



King's Academy Ringmer

Kings Academy Ringmer

Kindness, Ambition, Resilience



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Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5RB

01273 812220

JULY 2023



Farewell, Year 11!

Farewell to our lovely Year 11s who had their last day back in June. Mrs Williams surprised them all with a free ice cream from the truck parked outside, straight after their emotional leavers assembly. We look forward to welcoming them back to collect their exam certificates at Awards Evening in November. They have worked incredibly hard and we are certain that their efforts will be rewarded on GCSE results day. Good luck everyone!



Year 11 Prom

Our Year 11s were treated to an extravagant prom, held at East Sussex National Hotel & Spa. Students arrived in style, with Ferrari's, Tractors, Motorbikes, Vintage Cars and even a Black Cab were on show! The red carpet was out, as proud parents, family, friends & staff members watched them enter. The night was full of emotion, as they celebrated their time at KAR with dinner, drinks and dancing... Mr Madiagi & Mrs Williams showed their moves!





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Ringmer Alumni - Billy Evans-Freke is Young British Wildlife Photographer of the Year!



Billy Evans-Freke, 16, won the RSPB Young British Wildlife Photographer of the Year as well as the South Downs National Park photography award in his age category. The teenager won the RSPB prize after capturing an image, named Branching Out, of a young tawny owl in woodland near his house. Billy took the photograph after hearing a commotion with a blackbird and the high-pitched squeak of an owlet. Huge congratulations, Billy!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING ONE OF OUR STUDENTS AMBASSADORS?



PLEASE
CONTACT
MISS BEATTIE
OR MRS
WHITE IF YOU
WOULD LIKE
TO APPLY

If you are in year 8, 9, 10 or 11 and you are:

- Kind
- Caring
- Confident
- Reliable
- Good Listener
- Approachable
- Empathetic
- Non-Judgemental

...then this could be the role for you!

EXCELLENT
EXPERIENCE
IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED
IN SENIOR
STUDENT
ROLES OR
UNIVERSITY

PEER MENTOR

What do you need to do?

- An online course
- One day training in school to support you in this role
- Attend fortnightly meetings in eco to share ideas



Dance

Our talented dancers represented the school impeccably at the Congress Theatre for Let's Dance 2023 this March!

They did themselves and their loved ones proud.

A huge thank you to Mrs Bailey for choreographing and inspiring our performers!





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Goodbye to Ms Cardin & Ms Budd

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to two of our brilliant teaching team this year. Ms Cardin (Geography) & Ms Budd (Food Tech) will be leaving us at the end of this summer term. Both have been brilliant in their time here, being an integral part of the culture here at KAR and providing enriching trips/activities for the students to take part in. We wish them both all the very best in their new ventures.



RECOGNISING STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS!

Our staff are committed to being the best teachers they can be for our students and we would like to congratulate Mr Coulthard for passing his National Professional Qualification in Leading Teaching and Learning; this is a nationally recognised qualification for school leaders.

Mr Coulthard regularly supports teachers across East Sussex and it's great to see his expertise and talent recognised. Well done, Mr Coulthard!

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DofE Bronze expedition!

Our brave and resilient students took on the bronze DofE expedition this weekend. They braved the soaring temperatures and took off on what would turn out to be a bigger challenge than most expected. Starting from Arlington Reservoir, they embarked on a journey which took them through Berwick, Selmeston, Chalvington, Ripe, Lower Dicker before ending up at Bushy Wood Campsite where staff who had kindly volunteered their weekend to spend the full two days with them including camping overnight.

Students then began making their way back in their groups in different stages, before setting up camp, their tent, stoves and cooking dinner (all managed to avoid food poisoning!). The evening consisted of cooling down, kicking a ball around and playing games before an early bedtime ready for an early start the following morning.



Day two proved to be slightly easier than the previous day, with spirits higher (albeit a few blisters on feet), groups set off from as early as 8am with their bags packed to begin the shorter trek back to the Reservoir. The first group who set off made it back to the finish within 3 hours! Staff were stationed back at the reservoir to greet and congratulate all the students who had done themselves and their groups incredibly proud.

Some students who displayed the KAR values with pride will be celebrated in assemblies later this term. A huge well done to all of you and to Miss Smith, Mr Moffat, Ms Hunnisett, Mr Wood, Miss Drapans, Mr Rednall, Miss Dunstall and Mr Duckworth for all their hard work supporting the students to achieve this.





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Geography

On Wednesday 12th July, 46 Geography GCSE students ventured into Brighton and Hove to investigate sustainability and coastal management. Students completed a retail diversity index in two different streets and then headed out to the coast to measure sediment and longshore drift. We were very lucky to be joined by Ronnie the dog, thanks to Ms Beattie. Students will now be spending their final lessons this summer presenting, analysing and reaching conclusions about the data they collected. It was great to see the students out in the field, showing excellent team work and enquiry skills. A great time was had by all. Many thanks to all the staff who helped to make it a very successful visit.

Ms Cardin



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SCHOOL UNIFORM 23/24

If parents are purchasing new logoed uniform over the Summer break, please do so via Sussex Uniforms. Sussex Uniforms are providing the service to even more schools this year so we suggest purchasing well in advance. Shoes should be black leather, or leather effect shoes without ANY logos. Black leather Nike, Vans, Air Force 1s (or other sport provider) trainers are not an appropriate school shoe. We also have a Facebook group titled ' King's Academy Ringmer Uniform Group ', for those wishing to sell outgrown/no longer needed uniform secondhand. Thank you for your cooperation.



Student Leaders 2022/23



Following a very rigorous interview process during which Year 10 student candidates gave a 2-minute presentation to a panel of Year 11 students, candidates then had an interview with Ms Dormer and Ms Hunnisett.

The students will be taking home letters personally addressed to their parents giving them the exciting news.

Principal senior students Esther Ellwood & Jack Holder

Vice Senior Student - Opportunity Alfie Leach	Vice Senior Student - Student voice Emilia Ruff	Vice Senior Student - Academic Abigail Fleet	Vice Senior Student - Community Devon-Danielle Booker
Sports Leader Mary Sunguro	Lead Student Ambassadors Tionne Andrew Grace Foster	Reading Leader Emma Bartlett	Eco Lead Students Fionn Kersey-Green Nico Freezer
House Leaders Archie Denness (S) James Simms (T) Izzy Goulding (F) Harlyn Wright (H)	Marketing Leader Isabella Freezer	Personal Assistant to Senior Students Robert Rattray	Transition Leads Archie Gibbons Grace Cottingham

I am sure you will join us in congratulating them all on this amazing achievement and their brave ambition. We wish them luck in their new roles in the coming year.

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PE - Sports Day

A fiercely contested sports day this year as competitors from Hawking, Seacole, Franklin and Turing all took part in football, rounders, athletics, capture the flag, basket ball and table tennis. Students showed great ambition to win points for their houses and really got into the spirit dressed in their house colours.

In the end, there could only be one winner... Seacole! Congratulations to all participants. Huge thanks to all the staff for supporting and making it a great success.

The PE team



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Bude – Monday 3 July to Friday 7 July 2023

On the beautiful North Cornwall coast of Bude, students enjoyed a week of activities that challenged their physical strength and mental resilience. Everyone had a go; no one opted out. From squeezing head-first into confined spaces underground, to climbing telegraph poles in the wind and rain, to facing the enormous rolling breakers of the Atlantic with surfboards and rolling down hills on off-road boards, there was definitely plenty of adventure. In the evenings, we dressed up, danced, sang, played team games and watched movies. There was plenty of entertainment to keep everyone occupied. It's safe to say, everyone returned exhausted - but happy! Well done to all the students who -sometimes literally - threw themselves into each activity.

Mrs Hunnisett – Visit Leader



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Charterhouse Centre Visit – Wednesday 5 to Friday 7 July 2023

Firstly can I just say how proud I am of all the students who have joined myself, Mrs White, Ms Tompsett and Mr Schulz for these three days to The Charterhouse Centre.

The staff that are working for and at The Charterhouse Centre were amazing, so supportive and encouraging throughout the activities. Everyone was made to feel safe and from my own point of view, I never once felt worried safety or questioned their decisions. We will be looking at booking again for next year watch this space...

Your children have set the most wonderful example of well-rounded individuals who we are and you should be very proud of. The fear factor has come in for some pupils when asked to lean backwards off the edge of a rock face in Sandford Quarry as they prepared to abseil down with gusto and huge smiles.

Caving in Goatchurch Cave was without doubt my highlight, so much so that I cheekily opted to go in again and sent Mrs White off to get wet again on Cheddar Reservoir with the Super Stand-Up Paddle Board and some power boat driving. This was a highlight for our resident speed demon Mr Schulz who loved driving the power boat across Cheddar Reservoir.

Miss Tompsett has enjoyed her first ever outdoor pursuits adventure and she has tried everything with the students. Her highlight was the abseiling in Sandford Quarry. This was a beautiful place with the most amazing views out across The Mendip Hills.

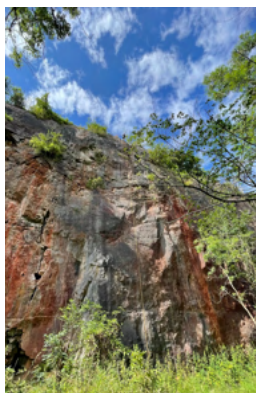
If you happen to bump into any of these kind and supportive staff, please do take the time to thank them. We have all left our own small people behind for these three days and without them, this trip would not have been as good and I am confident to say that the combination of staff and students was a winner for all involved.

We have all taken a ridiculous number of photos which will be shared via a Google Drive link that I will share with the students via their Gmail. Please can you be patient as I have to double check for permissions and faces before I share any photos. Once I have organised this, I will get them in one folder and send out the link.

Many thanks for your support and patience, please do pass on our gratitude to your children for making this such a good trip. When you speak to them, I can only apologise if they are now tired and grumpy but rest assured they will all have lots to tell you about the experiences of caving, climbing and abseiling, paddle boarding, power boating and then surviving room sharing!

Mr Quinnell – Visit Leader

PS: Bed changing is not something we thought we would have to be teaching but you can now be very pleased that your child is now an "expert" and I am sure they will volunteer to do this regularly at home!





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Ardeche Visit – Friday 30 June to Saturday 8 July 2023

We had an extremely successful trip to France last week. We started the week with a paddle down the gorge on 2-person canoes. With everyone paired up, we began our descent down the river looking at the majestic sights around us.

We carried this on, on day two of our trip. Feeling the buzz flowing through the group, we took note of the caves and nature surrounding us, watching out for those sneaky rapids that we would approach and delightfully, expertly navigate, laughing all the way.

On day three of our trip, we took a trip to Wave Island, a water park located in Monteux. Here the students learnt a thorough understanding of resilience and ambition by taking on every waterslide the park had to offer. It was great fun, and all of the students presented themselves in a mature manner.

Day four was the dreaded walk. Consistently, the students were asking 'Do we have to do this?'. However, come the end of the walk the students felt an air of achievement and pride as they had all completed the trek through the gorge and difficult pathways. A special mention to Millie, that despite the difficulties she faced, not once did she give up and powered through and received a round of applause from the whole camp.

On our final full day of the trip, we once again travelled down to the river and took part in two activities: SUP (stand-up paddle boarding) and raft building. With the group split up into four teams we went about our activities in a proactive manner. All students really enjoyed both the team-building exercise of the raft building and the independent challenge of the SUP.

On the whole, all students were a credit to the school and behaved incredibly well. I think it was summed up by Caroline, one of the activity leaders when she said that there is a real sense of community within our school, that no one is left alone, isolated or upset; linking back to our three values Kindness, Ambition and Resilience. Mr Duckworth – Visit Leader



Art Department – Enrichment Week

What a great creative week we've had! Students have had the opportunity to use lots of different materials this week here what our week looked like:

Monday: Students used scalpels to create intricate paper cuttings, pasted glass jars with PVA and tissue to create fantasy scenes with carefully cut silhouettes and lastly little peg butterflies (or moths) that are simply cute!

Tuesday: This day was all about taking students down the rabbit hole of Art Journals, students were attentive as they watched, then replicated different techniques and styles. The day was then summed up at the end with free time so students could explore their own Journals and they did some stunning work!

Wednesday: An ambitious day of 3 different workshops which all use specialist materials, we started with printing making using lino which is a difficult material that we don't usually introduce until year 10, the students approach it with maturity and produced work to take home, we then moved on to clay to create some lovely hanging clay pots and lastly, we showed them the skill of create a book cover and binding it.

Friday: We spent the day using Clay (ceramic), Polymer (oven bake) and Shrinky Dinks (massive in the 80's). We had students creating Raman bowls, piggy rings, fried egg earrings and many more interesting things. The loveliest thing to hear as we walked around was that every student in that workshop was making at least one thing for someone else, the kindness and compassion for others was really evident.

I hope your child enjoyed their week and gained some fantastic memories and skills.

Miss Hook – Activity Leader



Music - Summer Showcase!

Summer Performing Arts Showcase 2023

On Wednesday evening around 65 students from Year 7 to 10 took part in our Summer Showcase including large scale dance performances as well as solos and small groups, plus music soloists, trios, the cello ensemble and our choir and band.

The hall was packed with family, friends and students who came to support and enjoy the amazing performances which included "Collision" Kings Academy's 2023 Let's Dance entry as well as many inspiring solo performances and small groups, most of which had been choreographed by the students.

The range of musical numbers showed off the individual and group talents of our students, including a brilliant performance of Skyfall, several beautiful solos and a moving performance of Fix You by the choir. The band closed the evening with a mash-up of Sweet Dream (are made of this) with Seven Nation Army.

We're incredibly grateful for the generosity of our school community who raised £350 to support the repair and purchase of musical instruments which are used on a daily basis by Year 7-9 in the music lessons. This will also enable us to explore possibilities for running a school musical next year!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff that helped make this happen: Mr Brown (site team), Mrs Taylor and Mrs Budd for the refreshments, the Finance Team plus teaching staff for supporting our rehearsals.

We also want to acknowledge and congratulate all our students performers for their hard work in rehearsing and preparing their performances. As well as for taking the risk with us to get up and perform - we know it isn't easy to do and we really congratulate you for having the courage to do this and building the resilience to do this. We really hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Thanks also to our budding 'Tech Crew' who managed the lighting and sound brilliantly!

Thank you,
Ms Urquhart (Subject Leader for Music)



Mrs Colbourne – Activity Leader

Food Technology

During Enrichment week the Food department organised three cookery days offering savoury or sweet cooking sessions which proved very popular with all three year groups.

On the Monday students had the opportunity to prepare their own break and lunchtime meals from their own baked bread, burgers prepared from scratch and a cheese and garlic stuffed chicken breast wrapped in streaky bacon and served with potato wedges. Students who preferred Vegetarian dishes were busy making their own short crust pastry vegetable quiche or marinated kebabs.

In the afternoon everyone designed their own dip platters with some creative vegetable cutting and tasty cheese and hummus dip recipes.

"Afternoon tea" cookery days followed on Wednesday and Thursday. Multiple cake baking throughout the day with some very impressive strawberry and cream filled sponge roulades, homemade scones and jam and everyone's favourite lemon drizzle cake.

Feedback from students was very positive but they were surprised by how tired they felt after a day of cooking and eating!

"Very fun overall, I enjoyed it a lot. Next time I will bring more containers for everything!"

"It was lovely."

"I really enjoyed making the bread as I think it was my favourite thing to eat and it had many steps."

"I liked the dip platter where you had the freedom to make what you wanted."

"It was better than I expected. No improvements needed."

Mrs Budd





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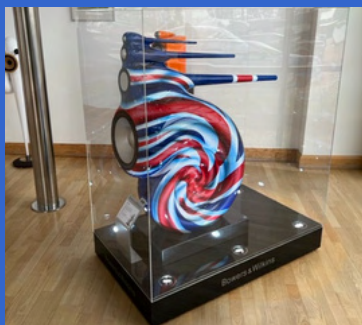
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Year 11 DT trip

Mr Wood, Mrs White and Mr Duckworth took 18 Year 11 DT students out on an exciting trip to Bowers & Wilkins Speakers in Worthing.

The students got the chance to see what goes on in the factory, including the whole process of the production of their high end speakers, and ask questions around the topics of R&D, qualifications and career progression. This is invaluable for their DT exam in July.

Finally, we were allowed access into their studio to hear the full sound experience... we were blown away, almost literally. We can't wait to go back next year with our next cohort of Year 11 Students. Big thank you to Mrs White for organising this and giving the students an insight into a career in DT.



DT in the classroom



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Debate Club

Debate Club has had another great year! We have discussed topics such as the future of the monarchy, whether everyone should be a vegetarian, school uniform, the legalisation of cannabis, animal rights, compensation for former slave colonies and my personal favourite – whether or not you should get a tattoo....

Thanks to all the students who came along and spoke or even chaired a debate this year.

Ms Moorhouse

Amnesty International Club was set up this year by Year 10 student Nico Freezer as a result of the work on human rights that we did in RE last year. It has a small but committed membership who meet every week to add their voices to campaigns and email in support of prisoners of conscience. The Bake sale we held in March raised £50 which we sent to Amnesty to help them in their work.



Doctor Who Club

Dr Who Club is now one of the oldest clubs in the school and continues to meet every Friday to watch episodes of this great programme. Come along next year!





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From all of us at King's Academy Ringmer, have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you again in September for another successful year.