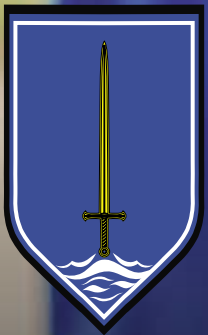




King Arthur's

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

Ski Trip
Sporting Success
Farewell to Year 11



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School

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SAST
SCHOOLS ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER

Welcome

Following what has started as one of the hottest of summers, it seems almost impossible that we are now at the end of another academic year. King Arthur’s has been its usual busy self, with a wide array of trips, visits, and activities taking place. Students have been succeeding both academically and by taking full advantage of our wider curriculum offer.

Whilst there is a sense of sadness at the departure of our Year 11s, the tangible excitement about their future choices features heavily as the term draws to a close. Students have worked very hard in preparation for their exams and our invigilators reported that their attitude was exemplary, matching their commitment to their own success.

It goes without saying that our Year 11s will be greatly missed and that their awesome contribution to our school will not be forgotten. What must be noted is that we are all excited to hear of their next adventures and welcome news of how their futures unfold. As you’ll see from the story of our prom, students and staff held our celebration for Year 11 at Wincanton Racecourse, once again. There were some fabulous outfits and the employment of some impressive transportation options! This year, we even had a full motorbike convoy to drop the lovely Megan C off in style. Many congratulations to our crowned prom superstars for 2023. Aliyah R and Mason O-T did the team proud!

Our extensive ASPIRE programme has seen us travel far and wide again this year. We have been thrilled to visit several theatres to experience a variety of Shakespeare’s plays, and some more modern classics like Malorie Blackman’s, Noughts and Crosses. At half term we wished our Berlin trip 'sichere Reise' (safe journey), as our budding historians took to exploring the city and its sights in detail. At Easter, students and staff enjoyed their ski trip to Italy. Everyone had a wonderful trip and even though a lack of snow brought about a last-minute change, lots of fun and much learning took place. Year 10 have found themselves on many academic trips, such as a fieldwork trip to Lyme Regis, and an exploration of Shepton Mallet Prison. The lower school have also enjoyed wide-ranging trips both near and far. With too many to mention here, our only hope is that they have all enjoyed and enhanced their learning. We know that it brings us all great joy to see the students have a chance to apply their theoretical study in real situations.

I know you will enjoy reading through the newsletter and seeing all that has been achieved and accomplished this term. We are pleased and proud that at King Arthur’s, we can offer such a diverse curriculum offer. The successful mix of in class and out of class school experiences, ensures our students can develop their wider world view and knowledge.

As you will read, we have thrown our all into a variety of sports fixtures against other schools. We have been very pleased to have our local primary schools up to school for the Sports Link festivals and many sporting events across the year. We also loved hosting Sports Days for both Wincanton Primary School and Our Ladies School again this summer.

We are once again at the point in the year when we invite all our new Year 7s in for their induction day. Whilst it seems

unreal that our current Year 7s have already been with us for a year, we are excited to welcome the new members of the KA team for September. We have planned a wonderful day for this coming week and look forward to once again meeting parents and students in their induction evening, which follows.

Another sad duty is to bid farewell to those staff who are also off to pastures new. We are so proud of our leavers, who all move on to either promotions or adventures that will take them on the next steps of their career. Our leavers this year are as follows:

Miss McDonald is leaving to relocate to the coast, and we are excited to hear about her adventures in a new county. We know that with her Duke of Edinburgh skills she will make it safely to her new school in Bournemouth. We are extremely grateful for not only her excellent teaching but also her hard work in supporting so many students to D of E success – thank you, Miss M! Miss Harvey leaves us to take up a post at Sherborne Girls’ School. She is excited to move on to a position that will see her able to teach post-16 learners. We will miss her caring, compassionate support and striving for the success of all in her care. Mr Grace is relocating to teach History in his new school in Andover. We are so grateful to Mr Grace who, across his two years, has redesigned our R.E. curriculum provision and brought a willingness to take all opportunities in his stride. We will miss his dedication and commitment. Mr Brooks has only been with us for a short time, but what a difference he has made! Whilst we are very sad to lose him to yet another relocation and new county, we know that the Tedd Wragg Trust are very lucky to have Mr Brooks join them. He has made such a great impression on us all, and especially our provision in maths. Mr Golden will be sorely missed by the KA team. Not only is he a man for all occasions in his role as Cover Supervisor, but Mr Golden is always the first person to volunteer in supporting with anything he can. As he moves on to his promotion in the independent sector, we wish Mr Golden and his family well in their relocation; Wincanton won’t be the same without you! Mrs Budd leaves for a promotion and will take up post as a Director of Music at a Wiltshire school. We are very sad to lose Mrs Budd to relocation, and despite her short time with us, know just how much impact she has made this year for our students.

To each staff leaver, we offer our huge thanks and admiration for the commitment and support of our mission. You will all be missed and placed very fondly in our KAS hall of fame. We look forward to hearing about all your future adventures.

My final wish for all is a safe, happy but adventuresome summer. We wish you all well for the summer holidays and would ask that you take note of the important end of term letter.

Mrs. Jen Jacklin

Year 10 Humanities Trips: Shepton Mallet Prison and Lyme Regis



Year Ten undertook two trips linked with their GCSE courses this term, one to the enclosed walls of Shepton Mallet prison, where they discovered how the site had changed since it was first created in 1625. The second, to the stony beaches of Lyme Regis to undertake part in one of their research units in preparation for their GCSEs.

Shepton Mallet Prison stands within the town, and served as Britain’s oldest operating prison until it closed in 2013 ending its life as a category C prison. However, over its time it has held notorious prisoners, including Ronnie and Reggie Kray, and has seen the execution of many others, including 7 who remain unnamed on the site, buried under the concrete of the courtyard.

Students experienced a tour of the site, learning about its history changed and how as part of the Bloody Code, many prisoners were brought to Shepton Mallet to be housed, punished, and executed for their crimes. They were also introduced to different methods of corporal punishment used, including the treadmill, in which men would be forced to rotate on what looks like a hamster wheel for up to 10 hours a day, surviving on nothing but gruel. They also saw the rooms in which they were forced to pick apart ropes for the valuable okra inside them. This helped them to understand how prisons were seen as places to correct individuals through pain, not understanding as they are today, showing the changes in practice over time. The students also learned of the site’s history during the wars, in which the site was used by the US armed forces- and learning of some who never left after the war was over- haunting the rooms to this very day! However, they also saw how the site has been modernised. Shepton Mallet has recently been turned into a local film attraction, seeing the stars of Paddington Two use their dancing shoes to show a more positive side to prison life, and David Tennent wandered the halls in the recent ITV drama Des.

Students also undertook a live debate looking at a real case that saw Henry (Harry) Dainton, aged 35, who was hung inside the walls of the prison for the murder of his wife. Students were presented with the evidence on the case and asked to not only decide on whether he was innocent or guilty but pull on their knowledge from their history and PSHRSE lessons to debate whether the death penalty should ever be considered the correct

punishment. Our students showed great empathy and understanding for all sides, debating the pros and cons of this punishment- strengthening their justification skills in preparation for their GCSEs next summer.

The following week, students headed to Monmouth Beach at Lyme Regis to study the beach profiles. As part of their GCSE course, students are expected to take part in their own research projects, one to the coast, the other to the city of Bristol as part of their regeneration module. Arriving on a slightly cloudy day, our students spread themselves across the beach in small groups measuring the incline changes distances and degrees of change as they moved up the beach front. They also took samples of rocks, measuring their size and shape to prove the impacts of longshore drift.

Many students were also fascinated by the minute details they could find along the beach, with many desperately searching for fossils buried within the grey rocks that scattered their paths. After our lunch on the Cobb, and an encounter with an overly friendly seagull, our students made their way back through the town ready to use their data in their upcoming lessons and bring back some fond memories.

Both trips embedded the learning done in class, adding practical experiences to the students minds, ready for their final year and the final countdown.



4. SCIENCE

Coronation Crystals!

In celebration of the coronation of King Charles III, King Arthur’s School celebrated in the Science department by growing their own special coronation crystals.

Red, white and blue were the colours of the hour as all of KS3 used their scientific knowhow to manufacture some beautiful crystals in a whole range of shapes and patterns. They also took the opportunity to design their own crown, suitable for their freshly made crystal to sit atop and gasped in awe over the amazing statistic behind the crown jewels as they learnt interesting facts and figures.

A large number of the crystals seeded successfully, and they hung proudly in the science lab windows, catching the light and ushering in a wonderful time of festivity.



Science Club

This term students have enjoyed building and testing different kinds of rockets (air rockets and water rockets). We were all amazed at how fast and how high these rockets would go particularly with the right volume of water, one of them landing on the roof of the sport centre!

There have been many highlights in science club this year and we are currently putting a programme together ready for the first term of the next academic year!

Science Fair

Mrs Huggins was thrilled to be invited in to Horsington Primary School by Ms Branson as part of their British Science Week celebrations. Students across EYFS/KS1 and KS2 were set the task of completing an extended science project at home before February half term. Mrs Huggins was the guest judge, speaking to all of the students individually about their projects, seeing the amazing displays and making a judgement across three areas: science content, communication, and presentation. It was a really tough competition for Mrs Huggins to judge, such was the quality of the entries and the enthusiasm for the science that the students had completed.

The entries ranged from edible crystals to erupting volcanoes (one practical experiment took place during the judging!), from investigations into parachutes to information on supporting endangered species. Winners were selected from each key stage and prizes were awarded to many of the students. Ms Branson and the Horsington Primary team are rightly very proud by both the number of entries to the competition as well as the high quality. We definitely look forward to working with the school more in the future and seeing the students continuing to progress, hopefully as KA students of the future!



IT

Year 7 have been developing their programming skills with Microsoft’s Small Basic program. The bright format offers the students the chance to program in a formal style with the backup of the Microsoft assist. Key programming formats, terms and skills are learnt which act as a springboard for all the upcoming computer languages and structures.



Year 8 have been learning the basics of HTML and CSS programming. The code, that is the structure of every website today, is important to understanding the framework of web page coding and how it all works. Recently they have been delving into how web crawlers work and what role HTML plays in making your page stand out.

Year 9 have been delving into Photoshop and Inkscape. A Raster and Vector program, respectively, these offer students a gateway into understanding the two primary graphical formats used in the creative industry. Photoshop is a well-known and trusted Raster image editing program that can be mastered and used effectively to produce quality pictures with annotations. Inkscape is a Vector program that can create fabulous logos and designs that are used daily in the graphic design industry.

Year 10 have completed their first assignment and produced logos and artwork for a company in the metaverse. The next project is currently being developed with the use of web authoring software (rocket cake) where they will produce an interactive multimedia project for a specified brief. This will involve the use of video and audio alongside skills attained in Photoshop and Inkscape to produce a quality final presentation.

3D DESIGN



In Year 9 at the moment, pupils are creating fantastic desk tidies. They need to think of a use for their desk tidies, whether it is stationery, jewellery or even pet maintenance. After thoroughly designing their ideas, they are now into the construction phase and using a variety of tools including try-squares, metal rules and other equipment. They need to work as accurately as possible to produce a good quality finish. The next stage is to add colours and varnishes.

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

It has been a very busy and creative year for our students. Across all year groups, students have completed a variety of creative projects and, as always, created inspirational and original artwork. Students researched and developed ideas from international artists and photographers and built their cultural capital.

To highlight a few projects:

Year 7 students looked at African Art and learned about colour theory. They also created very successful self-portraits in a Pop Art style. They were very proud of these and were very keen to share and talk about their work with their class. This enables them to build their confidence and have pride in their own work.

Year 8 students further developed their skills in tonal drawing and painting and learned many different techniques when using oils pastels, pencil and pen. They discovered inspirational elements of pen and wash technique too.

Year 9 created meaningful and personal layered pieces, which encouraged students to convey visually powerful messages and express their thoughts. They also enjoyed creating a distorted portrait of their role models.

Year 10 groups, both Art and Photography, worked relentlessly on building their portfolio of work and learning new skills. They stood up to the challenge of PPEs well, these achievements should be encouraging them to sustain these fabulous efforts.



Year 11 Art and Photography students worked tirelessly to meet their deadline to submit their comprehensive portfolio and created outstanding pieces of art in their exam. Well done guys and good luck for results day and your next steps.

Thales Partnership

This year we have been lucky enough to have an amazing partnership programme run by Thales and International Business who have a major centre in Templecombe. They have been running various workshops over the year including a Mock Apprenticeship Interview day for Year 11s, programming robots for Year 7s and a Cyber Forensics workshop for Year 9.

We have been busy planning the programme for their workshops for the 2023-24 academic year and this is even more exciting than before. Each year group will benefit from their input with more mock workshops and interviews for KS4 and robotics and cyber workshops planned for the lower school. We are very lucky to be involved with Thales as a partnership school and have several students looking forward to a work experience week in July.



GKN Visit

Four Year 7 pupils had a great opportunity to visit GKN, a very large aerospace engineering company with a Global Technology Centre in Bristol. The four pupils – Malachy, Harry, Verity and Lily – won a competition and were invited to tour this cutting-edge industry and took part in further competitions. The four pupils learnt about flight and were tested on their new knowledge by creating their own planes. Verity won a trophy for the best design! The pupils also toured the site looking at new materials and modern processes. Well done all round!

FRIDAY CAKES

Every Friday staff at King Arthurs enjoy home baking, and other sweet treats at breaktime, and in turn donate to charity. This year they have raised £163.86 which was donated to the Pink Ribbon Foundation, a charity supporting people with, or recovering from breast cancer. This “Feelgood Friday” activity helped staff reconnect following the isolation experienced by many during the pandemic and enables them to do something nice for each other and themselves.



Gardening Club

What the students say:

Rosie Yr7:

My favourite part of Gardening Club is when we go outside and remove all of the weeds from our vegetable patch and plant new seeds. We also made mini greenhouses in June, with some of us using power tools whilst others used screwdrivers. We bought the mini greenhouses using grant money from the Somerset Gardens Trust. We are currently growing our lettuce in the green houses.

Teddy Yr7:

I joined Gardening Club as we go outside and plant lots of plants and flower seeds and we also re-pot on our plants as they grow. We have also done this for Mrs Barlow to help her out. Last week we potted on spider plants, a fern and we have put our tomato plants outside.

Lily Yr8:

In Gardening Club we have done lots of things. We have been focusing on edible plants and have already harvested rhubarb, sweet peas, broad beans and lettuce. Mrs Noyes made some rhubarb jam and we enjoyed tasting it on crusty bread with butter – it was delicious! Mrs Mesarova made a rhubarb cake for the staff as well.

Ben Yr8:

I have been in Gardening Club for almost 6 months now. It has been really calming and fun and I can recommend it as a hobby. I have planted many things such as pumpkin (unfortunately these didn’t survive), sweet peas, mint and cucumber as well as strawberries. Recently we have made mini greenhouses and I have put many plants in them – this was great fun. I have made many friends through gardening club and plan to continue going to the club as I go into Year 9 and beyond.



Drama

Year 7 have been learning about a variety of techniques to include in their devised pieces based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. They had to include as many techniques and performance skills as they could, such as body propping, soundscapes, narration, still image, body language and voice skills. They worked in small groups to tell their version of some of the most memorable scenes from the film. Scenes such as:

- the factory and all its glorious workings to create incredible sweets and chocolate.
- the glass elevator transporting Charlie and the golden ticket winners to the different locations in the factory
- that precious moment when Charlie reveals to his family that he had won one of the Golden tickets.

The year 7s fully immersed themselves to create pieces on which they were then assessed. Lots of courage and team work was exhibited to finally perform in front of each other. Well done year 7; you showed dedication and the ability to generate ideas efficiently and effectively.

Year 8 have been learning about the 'Derek Bentley' case to provide inspiration for their devised pieces. It was evident right from the start the year 8s were intrigued to learn about what happened when Derek Bentley was hanged for the murder of a policeman during a burglary attempt. The trial was unfair and resulted in Bentley being accused of the killing due to him being of appropriate age to sentence. This was an important moment in history as this steered the campaign to abolish the death penalty.

The year 8s had to identify all the different techniques such as body propping, soundscapes, narration, thought tracks, conscience alley and monologues to produce a short piece detailing some of the key moments of the story.

ENGLISH

It's been an incredibly busy and exciting time at KA English. In May, Year 9 pupils enjoyed a trip to the West End to see a stunning production of Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird, a seminal 20th century text that they had studied earlier in the year. Our new Debate Club is up and running (Tuesday lunchtimes, E3) and we continue to celebrate the genuinely impressive creative writing of KA pupils.

The Heart Tree part-1 by Elsie (Year 7)

A shrivelled tree sits on a once colourful landscape, surrounded by mountainous barriers of wire and steel. Unknown to the masked guards clothed in white and gold, a malnourished child creeps up to the fortified walls. Glaring at them with fierce hatred and malice.

She sighs and focuses on what she came to do. Holding a hand out towards the earth, her hand and eyes illuminate with a faint green hue. Ground begins to crumble out in front of her as though a giant rabbit had been there.

A faint rumble accompanies the breaking of the opening. She whips her head round and hurriedly looks behind her, checking she hadn't been discovered. Sensing nothing with her abnormal ears, she steps into the hole.

The ground closes up behind her as she walks. Climbing out of the slowly sealing hole, she realised the other side of the

towering foreboding fences was no different to her poorly-made village. It was just an almost barren space.

Looking around, she remembers the old stories of this place before humans. Before the wars that turned everyone's life upside down. As she walks up to her kind's sacred tree, she makes a symbol of a tree and holds her hand symbol up to her head.

She closes her eyes trying to pinpoint something on the tree. In her mind's eye she sees a final fruit, almost pulsing with power but fading at the same time. As the girl plucks the fruit from the tree, power pulses contained for hundreds of years.

Exploded from the heart-shaped fruit. An unsuspected event. She is thrown back from the discharge of raw power as it flies in all directions.

Deafening sirens pierce through the air and mere seconds later she is surrounded by masked guards. Spears pointed at her from all sides.

"Fine, fine." She steps forward, hands high in the air still clutching the heart fruit with substantial force.

You caught me." The girl speaks with a lazy tone, pulling down her hood to reveal her elven ears. Some guards step back and others shuffle around while keeping their spears raised though obviously nervous.

"But not for long" the girl smiles smugly and lifts her hand once more.

The guards become increasingly worried by the second and, as they hear a strange sound on the other side of the wall,

start to back away but break into a run as another elven child on what seems to look like a deer made of wood, moss and lichen, charges through the wall. Destroying a large part of it. The eleven child raises a scrawny hand illuminating it and his eyes in white, causing the air around to suddenly obey his will and swirl into a weak hurricane sweeping up all humans around it.

The dust settles after a few minutes of guards being buffeted around and the elf children and forest deer are gone. They disappear into the night as if they were darkness themselves.

Youth Speaks

Youth Speaks is up and running! Our new club is well supported and we're enjoying meeting regularly for a good talk! We've been playing a wide range of games that include things like - thinking on our feet in quick-fire debates and deciding who and what we'd take to a desert island. Attendees have lots of different reasons why they want to come, some are keen for more opportunities to speak in public and others just want to build confidence in speaking in class. Moving forward we hope to enter a team or teams into the Youth 'Speaks' competition run by the Rotary next year. This will give our students the opportunity to persuade, perform and entertain an audience on a topic of their choice. We cannot wait to get started on this and see our amazing students find their voice! Youth Speaks club runs: every Tuesday lunchtime in E2 with all years welcome.

Pastoral

PREFECTS

Our Year 10 students have recently applied for the opportunity to be a prefect. They have had to write a letter of application explaining their suitability for the role. Mr Chapman and Miss Cornish have been blown away by the applications and are currently in the process of interviewing candidates. We look forward to announcing our Student Prefect Team for 2023/24 very soon.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council representatives recently met to review the year; they considered what they would keep, grow and change about our school. They worked in small groups with different year groups represented to discuss key topics such as rewards, behaviour and support.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

We are delighted to welcome parents to attend our celebration assemblies once again this year to recognise the successes of our students this academic year.

YEAR 11 LEAVERS

Prior to their last few exams, the Year 11s had their final assembly at KA; it was a lovely time to reflect on the past 5 years, listen to music performances and hear what their tutors really thought of them! They have been fantastic during this exam season, showing grit and determination to do the best they can each day. Their final celebration, Prom, was held at Wincanton Racecourse on a fabulous sunny evening. Students arrived in style with everything from super cars to tractors and campervans to an entourage of motorbikes. They definitely dressed to impress with Aliyah and Mason being voted as 'Prom Superstars 2022/23', and the dancefloor was packed throughout the evening copying Mr Golden's moves! Thank you to all staff who supported the event, especially to our professional photographer Mr Munns. We wish Year 11 of 2022/23 the very best for the future and look forward to seeing them collect their GCSE results in August.

Careers

Bath University Trip

At the end of May we had an amazing Aspire day at the University of Bath with our top 100 Club students in Years 7 and Y8. We made model solar-powered cars, had a tour of the campus, worked on a group project aimed at solving a global social problem using technology, and pitched our ideas formally to each other. This was funded by a bursary from Next Steps South West (paying for transport) and organised and facilitated by The Talent Foundry (a social mobility charity) alongside Dell Technologies.

Our students, as always, did us proud. They behaved impeccably, enthusiastically completed all the activities and impressed the organisers with their ideas and presentations. They absolutely loved the tour of the university and were amazed by the sheer scale of it, especially the sports facilities.

We are hoping to work further with The Talent Foundry next year to provide more exciting experiences, linking Higher Education (HE) to careers and working alongside industry leaders. Our students absolutely loved our day at the University of Bath, with many being inspired to think about HE in the future.



ONLINE SAFETY

The student safeguarding council are looking at how to stay safe online.

They would like parents and carers to become more aware of sites that they use.

The safeguarding council have looked at resources that can help parents and carers understand more about what they do online. Many were shocked themselves about age restrictions and how easy it is to access unsuitable content.

I am extremely proud that our pupils, carers and parents are working together to support all our pupils to stay safe online. For more information you can get information and advice at the websites below.

www.internetmatters.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

NEXT STEPS OPPORTUNITIES

We are continuing to work hard to support our students in making the right decisions about their next steps through our Career Related Learning programme. This also extends to staff and parents, with Mrs Huggins leading a recent Parent Forum on Careers@KA. At this event we informed parents and carers about the levels of qualification, the opportunities available in and around the Southwest as well as the vast amount of work we do on personal development across Years 7-11.

Year 10 and Year 11 had a talk recently from ASK (Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge) about the different types of apprenticeships available and how to search and apply for them, with a hands-on workshop for Year 11 interested in pursuing Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships this year. Kezia from FJ Chalke also came in to talk to KS4 students about the opportunities that their business can offer in the local and wider area; FJ Chalke have just set up an apprenticeship academy where they look to support and develop young people for up to 5 years through their development programme which is really exciting! From this assembly, several Year 11 students have started applications to FJ Chalke for this September, whilst several Year 10 students successfully secured work experience placements for the start of July.

Students in Year 10 also had the opportunity to visit Sexey's Sixth Form at the end of June. Students had a tour of the school as well as the chance to try out A level lessons. The students who went had a great time, getting a real feel for what Level 3 study is all about, with a number already starting to think about their post-16 applications.

All of Year 10 have been out on work experience at the start of July. This is the first time since Covid that our



students have had the opportunity to complete work experience, and they were very excited about their placements. We have had students go to a huge variety of placements, ranging from primary schools to farms, restaurants to leisure centres and many more besides. We even had one student venture out to Windsor, whilst others have secured highly coveted placements with the NHS at Yeovil Hospital and Thales. Students have gained a huge amount from these placements, learning skills for work and employment as well as having an insight into their chosen career sector with hands-on experiences. We have received amazing feedback from employers, with some placements even resulting in part-time jobs for our students ... maybe some will even lead to post-16 opportunities in the future!

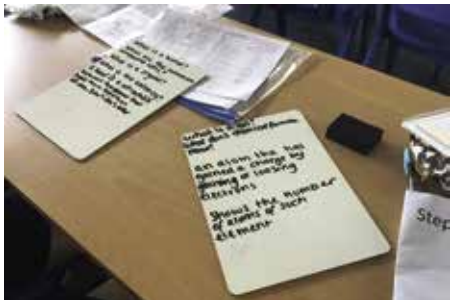
When Year 10 return as our new Year 11 in September, we will continue to support, guide and inform them in order that they can start to make applications for their post-16 study. This will include assemblies from all of our local post-16 providers, inviting in local employers to give talks both formally and informally in our Careers Cafes, attending the Somerset Careers Fair in October and a college open day later in the Autumn term.

Step-up day

Having said goodbye to our lovely Year 11s the day before, the 22nd June was the Step-up day for Year 9 and 10 students. All Year 9 students used this opportunity to start preparing for their next 2 years of their GCSEs, whilst Year 10 students started the countdown to their final exams. They all had a bespoke program for the day and some of the sessions on offer were:

- Adapt App – how to use the available online technology to create revision schedules
- Memory and challenge
- How to use knowledge organisers
- Motivation and resilience
- Study skills
- Wellbeing

We hope they are now looking forward to the next academic year so they can use all these newly acquired skills.



Rounders Progress

Our Year 9 gowly missed out on the area finals when in year 8. Committed to doing better this year, the Year 9 girls strengthened their squad with more players and showed more dedication to training.

This year they qualified for the area finals, led by captain and motivational leader Hope. Although the girls only just lost their semi-final to Wadham by a couple of rounders, they still had a strong Holyrood team to beat for 3rd place in the area rounders final. KA girls rose to the challenge of and had a superb game against Holyrood, showing why they deserved to be there. After being down 6 to 6.5 after one innings they won 18-11! The whole team played their part and thoroughly deserved bronze medal and the happiness you can see!

Team captain Hope wrote a lovely piece on the team

"We've had an amazing season of rounders this year, we've improved massively and have strengthened as a team as the season went on. Paige, Ruby and Lacie have been fantastic these last few weeks with some amazing fielding, catching and some superb batting. Caitlin, Lily, Shannaya and Katie did fabulously this season with some great throws made by Lily, super fielding by Shannaya in matches and Katie and Caitlin's stunning batting in the final matches. Victoria, Millie and Isobel have improved dramatically this year with both their batting and fielding skills, becoming more consistent and being able to get up and carry on if we've had a stumble. I would just like to emphasise just how good we are as a team not just in a sports related way but as team, we give that encouragement if we slip up or make a mistake, we give each other that positivity to carry on and everyone focuses on the good thing instead of the bad. We have done terrifically this season and cannot wait to do even better than we have next year. Well done girls"



Yeovil Athletics Competition

43 King Arthur's students from Years 7-9 took part in the Yeovil Athletics Arena on 28th June. The students were a credit to the school demonstrating superb effort and a supportive team ethos. Students supported each other no matter what position they finished and cheered furiously every time a blue shirt whizzed past on the track.

For many of the students it was their first time on an official competition athletics track, seeing throwing cages, steeplechase water jumps, the grandstand finish and, of course, the starter gun for all races.

All students performed with maximum effort with a few highlights listed below. Jacob won his 1500m, leaving the field at least 100m behind him. Lilla won her 100m and ran a strong last leg in the relay team. Miriam came a close 2nd in 200m race and jumped superbly in the long jump. Callum hopped, skipped and jumped his way to a 2nd place in triple jump agonisingly losing out to 1st place by 1cm! The star of the show was the Archie. This young man showed phenomenal resilience, courage and pride to brush himself off after stumble in the 200m to continue to run and chase down his fellow athletes. Archie also had a key role in the fantastic 4 relay team. Year 9 boys had a great race with some slick changeovers and a brilliantly executed strategy to perform well in a close 4x100m race.

Mr Elloway, Miss Vowles and Miss Cornish would like to compliment the students again on their superb team attitude and positive behaviour displayed throughout. Well done!



School Games Competitions

Recently King Arthur's School has hosted the KS1 Multi Skills Festival, Top Link Festival and KS1 & KS2 Wincanton Primary Sports Day. The events have been well supported by our local primary schools and the King Arthur's student leaders have done an amazing job making sure that the events have been organised and run smoothly.

This has been the first year that we have been able to complete a full calendar of organised primary school sporting events since Covid. We are really pleased to have regular primary school competitions which provide opportunities for our student leaders to shine.



Swimming is back at KA!

This term it has been great to get students back in the swimming pool and learning to swim! Sessions have catered for all abilities from complete beginners to more advanced swimmers, covering a range of swimming strokes and aquatic skills. For the less competent swimmers the focus has been on developing water confidence and learning basic skills such as kicking, aquatic breathing and floating. For more advanced swimmers, sessions have been about refining their strokes and challenging them to complete drills and set distances. A favourite for all our swimmers has been completing obstacle courses in the water, including swimming through hoops, picking up bricks and forward rolls!



Swimming is a great form of fitness that provides an all over body workout. There are numerous health benefits of swimming including maintaining a healthy weight, heart and lungs and also alleviating stress. Many of our students have really enjoyed swimming as an activity this term and have already asked if it will be continuing in September. We hope that this will be an activity that we can continue to grow.

Tennis Club

This summer term students have been enjoying the opportunity to train at Wincanton Tennis Club each Wednesday. Rich Douglas the tennis coach at Wincanton Tennis Club has been available through funding from the Town Council. Students have received high quality coaching through a variety of drills and games and through Rich's fantastic manner.

Recently students have competed against both Ansford Academy and Gillingham School in friendly matches.

