

Spring Newsletter



**KING EDWARD VI
LORDSWOOD
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

Educational excellence for our City

King Edward VI Lordswood School For Girls

Letter From Our Headteacher

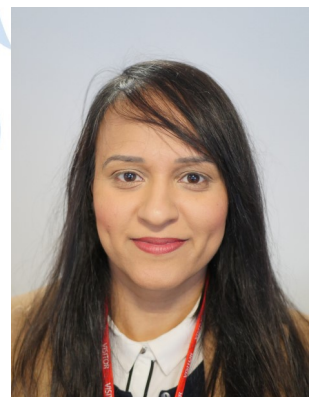
Spring is such a beautiful time of year. I love seeing the daffodils growing, the blossom appearing on trees, the lighter mornings...everything feels so positive. Life in a school mirrors nature at this time of year. Students really start to blossom in the Spring term. The new year 7s are no longer new to the school and as such, their personalities really start to bloom during the spring term. The year 11 and year 13 students always seem to mature so much in the spring term as they approach their GCSE and A-level examinations. The year 9s seem to change from being children, and develop into young adults - ready for the challenge of their GCSEs. It is such a privilege to be able to witness these changes.

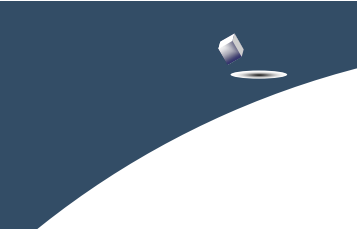
As a headteacher, spring is also the time when you reflect on the progress the school has made; as you start to plan for the next academic year. In preparation for writing the new school development plan, we spend a lot of time looking at student, parent and teacher feedback. It is very rewarding to have received some delightful feedback on some of the changes that have been made - especially relating to the information shared via classcharts and changes to the rewards and recognition that we give students. We will continue to use this feedback to make further improvements to the school - so please keep communicating with us, it really does make a difference.



Meet a Governor

My name is Aneeta Raindi. I am a Senior Partnership Manager for Pearson Edexcel. My role involves supporting senior leaders in schools and trusts across the Midlands to ensure they are delivering qualifications best suited to their learners and local setting. I am local to the area and attended Lordswood School for Girls in my early secondary school life, before going on to study Psychology BSc (hons) at the University of Birmingham. This is my first governor role and I'm delighted to be part of the school community. I use my knowledge of the education landscape to support curriculum decisions, but also to champion the school to be ready, respectful, and resilient. I am Link Governor for Sixth Form.





'Ready' for the future - values day 2024

We have been busy this term preparing for our 3rd 'Ready' Values Day which has focused upon ensuring that students are for life after KEVI LSG. This took place on Wednesday 24th January. Thank you to all the providers who attended offering support, guidance and advice to all students in relation to their next steps. Providers gave talks about their careers and provided guidance on the various different routes into

their industries. Visitors supported our Year 10 with Mock Interviews and all students visited a Careers Fair which was attended by universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers. We also welcomed back many alumni who provided students with their success. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time and supported the day so well.



We welcomed the Royal Air Force to our Careers Fair which the whole school attended throughout the day



We welcomed back many alumni who shared their advice and guidance to the sixth form.



Taira Kauser from the Crown Prosecution Service gave a talk to Year 10 about her career.



Detective Sergeant Pullinger talked to students about life in the police force and gave students various scenarios to investigate.



Mrs Cooney, Mr Lovejoy, Mrs Dodd and Mr Fox were real life 'Dragons' in Year 13's Dragons Den challenge. But did they invest?

"As a Career Champion, I love to inspire people and share ideas. Careers are very important and should be talked about! In our Careers Champion meetings, we discuss ideas and create things such as posters, bulletins and sharing ideas. For me, Career Values Day was about spreading ideas and careers awareness across all years. I was very glad to help out during the day and it really motivated me, students and the other Career Champions to look at what was happening and the wide variations of job types."

Gianna



School Council update

As Head and Deputy Head students, we meet up with the school council representatives once a week, following a rota which alternates between the different key stages. School council representatives are able to give feedback on anything their form groups have issues with or want to gain clarity on. From the beginning of September, many of the student body's interests have been accomplished. This includes a repeat of the successful diversity celebration day that occurred last year,

the purchasing of sport equipment for play/lunch time, introduction of a badminton sports club and sharing of the lunch rota so the students know which order they are going in for lunch. Clocks have been installed in classrooms where they were missing and the school council has aided the introduction of the new wifi system and cashless payment system in the sixth form centre. The weekly meetings held every Tuesday provide a safe haven where students of all age groups can come

to express their views, as well as, the views of their peers to ensure a cohesive environment at Lordswood. Over the last term, we have truly come to understand the issues that each year group has and we will continue to ensure that the voices of students are heard.

Jeya, Head student, Shimah and Malaika, Deputy Head students



London residential 1st to 2nd February

Year 10 and 11 students had an amazing time in London on the 1st and 2nd February. They loved seeing the West End performance of Matilda, with the bonus of taking part in a workshop based on the show and getting to ask lots of questions to one of the actors. The National Theatre tour didn't disappoint either giving students a real insight into the many careers in theatre.



Students reflect on their recent experiences on their Drama trip to London.

"I really enjoyed the London Trip as I felt that it really helped me academically as well as being an amazing experience. I feel as if the Matilda workshop helped me to fully understand the characters due to the script work we completed and it helped to develop my friendships as a lot of trust exercises were used at the start of the session to help us relax within the group. The aim of this was to ensure that we were able to act to the best of our abilities. We were all so

grateful to have the opportunity to see Matilda the Musical. I feel as if it was a great show which had many outstanding elements to it such as clever minimalistic set and incredible atmospheric lighting. It was an exciting show and has given us plenty to talk about when it comes to our exams!"

Jess B Year 10



"I had the best time in London, one of the reasons is because it was very well planned with the activities which kept us all busy and active throughout the days. From the moment we arrived till the moment we left, all the staff on the trip did not fail to entertain us. Watching 'Matilda the Musical' was an experience of a lifetime for me as I got to see many of the drama techniques we have talked about in class brought to life onstage. Shopping was one of my highlights of the

trip as the teachers trusted us to explore the Covent Gardens for a set period of time with our friends. Even while at the museum our teachers set us a scavenger hunt with the winning group to be awarded a prize at the end. The workshop based on the show we watched the night before was really great because we had drama, art and music students coming together working on a scene from Matilda which helped us all explore the different characters. It was

also fun because we got to work with a swing from the cast of Matilda, asking questions and furthering our knowledge. Although this was all fun, my favourite part of the trip was the coach ride back home because we were playing music through the speakers and just singing along with my friends was a time that I will never forget as it brought everyone together in positive way."

Breanna M Year 11



RE - Philosothon Trip.

On the 1st of March 11 pupils visited KEHS to compete in the Philosothon, a globally established competition focusing on philosophical debate. Our students from Years 9-13 participated in communities of inquiry where they discussed the ethics involved with social issues such as AI in the education sector, the accountability of purchasing from fast-fashion brands, and the limits of reproductive autonomy for celebrity geriatric parents such as Al Pacino and Robert De Niro. Our students were absolutely fabulous and were exemplary representatives of Lordswood. They engaged with others in a collaborative and critical manner. Oreoluwa in Year 11 won best participant across her year group. Some students' testimonies can be found below.

"It was a good opportunity to display my skills against other schools and also to network and establish connections with other like-minded individuals."
Haris, Year 13

"I thought the Philosothon was amazing! Everyone was ever so nice and the discussions we had were enlightening. It was nice to debate with people I never spoke to because I got to hear and see different perspectives other than my own. The food was delicious as well and overall I had a great time." Grace, Year 12

"I enjoyed participating in the Philosothon as it was really interesting to discuss the case studies we were given and learn to put across my viewpoint in an articulate way. It helped me improve my ability to research and analyse the case studies and listen and think critically" Ore, Year 11.



"I found the Philosothon to be a good experience for me to step out of my comfort zone and challenge my critical thinking. Additionally, the ethical and philosophical topics explored within the case studies were fun to interpret and discuss with others. Listening to their perspectives was really interesting as points were compared and contrasted and developed (etc), so as nerve-racking as it was at first, I enjoyed the experience" Amarise, Year 11



Reading Buddies

As 'Ready Ambassadors' we were assigned the role of overseeing the year 10 reading buddies alongside Mrs Peniket. This term, we have been meeting with some year 7 students every Tuesday to provide support to help them with their reading. By actively interacting with the year 7 and discussing the text that they are reading, we have helped them develop their reading skills which will ultimately prepare them to excel in

their future education. Since September we have seen the pupils make great improvements in their reading; as they are confidently able to analyse the text without our contribution. The students' improvement has made this leadership opportunity a rewarding experience for us. A big thanks goes to all the Reading Buddies and the year 7 students they have been

working with. Keep up the great work!

Aleema and Grace, Year 12
Ready Value Ambassadors.



The Rights Respecting Team



What a busy month it has been. We are a "Silver - Rights Aware" school, an accolade awarded by UNICEF for our efforts to include the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into all aspects of school life. As such the team have been busy creating the 'Article of the Month' PowerPoints and posters. Form tutors are playing their part in sharing an understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and several

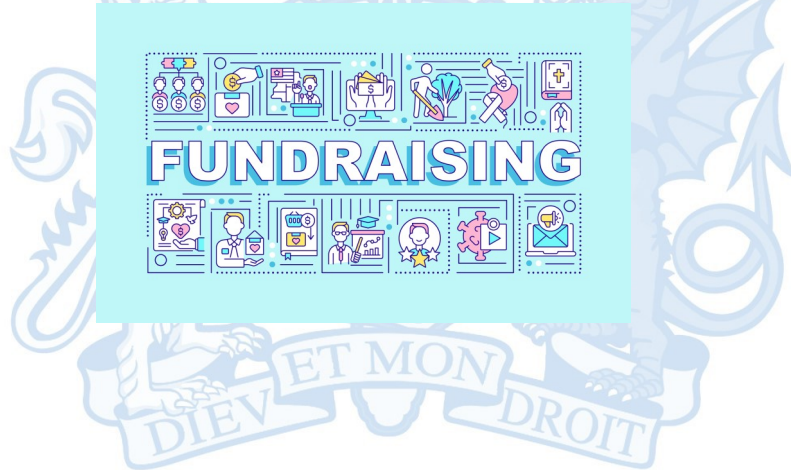
of the fifty four articles have been shared with students in form time. Alongside this, year 7s have written articles on the plight of children around the world for the Loudspeaker magazine

Year 8 members of the team have created an engaging PowerPoint on dealing with hate crime that was included in the Values PSHCE day on Tuesday 19th March and they visited classes on the day to explain their role and the relevance of the UNCRC.

Exciting plans are afoot to organise another football match in the Summer term, so that staff can showcase the hours of practice since last year's interesting results. The match will be staff v sixth form students during a week of charity events in June. I would like to thank the team for all that they do and continue to do in order to promote the rights of children in both the UK and the wider world.
Mrs K. Hartland
Rights Respecting co-ordinator

Charity and fundraising

There have been 2 fundraising events this term. On Friday 9th February, students wore yellow to show their support for the charity 'Young minds' as part of children's mental health week. Staff and students raised £190. Then on 15th March, Lordswood held another fundraising event, this time for Comic Relief. The students raised money by wearing non-uniform for a donation of £1. Lordswood raised £191, which will go towards some incredible projects making a change to people's lives across the UK and around the world. So the total amount of money raised this term by the Lordswood community is £381. Thank you all so much for your generosity.



The Prefect Team

The prefect team this spring term have made immense progress towards raising money for their prom in the summer. On Valentines day, the prefect team successfully ran two activities. The activities included a chance to win a teddy bear. Another was to see who could guess on how many sweets were in a jar. They have also done a Easter raffle which was a huge success. Lots of people contributed to it thank you to all involved. We have new ideas from our prefects to help raise money for the prom. The prefect team have also helped at events such as running parent' evening, open days, guiding visitors around our school, and plenty more.

They also continue to show a good example for the whole school and complete their prefect duties by taking roles to help out in the canteen and outside during break and lunch times. A big thank you goes to all the Year 11 students in the Prefect Team for the amazing job you are all doing.

Maziar and Jaismeen, Year 12 Ready Value Ambassadors



Maths

I would like to start by saying well done to all the girls who have participated in extra-curricular maths this term and a huge thank you to all the staff who have contributed to the organisation of these opportunities. Lunchtime maths club continues to be very popular with all year groups, with many students choosing to take this opportunity to get help with their homework, receive feedback on exams, or simply to complete some independent maths revision.

On Tuesday 12th March a team of eight year 10 students travelled to KEVI Aston to compete in this year's Maths Feast Competition. Maths Feast is a fun educational challenge, organised by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme, which tests problem-solving and teamwork skills. Thank you to Mrs Yousuf for organising our participation in this competition.

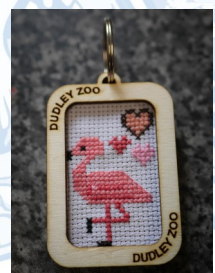
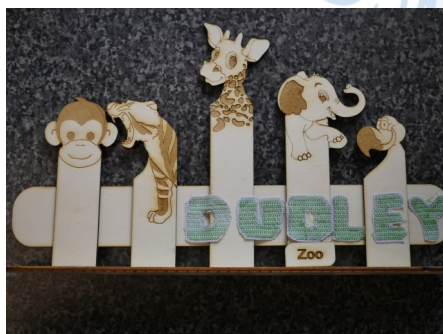
We would also like to say a huge well done to the year 11s in their recent second round of mock exams. As always the students worked very hard in the build up to the exams, which has resulted in some excellent mock grades. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all students of the extra support that we offer within the maths department in preparation for final end of year exams:

- All students are able to attend mathematics lunch club every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This is run as a drop in session and students are encouraged to bring work or revision they find difficult and speak to a member of staff regarding this.
- All year 11 students receive exam analysis following every assessment which pinpoints the topics the students should prioritise.
- All students have access to the maths department's Google classroom (access code: w2p2drd). We have provided links to recommended documents, videos and websites to aid independent study.
- All year 11 students have access to MathsWatch, which allows students to complete past papers online and receive instant feedback.

Design Technology

KS3 students have been working incredibly hard this term to design and make their Dudley Zoo gift shop products out of laser plywood and aida. Ideas have ranged from bookmarks to doorsigns and keyrings to dream catchers! They have been applying their skills in computer aided design in order for their laser plywood gift to be made on the laser cutter. They have also been utilising their hand embroidery and machine sewing skills to make their aida gift.

KS3 students will, this term, be starting to study the food element of the DT, so watch out for ingredients lists making their



way home to you! We have some fantastic dishes planned for your child to make.

Year 10 students have been working very hard as they have been busy completing the controlled assessment element of the Hospitality and catering GCSE. The task consists of planning and cooking two dishes, for two different clients. The results have been fantastic. Well done girls'!

Year 11 students have been busy revising and sat the written examination element for the hospitality and catering GCSE in January. Results will be released soon and I am sure they have smashed it! Great work!



Graduate Fashion Show Entries

Your identity is what makes you unique. The Graduate Fashion Foundation have run a competition 'The Young Talent of tomorrow'. The students at KEVI LSG designed an outfit that celebrates their identity. They had to create designs and moodboards exploring the area of identity they chose. Students were able to use a variety of colours, shapes, patterns, detail, fabric when designing their designs. If one of their designs are chosen it will be showcased at the Graduate Fashion Show Week in London. The designs from the following students are below;

Simrit Kaur 9D
Daniella Christopher 8S
Amrit Sahota 9G



Business Studies

Money Money Money

The Year 11s and Year 12 students had their heads deep in finance this term. Whilst we all love money, the students have been calculating profit margins, average rate of return, cash flow forecasts and drawing break-even charts. It's been challenging with the numerous calculations!

The finance elements of business will encourage students to think about their own personal finances and illustrate the risk and rewards available from becoming an entrepreneur.

You're hired!

Year 13 business students have role played being an interviewer and interviewee this half term.

Students were asked to apply for jobs, create CVs, letters of application and then take on the role to become the employer for one of their peers!

Lots of giggles, acting, positive feedback on top of a very well presented bunch of candidates who will hopefully have amazing careers when they leave Lordwood.

African-Caribbean Society Conference 2024.



“On Friday 23rd February 2024, Equality , Diversity and Inclusion committee members were invited to attend an African-Caribbean Conference, which took place at King Edward’s School for Boys. The students took part in a number of workshops and also got the opportunity to pose questions to a panel of guest speakers, which included England Netballer; Hannah Joseph and The Right Honourable Stuart Lawrence, who is a consultant, youth engagement specialist, coach and public speaker.”

Mrs Uffindall

“The ACS conference was an insightful event , highlighting and celebrating the successes of people from African and Caribbean descent across different fields such as art, government and sport . It demonstrated the perseverance and resilience of these individuals despite their struggles to fit in and facing discrimination. It also called to attention the struggles minorities in school faced across the King Edward’s Foundation during the discussion activities throughout the day. Overall it was an inspiring day.”
Ore, Year 11

“The ACS Conference was an enlightening experience that offered a detailed insight into the struggles of minorities within the schools and even at the workplace, highlighting phenomena such as micro aggressions, code switching etc, shedding light on how people from various ethnic backgrounds have had to adapt to fit into society. Following on from this, we were given the opportunity to converse with fellow students as well as known figures on how to shape a future that offers an inclusive environment, eliminating struggles within the personal lives of individuals and the anxiety of fitting in as a result of the feeling of ‘otherness.’”
Noor, Year 13

Language Ambassadors



The Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) department is thrilled to announce the recruitment of 20 enthusiastic Language Ambassadors. These ambassadors have hit the ground running. They have assisted the department by distributing cultural calendars to all Key Stage 3 form classes. Additionally, they have received training on teaching vocabulary to Year 7 students. After the Easter holidays, these ambassadors will begin conducting lunchtime sessions where they will

impart their language skills to the Year 7 students. This initiative aims to foster a love for languages and promote cultural awareness among our younger students.



HT Question Time.

Two Headteacher’s Question time sessions have taken place this term, in January and March. Students are requested to submit a question that they wish to ask the headteacher, Mrs Cooney, and are then invited to the Question Time session. Students from across all year groups have taken part this term and the questions asked have been very varied and

thoughtful. They included this time; support that the school provides for students who struggle with meeting deadlines, what has the school done to be more eco friendly and how does the school promote extra curricular clubs. If you would like more information on the answers to these questions, the minutes from the HT Question Time can be found on

the school website.
[Click here for minutes](#)

Thank you to all students who took part. There will be more question time sessions next term.



Peer mentors

This term, peer mentors have met with their mentees every Friday during registration. The peer mentors have had the opportunity to discuss and address any difficulties that year 7 mentees have been facing. They have also discussed ways in which mentors can help year 7 students to be resilient, respectful and ready. Through these discussions, we have been able to address issues such as homework organisation and friendship issues and create plans of action in order to tackle these effectively.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the Peer Mentors and the year 7 mentees for all their hard work this term.

Maya and Varshni, Year 12 'Resilient Value Ambassadors'.

Together, we thrive and add value to the world
BE READY ✓ **BE RESPECTFUL** ♥ **BE RESILIENT** 🏠

Eco/Sustainability committee

The Eco/sustainability group invites you to browse and try meat free recipes. They have created their first edition of their cookbook containing 10 simple and delicious recipes for the Lordswood Community to try.

cluded in our first edition are some facts and figures to help you make the right choices. Enjoy. You can find the Recipe Book [Here](#)



We are encouraging everyone to reduce their meat intake (not necessarily to become vegan), in-

Climate change within the UK

Year 13 created a presentation to inform people on climate change within the UK, Shown to Year 12 forms and educating students on key legislation such as the Climate Change Act 2008 and evaluating how well the UK is doing in tackling climate change currently, as well as how responsible they are for the current atmosphere within the UK on climate change.

The Big Plastic Count

Our Lordswood Community, supported awareness of plastic usage and tallied their own personal usage of plastic to contribute to a national count where data will be used to tackle issues surrounding plastic waste and recycling.

Thank you to all who contributed to the data capture.



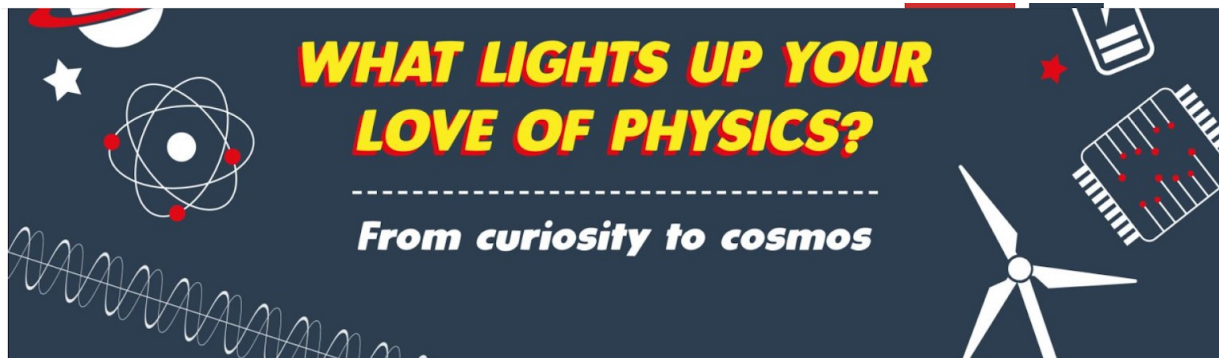
The UK Government needs to push for a strong and ambitious Global Plastics Treaty. The treaty needs to include an end to plastic pollution, a phase-out of new plastic production, and ensure a just and inclusive transition to a low-carbon, zero-waste, reuse-based economy.

LET'S INVESTIGATE TO STOP THE PLASTIC CRISIS

Nearly 100 billion pieces of plastic packaging are thrown away by UK households every year, and just 12% is recycled in the UK.

It's time the government got serious about tackling the plastic crisis. You can help by taking part in The Big Plastic Count!

Year 12



This term some of our A-level physics students entered a competition run by Physics Partners, creating a short video about what lights up their love of physics in an attempt to win some fantastic prizes for themselves and for the school.

"I always wonder how my future is going to be. Is there a way to go back into the past to change things to the way I want it to be? Well, what is Time? Is it something that physically exists, or is it simply in our heads? Einstein's theory appeared to ensure that time is woven into every fabric of the universe. Is time travel possible? Yes, and you're doing it right now — hurtling into the future at the impressive rate of one second per second." – This is just a snippet from our video. We really enjoyed researching about time travel and producing a video to try to get others passionate about the subject too.

We are still waiting for the results from the competition – keep your fingers crossed!" – Varshni Ganesh & Hiral Dudhiya

