The King's Chronicles

Summer Term 1 2024

Middlesbrough Town Champions!

Leah Smith
Nyla Simpson
Lily Younger
Chloe Donaghue
Isla Dixon
Isabelle Moore
Isabella Donnelly
Lillia Stott
Tyla Horton
Jeorgie Collinson
Meadow McDonald
Gabrielle Taylor
Amelia Norris
Daisy Christie

For the second consecutive year, The King's Academy girls have reigned victorious in the Middlesbrough Town Cup. This year it was the Under 14 girls who demonstrated a first class performance against Nunthorpe with a comfortable 3-0 win. A brilliant achievement by the whole squad. We look forward to competing next season to hold onto the title!

Mrs Henry-Shaw, Head of Girls' PE

Farewell to Year 13

We bid a fond farewell to our Year 13 cohort this half term as they embarked on the final steps of their King's Academy journey with the start of A Level and BTEC exams. There were tears and laughter as the Year 7 photos were rolled out one more time and tutors reminisced about their time together as a Sixth Form group. From the poetry of Mr Jones to the admission by Mr Davis that the last year had been his "best ever" as a tutor, it was wonderful to see how the relationships had grown over their time together each day in Sixth Form. This cohort have seen a significant amount of change in the Sixth Form, helping to shape the design and facilities of the new Sixth Form Centre. The atmosphere with staff and students enjoying fabulous street food in their surroundings, was a reminder of the privilege that it is to work alongside such talented and dedicated young people. We wish our Year 13 students the very best of luck with their exams and a wonderful summer, before we see them again to send them away to their chosen university, apprentice-ship or employment destinations.

Mr Skerry, Assistant Principal

Marrick Priory

Around 30 Year 7 students spent a weekend at Marrick Priory Outdoor Education Centre, doing challenging activities such as abseiling and canoeing. The conduct, teamwork and resilience of the students was superb and every single one of them should be proud of their achievements. The experience has hopefully helped them grow in confidence and cement some lasting friendships.

Mrs Gibbons, Assistant Principal

Year 12 Physics Visit to Labman

The Year 12 physicists recently visited Labman, located near Stokesley. This innovative company offers a fascinating glimpse into cutting-edge automation technology, specialising in creating bespoke robotic solutions for laboratories worldwide. While we were trying not to get distracted by the creative working environment with a climbing wall and squash court, the staff showed us some of the projects they are working on and how they take an idea from concept to reality. The trip was not just a tour, but an inspiring journey into the future of technology and automation.

Alfie Cobain Y12

Year 10 Bronze DofE Navigation

On Saturday 27 April, our Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students joined us in the North York Moors for a morning of walking and navigation practice. Students practised their map and compass skills out in the countryside, walking around 10km along the way. The groups worked very well together, showing us their competence with map reading and learning how to safely traverse fields with livestock. Thursday after-school training sessions continue for our Year 10 students in the run up to their summer expedition.

Mr Cameron and Mr King, DofE coordinators

Kings of the Mountain

Oliver Easton

Lukas Habron: Uniquely, this individual had a wonderfully weird way of willing his skis down the mountain in the traditional pizza shape or snow plough; whilst still attentively listening to the instructor's voice and keeping an eye on other passing *ploughists,* Lukas would whisper quietly to his skis, willing them to cut a path through the surrounding snow. With this new method of skiing, Lukas affectionally became known by those of us on the ski trip as: 'The Ski Whisperer'.

Oliver Easton: This young gentleman was simply the politest boy on the mountain. The snow shushed under his respectful glare and glistened to hear yet another 'yes, please' or 'no, thank you'. Yet, despite his modesty and easy-manners, Oliver was the mightiest young man that ever stepped onto a dreaded red or cruised along a blistering blue. When Oliver spoke, the snow listened.

Mr Walters, Teacher of English

Lukas Habron

Cadets on Parade

The Combined Cadets' force, CCF conducted the Annual Parade on Wednesday 20 March. The annual parade is a special opportunity for cadets to showcase their skills, and celebrate their achievements for the year, and indeed their duration so far with the CCF. All cadets were dressed sharply in their uniform and displayed exemplary attitude and dedication to the cause. Highlights of the occasion included the drill displays and the handing out of awards to some distinguished cadets. The recipients of the awards were Corey Swales (Best Turned-Out Cadet), Lewis Bragg (Most Improved Cadet), James Stone (Most Committed Cadet), Anya Herman (Commando Values and Spirit Award), and Jack Johnson winning the Best Cadet award for the second year in a row. Cadet Lacey Griffiths was promoted to Lance Corporal. In attendance were the parents of the cadets and Year 8 students. VIPs at the occasion included Major Greg Wylie of the Royal Marines. Mrs Gibbons, Mr Belmont, and Pastor Stone.

On Friday 3 and Saturday 4 May, the CCF conducted their Exercise First Step, a residential military activity where students camp on the outside on the school grounds while conducting military exercises such as patrolling, camouflage and concealment, harbour preparation, and section attacks. In what turned out to be a fun-filled and eventful exercise, cadets camped in bivvies and fed on military rations, while also braving it through some very challenging weather conditions.

Mr Uzuh, CCF Contingent Commander

Please support The King's Academy Colour Run 2024 - JustGiving

Celebrating our students

Tony Beattie-Lewis (9Gunn)

Congratulations to Tony who fought in the Northern Ireland International Open Judo Competition with fighters coming from all over Europe. Tony fought off tough competition to achieve the top position and carry off a superb gold medal.

Mathew Luck (7LDavison)

Matthew attended the International Karate Championship in May. He competed against competitors from 11 different countries, winning Bronze and Silver medals in the Forms and Sparring events. This is a fantastic achievement and demonstrates Matthew's dedication to his training and sport.

Shaan Malik (10Tarn)

Over the Easter holidays Shaan boxed his way through the regional rounds of the England Boxing Junior National Championships, becoming Tyne Tees and Wear champion and got to the Semi Finals where he

Lillie Bell (12 Coe)

Lillie recently competed in the U18 Level 4 International competition in America. Cheer Starz Academy came 8th in the world, a fantastic achievement considering this is the first time the troop have competed at this level, representing the UK and the North East.

Christina Kardasz (13Jones) and Kara Oostdijck (13Dargue) have both received Distinctions in Level 3 RSL Music Performance (worth 1.5 A-Levels). They have both worked incredibly hard to achieve these

Percy Jackson Board Game

Daniel Rocke (9CJohnston), who has a vision impairment, has created a board game based on the Percy Jackson books. Daniel has really enjoyed reading the books, so with his QTVI, Mrs Milburn, created the game over a term, in weekly tutorials. He started by creating the rules, character descriptions using iPad skills to write up the information and progressed to building the board game using art materials to develop life skills. The board game is fully accessible with large print and braille and all the monster cards have been printed in braille and large print, meaning that anyone can play the game. Daniel would like to be a game designer in the future.

Mrs Milburn, VI department

Visit to Kirkley Lodge Care Home

Year 10 Premier League Changemakers visited Kirkley Lodge Care Home. The students played games with the residents and enjoyed an afternoon of treats

Premier League Changemakers, delivered by the MFC foundation, aims to empower and inspire young females, whilst developing their leadership qualities.

Mrs Henry-Shaw, Head of Girls' PE

HLN2 Election

HLN2 students produced their own manifestos on what they would do to improve school and each student presented to the rest of the class. They then voted for the HLN2 MP. Hannah Jolley (pictured) won with a majority vote. All students worked really hard and enjoyed the lesson.

The students had a lovely afternoon, worked really hard and enjoyed it themselves!

Miss Williamson,
Teacher of History

Your Time Project - Year 9 girls

Festival of Chemistry

Seven of our Year 10 students experienced life as an undergraduate chemistry student for a day, visiting the University of Leeds for a Salters' Festival of Chemistry Discovery Day in May. Along with hearing about the complexities of synthesising medicines and discussing future career opportunities, the students spent most of their day synthesising aspirin in the university laboratories. From using Buchner funnels to recrystallisation, the students had a great time working together developing their advanced practical skills.

Mr King and Miss Brownlee, Science department

Physics Olympiad

Seven Year 12 students took part in the Senior Physics challenge organised by the British Physics Olympiad. The competition is difficult and stretches students beyond curriculum knowledge, putting their problem-skills to the test with some unusual questions including the work required to build a pyramid and estimating the number of water molecules in your tea which were previously drunk by Caesar. Six students were awarded Bronze certificates and Jack Pitt achieved Silver. Well done to all students for participating.

Mrs Dean, Teacher of Science

Your Time Project

Six Year 9 girls took part in the Your Time Project, funded by the Department of Education as part of The Leadership Skills Foundation and certificated by Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson. The aim of the project was for the girls to go through a series of leadership modules online and work together to develop their skills and apply them to an event to encourage more girls to take part in physical activity. The girls worked extremely hard to achieve this and provided a Badminton session afterschool which all that took part thoroughly involved.

Mrs Henry-Shaw, Head of Girls' PE

Literacy Intervention

Quizzes, prizes, food, free books, and activities led by a special guest author were the highlights of an event held to launch our new reading mentor scheme.

The scheme, which is supported by Thirteen and the National Literacy Trust, will see volunteers from local businesses come into school to help students with their reading.

The launch event brought together students, families, volunteers and staff to enjoy a range of activities including a storytelling workshop with local author, Lisette Auton.

"Our new reading mentor scheme is all about promoting enthusiasm for reading and boosting literacy levels," said Miss Crosby, our Literacy Intervention Lead. "We had a lovely launch event and it was a pleasure to have an author as successful as Lisette join us and help bring it all to life.

"Huge thanks to everyone involved - I'm especially grateful to the partners we're working with to get the scheme off the ground. "We really couldn't deliver it without their fantastic support."

Jayne Dale and Cheryl Hodds from Thirteen have recruited volunteer reading mentors for the scheme, while Thirteen also provided funding for the launch event.

Allison Potter from the National Literacy Trust provided students who attended the launch with lots of free books, which were very gratefully received.

Lisette's latest book,'The Stickleback Catchers', was named among The Guardian Children's Books of the Year and her next, 'Lights Up', is due for release in July.

Miss Crosby, Literacy Intervention Lead

Year 7 Scientist Panels

As part of British Science Week, all of our Year 7 students had the opportunity to take part in a live-chat with a group of scientists during their lessons. We talked to scientists working in a huge variety of roles; from Frederik who works in cancer research, to Viviene whose current role involves designing lasers for use in space. The experts we interviewed provided great insights into how varied life can be as a scientist. Thanks for all the great questions, Year 7!

Mr King and Mrs Dean, Science department

RHS School Gardening Award

Over the last two years the HLN5 DofE group have embraced the outside world, taking care of the allotment space. To recognise the work of these students, the school have been awarded the RHS School Gardening Award, Level 1. The awards progress through five levels, recognising progress in wellbeing, knowledge, and skills. Level 1 was awarded for embracing a space that was accessible, understanding the benefits of gardening, and students beginning their gardening journey. The students have grown carrots and herbs, planted spring bulbs, harvested apples and pears, and kept the area tidy and (relatively!) weed-free. Let's see if we can achieve Level 2 in the near future!

Miss Robinson and Mr King, Science department

No Key Dates	
May	
Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29	Year 11 and Year 13 Study Programme (9am—1pm)
June	
Monday 3	Term starts (8.20am)
Thursday 6	Year 7 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)
Mon 10 - Thu 13	House Football
Mon 17 - Thu 16	House Cricket/Rounders
Thu 20 & Fri 21	Sixth Form Taster Days
Mon 24 – Fri 28	Activities Week (Years 7 - 9) Work Experience (Year 10) Year 12 Progression Week
Wednesday 26	Year 13 Leavers' Dinner Whinstone View (6.30pm)
July	
Monday 1	Year 6 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 3	Year 11 Prom, Wynyard Hall (6.30pm)
Mon 8 - Wed 10	Year 6 Transition
Thursday 18	Last Day of Term
August	
Thursday 15	Year 13 Results Day
Thursday 22	Year 11 Results Day Sixth Form Enrolment
September	
Wednesday 4	Year 7 and Year 12 Induction Day
Thursday 5	Start of Term (All Years)

Sixth Form Taster Days

Our Sixth Form Taster Days will be held on Thursday 20 and Friday 21 June. They will start at 11am on Thursday due to a GCSE exam. They will be a great opportunity for our prospective sixth formers to have the experience of a range of different A Level & BTEC subjects, as well as understanding what it feels like to be in the different Sixth Form environment. These will be non uniform days, ending at 3pm.

Mr Skerry, Assistant Principal

Year 10 Work Experience

All students in Year 10 will be completing their work experience at the end of June. The majority of students have sourced and logged placements, but there are still a small number who are yet to be logged. All placements must be logged by Monday 3 June. We are also running a work experience trip which will involve visiting a different engineering/maritime based workplace each day with transport provided by school. There are only five spaces remaining for any students interested in completing their work experience in this way. If there are any queries, please contact Miss Harrison-Potts.

Students should make sure they have read their placement details on Unifrog which will detail their placement overview, working hours, lunch arrangements and dress code. It is crucial students read this information prior to their placement start date.

And don't forget, we have a careers newsletter which is updated weekly and posted on the careers area of our school website! The King's Academy Edition 23 (thekingsacademy.org.uk)

Miss Harrison-Potts, Careers Lead

Contact details for external agencies during the half term holidays

If parents/carers need to access external support during the holidays, they can contact:

Stronger Families (Early Help): 01642 726 004. Stronger Families are able to support with: drug and alcohol issues; domestic abuse; mental health issues; money and housing problems; bereavement; relationship problems; children's health, development and behaviour.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS): 0300 2000 000. CAMHS provides assessment and appropriate treatment or intervention for children and young people up to their 18th birthday who are experiencing mental health problems, with the aim of positive mental health promotion.
Details of other support services can be accessed via the following links:
Children and Families - Middlesbrough Children Matter
Children, families, and safeguarding | Middlesbrough Council