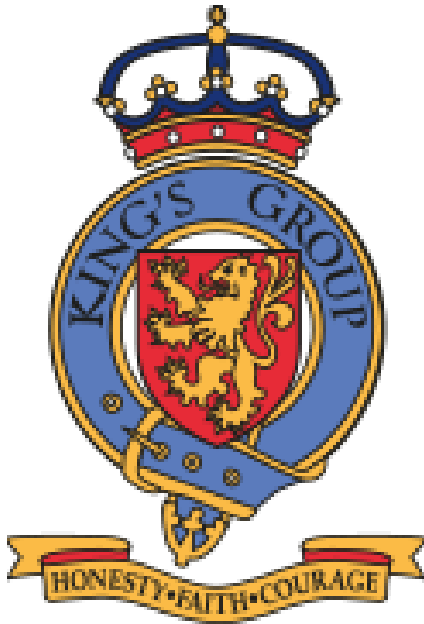


WEEK ENDING 16TH DECEMBER 2022

# KINGS ACADEMY BINFIELD & OAKWOOD SECONDARY NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM MRS MOORE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish all our King's Academy Binfield and King's Academy Oakwood parents/carers, students, and governors a safe and happy Christmas and holiday season and to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents, and students to KAB/KAO this year.

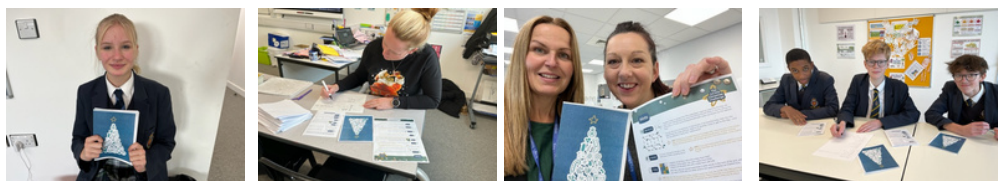
Walt Disney once said, "You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality." This is certainly true of the role of Executive Principal and, at the end of my first term here at KAB/KAO, I feel very lucky to have been so welcomed by the school community. The learning experiences, trips and activities that have taken place this term could not have happened without the hard work and effort of all our staff and the support of parents/carers.

I would like to thank the whole KABKAO community for the energy and enthusiasm you show every day and to wish you all a happy and peaceful break. I look forward to welcoming students back in 2023 as we start the new year with a firm resolve to DARE to be Remarkable!

Best wishes,  
Mrs Moore

## GCHQ CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

KAB Secondary staff and students took on the mission from Sir Jeremy Fleming, Director of GCHQ, to crack the code to find the seasonal message. Students worked in teams and used their skills in computing, languages, coding, analysis, engineering, maths and codebreaking to solve 7 puzzles. This led them to what3word locations and a Christmas message from GCHQ. Students from Years 7 to 11 took part and showed great determination to find the answer. Certificates will be awarded by Mrs Goodley to the successful teams.. and staff!



Dare To Be Remarkable

## MESSAGE FROM MRS PHILLIPS

Wow, it has been a fabulously festive end to the Autumn term with some fabulous festive events. The celebrations were officially launched with our PTA led Christmas fair on Thursday 1st December. During this event we were able to raise just over £2000 for our PTA which is a fantastic amount of money.



Next up was our Winter Shows across both primary and secondary, it is safe to say that everyone has been blown away by the huge amount of talent shown. The students and staff put a huge amount of effort into these events and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Our KS2 Carol Concert was also a big success and the children sang beautifully.



Children in the primary phases had a wonderful time at Sleepy Storytime. They enjoyed relaxing in their pj's, sipping hot chocolate and listening to their teachers reading them a story. Special thanks to the PTA for organising such a lovely event.

The KAO choir visited Astbury Manor Care Home this week. It was a delightful event where the children sang Christmas songs to the residents. We have been invited back to the care home to join in with many activities in the new year such as a gardening competition and pebble painting which the students are looking forward to.



Thursday 15th December saw our annual Christmas jumper day raising money for Thames Hospice, students and staff wore a fabulous array of Christmas jumpers and it certainly helped to put everyone into the festive spirit.

Wishing you an enjoyable and restful festive break.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Phillips

## ICE SAFETY

At the end of this newsletter is an information leaflet from RBFRS about Ice Safety. Please ensure that you do discuss this with your children, we have received numerous complaints from members of the community about our children playing on the iced water in the local area despite the messages we are giving out in school. This is highly dangerous and needs to stop.

## ATTENDANCE

As you know attendance continues to remain an absolute priority, students must be in school every day, this couldn't be any more important particularly given the disruption to education our students have had over the last two and a half years. As a reminder, our minimum expectation for attendance is 97%. Please ensure you continue to support us with this and do not allow your children to remain at home for minor ailments. Where attendance is a concern for your child, you will be requested to attend a meeting to develop an attendance support plan.

You must notify school by 8:50am on the morning of your child's absence with a valid reason for their absence, this must also be done on any subsequent days of absence. We now have a dedicated email address for secondary attendance which is: [attendance.bi@kingsacademies.uk](mailto:attendance.bi@kingsacademies.uk) alternatively, messages can be left on the absence line or through the ClassCharts App. Where we are not informed of a valid reason for missing school, absence will not be authorised.

Thank you for your support in this important matter.

## SAFEGUARDING

Whilst we hope that you all have an enjoyable Christmas break, we appreciate that this is not always an easy time of year for our families. Below are some resources you can access if you need help during this time of year:



- [Young Minds - Mental Health Support](#)
- [Safer Internet Centre - Resources for parents/carers](#)
- [Kooth - Free online counselling support](#)
- [Domestic Abuse Support](#)
- [Debt Support](#)

Remember, we are all still here to support you, please reach out if you need any support. For any safeguarding concerns please email [safeguarding.bi@kingsacademies.uk](mailto:safeguarding.bi@kingsacademies.uk)

If you believe a child is at risk of harm or in danger, please contact the police and children's social care [here](#).

## PARKING REMINDER

Please be considerate to our neighbours when collecting and dropping off your child. We have received complaints from neighbours about dangerous and inconsiderate parking in the community. In addition to this, a reminder that disabled parking bays are for disabled people to use only, we have had people not able to access these spaces due to other people without disabilities parking in them

## UNIFORM SHOP REOPENING INFO

Please see the flyer on **page 4** for details of when the school uniform shop will reopen after the Christmas break.

## BRACKNELL FOODBANK CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Please see below for the Bracknell Foodbank opening times over the festive period for families using this service.

**Fri 23rd Dec:** OPEN 10.30am – 12:00pm

**Mon 26th Dec:** CLOSED

**Tues 27th Dec:** CLOSED

**Wed 28th Dec:** OPEN 10.30am – 12:00pm

**Thurs 29th Dec:** CLOSED

**Fri 30th Dec:** CLOSED

**Mon 2nd Jan:** CLOSED

**Tues 3rd Jan:** OPEN 10.30am – 12:00pm

## SPORTS UPDATES

**Secondary Penathlon Tournament:** Last week we saw our first entry into the Secondary Panathlon. 14 students took part in a mixture of boccia, new age kurling, polybat and other activities. Everyone was brilliant and gave 100%. We also ended up coming second out of the 7 schools that took part.



**Basketball:** In the last couple of weeks, the PE department has taken groups of Years 8 and 9 students to Brackenhale school for Basketball tournaments against local schools. The Year 8 students showed excellent determination and resilience in the games they played, but were unfortunately on the end of defeat. The Year 9 students played with an equally determined manner and won every match they played, winning the tournament. All the teachers present commented on how respectful the students were and that they were a credit to the school! Well done all involved!



# SPORTS UPDATES

**Basketball (continued):** The Year 7 team had a tournament at Kings Academy against two teams. They showed fantastic team spirit and won 1 (8-2) and lost 1 (7-8). It was brilliant to see the pupils give their all. There were some fantastic performances from all the students especially considering that it was some of the pupils first match for the school. Some fantastic set shots and layups were shown with some brilliant defending too.

The Year 8 team had a tournament at Kings Academy against two teams. They showed a very strong team spirit and brilliant organisation in defence. This led to two wins (16-0 and 8-2). There were some exceptional passes from a variety of students which led to some easy layups. It was a superb performance from all students involved!

DATES FOR THE DIARY	
Friday 16th December	End of term
Tuesday 3rd January	Spring Term Begins - All phases back in school
Thursday 12th January	Year 10 Parents Evening
Thursday 26th January	Year 8 Parents Evening



**STORE OPENING TIMES**

We reopen on the 3rd of January

**STEVENSONS**  
EST. 1925  
SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS

Reading - December 2022



## Winter safety

This poster is designed to help you enjoy water safely in winter.

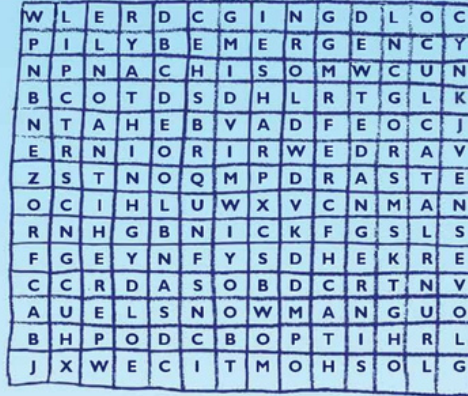
### Winter Safety Advice:

- Pay attention to water safety signs
- Don't go on to the ice, it is not safe
- Never go on to the ice to rescue someone, try to reach them with an object
- Keep clear of the water's edge in case you fall in
- Never play in floodwater, you may get swept away or it may be deeper than you think

Contact RLSS UK to find out how you can become a Rookie Lifeguard and learn lifesaving and self-rescue skills.

01789 773994 or [info@rlss.org.uk](mailto:info@rlss.org.uk)

### Wordsearch



- |        |           |         |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| WINTER | SIGNS     | SNOWMAN |
| ICE    | FROZEN    | GLOVES  |
| CRACKS | THIN      | DANGER  |
| COLD   | EMERGENCY | SHARP   |

### Draw a snowman lifeguard!



Why not share your pieces of art with us? Simply post with the #watersafety.



## DANGERS

Can you number the following dangers on the picture?

- 1 Call for help as soon as possible
- 2 Always use a safe rescue, never go on the ice
- 3 Never follow animals on the ice
- 4 Lie on your back and use something that floats to stay on the water's surface
- 5 Obey warning signs
- 6 Ice is thin around drainpipes, trees and plants
- 7 Ice is always thin around man-made structures and at the edge of river banks

**SPOT**  
spot the dangers

**ADVICE**  
follow safety signs and advice

**FRIEND**  
always go with friends or family

**Emergency**  
shout for help and call 999

Keep your family SAFE, learn the code:

