



## 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](#)

## King Edward VI School Open Evening - Thursday 10 October 6-8pm

24/25 Issue No 5

Friday 4 October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We are thrilled to welcome back students and staff from Shanghai Yangjing Juyuan Experimental School for their first visit to King Edward VI School since 2019! This marks another milestone in our incredible 15-year partnership, and we couldn't be more excited to continue the collaboration.



The adventure began on Sunday with a charming tour of Bury St Edmunds, led by Mr. Elliott, our Head of Year 9.



On Monday, we gave our visitors a warm, official welcome to King Edward VI School.



### Open Evening

We are exceptionally proud of our students at King Edwards and have invited Year 9 into school next Thursday to act as tour guides. Please can Year 9 parents respond to the invitation sent via email on Monday. This is a great opportunity to develop the soft skills which are essential beyond education into the world of work. No student will be asked to tour alone and all teaching staff will be on-site supervising during the evening. Other students in Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 may be invited into department areas. Parents would have received letters of invitation from Head of Subjects if this is the case. **Parents dropping off student helpers and tour guides must NOT USE Springfield Avenue** as this is a single lane street and you will gridlock the local roads. Please use the turning circle and arrive and avoid driving right up to the school. Or even better, drop off (and collect) a short distance from the school.

Tuesday brought more excitement with a visit to the stunning St Edmundsbury Cathedral.



Our Shanghai students later attended various lessons, from Geography to Philosophy.



A huge thanks to all our amazing teachers and student helpers for making this possible!

Wednesday was all about the iconic sights of London! Our guests, along with some King Edward VI students, explored Tower Hill, cruised along the Thames, and visited Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and more. The day ended with a fantastic dinner on South Bank, the perfect end to a magical day in the heart of London.



On Friday, we will bid farewell to our wonderful visitors with an unforgettable party. Our Music and Drama students will put on show-stopping performances, and our Shanghai guests will give us a brilliant performance of their own. With delicious food from Mr Punchard's team and heartfelt speeches from Mr O'Regan, the evening will be the perfect way to end an amazing week. As a parting gift, we presented our guests with special mementos to remember their time at King Edward VI School.

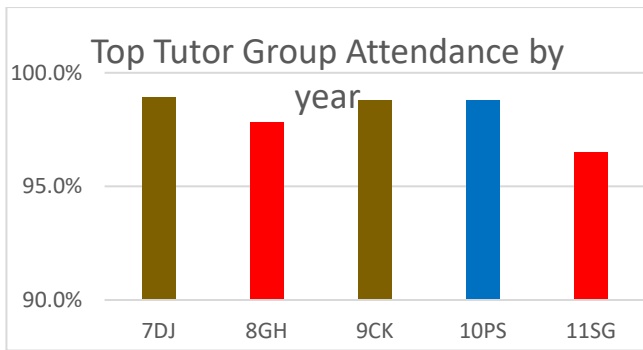
Thursday offered a special cultural exchange, with our Shanghai visitors teaching Chinese lessons at St. Edmundsbury Primary and Risby Primary School. After a fun-filled morning, the group enjoyed a Science lesson with Mr. Thompson, followed by an evening with their host families. These personal connections will no doubt create lasting memories for everyone involved.



We are so grateful for this week of friendship, culture, and shared experiences, and we can't wait to welcome our friends from Shanghai back again soon! More photos and information can be found on the school website: [Shanghai 2024](#)







### Flu Vaccinations – 7 & 14 October 2024

A reminder that the whole school flu vaccinations will take place in the school on Monday 7 (Years 7, 8 and 9) and Monday 14 October (Years 10 and 11). **If you have not already done so, please complete [ONLINE FORM](#) with your parental consent decision.**

### Lost Property

We make every effort to return lost property to their respective owners via their Year Teams and have a centralised location for lost property. This has now moved from next to Student Services to the small room inside RESET. This is accessible before school and after school and during break and lunchtime. Misplaced items discovered at school often have no name attached to them. Parents/ Carers, please make every effort to write your child's name on their belongings. Please note, we are unable to retain items for longer than a term at a time, due to storage constraints, so please remind your child to regularly check lost property and pick up their lost items. We have also created a page on the website specifically for [Lost Property](#) where we will upload photos as we receive items to assist students and parents in locating lost items.

### GCSE Drama Devising Exam Performance

GCSE Drama Devising exam pieces went really well Wednesday. The students worked incredibly hard throughout the dress and tech day and did themselves proud in their evening performances. The audience were very impressed and thanks to the Year 10 GCSE Drama students who attended and showed great support, and have left "buzzing" about what they will be creating for their own pieces.



### Artist of the Week

Our artist of the week is Year 7 student Sammie. Sammie has made an excellent start to Year 7, here is some of the work from the first few lessons where students are applying studied drawing skills to create a realistic sketch of objects.



### Year 9 Football

Our Year 9 B and C team were in action at Thurston college in this year's football festival. The B team won the tournament and our C team came third. It was a great day for the kids

especially as this was a first fixture representing the school for some of them.



### Suffolk County Schools FA Squad 2024-2025

Year 9 student Nico is now a fully-fledged player for the 2024-2025 season – 1 of only 20 in the county. He made his debut on 4 September, playing 60 minutes of the 90 and beating Cambridge United 5:2

Nico started playing football in the Guildhall Feoffment team, progressed to playing for Sporting 87 on Saturdays, where he has been captain for the past two seasons, and has also started playing for Bury Town Community FC U15 Lions on Sundays this season. Great achievement Nico!



### First Chapters

This week, Year 8 and 9 read *October October* by Katya Balen. Year 10 are reading *Promise Boys* by Kiran Nick Brooks.

### Book Signing at KEVI and Bury Lit Fest

Year 8 students mark your calendars for an

exciting author visit on Friday 11 October 2024. Please check out the flyer for information on obtaining a signed copy of available books ahead of time. You can also find the shop [here](#)

**Bury Literature Festival**  
Creative Writing Competition  
**AUTHOR VISIT 11TH OCTOBER**

We are delighted that the winner of the 11-13 age category in this year's Bury Lit Fest Creative Writing Competition is **Joseph Spriggs in Year 8**.

As part of his prize Joe has won King Edwards VI Year 8 a visit from **Award-Winning Author Kiran Millwood Hargrave & Illustrator Tom de Freston!**

Tom and Kiran will be talking about their hugely successful novels *JULIA AND THE SHARK* and *LEILA AND THE BLUE FOX* and there will be the opportunity for students to get a signed copy of their books to mark the occasion and encourage their reading for pleasure.

We have organised a special price of £7 per book, or £12 for both book with local independent bookshop Harris & Harris Books.

Books must be ordered in advance by **10pm 5th October 2024** and will be delivered, signed & dedicated, on the day.

**ORDER NOW**

To find out more about the festival visit: [www.burylitfest.co.uk](http://www.burylitfest.co.uk)

From Friday 11 to Sunday 13 October, Bury Lit Fest is being held in the Unitarian meeting House. This link will take you to a list of their events: [Buy Tickets | Bury St Eds Lit Fest \(burylitfest.co.uk\)](#)

Ticket information:

All Children's Events: PAY WHAT YOU CAN

Concessions: students, under 25s, those in receipt of benefits

Under 18s: FREE but tickets must be booked and under 12s must be accompanied by an adult

Any unsold tickets will be available on the door but booking online in advance is advisable to ensure admittance (including FREE TICKETS)

Some to look out for are:

- Friday 11 October at 6.30pm - poetry with Marin Figura, followed by an Open Mic. Over the last few years, students from KEVI have brought their own poems and read them in front of an audience. If your child is interested, sign up for the session, and remind them that the Creative Writing club



runs every Wednesday if they need any support.

- Saturday 12 October 12pm - Kiran Milwood Hargrave & Tom De Freston: 'Fiction for Children 5-13yrs
- Saturday 12 October at 4.30pm - Meg Reynard (teacher of English) is interviewing Sarah Marsh about her book *A Sign of her Own*. Sarah is a deaf author and Bury Lit Festival are offering D/deaf and Hard of Hearing Audience a 20% discount on tickets.
- Sunday 13 October at 12pm Our very own Matt Gaw (teacher of English) talking about his most recent book *In All Weathers*.

### World Mental Health Day, 10 October 2024

As we approach **World Mental Health Day** on the 10 of October, it's a perfect time to reflect on any challenges your child might face, especially with the recent changes in social media safety.

According to a recent [BBC article](#), nearly 60% of young people have experienced negative impacts from online interactions. The school has organised Mental Health and Wellbeing assemblies for Years 7 - 10 during lessons next week.



Kooth have free webinars which offer valuable insights for parents, providing

practical information and guidance on key mental health topics. [click here for more information, workshops and webinars](#)

## Suffolk Family Carers

### Living Fuller Lives

As a school, we have a smaller percentage of identified Young Carers, compared to the national average. This is something we would like to rectify and are reaching out to families that may have personal circumstances that our pastoral team are not aware of.

A family carer is anybody, of any age, who looks after someone with a long-term illness, mental

health difficulty or disability who could not cope day to day without this help.

Becoming an unpaid family carer is often a gradual process, like the changes affecting person they care for. The work of caring gradually impacts daily life, restricting the ability to get time for themselves. Because of this most people see themselves as a 'wife', 'husband', 'daughter', 'son', 'brother', 'sister' or 'friend', rather than as a family carer.

We appreciate that by not recognising yourselves as a family carer, you may not be accessing to the vital support available, and we would like to support you and your child to access this.

**If you think you or your child is a Family Carer please discuss it further with your child's Pastoral Support Manager, who will be able to give you further information and advice**



### Extra-Curricular Clubs

Unfortunately the following clubs will not be running next week: Boys Fitness on a Monday and Girls Football on a Wednesday (both after school clubs).

**Half-Term Holiday Clubs**  
[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



**ADVENTURE DAYS**  
AGES 8-12 YEARS

**28th October – 1st November**  
\*subject dates apply  
**08:30-16:30**

Join us this October Half Term for a range of exciting activities. Take part in activities including fire lighting, archery, axe throwing, swimming and more.

With our Adventure Days happening across Babergh, Mid and west Suffolk, your child has the chance to unlock their inner explorer whilst fitting around your working hours.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided!

**FREE\***  
BOOK NOW

\*free for those eligible for free school meals or meet the eligibility criteria  
[abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF](http://abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF)

West Suffolk Council  
Abbeycroft  
Let's Love Life



**FAMILY PARK COOKING**

**28th October – 1st November**  
**Across Suffolk**  
**10:00-15:00**  
\*subject dates apply

**FREE\***

Parents and children take part in an amazing family day out with a wide range of activities including an outdoor cooking master class where you will cook a delicious lunch together.

Every family that attend will take home all of the ingredients and recipe cards for a weeks' worth of meals.

**BOOK NOW**

\*free for those eligible for free school meals or meet the eligibility criteria  
[abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF](http://abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF)

West Suffolk Council  
Abbeycroft  
Let's Love Life



[CLICK HERE](#) for the parent letter from Suffolk County Council, regarding Household Support Fund discretionary grant.

Inspiring young people in Bury St Edmunds since 1550



## Open Evening

Thursday 10 October 2024  
6pm-8pm

**Follow us on Facebook**

[King Edward VI School Facebook](#)

**Follow us on Instagram** [King Edward VI School Instagram](#)

**Follow our SEND Instagram page** [KEVI Learning Hub Instagram](#)

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

Deri O'Regan

<b>Dates for your Diary</b> <a href="#">Term Dates for 2024-2025.</a> Additional information can be found on the <a href="#">calendar page</a> of the website	
Mon 7 – Fri 11 Oct 24	Mental Health Week
Mon 7 Oct 24	Flu Vaccinations
Thurs 10 Oct 24	Murder for Two – Drama Trip
Thurs 10 Oct 24	Open Evening 6-8pm
Mon 14 Oct	Flu Vaccinations
Mon 14 – Thurs 17 Oct 24	Y11 NEA Food Investigation Exams
Thurs 17 Oct 24	Year 6 School Tour
Fri 18 Oct 24	Year 11 PSHE Drop Down Day
Mon 21 Oct 24	Year 6 School Tour
Thurs 24 Oct 24	Year 7 Disco
Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov 24	Half Term

Thought for the Week

**Whoever lets himself be led by the heart will never lose his way.  
Egyptian proverb**

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