King Solomon High School Newsletter

16 May 2025, 18 Iyar 5785

Dear Parents and Carers

I want to dedicate this fortnights newsletter to saying a **huge well done to students in Years 11 and 13** for completing the first week of the GCSE and A Level exams. This is a significant milestone, and I am incredibly proud of how they have all conducted themselves - with maturity, focus, and resilience.

Over the past week, I have seen Year 11 students arrive early in the mornings for the exam breakfast, most of them clutching revision notes, quietly going over those final bits of information. I have had excellent feedback from the exams staff on how calmly and responsibly students have entered the exam rooms, how seriously they have taken each exam and how they have supported one another through what can be a stressful and challenging time. It is in moments like these that the true character of a school community shines - and our students have shone brightly.

Preparing for GCSE and A-Level exams is no small task. The hours of revision, the sacrifices made, the juggling of subjects, and the emotional pressure of wanting to do well is all very demanding. Dedication and hard work pay off. This is why until half term, along with many other schools, we continue to run a bespoke revision and lesson timetable for Year 11 students, ensuring they are in

school every day. This approach ensures that students have all the support and teaching they need to maximise their success.

Whatever happens in each individual exam, each of our students is already a success because they have shown perseverance, courage, and commitment. While exam results are important, so is personal character, and all the skills developed throughout a young person's time at school.

I have every confidence that students will continue to rise to the challenge, meet it with determination, and finish this exam season with their heads held high. Thank you to all the teachers and senior staff who have worked so hard to ensure the exam seasons has started so well.

I would like to add a special Mazel Tov (congratulations) to Ellis Mazin and Josh Saltman for achieving the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is an awesome success.

Shabbat Shalom and I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Michele Phillips

Headteacher

Parasha Reflections - Mrs Juggler

The parasha this week is Emor. It is a bit of a one size fits all Torah portion as it starts with some priestly laws, squeezes some festival practices in the middle and ends with a punishment for blasphemy.

To the outsider it seems as though this week's Torah portion lacks structure, planning and sequencing. For a teacher, this kind of text is a nightmare! However, whilst it jumps from one thing to another it is this Torah portion that helps Jews reflect on the busyness of the year. The Jewish calendar is infused with Jewish festivals, some modern but mostly biblical and it is a reminder that people of faith are often deeply rooted to their past. When so much of our past shapes what we do in the present we might find that we are constantly looking backwards instead of looking forwards.

At King Solomon whilst our year 11 and year 13 students begin their national exams, teachers to are looking backwards and reflecting on how our students' experiences might shape their success. However, there are many in our community who try to balance the past, present and future. Some of us are already turning towards our year 10 students and preparing them for their exams at the end of June. We are in a constant state of reflecting and learning and much like this parasha we are holding lots of things at once that are of equal importance and that continue to shape our calendar.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom.

Important Dates

SPRING TERM 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 - Tuesday 29th July 2025

First Day of Term - Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday (School Closed) - Monday 5th May 2025

HALF TERM including Bank Holiday (School Closed) - Monday 26th May 2025 - Friday 30th May 2025

Shavuot (School Closed) - Monday 2nd June & Tuesday 3rd June

Last Day of the School Year - Tuesday 29th July 2025. Early closure (1:30pm)

Term Dates

Please click on the icon for **2024 - 2025** Term Dates -

Please click on the icon for **2025 - 2026** Term Dates -

Parents Evening, Assessment, Report

Year Group	Parents Evening	Mid-year Assessment	Progress Report 1	End of year Assessment	Progress Report 2
7	24th April 2025	10th - 21st March 2025	4th April 2025	9th - 20th June 2025	3rd July 2025
8	20th March 2025	27th January - 7th February 2025	27th February 2025	12th - 23rd May 2025	13th June 2025
9	13th February 2025	6th - 17th January 2025	30th January 2025	21st April - 2nd May 2025	15th May 2025
10	6th March 2025 (on-site)	27th January - 7th February 2025	27th February 2025	23rd June - 4th July 2025	17th July 2025
Year Group	**Parents Evening**	**Mock Exams**	**Progress Report 1**	**Mid-year assessment**	**Progress Report 2**
11	9th January 2025 (on-site)	18th - 29th November 2024	19th December 2024	24th Feb - 7th March 2025	20th March 2025
13	6th February 2025 (on-site)	18th - 29th November 2024	19th December 2024	24th Feb - 7th March 2025	20th March 2025

Upcoming Trips

Trip	Date	Year Group
Go Ape	**21st July**	8
Go Ape	**22nd July**	9
Nuclear Races	**23rd July**	7
Go Ape	**24th July**	10

PLEASE NOTE - The final deadline for payment to secure a place on the above trips is **23rd May** and this must be a minimum of **£15.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Miss Aaronson (Assistant Headteacher) at - jaaronson.317@kshsonline.uk

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are excited to inform you that we are offering the following after school clubs:

Club	When	Sign Up
Athletics Club	Monday 3:20 pm - 4:20 pm	https://forms.office.com/e/vSCC4J0QEj
Hip-Hop/Street Dance Club	Wednesday 3:20 pm - 4:20 pm	https://forms.office.com/e/KxcLbPT2Qk
Contemporary Dance Club	Thursday 3:20 pm - 4:20 pm	https://forms.office.com/e/C1hJfYW5K6

If you would like your child to participate, please complete the sign-up form and provide your consent using the links listed in the table above. Please ensure that you complete the form prior to your child attending the club. Your child must bring in KSHS PE kit to participate.

After the club, students will be dismissed from main reception at 4:20pm

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Larkin (Head of PE) on - rlarkin9.317@kshsonline.uk

VE Day 2025

Thursday 8th May 2025 marked 80 years since VE (Victory in Europe) Day when the Second World War came to an end in Europe.

Last week we were delighted to welcome KSHS grandparent Pamela Halawi with her sister Yvonne to talk about their father, World War Two veteran Leslie Sutton.

Leslie was a veteran of D-Day and fought across Europe for the British army. Leslie joined the RAF at the outbreak of war, was hidden behind enemy lines and escorted Nazi prisoners to the Nuremberg war crimes trials after the war. He dedicated much of his life after the war to supporting veterans and representing them at many events. Leslie also came to KSHS for many years to retell the story of his wartime experiences. Although Leslie passed away in 2019, we were delighted to welcome his daughters who are continuing his legacy. Pamela and Yvonne spoke to students from years 7, 8 and 9 to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

VE Day 2025

Year 10 Careers Trip - KPMG

On Friday 9th May, a group of Year 10 students visited the offices of KPMG and took part in a workshop as part of National numeracy day. After an ice breaker, students heard from a partner at KPMG and his journey to joining the company and what his role entails. Students then took part in some group work after learning about tax and what it's spent on. They then had to produce a pitch about why their chosen area should receive additional funding and present it to their peers. To round off the day, students heard from another employee who works in Cyber security, and they had the opportunity to discuss her role in great detail, which was an incredibly informative experience.

The year 10 students who took part gained a unique insight into some of the roles performed within one of the world's leading providers of audit, tax and advisory services. They engaged brilliantly with the people they met throughout the day and took part in the group activities with great enthusiasm. They came away with a much deeper knowledge about the breadth of careers available in the financial sector.

Mental Health Awareness Week

As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, students took part in a series of meaningful events focused on well-being and support.

The week began with a powerful assembly led by Mr Saunders, who spoke about the theme of community and the importance of looking out for one another.

Students in Years 7, 9, and 10 also participated in interactive workshops delivered by Mind of the Student, a specialist organisation that works with young people to promote mental health awareness. These sessions explored key strategies for recognising and managing mental health challenges, opening up important conversations and equipping students with tools to support both themselves and their peers.

It was a valuable week of learning, reflection, and connection - reinforcing the message that no one is ever alone.

Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show

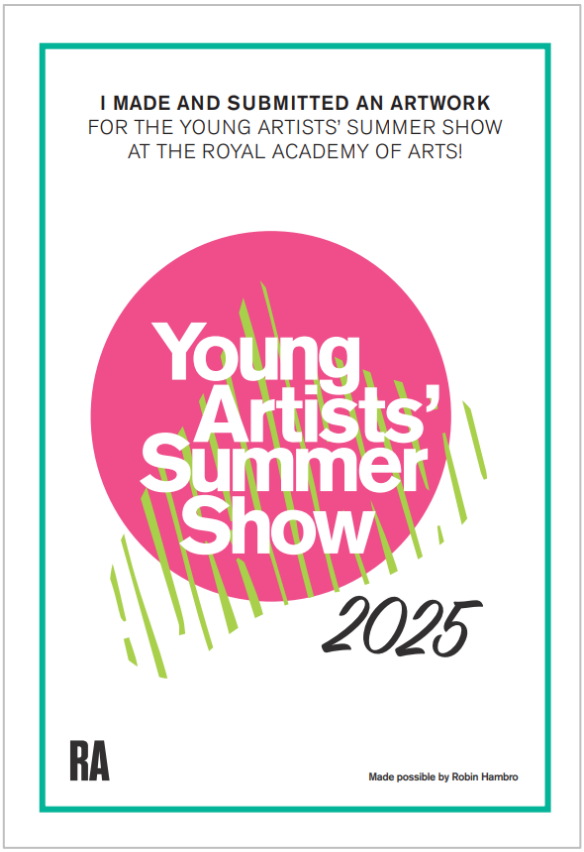
Now in its seventh year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4-18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

We had a number of students from across different year groups who submitted artwork this year, these students were **- Nhyira Boateng, Karina Gabryliuk, Veeraj Vaja, Kseniia Hodzhaieva, Alexandra Ciolacu, Jenson Block, Janice Gonçalves, Noah Keller, Liba Khan, Anishka Nair, Rachel Jean-Pierre, Dyan Bezaran** and two of our last year's year 11 cohort **Eleonora Rafailova** and **Vanessa Doncheva**.

Congratulations to Eleonora Rafailova whose painting entitled 'Prayer' was selected out of 23,000 submissions for the online exhibition.

The online exhibition will go live on the 15th July and you will be able to see Eleonora's successful entry as well as the other selected artworks via this link **https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/**

Well done to everyone for taking part. We aim to make this an annual event and hope even more students will submit work next year.



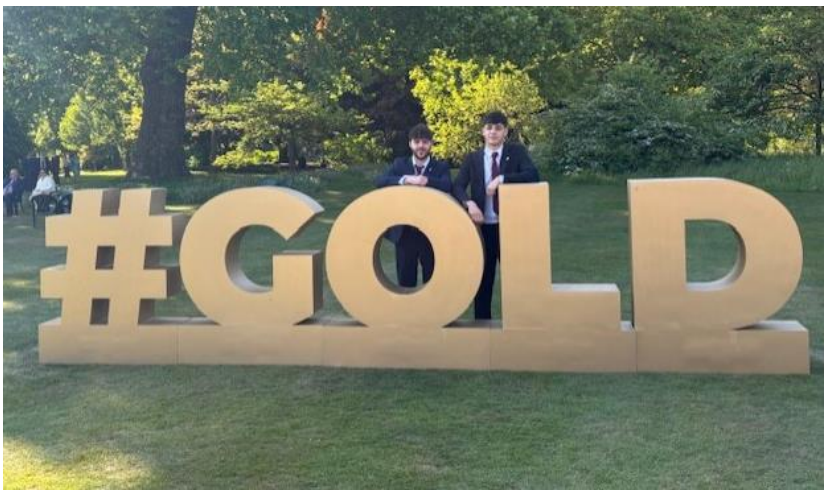
DofE - The Duke of Edingburgh's Award

Gold Duke of Edingburgh's Award

A huge congratulations to our Year 13 students, **Ellis Mazin** and **Josh Saltman**, on completing their Gold Duke of Edinburgh and receiving the award at Buckingham Palace. This award is the highest level of the prestigious UK youth development programme, that challenges young people aged 16-24 to complete activities across five sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and a five-day Residential. It encourages independence, resilience, teamwork, and community involvement through sustained effort over 12 to 18 months, and is widely respected by employers and academic institutions alike. **Well done to Ellis and Josh!**

Ellis writes:

"I did my Duke of Edinburgh in Wales, and it was really tough. The walking was hard and made worse by the heavy bags and weather which, at times made me want to give up, but I'm glad I stuck with it. It pushed me in ways I didn't expect, and I came out stronger for it. The best part in my opinion was meeting people, some of whom have become really close friends and we still keep in touch and see each other a lot. Despite being one of the toughest things I have ever done, it was 100% worth it for the experience and memories I made along the way".

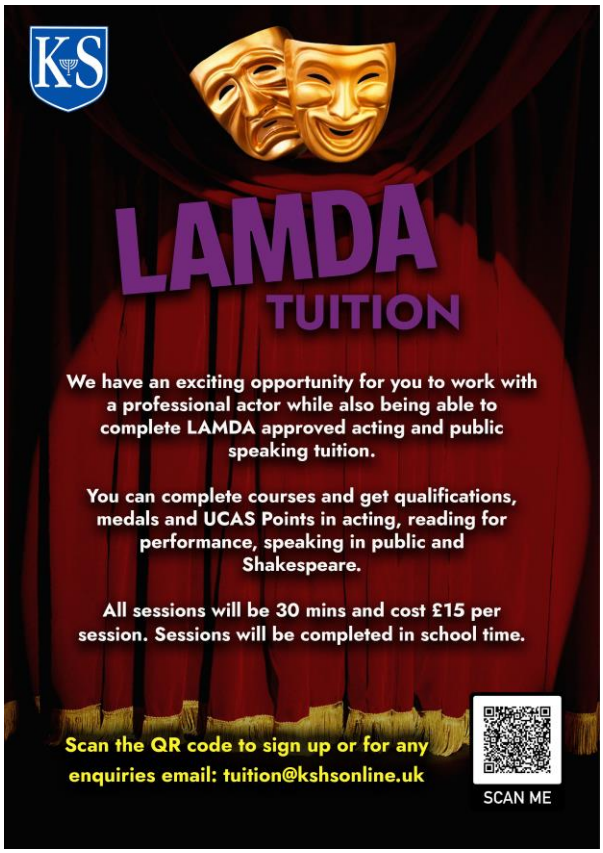


Performing Arts - Tuition Opportunities

Are you an aspiring musician or performer?

At King Solomon High School, we offer both LAMDA Public Speaking/Acting Tuition and Music tuition. There are so many benefits for your child to engage in 1 on 1 tuition.

If you would like your child to sign up for tuition, you can scan the QR codes on the leaflets below or alternatively, you can email Miss Mallach on tuition@kshsonline.uk for more information.



Welcome Mrs Hayley Ford!

Get to know our new Assistant Headteacher and Director of English

Hello, my name is Mrs Hayley Ford, and I have just taken up post as Assistant Headteacher overseeing English and Literacy across the school.

I have been a Head of Department for the past 5 years, but I have always taught English. I have also spent a significant part of my career as a Head of Year and Head of Pastoral which I enjoyed, but my passion is English.

The aspect of my role I am particularly passionate about is creating and planning an exciting and challenging curriculum for students that includes a wealth of rich literature that includes the best of what has been thought, written or said.

Outside of school I love to read, but I really enjoy walking my beautiful labradoodle in Epping Forest at the weekend.

An interesting fact about me is that I went to school with Teddy Sheringham (ex-England, Spurs and Millwall player) - it feels like a long time ago!

Something I would love to do in the future is to go to India and travel around - it is a country that fascinates me - and I love Indian food.

Vision Redbridge Culture & Leisure - SEN Holiday Activities

Vision Redbridge Culture & Leisure are pleased to announce that they are now running SEN holiday activities throughout the year during all school holidays, starting with the upcoming May Half Term. Please see the booking link below for the May Half Term SEN sessions - this gives you the information on what activities are running and the booking links.

SEN swimming sessions have also now been added. This is a new session for both Vision and the teachers so these will be swim teacher led sessions for children with SEN and their parents/guardians.

These are the activities running during the May Half Term:

SEN Sports (mixed) & Fun games
SEN Cycling
SEN Water Sports
SEN swimming

The bookings are now live. Use the following booking link for all SEN activities - **https://bookwhen.com/megamix**

Mental Health - Webinar Sessions

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 student's wellbeing
- **Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (emergency team)**: 020 8496 3000
- **Barnardos**: 0800 008 7005

Let us know . . .

- 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

Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please fill in a **Medicines Consent Form** and hand in to Student Services 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.

Should your child have an accident inside or outside of school that requires them to attend A&E, please inform the school as soon as possible as a Risk Assessment Meeting may need to be arranged. Any new medical conditions also need to be reported to Mrs Levy (Welfare/Safeguarding Officer).

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. If you are ever concerned that your child is at risk due to very 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

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

NHS

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