The King's Chronicles

Autumn Term 2023

The Wizard of Oz

Rehearsals are going well for the annual academy production of The Wizard of Oz and we are delighted to welcome over 20 new faces to The King's Academy Youth Theatre. The whole cast are rising to the challenge of putting on a spectacular show; we appreciate their hard work, commitment and dedication to making this one of the highlights of the Academy calendar. Our drama department have been busy in rehearsals, and our Art, Textiles and Engineering departments are all involved ensuring the show looks phenomenal, as always.

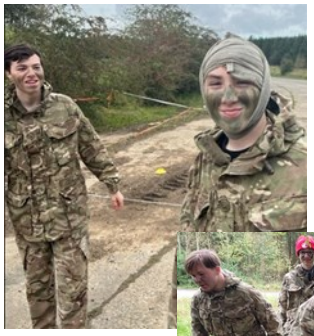
Don't forget that tickets are already on sale with the show set to take place Wed 29 Nov – Fri 1 Dec. We hope you will join us as we follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City. Link to book tickets **HERE**

Mr Jones, Head of Drama

CCF Super Camp, Albemarle barracks

The King's Academy's Combined Cadets Force (CCF) cadets enjoyed a fantastic and fascinating day out to the Albemarle Barracks**,** Newcastle. They woke up early without too many complaints and participated in some abysmal karaoke on the bus but quickly made up for this upon arrival to the barracks. They threw themselves into a variety of activities that tested and improved their communication, teamwork, fieldcraft and critical thinking skills. These activities, overseen by members of the British army, included camouflage and concealment, airsoft firing manoeuvres, applying bandages and tourniquets, casualty evacuation, and a range of other teamwork tasks. All our cadets handled the airsoft weapons safely and competently as they negotiated trees and tunnels: Lewis Dixon and Lukas Harbron blended in seamlessly with their surroundings; Bain Nyananyo and Evie Lethbridge were brilliant medics; and Anya Herman displayed great intellectual clarity in teamwork puzzles. Cadets were then treated to an interesting MOD careers presentation, where Lacey Griffiths was presented with an award for Best Cadet. Mr (Capt.) Uzuh, Mr (2Lt.) Johnson and I were very proud of how all our cadets presented themselves – all the cadets were thoroughly engaged and enjoyed the day !!

Mr Cameron, 2nd Lieutenant



First Impressions

We have been delighted with the very positive impression made by our new Sixth Form students as they embark on the next stage of their educational journey at King's. The refurbished surroundings of the Sixth Form Common Room have proved to be a very popular habitat with them, with great excitement at the arrival of hot drinks and vending machines. Their Year 12 began with a dedicated Induction Day that brought together students from King's and beyond in a series of tutor group team building activities. Tackling the fiendishly difficult Summer 2023 quiz; testing their archery skills; embracing the CCF challenges and dodgeball games, Year 12 demonstrated the kind of collaborative engagement required to tackle the tasks of Level 3 studies. Year 12 have displayed a willingness to volunteer for a wide range of leadership and volunteering roles, from record numbers of reading mentors for younger students to lost property supervisors and school event hosts.

Mr Skerry, Head of Sixth Form

Year 11 Revision

Year 11 have had a great start to the school year when it comes to preparation for their exams. Starting with the success of the Revision Evening, students and their parents joined their teachers to learn about the best ways to prepare for their exams. All students were given a personalised revision guide and subject specialists were on hand to explain the best ways to revise in their subject. Many parents also took the opportunity to purchase revision guides on Parent Pay, which is still open should you still wish to make a purchase at a much-reduced price.

Students have also taken part in two revision assemblies, where they were given resources and shown how to create their own revision timetable and begin creating flash cards for English Literature. The students worked hard on these and were engaged and focused during each session. After the mocks, students will have further revision assemblies focusing on different methods of revision, and there will be an opportunity for both students and parents to take part in revision workshops at the Year 11 Parents' Evening, should you want to know how you can further support your child at home.

Presentation links are below, so you can see what the students created, and for further information on how you can help with revision at home: https://myfiles.emanuelschools.not and then access via R:\Year 11 Revision

Mrs Lamport, Assistant Vice Principal

Food Bank Collection

During this half term students across the Academy have been collecting donations for one of our nominated charities, Middlesbrough Food Bank. So far this year 12,000 food parcels have been handed out to families across Middlesbrough, and as part of the Tutor Reflections programme tutor groups have spent time considering the importance of offering help and support to people in our local area. The response from the whole school community was outstanding, and it was with great pride that we were able to donate a whole van full of goods - with donations ranging from tinned fruit to pasta, nappies and toiletries. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the donations, the organisation and the logistics involved in coordinating this amazing effort! We hope to carry out another collection around the Christmas period so we can continue to support our local community.

Mr Kirby and Mrs Gibbons

Zoe Wills (10 Tarrn) helping to load the van

Our school equipment shop

After half term, we are launching our first on site equipment shop where students are able to purchase their school equipment at prices as low as 10p. This will open on Wednesday 8 November for students to buy any equipment they are in need of. The equipment shop will be open every Wednesday and Thursday of each week at break time at 11.00am in the Sports Hall. We are selling a range of different items on the school equipment list and extra equipment to aid students' learning; equipment such as pens, pencils, highlighters, revision cards etc. All of these items are available to all students in the school, and we are also providing items that are aimed at sixth form students. We will be only taking payment via cash and any profit that we will make from this equipment shop will be donated to our school charities. Make sure you go and check it out, we hope to see you there!

Halima Majid, Year 12

Members of the Prince's Trust group sorting out the food for the Foodbank

Y6 Open Evening

More than 950 people recently attended The King's Academy Year 6 Open Evening earlier this term. All of our visitors listened to a presentation from our Acting Principal, Mr Reader, before being invited to walk around our excellent facilities, to see examples of students work and to engage in departmental activities. Throughout the evening approximately 70 of our current Year 7 students acted as guides, but the stars of the evening were the four students who spoke about their brief time at the Academy. Huge congratulations to Jack, Elyana, Tommy and Pleasant on how well they delivered their presentations that evening. We look forward to seeing some of those visitors join our community as part of the next Year 7 intake in September 2024.

Mr Johnson, Assistant Principal

Outstanding Students of this Term

English - Sophie Dawson (12Cooper) - Sophie has demonstrated an outstanding start to her A-level English language studies, contributing intellectual, thought-provoking ideas about the representation of individuals in society.

PE - Bobby Lewis (11Tilson) - as well as working hard in lessons, Bobby has been helping out by refereeing a number of Year 7 & 9 football fixtures in his own time (and he's better than I am at it!)

Drama - Rosie Probert (10Kirby) - Rosie has demonstrated an excellent start to Year 10 in Drama, showing a clear understanding of how to approach both the practical and written elements of the course.

Textiles - Brooke Roberts (9CJohnston)- Brooke has showcased some amazing textile skills since starting the course in Year 9. The quality of her portfolio presentation in particular, has been truly impressive!

Science - Ruby Todd (7Robertson)- works hard in all of her lessons. She is enthusiastic, always has her hand up to answer questions and has grown in confidence with her practical skills. Her practical skills have developed brilliantly and she is an excellent role model for other students with her effort, attitude and conduct. Well done Ruby!

RE - Frankie Jurkiewicz (8Hutchinson) - Great engagement, always willing to answer questions. His answers and his own questions often open up discussion and help others with their learning.

Art - Shiloh Syed (10Wild) - Shiloh is an exceptional artist. She independently develops ideas that demonstrate a deep understanding of the work of other artists. The quality of her work exceeds our highest expectations.

French - Fareed Mustapha (8SDavidson) - has shown incredible engagement and passion for language learning since the start of the year; he is unfailingly enthusiastic and eager to show how much he remembers from lesson to lesson, always taking sincere pride in his work. He is a pleasure to teach and a great role model for all!

Engineering - Ethan Harris (11Smith) - for completing extra work outside of lesson time and taking the time to perfect a functioning CAD model independently.

Maths - Adam Little (10Kirby) - does his best every single lesson. It doesn't matter whether the work is familiar or challenging; he has made excellent progress on solving 2 step equations and he has succeeded because of how well he has focussed and because he doesn't give up. He also does extra working out to make sure he has his answers correct, Miss Robertson is always VERY proud of him.

Computer Science - Drew James (9Flint) and Harry Thirkell (9Sturdy) - have dived right into their Computer Science studies this year. They have both demonstrated such enthusiasm and are already working together to develop their own computer programs including a number of text-based games.

Geography - Alex Sutherland (12King) - has made an excellent start to his A Level Geography studies. He has been taking detailed notes in lessons using a style which helps him revise and has worked really hard at home to understand complex concepts such as paleomagnetism and liquefaction. He was able to explain these in class without help.

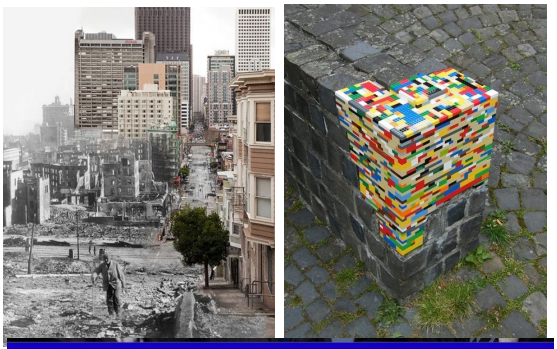
Middlesbrough School Sports Leadership Academy 2023/24

Lily Robinson, Emma Drury, Isabelle Moore, Ellena Sousa, Louis Carter Madeline Atkinson, Alice Redman, Isabelle Corbyn, Noah Cross

House Art and Photography Competition

The theme for this year's House Art and Photography Competition is '**Rebuilding'**. We are hoping for entries from students in every year group. Artwork can be created using any materials e.g. painting, drawing, collage, pastels, photography etc. Artwork and photographs should be submitted to tutors, House Managers or an Art teacher by Friday 1 December.

Mrs Johnston, Teacher of Art



Will you share your insight to influence the design of a new service for young people in Teesside?

Teesside Mind want young people to directly influence the mental health support they are provided – including what the support looks like, how and where the support is provided and who provides the support.

Have your say and share your thoughts by completing this short survey.

Scan here to complete the survey

To find out more about this project:

Contact Phil on 01642 257020 or email Phillip.hardy@teessidemind.org.uk

mind Teesside

Registered charity number: 1118098

Get caught reading

Mrs Scard was lucky enough to secure two tickets to go and meet David Walliams and donated them to enable a student to win them in a competition. The competition, "Get caught reading", proved to be very popular and an abundance of names were entered into the draw as Mrs Catterson, during break and lunch, caught students reading in various locations; outside, and in the library or in some cases walking down the corridor! The lucky winner was Grace Fagan. Grace attended the event and thoroughly enjoyed herself. She said that David Walliams was very funny and at one point was dancing on the stage! Well done, Grace.

Mrs Scard, Library and Literacy Specialist

Frankenstein Trip

Year 8 had an amazing opportunity to see one of their Year 7 texts in action this October. 39 students accompanied Mrs Hutchinson, Miss Sturdy, Mr Harker and Mrs Whatmore to Darlington Hippodrome to see 'Frankenstein' – a dark and gothic play about identity, fear and creation. Students were really supportive of each other and positive about the experience. It was great to hear Harrison Mudd say 'Frankenstein's going to go for it in the second half Miss!'. It was brilliant to see them engaging with the text in such an enthusiastic way. Well done to Year 8!

Mrs Hutchinson, Teacher of English

Key Dates	
November	
Monday 6 - Friday 10	Year 11 and Year 13 First Rehearsal Examinations (Week 2)
Monday 13	House Netball (Year 7)
Tuesday 14	House Netball (Year 9)
Wednesday 15	House Netball (Year 10)
Thursday 16	House Netball (Year 9) SF Open Evening (5.30-7.30pm)
Monday 20	House Table Tennis (Year 7)
Tuesday 21	House Table Tennis (Year 9)
Wednesday 22	House Table Tennis (Year 10)
Thursday 23	House Table Tennis (Year 8)
Wednesday 29 Thursday 30 Friday 1	The Wizard of Oz

Additional Notices

School lunches: To avoid problems at the till, please ensure you keep your child's meal balance topped up. Parents and carers are able to set up low balance reminders and auto-top ups in ParentPay. We recommend adding a minimum of £12.50 per week to cover up to a 2 course lunch (£2.50) every day.

Optional jumpers: As the temperature drops, may we remind parents/ carers and students that students are permitted to wear a grey, V-neck jumper under their blazer should they wish. Please see here for further details, including options for purchase.

Cost of living: Help is available for households struggling with the cost of living. Please see here for details of the help available from the Government and here for Middlesbrough Council's 'Cost of Living' advice webpage.

Pre-loved uniform: We would like to remind parents/ carers that there is now a dedicated online marketplace for pre-loved King's Academy uniform and learning resources. Please click here for further information about this service and here to go straight to the marketplace.

Children's Parties: We are pleased to be able to offer a special package on Saturday afternoons for the hire of our Sports Hall and Downstairs Restaurant for children's parties. £75 for 90 minutes in the Sports Hall then 30 minutes in restaurant – 12.30-2.30pm or 2.30-4.30pm. For further information, availability and to make a booking request please visit our dedicated lettings website here.

WRAP UP

WARM A HEART, GIVE A COAT

Tuesday 7th November

Collection points at year group entrance doors. Warm coats and other winter clothing in good condition.

After the amazing response last year, we are again working with Middlesbrough Rotary Club to help people across Teesside to 'wrap up' warm. We will be accepting donations of coats, scarves, gloves and hats which will be handed over to the Rotary Club volunteers to sort and distribute. Please help if you are able to.

Mrs Gibbons, Assistant Principal

Exhibition of Student Talent

Tuesday 3 October saw the King's Academy host their annual Exhibition of Student Talent, showcasing student exhibits from Art, Food Engineering, Drama, Music, and Textiles. Once again, the quality of the work on display and the live performances was exceptional, with our catering and hospitality students wowing their audience with individually prepared goodies ranging from sushi, arancini rice balls, chocolate brownie bars to hand spun candy floss. Visitors were also treated to an eclectic mix of music and drama performances, highlighting contributions from Year 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. From Andrew Lloyd Webber to Shakespeare culminating in a self-penned monologue about anti-social behaviour by Mia Cousins in Year 9.

Mrs Brownless, Assistant Vice Principal

Prizegiving

On Tuesday 26 September the Academy took the opportunity to celebrate the successes of our students in the annual Prizegiving ceremony. During the afternoon we celebrated those who achieved academic success in each department, those who contributed to the school community and those who achieved sporting success or who demonstrated high levels of responsibility for learning through their merit totals. This was alongside awards for (amongst others) House Short Story, the Alix Ritchie award for Courage, The Academy Award of Special Recognition, the award for Outstanding Student and the Academy Drama Bowl. We were joined by students' families in the Sports Hall, and by Year 7 who watched from the Main Hall for the very first time. We were also treated to high quality musical performances from some of our students, which rounded off a fantastic afternoon. A huge well done to everyone who achieved a personal best and won an award this year.

Mrs Taylor, Vice Principal

Christmas at The King's

The second half of the Autumn Term brings a number of exciting events and trips. One of our Year 9 students, Ryan Rodgers, gives a flavour of some of these events for our new students below.

The Christmas Performing Arts competition is a showcase of student talent drawn from all year groups. The show is performed to an audience of Year 7 who have the difficult task of voting, as well as a panel of staff. Acts include singing, dancing and piano/ guitar playing. Watch out for Mr Johnson's Christmas jokes though, as they are worse than a plate of brussel sprouts! (Wednesday 20 December).

The Christmas Cracker is an annual competition made up of multiple activities across an afternoon which you do with your tutor groups. You get to wear your Christmas jumper (for our charities) and join in the fun for a whole afternoon which includes sweets, door decoration, quizzes, more sweets, wreath making, and much more! (Tuesday 19 December).

Ryan Rodgers, 9Kenworthy

House Competitions

Cross Country

The House competition started with over 200 students taking part in the Cross Country event. All runners showed great determination to complete the course and we are so proud of everyone who finished! Medes were victorious overall, although the other houses put up a good fight and each one managed top -spot in at least one year group.

Rugby

House Rugby took place across two weeks due to the Open Evening and results will be announced to students shortly.

House Captains

Applications were received from over 90 students for the honour of House Captain. They do a fantastic job in helping the House Managers and Heads of House to encourage students to participate in events and we are looking forward to all they will bring this year to the House Competitions.

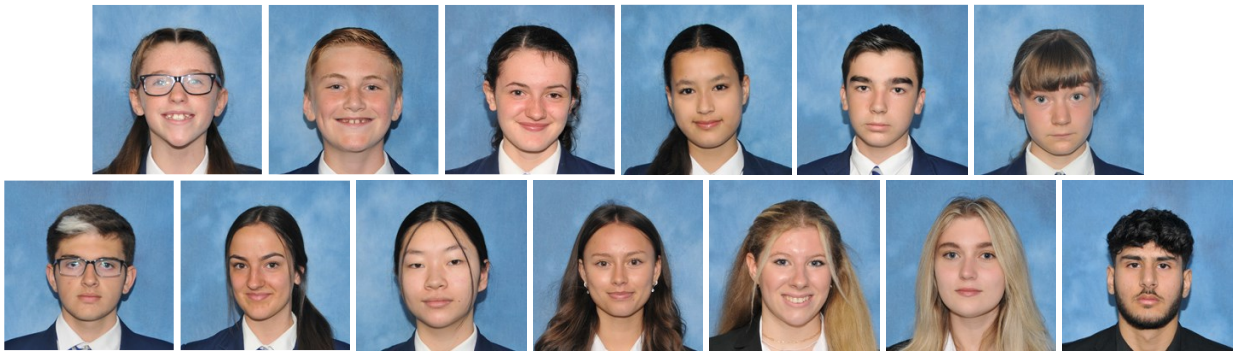
Greeks

Michael Flynn, Theo Bailey Saunders, Amelia Laws, Ricky Robinson, Ruby Emms, Jack Westgarth Graham, Kian Smith, Noah Simpson, Hannah Horner, Ethan Wadrop, Phoebe George (not pictured)

Hebrews

Isabelle Crutchley, Thomas McGloin, Lily Robinson, Nyla Simpson, Dylann Bone, Josh Baldam, Jessie Doherty, Jacob Brown, Molly Warren, Chrissie Kardasz, Nicholas Sayer

Medes



Keira Barry, Lucas Stevenson, Emma Drury, Ava Flannigan, Kobey Hedley, Anya Herman, Bobby Lewis, Lottie Fryett-Smith, Jia Jia Wu, Angel Lorenzano, Kara Oostdijck, Sophie Keeler, Yushua Abrar

Romans

Janet Gakpe, Arsenii Pavliuk, Kanie Usman, David Mills, Thomas Scott, Daisy Marshall, Anthony Richardson, Lacey Mai Stevenson, Jack Wagstaff, Adam Percival

Creative Writing

The theme this year was on *"Refuge"* and students were invited to write a poem or a short story. Entries are in the process of being selected for each year group and the best ones will be judged for House Points. The best piece is usually submitted to the Rotary Club to be entered into the Regional Competition.

Art/Photography

This year's theme is "Rebuilding" and students will shortly be invited to submit an entry for the House Competition which again will be able to be submitted to the Rotary Young Artist Competition. More information will be shared with students after Half Term.

Upcoming Events

House Netball and Table Tennis are taking place in the weeks commencing 13 November and 20 November respectively and we are looking forward to some excellent games. Make sure you sign up when House Managers come round to encourage participation.

Mr Belmont
Head of Learning Outside the Classroom