



Today's Prayer

Listen or read the Prayer for the Day and join in with thousands of others saying these words.

[Today's Prayer | The Church of England](#)

24/25 Issue No 1

Friday 6 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone for preparing your son/daughter for the start of term. I am pleased to report that our students are looking fantastic in their new uniform and are coming well prepared with everything they need to be successful. Please ensure that your child has a green pen for corrections plus a glue stick so that they can stick work into their books. All in all, we have made a great start to term and have been particularly excited to welcome our new Year 7s into our community.

We have introduced some significant changes this year which are already helping create a calmer and more purposeful school. I'm also pleased to report that our new teachers have settled in well and have really hit the ground running. We are proud to be a popular place to work and are fully staffed in all subjects despite the national teacher recruitment crisis.

This year we are celebrating our 475th anniversary as a school and I look forward to sharing information about how we are celebrating this as the year goes on.

School Photographs

School photographs for Years 7, 9 and 11 will take place on Monday 23 September 2024, and includes a Year 11 group photograph. If your child is in Year 8 or 10 and has arrived in school since the start of the last academic year, their photographs will also be taken. Please remind your child that they should bring a school jumper that day, and that they need to look extra smart!

GCSE Results

Well done to Year 11 for their gargantuan efforts through their GCSEs. We are exceptionally proud of their efforts and look forward to sharing future successes. Head Girl Elodie Barnard said,

Please can I ask that all parents have logged into Go4Schools so that they can track attendance and merits awarded for good work. The following guide will be useful for any new parent or anyone who needs a reminder: [GO 4 Schools "NEW" Parent and student site \(king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk\)](http://king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk)

Also further information on parent pay can be found here: [Parent Pay - King Edward VI School \(king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk\)](http://king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk) Or other Parent information from the website: [Parents - King Edward VI School \(king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk\)](http://king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk)

'Everyone should be proud of what they achieved due to the hard work and long process of sitting 20-30 examinations each.' Head Boy Nathan Abu reflected, 'It's been an amazing journey and now this chapter of our life has come to an end. I'd like to thank our teachers as they have been so supportive of everyone.'



It's also pleasing to see two King Edward's students secure an Oxbridge place via Abbeigate this year plus another two into medicine/dentistry.



School Catering 2024

At King Edward VI School, we are proud of our catering which is prepared in our own kitchen by our own staff.

They love to provide a choice of healthy and satisfying lunchtime meals including our hot meal of the day, pasta pots, jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings and cold sandwiches. Prices vary, but our main course hot meal of the day is £2.95.

For best value, our meal-deal includes a main course and a dessert – which could be anything from our hot dessert of the day with custard, cakes, cookies or fruit/granola pots, or a drink. The price of a meal-deal is £3.80. Catering accounts can be topped up using our cashless system 'ParentPay', allowing students to purchase food at our tills, using biometric technology.

We want to make the catering at King Edward VI School as inclusive as possible. If your child has any special dietary requirements, we would be happy to discuss this with you.

Performing Arts Captains

The Drama Department are enlisting 'Performing Arts Captains' across all year groups, to lead and be the 'student voice' for all things Performing Arts. They will be expected to meet with the Performing Arts team throughout the year, to help drive the passion to get involved with clubs, shows, performances and will be expected to lead by example and help run events both front and backstage.

This will be a great experience and shine brightly on CVs and future applications! The roles of Drama / Dance and Music Captains are open to ALL students whether they take the subject at GCSE or not.

Please ask your child to hand in any nominations (self or peer nominations excepted!) to the Drama Office by Friday 13 September. Please state name, form and reason why they would



make a great Captain, clearly stating for Dance / Drama and / or Music.

Whole School Production – CATS

There is still time for students to join the cast and crew of the school production of CATS! Sign-up sheets will remain outside of the Drama Office until Monday 9 September.

All CATS information will be on the Teams Groups for cast and crew, so keep an eye out for upcoming rehearsals and meetings! It's going to be awesome!

History

Mr Shaw is holding a parent information evening for the upcoming History Trip this month. The information evening is on 9 September at 6pm in the PAC.

A Unique Opportunity and Invitation from St Edmundsbury Cathedral

There are three exciting learning opportunities happening in the Cathedral as a part of their "Big Issues" Edmund lectures in October/November this year. Each topic is covered by an internationally renowned speaker and all three fit well into the school curriculum. The talks would suit older students studying science, politics and current affairs and social issues, and geopolitics, particularly the Middle-East. If young people from King Edward VI school wish to attend, the speakers would offer dedicated private time to them as part of their contribution.

Please see below dates and links to book on to each session:

- Wednesday 9 October - 7pm "A Different God? A Different Mountain?" with Dr Ed Kessler MBE [The Edmund Lectures - "A Different God? A Different Mountain?" \(stedscathedral.org\)](https://stedscathedral.org)
- Wednesday 30 October 7pm "A Very British Scandal" with Mark Russell [The Edmund Lectures: "A Very British Scandal" \(stedscathedral.org\)](https://stedscathedral.org)
- Wednesday 20 November 7pm "Climate Change: Science and Solutions" with Professor Rachel Warren [The Edmund Lectures: "Climate Change: Science and Solutions" \(stedscathedral.org\)](https://stedscathedral.org)

Message from Suffolk County Council



[CLICK HERE](#) for a Suffolk County Council letter regarding additional education opportunities available in the local area.

Sea Cadets

Year 10 student Erin and her friend spent the week on TS Royalist over the summer, which is a training brig that takes 24 trainees and 10 crew. They sailed from Newcastle and travelled up the coast to Aberdeen. Their first day out at sea was quite bumpy resulting in everyone taking sea sickness tablets, wearing oilskins and being confined to the deck to eat for safety reasons.



The week got better as Erin got to see wild dolphins and puffins and also climbed the rigging as far as they are allowed to go. The cadets had to be part of a night watch and Erin had the 3-4am slot but she didn't mind as she got to see the sun rise over the North Sea. Erin completed all necessary tasks whilst onboard and gained

her Offshore Hand One for Square Rig vessels. What an outstanding achievement, well done Erin!

Bury Library's YA book group

September's Young Adult book club takes place in Bury Library. The book club is a small and friendly group who meet at Bury Library once a month on the first Saturday of the month between 2pm and 3pm in their activity space.

The next session will be on Saturday 7 September. The group is facilitated by a member of staff, but the aim of it is to get teens chatting about the books they enjoy and making friends. September's title is 'Island of Whispers' by Frances Harding. There is no obligation to have read the book, but it will be available to borrow from the YA display in the Teen Zone upstairs in the library. Click the link for more details: [YA Book Group - Events - Suffolk Libraries](#)

Other local events:

Haverhill Night Hub

5th September Video Games Night		We will be making use of our brand new Games Room and having a Mario Kart Competition.
12th September Spanish Night		Join us to make and taste some Spanish Tapas.
19th September Quiz Night		Put your thinking caps on as there are prizes to be won.
26th September Fair Ground Games Night		Join us for some classic fair ground games, on our custom made games board!

Please note that activities are subject to change.

For Parents and Carers in Suffolk



A VIRTUAL, practical course which helps parents and carers to develop and enhance children's understanding and talking.



Suffolk's Specialist Education Services are pleased to be able to offer this popular course. The eight 2 hour sessions will enable you to learn how to develop your children's understanding and talking.

Let's Talk with Under 5s

This practical course is designed for parents and carers but is also suitable for early years practitioners. Written by speech and language therapists these seven two-hour sessions will enable you to learn how to enhance and develop your child's understanding and talking.

The course workbook is full of strategies and activities that can be used with your child at home and in the pre-school environment. Helping your child become a confident communicator now will mean that s/he is ready for all the exciting learning s/he will be involved in when school starts.

The aims are

- To give you practical ideas to help develop and enhance your child's ability to listen, understand and speak.
- To learn why some children find it challenging to understand what is said to them and to talk.
- To help you develop your child's talking so s/he is ready for school.
- To share ideas with other parents and carers.

Topics covered

- Understanding what's happening when we talk to each other.
- Enhancing interaction between children and adults.
- Developing play so that talking develops.
- Improving listening and understanding.
- Learn how children learn new words and help them use them in sentences.
- Learn how to ask appropriate questions and share books.
- Help children whose speech is hard to understand.

What the experts say

'Language at age two predicts reading, maths and writing when children start school' (DoE report 2011).

'Vocabulary at 5 is a very strong predictor of the qualifications achieved at school leaving age and beyond' (Feinstein and Duckworth, 2006).

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Everyone at King Edward VI would like to wish you an exciting weekend.

Deri O'Regan

For Parents and Carers in Suffolk

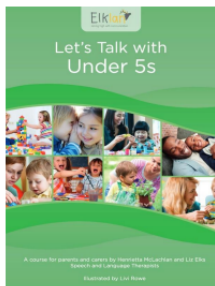
DATES AND TIMES (Each Session is on Tuesday Morning)

This course is virtual, delivered through Microsoft TEAMS.

Session 1	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 1 st October '2024
Session 2	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 8 th October '2024
Session 3	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 15 th October '2024
Session 4	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 22 nd October '2024
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Session 5	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 5 th November '2024
Session 6	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 12 th November '2024
Session 7	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 19 th November '2024
Session 8	9:30am – 11:30am	Tuesday 26 th November '2024

COST - free

- You will need a course book, ready to take part in these sessions.
- Your course book cost is £15 plus postage.
- The course book is available at the ELKLAN Shop [Let's Talk with Under 5s workbook](#) (elklan.co.uk)



There are no other costs for this unaccredited course.

This is a popular course with limited places. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Closing date for bookings: FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

What the participants say

I have thoroughly enjoyed the course and recommend it to all parents.

It's fantastic! I now feel so much more confident teaching my daughter to talk. I would recommend all parents do this course. If schools want children to learn then parents need the tools to help and this course help us parents prepare our children.

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE/ ASK QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
amy.webb@suffolk.gov.uk

Closing date for bookings: FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

Dates for your Diary Term Dates for 2024-2025. Additional information can be found on the calendar page of the website	
Mon 9 Sept 24	EHCP Target Meetings Year 7 & 8
Mon 9 Sept 24	Pupil Passport Meetings 8 & 11
Mon 9 Sept 24	History Trip Information Evening
Tue 10 Sept 24	EHCP Target Meetings Year 9,10 and 11
Wed 11 Sept 24	Year 7 Success Evening
Mon 16 Sept 24	School Tours for Year 6
Wed 18 Sept 24	Year 11 Success Evening
Thurs 19 Sept 24	Year 7 Welcome Event at the Cathedral
Fri 20 Sept 24	Battlefields Trip
Mon 23 Sept 24	School Photos
Wed 25 Sept 24	Year 10 Success Evening
Wed 25 Sept 24	School Tours for Year 6

Thought for the Week

Develop enough courage so that you can stand up for yourself and then stand up for somebody else.

Maya Angelou

All past issues of this Newsletter are available [on our website.](#)