The King's Chronicles

Summer Term 2 2025

Olga has the power to win

Olga Dent in Year 7 made a big impact at the recent powerchair football tournament in Hull, representing Middlesbrough Power-chair Football Club with incredible skill and determination. She started the day guarding the net for the Boro Academy team, where her sharp reflexes and solid defence meant she conceded just one goal throughout the match.

But Olga wasn't done yet. Switching gears, she joined the Boro Discovery team and took on a more attacking role—scoring an impressive five goals and driving her team to the final.

In an exciting twist, both the Boro Academy and Discovery teams reached the final match. Olga, captaining the Academy team, led by example in a tense, closely fought game that ended in a 1-1 draw. Rather than settling the result with penalties, both teams chose to share the cup—a true show of sportsmanship and unity. It was a day of talent, teamwork, and unforgettable moments—and Olga was right at the heart of it.

Miss Macgregor, HLN Lead

King's join a world record attempt

On Tuesday 1 July the food department took part in Jamie Oliver's Guinness World Record attempt for the biggest live cooking lesson, and beat the record! In total there were 10,515 cooks, across 6 continents and 42 countries who helped smash the record, of which 32 were our Year 9 food technology students. A huge well done to all students and staff involved in creating fresh pasta shapes and a no cook tomato sauce, it was delicious.

Mrs Trotter, Teacher of Food Technology

Activities Week 2025

Monday 23 to Friday 27 June saw another brilliant Activities Week. All students in Years 7-9 had their usual timetables collapsed and they took part in many excitingactivities and trips throughout the week. Here's a small selection of some of the experiences they had.

Skiing and Tubing

York Railway Museum

York Chocolate Experience

Beamish

Bike MOT

Mission Out

Tees Barrage

Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Coulby Newham Fire Station

Hill Walking

Sports Day 2025

Our annual sports day was a hotly contested battle that resulted in two houses tying for third place!

All students took part in the 800m and 1500m races during their PE lessons, making it a true mass participation event. For the first time, additional races were introduced for Year 7 students to boost involvement even further.

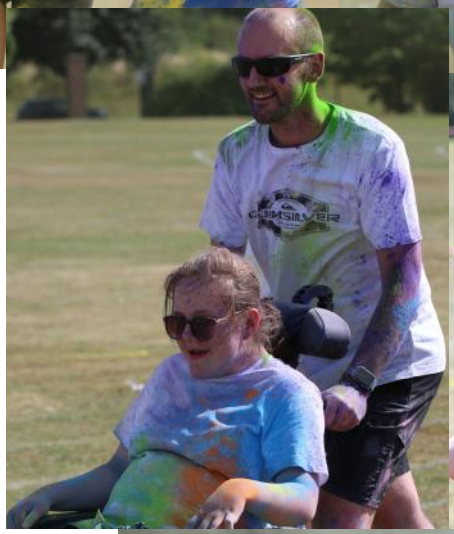
An incredible total of 6 school records were broken over the course of the day. Our record breakers were Lillia Stott (Shot), Dylan Armstrong (Javelin), Isabella Donnelly (300m), Jesse Clayton (200m), Benedict Godward (100m) and Tyler Quinn (100m). The House of Greeks managed to win the event overall, closely followed in second place by Medes, with Romans and Hebrews finishing jointly in third place.

Well done to everyone involved and thank you to all of the staff who make the event run so smoothly year after year.

Mr Lynch, Head of PE

Colour Run 2025

The annual King's Academy Colour Run was a great success, with over 200 students and staff taking part. At the last count £528 has been raised for Teesside Mind through the JustGiving page, and when combined with the fundraising that was done by the Academy Choir and our brilliant Year 10 Changemakers, the grand total stands at £1300 so far.



If anyone who ran the race still has sponsor money to donate, please use this link to the JustGiving page : [King's Academy Colour Run JustGiving]

Thank you to everyone who took part in the event. The money raised will help Teesside Mind continue the brilliant work that they do to support people's mental health and wellbeing in our area.

Mrs Gibbons, Assistant Principal

Year 10 Work Experience 2025

During the week of 23rd June, our Year 10 students completed their work experience placements. This year we had a range of exciting host companies, including the NHS, Jacksons Law, Lionweld Kennedy, McDonalds, Hartson Creative, FALCK and Middlesbrough Football Club, in addition to care homes, primary schools and a wide variety of engineering companies. The students' behaviour, attitude and engagement throughout the week was exemplary; some companies offered students apprenticeships, part time jobs and even said they wished they could hire them straight away! Well done to our amazing Year 10s for being a credit to themselves and the school, and a big thank you to all the employers and companies who invest so much time and effort to allow work experience to go ahead and be so successful!

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in offering a student a work experience placement next year, please contact: aharrison-potts@thekingsacademy.org.uk

French Trip to Normandy – Une expérience mémorable

Date: Sunday 22 to Friday 27 June 2025

Our recent trip to Normandy, France, was an unforgettable experience for both students and staff. We were fortunate to stay at the stunning Château du Molay, nestled in the beautiful French countryside. The château's welcoming atmosphere, complete with a heated outdoor pool, provided the perfect setting for a fun, enriching, and memorable adventure.

Throughout the trip, our students demonstrated outstanding behaviour. They showed deep respect and maturity during visits to the Second World War memorial sites and museums, taking time to reflect on the historical significance of each place. Their thoughtful engagement and conduct were truly commendable.

A highlight of the trip was visiting local caramel and chocolate factories, and the beautiful town of Bayeux. Here students showed great courage and enthusiasm by practising their French with native speakers — a fantastic way to bring their language learning to life.

Culinary curiosity was another standout feature of the trip! Many students were keen to try traditional French delicacies including cheese, escargots (snails), mussels, and crêpes (pancakes). Their open-mindedness and willingness to immerse themselves in French culture was impressive.

Evenings at the château were filled with fun and friendship, including a lively karaoke and disco night, a delicious BBQ, and plenty of time to relax and enjoy the pool.

We are incredibly proud of how our students represented the school throughout the trip — they were a credit to us all. We're already looking forward to returning to Normandy next year for another fantastic experience.

Mrs Whelan, Teacher of MFL

Germany 2025

Date: Sunday 22 to Friday 27 June 2025

Arriving in Bonn at 3pm on the Monday of Activities Week, we were all exhausted. However, once we'd unpacked at the Youth Hostel, we went for a walk through the woods and local area.

The next day was spent in Cologne, starting by the river at the Lindt Chocolate Museum. There were fascinating displays about the history, geography, nutritional value and ethics of chocolate, but perhaps the chocolate fountain and magic chocolate machine were our favourite parts. Those who toured at speed went to the shop to buy the exciting flavours of Lindt chocolate that we don't have at home; others went on the Big Wheel right outside.

This was followed by the Sports Museum with its rooftop football pitch and then a walk around the Gothic Cathedral – truly inspiring. The pupils then had time to spend in their groups, either shopping, eating, visiting the wool shop, borrowing a scooter, or making a video of their adventures.

The highlight of the trip for many was the Wednesday visit to Phantasialand with its many rides, snacks and an amazing ice-cream parlour.

By Thursday, we were already homeward bound, but had a leisurely lunch in the beautiful town of Aachen before getting the ferry home. It was a real joy to get to know the pupils better and to see how well they coped with the challenges and excitement of travel abroad. I was impressed by how many of them spoke German, without ever having studied it in the classroom.

Mrs King, Trip Leader

Year 12 Progression Week

Year 12 students had the opportunity to select from a comprehensive university visit programme during Progression week that saw us spend time on campus at Newcastle, Northumbria, Sunderland and Durham Universities. Our students learnt about key factors to consider in making their decision of whether university is the right future path, alongside campus tours and interactions with student ambassadors.

Their higher education aspirations led them to the drafting of their UCAS personal statements, expertly guided by Leeds Beckett University, in order to make the most of the vast array of work experience, volunteering and curriculum enrichment that Year 12 have actively engaged with this year.

Year 13 Leavers Dinner

We enjoyed another lovely evening at Whinstone View to bid a fond farewell to our fabulous Year 13 students, marking the end of a 7 year King's Academy era for many of them. They have been a wonderful and talented group of young people to have the pleasure of working alongside in Sixth Form. The event provided a chance to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings, engage in the ever-competitive cornhole challenge and reflect on the passing of a special time after the dedication of hard work of their A level studies. We wish our fantastic Class of 2025 a relaxing summer and best of luck for the exam results day on Thursday 14 August.

Mr Skerry, Assistant Principal

Year 12 Taster Days

We were delighted to welcome many of our Year 11 students into Sixth Form over the course of our two Taster Days following the conclusion of their GCSE exams. These days gave the students the perfect opportunity to sample a range of lessons in the smaller sized classes they can expect in Sixth Form, experiencing new subjects such as Law, Human Biology and Psychology. They also got to spend their days as typical sixth formers do, enjoying the opportunity to relax and socialise in their dedicated space. We look forward to seeing the Year 11 students again on GCSE Results Day to enrol them onto their chosen courses.

Mr Elliott, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip

Year 12 Geography students have had a fantastic two-day residential fieldtrip to the Holderness Coast and to Hull. They studied distinctive coastal landforms such as stacks, stumps and spits and learnt about the realities of living and working on the fastest eroding coastline in Europe.

Over the two days students also completed their independent investigation into the regeneration of Hull's fruit market area. Students were an absolute credit to themselves (and not just for the amount they managed to eat at the Chinese buffet!) and will now use the data they collected to complete their Non Examined Assessment (NEA).

Mr Love, Head of Geography

Physics is fun!

Over 200 students in Year 7, 8 and 10 recently took part in the British Physics Olympiad's online Physics Challenge, designed to challenge students to apply their learning to a variety of contexts. The students undertook two 25 minute online tests with thought-provoking multiple-choice questions on topics such as forces, energy, and waves. Many students showed great resilience tackling tricky questions sometimes beyond their current curriculum level. All participants received certificates, with 12 students in KS3 being awarded the top level of gold, while 16 students in Year 10 were awarded silver. Well done to all students who took part.

Mrs Dean, Head of Physics

Up, Up, Away

A group of Year 11 and Year 13 students have successfully completed the maiden flight of a model plane they built from scratch with support from STEM ambassadors. The students have worked together over recent months constructing the aircraft using lightweight materials and precision tools. Guided by industry mentors, students learned about aerodynamics, engineering, and teamwork. The model soared smoothly during its first test flight with students demonstrating great skills controlling the plane. The project has been a brilliant experience for the students involved and we are looking forward to starting the next build in September.

Mrs Davidson and Mrs Dean

Inspiring Girls

Students from Year 11 and Year 12 attended an inspiring girls only electronics event run by the UK Electronic Skills Foundation at Leeds University, aimed at encouraging students to explore careers in electronic engineering and mechatronics. The day featured hands-on workshops programming sensors using an arduino and robot building followed by a sumo robot competition, with students gaining practical experience and confidence in electronics. The event was supported by Leeds university student ambassadors who spoke to students about their experiences studying at university.

Mrs Dean and Miss Lake, Science Department

IRIS Conference

Students from Year 8 and Year 12 recently attended the IRIS Student Conference in Manchester organised by the Institute for Research in Schools. The event provided an opportunity for young researchers to showcase their scientific investigations through academic-style poster presentations. Guided by IRIS ambassadors, students engaged in lively discussions, exchanging insights on topics ranging from environmental monitoring to analysis of CERN data. Alongside presentations, students listened to research presentations from other students and networked with STEM professionals. The students' professionalism and engagement were excellent and the day was a great celebration of their hard work this year.

Mrs Dean, Head of Physics

Biology Students Visit Whitby Marine Discovery Centre

The King's Academy Biology Department recently arranged a snappy and insightful trip to the Whitby Marine Discovery Centre and Lobster Hatchery. Students explored the history of Whitby's fishing industry, learning about its cycles of boom and bust, and discovered how conservation efforts are helping to rebuild sustainable lobster populations.

The hatchery's ambitious goal is to hatch and release 100,000 juvenile lobsters each year — a vital step in replenishing the numbers landed by local fisheries. During the visit, students had the rare opportunity to meet baby lobsters just days old, as well as Melvin, the centre's largest resident lobster, believed to be between 40 and 50 years old.

We look forward to returning in the future to see how their research and conservation work continues to develop. You can find out more (ore even adopt a lobster) by following them using @whitbylobsterhatchery

Mr Wills, Head of Biology

Baby lobster smaller than a finger nail

Meet Melvin the lobster

CCF Camp Lympstone

Several students travelled to the national Royal Marine CCF summer camp. All our cadets represented the school brilliantly throughout the challenging week, learning from serving Commandos various military skills and manoeuvres, including weapons handling and range firing, field cooking, rock climbing, sailing, and bivouac camping. Our week ended with a fun siege where cadets successfully stormed a castle and defeated Mr (Capt.) Uzuh and myself. Well done everyone, and a special shout out to Jack Barnett, who was nominated by Lympstone staff for Best Cadet!

Mr (2 Lt.) Cameron

Duke of Edinburgh

Our Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students joined us in the North York Moors for their Bronze DofE training event, recently in preparation for July's expedition. Students practised their tent-pitching skills before climbing up to 300m to enjoy the sunset over our campsite. After a night in tents, we had a day of navigation training around the footpaths of Old Nunthorpe Village - our groups can now confidently negotiate footpaths and tracks, ready for the independence of their expedition.

The same Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students have successfully completed their overnight camping expedition in the North York Moors! All of our groups showed great resilience hiking through the challenging temperatures, working together to navigate across fields and hills to the campsite (and drinking LOTS of water along the way!). They put their excellent tent-pitching and cooking skills to the test, and showed great teamwork, perseverance and organisation in getting themselves ready the next morning to compete another walk, ending in well-deserved ice lollies courtesy of Mr Reader. Well done all!

Mr King, DofE Coordinator

King's Rewind: A Joyful Celebration of 20 Years of Youth

On Tuesday 15 July, The King's Academy proudly celebrated two decades of The Youth Theatre with *King's Rewind: 20 shows, one stage!* A spectacular evening of performance, nostalgia and community spirit.

Guests were welcomed with refreshments in the Main Hall before heading to the Lecture Theatre for a showcase of highlights from 20 unforgettable productions. Audiences were treated to iconic numbers from shows including *Oliver*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Annie*, *Matilda* and *Sister Act,* brought to life by a talented cast of current students.

A true highlight of the evening was seeing the lasting impact of The Youth Theatre, with video messages from past students now pursuing careers in the arts and beyond.

Special recognition was given to Carey Brownless, for her extraordinary dedication to designing and creating costumes for all 20 productions.

As recognition of this important milestone, The King's Academy Youth Theatre also became official members of NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) and were honoured for 20 years of service to amateur theatre.

King's Rewind was a moving, uplifting tribute to the talent, passion, and teamwork that have shaped the Youth Theatre into the cherished part of school life it is today.

Mr Jones, Head of Drama

DearAlice

This week, the King's Academy was buzzing with excitement as our Music Teacher, Mr Power arranged an unforgettable visit from the rising K-Pop boy band **DearAlice**. The group, who recently starred in a BBC television series documenting their journey in Korea to form a K-Pop band, brought their talent, energy and star power straight to our school.

Performing for students in Years 7, 8 and 9, DearAlice delivered a high-energy set that had the whole hall on their feet. The performance was met with enthusiastic cheers, clapping, singing, and even dancing as students got swept up in the electric atmosphere.

After the show, the band stayed to sign autographs, take selfies, and chat with students, making the experience all the more special and memorable.

A huge thank you to all staff involved for organising such a unique and inspiring event. It's safe to say DearAlice now have a few hundred new fans right here in our school!

Mr Power, Teacher of Music

Year 11 Prom – Wynyard Hall

Huge congratulations and a fond farewell to our Year 11 students, who marked the end of their time at The King's Academy with a series of wonderful celebration events this summer. The highlight was undoubtedly their prom on Tuesday 8 July at Wynyard Hall. Students arrived in style - from extravagant cars to an ice cream van - and enjoyed an evening filled with laughter, dancing, and treasured memories. It was a joy to see so many of our students celebrating together, and we were extremely proud of their maturity and conduct on the evening. We wish them the best as they take their next steps, whether that's joining us in Sixth Form or pursuing new opportunities elsewhere. We look forward to welcoming them back on results day as we celebrate all they have achieved.

Miss Watts, Head of Year

Forbidden Corner

On Tuesday 15 July, ten students visited the Forbidden Corner in the Yorkshire Dales as a reward trip for taking part in the Axiom Maths programme. The students have worked very hard all year, meeting after school to work on puzzles and interesting Maths problems that challenged them to be adventurous and experiment with Maths. This has enabled them to grow as Mathematicians, and visiting the Forbidden Corner allowed them to put their problem-solving skills to the test as they navigated the fantastical labyrinth with a very basic map and locate a variety of key features within a limited time frame. Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the trip, and we look forward to similar reward trips with Axiom next year.

Miss Wilson, Teacher of Maths

Activities Week 2025

During a jam-packed Activities week students had a taste of brand new activities to the line up, such as skiing and tubing, as well as a thrilling trip to the Tees Barrage. We are already planning for 2026 and want to make next year even better.

Mr Belmont, Head of Learning Outside of the Classroom

The Globe Theatre Trip

Forbidden Corner

Bake off

Art and Design

Year 9 Enterprise

Centre For Life

Tees Valley Nature Park

Alnwick Castle

Saltburn

First Aid

Key Dates	
August	
Thursday 14	Year 13 Results Day (8am) UCAS Enrolment
Wednesday 20 - Friday 22	Summer School (9am-3pm)
Thursday 21	Year 11 Results Day (8:30am) Sixth Form Enrolment
September	
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2	Staff Training Days
Wednesday 3	Year 7 and Year 12 Induction Day
Thursday 4	All students return (8.20am)
Thursday 18	Year 11 Revision Evening
October	
Tuesday 7	Exhibition of Student Talent
Thursday 9	Year 6 Open Evening

Hiring our facilities: We are fortunate to have some fantastic sports facilities and pleased to be able to make them available for hire outside of school hours. Bookings are now open to 31 August 2026. For further information, including pricing and availability, and to book please visit our dedicated lettings website.

Uniform for September: The last ordering date to guarantee delivery from our online uniform shop in time for September is Thursday 31 July. To browse items and to buy click HERE.

Increase to school meal prices: Due to continuing increases in food and labour costs, the price of a 2 course meal in our restaurants will increase to £2.75 from 1 September. To ensure your child has sufficient funds on their meals account we recommend topping up weekly via ParentPay.

Household Support Fund: Households with children who meet the free school meals eligibility criteria were automatically sent a £60 voucher per child by Middlesbrough Council, based on schools' records, on 9 July 2025. Please contact the Council should you have any queries.

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