The King's Chronicles

Spring Term 1 2025

Ski Trip 2025, Austria



On Friday 31 January, 40 students and 5 members of staff braved a 24 hour coach journey to beautiful Alpendorf resort in Austria for our annual ski trip. We enjoyed stunning views of mountain scenery and all students made fantastic progress, with everyone able to confidently ski down 'blue' slopes by the end of the week. Some of our groups even progressed to the most difficult level black slopes after developing their skills. Outside of skiing, we experienced the tradition of 'Apres ski', a mountain coaster and 'sledging', which meant the fun didn't stop on the slopes! Staff were particularly impressed with the maturity, resilience and enthusiasm displayed by all students. They were complimented on numerous occasions for their immaculate behaviour and good manners. Well done King's Ski Team 2025!

Miss Hawley and Miss Parkinson; Ski Trip Leaders







Senior Student Leadership Team 2025-26



Zac Fitzhugh (Head Boy), Shauna Shaju (Head Girl), Nada Al Abdi (Deputy Head Girl), Oscar Pearson (Deputy Head Boy)

Following a rigorous and highly competitive process to choose from an extremely high-quality field of applicants, we are delighted to announce the Senior Student Leadership Team for 2025-26.

The shortlisted students bravely put themselves forward to present their interpretation of these leadership roles in front of the assembled sixth form, performing with confidence and insightful analysis of how they could make a positive impact on the wider academy. This was followed by a Principal's Interview, where each contender faced a series of challenging questions about their ideas for the further development of the school and sixth form experience, and their role in it. We were extremely impressed by the thoughtful reflections and suggestions raised by each of the candidates, reflecting the impressive degree of preparation and range of talents on show. We are looking forward to working alongside this fantastic team to build on the legacy left by our outgoing Year 13 Senior Student Leadership Team.

Mr Skerry, Head of Sixth Form

The Talent Foundry





For the last 3 years, students at The King's Academy have been given a fantastic opportunity by The Talent Foundry to look at the opportunities available to them in Middlesbrough, In January, four of our Year 10 students continued this great work and visited Middlesbrough Football Stadium. Students also visited AV Dawson in February and were shown around the site. On the course they are put in situations out of their comfort zone such as introducing themselves to students from other schools and asking professionals about their career choices. Students are given team building tasks and games to test their leadership and delegation skills. Mrs Redhead commented that it was an absolute pleasure to take the students out and see them represent the Academy so well. All five students have shown incredible resilience and courage on both days and we can't wait to see what they achieve on their next part of the course at Teesside University.

Miss Wasden, Head of Year

The visit of King Charles and Queen Camila to Middlesbrough



Six of our Marine cadets were chosen for the fantastic opportunity to go to Middlesbrough to see our King and Queen. We arrived and immediately set up camp at the front of the barriers. After patiently waiting, an almighty cheer rose from the crowd; they had arrived! We were keeping our fingers crossed that we would be spotted, as luck would have it, they saw us and came to speak to us. King Charles and Queen Camilla shook the hands of the cadets, said hello and spoke for a moment or two. This was beyond our wildest dreams and the cadets were very impressed, as were Mr Uzuh and C/Sgt Calvert.

Mrs Scard, Library Specialist





The King's Academy's Combined Cadets' force, CCF gathered once again to celebrate the achievements of its cadets. The cadets once again turned up in immaculate fashion for their parade and awards. Notable mentions go to Michael Briggs, Isaac Hodkinson, Desire Joseph, Corey Swales, Poppi Onenc and Harry White who were all promoted to Lance Corporal. Additionally, Anya Herman and Jack Barnet were promoted from Lance Corporals to Corporals. All cadets also received their certificates for passing their First Aid training. Mr Reader was in attendance to present the awards and badges, and all were thoroughly impressed with the cadets' achievements.

Mr Uzuh, CCF Contingent Commander





Some of our Year 7 students recently visited Middlesbrough Library to see the renovations being undertaken and take part in a workshop with the construction staff. This was part of our work alongside local businesses to improve reading skills. Students thoroughly enjoyed the visit.



Cleveland Schools Cross Country



Meadow McDonald, Hilary Barry, Isla Loughran, Emma Drury, Jack Conwell, Molly Speak and Tom Shields all represented Middlesbrough Schools in the Cleveland Schools Cross Country Competition at Stewart Park in January. The weather built up to the event ensured that conditions were challenging for the runners, however four of our Year 10 GCSE PE students (Lillia Stott, Isabelle Corbyn, Theo Bailey Saunders and Jesse Athekame) attended as sport leaders to ensure the event ran as smoothly as possible.

Mr Lynch, Head of PE

Year 12 visit Newcastle Uni

The Year 12 history students had a taste of university life this week at Newcastle University. We were located in the prestigious Armstrong Building, the hall where Martin Luther King received his honorary doctorate. Students attended a series of lectures and took part in seminars discussing the role of popular rebellion in the Tudor and Stuart Eras. Students had the opportunity to engage with leading academics and then did their own research through the analysis of print culture. This tied in well with their Tudor module as part of the history A Level where students have been discussion the impact of the Reformation on the ordinary people of England. All students were fantastic ambassadors for The King's Academy!

Miss Flint, History Department







***Democracy v Dictatorship* - The Big Debate**

On Tuesday 21 January, Year 12 and Year 13 engaged in an inter-year debate regarding which system of governing works best, with Year 12 keenly representing democracy and Year 13 courageously representing dictatorship. Both sides presented their arguments through opening and closing statements, well-researched main points, and challenging cross questions. The floor was even opened for the penultimate round, allowing the audience to question each side, which provided an overall engaging experience for the whole Sixth Form. As a Year 12 student who argued for democracy, it was certainly both an enlightening and daring experience participating in a debate against a team of Year 13s in front of the rest of our cohort. With much effort put into preparation and delivery, from both myself and my team, our eventual victory proved an encouraging display of hard work and determination. *Nada Al Abdi, 12Dargue*

A visit to Teesside University

On 17 December, a group of the most talented Mathematicians in Years 10 and 11 visited Teesside University for an afternoon of lectures. They enjoyed the main lecture on the Mathematics of Juggling, which included lots of impressive visual demonstrations. This was followed by several talks about careers in Maths from a variety of people working in a range of areas such as Engineering and the Civil Service. Students finished the afternoon by learning a mathematical card trick to try with their friends and family. The students were a credit to the school, and they thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.



Miss Wilson, Maths Department



The Great King's Bake Off

In the food technology department, we have been busy with our annual Great King's Bake off competition and there have been some very strong, talented bakers this year. The task was to work in their year group house teams (Romans, Hebrews, Greeks and Medes) to make and decorate 6 cupcakes to be judged on their taste and decoration. The competition took place over 6 evenings after school, so thankyou to all of the amazing students from each year group including sixth form, who gave up their time to represent their houses.

The scores have been collected, and we are pleased to share the results. In first place: Romans with 23 points, second place Medes with 20 points, third Greeks with 15 points and Medes in fourth with 8 points. A special mention to Rayan Sadiq who brought in extra ingredients to temper and mould chocolate domes and created his own Romans shape cutter!







Mrs Trotter, Food Technology Department

Key Dates	
March	
Monday 3	School reopens 8:20am
Thursday 6	World Book Day Year 9 Immunisations
Friday 7	Careers Day
Mon 10 - Fri 14	Year 9 Rehearsal Examinations
Mon 24 - Fri 4	Year 10 Rehearsal Examinations
April	
Wednesday 2	Year 9 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)
Wednesday 9	Spring Concert
Friday 11	Last day of term

Message to Year 11 students

Applications for Sixth Form are still available.

You can find the page from the web-site here [The King's Academy Sixth Form Application | The King's Academy - Sixth Form]

Pre-loved uniform: We held our first pre-loved uniform sale last night at the Year 8 Parents' Evening. It was a great success with many parents taking advantage of the pre-loved prices. We hope to repeat this opportunity at the Year 9 Parents' Evening in April. In the meantime, if you have items of uniform in good condition that you wish to donate please feel free to call in and hand to reception.

Traffic management: Please can we remind parents and carers NOT to use the turning circle for drop off and collection of students at the start and end of the day unless they have specifically been provided with a pass by the Academy. This is to ensure that our SEND students with mobility needs can arrive at and depart from school safely.

Meals accounts: Please can we remind parents and carers to always top up their child's meals accounts in advance. The price of a 2-course meal is £2.60 so we suggest adding £13 a week in advance. If the account falls into overdraft you will be asked to send your child to school with a packed lunch until a positive balance is restored.

Chocolate Tub recycling for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to everyone who dropped off their empty chocolate tubs to reception. We manage to collect over 300 tubs to support this worthy charity. Well done.



Did you know you can stay up-to-date with all the latest news and events by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and X? From celebrating attendance achievements to sharing sports updates and important dates, you'll find it all! Follow us @KingsAcademyESF.

Follow us on...

@KingsAcademyESF

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