

Parent Bulletin Friday 3rd July 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

In this week's Headteacher Video Update, I am joined by Mr Hume (Assistant Headteacher). In the video we share some important updates which cover some on the move from epraise to Bromcom (My Child At School) and proposed changes to our Behaviour Policy for September 2026. In the video, Mr Hume covers:

- Students downloading the student Bromcom app so that they can see their own timetables, house points and detentions
- What parents will be able to see on the Bromcom (MCAS) app from September, including independent learning and more detailed information from teachers on house points and detentions
- A change to our detention process from September that will make detentions shorter, a more immediate sanction and avoids multiple detentions building up over a number of days

We do appreciate that change can be unsettling, but also firmly believe that the switch to all information being in one place for parents, staff and students will be a positive thing in the long run.

Headteacher Video Update: [Move to Bromcom from epraise Video 3rd July](#)

Possible 'heatwave' next week

Following the events of last week, we have been tracking the weather forecast each and every day. Currently it looks like we are due to experience warmer temperatures next week. Whilst these

will not be as warm as the heatwave that led to the Academy closure on 24th and 25th June, it could still reach 30 degrees during the week. Students will therefore be allowed to wear PE kit from Monday 6th to Friday 10th July (inclusive). We will review the weather for the following week and update parents in good time.

Students in Years 7-10 will be able to wear their permitted KA's PE kit as an alternative to summer order uniform, 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

Sweatbox in on the move!

At the end of this academic term the Sweatbox Youth Service will be relocating to West Site. In this video Mr Smart (Headteacher) and Michelle Rozier (Youth Service Manager) explain the reasons for the move and share details of when Sweatbox will open again next term.

Sweatbox move video link is: [Sweatbox Update Video](#)

Rescheduled Character Development Awards Evening

The postponed Character Development Awards Evening is rescheduled to Monday 13th July, with a prompt start of 5:30pm. The venue remains the Sixth Form Auditorium, please use the entrance opposite Wantage Leisure Centre. We hope that the individuals that are receiving an award will be able to attend this celebratory event.

KA's students doing amazing things

Well done to Team PE and all our amazing students who received well deserved recognition at the King Alfred's Sports Awards on Wednesday 1st July.

Congratulations to Joey who took part in the LTA U14's area finals. Joey did incredibly well to finish as runner up in the tournament!

KA's is definitely a reading school! We have over 100 word millionaires and nearly 50 multi-millionaires. Year 7 and 8 students have read 400 million words this year across 18,000 books.

It was lovely to say farewell to our Year 11 cohort at their Leavers Prom on Thursday. They looked fabulous!

Results day information

Important examination results for Year 11 and Year 13 students:

- Collection from Sixth Form Auditorium
- Year 13 A-Level and Level 3 results on Thursday 13th August from 8:30am
- Year 11 GCSE and Level 2 results on Thursday 20th August from 9am
- Results will also be emailed to all students' school email accounts during the afternoon.
- Further information can be found on the Exams page of our website: [King Alfred's Academy - Exams](#)

The Tour de Farcycles

This is a local event based in Faringdon and riding out into some of the beautiful Cotswold surroundings. There is a 20-mile challenge ride for young people and their families (or for more serious cyclists, there are longer distances!), and the Tour de Farcycles is famous for having the best-stocked feed stations ever! The route is well sign-posted and there are marshals at all the tricky junctions. Do take a look and step into the world of cycling, if you are not there already: [Le Tour Overview — Farcycles](#). You can pre-book, or you can sign up on the day.

Academic Enrichment

Calling Year 10 and 11 students interested in STEM: free insight into the world of STEM

Science Oxford are offering two days (11th and 12th August) of insight experiences into the world of STEM, with hands-on workshops and behind-the-scenes visits to leading STEM companies. If your Year 10 or 11 child is interested in STEM, this is a fantastic opportunity to develop their work experience and super curricular portfolio! **Apply by 19th July. Places are limited.** Find out more at [Secondary Schools - Science Oxford](#).

Our Annual Sir Christopher Ricks talk is now open for reservations: "Death by Shakespeare" with Dr Kathryn Harkup.

Across his numerous works, Shakespeare came up with some very creative and inventive ways of "doing away" with some of his characters. This talk takes a look at the scientific and medical knowledge of the time to find out where Shakespeare might have got some of his ideas from, what events might have inspired him, and also at the underlying science to assess just how realistic some of his ideas were. The talk is FREE to our students and Staff, with a modest fee of £5 for one accompanying adult and £8 for two. You can book your seats here: [The Sir Christopher Ricks Talk 2026 - "Death by Shakespeare" – Fill out form](#) and you can find out more at: [King Alfred's Academy - Sir Christopher Ricks Talk 2026!](#)

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 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	This week, Year 7 and Year 8 students were joined in assembly by Mr Pitts, our Head of Wellbeing, who spoke about the importance of staying safe online. While the internet provides many positive opportunities for learning, communication and entertainment, it is important that young people understand how to use it responsibly and safely. We encourage parents and carers to continue regular
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	conversations with their children about their online activity, including the websites they visit, the apps they use, and how they interact with others online. Working together, we can help ensure that students enjoy the benefits of technology while understanding and managing the risks that can sometimes arise. 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	This week, Year 7 and Year 8 students were joined in assembly by Mr Pitts, our Head of Wellbeing, who spoke about the importance of staying safe online. While the internet provides many positive opportunities for learning, communication and entertainment, it is important that young people understand how to use it responsibly and safely. We encourage parents and carers to continue regular conversations with their children about their online activity, including the websites they visit, the apps they use, and how they interact with others online. Working together, we can help ensure that students enjoy the benefits of technology while understanding and managing the risks that can sometimes arise. 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	This week, Year 9 students took part in an assembly focused on their transition into Year 10 and the beginning of their GCSE journey. We used Wimbledon as a theme to explore how success is rarely the result of talent alone, but instead comes from preparation, consistency, resilience and making the most of opportunities. We reflected on the key habits of successful GCSE learners, considered advice from our Year 11 students and discussed the importance of developing independence, organisation and positive study routines. Students were briefly asked to think about their future pathways, including careers and work experience opportunities, we also recognised students who have demonstrated outstanding Curiosity and Resilience across Terms 5 and 6. The aim of the assembly was to help students approach Year 10 with confidence, purpose and an understanding that small positive actions taken now can make a significant difference in the future. 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	Please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the coming weeks of the Summer term.
Year 11	Congratulations to our Year 11 students who enjoyed a very successful Prom. All photos taken by the official photographer will be ready to collect from Monday at Centre Site from Visitors Reception.
Year 12	Congratulations to all Year 12 students for completing their mocks! Results will be sent home in the last week of term.
Year 13	We would kindly request that students return all of their textbooks and their lanyard by 12.35pm on Friday 17th July. We wish all of Year 13 a wonderful extended summer holiday!

Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies:

Support Staff:

- Sweatbox Youth Club – Volunteer Youth Support Worker
- School Volunteer – creative and enthusiastic set designers to help bring our upcoming school production to life
- Home School Link Worker (HSLW)
- Exam Invigilator



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

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