



Kings Langley School News

Issue 5

A note from the Principal Assistant Headteacher - Mrs S Butt

Reading and Character

“Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing.”

Harper Lee (American novelist) is best known for her 1960 novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Being a School of Character, is something that we have taken seriously since its conception in 2010. We introduced our core character traits of self-regulation, empathy and stickability in the same year after listening to a talk that highlighted some research being undertaken by DEMOS, a cross-party think tank. The research was investigating character attributes like self-regulation (the ability to control one’s emotions), application (the ability to commit to and complete a task) and empathy (the ability to put yourself in another’s shoes), and how these correlated with higher educational attainment as well as good mental well-being, good health and better outcomes in the labour market. We felt that these outcomes were ones that aligned with our school aims and our focus on the whole child, so we adopted them quickly.

School Events

Tuesday 15th October

MJ The Musical Theatre Trip
- 5.30pm - 11pm

Wednesday 16th October

Ski Trip meeting for parents
online 5pm—6pm


Thursday 17th October

Y8 Subject consultation
evening (online) - 4pm -7pm

Friday 18th October

Y11 ATL Grades Home - 6pm

KINGS
LANGLEY
SCHOOL



We ask staff and parents to model good character as we know students “catch” many habits and traits even when we do not expect them to, and offer the broadest range of activities where students can put these character traits into practice such as teamwork, independence, creativity etc. The application of these virtues will impact not only on the person the students become, but also their ability to learn, support their own mental health and well-being, and build skills that are wanted in the work place.


Whilst all of these character traits are important, there is one “mega-virtue” that is considered the most important phronesis: decision making. Phronesis is learned through instruction and not practice. When learning a set of values (or virtues), the most important part is to use them, rehearse them and build them into your character. You cannot do this without phronesis. According to Aristotle, “having one’s heart in the right place’ is not good enough; being a good person requires a kind of practical intelligence as well as a good disposition.” With regards to reading, we all know and appreciate the importance and value of reading, but how many of us actually make the decision to pick up a book and read it?

In a world of mobile phones and TikTok, WiFi and Netflix, when is the last time you picked up a book that was not something an English teacher made you read? So many of us today seem to have lost touch with the world of the written word, but making reading a regular habit today may just be the best thing you can do for yourself; your mental health, your confidence and your cognitive health.

Some people argue that this is in fact the age of reading – we scroll through hundreds of tweets, posts, captions, and articles every day – how can someone argue that is not reading? Well, the difference is in quality. Whether you choose fiction or non-fiction, it is very important to expose yourself to writing that someone has really taken the time to master. There are so many advantages to reading quality writing on a daily basis, and only by getting into the habit, will you benefit from them most.

Increase your vocabulary and hold of a language

The first, and perhaps most obvious benefit, is an increased vocabulary and mastery of language. Learning new words and means of expression is a process. We move from a passive use (understanding what something means) to an active use (actually using it ourselves). Even if you stumble across a word you are not sure about or have never even seen before as you read, you can often figure out the gist at the very least, through context and educated guessing. You will come across countless, exciting ways to describe all sorts of different situations and emotions. Eventually, you will naturally adapt these and be able to use them yourself.



Improve your cognitive skills

Reading takes stickability and discipline. Watching a film is easy – just sit back and soak it all up; scrolling through TikTok is easy too swiping up and down whilst glazing over at silly cat reels. Reading with purpose takes focus and concentration. Everyone is familiar with the feeling of having read the same sentence multiple times without actually processing it. Extracting meaning from writing is a skill, and one that you can transfer to general areas of cognition necessary for other unrelated tasks. Be patient. This aspect of reading as a habit takes time, but it will come.



Be interesting

Once you find an author or a topic or a genre that you truly are into, talking about what you have read makes you immediately more interesting and capable of holding conversation. If you can, try everything! Read things you would not think to, exchange book recommendations with friends, pick blindly at a library or bookshop. You should read things you do not necessarily agree with as well, and through that get a wider understanding of different people's perspectives. Your enthusiasm and open-mindedness will undoubtedly show.

Get smarter

Reading improves your memory and makes you smarter as you are absorbing information. You can pause whenever and as often as you like and reflect on what you have just read. Your mind is on high alert, and just like your body, your brain needs 'exercise' to stay fit. Lots of studies have shown a positive correlation between regular reading and academic achievement.

Have fun!

So many benefits already... but best of all, reading is fun. When you read, you close off the world around you, replacing any stress or worry with fantasy or science or philosophy or politics. Before society became so chock-full of methods of instantaneous entertainment and gratification, people read for fun. We are not a different species now; we have not lost the ability to appreciate the joy of reading! Dwarfed by the enormity of technology and social media, we have simply forgotten it is still as big (even bigger!) an option as it ever was.



As you know, we are a Bedrock school where all our young people work on Bedrock weekly to improve their reading skills. The Bedrock platform is designed to build a learner's cultural capital and expose them to the widest range of texts. Our digital library celebrates diversity and showcases role models from all walks of life.



This Black History Month, we celebrate black authors and individuals who have positively impacted society so we are encouraging all our young people to engage this month and the attached resource packs, book recommendations and activities will help you bring Black History Month to life as well as improving core reading skills. These have been added to the Bedrock team for all to enjoy and participate in.

Please bring completed packs to Mrs. Butt who can then add to the reading colours awards where students are recognised for developing their reading skills in many different ways.

Mrs Butt and Mrs Jennings

Headteacher Commendations

Colours Awards

Congratulations to the following students for achieving colours awards:

Emily 11G Sports Bronze Award

Dev 11P Sports Bronze Award

Phoebe 9A Arts Bronze Award



Congratulations to the following students for their excellent effort and detail on the English summer tasks:

Jack 7G, Malachi 7G, Layth 7G, Finn 7G, Sebastian 7G, Josie 7G and Anabelle 7G.



Headteacher Commendations



It was with great pleasure that the school held our first Headteacher's celebration breakfast for Year 7 last week.

The Year 7 students selected had all demonstrated significant achievement since joining KLS: showing stickability, contributing to wider school life, or achieving a high number of recognition points.



Headteacher commendations



Congratulations to Joseph 10A, Emily 9A, Clara 9C, Elise 8C, Lily 8C, Georgia 8J, Eleanor 11C, Gerard 11D, Alexander 9C, Dexter 9A, Harry 9T, Edward WES, Tilly ARN, Sienna DLK, and James ARN who all participated in the Kings Langley Parish Council voice survey.

The company who interviewed our students said, *'We received such a warm welcome from all staff and pupils. The pupils we held discussion groups with were well behaved, polite, and engaging – a real credit to their school.'* Emma, ORS.

Clara in Year 9 said, 'I really enjoyed the meeting with the Parish Council. We discussed about what there is to do for young people in Kings Langley. We came to the conclusion that there is lots of structured things to do for young people in Kings Langley. This means that there are lots of clubs that are run by adults that you have to pay for in Kings Langley, but there isn't much to do in your free time with friends. To do things in your free time, you have to drive out to places and if you can't get a lift you don't have many options. I think the meeting was really helpful and I think it will help the local area.'

Thank you to parents/carers who supported the student voice research. we are very grateful for your on-going support in how we can always improve our local community for our young people.



Best at Bedrock! Week 5

All of these names have been placed into a prize draw which will be drawn at the end of the term.

Highest points earned in each year group

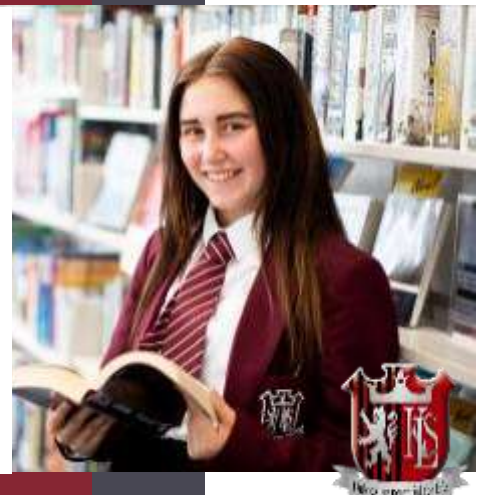
- Mariia - 7G (177 points)
- Kian - 8G (96 points)
- Sastika - 9A (123 points)
- **Adam - 10P (220 points)**
- Cameron - 10A (95 points)

Highest progress made in each year group

- Bailey - 7G (327%)
- James - 8P (350%)
- Jake - 9A (224%)
- **Freddie - 10D (809%)**
- Cameron - 11A (185%)



Confident voices, strong literacy





Recognition

Being noticed for doing something positive or achieving something

Students of the Week w/c 7th October

Drama	Katie 7J
Excellent attitude to learning and enthusiasm for the subject and wonderful contributions in class discussions.	
English	Adam 10P
Excellent attitude in lessons and outstanding work on Bedrock.	
Geography	Max 13ARN
Clear determination to be successful with his independent investigation, showing high levels of intellectual curiosity, initiative and practical skills.	
Politics	Max 12ANE
For completing homework well in advance of deadlines, allowing even more time for wider viewing / listening / reading, as well as having meaningful political discussions outside of the classroom.	
History	Matteo 12BRY
For making valuable contributions to class discussions, Thank you!	
Library	Oscar 7G
Oscar has swiftly become a library regular, and is always a pleasure to have in the space.	
Mathematics	Tylisha 8A
For achieving the top score in the class in a recent Maths test.	
Modern Foreign Languages	Lucy 8J
Fabulous support for the MFL team during open evening.	
PSHE	Tara 10D
Excellent effort in PSHE lessons. Keep it up!	
Physical Education	Maisie 7G
An excellent start to her school year including representing school in successful wins in both football and netball. Lead goal scorer in both teams. Well done Maisie.	
Psychology	Esme 12BRY
For an excellent assessment grade.	

Philosophy, Religion, Ethics	Abigail 10A
For excellent effort in her insightful and detailed essay on whether criminals should be punished	
Science	Oscar 7J
For his enthusiasm and being keen to learn in lessons.	
Sociology	Olivia 12HAD
For an outstanding score in a class based assessment.	
Year 7 Head of Year	Teddy 7J
For demonstrating significant and impressive stickability over the last few weeks. Well done!	
Year 8 Head of Year	Freddie 8A
A great start to Year 8 and we are all cheering him on.	
Key Stage 5 Head of Year	Lewis 12BRY, Zac 12BRY, and Quinn 12BRY
Great support on open evening, assisting with car parking duties.	

Well done to all of our students who have achieved 'student of the week'.

Friends of KLS (FoKLS) NEWS

Our Autumn Term quiz will be on **Saturday 16th November**, 7 for 7:30pm, hosted by our wonderful Mr Shephard.

Teams will be made up of tables of 8, but if you are a group of less than 8 people we can put you into table groups when you arrive. It is an excellent way to meet up with the families of your son / daughter's school friends.

This term our quiz is specifically raising money to support the Music Department, so Mr Shephard is putting together a couple of music rounds. Otherwise the quiz will have its regular rounds by themes with questions to appeal to all the family. Tickets are available from the QR code on the posters or on our Scopay pages, in the Fundraising section.

Please come along, support the school and share what is always an enjoyable evening.

If you are unable to attend, but wish to support the event, then please consider donating a prize for our raffle.

The following weekend we have another Fundraising event at the Kings Langley Lights Switch-On, with our tombola as one of the stalls along the high street on the evening of **Saturday 23rd November**. Please donate tombola prizes - we are asking for donations of bottles, sweets and chocolates for this stall.

Advance notice, that our Christmas Market will be on **Thursday 12th December**, 6 - 8:30pm, in the school hall, more details to follow as we are currently booking stall holders for this busy event. We will also be running a pre-loved uniform sale on that evening, therefore, please do donate any uniform that is outgrown but still of use.

Mary Chabrel

On behalf of Friends of Kings Langley School



Sport News

Trampolining

Congratulations to Alex (11P) who travelled to Telford on Friday to take part in the National Age and British Trampoline Championships. Alex qualified for the final in 6th for his age category on Saturday. Up against some tough competitors, Alex performed well in the final and is now ranked 8th in Britain. Alex travels back to Telford in two weeks for the English finals. We wish him all the very best.



Netball News

Great first week of Netball matches for all of our teams, including the very first Senior Netball team at KLS. Some excellent umpiring by both Nicole (Y13) Emily (Y11) with some lovely comments from oppositions teachers to regarding the quality of their decision making and their confidence. A special thank you to our other volunteers Ms Shannon and Mr Bilton for their support to our teams, without all our volunteers this would not be possible. The PE department is very proud of the quality, commitment and tenacity of all involved in making our first week of Netball matches so amazing!

Year 7A sailed through to the next round of the cup with a convincing 10-6 win over JFK School. A strong team with a bright future ahead, some really lovely Netball, demonstrating outstanding sporting values and prowess on the court.

Captain; Willow, **Players' Player;** Ella, **Manager's Player;** Willow.

Oppositions' player; Maisie.

Year 8A A very tough first round Cup match 'v' Tring School this week. KLS fought hard but were unable to break through the Tring school defence. A test of resilience for our young players who represented the school beautifully. A shout out to some new players too who really stepped up to the plate and tried their very best.

Captain; Teagan, **Oppositions' Player;** Grace, **Manager's Player;** Verity.

Year 9A fought hard in their first league game against JFK School but sadly no win this week. This was a closely contested game throughout. Well done to all year 9's involved, you did yourselves proud and the PE department proud.

Captain; Emily, **Oppositions' Player;** Emily, **Player's Player;** Ava, **Manager's Player;** Elsie.

Year 10A Sadly had their match postponed this week.



Year 11A Closely contested first half against Laureate but the opposition were stronger in the 3rd quarter. Despite working hard to pull it back in the final quarter KLS just fell short.

Captain; Emily, Oppositions' player; Connie, Manager's Player; Megan.

Senior girls worked hard to keep the ball moving down the court on the very first Senior game at KLS. Some excellent defending by the opposition. Tring school made it really difficult for KLS to score. No win this time but a valiant effort by the players who demonstrated the school values excellently.

Captain; Nicole, Oppositions' Player; Nicole, Manager's Player; Anaia.





Competition:

Remembrance Day is an important event at KLS and across the world.

Produce an A4 poster, story, poem, music item or a model item to demonstrate the significance of Remembrance Day.

Competition details:

Students should submit their poster/item to Miss Scanlan no later than FRIDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2024. Posters and models can be produced in whatever material and media you wish including paper, card, textiles and photography.





Art Event—Drawing

Lunch, Wednesday 16th October, F204

Come along and learn some creative ways of drawing in a workshop led by our A-Level Art students. In this workshop they will teach you how to draw using weird and exciting ways that will push you beyond your normal ways of drawing.

Drawing Competition

We invite you to submit a drawing for this year's theme of 'Drawing in Motion'. Drawing can bring ideas, emotions, concepts, theories and stories to life. Challenging you to produce a drawing that is not still and motionless, we invite students to submit a creative drawing that shows movement, energy and motion.

Some suggestions to help you think about the theme...

Love sport or dance? Maybe produce a drawing containing moving players or dancers

Love Science, Engineering or Technology? Explore how force, speed, power, vehicles can be expressed in a drawing

Have an interest in reading or English? Visualise onomatopoeia, visualise the energy or excitement of a story

Have a passion for Geography? Bring the theory of land movement or volcanoes to life

Interested in music? Produce an abstract interpretation of a piece of music through expressive drawing.

Submit your drawing to your form tutor by the **closing date of 21st October**



Founded in 2000 by the Guild of St George, The Big Draw is a pioneering visual literacy charity dedicated to raising the profile of drawing as a tool for wellbeing, thought, creativity, social and cultural engagement.

year 10



Photography Club

Every Monday (week 1)

15.15 - 16.15

F201

with Ms Carvalho

sign up on [Scopay](#)

KLS Student Leadership Activity 3

7th Oct. - 20th Oct. 2024

Each fortnight a new activity is set. Complete the activities to achieve your student leadership awards.

Student Leadership Activity:

Attend a new club, become a member of a society or group, or join a new team. This can be in school or outside of school.

Attach a photo of you at the club or get the club/group leader to write a statement in your planner.

There are ten activities in total, this is '**Challenge 6**' activity:

Challenge yourself by taking risks that enable you and/or others to develop.

If you complete 5 of the leadership challenges for a specific leadership role you will be awarded **Accomplished Leadership level**, complete them all and you will be awarded **Leadership Excellence** level.

**Accomplished
Leadership**



**Leadership
Excellence**



Take a look at our Student Leadership Passport for more information about our leadership challenges and awards:

[Student Leadership - Kings Langley Secondary School - Unlocking Potential for Life \(kls.herts.sch.uk\)](https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk)



The five practices and ten commitments of exemplary leadership

MODEL

1

Modelling exemplary student behaviour in lessons, around the school and within the community

2

Being a role model by representing the school and

INSPIRE

3

Lead projects or initiatives that inspire or encourage others.

4

Motivate and inspire others to participate through promoting equality and inclusiveness.

CHALLENGE

5

Identify ways of improving our school community using effective channels and voice.

6

Challenge yourself by taking risks that enable you and/or others to develop.

ENABLE

7

Provide opportunities for other people to learn, grow or develop.

8

Develop competence and/or confidence in others.

ENCOURAGE

9

Encourage other students to participate in activities or opportunities.

10

Contribute to the wider culture of collaboration within the school and wider community.





STEM Challenge

This week's challenge:

This one is a "mental" exercise - don't use paper and scissors just imagine in your mind:

Take a sheet of paper - any size that you happened to have (remember, just imagine this paper). Now fold this sheet of paper in half and now fold it in half again, at right angles to the first fold. Now you have four thicknesses of paper. Now imagine you use scissors and cut through all four thicknesses, right down the middle of the paper, parallel to the first fold you made. Now, imagine, how many pieces of paper do you have now? Don't get paper and scissors to solve this one try to picture this in your mind!

Answer next week.

Last week's answer:

You have three oranges in a bowl. You take away 2 how many do you have?

Answer: 2 as this is how many you took



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

This weeks jackpot winning numbers are

167547

One of your supporters won £30.30 in the draw!

If you haven't signed up yet visit our lottery here - [https://
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kings-langley-secondary-
school](https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kings-langley-secondary-school)



Extra Curricular Autumn Term 2024

Clubs with charge is for the term. Please sign up for all clubs through Scopay.



Day	Lunch	After School
Monday	Ukulele Club/Music/Mrs Warren Envcomm Club Y12-13/Ms Chabrel Break out space Mon-Fri/F104/Mr Trenoweth	Formula 24 Kit Car Y9-13/G201-G202/Mr Housego £40 Debating Society/F108/ Mr Mcguigan Photography on week 1 Y10/F201/Miss Carvalho £10 Art Club Y7-8 on week 2/F204/Miss Arnold £10 Studio time GCSE Art on week 1/F204/Miss Arnold A Level History Revision on week 2/G108/Miss Hardingham A Level Politics Revision on week 1/G108/Miss Hardingham Y11 Food catch ups/G205/Miss Scanlan Y13 Psychology/wk1/Mr Scott Y13 History/wk2/Mr Scott
Tuesday	Flute Choir/Music dept Summit Club Y7/G105/Mr Moyo Music GSCE & A Level Theory Group/Mrs Warren Homework club Tue-Fri/Mr Ewen Quiet space Y7&8 Tues-Thu/F102/Mr Bilton Chess Club/G108/Mr Roger	Laptop Club/Mr Khazaneh
Wednesday	Summit Youth Club Y8-11/G105/Mr Moyo Music ensemble/Mrs Warren	Creative Writing Club/F104/Mr Trenoweth Choir/Music/F214/Mrs Warren GCSE History Revision/G106/Miss Hardingham Y11 Technology catch ups/G201-G202/Mr Housego
Thursday	Guitar Group/Music Department £30 Diversity & Equality/G105/Mrs Ashraf DofE/S304/Mr Astley	History Club Y7-10/G106/Miss Hardingham Computer Science club Y7-9/G305/Mr Ewen £5 (starts 7/11/2024)
Friday	MFL Club Y7-9/F302&F303/Mr Burgin Jig-Geog/G102/Ms Chabrel Keyboard Club/Music/Mrs Warren	GCSE & A Level Composition Coursework/F214/Mrs Warren

Extra Curricular Autumn 2024 PE Department



Day	Lunch	After School
Monday	Badminton/Ms Coughlan	Year 7-9 Basketball Club/Mr Choudhury Y7-9 Netball/Ms Coughlan Y7 Boys Football/Mr Astley GCSE PE Coursework/F202/Mr Annett
Tuesday	GCSE PE Table Tennis/Mr Higgins GCSE PE Badminton/Mr Higgins	Y8 Boys Football/Mr Benson Y9-11 Girls Football/Mr Annett GCSE PE Trampolining/Mr Choudhury
Wednesday	Y7-9 Futsal/Mr Benson	Y7-8 Girls Football/Mr Choudhury Year 10-13 Netball/Ms Shannon All Girls Rugby/Mr Higgins
Thursday	All years Basketball/Mr Choudhury	Y9 Boys Football/Mr Choudhury Y10 Boys Football/Mr Dilks Y7-9 Rugby/Mr Benson Gymnastics Club/Mr Raine
Friday	PlayStation Club/F202/Mr Annett	