



KING EDWARD VI
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1551



Start of the School year

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

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SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 30th September 2026

4.30pm - 7.30pm

Head of Sixth Form Talks

5.15pm & 6.15pm

No need to book, just turn up and
have a look around!



PARENTS' EVENING DATES

- Year 7 - Tuesday 20th April 2027 (In Person)
- Year 8 - Thursday 11th March 2027 (Online)
- Year 9 - Wednesday 3rd February 2027 (In Person)
- Year 10 - Thursday 20th May 2027 (Online)
- Year 11 - Tuesday 19th January 2027
- Sixth Form - Wednesday 25th November 2026 (In Person) & Monday 22nd March 2027 (Online)



Welcome



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your families to the start of a new academic year at King Edward VI Grammar School. I hope you have all enjoyed a restful summer break and that our students are feeling refreshed and ready for the opportunities and challenges that the year ahead will bring.

The beginning of a new school year is always an exciting time. It provides an opportunity to look ahead, set new goals and welcome new members into our school community. It has been wonderful to see our students returning to school and settling so positively into their new year groups.

I would particularly like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families. Following two successful induction days in the summer, it has been a pleasure to welcome more than 160 new students officially into KEVIGS. Starting secondary school is an important milestone, and we have already been impressed by the enthusiasm, confidence and positive attitude they have brought with them.

We are equally delighted to welcome our new Year 12 students to the Sixth Form, including those who have joined us from other schools. Following the success of our Sixth Form Taster Days and another strong set of examination results this summer, we are excited to see what our students will achieve over the next two years. We hope they will embrace everything that Sixth Form life at KEVIGS has to offer, both academically and through the many wider opportunities available to them.

As we begin a new academic year, we also welcome many new colleagues to the KEVIGS staff team. At the end of last year, we said farewell to Mrs Ball, our Science Technician; Mr Antkowiak, one of our Cover Teachers; and Mrs Bannister, our Finance Team Leader. Each made an important contribution to the life of our school through their professionalism, kindness and dedication, and we once again thank them for everything they gave to KEVIGS and wish them every success for the future.

We also said a very fond farewell to Mr Douglas and Mrs Turner, who both retired following many years of dedicated service to the school. Mr Douglas joined KEVIGS in 2014 as a Teacher of Mathematics and became a familiar and friendly face to generations of students. Mrs Turner joined KEVIGS in 2016 as Assistant Director of English, inspiring countless students through her teaching and leaving a lasting legacy, including the establishment of our annual EDA Fair. We hope they are both enjoying a very happy and well-earned retirement.



Welcome



While it is always difficult to say goodbye to valued colleagues, the start of a new academic year also brings new beginnings. We are delighted to welcome many new members of staff who have joined us across the school. They bring with them a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and new ideas, and we are very pleased to welcome them to the KEVIGS community. I am sure our students, parents and carers will join me in making them feel at home as they settle into their new roles.

This academic year is an especially significant one for our school as we celebrate the 475th anniversary of King Edward VI Grammar School. Since its foundation in 1551, generations of young people have passed through our doors, and we are incredibly proud of the history and traditions that have shaped the school we know today.

Throughout the year, we will be marking this remarkable milestone with a range of events and activities involving our students, staff, families, former students and the wider community. While our 475th anniversary provides an opportunity to celebrate our rich heritage, it is also a chance to look confidently towards the future and consider how we continue to provide the very best education and opportunities for generations to come. We look forward to sharing further details of our anniversary celebrations throughout the year.

As we begin the new term, we are also introducing a number of developments following the valuable feedback received through our Parent Survey. Thank you once again to everyone who took the time to share their views. Your feedback plays an important role in helping us identify what we do well and where we can continue to improve.

Communication was one area highlighted by parents, and our new Communication Policy is now being introduced. This sets out clearer expectations around communication between school and home, including response times for parental enquiries, helping to ensure communication is handled efficiently and consistently.

We have also introduced our revised Assessment Policy, which will provide greater clarity about how students are assessed and how their progress will be communicated throughout the academic year.

The partnership between school and home remains incredibly important to us. One of the strongest messages from our Parent Survey was that families recognise KEVIGS as a caring and supportive school where young people feel safe, happy and able to flourish. We are proud of this, but we are never complacent. We will continue to listen to our students and families and work together to make our school the very best it can be.



Welcome



There is already much to look forward to this year. Alongside our anniversary celebrations, students will have opportunities to take part in trips, visits, sporting fixtures, musical performances, clubs, competitions, fundraising events and many other activities beyond the classroom. These experiences are an important part of life at KEVIGS and help our students develop confidence, independence and friendships while discovering new interests and talents.

As always, our expectations for the year ahead remain high. We want every student to be ambitious, work hard and make the most of the opportunities available to them. Just as importantly, we expect our students to demonstrate the kindness, respect and sense of community that continue to define KEVIGS. Whether a student is beginning their first few days with us or entering their final year, we want them to feel supported and encouraged to achieve their very best.

I would like to thank our staff for the considerable work that has taken place in preparation for the new academic year and for their continued professionalism and dedication to our students. I would also like to thank our Board of Trustees for their ongoing support and guidance.

To our parents and carers, thank you for the trust you place in us and for your continued partnership. We know that the strongest outcomes for young people are achieved when school and home work together, and we look forward to continuing that relationship throughout the year.

Most importantly, to our students, welcome back. I encourage you to approach this year with enthusiasm, determination and ambition. Take opportunities when they arise, challenge yourselves, support one another and be proud to represent King Edward VI Grammar School.

There is something particularly special about beginning a new academic year, and even more so as we celebrate 475 years of our school. We have much to be proud of, much to celebrate and a great deal to look forward to.

I wish every member of our school community a happy, successful and rewarding academic year and look forward to seeing everything our students achieve in the months ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Sam Cassidy
Headteacher



Reporting Student Absence

We are writing to inform you of updated procedures for reporting your child's absence from school. These changes are designed to streamline communication and reduce workload for our staff, while ensuring that we receive the necessary information promptly.

Reporting Your Child's Absence: In the first instance, please use the **EduLink One** app or the **absence@kevigs.lincs.sch.uk** email address. Please update us daily for each day that your child is absent.

– Important: You do not need to report the absence using both methods.

Illness:

When reporting an absence due to illness, please include details of your child's symptoms so that we can monitor patterns of illness across the school.

Medical Appointments:

– If using EduLink One:

When reporting through the app, you only need to attach the appointment letter or text message. A Leave of Absence form is not required. Please provide the time that your child needs to sign out or will arrive at school.

Due to the new DfE guidelines, students must attend school around their appointment (within reason) regardless of the home location.

– If using email: Please complete the [Application for Student's Leave of Absence Form](#) and attach the appointment letter or text message to your email. Please provide the time that your child needs to sign out or will arrive at school.

Due to the new DfE guidelines, students must attend school around their appointment (within reason) regardless of the home location.

Emergencies:

In emergencies only, and to ease the workload of our reception staff, you may leave a voicemail message. Please note this should be used only when other methods are not possible.

All other Leave of Absence requests must be made using the Leave of Absence form only, which can be located at the bottom of the school website.

Summary:

Please report your child's absence using one of the following methods:

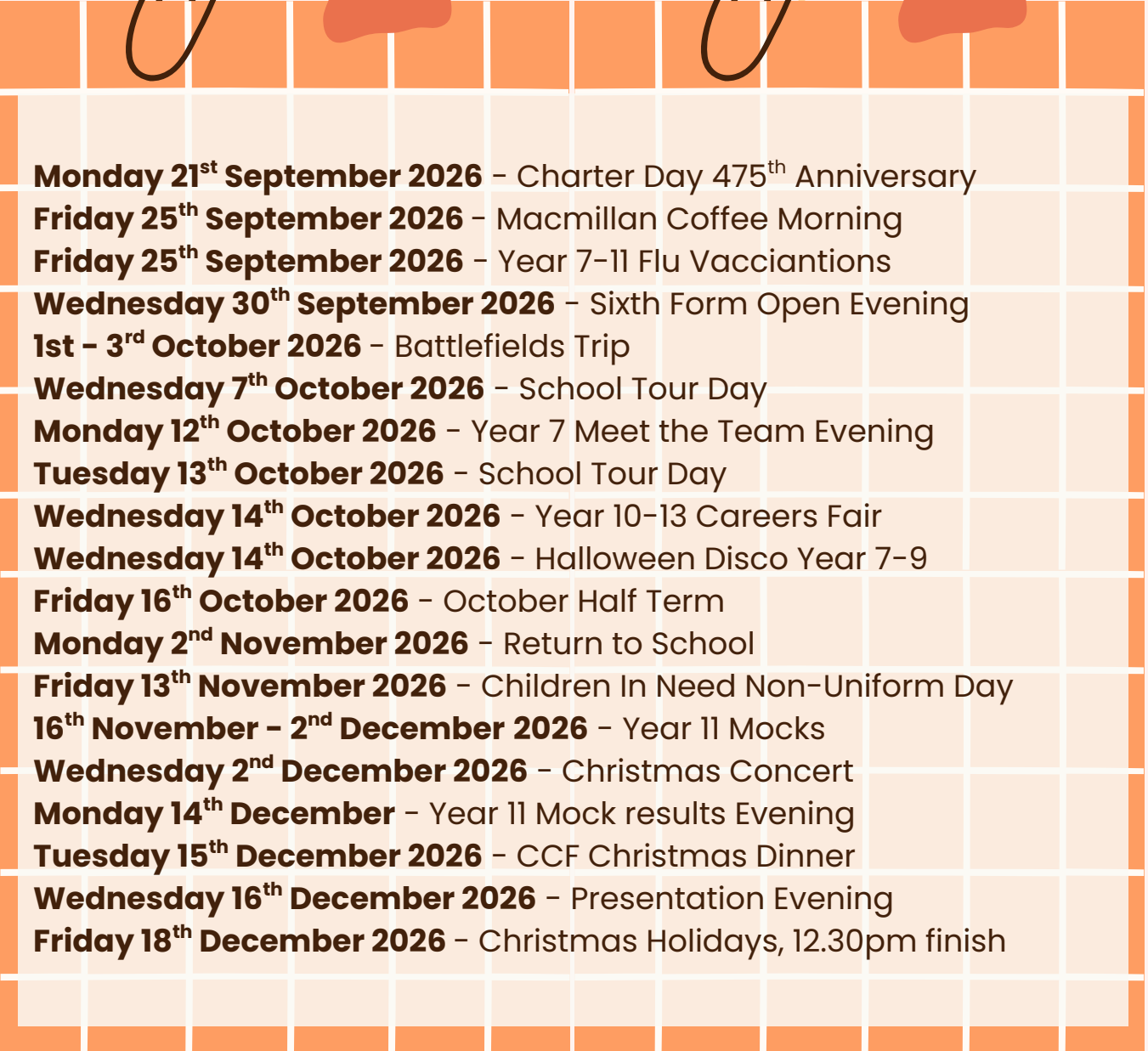
1. EduLink One app
2. Email address
3. Voicemail (emergency use only)

We appreciate your cooperation in following these updated procedures, which will help us manage absence more efficiently and ensure correct records are kept.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dates to Remember



Monday 21st September 2026 – Charter Day 475th Anniversary
Friday 25th September 2026 – Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 25th September 2026 – Year 7-11 Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 30th September 2026 – Sixth Form Open Evening
1st – 3rd October 2026 – Battlefields Trip
Wednesday 7th October 2026 – School Tour Day
Monday 12th October 2026 – Year 7 Meet the Team Evening
Tuesday 13th October 2026 – School Tour Day
Wednesday 14th October 2026 – Year 10-13 Careers Fair
Wednesday 14th October 2026 – Halloween Disco Year 7-9
Friday 16th October 2026 – October Half Term
Monday 2nd November 2026 – Return to School
Friday 13th November 2026 – Children In Need Non-Uniform Day
16th November – 2nd December 2026 – Year 11 Mocks
Wednesday 2nd December 2026 – Christmas Concert
Monday 14th December – Year 11 Mock results Evening
Tuesday 15th December 2026 – CCF Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 16th December 2026 – Presentation Evening
Friday 18th December 2026 – Christmas Holidays, 12.30pm finish

Did You Know?

Did you know that we have an online calendar on the school website? Our School Calendar is regularly updated with important dates, events and activities taking place throughout the academic year, making it easy to keep track of what's coming up.

To view the calendar, visit www.kevigs.org and select:
Our School → School Calendar

We recommend checking the calendar regularly to stay up to date with everything happening at KEVIGS.

Exam Results

We were incredibly proud to celebrate another fantastic set of GCSE and A Level results at KEVIGS this summer, reflecting the hard work, ambition and commitment of our students and the dedication of the staff who supported them throughout their studies.

At GCSE, over 90% of entries were awarded grades 9–4, with a third achieving the highest grades of 9–7. There were some exceptional individual performances, including Tabitha, who achieved an incredible eleven grade 9s, while Mykhailo and Nancy both achieved seven grade 9s and four grade 8s.

Our Sixth Form students also achieved some of the strongest A Level outcomes the school has seen in recent years. An impressive 88% of grades were awarded at A*–C, with 63% achieving A*–B. Among many outstanding individual achievements, Harry and Ivan both achieved AAAA, while Ben achieved A*AAA alongside an A grade in his Extended Project Qualification.

Most importantly, our students are now taking exciting next steps. The vast majority of our Year 13 students secured their first-choice university destination, apprenticeship or employment, while we were delighted to see so many of our Year 11 students choose to continue their journey with us in our growing Sixth Form.



Sports Summary

Last academic year was another fantastic year for sport at KEVIGS, with students across all year groups representing the school with determination, teamwork and enthusiasm. From district and county competitions to national events, our students achieved some outstanding results while also embracing a wide range of sporting and leadership opportunities.

Our netball teams enjoyed a particularly successful year. The Year 7 and 8 teams narrowly missed out in their district finals, while our Year 9 and 10 teams were crowned district winners. At county level, our U14 and U16 girls both produced strong performances to finish fourth.



Girls' football continued to go from strength to strength, with teams representing KEVIGS across Years 7, 8, 9 and U16. A particular highlight came from our U14 team, who enjoyed impressive runs in both the county and national cup competitions. Despite many members of the squad playing a year above their age group, the team reached the county cup semi-finals, where they narrowly lost to the eventual winners.

Our girls also enjoyed success in futsal, with the Year 8 team going unbeaten throughout their competition. In badminton, both the Year 7 and Year 8 teams were crowned district winners, while our Year 10 and 11 team secured an excellent runners-up finish.

Athletics has traditionally been a real strength at KEVIGS, and last year was no exception. We began with an outstanding performance in the district cross country competition, winning five of the six team events and finishing as comfortable overall winners. More than 25 students qualified for the county round at Burghley House, with a further three progressing to the regional competition. Enzo R went one step further, qualifying for the National Finals in Liverpool – an outstanding individual achievement.



Sports Summary

Our success continued in indoor athletics, with both Year 7 and Year 8 emerging as overall winners against a highly competitive field.

During the summer term, KEVIGS maintained its excellent athletics record by winning the overall team competition at the District Athletics event at King George Stadium. The Year 7 girls were crowned winners, while the Year 8 and 9 girls finished second. The Year 7 boys also secured second place, with the Year 8 and 9 boys finishing third.



Boys' football provided plenty more reasons to celebrate. Our Year 8 and Year 10 teams were both crowned district champions and also progressed to the later stages of the national cup. The Year 10 team came incredibly close to reaching the semi-finals, narrowly losing 5–4 in the quarter-finals to the eventual winners. Our Year 7 and Year 9 boys also enjoyed strong seasons, both narrowly missing out in their respective league deciders.

There was further success in boys' futsal, with every age group victorious in their local competitions. Particularly impressively, our Year 8 and Year 10 teams completed their competitions without conceding a single goal.



Sports Summary

Rugby continued to develop, with our Year 7, 9 and 10 teams competing at district and county level. For many of our Year 7 students, this was their first experience of competitive rugby, making their third-place finish a fantastic achievement. Our Year 10 team finished as district runners-up after producing some excellent performances throughout the competition.

In rounders, our Year 8 and Year 10 girls demonstrated excellent teamwork throughout the season. The Year 8 team were crowned district champions, while the Year 10 team secured third place against some very strong opposition.

Our cricketers also represented the school in the county cup, with both the U14 and U15 teams reaching the knockout stages. With plenty of talented players continuing to develop, there is lots to look forward to in the year ahead.



Sport at KEVIGS is about much more than competitive results. Last year, our extracurricular programme continued to expand, giving students opportunities to take part in activities including American flag football, softball and volleyball. Table tennis and badminton clubs continued to attract excellent numbers, alongside our popular fitness sessions. Our students also excelled through the many sporting leadership opportunities available at KEVIGS. Students from Years 8 to 13 supported and led numerous events both at school and within our local primary schools.

Activities including indoor golf, Boccia, girls' and boys' football, rugby, hockey, multisports, netball and tennis provided fantastic opportunities for local primary pupils. Our young leaders mentored, coached, led and officiated at these events, demonstrating kindness, patience, excellent communication and enthusiasm throughout.

We were incredibly proud of the way they represented KEVIGS and supported younger pupils, particularly those who needed encouragement to overcome nerves or shyness and get involved.

Last year's sporting achievements demonstrated the talent, commitment and community spirit of our students. Whether competing for KEVIGS, trying a new activity or helping younger pupils discover a love of sport, our students were fantastic ambassadors for the school.



WHAT PARENTS LOVE ABOUT KEVIGS

Thank you for sharing your views in our recent Parent Survey – June 2026.

Here are just some of the things you told us...



A SUPPORTIVE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT

“ My child has had a really good first year ... they've loved it. ”

“ The school provides a nurturing and supportive environment. ”

“ My child has become the person they are today through the continued educational and pastoral support that KEVIGS has provided. ”

“ A very supportive school that cares about the wellbeing of its pupils. ”

“ The school has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere where students feel safe and valued. ”



DEDICATED AND EXCEPTIONAL STAFF

“ Thank you to all the teachers for looking after my child so well. They are amazing. ”

“ The teachers are amazing and I feel they know my child and understand them. ”

“ Staff go above and beyond to support the students. ”

“ The teachers inspire, encourage and support every student to do their best. ”

“ Reception staff are wonderful – so kind, patient and caring. ”

“ The Sixth Form team are brilliant and always so helpful. ”



EXCELLENT PASTORAL CARE AND SUPPORT

“ The staff go the extra mile in providing the 'magical' environment that my child needed to thrive. ”

“ My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed. ”

“ The school really cares about each student as an individual. ”

“ The school has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere where students feel safe and valued. ”

“ My child feels safe and well looked after at school. ”



EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WHEN IT MATTERS

“ We received swift and comprehensive communication regarding an issue between children. ”

“ It was dealt with in a child-centred, balanced and considered manner. ”

“ Teachers and staff communicate well and are always approachable. ”

“ When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly. ”



A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES

“ A great range of clubs and activities for all interests. ”

“ School trips and experiences enrich my child's education. ”

“ Lots of opportunities for students to get involved and develop their talents. ”

“ The Sixth Form team have gone over and above for us this year, special thanks also to Robson Augustus. ”



OVERALL APPRECIATION

“ You have a great school, keep up the fantastic work with our children. ”

“ I'm very happy with everything the school does. ”

“ We are very grateful to be part of the KEVIGS community. ”

“ Thank you for all the hard work and dedication you show every day. ”

“ The school makes decisions with the child's best interests at heart. ”

“ I am really pleased with the support my child has received. ”

We value your feedback and will keep working together to help every student learn, grow and achieve their very best.



INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE