



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 24

Friday 14 March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Last week, we marked **World Book Day** with a variety of exciting activities that encouraged students to engage with books in new and creative ways.

On Wednesday, the Library was transformed into the World Book Day Bistro for a book tasting event. Students were greeted by our host, given a menu and rating sheet and invited to sample a variety of books while sharing their thoughts. This was a fantastic opportunity to explore new genres and authors.



On Thursday, staff brought stories to life in our Living Library, dressing as book characters and engaging students through interactive storytelling. Additionally, a select group of Year 7 and Year 8 students participated in a creative

Year 10 Mock Exam Timetable 13 - 27 June 2025

The Year 10 mock exam timetable has now been added to the [Examinations page](#) of the school website, any questions should be directed to the Exams office or emailed to the Exams Officer at clb@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk.

writing workshop led by Matt Gaw, one of our English teachers and a published author. Students had the unique opportunity to develop their storytelling skills under the guidance of an experienced writer.



The celebrations continued on Friday with a book-themed scavenger hunt around the school, with a prize for the first-place winner. Tutor Groups also competed in a book trivia challenge, with the winning teams enjoying a donut breakfast.

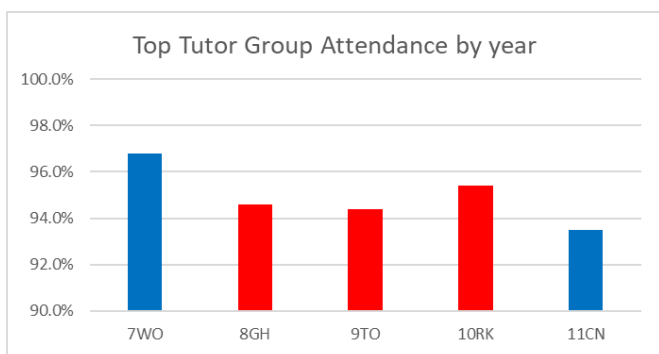


It was a fantastic week celebrating the joy of reading! We encourage all students to continue visiting the school Library and making reading a regular part of their lives. If parents would like reading recommendations or wish to request specific books, please feel free to contact our Librarian: SDR@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk



Year 9 Debate Team

On Tuesday of this week our Year 9 orators took part in the Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition for Bury St Edmunds. After great speeches from a range of local schools our team stepped up to argue with passion for greater action to save the planet's oceans. After a forensic explanation of the issues and bucket-loads of conviction, Tess, Elizabeth and Mohib managed to achieve first place – a super achievement against some tough competition.



Duke of Edinburgh – Message from Mr Hepper

We had a great time at our Bronze Training Day recently ahead of our practice expedition in just two weeks! May I encourage students to arrange their kit ahead of time. I have limited backpacks and roll mats I can lend out on a first come first served basis if a student is unable to source one themselves. Students are only able to collect items from me in school on a Thursday or Friday (my working days.) Also, if students are using new boots, here is a gentle reminder that they would benefit from breaking them in. Any queries, don't hesitate to be in touch: dofe@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk



Reminder - Year 9 Vaccinations – 1 & 2 April
 Year 9 DTP-MenACWY Vaccinations are taking place in school on Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 April. Please can you ensure you fill out the attached online form with your consent decision. [Hertfordshire Community Immunisation](https://www.hertfordshire.nhs.uk/immunisation)
 Please be aware that the vaccination team will attend school for the full school day and will see the full Year 9 cohort. Please complete the form

with your consent decision as soon as possible. This is particularly important if you do not want your child to be vaccinated.

Reluctant Reader Tips

A reminder of our list of "Tips to Support your Child With Reading" page on the website.

[Reluctant Reader Tips - King Edward VI School](#)

English Tutor

Ex-King Edward VI School student Olivia Barber, who has gone on to study English Literature at Oxford University, is available to do online English tutoring for students at King Edward VI School. She is offering the very competitive rate of £25/ hour for online sessions. Any interested parents please contact Meg Reynard: RD@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk - we will prioritise Year 11 students where we can, but the offer is open to any student.

Celebrating Neurodiversity Week - 17 to 23 March 2025

Neurodiversity week challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. Please find a link below to some videos and information exploring what neurodiversity is for some students/people.

[Neurodiversity - The Source](#)

Chatterbooks Book Club

The next Chatterbooks Book Club session is on Saturday 5 April 2025 from 10.15am-11am, for children aged 9-12yrs old. The club is run by staff at the Bury St Edmunds Library. The next book will be 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan. Copies are available to borrow from the display in the junior library:

<https://suffolk.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/FULL/WPAC/BIBENQ/45444/145257322,3>

Children will be offered an activity or puzzle to either complete in the Library or bring home. There is no pressure for children to have read the monthly book (they can chat about their own favourite books from home if they like).

Swiped: The School that Banned Smartphones

The link below is a 5-minute preview of the Channel 4 documentary series Swiped: The School that Banned Smartphones, which tackles

the timely issue of the impact of smartphones on children's behaviour with a pioneering social experiment.

<https://www.facebook.com/Channel4/videos/this-is-a-real-problem-swiped-the-school-that-banned-smartphones/937071201714649/>



With 50% of all 9-year-olds in the UK owning a smartphone, and 43% of UK teens using their smartphones during school lessons; it is no surprise that frequent social media use has been found to increase a child's risk of depression by 27%. In addition, a recent Education Select Committee report revealed that one in four children now use their phones in a manner resembling behavioural addiction. Even more concerning, half of children have accessed violent pornography on a screen by the age of 13 and 21% of 9 – 12-year-olds agree that it is normal for children their age to share nude or semi-nude images online.

Watching the full documentary is certainly eye opening and may help you to tackle this ongoing issue with your children and wider community. If you wish to watch the full two part special please follow this link: [Swiped: The School that Banned Smartphones](#)



Sign the Parent Pact: [Smartphone Free Childhood Sign the Parent Pact](#)

Interested in the RAF?



Step into the high-stakes world of the Royal Air Force and take your ambition to new heights! Inspired by Channel 4's Top Guns: Inside the RAF, this special edition RAF World: Top Guns virtual event gives you unparalleled access to the cutting edge of air and intelligence operations. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Join the RAF on 19 March 2025 from 7.30-9pm - Reserve your spot now: [RAF World: Ready for Take Off Tickets, Wed 29 Jan 2025 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Interested in a Career in Hairdressing, Beauty or Barbering?

Find out how to unlock your career in the following industries!

[Start a career in Hairdressing | VTCT Skills](#)
[Start a career in Beauty Therapy | VTCT Skill](#)
[Start a career in Barbering | VTCT Skills](#)

Interested in a Career in Law?

Reed Smith LLP

Top international law firm Reed Smith LLP are pleased to announce that they are looking for students to join them for their Insight Day. This insight day is designed to give Year 10 & 11 students an insight into life at a top law firm. The day will consist of a series of sessions, including an introduction to law and their firm, panel discussions with experienced lawyers and business staff and practical careers advice for young people who want to kick start their career in the industry.

London - 6 May 2025

Application deadline: 24 March 2025

Apply [here!](#)

DWF Law LLP

Embark on a comprehensive **three-day** journey into the heart of the legal profession with the experts themselves, designed to provide a deep dive into the roles and responsibilities of lawyers, legal operations, and barristers. Each day is meticulously structured to offer a blend of

informative sessions and interactive activities covering routes to law, legal operations and barrister.

Virtual Experience. 1 - 3 July 2025 – 9.30am to 12.30pm

Application deadline: 10 June 2025

Apply [here!](#)

Come and see our students perform at the Shakespeare Schools Festival.

Tickets on sale now!

SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

TICKET PRICES
Adult: £13.25
Cons: £11.25

MEASURE
FOR
MEASURE

26th March 2024
The Junction, Cambridge
Tickets Available from The Junction 14/01/25
Phone: 01223 511 511
Website: www.junction.co.uk/events/shakespeare-schools-festival/

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Everyone at King Edward VI would like to wish you a jolly weekend.

Deri O'Regan

Dates for your Diary	
Term Dates <u>2024-2025 & 2025-2026</u>	
Additional information can be found on the <u>calendar page</u> of the website	
Tues 18 March	Parent Focus Group Tea & Talk
Tues 18 March	KS3 PSHE Session: County Lines
Wed 19 – Thurs 20 March	Year 8 Parents Evening (online)
Sat 22 March	DofE Silver Training Day
Mon 24 – Wed 26 March	GCSE MFL Speaking Exams
Mon 24 – Fri 28 March	PraySpace
Thurs 27 March	Spring Concert - 7pm
Thurs 27 March	Y10 Blood Brothers Trip
Sat 29 – Mon 31 March	Duke of Edinburgh
Mon 31 March	GCSE Presenting and Performing Texts Exam
Tues 1 – Wed 2 April	MenAcwy/DTP Vaccinations (Y9)
Fri 4 April	End of Term
Tues 22 April	Return to school
Tues 2 – Fri 25 April	Y11 Art and Photography Exams

Thought for the Week:

The way we choose to see the world creates the world we see.
Unknown

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