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Dear Parents/  
Carers and  
students,



I am delighted to again write a short piece for the Christmas TKASA newsletter. Thank you for your great support during

2020 - it has been the most testing of school years - however, our Trust has been very resilient and our Principals and staff have been absolutely first class.

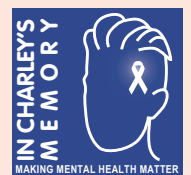
I hope you continue to be very pleased with the progress at TKASA - clearly this year has been somewhat disjointed in terms of continuity of provision. However, I can assure all parents / carers that our team at TKASA, led by Mr. Jenkins, continue to do all the right things each day and with some pace. To support the team at the school we have big capital plans for 2021 at TKASA which include the completion of the re-roofing of the site and some re-windowing - we anticipate another £1million+ will be needed to complete the project. A huge investment into Highbridge and Burnham-on-Sea education - excellent news.

We were especially delighted this year to see such strong numbers into the Sixth Form for the recent September entry - some 90 students entered Year 12 (lower Sixth) this year which allowed us to have a total Sixth Form of around 180. This is a sustainable number - but, we hope that we can encourage even more TKASA Year 11s to join the Sixth Form in September 2021. I urge you as Year 11 parents/ carers / students please support the local Sixth provision in our town. As always, should you wish to talk with me at any time about the Sixth Form or any other issue then please do email me; I will get promptly in touch - [neville.coles@theplt.org.uk](mailto:neville.coles@theplt.org.uk).



As you will know, in the early months of 2021, we will be appointing a new Principal to lead our school at TKASA - he /she will further build on the great work carried out over the last two years. As with Mr. Jenkins, we will recruit strongly and Mr. Jenkins himself will lead the process! Mr. Jenkins becomes our new Head of School Improvement working across all our three secondary schools from April 2021 - so he will have a regular and big input into the education at TKASA for some years to come. The future is looking very bright.

To end, I was delighted in November to be able to present Dawn Carey (pictured) from the mental health charity 'In Charley's Memory' with a cheque for £13,000 - this is the charity total raised from all our schools this year towards for ICM. Thank you to all who contributed - our collecting actually ended in March so this is particularly remarkable from what was essentially a half year of fund raising activities.



Can I wish you a very happy Christmas with family and friends - we clearly look forward to a much more normal 2021.

**Neville Coles**  
CEO - The Priory Learning Trust



**MR. JENKINS**  
Principal

Welcome to the Autumn 2020 edition of the TKASA newsletter. I wish to start with a huge thank you to all our parents for all your support to our school during these difficult times. We could not have done it without you!

Whilst this term has been different for us all, I am pleased that as a school, we have been able to continue to welcome students into school and go about lessons in what is rapidly becoming known as the 'new normal' with students in their learning zones and year group bubbles. Although the restrictions have required us to cancel some of our calendared events, it has been business as usual in our day to day school life.

One of the highlights this term for me has been the appointment of our student leaders. I am always impressed by the calibre of students who come forward for these roles every year, and it only serves to remind me of what great students we have here at King Alf's. I was pleased that we were able to hold our annual Remembrance Service, a small Carol Service and switching on of our Christmas lights and also an unusual but still important Awards Evening where we were able to reward those students who continue to work hard and achieve great things.

In the following pages, you will be hearing from subject leaders, teachers, pastoral staff as well as



support staff and you will see all the great things our students have been involved with over this last term. I hope you enjoy reading all about school life here at TKASA in Autumn 2020. This year has reminded me that King Alf's is a special place to learn, to work and just to be part of, the incredible contribution that every member of our community makes really does make all the difference to the young people of our community.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you a very Happy Christmas (in whatever form the celebrations may take this year) and as we look forward to 2021, my very best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

Stay safe everyone!



## MR. MILFORD - Vice Principal

Having reached the end of our first two terms of this academic year, the overwhelming feeling has been that of pride and amazement at how well all our staff and students have managed the changes to daily school life in these challenging times.

Despite some apprehension, I guess from all of us, as to how students would cope with all the changes in school forced upon us, it has been amazing to see everyone so pleased to be back in school learning in lessons, engaging with teachers and smiling when talking with friends.



Despite the restrictions, we have still maintained high standards across the school and have been able to continue to deliver weekly assemblies (in a virtual way) to all our students addressing such areas as Remembrance, Anti Bullying

and mental health awareness. Tutor time sessions have still incorporated our wonderful reading programme in Year 7-10 and bespoke additional core GCSE sessions have been provided each morning to Year 11. Additionally, our Sixth Form students have benefitted from their own dedicated areas in the library and the newly refurbished and extended Sixth Form Centre.

Students who may have struggled to return to school following the long period out of school in

the spring and summer were supported by our SEND and Pastoral staff prior to September to ensure they were eased back into school without any worries.

These support mechanisms prior to September and throughout the two terms have meant our whole school attendance has been way in excess of the national average, highlighting how happy and pleased all the TKASA students are to be back at school and in lessons learning. It really has been so pleasing to see all our staff and students back in school after so much disruption in 2020.

As we move into 2021, with the hope that the coming year will bring more normality, we will continue to support, motivate and inspire all our students to succeed and do their best in all aspects of school life. Our Pastoral team, SEND department and Safeguarding staff have worked tirelessly to ensure communication with all families has been a priority and this will continue following the Christmas break.

When we return in the new year, we are looking forward to maintaining all the high expectations we have of our students from Year 7 to 13, ensuring their experience at school is the best it can be, especially having missed out on so much face to face learning last academic year. Thank you for your support of the school this past few months and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dan Milford - Vice Principal



Remembrance

## ■ MR. WITTS - Vice Principal

Well what a fantastic term it has been. To see so many students getting on with their learning and making such good progress has been inspirational. Whether that has been in lessons that look much the same as they ever have or in subjects where we have had to adjust to some new ways of working, students have consistently taken the challenges head on and shown us just how much they appreciate being in school.

That is not to say that this year is not without its obstacles, remote learning or new health and safety considerations have meant that things are different this year, but with time and ingenuity these obstacles are being overcome. It gave us great pleasure last half term to re-introduce a full music and computing curriculum to key stage 3 and to see students from year 7 - 9 exploring and developing their natural ability in these subjects as always is great to see.

Students in year 9 and 11 have also been great at engaging in their remote learning tasks making sure that they keep up to date with their daily tasks and subject tasks throughout their time away from school.

As you will know at The King Alfred School Academy we are not ones to simply get things back to where they were, we are constantly moving forward and striving to do better so we can all be proud of what we have achieved.

Right across the school, students will have noticed a renewed approach to teaching and

learning. Much work has been done with school staff over both the summer and autumn term around the science of how students learn. Staff have explored the importance of effectively embedding information in students' long term memory and systematically providing opportunities to recall that information and apply it. In some cases these have been minor adjustments, however, I believe that an increased appreciation of strategies backed by scientific research will provide more effective learning tasks.

Students at key stage 3 have experienced the start of our students centered approach to this with a number of sessions around the science of how we learn. It's been impressive to see students applying learning strategies such as dual coding or regular quizzing to their home learning. I have always believed that learning and academic studies can best be thought of as a journey and that teachers must guide that journey but it is students that must make the journey for themselves. It has consequently been important for us to equip students with the independent skills to manage their own learning and together make good progress.

I look forward to seeing what the next year has in store and supporting students to great outcomes in the summer term.

As always please do not hesitate to contact either myself or classroom teachers if you have any questions about a student's progress in their studies.

**Mr Witts - Vice Principal**



Year 11 Exams, Drama GCSE Rehearsal



## HE+ PROGRAMME

The HE+ Programme is a prestigious opportunity for young people who are interested in applying to highly successful universities across the UK, such as Cambridge University. Across the country there is untapped potential in our students and this programme helps them discover more about their favourite subject in great detail and to support their path to success.

The Programme is very popular with students across the country. Packed with curricular resources their website aims to encourage students to research and engage with their chosen subject passionately. From Economics to Theology, there really is a subject for everyone!

The HE+ Programme also has a regional objective. Various professionals and lecturers work with Year 12 students in schools, sixth forms and colleges in 20 UK regions, including Somerset. These professionals are able to provide information and guidance on many issues from subject choice to writing personal statements.

Somerset has one of the lowest university admission rates in the country and the HE+ Programme aims to engage with students from these communities and to welcome them into higher education. There are opportunities for students to come together to get involved with the scheme; the Coronavirus pandemic may have restricted this, but we have logged on, zoomed in and continued our work remotely.

Conversations with past students and beneficiaries of the scheme have enabled students to find out about the many benefits of HE+ and what they can do to tailor this amazing opportunity to their desired career and University choice.

As a student who has benefitted from the scheme, sixth former Jacob Kemp says: "The HE+ Programme has really helped me with my interest in English Literature and History. The super curricular activities are interesting and thought provoking, and the zoom sessions are really engaging!" The programme is offered to year 12 students across the UK already helping over 25,000 students over 10 years.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

by William Leader (Year 12)

Young Enterprise is an amazing opportunity for students to develop their business, financial and entrepreneurial skills as well as working as a team. One of the leading TKASA Sixth Form societies, Young Enterprise also encourages young people to be ambitious and forward thinking by working with local businesses and helping the local community.

The group has had many successes in recent years and 2020 is no different! This year our amazing students have been meeting and designing their product, a charming Gift Box, containing products such as tea lights, sweets, a mini journal and a reusable face covering.

Leader of the group, William Leader, says "Our main motivation for this project was to cheer

people up, and support their mental health in these strange times. Our project is environmentally friendly and our products have been selected so that both vegetarians and vegans are able to enjoy them too! Our group has been amazing, working together creatively and collaboratively, in order to make this year's project a success!"

For more information about our product please go to our webpage <https://www.ye-tradingstation.org.uk/product/bish-bash-box-wel-lbeing-box>





## THE HUMAN EVOLUTION SOCIETY

By Olivia Earthy, Y12 (Co-president of the HES):

The Human Evolution Society is a group created to enrich our knowledge on the subject of human evolution; we meet on a Wednesday after school and learn about many different aspects of human origins.

We are working with a former palaeoanthropologist and myself and Grace Huggins are Co-presidents, helping coordinate activities and liaise with anthropologists in the field.

So far, we have had an introduction to the science of human origins, an overview of the last 7 million years of hominin evolution and an amazing presentation by Amy Taylor on the famous Taung

Child fossil - a 2.6 million year old human ancestor found in South Africa in 1924. During her presentation, we explored the comparative anatomy of the fossil skull, mandible and brain endocast, how it was discovered and what it can tell us about the story of human evolution.

This society can aid people in the future due to the anatomical knowledge learnt from analysing fossils and what they can tell us about biomechanics and adaptive pressures in ancestral environments. Personally, as a potential future medic, this is incredibly useful because learning the different parts of the body and their function is a large part of med school. This is also useful in other future studies in subjects including natural sciences and archaeology. For others, the society just offers the opportunity to learn more about a subject they are passionate about.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

We have enjoyed several fascinating meetings so far this term, starting with an excellent presentation by Erin Murray on bystander apathy and the bystander effect: we analysed famous experiments that suggest individuals are strongly influenced by group dynamics - in the famous smoke room study naive participants would sit in a room that was slowly filling with smoke if they were sat alongside others who were not moving.

More recently we have been looking at behavioural addictions such as gambling. Holly Saunders delivered a great presentation on the current concerns surrounding online betting and we were also joined by Dr Matt Gaskell, Clinical Lead & Consultant Psychologist for the NHS Northern Gambling Service with Clinics at Manchester, Leeds & Sunderland. It was great to question an eminent psychologist in the field who

is working alongside the government to change gambling legislation. Questions included the nature versus nurture debate concerning addiction as well as the daily routines of being a cognitive psychologist - this was especially useful as many of us want to go into psychology in the future.

We followed this meeting with a really interesting presentation by Mollie Croker on addiction research in nonhuman animals: we found the study famously known as Rat Park especially interesting as it illustrated that rats recovered from addictions if they were nurtured in a stimulating environment - a finding that has implications for how we treat human addicts.



**Anya Snowball**  
President of the  
Psychological Society



## YEAR 7

Despite having an unusual beginning to their TKASA journey, Year 7 have made a fantastic start. The students have had to deal with a huge amount of information and have worked with the staff to ensure a safe learning environment. They have been racking up the class chart points and most have taken to the knowledge organiser homework, using the time to learn the core knowledge needed to succeed in their subjects.



Although opportunities outside of the classroom have been sparse so far this year, it is always a pleasure to hear about students' extra-curricular achievements. We are very proud of Venice, who won a SAA (Society for All Artists) Junior Artist of the Year competition and William and Holly, who passed ABRSM (Royal Schools of Music) graded exams this term.

Former St. Joseph's students can also be proud. Back in 2018 when the children were in Year 4 they wrote letters to Baroness Walmsley in the House of Lords. The children were concerned about the childhood obesity crisis and wrote to ask for a change in the law regarding junk food advertising. The Baroness was so moved by their words that she quoted from their letters in a House of Lords debate on the subject recently. The majority of children asked for junk food adverts to only be shown after the watershed at 9pm, not during times when children would be viewing - this was made law this summer!

I hope you all have a great Christmas break and that students are looking forward to continuing their progress in 2021!

**Mr Harris**  
Head of Year 7







## YEAR 8

It has been such a lovely couple of terms getting to know year 8. Since first meeting them in September, all the way through the current difficult times, they have continually impressed me with how well they have adapted and coped with the current arrangements. My assembly videos each week are always positive with so many great things to say about the different groups and it is really interesting to go around the tutor rooms on a Monday morning listening to the various cheers as they get a well done, although not so keen on

hearing my own voice from all the different rooms at the same time.

We are so close to catching year 7 for first place in the positives and our attendance overall, with everything considered, is only just below 95%. There are so many names I could mention for praise this term, for the highest positives; Macey Burge, Ivy Meager, Martha Hughes, Freddie Triggol and Jake Bartlett. For still having 100% attendance; 55 students including, Aimee Dennehy, Hannah Rufus, Timothy Freeman, Connor Pike with 8R in the lead overall. For activities outside of school; Macey Burge, Kieran Blain and Martha Hughes. For kindness, for being supportive, for a massive improvement in attitude to doing homework, Josh Parker and for outstanding efforts, Kacey Heybyrne. So many I could add to the list but I am limited in how much I am allowed to write - overall a really positive start and I am really proud to be their Head of Year. Hopefully they can all enjoy a (fairly) normal festive break and come back fully recharged ready for another fantastic term in January.

## MESSAGES FROM THE TUTORS;

### 8K - Mr Hardie

8K are regularly mentioned in the weekly (remote) year assembly within the context of classes receiving large numbers of achievement points. This is always heartening for a tutor to hear, especially when there are the added demands of the COVID safety requirements for the students to contend with.

### 8I - Miss Keeble & Miss Phillips

We have really enjoyed getting to know 8I this term. They have adapted so well to the circumstances and always come into tutor time in the morning with positivity and a smile. We have been really pleased to see lots of positives on Classcharts with the most points being achieved by Zach P, Emily H and Millie.

### 8N - Mr J Profitt and Mr McBride

Since September 8N have really impressed both myself and Mr McBride. We have been astonished with the way that they have settled back into this crazy year, and it has been a privilege getting to know them over the last half term. I specifically have to give a mention to Aaron, Scarlett and Megan who are 8N's top positive scorers since the start of the year! I have also been really impressed with Aiden, Leah and Hope who are just slightly behind those in the top 3 positions.

### 8G - Miss Woodman and Miss Hodnett

It is a great pleasure to be the tutor of 8G. I am incredibly proud of how well they have all started the school year and have adapted to the current situation with great maturity and understanding. They are a brilliant group of students with lots of personality and talent on show.

### 8A - Miss Biggs

I thoroughly enjoy our PSHCE lessons where everyone takes part in thought provoking discussions, and it's wonderful hearing their opinions on a variety of subjects. Well done 8A, I look forward to seeing what successes 2021 will bring you!

### 8L - Mr Davies and Ms King

8L have made a great impression this term with an outstanding number of positive points, and star awards from the HOY. Both myself and Mr Davies have been so proud of their achievements in school and hearing about things outside of school they like to do. I'm looking forward to sharing more successes with 8L in 2021 and beyond.

### 8F - Mrs Godwin & Mrs Robertson

8F have made a fantastic start to Year 8. It has been a pleasure to get to know the group and support them during this interesting year! We look forward to another great year in 2021, well done all of 8F.

### 8R - Mrs Owen

8R have made a great impression on me this term! The group has a great team ethos and I love teaching them PSHCE each fortnight, when we have time to have really good discussions. I'm looking forward to sharing more successes with 8R in 2021.

## ■ YEAR 9

**Mrs Gibson:** Well, it has been a year since our last newsletter and what a year it has been! From Year 8 to Year 9, unforeseeable changes, a pandemic and a lockdown. But, despite this, Year 9 have coped incredibly well with the changes thrown at them and shown real strength of character. They have embraced a new way of working, new routines and new social times. I am especially proud of all of the Year 9s in overcoming this adversity and showing me how resilient they can be.

**Mrs Jones:** I am so impressed with how quickly and maturely year 9 have settled back into the new school routine since having so much time away. This is my first year working with this year group and I am really enjoying getting to know everyone.

**9K** have made a brilliant start to the year! Some of our tutees have been fostering their love of music in preparation for considering their options at the end of the year and some have been involved in writing about the good news around school for the Jill Dando News team. Lots of effort during lockdown and a very positive start to Year 9 - well done!

**9I** have had a wonderful start to Year 9. I regularly receive emails from their teachers telling me how wonderful their behaviour has been, and the huge effort they continuously put into their class work. I'm amazed by how well they've adapted to this strange school year, and that the sports and creative hobbies they've developed during lockdown are continuing. Keep up the good work everyone!

**9N** - Ever since 9N went into lockdown (No.1) back in March, I was impressed with how they dealt with a tricky and scary situation. Checking in on them made me proud how strong their character is. Now, with the start of a new school year with new protocols, structures and restrictions, plus being taught altogether in the same room all the time, I feel that 9N have tackled this challenge head on. With another lockdown (No.2 - just for year 9) AGAIN, they are all impressing me with how they are soldiering on "getting the job done", continuing with their studies independently. Keep Calm and Carry on with the amazing effort you've shown so far 9N!

**9G** have all had a busy term settling back into the hustle and bustle of school life. They have enjoyed reading 'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak and are looking forward to finding out what happens in the end. Outside of school many have demonstrated their resourcefulness by harnessing the power of the World Wide Web. Naomi started doing gym and dance on zoom during lockdown and has continued to enjoy participating regularly this term. Amelie, an

accomplished 'deshi', has carried on practising her karate remotely and is also making excellent progress at her swimming club. Likewise, India has enjoyed using the internet to take part in 20 minute workouts with Joe Wicks. Whilst Louis is taking a short hiatus between learning new songs, he also has been using zoom to take guitar lessons. Ethan, although excited that his football team is at the top of the league, can't wait to get back on the pitch and play some 'footy'. Well done 9G, I can't wait to see what you achieve next term!

**9A** - I am really impressed with 9A, they have worked really hard since September and have adapted to the changes and challenges with a positive attitude.

**9L** have had an amazing start to year 9, showing great maturity towards the changes that have been made to keep everyone as safe as possible. The group has been working so hard to gain as many positives as they can and with great success as many students in 9L have found themselves in the top 10 of the year group each week as well as the whole group being consistently strong within Year 9. A special mention this term goes to Molly Joyce and Kieran Moore who have been selected as Sports Captains for Year 9 and Freya Coulson who has been selected as Vice Sports Captain. Also, John Smith who was voted as our Year Council representative for 9L. We are all very proud of you and the start you have made this year!

**9F** have been very creative during lockdown and during school this term! Thomas Greenway has kindly shared some photos of his creativity during lockdown, which includes making a very skilled wooden box. Weronika created some beautiful pieces of artwork whilst in lockdown. Lots of the group got involved to support Anti-Bullying week by wearing odd socks. Before lockdown Jay became South West champion in England for go karting! "I usually go around 40 to 60 miles an hour and won 74 trophies and 16 medals, I raced all around the country and have even travelled abroad to race". It's a really tough time, and the group are coping well and finding lots of ways to be creative. Keep up the great work 9F!



**9R** have made a fantastic start to year 9. They have adapted well to the changes and have taken everything in their stride. Our tutees have produced some fantastic work in their creative subjects, such as their DT project. They have also produced some fantastic work in humanities including taking part in discussions within the topics of philosophy and ethics with great maturity within Religious Studies.

Mrs Gibson, Head of Year 9

## YEAR 10

It has been a fantastic two terms for Year 10 who have adapted incredibly well to, dare I say it, the new normal. Year 10 have made a great start to their GCSE courses and it has been a real pleasure to hear all the wonderful feedback from staff and the students themselves. The resilience and determination to succeed is clear to see and I am very excited to see what the rest of the academic year will bring.

The remainder of the year has lots in store for year 10 especially linked to careers and supporting students with their futures. All year 10 students have met with Mrs Leatherby already this year and she has presented them with their record of achievement folders. I look forward to seeing these again once they have started to fill up celebrating their successes. Maybe you still have yours somewhere at home? I found it quite amusing looking through some of the contents of mine!

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work this term. From the students to the tutor team (Miss Chainey, Mrs Bonnett, Miss Shire, Mrs Clough, Mr Clements, Mr Day, Mr Swaine, Mrs Meredith, Miss Atkins, Mrs McLennan) and of course Mrs Jones everyone has worked incredibly hard this term.

Year 10 helped to officially boost the Christmas spirit at TKASA with the launch of our Christmas Advent calendar. Please check the school website/Twitter for a recording of their performance.

As with many things this year, the Christmas break may be a little different to normal but I hope everyone manages to have some much-deserved rest and allows the batteries to recharge.

**Miss Bullock**  
Head of Year 10





## YEAR 11

Well, it has been quite a year...! As I sat down to write my December 2019 newsletter article, I certainly couldn't have predicted the 12 months we had in store. Moreover, I couldn't have predicted how incredibly our current Year 11 would take the disruption to their education in their strides. From the initial school closure in March, to the spring of online learning and the summer of weekly catch up sessions in school, this bunch have taken everything that's been thrown at them. Now, over 3 months into Year 11, a form of 'normal' has returned and we look ahead to a hopefully much more settled spring before the summer of exams.

We have introduced a number of initiatives in Year 11 to help students prepare for their exams in as effective a way as possible. Students complete their 20 Minute Homeworks every week and each week I'm amazed at how few students forget to bring theirs in - it's become the new normal. In addition, students spend tutor time receiving bespoke English, Maths and Science intervention from a rotation of tutors. Whilst it was sad saying goodbye to their previous tutors, students recognise the benefit of having this extra support. Like with 20 Minute Homeworks, this is designed to make students feel as comfortable and confident as they can as they look towards the exam season. Students have also embraced our '6 Period day', choosing to stay until 4pm to do an extra session of one of their subjects, or just spend time in Study Club catching up on work. The mindset that Year 11 have adopted this term instils me with great confidence that they will fulfil their potential in the summer.

November saw us appointing a superb group of 50 prefects who will undertake a wide range of responsibilities across the school and are soon to don their new prefect ties. They are led by our student leadership team and our Head Boy and Head Girl: Darragh Joyce and Grace Chambers. Darragh and Grace fought off some incredibly strong competition to be appointed to their prestigious roles. They have both begun to implement their school improvement projects - watch this space!

Students are now starting to look forward to next year and many have applied to the 6th Form and to colleges. Year 11 are having one to one careers interviews with Mrs Leatherby this term which will give them a broad and balanced understanding of their options for Post-16. This is such an exciting time as students start to plan the next stage of their journeys. I am thrilled to be able to continue to support them along the way.

**Mr Penman**  
Head of Year 11



## ★ KEY STAGE 3 ★

Subject	Winner
Mathematics	Libby Hall
English	Rhys Lewis-Kemble
Science	Prabhjot Multani
French	Isabella Thomas
Geography	Molly Ford
History	Skye Bowcott
Religious Studies	Zoe Loveridge
Computing	Harry Stevens
Design and Technology	Hoshi Speight
Art	Catherine Taylor
Drama	Eleni Markoutsas
Music	Amy Dunn
PE Boys	Jacob Radford
PE Girls	Isabelle Puddy
<b>Head of Year Award</b>	<b>Isabella Thomas</b>

## ★ KEY STAGE 4 ★

Subject	Winner
Mathematics	Alfie Murphy
English Language	Jacob Kemp
English Literature	Joe Fountain
Combined Science	Connie Hazleton-Cavill
Science Biology	Matthew Bartlett
Science Physics	Anya Snowball
Science Chemistry	Olivia Earthy
French	Matthew Bartlett
Geography	Jess Howe
German	Grace Huggins
History	Anya Snowball
Religious Studies	Olivia Andrews
Computing	Isabelle Carpenter
Business Studies	Oran Kendrew
Design and Technology	Kale Longley
Food and Nutrition	Christiana Pantelli
Art	Poppy Cemm
Drama	Lauren-Lilly Power
Music	Leah Rosser
Dance	Rachael Bartlett
Sport Science	Erin Murray
<b>Head of Year Award</b>	<b>Jacob Kemp</b>
<b>Principal's Award</b>	<b>Matthew Bartlett</b>



## ★ KEY STAGE 5 ★

Subject	Winner
Mathematics	George Simmons
English Language	Charlotte Hendy
English Literature	Chloe Turner
Biology	Anya Butler
Physics	Kirsty Atwell
Chemistry	Harrison Brooks
Geography	Jack Garrett
History	Katie-Bea Robinson
Computing	Joshua Leigh
Business Studies	Charlotte Slade
Art	Rowan Crosby
Sociology	Charlotte Barton
Sport and Physical Activity	Christopher McIntosh
Psychology	Lilly Keeley Watts
<b>Head of Year Award</b>	<b>Jack Murphy</b>
<b>Principal's Award</b>	<b>Kirsty Atwell</b>
<b>Community Service Award</b>	<b>Lilly Keeley Watts</b>



## KEEPING EVERYBODY SAFE AT LUNCHTIME AT THE KING ALFRED SCHOOL ACADEMY

Pabulum working in partnership with The Priory Learning Trust

Welcome to our e-brochure designed to tell you about the great things we have lined up for students at The King Alfred School Academy.

### Pabulum Menu - Update

Since our return to school in September, things have been a bit different in the kitchen and dining hall - staggered lunchtimes, year group bubbles, face coverings - but one thing which has not changed is our commitment to producing and serving high quality food, made fresh each day!

Our current menus have been designed around a Grab & Go concept, to enable us to serve each year group bubble as safe and efficiently as possible, so that everyone has time to enjoy their meal.



Each day the menu features pasta pots, filled jacket potatoes, paninis, and our daily specials such as hot filled wraps, hot sub rolls, sausage rolls and rice pots.

We also produce a range of cold items, baguettes, sandwiches, salad pots, fresh fruit, cold desserts and tray bakes. A selection of juice based drinks and still or sparkling water completes our current offer.

Our great value £1.85 meal deals are still available, examples below:

- Hot option - pasta pot, tray bake and a bottle of water
- Cold option - sandwich/roll, tray bake, fruit and a bottle of water

Our weekly menus can be found on the school website, along with the contact details for both Tracey Lowe, Catering Manager and for Pabulum Fleet Office should you have any questions or concerns.

Look out for our exciting themed events in 2021



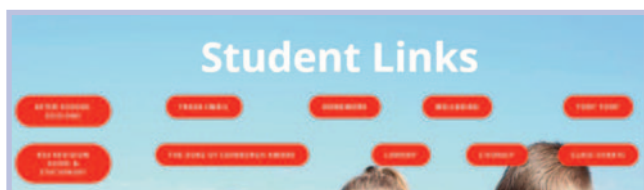
## LIBRARY NEWS

The school library is currently closed to accommodate the Year 12 bubble. Whilst access to library books has been put on hold, students can still access the school Oliver Library news page where they will find useful links to external websites.

These websites give access to books online, audio books, poetry, activities, interviews with authors, book recommendations and lots more to help with school work as well as for pleasure. There is also a link to CGP 10 minute tests in maths, science and SPaG - suitable for any age!

Stationery and KS4 revision guides are available to purchase via the school pay online facility only. Due to the current restrictions we can only offer limited stationery items including a full pencil case, revision pack and calculator. Items purchased online are delivered to students during the following school day

Links to the Library and the Stationery/Revision Guide list can be found on the school website 'Student Links' section.



Mrs Williams  
Learning Resources

## SAFEGUARDING SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

We had hoped to host a safeguarding evening in November but due to current restrictions that was not possible. Instead we posted links to two parent webinars which were extremely informative.

We will notify parents of any similar events so please keep an eye on the school website for dates and times of safeguarding sessions.

25th November 2020 - Online Safety for parents: 'It is never going to happen to my child...'

9th December 2020- 'Gangs' and County Lines awareness in Avon and Somerset

Mrs Lawrence, Deputy Safeguarding Lead & Student Welfare Manager

## REVERSE ADVENT AND TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Reverse Advent and Twelve Days of Christmas campaigns encouraged students to donate much needed food, drink and toiletries to the local Foodbank. This is the third year the school has supported the Foodbank through the Reverse Advent Calendar project but it is especially important this year as the demand now is higher than ever.

Every day the Twelve Days of Christmas, in support of the Reverse Advent, presented virtual performances from our students who were singing, reciting, showcasing their art and playing musical instruments. Their talented performances can be found on the school Twitter account @KingAlfs.

Due to the pandemic, the school had to do the Reverse Advent a little bit differently this year. The sixth form students partnered with local supermarkets Tesco and Asda who supported the project by donating items and loaning trolleys to enable the collection of donations from students and staff as they arrived at the school gates.

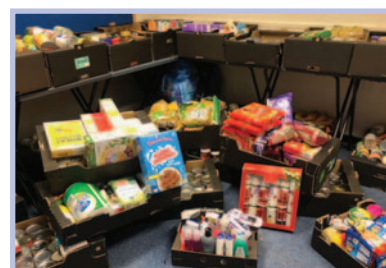


President and Vice President of the Sixth Form Student Union, Jack Millier and Mia Nisa were fundamental in leading this project across the school working with staff, students and stakeholders in the community.

Our amazing students, families and staff have made sure our campaign has been a huge success. I am incredibly proud to be part of The King Alfred School Academy, working with a team of people trying to make a difference every day and positively helping our community.

Thank you!

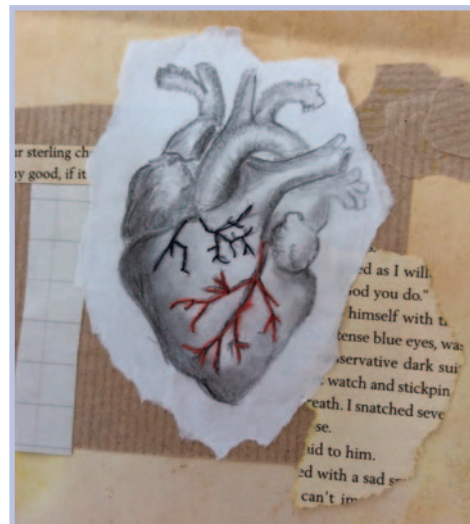
Miss Charles,  
Assistant Principal



## ART

Back in February 2020 our Art and Photography 6th form students visited the cultural city of Amsterdam. Students were able to view the traditional works housed in the Rijksmuseum and see the innovative 'Night watch' Rembrandt restoration project.

Students took a guided canal cruise where they explored the history and architecture of the city. Of course the Van Gogh museum was a must see and students found this very inspirational.







## HIGHBRIDGE ARTS FESTIVAL



In March, The King Alfred School Academy students won medals for a range of amazing achievements at the 73rd annual Highbridge Festival of the Arts. They were part of the festival's 2,300 performances, across music, speech, drama and dance.

In the first week, drama students picked up six prizes across three classes. The Key Stage 3 Drama Club won gold and silver for their devised drama pieces. A Level drama students Louis Channon and Holly Sanders won gold, Charles Hewlitt and Jess Smith won silver, Elliot Chapman and Jess Reed won Bronze in the duologue performance category and Caitlin Kelly won Gold for her performance in the monologue category.

The following week the school's talented musicians gained an impressive 30 prizes across 25 categories. Special mention must go to GCSE Music student Jack Richardson who, in addition to picking up 4 medals, won the highly competitive Dorothy Reaney Award.

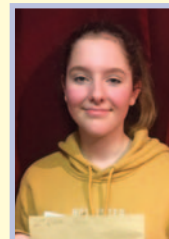
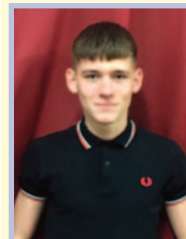


## JANUARY 2020 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

After having to sadly postpone our 2020 Christmas concert due to the school closure back in December 2020, we held what we believe to be the earliest (and possibly one of the only live) Christmas concerts at the start of the year! A wonderful evening of music, drama, and dance was supported by our amazing art students and staff offering personalised Christmas card photoshoots. As always, students were an absolute credit to themselves and TKASA and a great night was had by all!

## TALENT SHOW

In February, we held TKASA Has Talent and were so impressed with the range of talent we saw. From singers, to musicians, to puppet acts, gymnastics and more! Well done to our winners, Louis Satherly in first place, Eleni Markoutsas in second and the band 'Beyond Recognition' third place.



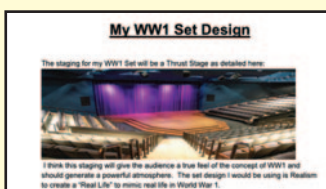
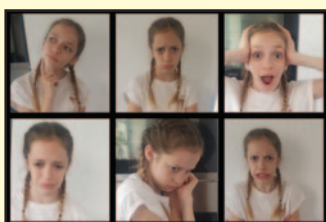
## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS VIRTUAL ADVENT CALENDAR

Whilst the restrictions in place due to Covid-19 has prevented us from hosting our annual Christmas Concert, we are delighted to celebrate our students Creative Arts work and performances through our 12 Days of Christmas Virtual Advent Calendar. Working to support the whole school Reverse Advent Calendar collections for the local foodbanks, each day saw a release of a short video featuring Christmas / winter themed music, drama, dance, art and photography from staff and students. As always, the standard was superb and it was lovely to be able to find an alternative way of sharing our Christmas celebrations with students and the wider public.



## DRAMA IN LOCKDOWN

We were really inspired by the creativity and effort shown from the students during lockdown. The students were set a range of creative tasks from box sets, to costume design and writing scripts. We also had a weekly Drama challenge which many students entered on top of their normal Drama work. Here are a few examples of the fantastic work we received.



## YEAR 13 PERFORMANCES

Earlier this term our wonderful Year 13 cohort completed their first performances towards their A Level Drama.



We were so impressed with what they managed to create in a shorter than usual space of time and how hard they worked to make sure they were able to perform something of quality. We are so proud of them and are really looking forward to their next performances later in the year.

## YEAR 11 PERFORMANCES



Year 11s have been hard at work developing their exam pieces. RSL students performed their versions of the popular play 'Blood Brothers' and GCSE students performed their devised pieces which we were very excited to see.

We are so proud of how well our Year 11s have adapted to the changes this year and how much effort they have put in to create exciting and creative work for their exams.





## ■ DRAMA - 6TH FORM PANTO

In January our Year 12 Drama students directed, produced and designed a 6th form only production of the popular pantomime 'Cinderella'. The students auditioned other 6th formers who made up the cast and then together they produced and directed it as well as sorting out costumes, designing set and carrying out tech support. We were really impressed with the enthusiasm and professionalism of them all. The show was a hit with a three night sell out audience as well as an article in the local paper.

## ■ GRADED SUCCESS

Big congratulations to the following students on their graded music exam success:

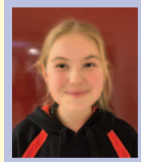
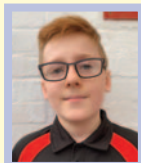
### Year 7

William Riggs -  
Grade 1 Piano with Merit

Holly Fear -  
Grade 2 flute with Merit

### Year 10

Bethan Sinclair -  
Grade 4 Flute with Merit



## ■ JACK MILLIER GAINS UNIVERSITY PLACE



Huge congratulations to Jack Millier in year 13 for having being awarded a place at the highly regarded Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama to study for a BMus (Hons) specialising in Composition. Jack has been a fantastic role model for younger musicians over the last few years. We are incredibly proud of the success he has achieved and look forward to hearing about his future success!

## ■ MARK DE-LISSER

TKASA students were thrilled to be featured on local news programmes working with top vocal coach Mark De-Lisser when he hosted a series of vocal workshops for young people in Somerset back in January. Mark is known for working with vocal talent including Ariana Grande, Jessie J and Beverley Knight. He has also worked on numerous high profile TV programmes such as BBC's The Voice UK, Our Dementia Choir with Vicky McClure and BBC's Meet the Street.



## ■ NEW STAFF

This school year we have been delighted to welcome new staff to the team. We welcomed Drama teacher Miss Biggs permanently to the department as well as having Miss Phillips join us. Miss Gardener has also joined us working with students across Drama and Music along with Mr John who is teaching music, drama and computing.

## ■ CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Our newly established year 10 choir were delighted to be asked to take part in our annual Christmas tree light switch on event on 1st December. Working alongside Miss Gardener and Mr John, they put on a fabulous performance of a selection of Christmas songs to get everybody into the festive spirit!

## ■ A BIG THANK YOU AND WELL DONE!

Thank you to all students for their continued efforts and hard work in these strange times. We have been so impressed with what students have created in all key stages and are looking forward to seeing more of your creativity over the year!

## MESSAGES FROM THE SCIENCE TEACHERS

**Mrs Bonnett** has really enjoyed making many positive phone calls home this year. Congratulations to Grace and Leah who have completed Tassomai every single day since the start of year 11. Special mention to my students who love Tim and Moby- You know who you are!

**Mr Suchecki** is really impressed with the year 11 turn out for P6 sessions. Chemistry sessions are really popular and I'm sure those that attend will reap the benefits.

**Mrs Martin** would like to mention Jess in her year 10 class who has not missed a single day of tassomai in over 8 weeks! This is an amazing achievement, well done.

**Miss Charles** is really pleased parents in year 10 have let her know how nice it is that their child is coming home and teaching them what they learnt in science to help it stick.

**Miss Atkins** delivered a lesson to her year 10 class where they discovered a new way to store and retrieve information! Massive shout out to Sky and Grace, who have taken this method home and worked super hard at improving their learning techniques.

## PRACTICAL VIDEOS

All science teachers have been busy making videos to show the science practicals videos we are not able to do at the moment.



Here is Mr Suchecki preparing a practical video on the difference between heat and temperature.

## TASSOMAI

In Science students across all years have access to an online learning program called Tassomai. In Year 11 alone students have already answered correctly 15,300 questions. Well done everyone.



## CHOCOLATE AND SWEET GIFT BOXES



Over 700 students made chocolate and sweet gift boxes to thank keyworkers

Our kind-hearted Year 7, 8 and 9 students designed and produced card boxes filled with sweets to present to local key workers, parents or relatives who are keyworkers and helpers in the community.

Local sweet shop, Burnham's Sweet Shack, helped provide sweets and chocolates to fill the boxes at cost value.

Due to Covid safety restrictions on workshop access, TEAMTECH developed a 'design-and-make' activity that can still be delivered safely in any classroom.

We were overjoyed when we heard the positive reactions from key workers who have been receiving the surprises.

This has been a great community project involving The Sweet Shack, 700 local students and 700 very worthy keyworkers. Our story was picked up by the local press and BBC Radio Somerset



*Stephen and Chanelle say*  
**'Please reduce landfill and help the food department by keeping your empty containers for bringing home cooked food from the food rooms in 2021'**



## YEAR 11 GCSE FOOD PRACTICAL

Year 11 GCSE food practical exams took place in December.

We are so pleased that TKASA found a way to facilitate this part of the course within Coronavirus measures (only 6 or 7 students in the food rooms per day).



Workshop and food room lessons will be back in 2021!

**Mr Barham**  
 Head of Design and Technology



## Calling all Parents/Carers of Year 10 and Year 12 D&T Students

Coursework starts on 1st June 2021 and is worth 50% of the award. Each student needs to work with a real client. The client will help at various stages through the coursework giving advice and suggestions for improvements. Could you be that client?

**Please follow us on Twitter for updates on the great work going on at TKASA @TKASATECH**





## TEAMTECH

**385**  
SCRUBS SETS

**25**  
ADDITIONAL  
SCRUB TOPS

**13**  
SCRUB BAGS

**122**  
HEADBANDS

**19**  
SCRUB HATS

**285**  
EAR SAVERS

**625**  
LASER CUT  
THANK YOU KEY FOBBS

**625**  
FACE COVERS

**100s**  
OF LASER CUT BUTTONS

**1000s**  
FACE SHIELDS IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH PRIORY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE  
**#TPLTSCRUBHUB**



## ■ BUSINESS STUDIES

In Business Studies Year 10 students have made a great start to their GCSE course. They have completed the first unit (Business in the Real World) and have learnt about the purpose and nature of business, what it takes to be an entrepreneur, different types of business ownership, different stakeholders, business planning and how to grow a business. They are currently studying the importance of external influences on business such as e-commerce, the economic climate, globalisation, ethical & environmental issues, legislation and competition, and how businesses change in response to these influences.

The Year 11 Business students have completed the fifth unit of the GCSE course (business finance) and, following their PPE, they have now begun studying their final module which looks at external influences on business. We plan to have completed teaching all the curriculum content by February half term which will leave us with plenty of time to revisit some of the trickier areas of the course and work on developing expert exam technique. The provisional dates for the two final exams are 16th June and 28th June. A reminder that all students have been issued with a revision guide that covers the entire course content, which they can keep until they have completed their final exams at the end of year 11. They will also be issued with a revision workbook once we have finished teaching the final unit. Students also have access to useful revision material through the student shared area, google drive and the Seneca website.

The sixth form business students are working hard on their A level studies. The Year 13s are currently studying the external forces that affect business strategy. The provisional dates for their three final exams are 11th June, 18th June and 24th June. Meanwhile the Year 12 class have made a great start to the course and are currently studying the marketing functional area, having already learnt about business aims and objectives, different ownership formats, management and leadership styles, decision making and the relationship with different stakeholders. We are fortunate to have two overseas students in our Year 12 class who bring a great added dimension to our class discussions.

Several business students from the sixth form are also involved in the new Young Enterprise company called Bish Bash Box. They have sold shares to finance their start-up costs, allocated roles and responsibilities and have been discussing a range of business ideas. Like all businesses, the students running this company are having to adapt to the current restrictions, giving them fantastic life skills. More details about Young Enterprise will appear in future issues and on the sixth form pages of our newsletters.

As always, I encourage all business students to follow business news stories on a daily basis so that they can relate what they are learning in the classroom to the real world. The impact on businesses of Covid, Brexit and the US presidential election have been regular topics of discussion this term. Students can also follow me on twitter: @TKASAMrKing.

## ■ JILL DANDO NEWS CENTRE

The Jill Dando journalists found new ways to report interesting and inspiring stories during lockdown in the summer: interviews via zoom! From local politicians, all the way to England rugby stars, the Jill Dando journalists manage to interview and report stories on lots of fascinating individuals.

And all of the hard work and creativity hasn't stopped there. We have had lots of brand new recruits join our Jill Dando News Centre here at TKASA recently and this term we have already interviewed some fantastic people.

An ex-PLT student who is now a Neuroscientist researching cures for ALS and dementia, and an ITV News Correspondent.

If you are interested in joining the Jill Dando News Team and becoming one of our young journalists then please email Mrs Crow at [jcrow@tkasa.org.uk](mailto:jcrow@tkasa.org.uk) - we have students from Year 7 to Year 13 and we would love to hear from you!





## COMPUTER SCIENCE AND iMEDIA

In the first cycle, all of our key stage 3 students were engaged in a comprehensive learning and recovery curriculum designed specifically to prepare students to enhance their own learning ability. It was fantastic to see students engaging really well and helping them to understand how to use learning skills to help their memory recall which is essential to their future academic successes. A number of students initially believed that their own ability to recall information as quite poor but after helping them to understand how to engage with information in a number of different ways, they better understand how to encode information to their long-term memory and as a result, recall this information much more effectively. Students also understand that to revisit information regularly over a period of time is essential in embedding this into their long-term memory, greatly improving their ability to perform in a test or examination scenario.

Year 7, 8 & 9 are adapting well to the initial challenges of engaging with the ICT curriculum using iPads in the classroom. They have shown great resilience and perseverance in coming to terms with interacting differently with a new interface and we are now seeing fantastic work that we can celebrate in class from all year groups through the google classrooms. We are confident that while circumstances were not originally ideal with access to technology in the classroom, we have created a suitable provision for students to engage with ICT successfully.

In iMedia our year 11s are currently working hard towards completing their mandatory units for January. The 'Saturn Explorer' assignment requires them to work to a client brief and create a book cover design. The students have responded really well to the requirements of this client brief and they have created some fantastic designs. We look forward to them sitting the exams on January 11th and concluding 50% of the course requirements.

In year 10, students are currently engaging with a mock assignment based on designing the packaging for seasonal flavours of a well-known yoghurt brand. They have adapted well to the



challenge of year 10 and are developing their skills in the use of Adobe Photoshop very well. We have seen some fantastic creative responses to the brief although some of the flavours of yoghurt might not appeal to everyone's palate. Well done year 10 for their excellent and creative response!

In computer science, year 13 students are working very well towards their NEA assignments. All assignments look like excellent projects and we look forward to them being realised in the near future. We welcome students onto the A level course from Priory into year 12, all of which have settled well and are making a fantastic impression with some super talent in all areas of TPLT trust from computer science clear to see.

Please enjoy some of the fantastic flavours created by year 10.

Head of Department: Mr King

## TKASA GEOGRAPHY

Despite the challenges of 2020, the Geography department has still been active and engaged. The year started with a focus on climate change; students held a fundraiser for the response to the Australian bushfires and Mrs Owen met with representatives of Sedgemoor District Council to discuss the work being done in the school.



Year 7 students studied the 'Extreme Environments' topic and produced excellent biomes models. During lockdown we also received impressive pieces of work in response to the challenges we set, including beautiful representations of students' favourite places.

The lockdown meant that the Annual Geographical Association Conference went online, but Mrs Owen still attended and presented a workshop on critical thinking. She was delighted to be presented with an Outstanding Service Diploma for her work on the International Special Interest Group over the last decade.

After Easter the Geography department ran sessions for children of key workers who were attending school, including creating 3D models of volcanoes and learning about refugees in Uganda during Refugee Week.

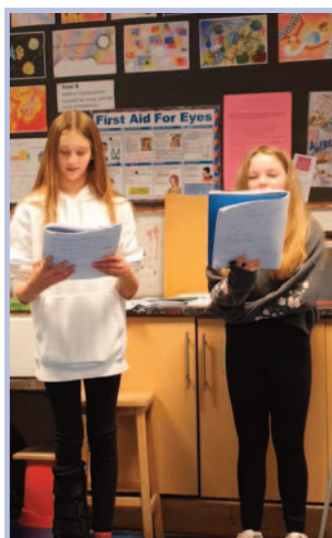
The summer term also saw Mr Profitt graduate as a Master of Volcanology and we are very glad that he has now joined TKASA staff on a permanent basis.

Our department has kept in touch with St Charles Lwanga, our link school in Kampala. During the summer Mr Witts and Mrs Owen set up a fundraiser to provide support for teachers in the thirty schools they work with in Kampala, raising over a thousand pounds, which was used to buy food for teachers who have not received wages since March. We are also delighted that the new TKASA toilet block is linked with a toilet block in a school in Uganda, meaning that the Ugandan school has been given money to improve their facilities.

Technology has enabled us to keep in contact with our friends in Uganda, but has also opened up other possibilities for us. In November A level geographers were able to attend an online lecture specially organised for them by Professor Gerd Masselink from the University of Plymouth, learning about his research into the impact of storms on the beaches of the South West of England.

We were so sad that our year 11 and 13 students had to leave us early last year, but are happy to have welcomed so many year 11 students back into year 12 to study geography and sociology. Several year 13 students are now at university studying geography or sociology and it has been a pleasure to work with our current year 13 students on their university applications this term.





## ENGLISH

As with the other subjects, it has been a different start to the year in the English department. We have enjoyed welcoming Year 7 - they have made a fantastic start to their time at the school. In these times of not being able to travel, they have been virtual tourists journeying around the world visiting places from Devonshire to the Himalayas. They have been learning about travel writing skills and analysing how writers use language. In Learning Cycle Two, they will be studying 'The Tempest' - a Shakespeare play with all the exciting ingredients of magic, betrayal, love and forgiveness.

Year 8 have been exploring love poetry looking at different kinds of love and also looked at love in different cultures, such as in the poem 'Singh Song'. Year 8 have finished the Poetry Learning Cycle with their own version of a Poetry Slam. A Poetry Slam is a type of spoken-word performance that strays from the traditional forms of poetry writing. Our year 8's tackled tricky subjects such as politics, climate-change and lockdown in their slams which filled the classroom with debate, energy and enthusiasm. Well done year 8! During Cycle Two they will be studying a comedic play about misunderstandings love and deception in 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

Year 9 have explored classical literature looking at Greek mythology in preparation for investigating three themes of one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies - the classic 'Romeo and Juliet'. As you can tell, Shakespeare is a big theme in our Key Stage Three at the moment!

In Year 10, English is divided into two subjects - English Literature and English Language. These subjects are taught by two teachers, yet have considerable overlap, so teachers work closely together to give students the best experience whilst developing subtly different skills. The students in Year 10 have experienced reading about the 'tight-fisted' Scrooge and his eventual redemption. Meanwhile, Year 11s, who will have just finished their PPES on 'Macbeth' and Unseen Poetry are now busy getting ready for their examinations in the summer. We are extremely impressed by their work ethic and attendance at P6 on Thursdays - they are a credit to the school and great role models for the younger students in English.



*An example of one of many excellent poems written by Yr 9 student Poppy Fewtrell during the national lockdown. Well done for keeping your creative writing and imagination alive during that difficult time!*

### Valourous Stupidity

I wonder what unconscious emperors would think of our sphere now?

From an inexhaustible canvas of green: blue,

to similarity, disdain and tired grey hue.

From the valourous stupidity of horses! Spears!

To face paint and fashion throughout diseased years.

In this fallacious earth, tears are wiped not for a sweetheart perit and drained white...  
but for a piece of modified leather,  
sufficiently rich for the eye.

Devoid, now of the sweet virtues of sugar and ink to pacify our devilish traumas.

We turn to the fragile hands of material:  
plastic security, alas the world;

has a different aura.



## HISTORY

Although it has been a strange start to the new academic year, it is great to see how much History students have enjoyed their learning across the key stages.

Our new Year 7 students have done a great job in developing their skills of explanation. All have successfully explained why William won the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and enjoyed looking at his methods of control.

In Year 8, students have been learning about what lay behind the horrors of the slave trade. They focussed on the 19th century campaign to end slavery led by men like William Wilberforce and Thomas Clarkson.

In Year 9, we really challenged students by getting them to explore the reasons for the



Russian Revolution of 1917, communist ideology and the fate of the Russian royal family.

We have been really impressed by the way that our Year 10 students have started their GCSE course. All their lessons have incorporated science of learning techniques which has enabled them to produce some really good exam answers on the causes of the Second World War and the early years of the Cold War. Similarly, Year 12 have started their A level course with great enthusiasm.

Enormous amounts of praise need to be directed to our Year 11 students who have coped so well with the increased pace as we get through the content of our course. Similarly, our Year 13 students have faced the same hurdles, but with their great positivity and determination, they have made rapid progress.

One thing I am keeping in mind is our future planning for trips to the battlefields of the First World War in France and Belgium and our trip to Auschwitz, Poland. We will return to these places.

Mr Ellis - Head of History

## REMEMBRANCE

This year we commemorated Remembrance Day in the middle of a national lockdown. We held our traditional outdoor service ably supported by representatives from our student leadership team, our student body and students representing each year group.

Remembering 75 years since the end of World War 2, students read out the names of our local WW2 fallen who had lived in the Burnham and Highbridge area.

The Deputy Head Boy and Head Girl laid our poppy wreath in our remembrance garden at the foot of our soldier.

We were also privileged this year to lay a wreath on behalf of retired Lieutenant Colonel Mike Smith MBE of the Black Watch – The Royal Highland Regiment. Due to the restrictions, Mike was unable to lay his wreath at the Cenotaph in London and so it now lays proudly at the foot of our soldier, ably placed there by our Student Union Vice President, Mia Nisa. Our Student Union President, Jack Millier, concluded the service by reading the Kohima Epitaph

When you go home,  
Tell them of us and say  
For your tomorrow,  
We gave our today

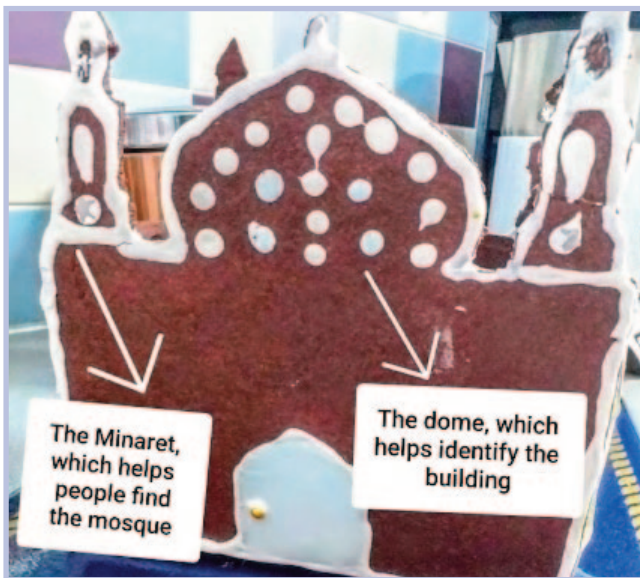
Spending a few minutes reflecting on what others have done in the service of our country felt more poignant whilst in the middle of lockdown. The service featured in a montage for the local news programme, BBC Points West.



## RELIGIOUS STUDIES NEWS

Whilst a lot of things have changed in recent times, one thing that hasn't changed is our students' hard work and dedication. So many of our students have worked incredibly hard throughout lockdown and on their return to the classroom.

The RS department has been very impressed by the quality of work our KS3 students produced whilst they were working from home. One task for students was to design a mosque and we had some incredibly creative designs, some students used Lego and others used gingerbread!



We were also impressed with the baking challenge our KS3 students undertook. Students baked the traditional Jewish Challah bread which we were informed went down very well with the students and their families.

Our year 9 students researched topical issues, including the Black Lives Matter movement. Students were very mature when articulating their thoughts on the injustices many



communities face today. As a department, we hope that students will think about taking RS when considering options, as students have the opportunity to further explore a variety of philosophical and ethical issues.

Since returning to the classroom our year 11 and year 13 students have been working incredibly hard. Their hard work and commitment to their education is inspiring, and we are certain the resilience and dedication they have shown will enable them to achieve great successes in their futures.

Looking to the future, we are very excited for the events we look forward to running. Our KS4 Religious Studies students will visit a Cathedral and Mosque in Gloucester which is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore different places of worship. The RS & History trip to Auschwitz is also an opportunity for students to learn about the events which took place and the importance of respect, tolerance and justice.

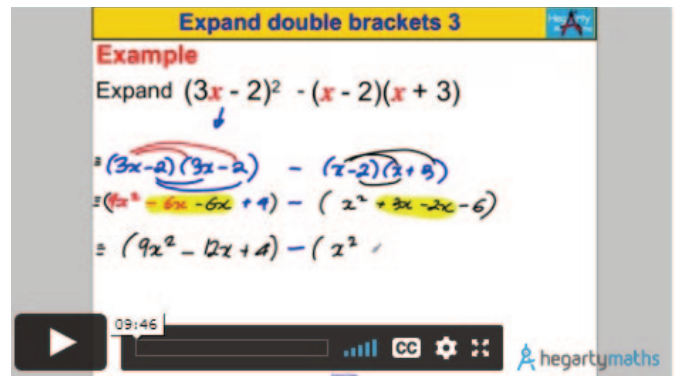
We have many exciting topics within our curriculum over the coming year across all key stages, and we cannot wait to inspire, motivate and cultivate a love of learning in our classrooms.



Miss J Fisher  
Teacher of  
Religious Studies

## ■ USING HEGARTY MATHS

Hegarty maths is a great online tool which helps to improve your mathematical skills! When completing tasks it is important that you watch the video before attempting the quiz. This allows you to spend time to go through examples and ensure you fully understand the topic. Students who spend time watching the videos tend to get better results in the quiz. Aim for at least 80% in each quiz you do and why not try to get 100%! If there is a certain topic you need more practice on you can search this topic at the top of the page and complete extra quizzes.



## ■ HEGARTY RESULTS

most questions answered correctly so far this year

★ YEAR 7 ★		
1st	Antony Ladd	7K
2nd	Oscar Aylward	7G
3rd	Anya Chadbone	7F

★ YEAR 10 ★		
1st	Lily Evans	10X1
2nd	Alicia Corbett	10X5
3rd	Tanya Berry	10Y4

★ YEAR 8 ★		
1st	Lennie Baxter	8K
2nd	Jake White	8K
3rd	Jamie Ham	8I

★ YEAR 11 ★		
1st	Millie Jones	11Y1
2nd	Grace Simmonds	11X1
3rd	Sophie Bell	11X2

★ YEAR 9 ★		
1st	Elisha Holbrook	9N
2nd	Neve Pashley	9A
3rd	Summer Pashley	9A



Mrs Perry - Head of Maths

Due to Covid we have been very restricted in the delivery we have been able to provide; and the PE Department would just like to say how impressed we have been with students' effort and attitude towards PE this term. After Christmas there are still a lot of unknowns regarding our subject, but we will continue to be guided by NGB, The Government and AfPE and we will endeavour to provide an enriched curriculum and extra-curricular provision. Have a lovely Christmas and a well-earned break.

Mrs Clough- Head of PE



# SPORTS CAPTAINS

This year we have seen an incredible amount of applications for Sports Captains across all years. Mr Bail and Miss Wonnacott had the difficult decisions to make in order to appoint two Sports Captains and Vice Captains for each year group and are proud to announce that the following students have been appointed.

Thank you to all who applied and congratulations to those who were successful. The PE department is looking forward to working with you in the New Year.

**YEAR 7**






Sports Captains - Tommy Tregale and Ester Fagbohun  
Vice Captains - Jared Baynham and Isabelle Burrow.

**YEAR 10**







Sports Captains - Rhys Lewis-Kemble and Alicia Slade  
Vice Captains - Kian Hawkes, Jodie Hillier and Libby Hall.

**YEAR 8**





Sports Captains - Ollie Baker and Maddie Mackenzie  
Vice Captains - Zachary Powell and Mia Mitchell

**YEAR 11**

**6<sup>th</sup> Form**







Sports Captains - Sam Grant and Harriet Jones  
Vice Captains - Leo James and Lucy Smith.  
6<sup>th</sup> Form Sports Officer Ben England





Nadine Garbett, the 'grandmother' of King Alfred School has celebrated 60 years of marriage and nearly 45 years of service by having the staff room kitchen named after her.

The hugely popular Nadine Garbett started working at The King Alfred School in 1976 while her children were little and she has been serving up drinks, fruit and cakes for students and staff ever since.

She is extremely well-known by thousands and generations of TKASA students and staff.

Due to Covid-19 she has been unable to continue her work and so has retired. Nadine's jobs over the years include dinner lady, cleaner, cook, honorary 'Nan' and more.

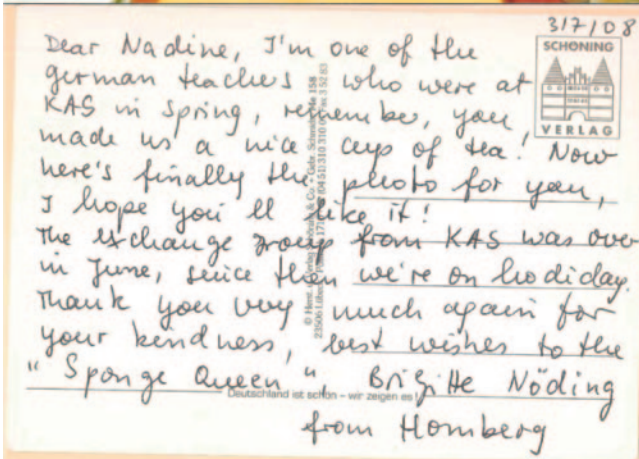
In recognition of her retirement and dedication to the school, the staff room kitchen, where she has been working in recent years, has been named in her honour 'Nana Nade's Kitchen'.

Nadine and her husband Tony recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and received a congratulatory letter from the Queen.

Speaking from her garden, with husband Tony, she said: "I absolutely adore the children - all the ones I have looked after. They mean the world to me, along with the staff in all the years I've been there. I love the school."

Nadine has also seen all her 6 grandchildren go through TKASA.

Principal Nathan Jenkins said: "Nadine is incredible and loved by everyone. She has done every job you can imagine. When Covid-19 rules allow, hopefully next year will be able to have a bigger party in the school to officially open 'Nana Nade's Kitchen'."



## WORK EXPERIENCE

Back in March 2020 we were fortunate enough to allow our Year 10 students to go out on a work experience placement. The feedback from students and employers was fantastic and all enjoyed an impactful, enjoyable experience. I would like to thank all employers and families for offering their support to allow this to happen.



This year is slightly different as you can imagine. Should students be able and wish to participate then work experience will be offered on an optional basis this year. Should guidelines allow, this will take place in March 2021.

This term I have been working with Year 11 to discuss their progression options. From the conversations I have already had, I can see we have a year group with high aspirations and I look forward to working with the year group moving forward to help all students achieve their goals and ambitions. I am always open for additional support, advice and guidance to both students and families. Please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Every Wednesday both myself and Mr Wilmot run live Zoom calls for 6th Form students to engage with. We have had guest speakers from a range of universities, Microsoft talking about degree apprenticeships along with many more guest speakers. These will be continuing in the New Year.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021...

Years 7 & 8 will be taking part in an interview challenge, more details to follow after Christmas.

Year 9 students will make their option choices as well as having a classroom live zoom from the University Centre of Weston.

Year 11 will continue to take steps beyond school by submitting 6th Form, College and apprenticeship applications before being invited to attend interviews.



Mrs Leatherby  
Careers

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD AT TKASA



### Anything other than a normal year!

The last Academic year held such promise a really keen group of participants had signed on at all levels. The expedition preparations were well under way when Coronavirus hit. Everything stopped but in the case of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award only for a short time.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award very quickly introduced 'DofE with a Difference'. This means that a lot of things participants have done during lockdown could now count towards their Award. If you need help with this please contact me via the school email or via the school DofE web page 'Contact TKASA DofE' button.

Students who enrolled between 1st May 2018 and 31st July 2021 will now achieve a Certificate of Achievement once they complete their volunteering, physical and skill sections. This will be emailed directly to them so please make sure your contact details on your eDofE account are up to date.

We hope to resume expeditions in the spring/summer 2021. Those who have recently enrolled for the Silver Award can use the Silver practice expedition as their qualifying Bronze expedition and therefore use the expedition to achieve both awards.

## ENROLMENT it's not too late.

With all the restrictions placed on us this year we continue to recruit for all levels and I am pleased to say that so far we have recruited 25 Bronze, 5 Silver and 7 Gold participants. There is still plenty of time to join us and you will find full details on the school DofE webpage including the online application form, a link to the school pay online and the Somerset Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee Bursary form.

**For more details go to our school website DofE Page or Visit [DofE.org/DofEWithADifference](http://DofE.org/DofEWithADifference).**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GOLD AWARD ACHIEVERS



Congratulations to four of our former 6th form students Catherine Tolley, Amber Dinham, Katie Bea Robinson, and Lilley Keeley Watts who recently completed their Gold Award. We expect they will be heading to the Palace sometime in the near future to collect their Awards. They were a fantastic group to work with and thoroughly deserve their Awards, Congratulations to all of them.

## IAN ELENOR RETIREMENT



This year, after over 20 years loyal service to The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at King Alfred's, Ian Elenor has decided that it is time for him to hang up his boots.

Ian, a former science teacher at King Alfred's, has been an ever present and valuable member of our school team.



His knowledge of the Quantocks and second guessing where groups would be other than where they should be has saved

many an expedition. He will be sorely missed by staff and students alike. Enjoy your retirement Ian and we hope you will call to see us when we are in your area.

**Philip Aldred-D of E Co-ordinator**  
[paldred@tkasa.org.uk](mailto:paldred@tkasa.org.uk)

Term Days. Holidays INSET Days

JANUARY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Term Dates 2020 - 2021

TERM 2	Ends Thursday 17 December 2020
TERM 3	Starts Monday 4 January 2021 Ends Friday 12 February 2021
TERM 4	Starts Monday 22 February 2021 Ends Thursday 1 April 2021
TERM 5	Starts Monday 19 April 2021 Ends Friday 28 May 2021
TERM 6	Starts Monday 7 June 2021 Ends Friday 16 July 2021 Monday 19th July, Tuesday 20th July and Wednesday 21st July 2021 are INSET days.

Term dates have been set for 2021-2022 and once again, we will be having a two week break in October, to give parents an opportunity to take holiday time away from the more expensive traditional half-term week. We are also building in some training time for our staff in July, and so the summer term for students will end earlier than many other schools. We would encourage parents to consider using these times for family holidays, rather than children missing out on education during term time.

## Term Dates 2021 - 2022

TERM 1	Starts Wednesday 1 September 2021 Wednesday 1 September is an INSET day. Please check with individual schools on arrangements for this day Ends Friday 15 October 2021 Friday 15 October 2021 is an INSET day.
TERM 2	Starts Monday 1 November 2021 Ends Friday 17 December 2021
TERM 3	Starts Tuesday 4 January 2022 Ends Friday 18 February 2022
TERM 4	Starts Monday 28 February 2022 Ends Friday 8 April 2022
TERM 5	Starts Monday 25 April 2022 Ends Friday 27 May 2022
TERM 6	Starts Monday 6 June 2022 Ends Friday 22 July 2022 Thursday 21 July 2022 and Friday 22 July 2022 are INSET days.