

King Solomon High School Newsletter



26th February 2024 17 Adar 1 5784

Parashat HaShavua



Samples of our photos going on display round the school.

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your children have had a lovely half term. It was wonderful to see students back at school today. We have saved our fortnightly newsletter for today, as a nice way to start the second half of the spring term.

Meet the Headteacher & new SLT evening

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended the 'Meet the Headteacher' evening on Monday 12th February. I welcomed the opportunity to share my vision for the school, the school's improvement priorities, some of the challenges the school is facing and how we intend to overcome these. Some of our new senior leaders and the new SENCO attended the event. They gave inspirational introductions about their ambition and commitment to contributing to the success of King Solomon High School.

The support of the parent community is vital to the school's success moving forward. I look forward to seeing new faces at our next 'Meet the Headteacher' event in the summer term.

We have sent a feedback form to parents and carers who attended the 'Meet the Headteacher' evening. We are also asking parents who did not attend the event to complete this short survey to help us in our planning of future 'Meet the Headteacher' events. Please click the link [here](#) to complete the short survey.

Parent and carer support with school policies and procedures

We are lucky to have a committed and invested parent and carer community. We value parent and carer feedback and we do our best to keep parents informed and to respond to queries. However, the most helpful support is when parents and carers are aligned with school policies and procedures. We have high standards in all that we do and we do our best to ensure these high standards are combined with kindness, compassion and empathy. Our rules and procedures must ensure that the school runs effectively and safely. We ask that all students make the most of every moment of their learning time by;

- attending school everyday
- being punctual
- following the school's behaviour rules
- accepting sanctions when they are given
- being in full school uniform
- reducing the number of times they request to leave lessons

When students hear their parents and carers talking about the school and its rules in a positive manner, this encourages students to engage positively with the school's high standards and expectations. We also ask that parents and carers encourage their children to accept sanctions when they are issued so that we can teach students the importance of rules and routines.

Year 9 options process

- Our Y9 options process will begin with a student assembly on Tuesday 12th March.
- We will send all parents the options booklet, via Synergy on the 12th March
- On the 20th March there will be a Year 9 Options Evening for parents from 5.30-7.00pm. Year 9 students are also welcome to attend with a parent or carer.



At King Solomon High School we teach that kindness, inclusion and equality are central to being a good citizen. We teach students the importance of challenging all forms of discrimination such as racism, homophobia, transphobia, sexism, and ableism. It is for this reason that for the past ten years we have been proud to work with the Jewish organisation KeshetUK.

KeshetUK is an education and training charity with a mission to ensure that Jewish LGBT+ people and their families are included throughout Jewish life in the UK. Jewish LGBT+ people exist in all walks of life and KeshetUK helps to educate people on the importance of inclusion and equality.

In 2018, the Chief Rabbi published groundbreaking guidance for Orthodox Jewish schools on their duty of care to LGBT+ pupils. The guidance document was created to ensure that Orthodox Jewish schools are “a safe haven for all children and teens, a place where every pupil can feel nurtured and protected”. King Solomon High School is proud to be a nurturing Orthodox Jewish school that shares the light and joy of Judaism with its diverse community.

Parents and carers can read more about the Chief Rabbi’s guidance in an article in the Jewish Chronicle from 2018.

<https://www.thejc.com/news/chief-rabbi-publishes-ground-breaking-guidance-for-orthodox-schools-on-lgbt-pupils-qdvfmc60>

Keshet UK will be leading student workshops and assemblies throughout this week. These workshops have been organised to coincide with LGBT+ History Month. This is one of many national awareness days we mark at King Solomon High School. In October, we celebrated Black History Month, and in January, we marked Holocaust Memorial Day. Later this year, we will also be celebrating International Women’s Day, Autism Awareness Week and Mental Health Awareness Week. These awareness days are part of our assembly and tutor time programme and are all reflective of British values.

The workshops taking place this week are part of our PSHE programme and are beneficial to students from all backgrounds. The workshops focus on creating a safe and equal school for all students.

Announcements

- It is with sadness that I am informing parents and carers that Ms Burack will be leaving King Solomon High School at the end of the spring term. Ms Burack has been given the opportunity to take on an exciting new role at a university. I know she is sad to leave us but excited about pursuing a new career. Ms Burack's departure will be a huge loss to the school, but I know we will all want to celebrate her success and wish her well. Ms Burack has done fantastic work in safeguarding and student wellbeing at King Solomon High School, work that we will be sure to continue and build upon. Ms Burack has written an open letter to the school community, which can be found on the next page. I want to reassure parents and carers that I have already secured an interim replacement for Ms Burack's role as Designated Safeguarding Lead. Ms Watal begins her role as interim Deputy Headteacher today and will have a six week handover period with Ms Burack.
- We are also delighted to welcome Mr Akram, who joins us today as our new permanent Director of Finance & Operations.

The Senior Leadership Team

We are welcoming five new members of the Senior Leadership Team over the next five months.

- Today we welcome Ms Watal (interim Deputy Headteacher) and Mr Akram (Director of Finance & Operations).
- In April we will welcome Mr Perry (Deputy Headteacher) and Mr Tomene (Assistant Headteacher).
- In June we will welcome Ms Slater (Assistant Headteacher).
- In September we will welcome Ms Juggler (Deputy Headteacher).
- We are still recruiting for a further two Assistant Headteachers.

We are delighted to have made so many excellent appointments to the Senior Leadership Team. I will share with parents the most up to date Senior Leadership Team structure as and when new staff join the team. Please see below for the Senior Leadership Team from today.

SLT structure 26th February - 15th April 2024

Ms Phillips - Headteacher

(Leadership & management of the school)

<p align="center">Ms Watal Interim Deputy Headteacher/DSL</p> <p align="center"><i>(Safeguarding, attendance, SEND)</i></p>	<p align="center">Mr Akram Director of Finance & Operation</p> <p align="center"><i>(School finances, catering, IT, health & safety, the school site)</i></p>	<p align="center">Mr Beavis Raising Achievement Consultant</p> <p align="center">(Mon, Wed, Thurs)</p> <p align="center"><i>(Curriculum, options, assessment, reports, data, exams)</i></p>	<p align="center">Mr Cahill School Improvement Consultant</p> <p align="center">(Mon & Tues)</p> <p align="center"><i>(The quality of teaching & learning, leadership development for Heads of Department)</i></p>
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<p align="center">Ms Aaronson Assistant Headteacher</p> <p align="center"><i>(Teaching & learning, early career teachers, Jewish ethos)</i></p>	<p align="center">Ms Karlsson Assistant Headteacher</p> <p align="center"><i>(Reading strategy, line management of the Sixth Form, soon to be Director of Sixth Form)</i></p>	<p align="center">Ms Burack Assistant Headteacher/DDSL</p> <p align="center"><i>(Behaviour systems and procedures, handing over safeguarding and attendance to Ms Watal)</i></p>	<p align="center">Mr Awufadeju Interim Assistant Headteacher</p> <p align="center"><i>(Detention system, internal exclusion, Support for Heads of Year, behaviour mentoring)</i></p>
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Ms Phillips
Headteacher

Announcement from Ms Burack

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that after careful consideration, I have decided to resign from my position of Assistant Headteacher at King Solomon High School. This choice was not easy for me, but I believe it is time for me to pursue new opportunities and prioritise my personal aspirations outside of secondary education.

Throughout the past decade, I have had the privilege of contributing to the growth and accomplishments of our school. It has been an extraordinary journey, and one which I take great pride in, not only for what has been achieved, but also my contribution to the continued journey of our school. I am thankful for the opportunities I have had and incredibly grateful for the experience. The knowledge and skills I have gained at King Solomon High are invaluable and I want to express my sincere appreciation for your support.

I want to reassure you that I am fully committed to facilitating a seamless transition of all the remits I oversee, to ensure a continued collaboration with the staff and specifically the SLT team, who are both dedicated in striving for the schools improvement and progression.

I want to thank you for your unwavering support during my time at King Solomon High school and wish the entire team continued success moving forward.

Miss K Burack

Important Dates

- Week commencing 26th February - Year 7 mid-year assessments
- 27th February - Year 12 and 13 - War of the Roses online conference
- 27th February - Year 8 Knife crime workshop
- 29th February – Year 9 Parents’ Evening
- Week commencing 4th March – Sixth form interviews
- 8th March - Year 12 & 13 – Media Trip to BFI
- Week commencing 11th March – Year 11 and 13 mid-year assessments
- 20th March - options evening for parents from 5.30-7.00pm

End of half term awards assembly

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Attendance winners	7Z	8G	9Z	10K	11A
Reward points	7P	8K	9G	10A	11Z

Request from the office

Please be advised that all lateness to school, appointments or absences needs to be reported via the Synergy parent app. Please refrain from using the absence telephone line as this is doubling up our workload.

You need to log into the app, go to your Inbox and under Departments choose “Report an Absence”.

If your child is sick (physically) or has diarrhoea they must be clear for a period of 48hrs before returning to school.

Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please complete a [Medicines Consent Form](#) which can be found on our website.

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

£5
WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS


Chigwell & Hainault
SYNAGOGUE


CRANBROOK
UNITED SYNAGOGUE


WOODFORD FOREST
UNITED SYNAGOGUE

JOIN OUR



HEALTH EVENT

**Wednesday 6th March 2024
7.30pm**

Cranbrook United Synagogue

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

**Janet Silver MBACP
Eating Disorders**

**Dr Sheryl Kaplan
Holistic Women's Health**

TO BOOK VISIT:

WWW.THEUS.ORG.UK/CRANBROOK/WOMENS-HEALTH-EVENT

PHONE: 020 8629 2780

OR EMAIL: ADMIN@CRANBROOKSYNAGOGUE.ORG.UK

Safeguarding contacts

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 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 - 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



Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North Central London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
North East London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
South West London	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>

