



King Edward VI Aston School Newsletter

Alternative Thursdays

We are looking for workshop leaders for our 'Alternate Thursdays' enrichment. If you have an interesting skill, talent or passion that you can teach to our boys please get in touch with Mrs Sagheer.
t.sagheer@keaston.bham.sch.uk

King Edward VI Cook of the Year

Congratulations to Hadi Rahimi and Matthew Portman who represented Aston Boys at the King Edward VI Cook of the year competition held on Thursday 26th April at Camp Hill Girls school. Both boys were a credit to the school and produced high quality dishes.

Hadi made a Lamb Macaroni which was full of flavour and finished with with crumbed mozzarella cheese. Matthew produced Pancetta wrapped Pollock with new potatoes and green beans, lovely fresh lemon and olive flavours.

There was tough competition from Five Ways, Hansdworth Girls School, Camp Hill Girls and Boys schools. Congratulations to Hadi and Matthew who cooked in the final competition.

A J Beech



Dates for your diary:

Please use this [link](#) for the school calendar.

Thursday 3rd May:
Evening of Light Music & Jazz

Friday 4th May:
Fundraising day

Thursday 10th May:
Yr 13 Leavers' trip to Alton Towers

Friday 11th May:
Yr 13 Leavers' Reception

Somerset Geography Field Trip

Please accept our apologies for the misprint in the March newsletter. The 'Somerset Geography Field Trip' article was written by Luis Heley and not Safwaan Ali.



John Bulmer, Photographer - visit to Art on Thursday 19 April



Year 8 Residential to The Malverns





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School Captains' Conference

Having found out about the idea of a 'School Captains' Conference' undoubtedly coming off the back of the 'Student Council Conference', Daniel, Hassan and myself did not know exactly what to expect.

On a cold Monday morning on 12th February we boarded a minibus containing the student leadership teams from KEHB and KEVHG with Ms Searles accompanying us. Once arriving at Five Ways we made our introductions and met the students from the rest of the Foundation. We were then given a tour of the school which proved to be quite an eye-opener, mainly due to the modern style of the school in contrast to the original 19th century site of Aston.

After the tour we got down to the business of the day. At first we shared our thoughts about Five Ways and ideas we had regarding the improvement of their school. Following this we shared things that are unique to our own school and debates such as the 6 period vs 5 period day came up. Notable discussion points included mental health and school facilities. KEHB put forward an interesting idea regarding a survey about mental health to be taken by all students at the beginning of the year in order for their mental health to be ranked and any issues to be flagged up to staff. This discussion was pertinent due to the increased focus on mental wellbeing in schools and the prevalent reluctance of the male species to actually seek help for such things. Another key discussion point, introduced by myself, came after seeing that Five Ways had their own shop on site. In their shop they sell stationery and second hand uniform and P.E. kit etc., allowing students to purchase things for discounted prices rather than brand new from a shop which can be costly.

Overall the trip was useful for all parties involved and we look forward to sharing ideas at our next meeting at KEHG.

Jack Bostock

Leadership Lectures

Up coming lecture:

Tuesday 15th May 18: Inspector Iftexhar Ahmed



SIMS Parent App



All parents should now have received an email giving you access our new SIMS Parent app.

If you have not received an email it is because we do not have an up to date email for you. Please can you contact the school and update your email address as soon as possible.

The app is a new convenient way for you to keep the school up to date on key data we hold about your son, and will replace the data collection sheets we have previously used at Parents Evenings.

You can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC – anytime, anywhere.

What will you find in the SIMS Parent Lite app:

- School term, inset dates and contact details available at the click of a button
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency
- If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children, from the same app.

Getting started with the SIMS Parent app

1. From your activation email, simply click on the link from your tablet, PC or smartphone to activate your account. Please note this email will be sent to each parent/guardian who lives at the same address as your son.
2. Each parent/guardian living at the same address can then login using your normal Facebook, Twitter, Google or Microsoft username and password.
3. From your smartphone or tablet, download the app from the Google Play or Apple App store - search for SIMS Parent.
4. From a PC or Windows phone, login online at www.sims-parent.co.uk
5. Spend a few minutes checking the data about you and your son is accurate and make any relevant changes. (Please do not add in details about another parent – they will need to do this on their login)
6. Please ensure that you confirm any changes on the 'Data Collection' screen.
7. You will get an update when the changes have been made on our system allowing you to then make any further changes as and when needed.



Please use the SIMS Parent App/website to inform the school of any change of details for your son. Should you have any queries regarding the SIMS Parent Lite app, please contact Mrs. Kennerley via email (exams@keaston.bham.sch.uk)

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Gold Practice Expedition

Friday 4th - Sunday 6th May 2018

13 Pupils from year 12 will be going to Wales for their practice expedition.

Congratulations to two former pupils Vincent Peters and Henry James who will be collecting their Gold Award at Buckingham Palace on 17th May.





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Alternate Thursdays Community Apprentice

A cold January morning at the University of Birmingham School marked the beginning of our journey as Team Dynamic in the Community Apprentice Challenge. Our team of ten was put up against four other schools in a competition to make the most difference in our community as possible, by raising money and awareness for a charity we cared about. After much discussion we decided that Let's Feed Brum was a brilliant charity with an honest aim, to give the homeless on the streets of Birmingham the helping hand they need. They provide much-needed food and shelter, as well as personal advice essential for giving them the best possible future, hopefully resulting in them getting off the streets permanently. Our first weekly sessions as a team proved to be difficult. With all different ideas and opinions, communication was particularly challenging. Throughout the programme, though, we began to gel as a team and came up with some brilliant fundraising plans. These included tuck shops and stalls of various items and even a FIFA tournament. Due to the many trips coinciding with the fundraising weeks though, a FIFA tournament was not quite possible. Our team worked around this, however, by organising multiple food stalls at school in a very short space of time. The sales went down brilliantly and were fully enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. Outside of school, with our business mentors at GKN, the team were able to put on a fundraising day at the GKN offices in Redditch. A dress down day, various games and yet another bake sale were set up for employees, as well as a presentation about Let's Feed Brum to inform them about the cause and persuade them to help out too. GKN were so impressed by the standard of the presentation, they decided to donate £150 to add to our total. Overall, the day was a success and our efforts managed to raise around £500 on that day alone, a brilliant achievement that really showcased the skills we had developed.



Our last challenge was the final Boardroom Meeting at Aston University, where all the schools competing were asked to present to the other groups and a panel of judges, a presentation showcasing what we had been doing over the challenge. Team Dynamic did Aston proud by wonderfully displaying the events we had organised and progress we had made on our journey, with all 3 judges very impressed with every individual. The grand total of £784 that we had raised will definitely go a long way for Let's Feed Brum, along

with the increased awareness of the charity. Each school in the competition did exceptionally well and it was clear the judges had an extremely difficult decision to make. Unfortunately the decision didn't go our way, with St Edmund Campion deservedly taking the top spot. Nevertheless, I am extremely proud of what we've accomplished as a team over the last 4 months and we have no doubt done Aston proud.

Jai Patel 10T





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Student Council Conference

Democracy. What is it? Is it right? Do we even have it? These complex questions seem to be something answered more often in Aston's Year 11-13 debating society's but were tackled and explored by everyone in the King Edward Foundations Student Council Conference.

The conference is Aston's creation. First in November it was held here at Aston, organised by last year's student council lead by Arjav Jain. It is a chance for students in the Foundation who would not usually meet, to be able to communicate and plan to help each other solve our individual and collective problems. It is ambitious, it is extremely helpful and it is loved.

A fortnight ago, it returned. This time organised by Camp Hill Girls we experienced a teacher led discussion on democracy and student voice (note the slight irony here), a tour of the school (note also the lack of litter which arises when boys and girls take pride in their school) and finished with some collaborative work to discuss our problems. Coming together to find solutions really helps us all to ensure that the best possible action is being taken, some of us have even experienced the exact problems being faced by others!

As well as the good work of democracy, the ability to combine thoughts and ideas, and the experience to expand ones views on wider societal issues there was the student approved main event. Pizza. After the huge success of the Domino's pizza sponsorship that I gained last year, amongst other key logistics in organising the first conference, Camp Hill purchased enough Papa John's to feed all of us hungry teenagers! That's on top of the doughnuts, cookies, bananas, salad and more! Oh how we love these conferences.

Joking aside, the real gem of the council was the new collaboration that we have created to collectively combat the issue of food quality in some of our schools. This has resulted in a survey that I and some others created being sent out to all of the affected schools so that we can work together to solve this. This is the first time ever that such collaboration has taken place and we are very excited.

Thank you to the old student council for creating the event, thank you for Camp Hill Girls for organising the last one, and thanks to the students for coming up with some action plans that I'm sure we will all love and make use of.

Aaron Smith 11F





King Edward VI Aston School Newsletter

German



Liebe Frau Ruckgaber,

Since you have joined our beloved school, you have created an immense and positive change that will be remembered forever. Your considered efforts and crystal-clear love for teaching has shone through. From talking to your colleagues in the German department and my fellow students, I know that you have been invaluable to all of us in your efforts to improve and develop our experience of German as Aston.

Creating extra-curricular German clubs and projects has brought great success and achievement to Able & Inspired students in German and you have motivated many pupils to engage with German outside of the classroom.

Hallo! Mein Name ist Katrin Ruckgaber und ich bin eure neue Fremdsprachassistentin für Deutsch. Ich komme aus Regensburg. Das ist die nördlichste Stadt der Donau und sie liegt in Bayern. Ich studiere Englisch und Französisch in Eichstätt. In meiner Freizeit lese ich sehr gerne und reise um die Welt. Ich freue mich auf euch!



Your innovative ideas for the multiple German clubs you run have been so much fun and we will miss your creativity.

You have left an optimistic, fun and cheerful imprint on our school by bringing together German and English pupils through your e-Penpal project, an opportunity that is already cherished by many students in our school.

However, most importantly, you have helped us achieve areas of linguistic success beyond our dreams, and your efforts at our school will be remembered for decades to come.

Danke schön Frau Ruckgaber. Sie werden uns fehlen.

Saied Dakak 8F

Von Allen Schülern bei King Edward VI Aston School.

Friday 4th May 2018 we hold our final fundraising day (it is also non-uniform) of the academic year for [Sifa Fireside](#)

sifa fireside
◆ BIRMINGHAM ◆





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Overall Hawkesford Trophy (After Autumn & Spring Terms)

Event	Result				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
House Cross Country - C.J.S Maughan Trophy	F	B	M	T	H
Indoor Rowing (1/2 Point)	B	F	T	M	
Strongest Boy (1/2 Point)	F	T	B	M	
House Indoor Football	B	M	F	T	H
House Basketball	M	T	F	B	H
House Rugby 5's	T	M	B	F	H
House Rugby	M	T	B / F		H
House Hockey	M	F	T	B	H
House Football	M	F	T	B	H
House Swimming	F	B	T	M	H
House Badminton					
House Athletics					
House Volleyball					
House Cricket					
House Tennis					
House Softball					
Standings after 10 events	M (34)	F (32)	T (28 1/2)	B (27 1/2)	H (8)

Overall P Tuck Trophy (After Autumn & Spring Terms)

Event	Result				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
House Chess	M	T	F	B	H
House Go	F	B	M	T	H
House Public Speaking	B	F	M / T		H
House Scrabble					
House Photography					
House Maths Challenge					
House Philosophy (1/2 Points)					
House Economics					
House Poetry					
House Cooking					
House History					
House Music					
House Drama					
House Achievement Points					
Standings at end of Spring Term after 3 events	F (12)	B (11)	M (10 1/2)	T (8 1/2)	H (3)





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KE Aston Old Eds

Alumni support needed for careers events at KE Aston School

Andy Marshall from Learn to Work Team manages the careers and work related curriculum at KE Aston School. The team have 3 upcoming events and would be delighted if any KE Aston Old Eds could join them for one or all of them!!

Tuesday 15 May, 8.30-11.30 approx. Year 9 Careers networking event. Student groups of 10-12, pupils will rotate between volunteers during a two hour session. Each group will spend no more than 10 minutes with each of 12 visitors, hearing about their education and training history, career development, area of work and 'average' day'

Tuesday 5 June, 8.30-12 approx. Year 9/10/12 Careers Fair - Visitors 'staff' exhibitor stands with 50-60 pupils at a time in the Main Hall in 25 minute slots

Tuesday 19 June, 9.00am -10.00am - Year 7 Host A Visitor Event. Visitors see two Year 7 form groups, spending 25 minutes with each, to discuss their education and training history, career development, area of work and 'average' day, in a Q&A format.

If you can help, or would like more information about the events, please email school on oldeds@keaston.bham.sch.uk

KE Aston Old Eds Alumni Events

Saturday 14th July 2018

KE Aston Old Eds Reunion Cricket Match - Trinity Road, Aston

Saturday 10th November 2018

85th Annual Reunion Dinner - KE Aston School

September 2018

The school are thinking of having a KE Aston Old Eds London Dinner for Alumni living in or around London. Our initial thoughts are for a weekend in late September and to have the gathering as a lunchtime meal. If any KE Aston Old Eds are interested in supporting this event please can they let us know on oldeds@keaston.bham.sch.uk

KE Aston Old Eds on LinkedIn

As many KE Aston Olds are aware the school is trying to update its existing database of former students. We already made contact with well over 1000 former students. We have over 800 members of the Facebook closed group 'KE Aston Old Eds' (please feel free to join if you have not already done so and use Facebook)

Now the school is now using LinkedIn (KE Aston Old Eds) as another platform to connect with KE Aston Old Eds. Within the first month we have nearly 500 connections; many who are not on Facebook- Please feel free to connect with us on LinkedIn - KE Aston Old Eds (School Crest Photo)

