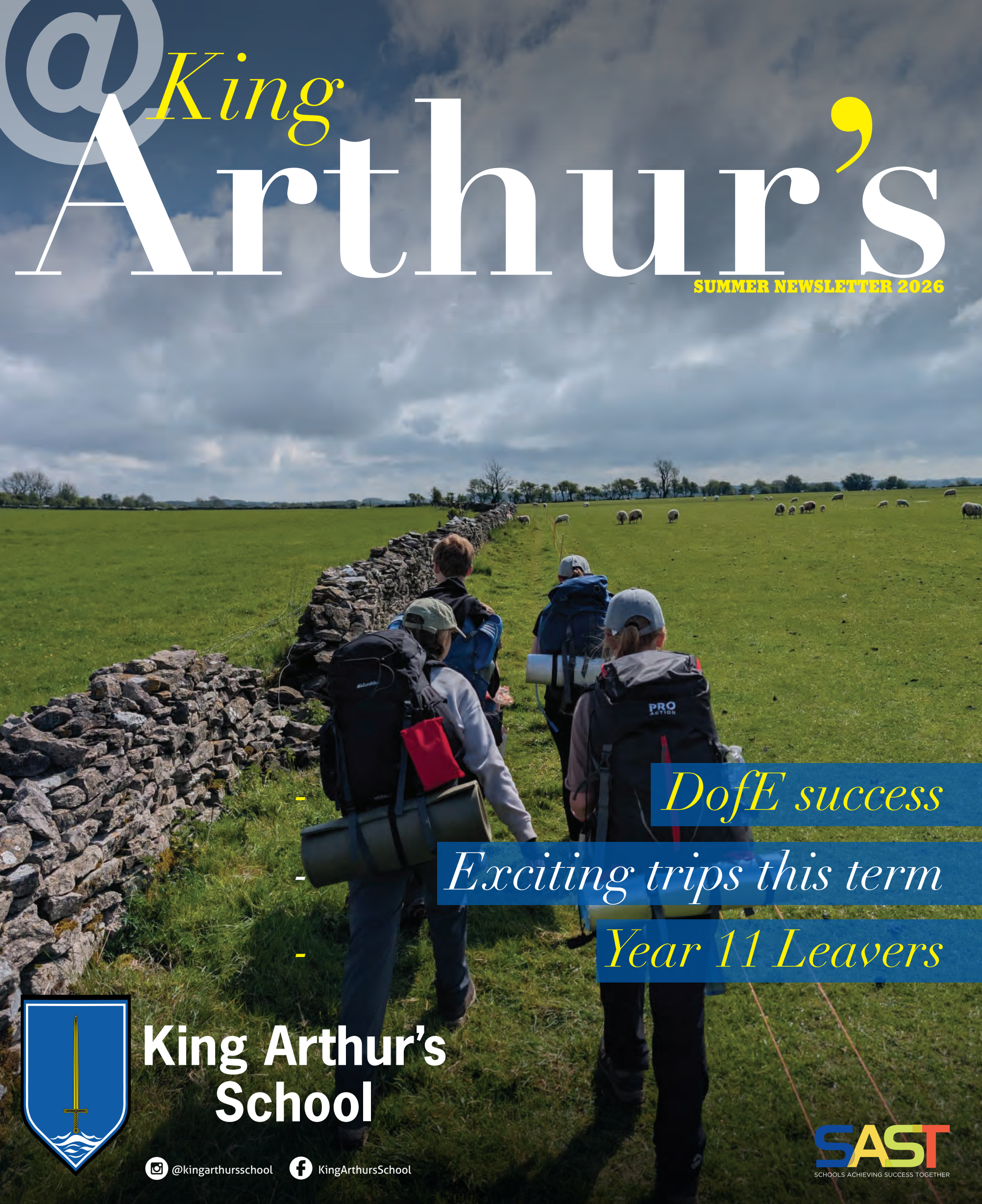




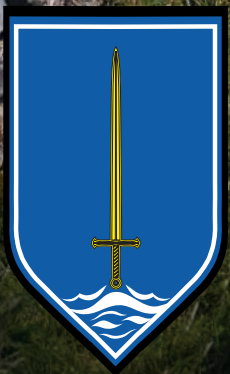
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SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026

DofE success

Exciting trips this term

Year 11 Leavers



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SAST
SCHOOLS ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER

Welcome

As we come to the end of another successful academic year, I am delighted to share with you our Summer Newsletter, celebrating the many achievements, opportunities and memorable experiences that have made King Arthur’s School such a vibrant and inspiring place to learn.

I continue to be amazed by the dedication, resilience and enthusiasm shown by our young people. This edition of the newsletter reflects the very best of our school community. From Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and international visits to Madrid and Normandy, to outstanding achievements in sport, mathematics, the arts and community engagement, our students have embraced every opportunity with confidence and determination.

What makes me most proud, however, is not simply the number of successes we celebrate, but the values our students demonstrate every day. Whether representing the school on trips, supporting younger pupils, performing on stage, competing in sporting events or showing kindness and respect in the classroom, our students consistently embody the spirit of King Arthur’s School.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff, supportive families and wider community, whose encouragement and commitment help make these opportunities possible. Together, we create an environment where every student is challenged to achieve their best and supported to grow into confident, capable and caring young adults.

As we say goodbye to our Year 11 students and wish them every success for the future, we also look forward with excitement to the opportunities that lie ahead for the rest of our school community.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many highlights of the summer term and join me in celebrating all that our students have achieved. They continue to make me immensely proud, and I feel privileged to lead such a remarkable school community.

Jonty Archibald – Headteacher



Year 9 Beach Trip



Year 9 enjoyed a memorable evening at the beach on Friday 19th June, where they had the chance to relax, socialise and take part in a variety of activities with their friends. The trip provided a welcome opportunity to unwind and reflect on a busy and successful year. Afterwards, students headed to Tower Park to enjoy a well-deserved evening meal together, rounding off the outing in style.



The trip marked an important milestone as Year 9 students completed Key Stage 3 and prepared to begin the next stage of their educational journey. As they look ahead to Key Stage 4 in September, there is a real sense of excitement and anticipation for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. It was a fitting way to celebrate their achievements and create lasting memories before the summer break.

Testimony360 – Holocaust Educational Trust

It was a privilege on 17th June to see some of our Year 9 historians engaging so thoughtfully and respectfully with one of the most important and challenging topics in their studies.

Through the support of the Holocaust Educational Trust, students explored the early life of Manfred Goldberg MBE BEM, tracing his experiences from childhood, through the horrors of the Riga Ghetto, to his deportation to Stutthof concentration camp and, ultimately, his liberation in 1945. His story provided a powerful, personal insight into the wider history of the Holocaust, reminding us that behind every statistic is an individual life.

Using VR headsets, students were able to interact with the Testimony 360 experience in an innovative and deeply meaningful way. This immersive approach allowed them not only to witness Manfred’s story but also to pose questions and reflect on his resilience, courage and humanity. It brought history beyond the textbook, encouraging empathy, curiosity and a genuine sense of connection.

As Manfred himself has said, “We must remember the past to ensure that it never happens again. Every generation has a responsibility to carry that memory forward.” His words resonated strongly with our students, reinforcing the importance of remembrance and understanding.

This was a profoundly moving learning experience, one that our students approached with maturity and care. Opportunities such as this are vital in ensuring that the lessons of the past are understood, remembered and carried forward by future generations. We are incredibly proud of the respect and thoughtful engagement shown by our Year 9 students.



Big Pit Trip

On Monday 6th July, Year 8 travelled across the Bristol Channel to Abergavenny and down the mines at Big Pit. This trip allowed the students to see with their own eyes the experience of mining in Britain during the Industrial Revolution, our final history topic of Year 8. The experience of many children their age was one of back breaking labour, squeezing into tight spaces, and being left in the dark for 10 hours a day. For many, this is hard to understand, so for many of our students seeing what it was like and getting just a fraction of a taste of it was of real benefit to them.

As the sun shone, the students arrived excited to be told the stories of what it was like to be a child mining in Britain. Hard hats, torches and belted up, they descended 89m down into the Welsh hills to listen to the guides. For some, these were ex-miners proudly showing off what they had done in previous years. Inside the mines they got to see the tools of the trade, the size of the drams, the alert system, and the stables for the pit ponies. They even got to experience true pitch-black darkness, unnerving them and making many realise the difficulties of working below the ground.

After our tour of the mines, we headed above ground to the interactive museum. This area showed how technological advances of the 20th Century helped to increase the production levels, how they helped shift large amounts of resources, but also how they contributed to the closures of Big Pit in the 1980s. As we then sat for lunch looking down on the town that once helped establish the area as an industrial hub, it was hard to see how this picturesque town could have been a dusty industrial centre, but with the stories that they had learnt the students were able to see how this small Welsh mine had a massive impact on those that lived through it and the world we live in today.



DofE with The Carymoor Trust

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of two groups of Year 9 students who have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award at The Carymoor Trust in Castle Cary.

The expedition also included a one-night overnight camp, where students put their training into practice by setting up camp, preparing meals, and supporting one another in unfamiliar outdoor conditions.

As part of the award, students undertook a challenging two-day expedition, demonstrating resilience, teamwork, and determination. Over the course of the expedition, they walked more than 10 miles, navigating their route and working collaboratively to overcome the physical and mental challenges of the journey.

Their efforts and dedication were formally recognised at a special presentation ceremony, where students were awarded their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh certificates by the High Sheriff of Somerset. This was a proud moment for all involved and a fitting reward for their hard work and perseverance.



DofE Weekend

At the end of June, our Duke of Edinburgh students undertook their final expedition weekend in the glorious location of Cheddar in the Mendip Hills. Based on the outskirts of the town, the students settled into camp well on the Friday, setting up their tents with speed after a busy day at school. Games of football and frisbee were undertaken with the competitive spirit between the Year 10s and 9s being shared across the fields, the positive atmosphere was wonderful to see before the hard part started the following day.

fun and activities lasted a bit longer than normal (due to a very important football match) but as soon as their heads hit the pillows the feeling of exhaustion took hold.

Sunday started nice and early too, with students up and preparing for the day. This would be a shorter walk, but still full of difficult navigations and confusing route changes. The day started with the traditional Tetris game of camp shut down. The speed was fantastic, with everyone packed away and ready to go in 90 minutes, a record in our time running the award. Climbing once again up Warren Hill as their start point, the students pushed forward through woods and across fields with big bags and sore feet to their final finishing point. After 10.5km, they were done! Collapsing in the final field, cold drinks and ice creams in hand, all were smiling knowing that they have achieved their end goal. They had completed their expedition!

These students make up the 4th cohort of Bronze Award winners, and the 2nd for Silver, showing once again that the KA students can do it, that they will accept any challenge, and do their very best when push comes to shove. Great work everyone!!





Normandy

Our Normandy adventure got off to a fantastic start as students and staff travelled safely across the Channel, arriving ready to explore the history, culture and traditions of this remarkable region of France.

Our first day was packed with memorable experiences. We began with a visit to a local cheese factory, where students discovered the skill and dedication behind Normandy's famous produce. The group then visited Pegasus Bridge, where students learned about the bravery and precision of the 6th Airborne Division during the D-Day landings. Standing at such an important historical site brought the events of June 1944 vividly to life and provided a valuable opportunity for reflection. The day concluded with a visit to the Normandy American Cemetery, where students paid their respects and reflected on the sacrifices made by thousands of servicemen during the Second World War. It was a poignant and thought-provoking experience for everyone. Sunday continued our exploration of Normandy's wartime history with a visit to the impressive Arromanches 360° Cinema, overlooking Gold Beach. Students learned about the heroic actions of the British and Canadian forces who landed on the Normandy beaches, gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges they faced. Afterwards, we spent time on Gold Beach itself, appreciating both its historical significance and the beautiful weather.

In the afternoon, attention turned to French culture as we visited the spectacular Mont Saint-Michel. Students enjoyed exploring the historic island, browsing the shops, sampling local foods and taking in the unique atmosphere of one of France's most iconic landmarks. It was the perfect way to round off our Normandy adventure. The trip has been a wonderful combination of education, reflection and enjoyment, creating lasting memories for all involved. After a busy and rewarding few days, the group enjoyed an early night before beginning the journey home.



Madrid

Our Year 9 students had an incredible few days in Madrid, immersing themselves in the language, culture and history of Spain. The trip was packed with visits to some of the city's most famous landmarks, including the Mercado de San Miguel, Las Ventas Bullring, the beautiful Royal Palace, Reina Sofia Art Gallery and the iconic Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. We also enjoyed regular lunch stops in the Retiro Park, giving everyone the chance to recharge before setting off to explore more of the city.

For many of our students, this was a particularly special experience. For some, it was their first time travelling abroad, while others had never visited a city as large and vibrant as Madrid. It was brilliant to see them embrace every opportunity with such enthusiasm! With temperatures climbing into the 30s, our students showed remarkable resilience throughout the trip, and they certainly got their steps in, walking miles across Madrid each day.

One of the highlights of the trip was our traditional tapas meal. Many students surprised themselves by trying new foods that they may never have chosen before, and it was fantastic to see so many empty plates at the end of the meal! Lots of students were keen to practise their Spanish whenever they could, confidently ordering food and drinks and asking how to say new things. Their curiosity, willingness to have a go and genuine interest in learning more about Spanish culture made the experience even more rewarding. A huge thank you goes to all of the staff who gave up their time to make the trip possible. Most importantly, well done to our fantastic Year 9 students for making the trip such a memorable success.



London

Our Year 7 students recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to London, packed with memorable experiences and opportunities to learn beyond the classroom.

The day began with a scenic river cruise along the Thames, where students were able to take in famous landmarks such as the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and St Paul's Cathedral from a unique perspective. They then took to the skies on the iconic London Eye, enjoying breathtaking panoramic views across the capital and spotting many of the city's most recognisable attractions.

The adventure continued with a visit to the Natural History Museum, where students explored fascinating exhibits, including the famous dinosaur gallery, and discovered more about the natural world through interactive displays. Dinner at Pizza Express followed and a chance to buy some 'London' souvenirs. The next day, students visited London Zoo, where they encountered a wide variety of animals and learned about conservation efforts from around the world. Throughout the trip, students were a credit to King Arthur's School, displaying excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and curiosity. The day provided a wonderful opportunity to strengthen friendships, build confidence and create lasting memories, and we are extremely proud of how positively they represented the school.



Drama

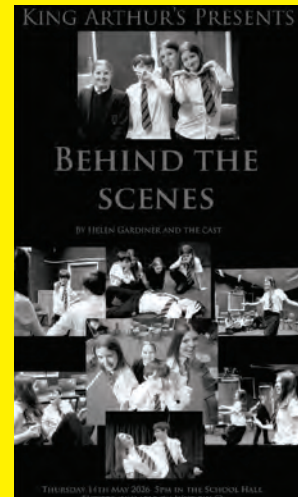


It has been another fantastic year in drama with pupils experiencing and celebrating the wonderful world of performing arts. A keen audience participated in the show 'Behind the Scenes' written by our own pupils and directed by Mrs Gardiner. The performers were full of fun and confidence. Mrs Southern and Mr Howard also contributed with a standout dance routine to 'Footloose'.

Year 10 Drama GCSE students have been working hard towards their first Component 3 practice written exam and got the chance to develop their skills of set design at Sturminster Newton High school. The students engaged in a wonderful workshop led by Mrs Sumner and created model sets for the set text, Noughts and Crosses. Their conduct and engagement were fantastic, and they should all be very proud.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been working hard on their home learning. It is so wonderful to see not only the practical engagement of pupils in class, but also their creative ideas around costume design.

Well done to all KS3 and KS4 for all your hard work and engagement this year.



Building Skills in Ceramics

Our students have been working alongside our trainee teacher, a ceramics specialist, to develop new skills and techniques in pottery. Throughout the project, students learned a variety of hand-building methods to create their own unique ceramic pots and decorative pieces. They carefully shaped, refined, glazed, and fired their work, gaining valuable experience at every stage of the creative process.

The finished pieces look fantastic, and the students should be incredibly proud of themselves. Their resilience, patience, and determination throughout the project have resulted in some outstanding final outcomes. These ceramic pieces will form an invaluable part of their GCSE Art portfolios, showcasing not only their creativity but also the technical skills and confidence they have developed during the project. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our trainee teacher Mrs White for sharing her expertise, enthusiasm, and encouragement throughout the project. Her support has had a lasting impact on our students, helping them to build confidence and develop their ceramic skills. She will be greatly missed by both the students and staff, and we wish her every success and happiness in her future teaching career.



School in a Bag

Our recent art activities in support of the charity School in a Bag were a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part. Students attended with great enthusiasm and were excited to try the wide range of creative activities on offer. From string printing and collage cards to experimental portrait drawing, there was something to inspire every budding artist.

It was wonderful to see so many imaginative and creative outcomes, but even more rewarding was seeing so many happy, smiling faces throughout the event. The activities encouraged students to explore new techniques, express their creativity, and enjoy making art together in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Most importantly, the event helped raise money for a truly meaningful cause. A huge thank you to everyone who participated, supported the activities, and helped make the day such a memorable and successful one.

Creative Showcase

The Creative Showcase is an exhibition of all the GCSE practical work created by Year 11 students who took GCSE Art, Photography and Three-Dimensional Design.

Over 500 pieces were displayed showing an amazing amount of talent and a wide variety of skills with a range of work from ceramic to canvas and clocks to lamps. The amount and quality was a real eye opener and many fantastic comments were received by all the visitors. It was arranged in coordination with the Year 6 transition day so future students and parents were able to view the fantastic work.

Noughts & Crosses

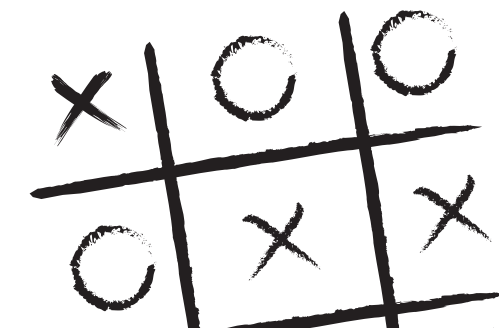
Early in the summer term, our Year 8 students and Year 10 GCSE Drama students enjoyed an exciting visit to MAST Mayflower Studios in Southampton to watch the acclaimed production of *Noughts & Crosses*.

Based on Malorie Blackman's bestselling novel, *Noughts & Crosses* explores themes of prejudice, discrimination, power and inequality through a thought-provoking alternative society. As a text that encourages students to reflect on important social issues, it provides valuable opportunities for discussion, critical thinking and empathy, making it a powerful and relevant work to study.

The production itself was outstanding. Students were completely captivated from start to finish, particularly by the inventive physical theatre techniques and dynamic staging that brought the story vividly to life. There were plenty of memorable moments throughout the performance, including one genuine jump-scare that had the entire audience on edge!

It was wonderful to see our students so engaged and enthusiastic, and both students and staff left the theatre buzzing with excitement. The trip not only enhanced students' understanding of live performance and theatrical techniques but also deepened their appreciation of this important and influential text.

We would like to thank all staff involved in organising the visit and look forward to our next theatre trip!



A year ago, I reached out to the King Arthur’s community to ask you to support us in fundraising for sets of reading books to kick start our tutor time reading programme. Thanks to an overwhelming response from local businesses and families, we were successful in bringing that goal to fruition – and what an incredible year of reading it has been.

In Years 7-9, every tutor group has shared 4 reading books together since September, enjoying the twists and turns of various different plots, as well as engaging with issues from across the globe. On average, a book aimed at young adults contains around 50,000 words, which means our KS3 students have been exposed to more than 200,000 words over the course of this year. We know that this will have had a significant impact on their vocabulary, as well as improving overall comprehension, a vital skill for success at GCSE and beyond.

It has also been a pleasure to see students increase their engagement with reading outside of lessons. We have had monthly Reading Challenges where pupils have been tasked with reading books from different genres, themes, and time periods. Years 7 & 8 have topped the leaderboard for the Reading Challenges, accounting for ¾ of

Y8 and Y9 Visit to Wincanton Primary School



On 11th June, a group of Y8 and Y9 students had the wonderful opportunity to visit Wincanton Primary School, where they led a fun-filled afternoon of learning and discovery all about French language, culture, and global connections! In their chosen groups, KA students were responsible for leading a specific activity that they would run consecutively with 4 different primary classes. The activities were as follows:

Building your own versions of the Eiffel Tower!
Primary pupils used spaghetti and marshmallow to create their own mini replicas of this iconic Parisian landmark. KA students talked about how the tower was built, when it opened, and why it is one of the most recognised structures in the world. It was amazing to see how creative and determined primary school students were to make their towers stand tall!

All About the Tour de France
Primary school pupils also learnt about one of the most exciting sporting events on the planet; that is the Tour de France. They learned that this famous cycling race takes place over three weeks, split into different stages, some flat and fast, some tough mountain climbs, and some individual time trials. We also discovered the special jerseys worn by the top riders such as the Yellow Jersey for the rider with the fastest overall time, the Polka Dot Jersey for the best climber, the Green Jersey for the fastest sprinter and the White Jersey for the best young rider under 26 years old. The pupils were then provided with blank jersey print out and asked to design their own best winning jersey.

the winners this year. However, this has been a whole school affair with staff members submitting their entries and sharing what they are reading with students as well. Another highlight was the incredible Readathon on World Book Day. Across the day, 103 students and 20 members of staff took part by visiting the library, collectively reading more than 3,600 pages. The engagement from every year group was outstanding, and it was wonderful to see so many pupils embracing the joy of reading. Year 8 were the highest scoring year group, reading more pages collectively than any other, and Lancelot were the winning house. However, we must also give a special mention to Year 7 who were the only year group to have someone consistently reading from 8.30am until 3.00pm – what an incredible achievement! I encourage all of our students to continue with their excellent reading habits over the break.



Rising Mathematicians Festival

Our pupils recently attended the *Rising Mathematicians Festival* hosted by Axiom Maths in partnership with The University of Exeter. Held at the Streatham campus, the event brought together young mathematicians from across the Southwest for an immersive mathematical experience.

During the day, pupils discovered exciting pathways that mathematics can lead to, connected with like-minded mathematicians from schools across the region and took part in exciting problem-solving challenges. Pupils also went on a guided campus tour of the campus and participated in an exciting maths workshop on game theory led by Prof. Gihan Marasingha.

The festival was a celebration of the commitment and dedication our pupils have shown during maths circles. Congratulations to all the young mathematicians who attended.

Axiom Maths

Axion Maths is centred around small supportive groups, and our pupils have been engaging in a range of fun yet complex problems and puzzles aimed at taking students out of their comfort zone in order to debate, reason and solve challenges designed at developing pupils who can think and learn like professional mathematicians.

Our Year 8s: George P., Danny F., George W., Ailsa S., Myles W. and Zak D., have engaged in their second year of weekly circles where students have been introduced to complex concepts normally only introduced in A-Level mathematics. Each week, they have worked together in a constant cycle of becoming 'stuck' and 'unstuck', a theme that is core to our Axiom circles.

Students learn to be articulate, adventurous and accepting in their circles, all skills that our Year 7 students: Noah W., Arley T., McKenzie M., Fred H., Harley G., Joseph D. and Marley B. have been developing since their first circle shortly after starting at King Arthur’s in September with the support of Year 9 student Archee B.

The program will continue next year, with our hopes being to continue our 2 current circles while also starting a brand-new circle open to our new Year 7s. Over these three year groups, pupils will see increasingly sophisticated concepts as they progress as mathematicians together.

If you would like to learn more about our Axiom Maths circles or are a student who wants to get involved in one of our already existing circles, then please speak to either Mr Howard or Mrs Southern about the amazing opportunities available to our budding mathematicians.

Junior Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 29th April, 32 of our finest mathematicians from Years 7 and 8 participated in the Junior Maths Challenge, organised by UKMT. They worked on 25 very challenging and thought-provoking problems. Only the top 50% of all students who enter receive a bronze, silver or gold certificate and we are proud to say that nine of our students received one of these certificates. A very well done to all who completed the challenge and especially to Ryan, Josh F and Josh W for receiving bronze certificates, McKenzie, Ailsa, Zak and Alfie G who received silver certificates, and Danny and Dexter for receiving gold certificates.



Year 11 Leavers and Prom



Our Year 11 students marked the end of their secondary school journey with two memorable celebrations: Leavers’ Day on 5th June and the Year 11 Prom on 18th June.

Leavers’ Day began with a special assembly with Mrs Edmonds, where students and staff reflected on the many achievements, friendships, and memories made over the past five years. It was a chance to celebrate the Year 11 cohort and wish them every success as they prepare for their next chapter.

Following the assembly, students enjoyed a well-deserved treat as

an ice cream van visited the school field. The sunny atmosphere, laughter, and time spent together with friends made for a perfect end to their final day in school.

The celebrations continued on 18th June with the Year 11 Prom, held at Holbrook Manor. This year’s elegant Masquerade theme created a magical setting, with students arriving dressed in stunning gowns and smart suits. The evening was filled with music, dancing, delicious food, and plenty of opportunities to capture special memories with friends and staff. The students particularly loved the photo booth that we were lucky



enough to hire due to the hard work that went into the fundraising by the prefect team.

Both events provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work, resilience, and achievements of our Year 11 students. We are incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished during their time at school and wish them every success in their GCSE results and future pathways. We hope they will always look back on their time here with fond memories and know they will always be a valued part of our school community.

Year 11 - Yeovil College Transition Trip

On 17th June, Mrs Edmonds and Mrs Hiscock took 5 Year 11 students to Yeovil college to meet with the pastoral Team and familiarise them with what will be their new setting in September.

During the visit, students met members of the college’s pastoral team, who introduced them to the support available to help them settle into college life. They were also given a tour of the campus, helping them become familiar with the facilities and learning environment before starting in September.

The students took part in a range of activities focused on identifying and understanding their individual learning styles. These sessions encouraged them to reflect on how they learn best and provided useful strategies to support their future studies. The visit was a valuable opportunity to build confidence, reduce any anxieties about moving on to further education, and ensure students feel well prepared for a successful transition to college.



Year 8 - Explore Future Pathways at Yeovil College

Year 8 students recently enjoyed an exciting and inspiring visit to Yeovil College, where they had the opportunity to explore a wide range of courses and potential career pathways.

Throughout the day, students took part in interactive workshops and hands-on activities, giving them a real insight into college life and the skills needed for different professions. They explored subjects across a variety of areas, including STEM, business and digital technologies, creative arts and media, construction and engineering, health and care, hospitality, sport, and public services.

Whether they were investigating forensic science, trying practical construction skills, discovering creative design, or learning about careers in health and education, every student had the chance to experience something new and begin thinking about their future ambitions. The visit was a fantastic opportunity to broaden horizons, challenge perceptions, and inspire students to consider the many exciting pathways available after school.



EMS Year 10 Math Residential

I arrived on Monday 13th April at the Exeter Maths School (EMS). We stayed in the college flats, for the two nights, at EMS. I was the only one who went from our school. Going on my own was obviously scary a bit, not knowing a single person there was intimidating until I met some amazing people who also were the only ones from their schools. I still stay in contact with some of these people as we’re all considering going to Exeter College or University in the future.

On Monday and Wednesday we completed 3 workshops and on Tuesday we had 3 university lectures. My favorite workshop was “Counting Symmetries.” Anyone who knows me knows that my favorite branch of mathematics is obviously geometry,

which this workshop was about. My favorite lecture on Tuesday was “Railway stations, digits, fraud: a surprising law.” This lecture looked at logarithms and Benford’s Law.

On Monday evening we went to “Bill’s” for dinner then we all played bored games before we went to bed. I played Risk with the friends I met on this day. Tuesday evening, for dinner we had some rather delicious pizza at “The Waterfront”. After we ate pizza it was time for me to win bowling. I beat all of my friends with 97 points with Ben (a friend I met on this residential who really enjoys bowling) coming in 2nd place with 92. He wasn’t very happy... After our workshops on Wednesday our parents were welcomed in for a wrap-up session where we were given

certificates of completion. Then before I knew it, it was time to say goodbye to all the people I met and travel home.

These three days were not only a great opportunity to eat delicious pizza and show off my amazing bowling skills, it was also a great opportunity to gather an idea of what I would like to do in the future. It also provided me with a wider understanding of mathematics. I’m definitely considering A-level maths and further maths and possibly going to EMS when I leave secondary school. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on this math residential, learning about maths and meeting some very talented people. I would highly recommend participating in this residential if you’re interested in maths and would like to study it post 16.

Leo W

KA Sports Leaders have enjoyed a busy and successful Summer Term, organising and leading several sporting events for local primary schools. On Tuesday 30th June, Wincanton Primary School visited KA for their newly formatted Sports Day. Blessed with the perfect weather conditions, Key Stage 2 pupils took part in their competitive Sports Day events during the morning, while Key Stage 1 pupils enjoyed a circuit of fun activity stations in the afternoon.

During the changeover between the two, staff, students and families came together for a picnic, providing a wonderful opportunity for siblings and relatives to spend time together. The event was extremely well supported and enjoyed by all. Earlier in the term, on Monday 15th June, KA hosted the annual KS2 Top Link Festival, welcoming eight feeder primary schools for a day of competition and teamwork. The morning featured a range of athletics events, including both field and track disciplines, before schools competed in Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 rounders tournaments during the afternoon. The standard of competition was excellent throughout the day, with many schools earning individual certificates across both the athletics and rounders events. The festival showcased not only sporting talent but also determination, teamwork and sportsmanship, making it another highly successful event in the KA sporting calendar. A huge congratulations goes to all the pupils who took part, and a special thank you to the KA Sports Leaders whose enthusiasm, organisation and leadership helped make both events such a success. Their commitment continues to provide valuable sporting opportunities for younger pupils across our local community.

Basketball Trip

On 10th April, a group of students thoroughly enjoyed a great game of basketball with a closely contested match between Bristol Flyers and London Lions.



Despite the Flyers being on top for most of the game, the Lions dominated the final quarter, proving why they are the league winners. Highlights of the trip included half-time access to the court for some shooting practice and Mrs Pattemore getting a photo with player #51 Darnell Brodie of the Bristol Flyers.



Caving

Almost 50 metres beneath the surface, deep inside the legendary Goat-Church Cavern at Burrington Combe, KA students plunged into their very first caving adventure.

Led by the brilliant team at Mendip Activity Centre, alongside Mr Elloway and Mrs Gardiner, students navigated twisting, maze-like tunnels filled with climbs, squeezes and incredible limestone rock formations that have been shaped over thousands of years. Students experienced everything from sitting silently in vast echoing chambers in complete darkness to scrambling up steps carved by Victorian explorers long ago. The experience was so thrilling, albeit a little daunting — that we've already signed ourselves up for the next challenge. This time, we're heading into the Priddy Caves, where the underground adventure gets even a little wet!

Hockey Success

Even though the season had officially come to an end, King Arthur's School travelled to Chard for one final boys' hockey fixture against Holyrood and what a brilliant way to round off the year.

With several new faces joining the squad, the team, superbly led by Noah, excelled from the first whistle. They showcased impressive patterns of play, sharp individual skill and real togetherness across the pitch, earning themselves a compelling and well deserved win. As always, their behaviour, sportsmanship and conduct were outstanding. Holyrood were so impressed they have already invited the team back to compete again next year.

A special thank you goes to Noah, whose dedication throughout the year has been instrumental in growing boys' hockey at King Arthur's School. His commitment to encouraging new players and securing more fixtures has made a genuine difference.



Our Biggest Ski Trip in Years — and One to Remember

After a hugely successful ski adventure to Bormio in Christmas 2024, King Arthur's School once again headed for the Italian Alps — this time to the stunning slopes of Artesina. Demand was higher than ever, with places selling out in record time and 40 students signing up for what became one of our most memorable trips yet. Our advanced skiers made the most of Artesina's vast range of slopes and even enjoyed the thrill of racing against our very own accomplished skier, Mr Peters. Meanwhile, the progress made by our first time skiers was nothing short of exceptional. By the end of the week, every single student was confidently skiing at least blue runs — an impressive achievement for those brand new to the sport. Resilience, perseverance and determination were on full display as students learned a brand new skill in a challenging environment, overcame tiredness, navigated being away from home and — quite literally — picked themselves up time and time again. The experience also strengthened teamwork, empathy, organisation, self reliance and timekeeping. A heartfelt thank you goes to the staff team who supported the trip: Miss Cornish, Mrs Southern, Mr Hayes and, of course, our resident ski professional, Mr Peters. Their energy, care and expertise helped make this the biggest and most successful ski trip we've run in years. King Arthur's School continues to offer extraordinary opportunities — and this trip was a shining example of what our students can achieve when they embrace adventure.

Year 9 Football

For the second year running, our Year 9 footballers earned their place at the Area Finals — a remarkable achievement that highlights the strength and consistency of this talented squad. After an incredible back to back winning streak in their qualifying matches, the team returned to Yeovil for Finals Day with confidence, determination and a real sense of purpose, having lost last year 1-0 in the final. Their outstanding teamwork, relentless effort and never give up attitude powered them through a tense semi final, where they battled hard to secure a narrow and well deserved victory. Although the final didn't go their way, and despite a heroic performance, the team were edged out by a single goal. What stood out most was not just their skill, but the way they conducted themselves throughout the competition — respectful, resilient and united. They were recognised by several other schools as the side to beat, praised for their quality of play and strong team spirit.

