

Parent Bulletin Friday 26th 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 parents for your understanding, patience and support over the middle part of this week as I made the difficult decision to close the Academy. There were a number of considerations to factor into any decision, not least the safety of our staff and students during their commute to and from school and during the busy school day. Staffing levels also had to be considered as a number of local primary schools and nursery providers took the decision to either close or shorten their day.

A shortened school day was considered for King Alfred's, however, the nature of our catchment area, with 200 plus students using school transport (that would have needed to be rearranged) and a good number of students having to walk home to Grove in the midday heat, is not something that would have offered much benefit.

All Cambrian Trust schools in the Wantage area reopened today. Having allowed students and staff respite from the peak of the heatwave on Wednesday and Thursday, we used that opportunity to make necessary arrangements in order to allow students to return to learning for the final day of the working week so that we do not miss any more learning time. We, of course, continue to follow the DfE guidance on staying safe in hot weather: [Beat the heat: staying safe in hot weather - GOV.UK](#)

A busy week ahead....

We look forward to welcoming our rising Year 7 cohort for September to 'Family Evenings' on Monday and Tuesday evening. On Wednesday we host our annual Sports Awards Evening – a brilliant celebration of sporting successes. Then on Thursday evening we say 'farewell' to Year 11 at their leavers Prom – you can count on some stunning dresses, sharp suits and an eclectic range

of vehicles transporting students to the event. Please keep a look out on our Facebook and Instagram pages for highlights and photos of these events.

Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 end of year assessments

Please be aware that student's assessment reports will be published on MCAS as follows:

Year 8 and Year 9 by Friday 3rd July

Year 7 by Friday 10th July

Year 10 and Year 12 by Friday 17th July

KA's students doing amazing things

Well done to our intrepid Year 7 students who visited the Peak District as part of the Year 7 activities trip. Abseiling, canoeing, rock climbing and orienteering were all on the menu.



Congratulations to Year 7 and 8 students, who have cumulatively read over 400 million words this year, in more than 18,000 books! 99% of our students have successfully quizzed, with 95% having 10,000 or more words, and 96 students are word millionaires or multi-millionaires. This is a great achievement - well done to all.

Year 11, 12 and 13 Art, Textiles and Design students did themselves proud at the recent King Alfred's Art Exhibition. This ran over the course of last weekend and the quality of work was quite outstanding. The exhibition was very well attended by parents, students and members of the public. What an awesome way to round off a year of hard work and creativity!

A group of Year 9 students explored the microscopic world as part of a visit to the Oxford University Department of Material Sciences. The KA Academic Enrichment Programme gives our students some incredible opportunities.

Sixth Form Induction Days

Please see the information below contained in the Year 11 update about arrangements for Sixth Form Induction Days on 30th June and 1st July. A brilliant opportunity to try out A-Level and BTEC courses before making final choices after GCSE results day in August.

Donations of uniform

If you have some key uniform items that are no longer needed (either from our Year 11 leavers or uniform that has now been outgrown) it would be hugely appreciated as a donation to support other students in school. If you have any blazers, ties and shoes to donate, please can these be passed to either of our Student Receptions marked for the attention of Mrs Buckingham, who will

then share with the pastoral teams. Similarly, any revision guides that are no longer needed can kindly be donated to the Academy in the same way.

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
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	Thank you for your support over this week, and any support you have given your child completing their work set at home. When we return next week, please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the coming weeks of the Summer term.
Year 8	Thank you for your support over this week, and any support you have given your child completing their work set at home. When we return next week, please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the coming weeks of the Summer term.
Year 9	Thank you for your support over this week, and any support you have given your child completing their work set at home. When we return next week, please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the coming weeks of the Summer term.
Year 10	Our Year 10 students will be on Work Experience from Monday 29 th June to Friday 3 rd July.
Year 11	Year 11 Sixth Form Induction Sessions Sixth Form Induction Sessions bookings are now available through the Applicaa Portal and students should sign up to both days of induction via this link: https://kingalfreds.applicaa.com/sixthform • Tuesday 30 June • Wednesday 1 July 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.
Year 12	We wish all of our Year 12 A-Level students the best of luck with their mock exams. If your child is ill during the exam period, please contact the student absence line as normal.

Year 13	We would kindly request that students return all of their textbooks and their lanyard by 12.35pm on Friday 17 th July. We wish all of Year 13 a wonderful extended summer holiday!
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Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies:

Support Staff:

- Inclusion Manager
- Sweatbox Youth Club – Volunteer Youth Support Worker
- School Volunteer – creative and enthusiastic set designers to help bring our upcoming school production to life

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

Monday 29 th June to Friday 3 rd July	Year 10 Work Experience week
Tuesday 30 th June	SEND Coffee Morning, West Site, 9.15am-10.45am
Tuesday 30 th June & Wednesday 1 st July	Sixth Form Induction Days
Saturday 4 th to Wednesday 8 th July	Year 7 & 8 Normandy Trip
Saturday 4 th to Wednesday 8 th July	DofE Gold Assessment Expedition
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
Thursday 9 th July	Year 6 & 8 Transition Day

Best Wishes
 Mr Smart