. We see how safety for discriminated groups can be incredibly fragile, vanishing almost overnight as people are forced to navigate uncertainty and fear. One such story is that of Harry Lewy, who was just one of the estimated 300,000 Jewish people made refugees during the Holocaust.

**Sabina:** This history isn't just in textbooks; for me, it is felt. Growing up Czech, I know the familiar story of Harry's escape from the Sudetenland after the 1938 Munich Agreement. He was one of approximately 175,000 people who fled those horrors. On the night of 30 September 1938, as German troops crossed the border into Czechoslovakia, Harry had only hours to decide: stay and risk persecution or leave behind everything he knew.

**Sidney:** Harry's story is preserved in the book *Flight from Prague*, written by his son, Michael Lewis. The book describes a perilous journey across Nazi Germany and war-torn Europe. What allowed Harry to persevere through the terrors of border crossings were small acts of kindness that kept hope alive. From this, we learn that empathy is essential; atrocities happen when these principles are ignored. We must learn compassion to create a society where everyone is treated with care and dignity.

**George:** Our school has a direct link to this history. Michael Lewis, the author, was the headteacher of King Edward VII School for twenty years. His parents, Harry and Helen, were both Jewish and both faced extreme danger. While Harry lived a life of displacement as a refugee, his future wife, Helen, was a dancer who was eventually liberated from Auschwitz.

**Kaitlin:** Learning about their lives is a stark reminder that our generation has a vital part to play. We are the bridge between the past and the future. Remembrance isn't just about looking back at bravery; it is a caution and a lesson for us as future leaders. It teaches us the devastating impact that the misuse of power and discrimination can have on the world.

**Sabina:** Many of us have our own links back in time. Whether it is my connection to the Czech people, or others rediscovering family history — like a great-grandfather's family facing death in occupied Poland — these accounts must be shared. The more we learn, the less likely it is that these lives will slip into history.

**Sidney:** We use books and testimonies as witnesses to provide evidence of the past. By listening to these voices, we build a bridge between memory and action. Knowledge of the Holocaust must be learnt by everyone so we can ensure that such a catastrophic event is never forgotten and can never happen again.

**George:** We must do the right thing now. We must take the time to remember so that we never have to fear a future where the stories of over six million victims have been forgotten. We are the next generation. We will keep the memory alive.

# Our Students

## RISING STAR - ANAYA FREDERICK

*Mrs K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

One of our wonderful Year 7 students, Anaya Frederick, is a fantastic actress and performer who is currently filming for a TV soap. Here is what she had to say:

*"I started performing arts at around two years old. I started performing as my mum said I was always singing and dancing and she would always get comments about how entertaining I was during school plays.*

*I have performed in a TV series with Kate Winslet called 'The Regime', on the West End, and I am currently filming to appear in a TV soap."*

We are so proud of Anaya and hope she remembers us when Hollywood comes calling!



# Our Students

## SKI TRIP 2026 – PILA, ITALY

*Mr A. Lowe, Computer Science Teacher / ECT and ITT Mentor*

On Saturday 14th February, during the February half-term break, a group of students set off on an unforgettable ski trip to **Pila Ski Resort**, located in the stunning **Aosta Valley** in northern Italy. Travelling by coach, the journey itself became part of the adventure as excitement built for a week in the mountains.



Over five action-packed days on the slopes, students took part in daily ski lessons with experienced instructors. The group was split according to ability, allowing beginners to build confidence while more experienced skiers challenged themselves on increasingly difficult runs. By the end of the trip, many students had progressed significantly – with some even tackling the famous black slopes for the first time.

Students were incredibly positive about their experience on the mountain. Many said that simply “skiing on the big mountains” and “going quickly down the slopes” were some of the best moments of the week. Others highlighted the thrill of trying more challenging terrain, with one student proudly recalling that their favourite moment was “going down the black slopes.”



*Continued on next page ...*

# Our Students

## *Ski Trip 2026, continued*

Alongside the ski school lessons, students also enjoyed opportunities to free ski with staff, allowing them to explore the resort further and put their newly learned skills into practice. Several pupils described these sessions as a highlight, with one noting that “free ski and evenings were the best bits of the week.”

The trip wasn't just about skiing. Each evening there were a range of après-ski activities to keep everyone entertained and make the most of the time together as a group. Activities included visits to a local pizzeria, games, social activities and time to relax after a day on the slopes. The pizzeria evening and unlimited pizza proved especially popular, with students mentioning it several times in their feedback.

Some of the most memorable moments came from the fun and laughter shared throughout the week. Students fondly remembered moments such as “*watching the teachers fall over*” and the many tumbles that are part of learning to ski. As one pupil put it, “*falling over and having fun in the lessons*” was actually one of the highlights of the trip.



*Continued on next page ...*

# Our Students

## *Ski Trip 2026, continued*

Many commented on how much they enjoyed the trip and how valuable the experience was. One student summed it up perfectly:  
*"It was brilliant – really enjoyed it."*

Another wrote:  
*"The trips should carry on going because they are very good fun and you learn a lot at the same time."*



Trips like this provide students with opportunities to develop resilience, independence and confidence, while also creating lasting memories with friends and staff.

For many pupils, it was their first experience of skiing and of visiting the mountains, making it a truly special week.

A huge thank you goes to the staff who gave up their time to make the trip possible and to the students for representing the school so well throughout the week.

After such a successful trip, we are already looking forward to the possibility of returning to the slopes again in the future!



# Our Students

## JEFFREY BOAYKE AUTHOR VISIT

*Ms C. Benloss, Key Stage 4 Year Leader*

On 5th December 2025, we were honoured to host British author, public speaker, journalist and ex-English teacher, Jeffrey Boakye, into school. Author of non-fiction texts like 'I heard What You Said' and 'Blacklisted' as well as children's books such as 'Kofi' and 'Musical World'. Since 2021, he has presented, alongside Cerys Matthews to March 2024 and Anna Phoebe from May 2024, the BBC Radio 4 programme.

Jeffrey spent time working with some of our Year 11 students showing them how to use your identity and cultural experiences in their own writing. Jeffrey was insightful, funny and powerful. We were honoured to work with him.



# Our Students

## LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

*Mrs D. Harper, Upper School Librarian*

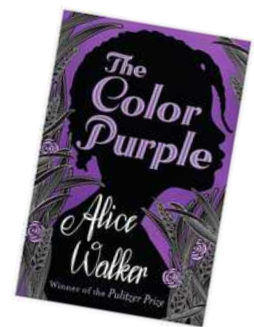
During the week commencing 2nd March, all Year 7 and 8 students received a free World Book Day book to keep, and a voucher which they could use to swap for a free World Book Day book.

Students at Upper School were able to participate in a quiz to test their book knowledge. The winner of a £10 Book Token was Laila Watson in Year 12. The following students received a runner-up prize and enjoyed breaktime treats from the dining room: Becca Senior Y13; Viana Afghan Y11; Sidney Reading Y10; Leela Birdi Y12; Adam Fox Y12; Eve Sayles Y13.



In February, the Blind Date with a Book library promotion was well received by Upper School students who were able to choose a book based on story clues. They were invited to write a review of the 'date' to be entered into a prize draw. The winner of the £10 Book Token was Nea Zachariah in Year 12.

In January, following the Reading Assembly, Sidney Reading in Year 10 was rewarded with a £10 Book Token for identifying *The Color Purple* as Ms Benloss' favourite book. He was then tasked to read it, before being quizzed on it.



# Our Students

## KES HAS TALENT - 19TH DECEMBER 2025

*Ms C. Benloss, Key Stage 4 Year Leader*

The Key Stage 4 students of KES have remarkable and varied musical and artistic talents. As such, we showcased this with an amazing end of term talent show.

We had students playing more classical music on piano and violin, one of our Year 10 students provided a wonderful solo dance show and we had a riotous medley of Justin Bieber/Travis Scott. Our wonderful band playing crowd pleasers, a trio singing the infamous 'Once I Was 7 Years Old' including a guest appearance by Ms Benloss. The show finished with a grand finale of all participants and some staff singing 'Merry Christmas Everyone'.



It was such a delight to see our varied artistic talents up on stage, carried along by a very enthusiastic audience of all Key Stage 4 student and staff.

A perfect end to a very busy and exciting half term.



# Our Students

## SUPPORT DOGS CENTRE STAGE FOR ASSEMBLY

*Mrs K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

Support Dogs were invited into School by Mrs Proost recently as a charity for School to support this year. They came in to deliver an assembly for Year 7 students to talk about how their dogs support children with epilepsy, autism and other disabilities. They brought in a lovely dog called Gary and after the assembly fourteen of our students were very pleased to meet him. They are planning a bake sale to raise funds for the charity soon.



# Our Students

## Y11 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

*Mr J. Rudkin, Teacher of Geography*

On Friday 23rd January, Year 11 geography students swapped the classroom for the dramatic cliffs of Flamborough Head on the East Yorkshire coast. Battling cold winds, they explored coastal landforms and processes first-hand while sharpening their fieldwork skills.

Despite the challenging conditions, students showed impressive resilience and curiosity, eagerly investigating this unique landscape and bringing geography to life.



## CRYSTAL CROCHET

*By Julia Obloj Y7*

We sell hand made crystal bracelets made by Melah, and crochet animals and accessories are made by me [Julia] and Helenka.

We are planning to donate 20 percent of what we earn from Crystal Crochet to a dog charity. So far we have made around £224.

We are also giving discounts to loyal customers. We have joined in with the two selling opportunities in school - the Christmas fair and the sale before Halloween.



# Our Students

## CUTLERS' AMBASSADORS AND THE NHS HEALTHY TEENAGERS PROJECT

*Mrs K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

On 8 January the Year 9 Cutlers' Ambassadors presented their NHS healthy teenagers project in front of a large audience and six other schools at the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre.

They all worked extremely hard on their presentations and all picked up prestigious awards. It was a great morning and stepping out of their comfort zone to present was something they never thought they would do! The Master Cutler, Professor Keith Jackson presented their awards. Well done all!



## CROWN OF BLOOD THEATRE VISIT

*Miss F. O' Farrell, Drama and Music Technician*

*Crown of Blood is a powerful new adaptation of Macbeth, following the story of General Aderemi in West Africa. Set within 19th-Century Yorubaland, this adaptation of the classic tale is adorned with cultural heritage and spirituality in its storytelling, music and movement (by Oladipo Agboluaje).*



Key Stage 4 and 5 Drama students took a trip to the Sheffield Crucible Theatre on February 5th to watch *Crown of Blood*. The visit was a great opportunity for students to see a professional production and gain ideas and inspiration for their own studies. Some students will also be using the performance as part of their written drama exam.

The day started with an 'Unlocking' workshop at the theatre, where members of the main cast talked to students about the themes of the play and how they developed their characters. It was really interesting to hear directly from the actors about their rehearsal process and the choices they make when bringing a character to life. At the end of the workshop, two of our students volunteered to get up on stage and perform with the actors!

After the workshop, students watched the full performance of *Crown of Blood*. It was a powerful and engaging production, and everyone agreed that it was a very impressive show. Overall, it was a really enjoyable and valuable trip, giving students the chance to experience live theatre while supporting their learning in Drama.

## Y7 DRAMA PROJECT

*Miss F. O' Farrell, Drama and Music Technician*

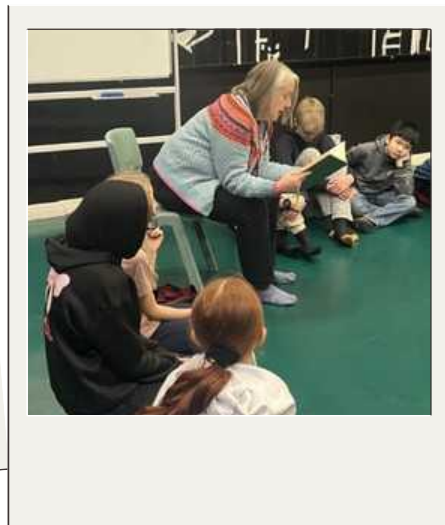
Ms Oates and our 7RS2 Drama Group were involved in a Drama Project last term that was part of a collaboration between teachers from the National Association for Teachers of Drama (NATD) and Drama Teachers from the A M Qattan Foundation in Ramallah, Palestine. We were delighted to welcome Maggie Hulson from NATD to our school to work with Ms Oates and Year 7 on the project.



The Drama, created in a series of online meetings between the teachers, centred around a folk tale written by Khalid Hosseini from his novel: *And The Mountains Echoed*. It explored displacement, loss, parent/child relationships and responsibilities and looked at what young people might need to know and understand in order to feel at home in the world.



As teachers we were all interested to see how the story resonated with our students in their different contexts – the contexts being different not only between but also within our countries. Our work was then shared at an online conference in February. Ms Oates and Maggie Hulson, along with two of our colleagues from Ramallah have now been invited to lead a workshop about the project at an international conference in November. We are so proud of the contribution that our young people have made to this collaboration and that even though they were not able to link up online with the students in Palestine, the connections between our work that have brought back to our classrooms in the UK and Palestine have been very powerful and inspirational for us as teachers.



## BLANK SLATE ANNOUNCES SUMMER PRODUCTION

*Miss F. O' Farrell, Drama and Music Technician*

We're so excited to announce that our Key Stage 3 production will be... Alice!

'When Alice follows a mysterious white rabbit down a rabbit hole, she finds herself in the strange and unpredictable world of Wonderland. As she meets a host of curious characters and faces a series of puzzling adventures, Alice must navigate a place where the rules constantly change and nothing is quite as it seems.'

This imaginative retelling of Alice in Wonderland was first performed at the Crucible Theatre and written by Laura Wade, a playwright from Sheffield. Rehearsals are well underway, and our cast are having a fantastic time bringing the strange and wonderful world of Wonderland to life. We can't wait to share it with you!

Tickets are available to purchase via ParentPay.



# Our Students

## SHEFFIELD THEATRES WORK EXPERIENCE

*Ms S. Oates, Curriculum Leader Drama*

Two of our GCSE Drama Students gained a place on the Sheffield Theatres Work Experience Week, week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> February. This is a highly competitive scheme and we were very proud of our students, Lauren Rainford and Sophia Badger, both of whom had an extraordinary time and learnt so much from the experience. Below, please find Lauren and Sofia's account of the week.

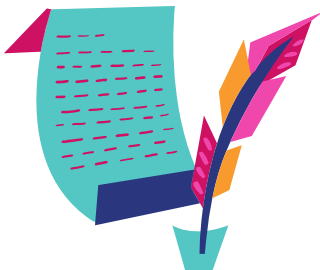


*During my work experience at Sheffield Theatres, I took part in a range of different workshops that helped me learn more about how theatre works behind the scenes. One of the workshops was about costume, where we were shown around the department and learned about how costumes are designed and prepared for productions. We also explored playwriting, which I found the most interesting because it was fascinating to see how stories are created for the stage.*

*I really enjoyed hearing about all the different jobs involved in theatre and understanding that there is much more to a production than just what the audience sees on stage. I also had the chance to help the front of house team, where I stood on a door helping people find their seats. Other team members were scanning in tickets, selling merchandise, and serving ice cream during the interval, which showed me how many different roles are needed to make a performance run smoothly.*

*Overall I loved having the opportunity to learn more about the theatre and it was an amazing experience.*

Lauren Rainford.



**Continued on next page ...**

# Our Students

## Sheffield Theatres Work Experience, continued

Sofia Badger wrote:



*For my work experience at Sheffield Theatres we spoke with directors producers and management, we even worked front of house and I worked in the cloakroom to help people put their jackets and bags safely away for the show. What I learnt the most was a better understanding of what actually works around the theatre and that lots of different skills go into one play. My favourite part about my work experience was working with costumes as we looked at costumes made seventy-five years ago and it showed us how there were different styles then and how it has changed now.*

*We also did a presentation on our arts inspiration, and for mine I picked Frankie Valli because he has had a massive impact on my life - I grew up listening to him and I find him very interesting.*

*I really enjoyed being in a theatrical environment for a week and being around people who I share the same interests with. The impact on me working in the Sheffield Theatres is that I am now persuaded and directed onto which path I want to do in my career as there are so many to pick from and there's something there for everyone.*



## ST JOHN AMBULANCE TOP CADET

Callie Cunningham, one of our Year 12 students and a St John Ambulance volunteer from Rotherham Group, has won a role as one of the top St John Ambulance Cadets in the county. Congratulations Callie, what an amazing achievement!



# Our Students

## SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

The School's Spring concert, held on 12th March, was, once again, a spectacular event filled with talented performers. From the singers to the orchestra and solo musicians to group performances, the concert showcased a diverse range of musical talents.

Every single performer brought their unique style and energy to the stage, captivating the audience with their performances. The concert rightly celebrated all the musical talent at KES.

It was a night to remember, filled with joyful music. Thank you to all who participated and to the staff that supported and nurtured this amazing talent!



## VISIT TO THORNBRIDGE

*Mrs J. Murray, Second in PE*

A group of twenty-four Year 7 and Year 8 students were given an incredible opportunity to take part in a residential visit to Thornbridge, an experience that proved to be truly transformative.

As part of our funding from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport through UK Youth, the one-night, two-day residential was fully funded, ensuring that all students were able to take part and benefit equally from this enrichment opportunity.

During their stay, students challenged themselves through a range of outdoor activities including high ropes, cargo net climbing, team-building tasks and weaselling. Many students pushed beyond their comfort zones, developing confidence, resilience and independence in a supportive environment. The shared experience strengthened friendships, improved communication skills and created lasting memories, with several students describing it as a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

This residential highlights the School's commitment to providing meaningful opportunities that build character, confidence and aspiration beyond the classroom.



## SOME OF OUR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM

*Sport Contributions by Mrs J. Murray, Second in PE*

### SHEFFIELD SCHOOLS NETBALL TOURNAMENT SUCCESS

KES Team 1 delivered an outstanding performance throughout the tournament, progressing all the way to the final out of sixteen teams. In a closely contested match, they narrowly lost to Silverdale by just two goals. Finishing 2nd out of sixteen teams is an incredible achievement and a testament to the team's hard work, determination, and skill.

A huge congratulations to all players involved.

# SPORT



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kessheffield.bsky.social · 12d  
The Y9 netball team finished their final league meet of the season on a high note, showing just how much they have improved throughout the year. They achieved excellent results, winning 9-7 against Tapton and securing an impressive 8-0 victory over Westfield. An incredible season for the team.



## SOME OF OUR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM

### YEAR 7 NETBALL LEAGUE MEETING

The Year 7 netball teams had an excellent evening at the league meeting on 3rd March, with both teams showing great teamwork and determination.

The Year 7 A team had a fantastic set of results, remaining unbeaten throughout the evening. They secured a strong 6–0 win against Silverdale, followed by another impressive 6–1 victory over Birkdale. In their final match, they delivered a high-scoring performance to defeat King Egberts 13–7.

It was a brilliant evening of netball, with all players demonstrating skill, effort, and great sportsmanship. Well done to everyone involved!

# SPORT



### YEAR 7 AND 8 RUGBY



On 5th March, the Year 7 and Year 8 girls had the opportunity to put the skills they have been developing in their Games lessons into practice at a rugby festival held in partnership with the Eagles Rugby Foundation.

It was a fantastic afternoon, with all students demonstrating great enthusiasm, teamwork and determination while continuing to build their confidence and refine their rugby skills in a supportive environment.

If any students are interested in joining a girls' rugby club, please speak to a member of the PE department for further information.



## SOME OF OUR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM

# SPORT

## SHEFFIELD SCHOOLS TRAMPOLINING COMPETITION

Well done to all the Year 7 and Year 8 trampolinists who competed in the Sheffield Schools Trampolining Competition on 10th February. This was the first time the school has entered the event, making it a proud milestone for the PE department.

Competing in front of a judging panel was a nerve-racking experience, but the girls showed great determination, gained confidence, and learned a great deal.



A special congratulations to Freya (Year 7), who achieved a silver medal in the Under 13 Girls' category — a fantastic achievement. I am very proud of you all.



## SOME OF OUR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM

### SOUTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

We are thrilled to announce that Year 10 students Freya and Lucy have been selected for the South Yorkshire Schools Cross Country team—a fantastic achievement! They will represent the region at the English Schools Championships in Liverpool on 19 March. We couldn't be prouder of their dedication, talent, and hard work!



# SPORT



The South Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships took place at Longley Park on Saturday, 7th March. KES had seven students representing Sheffield, competing against the top cross-country runners from Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster.

Freya, Lucy, Lacey and Sophie (Year 10), Sam (Year 7), Evie (Year 7) and Sam (Year 12) all produced outstanding performances in extremely muddy and challenging conditions, demonstrating great determination and resilience throughout.

The School is extremely proud of all the students for representing KES and Sheffield with pride and determination.

## SOME OF OUR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM

### SHEFFIELD CHAMPIONS!



A huge congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 8 Girls Sportshall Athletics teams who have both been crowned Sheffield Champions!

The Year 7 team were brilliantly coached by Year 8 Sports Leader Ellie, whose leadership played a key role in their success. Both teams showed outstanding determination, teamwork and school spirit throughout the competition.

They now go on to represent Sheffield Schools at the South Yorkshire Finals on 19th March, competing against the top schools from Doncaster, Barnsley and Rotherham.

The KES PE Department is incredibly proud, marking our 4th consecutive year of girls' teams reaching the South Yorkshire Finals.

Well done, girls — you truly deserve it!



# Our Students



## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM

Please follow us on Bluesky to keep up to date with all our activities!

<https://bsky.app/profile/kessheffield.bsky.social>

King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 4d  
We recently celebrated our Year 11 trial exam results with a mock results day to help them see how they may feel in the summer. Congratulations to all our fantastic students who have been rewarded for their hard work and we look forward to celebrating with you in the summer.



King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 2mo  
KS4 reward event this afternoon! Pizza and bingo. A lovely afternoon with our Key Stage 4 students who had the highest achievement points this term.



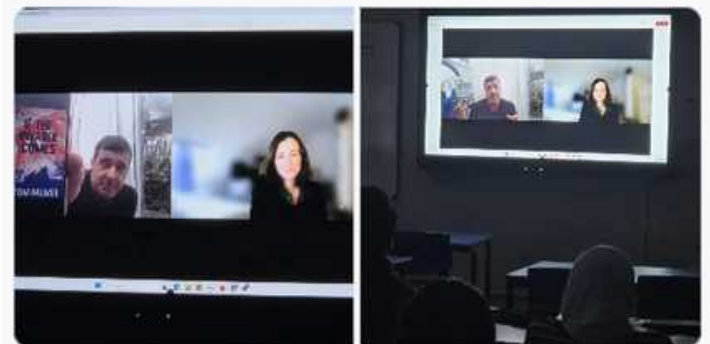
King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 1mo  
The Adult Life Skills Year 12 classes had a visitor from the Corner - Sheffield, which is a Substance Misuse Service. The awareness session is aimed to prevent alcohol and drug misuse.



King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 12d  
Amazing results from the KESVII climbers – finishing 2nd and 3rd in Sheffield and 2nd overall in the team event, held at The Works Climbing Centre, Sheffield.



King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 1mo  
Year 7 students today had a live lesson with Tom Palmer as part of the National Year of Reading. Tom told us about his own reading journey and experience as an author to share inspiration and ideas with students to connect their interests to books and read more about what they love.



Proud to support  
The National Year  
of Reading 2026.

GO  
ALL  
IN.

# OUR SIXTH FORM

## HISTORY STUDY VISIT TO LONDON, 12-14 FEBRUARY 2026

*by Haya Abdulghafoor, Y12 Student*

The London History Visit, was a very enlightening and educational opportunity that allowed us to be able to fully immerse ourselves within the facts and experiences of the British Empire without being confined to a classroom. The ability to explore museums hosting key parts of history, such as the Imperial War Museum and the British Museum, to places that the general public may not consider to be as significant, like Kew Gardens, truly gave us more insight into the complexities of Empire.

Furthermore, the Walking Tour around London, helped us to see how the legacy of the Empire is still present with us in everyday spaces and monuments. A key example was the statue of Robert Clive in Westminster.



Whilst Clive did play a key role in expanding British influence in India, he was also a controversial figure that was widely criticised— even by the British Government themselves— for the ways he used power and wealth, raising important discussions about how history is remembered publicly. Discussions arose that, if such statues are not removed, then there should at least be clear plaques next to them explaining the historical context and why these individuals should not necessarily be looked up to despite their historical significance.

During our museum visits, we were also able to critically examine the wording used in exhibits and how institutions present history. In particular, at the British Museum we noticed that descriptions seemed to soften or shift the responsibility of colonial actions, with wording that felt slightly indirect about how artefacts were taken— or "acquired" as the museums had described.

In contrast, when we visited the V&A Museum, the wording within many exhibits felt more neutral and factual, without appearing to redirect blame in the same way. This difference showed us how even museums can shape the way history is interpreted depending on how information is presented.



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# Our Sixth Form

## *History Study Visit to London, continued*

The special exhibition at the Imperial War Museum was particularly impactful, as it included interactive videos of survivors and witnesses from former colonies such as Kenya, Cyprus, and Malaysia speaking about their lived experiences during and after colonisation, and hearing these personal stories highlighted the social impact of the Empire and made the history feel much more personal and real.

On a lighter note, we also had the privilege of being able to relax and watch SIX! The Musical at the London Theatre. It was an amazing time to unwind and enjoy watching some singing and dancing whilst also being historically based— perhaps not in line with our specification, but (in my personal opinion) one of the high points of the trip.



Overall, the trip provided us with a deeper understanding of the complexities of the British Empire and its lasting impact on society today, whilst also encouraging us to question how history is represented and remembered in modern institutions.



# Our Sixth Form

## ROCKING IN WINTER GARDENS

Mrs E. Lamb, Teacher of German

### KES Sixth Form Girls and Sheffield Soroptimists celebrating International Women's Day in the Winter Gardens

On Saturday 7th March, several of our Year 12 girls helped the women of Soroptimist International Sheffield mark International Women's Day. They distributed leaflets raising awareness of Violence against Women and Girls amongst a huge audience attracted by the sounds of the Sheffield Rock Choir which supported the event with a brilliant rendition of well known hits.



The Sheffield Rock Choir getting ready to perform.



KES student Sahaam Haji with Mrs Lamb, KES German teacher, and Mrs Godley, former Head of RE at KES.



KES Sixth Form students have been involved with the work of the Sheffield Club of Soroptimist International for several years. They help raise funds for women's charities, volunteer their time and expertise at events and develop their own projects, such as organising fashion shows and games afternoons.

# Our Sixth Form

## FEBRUARY 2026: VIENNA CALLING FOR OUR SIXTH FORMERS

*Mrs E. Lamb, Teacher of German*

### Year 12/13 Study Visit to Vienna

Post-16 students at KES studying German or Art have the opportunity to visit two European capital cities during their studies.

After spending an exciting week in Berlin last year, this year, a group of seventeen A-Level German and Art/Design/Photography students set off for Vienna on 23rd February.



*Arrived: our group in front of the hostel*

Vienna is unique. It is a city that breathes history and culture, which expresses itself not only through obvious contexts such as the imposing buildings of the Ringstrasse, the palaces of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the numerous galleries and museums, but also through the varied imprints Vienna's many famous artists, composers and cultural icons have left in its streets and buildings: Mozart, Beethoven, Klimt, Schiele, Freud, Loos and Hundertwasser, to name but a few. It is one of the most vibrant cities in Europe, with a rich cultural legacy and a tradition of pioneering new thinking and art.

The A-Level German syllabus contains a major unit on Art and Architecture, which requires students to develop knowledge and appreciation of painting, artefacts and architecture in the German-speaking world. Vienna offers a unique background to the study of art and architecture in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and beyond.

For Art and Design / Photography students the visit offered a European perspective to various aspects of the A-Level syllabus. Galleries, museums and art spaces in Vienna are among the best in Europe and provide pertinent, historical and contemporary reference points for students to investigate, study and base their own visual language around.

The visit therefore was specific to both curriculum areas and it was impressive to see how the students from both subjects interacted and exchanged their expertise and knowledge for mutual benefit.



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# Our Sixth Form

## Y12/13 Study Visit to Vienna, continued



*A night at the opera*

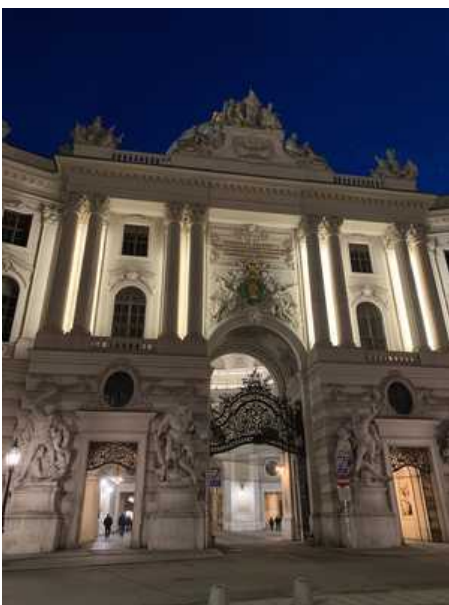


*Looking forward to our first meal in Vienna - the world's best Schnitzel*

*Vienna*



*Hundertwasserhaus*



*Grand Buildings: the Imperial Palace (Hofburg)*



*St Stephen's Cathedral – Stephansdom*



*Continued on next page ...*

# Our Sixth Form

## Y12/13 Study Visit to Vienna, continued

Here is what the students themselves said:

*I loved learning about the history of art in Vienna, especially the innovations and style of the Secession. Es war der totale Hammer!! (Esme Griffin)*

*Each day was fun with lots of crazy art and architecture. Got to have some cool German speaking interactions as well. Auch die Abendessen waren schön. (Justin McLean)*

*I really liked going to the Secession and seeing Klimt's art. I also loved watching the opera. (Rose Thomas Hanks)*

*I really enjoyed Vienna, especially the ferris wheel and the freedom we were given. The freedom to choose where which art gallery we went to was great, as the Marina Abramović exhibition was a really nice different art style to look at. The Parliament was also really cool. I also enjoyed the variety in what and where we ate. Vielen Dank Frau Lamb und Frau Heath! (Ella Barradell)*



At the Abramović exhibition



Inside the famous Zaha Hadid building of the Wirtschaftsuniversität



In front of the Hundertwasser Kunsthaus



Continued on next page ...

## Y12/13 Study Visit to Vienna, continued

Here is what the students themselves said:

*I loved the trust and independence we were given on the trip.*  
(Maddie Hargreaves)

*My favourite thing was exploring Schönbrunn Palace on Wednesday, especially the beautiful Vienna sunset!!! Also the meal in Café Central was definitely my favourite meal.* (Dexter Swain)

*I loved walking around the streets of Vienna and especially exploring the two palaces, sehr schön. The meals were all great too.*  
(Sam Radnor)

*I loved meeting new people and becoming friends.* (Blake Glover)

*I really enjoyed the Belvedere Palace because the art was amazing. Also the performance in the Volksoper because of how historical events linked with the play in the show.* (Sam Fehler)

*I really enjoyed seeing Klimt and loved how much freedom we had. Thank you so much Mrs Lamb and Mrs Heath!* (Poppy Tedstill)

*I loved the Marina Abramović exhibition and being able to explore the city. I also really enjoyed visiting the parliament.* (Isla Carter)

*I liked the Ferris Wheel and getting to see Vienna at that time at that height. I also liked the Marina Abramović exhibition as that was a new way to see how people present their work in an exhibition that's different from the normal way.* (Robyn Hemingway)

*I loved walking around the streets of Vienna and talking to everyone. My favourite moments were on the Wiener Riesenrad because the views of the sunset over the city were amazing. I also loved looking around Schönbrunn Palace and seeing Klimt's amazing paintings. Sehr sehr toll, vielen Dank Frau Lamb und Frau Heath!* (Leela Birdi)



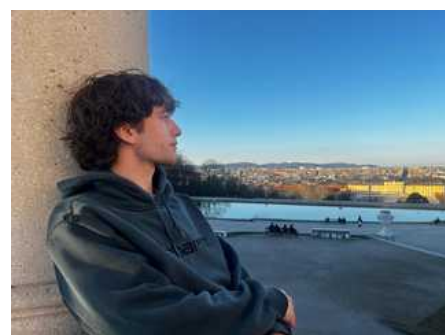
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*On top of the Gloriette in Schönbrunn*



*Y13 Germanists in front of Schönbrunn Palace*



*Enjoying the sunset over Vienna*

# Our Sixth Form

## Y12/13 Study Visit to Vienna, continued



*Esme and Hundertwasser in focus*



*Winner of the slogan competition:  
Going organic*

# AUSTRIA



*Winner of the photo competition:  
Boys letting off steam*



*Introduction to Viennese art at  
the Leopold Museum*



*Sam and Blake in Schönbrunn*



*The last night: The Ferris Wheel  
(Riesenrad)*



*Beauty in the eye of the beholder*



*Even the teachers  
had a great time!*



# OUR STAFF

## TEACHING INDIGENOUS HISTORIES AND PERSPECTIVES IN SCHOOLS PROJECT



*Jennie Brown presenting at the Teaching Indigenous Histories and Perspectives in Schools conference, The University of Sheffield, June 2025.*



Since January 2026 I have been part of the Teaching Indigenous Histories and Perspectives in Schools (TIHPS) project, a collaborative project led by The University of Sheffield, Schools History Project and the Centre for Indigenous and Settler Colonial studies at the University of York. TIHPS works with educators, academics and Indigenous partners on a project aimed at improving the teaching of Indigenous American histories in the UK.

Over the last year I have worked in partnership with Hartman Deetz (Mashpee Wampanoag) - with advice from many other members of the TIHPS team (including historian Caroline Pennock, and Stephanie Pratt, Crow Creek Dakota) - to create a set of KS3 resources to encourage students to ask 'Why do different kinds of histories matter?' Drawing together material culture, wampum belts, oral, and written accounts, students engage with the different ways in which Indigenous and First Nations communities have shared their histories. They will come to understand how ways of telling and sharing history differ, and in centring Indigenous voices, why different interpretations of the past exist.

In June 2025 I presented my work at the TIHPS Conference held at Sheffield University and my resources have been published on the TIHPS website for other teachers to use: <https://tinyurl.com/TIHPSSheffield> At KES we have introduced these lessons into our history curriculum across Key Stage 3. We started teaching some of the lessons with our Y7 History classes in September 2025, and we will revisit this with our students in Y8 and Y9.

I am excited to present my work to a wider audience at the National Schools History Project in July 2026 alongside Professor Caroline Pennock and Lizzie Smith (teacher of History at High Storrs).

# OUR SCHOOL

## THEMED CATERING EVENTS

*Mrs. T. Gillot, Unit Manager*

Week commencing 23rd February, students at Lower School enjoyed the amazing food that was prepared by Chartwells' Catering Team for the Chinese New Year and Pancake day. Thank you to all the staff for more wonderful theme days.



Week commencing 23rd March the Catering team at Lower School provided a range of treats for students to enjoy in celebration of Easter.



# Our School

## THEMED CATERING EVENTS

Mr. D. Leggat, Upper School Catering Manager

Week commencing 9th February, the Upper School Catering team provided a fabulous array of tasty food items in the dining room at Upper School to celebrate St Valentine's Day.



The Catering team at Upper School also provided a range of treats for students to enjoy in celebration of St Patrick's Day and Easter.



**CELEBRATE ST.PATRICKS DAY**  
**TUESDAY 17TH MARCH**  
 WITH A HOMEMADE CHOC MUFFIN  
 FOR DESSERT ON THE HOT COUNTER  
 ONLY AVAILABLE WITH A HOT MEAL



**"CHOCOLATE MUFFIN"**

AVAILABLE FOR DESSERT WITH A HOT MEAL

**" EASTER TREATS ALL WEEK "**

**"EASTER LUNCH MENU" THURSDAY 26TH MARCH**



ONLY £3.00

**EASTER TREATS AVAILABLE NOW**

EASTER NESTS £1.20  
 EASTER SHORTBREAD £1.20  
 EASTER BUNS £1.20  
 HOT CROSS BUNS (BREAKFAST) 8p

**GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL AND HAVE A FAB EASTER FROM ALL OF THE CATERING TEAM**

**" FIND THE CHICK "**

**"EASTER LUNCH MENU" THURSDAY 26TH MARCH**



ONLY £3.00



**FIND A CHICK STICKER UNDER YOUR PLATE AND WIN ONE OF THE ABOVE EASTER CHOCOLATE HAMPERS.**

**GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL AND HAVE A FAB EASTER FROM ALL OF THE CATERING TEAM**



## SEND JOURNALING PROJECT

### SEND Journaling Project

Your Voice. Your Experience. Shaping SEND in Sheffield.

#### What is the SEND Journaling Project?

We are launching a pilot project to understand the lived experiences of parents supporting children with SEND in Sheffield. Your stories help us understand what works well and what needs improving across the SEND system.

#### Why are we asking for your stories?

Families tell us their SEND journey can feel complex, emotional, and overwhelming. We want to capture the full picture – the highs, the lows, and everything in between.

#### How it works

1. Share a short story weekly\* about something that went well, was challenging, or needs to be heard.
2. Answer a few simple follow-up questions.
3. Optionally share what could have made the situation better.

#### Why your contribution matters

Your insights help identify strengths, challenges, and pressure points across Sheffield's SEND system.

#### How your stories will be used

All stories remain anonymous and help inform improvements across SEND services.

#### Want to take part?

Please email Gary Simmons to register your interest

[gary.simmons@learnsheffield.co.uk](mailto:gary.simmons@learnsheffield.co.uk)

Together we can shape a stronger SEND system in Sheffield.

\* This is a guide – you could do more or less than this.

# OLD AND YOUNG EDWARDIANS

## OLD EDWARDIANS ASSOCIATION

All alumni are welcome to join the association.

### Old Edwardians Association

7 Keswick Close  
Nottingham  
NG9 3AR

Check out our new website:  
[www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com](http://www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com)



### CONTACTS

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[president@old-edwardians-sheffield.com](mailto:president@old-edwardians-sheffield.com)

Pete Kersh 1967-73  
Secretary  
[info@old-edwardians-sheffield.com](mailto:info@old-edwardians-sheffield.com)

## OBITUARIES

### PAUL RODERICK WHYMAN 10/09/44 - 01/03/26

We are sad to have received the news of the death of

#### **Paul Roderick Whyman**

**on 1st March 2026**

The funeral service took place at  
Grenoside Crematorium, North Chapel

on Thursday 19th March at 12.00.

John attended school from 1956-1962.

Click below for further information:

[https://ericeyre.ourmemorialpages.co.uk/memorial\\_page/memorial\\_page\\_service\\_info.php?order\\_id=4544285&set\\_site\\_id=91&cat=funeral&sign=c0b1002ad113a582e00b15676f228b2a](https://ericeyre.ourmemorialpages.co.uk/memorial_page/memorial_page_service_info.php?order_id=4544285&set_site_id=91&cat=funeral&sign=c0b1002ad113a582e00b15676f228b2a)

Thanks to Don Nicolson (59-66) for this sad news.

