

Parent Bulletin Friday 19th June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin.

In addition to this update, please do follow our 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](#)

In this update:

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Headteacher Update

Thank you to those who have responded to the consultation on the proposed changes to the school day. As you might expect, a consultation of this nature has resulted in views being shared that are in support of the proposed changes and some that have raised concerns, or queries about the change.

In this week's Headteacher Video Update I offer further clarification on some of the concerns raised about; a reduction in social time, whether a shorter lunch will allow students to get food in good time, the reasoning behind the proposed enrichment period that will form part of the new school day and how these changes will allow more time for staff training and staff contact with parents. I hope that this is helpful.

Headteacher Video Update: [Headteacher Update 19th June](#)

Amber weather warning Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd June

The Met Office has issued an amber warning for Monday 23 and Tuesday of next week. In response to this we will put the following measures into place:

- Students in Years 7-10 will be able to wear their permitted KA's PE kit as an alternative to summer order uniform on Monday and Tuesday, to include trainers. That is: navy or black shorts (that come down to the thigh i.e. Nike Pro Size 13cm) or skorts, King Alfred's logo navy PE top. Please note 'hot pant' style shorts are not permitted
- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school that they can fill up during break and lunchtime at one of our many water stations on both sites

- Students should wear sunscreen and should also wear a hat during their journey to and from school and during social times

Tellmi: A deeper look - safety, evidence and how it works

Following on from a previous introduction to Tellmi, and as requested by some parents, please take a look at the attached leaflet for more details on how the Tellmi NHS-commissioned app supports your child's mental health safely.

KA's students doing amazing things

We are all looking forward to the incredible GCSE and A-Level Art, Textiles, Design and Graphics Exhibition. This is open on Friday evening and over the weekend; Saturday 10-2 and Sunday 10-12. Everyone is welcome.

A massive well done to our Sixth Form Student Ambassadors, who presented to students, parents and invited guests at the Cambrian Learning Trust's Character Development Awards Evening.

The excitement was tangible as Sixth Form and Key Stage 4 students (Tuesday) and Key Stage 3 (Wednesday) attended the first auditions meeting for the casting of *'Hadestown'*.

Good luck to our intrepid Year 7 students heading off on their adventure trip to the Peak District today. We are sure they will have a fab time.

Our Year 10 GCSE Geography students certainly benefited from the good weather as they worked hard to complete the practical field studies as part of their GCSE coursework trip to Hengistbury Head in Dorset this week.

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who completed their final GCSE examinations on Monday and Tuesday of this week. The exam season is more of a marathon than a sprint, but they have now finished and can look forward to a well-earned break over the Summer.

Thank You

To the Year 11 parents who arranged for a wonderful Thank You card and cakes from Ardington Bakery to be delivered to Centre Site as a gesture of gratitude for the hard work and support from Year 11 teachers. It was such a lovely thing to do and very much appreciated!



Leadership Team (LT) Clinics

During Term 6, our focus is Behaviour - changes to our behaviour system and reporting. We have already implemented several changes and will seek parental feedback on their effectiveness during Term 1 of the new academic year. These initiatives include:

- Revised detention system
- Use of the 'My Child at School' (MCAS) app to log and monitor your child's behaviour

We will announce the Term 1 LT Clinic date well in advance to accommodate parents' schedules and look forward to your participation and valuable insights.

Academic Enrichment

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.cambrianlt.org

Sweatbox

Sweatbox planned dates for Term 6:

Date	Event
Monday 22 nd June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm for Yrs 6-13
Friday 26 th June	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm for Yrs 7-10
Monday 29 th June	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm for Yrs 6-13
Monday 6 th July	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm for Yrs 6-13
Friday 10 th July	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm for Yrs 7-10
Monday 13 th July	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm for Yrs 6-13

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 \(kaacademy.org\)](#)

Year 7	We are incredibly lucky on West Site to have a huge field with amazing views across the Ridgeway. It is then sad when these views are somewhat ruined by litter left by students at lunchtime. It would be hugely appreciated if parents could continue to have conversations at home about litter and its impact on wildlife and the respect we are showing to the school site we all need to share.
Year 8	This week we spoke about inclusivity and supporting students with SEN, encouraging everyone to be understanding and mindful in their interactions. We reminded students that Respect, Responsibility and Tolerance are at the heart of the King Alfred's community, and that showing kindness helps ensure everyone feels supported and valued. We are incredibly lucky on West Site to have a huge field with amazing views across the Ridgeway. It is then sad when these views are somewhat ruined by litter left by students at lunchtime. It would be hugely appreciated if parents could continue to have conversations at home about litter and its impact on wildlife and the respect we are showing to the school site we all need to share.
Year 9	This week's assembly used the FIFA World Cup to reflect upon and explore the values of teamwork, resilience, respect and community. Through using memorable moments from World Cup history, the year group reflected on how players and teams have overcome challenges, worked together and represented their countries on the world stage. The assembly encouraged students to consider how these same qualities can contribute to success in school and beyond, while also highlighting how sport can bring people together across cultures and backgrounds. We chose this theme because the values celebrated through the World Cup closely reflect the character qualities we aim to develop in our students every day. We are excited to see how many different house points students can collect that reflect our values across the next two weeks!
Year 10	A reminder the Work Experience window is Monday 29 th June to Friday 3 rd 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: kacareersadmin@kas.cambrianlt.org

<p>Year 11</p>	<p>Year 11 Sixth Form Induction Sessions Sixth Form Induction Sessions bookings are now available through the Applicaa Portal for: https://kingalfreds.applicaa.com/sixthform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 30 June • Wednesday 1 July <p>Please note you will only be able to select your subjects if you have completed your Sixth Form application and have received an offer from the school. If you have not yet applied but are considering joining our Sixth Form, please get in touch as soon as possible with Mr Johnson via djohnson@kas.cambrianlt.org We look forward to welcoming you to Sixth Form.</p>
<p>Year 12</p>	<p>Year 12 A-Level mock exams start on Friday 26th June. BTEC lessons will continue as normal, and all BTEC students should attend their lessons. A-Level students will be on study leave on Thursday 25th June. A-Level lessons will resume as normal on Monday 6th July. Students have been provided via epraise with a revision booklet, which contains the dates, times, and topics covered in each exam. It also contains revision resources for each subject. This booklet is available for you to view on the Sixth Form page of our website here: Year 12 A Levels Mock Revision Guide 2026</p>
<p>Year 13</p>	<p>If students are unable to attend our End of Exams Celebration on Monday 22nd June, we would kindly ask that they return their textbooks and lanyards to the Sixth Form office before Friday 17th July. We are looking forward to seeing all of our Year 13 students at the Year 13 Ball on Wednesday 24th June. The event at Sudbury House Hotel, Faringdon, starts at 7pm and ends promptly at 11.15pm. Please can parents ensure that they have made suitable arrangements for their child to be collected at the end of evening, to ensure the event can end promptly.</p>

Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies:

Support Staff:

- Inclusion Manager
- Sweatbox Youth Club – Volunteer Youth Support Worker

The link to the KA’s website for vacancies:

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

Forthcoming Events

Friday 19 th – Monday 22 nd June	Year 7 Activities Trip to the Peak District
Saturday 20 th June 10am – 2pm	Summer Art Exhibition, The Alfredian Studio, Centre Site
Sunday 21 st June 10am – 12pm	Summer Art Exhibition, the Alfredian Studio, Centre Site
Wednesday 8 th July	Years 8, 9 and 10 Immunisation catch-up session Please refer to poster attached to this Bulletin as well as a recent email sent on 17 th June

Best Wishes
Mr Smart