KINGALFRED'S

THE ALFREdiAN

Parent/Carer Newsletter

Opportunity For All



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16th October 2026

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King Alfred's Academy, Wantage

@kingalfredsacademy

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to this week's edition of the THE ALFREdiAN

It was a privilege to watch our Year 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form students engage so brilliantly with presenters at our Careers Fair on Monday. Students conducted themselves with great maturity, asking relevant and sensible questions and making sure they got as much out of this opportunity to talk to Universities and potential employers ranging from Thames Valley Police, NHS, Oxfordshire County Council, The Royal Navy, Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue service and a host of STEM companies.

It was great to welcome so many prospective families to our Saturday Open Morning on 10 Oct – each had the opportunity to see the outstanding facilities on Centre Site for themselves. On the same day, over 60 students attended school for their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice, with students attempting the Silver Award in school on the Sunday. It was great to see our students get stuck into these challenges.

Finally, a quick reminder that Term 1 will finish at 3:05pm (normal time) on Wed 21 Oct. Next Thursday and Friday are INSET days. Term 2 will start for all students on Tues 3rd Nov.

Jonathan Smart

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YEAR GROUP UPDATES

Year 7

As part of our ongoing pastoral programme, our students attended an assembly covering our Hands-Off Policy, the use of respectful language and expectations relating to positive attitudes to learning in the classroom. These standards help maintain a safe, respectful and productive learning environment.

Year 8 & 9

This week, students were introduced to our School Health Nurse and the support available through their service. This is an important part of our wider approach to student health and wellbeing.
We encourage students to speak to the School Health Nurse if they have any health or wellbeing concerns or questions. Parents and carers are also welcome to get in touch if they feel their child may benefit from this support.

All year groups

Can you please remind your child/ren that we do not permit the use of aerosals in school or the PE changing rooms.

Years 10, 11, 12 & 13

If you have a child who may have an exam or assessment in the coming year, would you please ensure they are familiar with the JCQ regulations.
These regulations are not just for written exams but also for coursework and practicals including the use of AI. Please click on the link, which can also be found on the Exams page of our website:
Information for candidates – Joint Council for Qualifications

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

End of Term 1
Wed 21 Oct
3.05pm

KS3 SEND Profile Eve
Wed 21 Oct
4-6.30pm
Sixth Form
Auditorium

DofE Silver
Practice Expedition
Thu 22 - Sat 24 Oct

Yrs 9-13
Nice Trip
Thu 22 - Wed 28 Oct

Start of Term 2
Tue 3 Nov

Thu 5 Nov
Yr 11 Parents' Evening
Make your appointments via the School Cloud platform, booking information to follow via email

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Formal (Mini Mock) assessments

These are currently taking place for Year 13 students. After half term Year 8 will sit their assessments 3 - 13 Nov and Year 11 on 16 - 27 Nov.

Attitude to Learning reports

These have now been published for Year 13, Year 12 and Year 11 and are available via My Child At School (MCAS)
Year 10, 9, 8 and 7 will be published on or before Thur 22 Oct

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Vacancies

Teacher - Teacher of Art

Teacher - Teacher of Design & Technology

Teacher - Subject Lead (Design & Technology)

Exam Invigilator

Cover Supervisor

Sweatbox Youth Club - Volunteer Youth Support Worker

Vacancies | King Alfred's Academy, Wantage, Oxfordshire UK (kaacademy.org)

KA's students doing amazing things

Thank you to all those KS4 students who helped out as tour guides during our Open Morning last Saturday. They were all great ambassadors for our school.

The cast and orchestra are now starting to really 'ramp up' preparations for our production of *Hadestown*. Tickets will be released in the next few weeks!

Well done to all of our students who participated in the Senior Maths Challenge.

Congratulations to Jake in Yr 10, who won the Wantage Leisure Centre September Gym Challenge with an impressive 86-second Hammer Hold!

And two of our students have been honoured at Wantage Silver Band Awards - Holly in Yr 11 received the Martin Law Young Cornet Player of the Year while Joseph in Yr 13 took home the Lucy Scott Young Trombone Player of the Year!

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Academic Enrichment

Our Programme of AEP Talks for this academic year can be accessed via this link:
AEP Talks Brochure 2026-27

The Academic Enrichment Newsletter for the October Break and Term 2 is packed with opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, both in person and online: King Alfred's Academy - Academic Enrichment Bulletin for Autumn 2026-27

UniPrep - advice for parents and carers on the transition to University

If your child is considering moving from Sixth Form to University, the Brilliant Club's UniPrep Programme offers parents and carers an opportunity to build their understanding of higher education and the application process, as well as the transition process. Find out more here: UniPrep Parents and Carers - The Brilliant Club

King Alfred's Academy - Academic Enrichment

Careers & Work Experience

For questions about our Careers Programme, or to find out who to contact for careers resources, please go to our webpage

King Alfred's Academy - Careers

And don't forget to check out our Careers Blog for upcoming events and opportunities for parents and students to explore future pathways

Please click on this link to view our Careers Programme Guide:
Careers Pamphlet Sept 2026