

## Parent Bulletin Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin.

In addition to this update, please do follow our new Facebook page to keep up to date with school news, student successes, notices and updates by clicking here: [King Alfred's Academy, Wantage](#) You can also follow us on Instagram [@kingalfredsacademy](#)

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### Headteacher Update

Welcome back to the final term of the academic year! We know that this is going to be a fantastic term filled with opportunities, achievements, new beginnings and plenty of memorable moments.

There are a few exciting changes too; I can confirm that Mrs Martin has taken the decision to step down from her position as Deputy Headteacher and will become our Safeguarding Manager from September. Mr Hume (currently Assistant Headteacher) has been appointed as Mrs Martin's replacement and will take up post in September. I am also delighted to confirm Mr Sandhu has been promoted to Assistant Headteacher.

For our Year 11 and Year 13 students, the finish line is in sight, with just a few exams remaining over the next two weeks. We will soon be saying 'goodbye' and celebrating with them at their respective 'Proms', but more importantly, "see you later" as they begin the next exciting chapter in their lives.

I would love to remind parents that we will have some great events to celebrate over the course of this term. We have the brilliant GCSE and A-Level Art Exhibition over the weekend of **19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June** (open to the public), our Character Development Awards Evening on **25<sup>th</sup> June**, our annual Sports Awards Evening on **1<sup>st</sup> July**, the Academy Awards Evening on **6<sup>th</sup> July** and finally our Summer Music Concert on **16<sup>th</sup> July**.

Here's to a brilliant final term at KA's!



### **Year 10 end of year assessments**

Please can Year 10 parents make sure they spend a little time going through the list of pre-published topics that will be assessed in these in-class tests with their child? The link to the revision document is in the Year 10 update section below. Thank you!

### **Year 9 – Options choices confirmation**

We are aware that Year 9 are awaiting final confirmation of their options for next year. Please be assured we will be in touch to confirm these before the end of Term 6.

### **Save the date – transition day**

A reminder that transition day will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July. On this day, our rising Year 6 cohort will visit West Site in order to experience a school day at KA's, whilst Year 8 will visit Centre Site. Lessons will run as normal for Year 7, Year 9 and Year 10.

### **Important information about SchoolGrid**

Please do take the time to look at the attached guide supplied by Dolce, to support you in setting-up and using SchoolGrid, and most importantly, ensuring the funds you have provided on your child's account can be spent. This is described on the second page, under Spend Limit.

All ParentPay balances as of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026 have now been transferred over to SchoolGrid. You can see this by logging in to your SchoolGrid account, selecting 'Account' and then select 'View Activity'. This transfer will be shown as "Balance adjustment: payment transfer from previous caterers"

At present, this balance is also still showing on ParentPay, as we haven't closed down the accounts on there yet. This will happen imminently. Can parents please ensure they have disabled all 'Auto Top-ups' and that no additional payments are made for Dinner Money on ParentPay. Where payments have been made to your account since Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May, we will issue refunds, but this will take some time to process. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

### **epraise and My Child At School (MCAS)**

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we move behaviour data management from epraise to Bromcom. In the long term, this will create a more manageable experience for parents, using less applications to view information and data about your child. Please ensure you have downloaded the MCAS (My Child At School) app, where you can now view your child's house points, demerits and detentions.

### **Yondr pouches**

I am pleased to confirm we now have Yondr pouches in stock, so we are able to issue replacements where necessary due to loss, damage or graffiti. Please look out for the item reappearing on your ParentPay account from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and kindly make the required £15 payment so we can issue a replacement pouch to your child. Thank you for your patience.

### **KA's students doing amazing things**

It was brilliant to see so many of our Year 11 students attend their booster sessions ahead of examinations in different subjects. They are really applying themselves well.

Our Year 9 students did a magnificent job as part of the 'Tenner Challenge' run by the Business Department. This was a great opportunity to put their business knowledge into practice. Each team were given £10 and challenged to create as much profit as possible. Students demonstrated creativity and entrepreneurial flair across a range of business ventures.



Well done to our intrepid Year 9 and 10 students who completed their Bronze and Silver DofE assessment expeditions over the half term. Our Year 12s also completed their second Gold DofE practice expedition, ready for their assessment expedition at the end of this term.



Massive congratulations to our Year 12 students who did so brilliantly in the Engineering Experience Programme (see article below)

### Academic Enrichment

A huge well done to our six Year 12 Engineering Experience Programme students, who earlier this year took part in the 5-month project working with engineers at STFC Harwell. This will hopefully result in a CREST Industry Gold Award. Their work was so impressive that the school also put them forward for this year's High Sheriff of Oxfordshire Young Engineers Team Award, and they have won! Many congratulations to Joseph, Ano, Jess, Alex, Isabelle and Max. We are very proud of your achievement.

### FREE Virtual Youth Climate Summit this weekend

This is a rolling programme of webinars, discussions and activities running from midnight this Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June to midnight on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June. It is being hosted by the Saïd Business School, the University of Oxford and the UN Office for Human Rights. Students can join at any time during the 24 hours, and there will be recordings of any content they may have missed. Find out more about this on our Academic Enrichment Blog at: [King Alfred's Academy - Right Here Right Now Global Youth Climate Summit](#).

You may find information on Academic Enrichment via this link to our website: [King Alfred's Academy - Academic Enrichment](#)

### Careers and Work Experience

We have re-launched our Careers webpage with new, updated resources to help answer questions and provide vital Careers information: [King Alfred's Academy - Careers](#)

Please continue to email any questions that you have to [kacareers@kas.cambrianit.org](mailto:kacareers@kas.cambrianit.org)

### Sweatbox

Sweatbox planned dates for Term 6:

Date	Event
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm

**Year Group Updates** – This information can also be found on the 'Key Information for Parents' section of our website [King Alfred's Academy - Key information \(kaacademy.org\)](https://www.kaacademy.org)

<b>Year 7</b>	We welcome our Year 7s to the final term in their first academic year at King Alfred's. We had an external visitor join our assembly this week to talk to the year group about future careers in agriculture and horticultural..
<b>Year 8</b>	Welcome back to our Year 8s – we hope you had a lovely half term. This is a really important term for you, so it's a good time to reflect on how your journey has been so far and think carefully about how you want it to go from here. Take this opportunity for a fresh start – setting high expectations for your effort, behaviour and attitude. Term 6 is a busy and exciting one, with lots of events coming up as we begin preparing for your transition to Year 9. It's important that you take ownership of how you finish Year 8 and the positive start you want to make next year.
<b>Year 9</b>	It's been great to welcome students back after half term with a renewed sense of energy and eagerness to build on their success of last term. We will be recognising those students who have embodied our key value of Resilience through the awarding of house points. A new focus for the term will be introduced in assemblies and tutor time to help guide and support students in their continued growth.
<b>Year 10</b>	Next week is the start of Year 10 in-class assessments. Information that has previously been shared about these can be found here: <a href="#">Year 10 GCSE In-class assessments:revision lists</a> A reminder the Work Experience window is Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July. If students need any support in finding a placement or submitting the required information on Unifrog, please do get in contact. Students should send any enquires about Work Experience to: <a href="mailto:kacareersadmin@kas.cambrianlt.org">kacareersadmin@kas.cambrianlt.org</a>
<b>Year 11</b>	The initial <b>Prom</b> ticket deadline has been extended and tickets must now be <b>purchased by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> . If you have any issues with this, please do contact Mrs Buckingham via <a href="mailto:kbuckingham@kas.cambrianlt.org">kbuckingham@kas.cambrianlt.org</a>  <b>Year 11 Sixth Form Applications – King Alfred's:</b> A reminder to all Year 11 students to ensure they have accepted their Sixth Form offer at King Alfred's. If you are unsure how to do this, please get in touch with Mr Johnson for support by emailing: <a href="mailto:djohnson@kas.cambrianlt.org">djohnson@kas.cambrianlt.org</a> Over the next few weeks, please also look out for your Sixth Form Induction Day invitation. Induction will take place on <b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b> . Students will need to <b>pre-select their subjects ahead of the event via AppliCAA</b> .  Please refer to the schedule for the <b>GCSE booster sessions</b> . This is a vital opportunity to boost GCSE performance and give students confidence going into their GCSE examinations, so do encourage your child to attend these sessions. <b>Breakfast sessions start at 8.20am and the after-school sessions run until 4:30pm.</b>
<b>Year 12</b>	Year 12 A-Level mock exams start on Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June. Students should now be starting to prepare themselves for these important end of year exams. They have been provided via epraise with a revision booklet, which contains the dates, times, and topics covered in each exam. It also contains some revision resources for each

	subject. This booklet is available for you to view on the Sixth Form page of our website here: <a href="#">Year 12 A Levels Mock Revision Guide 2026</a>
<b>Year 13</b>	<p>The exam season is going well, and we are incredibly proud of the effort our students are putting in throughout this stressful time. We are looking forward to seeing all of our Year 13 students in the Auditorium on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 1.15pm to mark the end of their exams. This is a perfect opportunity for all students to return their textbooks, and donate any other textbooks or revision guides they no longer need.</p> <p>The Year 13 Ball is on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June. It would be lovely to see all Year 13 students attending the Ball to celebrate the end of their time in the Sixth Form.</p>

### Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies:

#### Support Staff:

- Sweatbox Youth Club – Volunteer Youth Support Worker
- Caretaker

The link to the KA's website for vacancies:

[Vacancies | King Alfred's Academy, Wantage, Oxfordshire UK \(kaacademy.org\)](https://www.kaacademy.org/vacancies)

### Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	SEND Coffee Morning, Centre Site, 9.15am-10.45am
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Hengistbury Head Geography fieldwork day trips
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	SEND profile review evening 4pm-6.30pm

Best Wishes  
Mr Smart