

# Kings Langley School News

### Issue 31

#### A note from the Deputy Headteacher - Mrs Jennings

'Every new experience brings its own maturity and a greater clarity of vision' (Indira Gandhi), particularly when it comes to choosing our next steps and looking into the future of our potential careers. It is why at KLS, we have developed a careers programme, that not only meets the National standards of the Gatsby benchmarks <u>https://www.gatsby.org.uk/education/focus-areas/good-career-guidance</u>, but exceeds it.

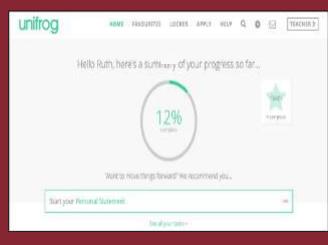
Our students not only have a week's work experience in year 10 and 12, but we also positively encourage them to get into workplaces at Key Stage 3 in the form of work shadowing during activities week. This has been our practice for over ten years; however, the Government have just updated the Gatsby benchmarks from September 2025, schools will have to include five days of workplace experiences during Key Stage 3. So fortunately, we will not have to make vast adjustments to our practice in this respect, however those work shadowing days become even more important, so thank you to all those parents who have supported us with this element. The more experience students get from seeing a variety of different workplaces and hearing about different careers will help them build a picture of what they might look for in the future. This was one of the reasons we introduced the Monday careers assembly programme where we bring in people from various professions to talk about their experiences and which route they went by to get there. Students should have completed the questionnaire to show the areas that they might be or are interested in and are then automatically invited to the assemblies that are relevant, though they can always choose to opt in if their name is not listed. 77% of students have attended at least one assembly this year, although all have had the opportunity to opt in. This will become a target for all students next year, to attend at least one career Monday assembly.

School Events Friday 4th July Y13 Governors' drinks reception 5.30pm



Where you will see further changes to our careers programme, will be the increased use of Unifrog <u>https://www.unifrog.org/about</u> in all year groups over the coming year. This will be the platform that we use for recording all experiences that your child will encounter so that they can be used as part of their future CV and is in a place where they can take this with them once they leave KLS. Any careers assembly that your child attends on a Monday; any activity or skill based on an achievement or action that they have completed in school or outside of school; all notes from careers interviews (whether that be a year 9 option interview, a year 10 or 12 interview with an external agency or a year 11 or 13 interview with staff); as well as their work shadowing or work experience can be recorded in the multiple sections on Unifrog. Whilst there will be regular homework set to remind students to add to their information every half term, we hope that students will gradually start using this site more independently. We are looking to run workshops for parents next year to help demonstrate not only how the site works, but also the amount of careers information that can be accessed within it.

Our ambition for next year is to try to get 100% completion rate for all students. The next time your child logs on, this is what their front screen will look like. You may be



interested to see what their percentage completed is:

unifroa

### Yr10 Mock Exams Week



Well done to all of our Year 10 pupils who approached their Summer Exams in an extremely mature and sensible manner. This experience has given the pupils the 'feel' of what their mock exams and GCSE exams will be like next academic year. Hopefully, this week wasn't too stressful! Well done everyone!

Mr Still



### **Teaching & Learning**

### Principal Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Harris

We've had a busy week here at KLS. A wonderful STEM fair on Wednesday hosted by our talented Technology team. The student entries were simply amazing and become more adventurous and creative year on year. Our Year 11's celebrated finishing their GCSE exams with our Governors' drinks reception on Friday evening followed by a successful Prom at The Hilton, Watford. It was great to see the personal touches with Alex performing and the Year 11 band. Great thanks to Ms Rennick for organising the event.

Thank you to those families who joined us on Saturday for the Kings Langley Carnival, although a hot day, the choir, guitar ensemble and Year 9 band performed with real professionalism. The Friends of KLS raised just over £600 through the tombola donations you kindly brought donated, as well as the donations made for parking on the school site throughout the day. Thank you for all your support in all our school events; it's what makes KLS a special place to learn.

This week we would like to focus on teaching and learning at KLS. This is where we share strategies based on educational research which best supports the transfer of knowledge and skills. As teachers we study these throughout our careers with the mindset of always improving our craft to ensure all young people **'unlock their potential'**. However, there are some strategies we can share with parents to continue to support learning from home.

As a school we use **Tom Sherrington's WALKTHRUS**, a collection of learning tools. We would like to introduce you to them.



### LEARNING WALKTHRUS

BETTER LEARNING. STEP BY STEP.

LEARNING WALKTHRUs is a visual guide to key aspects of learning and studying at home and at school. It features 70+ five-step techniques devised by Tom Sherrington and illustrated by Oliver Caviglioli, with guest authors including Sarah Cottinghatt, Peps Moores, Sara Milhe Rowe, Christopher Such, Emma Turner and Jennifer Webb.

For parents and students, we have the 'Learning WALKTHRUS'.

We would like to begin this series for parents and students with 'How we Learn'.

Here are two short videos, the first for **'parents supporting your child's learning'** and the second for **'students on how we learn'**.

#### Please <u>click here</u> to access these.

We are looking at providing more advice and support for parents and we would really appreciate your thoughts on whether you found the resources we have shared with you helpful. Please take a minute to complete the short feedback form below.

https://forms.office.com/e/anVSENYTbA









### Students of the Week w/c 23rd June

Art	Nicole, 12BRY					
Superb start on her personal study essay exploring landscapes in art history.						
Drama	Joseph 8G					
For his fantastic work ethic and motivation of others. He is always so proactive – a great leader.						
English	Logan 9T					
For his consistent enthusiasm towards the subject – it is appreciated and makes him a standout student. Well done!						
Politics	Billy 12BRY					
Continual progress in Politics essays by consistently acting on feedback. Achieved an A* in most recent essay.						
History	Max 7P					
Creative, informative and witty homework task on the life of William Shakespeare.						
Maths	Cassia 7G					
Continued excellent effort and achievement in Mathematics!						
MFL	Will 7D					
For his unquenchable enthusiasm, active participation, unprompted helpfulness in every single lesson and being the ultimate role model with his attitude to learning. A delight to teach!						
Library	Katie 7J					
Brilliant participation in our Carnegie Medal celebrations as the only KLS student from Year 7, and then very kindly helped me tidy up at the end of the day!						
Physical Education	Freddie 10D					
Outstanding attitude in his games lessons and performance in the recent tennis fixture.						

# Well done to all of our students who have achieved 'student of the week'.





## Students of the Week w/c 23rd June

Photography	Rhea, 12HAD				
Beautifully written essay for her personal study explorations.					
Psychology	Emily 12HAD				
For an outstanding score in an assessment.					
Science	Bobby 10D				
For always trying his best and going that extra step to make sure he understands					
Sociology	Jai 12BRY				
For excellent work shown in class					
KS5 Head of Year	James, Matteo, Alex, Toby, Harry, Francesca, Riccardo, and Freddie (Yr12)				
Community support at the Kings Langley Carnival.					

# Well done to all of our students who have achieved 'student of the week'.



This week's jackpot winning number is:

### 878190.

One of our supporters won £26.70 in the draw!

Remember to check your email to see if you've won!

If you haven't signed up yet visit our lottery here:

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kings-langley-secondary-school

# **KLS Colour Awards**

### Flourishing through opportunities and personal development

Do you play for a team (inside or outside of school), learn musical instruments, volunteer, do charity work, belong to the School Council, are you an avid reader...check your planner today to see what awards you can achieve.

Get recognition for the things you do inside and outside of school



# Diamond

Platinum

Gold

Silver

Click here to read more info and to claim your awards

Bronze



On Wednesday 18th June the KS3 Inter House football competition came to a close with the Year 9's taking centre stage. The forms were represented well and everyone who participated showed great competitiveness and played within the spirit of the competition. The students made the day a fantastic event and they all are a credit to their forms.

Team	9A	9C	9D	9G	9J	9P	9T	TOTAL
9A			3-0	2-0	5-0	1-1	1-1	11
9C								0
9D	0-3			0-1	2-1	2-3	0-2	3
9G	0-2		1-0		3-0	1-1	0-4	7
9J	0-5		1-2	0-3		1-2	0-4	0
9P	1-1		3-2	1-1	2-1		0-1	8
9T	1-1		2-0	4-0	4-0	1-0		13





### A-Level Sociology by Olivia and Jaz, Yr12

Sociology is the ultimate and innate study of society; it looks at different groups that make up everyday life and how they view social constructs. It can help individuals gain a more global understanding of society and the meanings of interactions which gives a unique and inspired perspective of life and groups in society. Whether it's gender, social class, race or beliefs sociology explores a range of ideas surrounding why people live the way they do and how 'social norms' have become common practice.

Throughout the two course you will focus on four key areas: education, family, beliefs/religion and crime and deviance. By researching these core groups in society, both modern and past- you will enhance your knowledge of why we learn the way we do, why we live as a family the way we do, why we believe the things we believe and why people outcast themselves from society and commit crimes. There is a vast range of sociologists studied which gives a diverse view of the world and allows you to understand society from a range of perspectives. In a total of three, 2-hour exams there is an array of question types including longer essay answers and shorter questions which can relate to a short case study which allows for different writing and analysis skills to come into play. By having such a wide course, it gives you a chance to show a range of skills and means you often have fresh information every lesson without content being overly repeated or explained.

It is important to note the different kinds of jobs, university courses or apprenticeships that become available when taking A-Level sociology. Opportunities for working in social sciences, police forces, the private sector, the government or education. As the subject is so broad it can help lead into many different career types and sectors which allows for flexibility if you're unsure on what your next steps will be. In terms of university courses, it can lead into courses in criminology and psychology easily but can also help in subjects such as English literature and business which require a well-rounded view and interpretations of society.

As a subject sociology is enjoyable and interesting and gives a new and refreshing addition to subjects you may have taken before. You can discover new perspectives and deeper understanding into a number of fields and help identify trends in everyday life. By gaining knowledge of the inner workings of society you can more easily empathise with groups and relate to certain events on a new level. The study of society is both valuable and deeply fascinating.







What has to be broken before you can use it?

Answer in next weeks newsletter

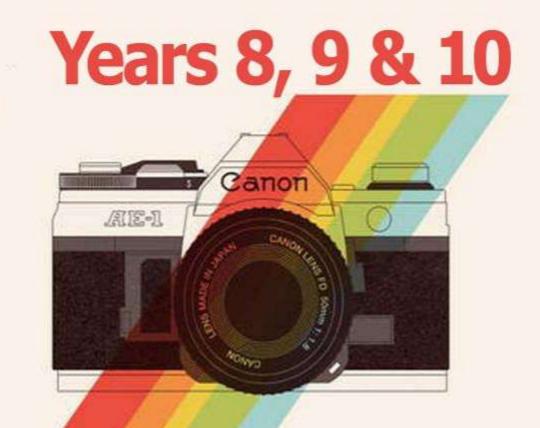


# Drama Production

### **THURSDAY 10TH JULY, 7PM**

Scan the QR code or click the golden ticket to purchase tickets:





# Photography Club

Mondays 15.15 - 16.15 F201

sign up on **SiPay** 

## The Benefits of Learning Philosophy, Religion, and Ethics at Kings Langley School

In an increasingly diverse and fast-changing world, the study of Philosophy, Religion, and Ethics (PRE) offers students at secondary school a rich and vital foundation for personal development, academic growth, and future career success. Far from being abstract or outdated, PRE explores some of the most important questions humans have ever asked — about right and wrong, belief and truth, society and the self. Through engaging with ancient thinkers, global faiths, and modern ethical debates, students gain the critical tools needed to navigate the complexity of the 21st century.

One of the core elements of the PRE curriculum is Ancient Greek philosophy, where students encounter the groundbreaking ideas of thinkers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. These philosophers explored the nature of justice, happiness, and the good life — questions that remain deeply relevant today. Their methods, especially Socratic questioning and logical reasoning, help students develop analytical and evaluative thinking skills. These skills are not only essential for academic success across subjects, but also lay the groundwork for effective communication and reasoned decision-making in everyday life.

In the religious studies component, students explore the beliefs, practices, and histories of the six major world religions: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and Judaism. This promotes inter faith understanding and helps students appreciate both the diversity and the common moral threads found in religious traditions. In today's multicultural society, such knowledge fosters empathy, respect, and informed dialogue — qualities essential for peaceful coexistence and global citizenship. Everything a school of character should aim to do.

Students also explore religious art and symbolism, providing insights into how faith is expressed through visual culture. This opens an appreciation of creativity, history, and how deeply personal beliefs can be communicated through colour, form, and design. Likewise, studying rites of passage — such as baptisms, bar and bat mitzvahs, weddings, and funerals — gives students



a deeper understanding of human life stages and cultural rituals, helping them reflect on their own values and experiences.

The philosophy component often includes political philosophy, where students examine ideas about justice, democracy, freedom, and power. By grappling with thinkers such as John Locke, Karl Marx, and John Stuart Mill, students gain tools to critically evaluate political systems and social structures. In doing so, they become more informed andengaged citizens, capable of contributing thoughtfully to discussions on current affairs and social justice.

Crucially, PRE helps KLS students discover and shape their own character and identity. It provides a space to ask, "Who am I? What do I believe? What kind of world do I want to live in?" In a society that includes people of many cultures, beliefs, and backgrounds, being able to understand yourself and others is key to developing confidence, compassion, and a strong moral compass.

Studying Philosophy, Religion, and Ethics can also open doors to a wide range of career paths. The skills gained — critical thinking, ethical reasoning, cultural awareness, and communication — are highly valued in fields such as law, politics, journalism, education, international relations, social work, counselling, and public policy. Employers increasingly seek individuals who can think deeply, understand different perspectives, and make ethical decisions.

In conclusion, learning Philosophy, Religion, and Ethics at Kings Langley School equips students not only with academic and personal insight, but also with practical skills for life and work. By exploring big ideas, global traditions, and moral challenges, young people are better prepared to contribute meaningfully to society and to understand their own place within it.

HONE

NTEGRIT



### **Photography Club**

Do you love taking photos? Always reaching for your phone or camera when the light hits just right or a friend makes a funny face? Then the new Photography Club is for you!

Starting this term, the club meets on Mondays week 1 after school from 3.30pm to 4.30pm in F201 and is open to years 8, 9 and 10. No fancy camera needed, just a passion for capturing moments and telling stories through images. Whether you're interested in portraits, landscapes, street photography or just want to learn how to take better photos, this is your chance to get creative, learn new skills and showcase your work.

Each week, we will explore editing basics, composition techniques, how to photograph different subjects and even take part in fun photo challenges. Picking up in September, as the year goes on, participants will have opportunities to exhibit their work in summer term, enter competitions and go on local photo walks.

If you are taking Art for GCSE, then the Photography Club is also the perfect way to develop your artistic eye further even further. You'll strengthen your understanding of composition, lighting and visual storytelling, skills that directly support your coursework. Plus, if you are thinking even further ahead, this is a fantastic opportunity to build your confidence with cameras and creative ideas, especially if you're considering taking A-Level Photography in the future. You'll start building a foundation of skills and a mini portfolio to show your interest and passion for the subject.

We are so lucky to live a train ride away from London, so If you are around over the summer, here are a few exhibitions that will get your creative shutter clicking:

- World Press Photo Exhibition (Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, 23 May–25 Aug) — Explore real-world stories told through powerful photojournalism. <u>Here East - The World Press</u> Photo Exhibition

- Wildlife Photographer of the Year (Natural History Museum, now–29 Jun) — Discover stunning nature shots, under 12s go free! <u>Wildlife Photographer of the Year | Natural History Museum</u>

- Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition (17 Jun–17 Aug) — A lively, inclusive art showcase where ordinary photos stand alongside world-class art. <u>Summer Exhibition 2025</u> <u>Royal Academy of Arts</u>

- Dennis Morris: Music + Life (Photographers' Gallery, 27 Jun–28 Sep) — Icons like Bob Marley come to life in this music culture retrospective. <u>Dennis Morris: Music + Life | The</u> <u>Photographers Gallery</u>

- Permindar Kaur & Prem Sahib (Pitzhanger, 26 Jun–21 Sep) — Contemporary pieces that reimagine portraiture and identity. <u>Pitzhanger » Permindar Kaur: Mirror, Mirror</u>

These exhibitions are a great way to see how Photography is used around the world to tell stories, challenge ideas, and celebrate creativity. Take a camera, see what inspires you and then bring it back to the Photography Club.

Let's start seeing the world differently, one photo at a time.

Miss Carvalho



### **History News: World War Two Exhibition**

## 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October 2025

At Kings Langley School, we are proud to be a part of a thriving community with a unique history.

Whilst we know a lot about the history of the village during World War Two, much more has come to light in the past few months than we could have imagined.

For example, did you know that Kings Langley was attacked during the bombing raids of the Blitz? We commonly think this only applied to major cities, such as London, Liverpool and Coventry. Did you know that many artefacts and defences from the war still remain standing in Kings Langley? Did you know that footage of VE Day on Kings Langley Common is available to watch online?

Recently, the Kings Langley History Society [KLLHMS] have been researching life in Kings Langley during the war, delving through archives, thousands of records, photographs and speaking with residents. They have scoured the village for artefacts that still stand in the

village, unearthing hidden gems from our past.



As part of this year's VE and VJ Day commemorations across the village, we are delighted to be able to host the Kings Langley History Society's [KLLHMS] World War Two exhibition at Kings Langley Sixth Form.

**The exhibition will be held on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October 2025,** in our Sixth Form building. This will be the culmination of years of research by KLLHMS.

The exhibition will be both informative and interactive, suitable for all ages. As a school we aim to support the exhibition across subjects. Both staff and

Visit



VE day in Kings Langley



students from KLS will be volunteering at the exhibition.

You can find out more about the project and exhibition on the KLLHMS website and via Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1245709233123580/

https://www.kingslangley.org.uk/



In March, our school History Club welcomed Jason Smith, chairman of KLLHMS. He shared a great deal of the society's research with our budding historians, including footage, audio recordings and artefacts. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and understand the role of local history in our community.

Of course, we wanted more students to know about this. So, we are delighted to confirm that Mr Smith is returning to us at Kings Langley School in July during Activities Week. He will share his research with our Year 7s, alongside other interactive activities, such as designing posters for the event.

We are very much looking forward to the continued commemorative events across the community over the next few months. We hope that as many of our students as possible are able to attend the exhibition in October, alongside their parents and carers, as a celebration of a thriving community and rich heritage.



There is a lot of research outlining the benefits of creativity on wellbeing and mental health and as a school who cares for their staff wellbeing, a series of staff portrait oil painting classes were put on to explore the impact of this research. Over several weeks, a large group of staff attended these sessions after school and very quickly, participants felt the impact on their wellbeing. Some members of staff commented on how these classes allowed them to appreciate doing something different and out of their usual sphere of activities whilst others highlighted how engaging in art allowed them to reduce stress and feel relaxed after a hectic day at work.

An additional benefit of these sessions was how it models to students to participate in something new, something challenging, or something which forced them to develop confidence.

The art department have been exploring research into the impact of the Arts on the brain and recommend the following book to anyone interested in this area.

Further information about this wellbeing initiative can be found in MyKingsNews and Kings Village News:

Kings Langley Village News

Calaméo - Kings June 25

## Art & Wellbeing

Brain on Art How the Arts Transform Us

OUI

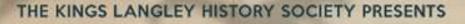
Susan Magsamen and Ivy Ross

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**Artwork from top to bottom, left to right:** Mrs Bloomfield, Mrs Zimmer, Ms Hill, Miss Arnold, Mrs Carr, Mr Rogers, Mrs Jennings, Mrs Butt, Mrs Howard, Mr Tubb, Mrs Dignum, Mr Sylvester, Ms Reeve, Mrs Johnston, Ms Carvahlo





# KINGS LANGLEY IN WORLD WAR TWO



# 25th - 26th OCTOBER at KINGS LANGLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL



In the Main Hall at 7pm on Thursday 10th July

### **An Invitation to Support Our School**

At Kings Langley School, we believe that

education thrives when the whole community comes together. That's why we're inviting you to support our school in a way that's simple, meaningful, and rewarding.

Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a difference to enhance the educational experience. Together we can fund new opportunities, enhance learning, and make our school the best it can be.

### https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk/home/parents/fundraising/ The Kings Langley School Educational Enhancement Fund



Your opportunity to make regular monthly contribution that support the school's future growth & larger projects.

Projects include:

A wellbeing garden for our students, refurbishment of our dining hall, AI/ICT enhancements, sustainable energy solutions, further sporting enhancements, educational enhancements across all curricular areas

In the last decade alone, this Covenanted Fund has raised over £90,000 — an incredible achievement that we are eager to build upon with your continued support.



## **School Lottery**

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kings-langley-secondary-school

This is more than just a chance to win great prizes!

Every ticket purchased helps us enhance the learning experience for all students.



# Just Giving Page

https://www.justgiving.com/page/kings-langley-school-kingslangley-school-1

25p in every £1 is added in Gift Aid ensuring your generosity goes even further.

