

Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot quite believe I have reached the half term milestone already. I have had an amazing first 6 weeks. It has been busy, exciting and fulfilling. Everyday includes many heartwarming moments where I am touched by the wonderful community at King Solomon High School.

My vision for the school is that we provide students with a world class educational experience and are an example of best practice to other schools. There is so much potential, commitment and talent in our school community. I am very much looking forward to leading the growth of that potential from now and over many years to come.

Yesterday all staff participated in training on our updated behaviour systems. We will notify parents and students as and when incremental changes are made over the next half term. There will be a revised behaviour policy on the website by the end of November. After half term the behaviour focus will be on ensuring that all teachers are very clear with students about behaviour expectations every lesson so that we are eradicating any opportunities for lesson disruption. All staff have been trained on specific behaviour management techniques to support this process.

Changes to take place after half term:

### **New one way system**

**Clear and consistent routines for the start and end of lessons using STAR expectations (situp, track the speaker, ask and answer questions, respect everyone and your surroundings).**

### **A renewed emphasis on praise**

**It is now a requirement for all students to have a fully stocked pencil case with:**

- 2 blue pens
- 2 black pens
- 2 green pens

- 2 pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Ruler, rubber, sharpener, pritt stick
- Highlighters

**Please note scissors must NOT be brought into school**

Please can parents/carers use the half term to ensure that students have the required stationery for the first day back after half term. We will be doing equipment checks.

It has been a difficult few weeks watching and hearing about the horrific and deeply sad situation in Israel. Our hearts go out to all the civilians who are suffering, held captive and have lost their homes and loved ones. The school has been calm and supportive and I am very proud of how everyone has come together.

Thank you for all your support and I wish you all a restful half term.

Kind regards and shabbat shalom

Ms Phillips

Headteacher

**Key Dates for the second half term**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term**

Return to school Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance week

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 Music trip

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Year 11 Parents/Carers Webinar

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Sixth form open evening (5-7pm)

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Mental Health Awareness Week

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Year 7-11 flu vaccine (previous permission must have been given)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Year 8 Lion King trip

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Year 13 media trip

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November - Y10 Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde performance

**Behaviour reminder**

- No chewing gum allowed.
- No phones to be seen or heard anywhere on the school grounds (apart from Y12/13 who can use phones in the 6<sup>th</sup> form block).
- Blazers must be worn at all times. Teachers can give permission for blazers to be removed during lessons. Blazers may be removed while playing a sport at lunch time.
- All students must clear up after themselves in the canteen

## Jewish prayer service

On Wednesday after school over 100 people attended a Jewish prayer service for Israel and all those affected by recent events. Organised by Year 10 student Sophia Marks along with Ms Phillips, we sang songs, said prayers, led by Rabbi Goodwin and Mr Walmer, heard a poem read by Harry Ben-Shir and heard the incredibly talented Year 9 student Paige Harris sing 'Papa can you hear me'? The service ended with the Hatikvah. May there be peace and those held hostage be released as soon as possible.

## Black History Month

Last week, the school recognised and celebrated Black History Month. It was really important that we took this time as a school to put a spotlight on Black History so that we can spread awareness and learn together. It was also a time to work towards a future free of racism and discrimination, it is only by studying the past that we can do better in the future. Black History is not something that should be just confined to the month of October, in our lessons across the year we look at history from different perspectives and stories of different cultures and countries.

This year, organisers of Black History Month decided to focus on the theme, 'celebrating sisterhood' and year groups received tailored assemblies, led by our own students who chose to recognise some of the amazing women who have made huge contributions to black history and have changed the face of industries such as beauty, aviation and institutions such as education. The stories shared of Mary Church Terrel, Bessie Coleman and Naomi Sims were not only interesting but inspiring.



## PSHE – What have we been learning?

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education is a vital part of the curriculum. Teaching our students to understand the world that they live in and help our students with their personal development. This half term PSHE education has been focusing on the themes of being safe both online and offline, with different sub-themes for each of our main year students at KSHS.

Year 7s have focused on how to be safe at a new school, looking at their personal development in particular, and how primary school is different to secondary school, themes of rule, responsibilities and fairness, have been at the front of their curriculum.

Year 8 have been looking at how gangs can influence young people to get involved with them, the dangers of online child exploitation and grooming, and some of the dangers of alcohol and smoking.

Year 9 have covered drug and alcohol education looking at both the dangers of individual drugs and what the law says about drugs and drug use.

Year 10 have participated in lessons on the dangers of being online such as the trappings of social media, online gambling, fraud, and the need to keep your data private, but also some harder themes such as modern slavery and knife crime.

Year 11 started the half term with lessons on the online reputation you develop for yourself and how to spot fake news, and then moved on to the wider dangers of drugs including the global drug trade and the individual risks of drugs.

Our PSHE curriculum will look at health and wellbeing next half term for all students in Year 7-10, and our Year 11 students will have a special revision programme before their mock examinations in November.

## Spotlight on PE

In KS3 (years 7-9) pupils are taking part in rugby, netball, table tennis and badminton lessons. Learning core skills and implanting them into competitive situations. Students are enjoying competing and developing their skills.

In KS4 (years 10&11) pupils are taking part in netball, badminton and table tennis. Students are being given lots of opportunities to compete against each other using skills they have developed since KS3.

I am pleased to see students looking very smart in new PE uniforms. A reminder that pe kit is purchased from our providers website [www.schoolsports4u.co.uk](http://www.schoolsports4u.co.uk). Students are expected to have the KS logo indoor and outdoor top from the website. All other items can be purchased from any provider. With the weather turning wetter and colder, please ensure students have their outdoor tops and studded boots for their lessons.

Clubs happening during lunch times and after school. Clubs for next half term are below

	LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY	Table Tennis	Netball Club
TUESDAY	Badminton	
WEDNESDAY	Table Tennis	Y7/9 Basketball
THURSDAY	Basketball	Y8/10/11 Basketball

### **Outstanding achievements:**

We have had lots of success in recent football games in the newly developed Redbridge competition and within Essex cup competition. Our year 7 team beat Oaks Park in their first school game and years 9, 10, 11 & sixth form all winning their first games in the Essex cup. Up to date fixtures and results for Redbridge football can be found at <https://redbridge-school-sports.leaguerepublic.com/index.html>

Netball teams are also doing well in Redbridge competitions. Y8 won all their games a few weeks ago against four other schools at a rally. A special mention to U14 team in the Essex Cup Competition winning their first game. Y7 girls participated in their first tournament for the school, finishing second in their pool.



Special mention to Alfie Vajushi and MJ Iyeli for success in the Essex County Football trials and congratulations to Lucia Vajushi for making it into the County netball squad. The school are very proud of you all. If anyone has any sporting successes outside of school, please share with the PE department so we can share your good news.

### **Upcoming events this term:**

#### **Maccabi events:**

Boys table Tennis – 1/11/23

Boys Badminton – 15/11/23

Girls Table Tennis – 29/11/23

Girls Badminton – 13/12/23

#### **Football Games:**

Y11 boys Essex cup football – TBC

Y2/13 boys Essex cup football – TBC

Y9 boys Essex cup football – TBC

#### **Netball Games:**

Y7 local rally – TBC

Y8 local rally – TBC

Y9 Knockout games – TBC

Y9 Essex Cup – 9th November

Y10 local rally – TBC

Y11 local rally – TBC

**Basketball games - TBC**

## Spotlight on History

As mentioned in our last newsletter, students in the current Year 8 were asked to create a memorial to Aztec culture after researching the Aztecs and the impact of the Spanish Empire over the summer. We had many wonderful submissions such as pieces of art in the style of Aztec art, models of Aztec temples, Aztec masks, Aztec pottery, Aztec jewellery, and Aztec 'boards of interest'.

We were really blown away by the creative, colourful and detailed way students have remembered the Aztecs. The winners for the Aztec Summer Project have been announced! Big congratulations to:

- Diya Sood
- Sam Czuba  
Davies
- Emilia Cosma
- Ervisa Kajtazi
- Miles Cook
- Soraya Ncube
- Alex Keller
- Asher Harper
- Karolina Smal
- Arjola Hoti
- Angad Sharma
- Zain Nezam
- Tayhara  
Govender
- Elias Sandru
- Dominic  
Penchev
- Lola Wheeler
- Viviana Golan
- Ryma Klimaz
- Daniel Szybiak
- Llara Adebajo-  
Martinez
- Zaira Adebajo-  
Martinez
- Arjun  
Umakaran
- Maksymilian  
Bafia
- Jasmine  
Walson
- Jaiden Parker
- Jayden  
Mahandru
- Kiran Matharu
- Madison Brien



Humanities have also just started a new club – The History Mystery Club for KS3. Please come along if you like project work and historical mysteries. We are starting with the Vikings! Come and see us in room 106 where we will be creating 3D Viking longships and much more.



## **Year 7**

Students are currently halfway through their first enquiry question that looks at migration through time – and exploring the concept of what it means to be British. We have looked at migration for resources, migration for invasion and migration due to persecution so far! Students really enjoyed learning about the Vikings in particular.

## **Year 8**

Students are researching the Tudors and the idea of the ‘religious rollercoaster’ from Henry VII to Elizabeth I, with a focus on the key religious changes under each monarch. There will be a spotlight on Elizabeth I’s reign and her ‘middle way’, as well as challenges to the religious settlement.

## **Year 9**

Following on from students’ study of the British Empire empire last year, our year 9s are studying ‘How did the Transatlantic Slave Trade impact Africa, the Americas and Britain?’ Students have learnt about West African Kingdoms through a group project based around a museum, and are now learning about the Triangle of Trade, middle passage, and life on a plantation.

## **Year 10**

Year 10 have got stuck into their Paper 1: Crime and Punishment, c1000-present. We have just investigated the Gunpowder Plot and the changing nature of punishments in Early Modern England. Students look forward to a trip for this topic to the London Dungeons and the Clink Museum next year!

## **Year 11**

Year 11 are finished their work on Paper 2 Early Elizabethan England and are ready to start their final Paper 3 USA: Conflict at Home and Abroad on civil rights and the Vietnam War. Students have been working towards their upcoming mocks, and interventions will start after half term.

## Year 12

Students are taught by both Miss Karlsson and Miss Osborn in year 12, studying Wars of the Roses at the same time as South African Apartheid. Students have just completed their pitstop and first knowledge test and are working towards their second type of thematic essay.

## Year 13

Year 13 are also gearing towards mocks, as well as learning their Paper 3 Popular Culture and the European Witch craze. Students have just consolidated their first topic with a debate on the printing revolution, and the use of festivals as 'safety valves'. Interventions are well underway and are every Thursday after school.



## Scholar programme – Jewish Museum

Over the last four weeks, our scholars for Art, Jewish Studies and Performing arts got to work on a fashion project with representatives from the museum of London. Over the weeks, they made mood boards, learned different sewing techniques, and even got to make their own outfits in the final week. The scholars got the opportunity to learn different life skills, such as stitching and sewing, and transferable skills such as teamwork and creative thinking. We are delighted to say that their outfits and mood boards are on display, from now until the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024, in the Museum of London for the public to see. We are very proud of our scholars for all their hard work.







## Year 11

Year 11 have an extremely important year ahead. Over the last week we have ensured students are fully prepared for their upcoming mock exams with an assembly focusing on what they should expect from exams, revision guidance and upcoming interventions. Interventions will start after half term and more information will be provided on this. Year 11 have started the year in a positive manner setting the example for the other year groups and I look forward to their hard work paying off when they get their mock results.

### Key dates:

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Year 11 Parents/Carers Webinar

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – 6<sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening (4:45-7pm)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Mock Exams Start

### Students to highlight:

- A massive well done to the following students; Shai Carmel-Brown, Daniel Gillary & Harrison Nathan who were selected and represented King Solomon in the year 10/11 district Cross-country.

I started at King Solomon High School in 2015 and have conducted many roles in the school, leading to my current role as head of year 11 and teaching PE. I have been Head of year for the current year 11's since they were in year 8. I love being a head of year because it allows me to support all students in their growth providing them with pastoral, wellbeing and academic support.

Mr Palmer, Head of Year 11



## Staff spotlight



<b>Name:</b>	Gabi Hart
<b>Job title</b>	Assistant Headteacher and SENCo
<b>How long have they been at KS?</b>	Since January 2022
<b>What does your role entail?</b>	My job role entails supporting students with special educational needs and ensuring the right interventions are in place. I work with other professionals and my team of LSAs to ensure that reasonable adjustments are carried out for all students. I give training on SEN to staff and support them with student needs in their classroom.
<b>What do you enjoy about working at KS?</b>	I really enjoy supporting and interacting with all the students, seeing them flourish and achieve their potential. Training staff to make them more aware of needs and giving them an understanding of ways to support students is also something I enjoy. I have a real passion for special educational needs and hope I can share this with others.



<b>Name:</b>	Lisa Sicklin
<b>Job title</b>	Assistant SENCo
<b>How long have they been at KS?</b>	I have been at KSHS for 4 years.
<b>What does your role entail?</b>	My role entails supporting the SENCo with all her daily duties and ensuring that all student information is up to date and the SEND department runs smoothly. I liaise with parents and am available for students to help support them with their concerns.

<b>What do you enjoy about working at KS?</b>	I enjoy supporting our students in their journey through secondary school, helping them to achieve their full potential and grow in confidence so that they can go on and succeed in their further education and careers. It is really rewarding to be able to have a small part in their school journey and watch them achieve their hopes and dreams.
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## Attendance

Your child's welfare is of paramount importance to us, and we believe that regular attendance throughout the year is essential for their success and fulfilment. As we approach the time of the year with seasonal coughs and colds, it is important to remember that if your child is unwell and unable to come into school, it is the parent/carers responsibility to contact the school through synergy every day to inform the office of your child's absence.

Please also be reminded that if your child is unwell for 5 days or more, parents/carers will be required to provide medical evidence for their child's absence.

It is also important to mention, leading up to the half term/end of term breaks that at King Solomon High School, whilst acknowledging that each family's circumstances are different, we are dedicated to the education of all our pupils and believes regular attendance throughout the year is essential to every child's success and fulfilment.

Therefore, in accordance with Government guidelines, any leave of absence for holidays cannot be granted during termtime unless there are exceptional circumstances to consider. We expect you to consult the school before booking a holiday that means your child will be absent, or before making any plans that will involve your child's absence from lessons or other commitments.

Because each request is unique, the decision by the school in this instance cannot be directly compared with decisions made by the school in the past, and nor does it set a precedent.

We appreciate all the continued support by our parents and carers as we strive to achieve outstanding attendance for all of our students at King Solomon High School.

Yours sincerely,



Miss K Burack

**Assistant Headteacher**

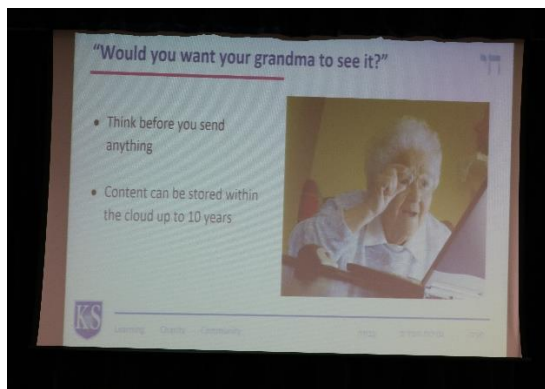
*Safeguarding, Attendance and Student Wellbeing*

## Online safety assemblies

This week, all students have received a safeguarding assembly by Miss Burack, which focused on staying safe online. Students were extremely receptive throughout, and understood the potential dangers around sharing online locations, talking to strangers, explicit image sharing and cyberbullying.

At King Solomon High School we know that our students outside of school use many different social media platforms, such as Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok and Twitter. There are lots of benefits to social networking. They can allow users to stay connected with friends and family. They can also learn and research many different creative things.

But, like most things, there can also be negatives too. For children and young people there are risks that as parents/carers you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe on social media. Please be reminded that our schools website has a dedicated page regarding online safety to help support and guide our parents/carers around online safety, please follow this link for more information: <https://kshsonline.uk/mental-health-and-wellbeing/#online-safety>



**Spare room feeling empty?**

London Borough of Redbridge

**Foster for Redbridge**

020 8708 6068  
fostering@redbridge.gov.uk



If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or the wellbeing of any other student at King Solomon High School, please contact the school on 020 8498 1331 or email the DSL at [safeguarding@kshsonline.uk](mailto:safeguarding@kshsonline.uk) This email address can also be used for students, parents and carers to share any safeguarding concerns or to request support.

If you are concerned that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed and school cannot be contacted, please contact Redbridge Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 8708 3885, and all the police on 999 straight away.

### Helpful numbers and websites

- **Childline:** 0800 1111
- **NSPCC helpline:** 0808 800 5000
- **The police:** (if you are in danger): 999.
- **LGBT switchboard:** 0300 330 0630
- **Kooth:** [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) - support service for students wellbeing
- **Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (emergency team):** 020 8496 3000
- **Barnardos:** 0800 008 7005

### Talk to someone....

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel anxious or unable to cope
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally, or mentally.
- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel worried about someone at home
- if you are being threatened or forced to do things
- if someone has done something to you without your consent
- if you feel unsafe in school, at home or on the streets.
- about anything else worrying you

### Mental Health and wellbeing

We are continuously working hard to improve our understanding as a community of mental health, to enable us to provide the best possible outcomes for the young people in our lives. The school is fully committed to supporting the well-being of its students, staff and parents. To encourage a supportive well-being culture, we have a wide ranging and comprehensive mental health provisions within place at school and want to ensure there is information available for when students are at home. At King Solomon High School, we aim to promote positive mental health and wellbeing for our whole school community (children, staff, parents and carers), and recognise how important mental health and emotional wellbeing is to our lives in just the same way as physical health. We recognise that children's mental health is a crucial factor in their overall wellbeing and can affect their learning, achievement and emotional wellbeing. All children go through difficulties during their school career, and some may face significant life events. Life brings a range of stresses and strains and to make the most of life they will need to learn to manage feelings and cope with the experiences of life to ensure they do not get in the way of their learning and living, therefore emotional wellbeing is our coping and resilience in relation to situations that may affect our mental health and is



therefore unique to the individual. We encourage our students to look after their mind is just as important as looking after their body and caring about their physical fitness.

If you are ever concerned that your child is at risk due to extremely poor mental health, please inform the school.

You can also contact one of these numbers to seek support from a specialist. The Crisis line is there to offer guidance if your child may be having suicidal thoughts and is possibly in immediate danger. If you do ever find yourself in a position where you need to use these resources for your child, please make the school aware so we can provide appropriate support within school for your child.

Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines

NHS

Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
North Central London	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North East London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
South West London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
South East London	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
	Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth	0800 028 8000
South East London	Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	0800 731 2864
	Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich	0800 330 8590

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a **24/7 crisis line** for people of all ages - children, young people and adults. The lines which are free to call can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.

You can find the 24/7 crisis line numbers using the NHS Service Finder ([link below](#)) but the table provides all of the telephone numbers in London.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>



### Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please request a Medicines Consent Form from the Admin office to give the school consent to administer medication to your child.

All medications that are kept in school must be stored in the medical room.