



No.29 Week 32: 24 – 28 May 2021

“Pirouette at lightning speed”

Following advice from Public Health, Monday saw the school community perform a pirouette at lightning speed as we moved from ‘normal’ schooling to: suspending school; reinstatement of online learning; mobile testing units being hosted (amidst rain and hail) and the organising of logistics and registration of students; plus the careful planning, communications and operational management that are needed for this. I hope you won't mind me expressing thanks to the exceptional leadership team and support staff at King's who made these possible.

As a result, and although some of us got wet and endured an unexpected wait as teething problems were resolved, over 1,000 PCR tests were performed and registered within a day-and-a-half, by Wednesday lunchtime. We believe that this contributed significantly to the health and welfare of our school and of the wider community, and we are extremely grateful to all who attended for testing.



World Environment Day 2021 takes place on 5th June and calls for urgent action to revive damaged ecosystems. We all depend on healthy ecosystems for our survival. Ecosystems are the interaction between living organisms - plants, animals, people - with their surroundings. This includes nature, but also human-made systems such as cities or farms. We are losing and destroying ecosystems an alarming rate through our activities. Ecosystem restoration is a global undertaking on a massive scale- but it also includes many small actions everyone can take, every day. Think about rewilding gardens, changing our diets, throwing away less rubbish and cleaning up rivers and coasts.

Dr Baird - Head of Science

A Year 7 Retrospective: What A Strange Time!

As a Year 7 student, joining The King's Academy was strange; there was an open evening, but not an induction week. I barely had any experience of the school. When I first came, I felt quite nervous, but I soon made new friends like you would in primary.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic everyone had to stay within certain zones, wear face masks and stay away from others, which has not allowed me to get a full experience of secondary school. Sometimes, I have missed time at school, by isolating as well as doing live lessons and remote learning via Teams. When the pandemic ends and the school operates normally, I expect to get lost in some areas! Also, Covid-19 has prevented me from having a full secondary education, such as going on class trips and joining in House Events.

Overall, I enjoy going to The King's Academy and look forward to getting the full experience of the school.

William Colebrook– 7Chrystal

Mr Dawes (see the letter [here](#) for the full text)

Key Dates	
May	
Monday 31	Half Term Holiday
June	
Monday 7	School reopens Start of Years 10 & 12 rehearsals
w/c 14	House Rounders
w/c 21	House Cricket
July	
Monday 5	Year 13 Prom, Judges Hotel
Wednesday 7	Year 11 Prom, Wynyard Hall

Sixth Form Experience Week Monday 7 – Thursday 10 June

We are really excited about welcoming our new prospective Year 12 students to experience “life as a sixth former”, from 7 – 10 June. This is a great chance for our current Year 11, as well as students wishing to join us from other schools, to get a taste of life at The King’s Academy Sixth Form and the wealth of opportunities- both academic and extra-curricular- that are offered. There will be a varied programme of activities, all aimed at helping prospective students get to know each other; the Sixth Form team; form tutors; and subject teachers.

Ready to sign up? Visit: <https://bit.ly/3f6QOZ>

Any questions? Email: kasixth-form@thekingsacademy.org.uk

See you there!

The Sixth Form Team



The Return of Magical Musicals

It was a great pleasure after a year of hiatus to be able to announce our next academy production this week. As many of you will know it is a highlight of the academy calendar and was sorely missed last year. After the success of *Mary Poppins JR* in 2019, we have been chomping at the bit to be able to reform The King’s Academy Youth Theatre and make a start at producing our next spell-binding show. For years students have asked for us to perform *Matilda the Musical*; and every year I have had to disappoint them as the rights-holders have not yet released the performance rights for the production... until now! MTI Europe, who hold the rights for *Matilda JR*, have recently released the performance rights for schools and amateur groups to perform this hit: so of course we had to be at the front of the queue.

Based on the beloved book “Matilda” by Roald Dahl and adapted from the award-winning full-length musical, Roald Dahl’s *Matilda The Musical JR*. tells the story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. It is a heart-warming story with over-the-top characters and catchy tunes. Interested students are already perfecting their auditions for our return after half term. If there are any more students who want information about being involved, they can email me to be added to the Teams group. I can’t wait to start rehearsals and bring the joy of musical theatre back to The King’s Academy. We hope you will be able to join us in November for our three-night run – dates to be confirmed shortly.

Mr Jones - Head of Drama

A Fond Farewell

Mrs Janet Gordon, cleaning assistant, has worked tirelessly at the Academy since it opened in 2003. We thank you for your dedication and hard work. We hope you have a long and happy retirement with plenty of time that you are able to spend with family and friends.

Additional Notices

Temporary changes to lunch arrangements: the upstairs restaurant will be closed from Mon 7 Jun until the end of term for improvement works. This means that we are asking all parents/carers (unless their child is in receipt of Free School Meals) to please **provide their child with a packed lunch each day during June and July**. A limited menu comprising a daily hot meal (with vegetarian choice) and a selection of takeaway hot and cold sandwiches, salads, snacks, fruit and drinks will be available in the downstairs restaurant (including for students in receipt of free school meals). We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Please contact enquiries@thekingsacademy.org.uk should you have any queries.

Free After School Football

Due to the increase in Covid-19 cases in school and the closure of the site to students this week, the Middlesbrough FC Foundation Premier League Kicks after school football sessions have been postponed and will restart on Thursday 10 June.