

# KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL

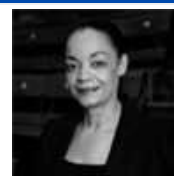


Summer 2025

TERMLY NEWSLETTER



## Welcome to the third School newsletter of 2024-2025



It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of another academic year! It has been an incredibly busy but immensely successful, rewarding and satisfying year for students, staff, governors and the wider communities and organisations that are connected with King Edward VII School.

This bumper edition of the summer term newsletter shines a bright light on all the amazing achievements, activities and enrichment opportunities that students, staff and governors have accessed and supported during the year.

All the articles included in this newsletter reflect and reaffirm the School's vision and values which are rooted in integrity, curiosity and resilience and how they have been lived, experienced and demonstrated this year.

We hope you enjoy reading the wonderful articles and information in this edition of the newsletter.

If you would like to keep up to date about the School on a regular basis, please follow us on Bluesky; [@kessheffield.bsky.social](#).

If you have an article that would be of interest to our School community, please email it to [jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk) for consideration.

Warm regards  
Linda Gooden  
Headteacher

## Important Dates

- School returns on Wednesday 3 September 2025
- Thursday 11 September 2025: Year 10 Information Evening for parents
- Tuesday 16 September 2025: Year 12 Information Evening for parents
- Tuesday 23 September 2025: Year 6 Open Evening at Upper School

# OUR STUDENTS

## VISIT TO THE BATTLEFIELDS

*Contribution from George Scammell, Year 9*

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to go on an unforgettable trip to the Battlefields of World War 1 which was moving. I now feel very lucky to have had this experience.

On the trip, we explored the key battlefields of the war where decisive victories were secured and lost; we walked through the now beautiful battlefield landscapes, learning stories along the way; we visited the final resting places of many of the millions who didn't make it home; we went to the graves of the relatives of some of the students on the trip; and we witnessed a spectacular ceremony held at the same time every day to remember all those who made the ultimate sacrifice. In museum visits the conflict was brought to life through artefacts, stories and mock trenches. Whilst we had beautiful weather during our trip the trenches were still quite muddy! We took time to remember and reflect on the lives of the soldiers of the Great War.

Millions of men, women and children became casualties of the War between 1914 and 1918 and not all of them were from Europe. In Y9 history lessons, we have been taught about the hundreds of thousands of colonial troops who decided to fight for a country which almost all of them would never have been too. Many of them lost their lives.

This was clear to see when we visited the numerous Commonwealth War Grave cemeteries where so many of the graves had Maple Leaves, ANZAC Insignias or Springboks on them to show the soldiers' home countries. They all had loved ones who missed them dearly so their sacrifices mustn't be forgotten.



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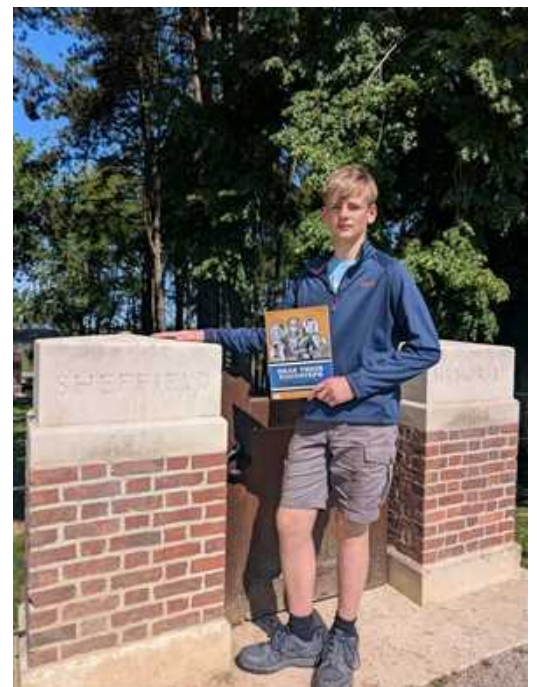
## VISIT TO THE BATTLEFIELDS, CONTINUED

### *Continued from page 2*

To help us imagine the lives of the soldiers and not just read the numerous names on the gravestones, we discussed the experiences of former KES pupils, Old Edwardians, and KES teachers, who fought in the war, as we visited their final resting places. Many of the KES soldiers were very much at the start of their lives before they were cut short. They were not much older than me and led ordinary lives before they were thrust into the hellish conditions of World War 1. We followed in their footsteps as we took the journey from Sheffield to Dover and thought 'How would they have been feeling?'. We visited the town of Poperinge 'Pop' where soldiers relaxed away from the front lines. I was interested to hear that they made their own newspaper called the "Wipers Times". We went to Sheffield Memorial Park, which is on the Somme Front, where the Sheffield, Barnsley and Accrington Pals Battalions' sacrifices are remembered.

We were fortunate to be able to use the research of the late John Cornwell. He wrote a book detailing the experiences of Sheffield men in the Great War and described the plight of KES soldiers. His legacy of remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the war hasn't been forgotten as the Lower School Sports Hall was posthumously named after him and his amazing work.

The Battlefields Trip is an experience I will always remember. On the visit, every teacher and pupil were united through remembering the tragedy of war. It has inspired me to proudly wear a Flanders Poppy on my lanyard in commemoration of all those lost. The Battlefields Trip should be an experience KES continues to offer. It was amazing!



## BIG CHALLENGE SUCCESS

*Mrs K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

Huge congratulations to Y8 team Acorn Girls who won an unprecedented three awards at the ceremony last night at the OEC Sheffield!

The team won Sustainability, Making a Difference and Outstanding Journal. A huge well done to Electra Ioannou, Holly Stride, Freya Cave and Keziah Post.



### The Acorn Girls

The Big Challenge business “Acorn Girls” was our successful attempt to spread environmental awareness to the people of Sheffield and educate young people about the value of nature.

By selling eco-friendly, nature-themed crafts (such as plant pots, bug-hotels, seed-bombs, bee-revival serum, tote bags, crochet trinkets and more) we try to spread our message as much as we can.

I (Electra Ioannou, 8S2) set up “Bee Green Eco-crafts”, which was nominated to win the Sustainability and Creativity awards, in last year’s Big Challenge competition. This year, our team expanded, with Keziah Post (8L2), Freya Cave (8R2) and Holly Stride (8R2) joining, creating a stronger, more diverse team. The Acorns Girls was the only team that was nominated for 3 awards, in the Big Challenge competition! We managed to win the Sustainability Award, the award for Making a Difference and the Outstanding Reflective Journal Award.

We were given a £25 start-up loan, which we used to expand and set up our business, to then participate in multiple selling opportunities, such as school fairs and events at the Moor Market. Our idea was to sell crafts - not only for their artistic value, but for the support that the offer to wildlife and our planet.

Twenty-five per cent of the money we have raised so far, is already gifted to Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Greenpeace, as a symbolic contribution to wildlife protection and environmental action. We are donating the rest to our school Eco-warriors, to be used in eco-friendly actions and campaigns, such as funding the work required for the garden that we are trying to set up.

The Acorn Girls are more than just a business; this is the beginning of our ecological pathways.

# Our Students

## BRILLIANT CLUB GRADUATION

*Mr J. Johnston, Lead Teacher of Pupil Premium*

Year 8 students attended Leeds University to graduate from the Brilliant Club Programme. The students have worked really hard over the last three months and have hopefully gained a lot from the programme. Whilst taking part in the programme the students have attended university style tutorials with a PHD tutor and submitted a final assignment answering the question, "How can chemists save the world?"

The students have been fantastic throughout the whole programme and have been a credit to the School!



## Y8 GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO HORNSEA

*Mr. J. Rudkin, Teacher of Geography*

Students had a fantastic day investigating coastal processes and management techniques at Hornsea on the Holderness Coast. Armed with clipboards and plenty of curiosity, students enthusiastically completed a range of fieldwork tasks. Students demonstrated great teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout the day, bringing coastal geography to life!



# Our Students

## KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION 2025

*Mr. T. Ingham, Second in Department, Responsibility for KS3 English*

The English Department was delighted to receive so many fascinating entries for the King Edward VII School Creative Writing Competition this year. Thank you to all of you!

Each student was asked to write a short story of no more than a thousand words. However, they could write about anything. Some spectacular stories were created! The entries covered a range of different subjects and circumstances, but a common strength of many of our writers this year was the ability to create drama and suspense; pieces which were often thrilling in pace or plot twists. We very much enjoyed reading all the entries and would encourage every one of you to keep using your extensive writing talent in the future.

### The Winner 2025

Out of the many entries, this year's King Edward VII School Creative Writing Competition was won by Dan Rhodes of 8L1. Congratulations, Dan! Dan's writing (a dramatic historical fiction piece where Viking raiders came to the shores of England) was well-conceived structurally and beautifully captured through mature and considered imagery. All the judges agreed that Dan's work demonstrated true story-telling prowess. Dan's a great talent and should be highly commended for his story.

### Runner up category

2025's range of entries were powerful and intriguing; therefore, we had to acknowledge the potential and ability of our runner up, Isabel Fletcher of 8P1 whose story's dark and malevolent twist showed her to be a writer of incredible plot construction. Well done! A potential crime writer of the future!

We were delighted to give both exceptional writers' vouchers as part of their reward. We hope they enjoy spending them!



## UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES IN LA THUILE: OUR 2025 SKI TRIP

The slopes of La Thuile provided plenty of exciting challenges and unforgettable experiences. Red run 7 became a firm favourite with Ava and Iris, with Ava saying, “The best bits of the week were going down red 7 all the way,” and Iris adding, “even though the conditions were bad, I felt proud of myself for doing it.” For Lucy, a standout moment was going down a black run with Mr Harvey, while Tara said, “It was really good when we went to the steep slopes because it was fun and exciting.”



There were moments of light-hearted fun too. Eason’s most memorable moment was when “Mr Lowe skied into France when he was meant to ski in Italy,” and Seb will never forget getting the duck hat! Music and laughter filled the slopes too – Lucy loved singing “Let It Go” as she “bomed it down the slopes in free ski.”



Evenings were packed with fun activities that kept everyone entertained. Nell commented that “the activities after the skiing were fun,” and students made memories that will last a lifetime. Hana summed it up perfectly: “I really enjoyed the trip and it was made memorable with spending time with friends and making good memories.” Elaijah agreed: “It was such a good experience and it was nice to experience it with my friends.”

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## UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES IN LA THUILE: OUR 2025 SKI TRIP, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 7*

While Freya admitted that skiing could be tiring and wasn't a fan of the early starts, and Lucy noted the coach journey was her least favourite part, the overwhelming feeling from everyone was that the trip was a brilliant success. Owen, Lilly, and Mylo all appreciated the freedom and fun of free skiing, with Mylo saying, "the instructors were very friendly."



The 2025 ski trip to La Thuile was more than just a holiday – it was a week of growth, fun, adventure, and unforgettable moments shared between students and staff. A huge thank you to Mr Harvey, Mr Lowe, Mr Church, and Miss Wragg for making it all possible. Judging by the smiles, laughter, and lasting memories, it's clear – staff and students alike had a fabulous time!



## MYTHS AND LEGENDS: CLASSICS CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION - THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS, APRIL 2025

*Contribution from Isabel Fletcher, Year 8*

I've always enjoyed reading and was inspired to write my competition entry as it combined two of the things I love, writing and history. I decided to rewrite the classic tale of Romulus and Remus in the third person and wanted to come up with a new ending to the tale because when I was researching the story the ending wasn't clear. I decided to make this the focus in my writing to show what happened to Romulus after he killed his brother. I decided to merge parts of Greek Mythology with this Roman Myth as I've always been interested in the Greek Gods. I entered my piece and was thrilled to come joint first place with Lily Mohammed who also entered the competition within our school. Mr Harland passed on my entry to the organisers at The University of Leeds and I was chosen to be one of the four finalists selected from schools across the country. Before the Finals Day, I was able to take part in an online confidence and public speaking workshop where I was able to see the other contestants and work on editing my entry.



Our School was able to bring ten other history enthusiasts along to be a part of the Finals Day- it was great to have their support when I was reading out my entry. On the day of the competition, we were given a talk by some lovely university students who took History followed by a tour of the campus. The campus was huge and included a gym with an Olympic sized swimming pool which the Japanese Olympic team used for training in the 2012 Olympics! Lunch on campus was included before the competition took place inside one of the lecture halls, at this point I'd say it felt nerve wracking waiting for my turn, even though I attend drama classes and love to act, it was still quite daunting standing up in front of a packed lecture hall full of other schools and families that had been invited to watch the competition! My category went first which was the short stories, the other contestants were absolutely amazing. I did, however, get into the rhythm of my story, and it went very well! Then came the group performances, which were very funny, and the competition finished with the poem entries that were fantastic too. Finally, the judges made their decisions for each category, and I was thrilled to have won Runner Up!

I would like to say a thank you to everyone who came to support me, especially Lily Mohammed, for being an amazing friend, Mrs. Davis for being an amazing history teacher, and Mr. Harland for giving me the opportunity to try my hand at being creative by rewriting the classic tale of Romus and Remus!

## WESLEY HALL LUNCH CLUB

*Miss. C. Jackson, Assistant Headteacher for KS3 and Safeguarding*

Another amazing week for Year 7 students who attended the Wesley Hall lunch Club on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025, with Miss Sale.

Students visit every month, to prepare food, offer waiter service and engage in activities with residents from Walkey, Crookes and Crosspool.

The students work exceptionally hard throughout the day and the feedback from the Lunch Club is always wonderful.



## YEAR 8 STUDENTS COMMEMORATE VE DAY WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY AT WESLEY HALL

*Mrs S. Hird, Y8 Pastoral Manager*

On Thursday 8th May, Year 8 students had the honour of joining the elderly community at Wesley Hall to mark VE Day in a heartwarming celebration of remembrance and shared stories.

The students played an active role in the preparations, helping to decorate the venue and ensuring a welcoming atmosphere for all. As the event commenced, they respectfully observed the two-minute silence in tribute to those who served during the war.

Guests were treated to tea, coffee, and a delicious afternoon tea, complete with freshly baked scones. A highlight of the day was a performance of classic wartime songs, which stirred many memories among the attendees. In a particularly memorable moment, Stanley Skeet delighted the room by jumping onto the piano and performing beautiful renditions of Stormy Weather and Moon River—a performance that was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The students spent the afternoon chatting with the guests, collecting touching stories of childhood, the Sheffield Blitz, and what life was like growing up during wartime. They were fascinated by the comparisons between past and present, and even bravely sampled traditional bread and dripping for the first time.

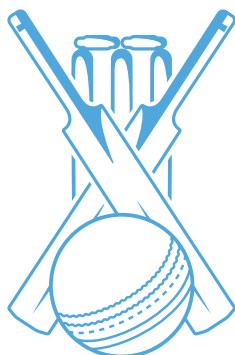
It was a privilege for the students to be part of such a meaningful and memorable occasion, one that honoured the past while bringing generations together in celebration.



## CRICKET SUCCESS

Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader

Holly Stride in Year 8 was selected for the Yorkshire Women's Cricket U13 team to play against Durham, in Newcastle on Monday 19th May. Holly scored 27 and took two catches. Well done Holly!



## YEAR 9 AMBASSADORS

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*



Mrs Proost and Mr Gardiner were delighted with the help given by the Year 9 ambassadors at the recent Year 6 Information evening. They were amazing throughout the event and really helped staff and visiting families of Year 6 students

As a thank you, all the ambassadors received a rose gift bag hand made by Mrs Proost, and a congratulation letter

Thank you girls!



## YEAR 8 AMBASSADORS



Mrs Proost and Mr Gardiner awarded thank you letters and chocolates to the Year 8 ambassadors who helped out all day on Year 6 Transition Day.

The ambassadors were extremely helpful and really cared for the new Year 6 students.

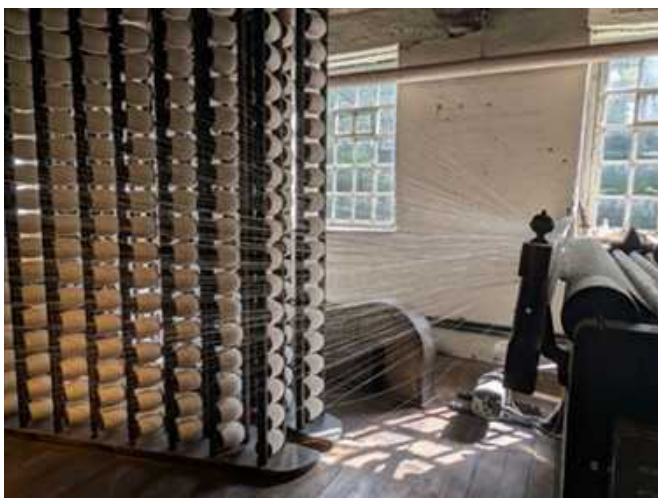
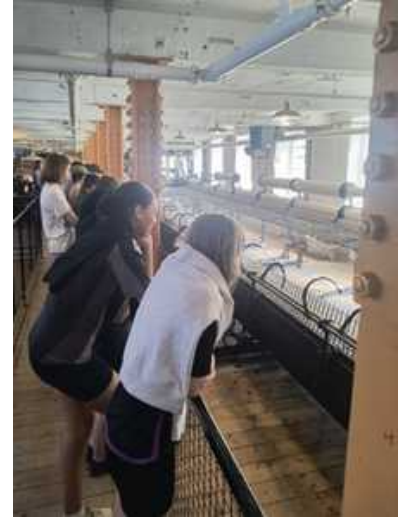
## HISTORY TRIP TO QUARRY BANK MILL

*Mrs. J. Brown, Second in Department, History*

The History department took 120 Year 8 students to Quarry Bank Mill in Styal, Manchester across two days on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> May. Quarry Bank Mill is a National Trust owned cotton mill. The visit was related to our work in class on the Industrial Revolution, and linked to work we have previously done on the Transatlantic Trade in Enslaved People.

We were lucky to go on two sunny days and had a lovely time exploring the mill and the Apprentice House as well as the old village at Styal where workers lived. Students learnt about the development of new machinery in the Industrial Revolution and were able to see the machinery working in the Mill, giving the students an idea of just how loud and dangerous the work could be. In the Apprentice House we were shown around the girls' and boys' bedrooms where the child workers would have slept, and learnt about their diet, daily schedule and some of the punishments used. Our students thought that it sounder much harder work than being at school today, but that it would have been much nicer than being in the workhouse!

We were very proud of the students on both days, they were attentive and interested, listening carefully to the tour guides and asking lots of good questions. Several of the guides gave very high praise to us at the end of the visits about how well they had behaved and how much they had enjoyed spending time with our students. Thank you to everyone who took part for representing the school so well.



One student, Lily Mohamed, gave this review:

Quarry Bank Mill is super interactive – you get to see old machinery actually working, and there are loads of hands-on things to try out. The staff were friendly and explained things in a way that made it really interesting, even if you're not a big history buff. I loved walking around the mill, the Apprentice House, and the gardens too. Definitely recommend if you're looking for something fun, different and interesting!

# Our Students

## YEAR 9 BETTER LEARNERS BETTER WORKERS CUTLERS AMBASSADORS

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*



King Edward VII School has been proudly part of the Better Learners Better Workers Cutlers Ambassadors Programme for approximately twelve years now.

This year fourteen ambassadors from Year 9 have been involved with various events in the field of STEM. Burma Company 4th Battalion The Royal Yorkshire Regiment (4 R YORKS) ran a team building event at Wentworth Woodhouse, Rotherham, Monday 16th June 2025.

This was an interactive occasion which has been designed to provide a framework for students to increase both their physical and mental capability by boosting their self-confidence and esteem in-order for all participating to understand the key principles of teamwork. Seven schools participated: Malby, Wath. King Edward VII, Sir Thomas Wharton, Chaucer, Sheffield Park Academy, and Oasis Don Valley.

The event was commandeered by Captain Birkett MBE, ably assisted by his Battalion and Sarah Ward, Hollie Clark and Jason Lingard. The Master and Mistress Cutler Philip and Giselle Rodrigo attended with the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Rachel Abbott and other dignitaries.



*Continued on page 16*

# Our Students

## YEAR 9 BETTER LEARNERS BETTER WORKERS CUTLERS' AMBASSADORS, CONTINUED

*continued from page 15*

At the event, held at Wentworth Woodhouse, a great honour was bestowed on our School.

Dame Julie Kenney, the past Master Cutler and the driving force behind the restoration of Wentworth Woodhouse, sadly passed away very suddenly in February. I was lucky enough to meet her husband on the 16 June 2025. He has created the Dame Julie Kenney School of the Year Award. This is a brand-new award which will be given yearly to a deserving school involved in the Cutlers Programme.

I am very proud to say that King Edward VII School became the first recipient of this incredible award, beating the other six schools in attendance! It was presented to us by Master Cutler Philip Rodrigo and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Rachel Abbott.



## YEAR 9 CUTLERS' AMBASSADORS VISIT AZTEC

Year 9 Cutlers ambassadors and Miss Haywood visited Aztec Construction in Sheffield City Centre on Friday 20 June. Ambassadors toured the impressive site and were guided by site manager Enda Duffy. Thank you to Enda for accommodating us.



## MASTER CUTLER VISIT

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

The Master and Mistress Cutler Philip and Giselle Rodrigo visited both school sites on Friday 9 May, with Sarah Ward and staff from Ambition Unlimited. They were welcomed to the School by the Headteacher, Ms Gooden, and enjoyed breakfast with the Year 9 Cutlers Ambassadors. They were then taken on a tour of Upper School.



The Company of  
Cutlers in Hallamshire  
Since 1624

## CUTLERS' AMBASSADORS GRADUATION AT THE CUTLERS HALL - 9 JULY

*Mrs. K. Proost - Key Stage 3 Leader*

Ambassadors were presented with their certificates by the Master and Mistress Cutler Philip and Giselle Rodrigo

It was a wonderful event and we are very pleased to continue our long involvement with the Better Learners Better Workers Scheme and our relationship with the Company of Cutlers.



## LOWER SCHOOL SHOWCASE

*Miss F. O' Farrell, Drama and Music Technician*



Our recent school showcase was a remarkable display of student creativity and hard work. Year 8 and 9 students took full control of their productions, from selecting and directing to staging and performing. Whether they chose to adapt existing works or create something entirely original, their dedication and collaboration were at the heart of each performance. It was clear that every piece had been shaped by their energy, commitment, and creativity.

At the same time, our Year 7s worked together to develop an original piece of theatre around the intriguing idea: *What if kids overthrew the government?* Under the guidance of staff, they turned this bold concept into a compelling performance that highlighted their voices and growing skills as theatre-makers. Their imaginative take on the theme was both thoughtful, engaging and funny, showing a real depth of creativity.

Overall, the showcase was a celebration of the talent and enthusiasm our students bring to the stage. It's always inspiring to see young performers pushing boundaries and exploring new ideas through the medium of theatre. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event a success. We hope you enjoyed the performances as much as we did!

## CHESS TOURNAMENT 2024-2025

*Mrs. D. Harper, Upper School Librarian*

Our annual Chess Tournament presentation was held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, and we were pleased to present our Joint Champions, Lewis Ray Year 13, and Mr Harland with their prizes, trophies and name shields on the Pam Wilcock trophy chessboard. Both Lewis and Mr Harland had won their respective first four rounds, but when it came to playing each other in the final round, a clock-timed hard fought battle ensued, culminating in a draw.

Prizes and trophies were also presented to our other top players, and commitment medals were given to everyone who managed to arrange and play all their matches. Thank you to everyone who participated in this fantastic event.



### PRIZE WINNERS:

First Equal - Lewis Ray and Mr Harland  
Third Equal - Christian Deugoe, Arijus Sirelkis, Dr Combley and Mr Harvey

### COMMITMENT MEDALS AWARDED TO:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Mohab Aserri       | Hassari Hussin      |
| Marie Astill       | Bevan Lowe          |
| Glory Babalola     | Yasin Shek          |
| Reuben Bryce       | Emily               |
| Tommy Chen         | Rebecca Smith       |
| Harry Clare        | Ketan Sorefan       |
| Alexander Cochrane | Frankie Taylor      |
| Erik Drapak        | Mrs Topliss         |
| Adam Gibbs         | Beppe Tyas          |
| Hassan Hassan      | Zulfiqar Willington |

### PLAYERS:

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Kayode             | Matthew Dawn     |
| Elena Armitage     | Adrian Dziemba   |
| Ella Barradell     | Mr Long          |
| Alex Burley        | Farishta Majidi  |
| Holly Charlesworth | Wiktor Syrytczyk |
|                    | Mr Ward          |



# Our Students

## AUTHOR VISIT

*Mrs. D. Harper, Upper School Librarian*

Our book clubs at Upper School meet regularly throughout the year to choose a collective read and chat about books. On 4<sup>th</sup> June, we were pleased to invite author Gavin Extence into school to run a creative writing workshop and a Q&A with the Year 10, 11 and 12 book club students.



During the session, Gavin invited the students to undertake some creative writing tasks, and spoke about the road to being an author, his writing and research processes.

The students were engaged throughout, asked thoughtful questions and thoroughly enjoyed the session.

## STUDENT LIBRARIANS RECRUITED

*Mrs. D. Harper, Upper School Librarian*

The Upper School Library has recruited a number of student librarians to help out over the next academic year.

Students will work on a rota basis during some of their free time throughout the week, and help with day-to-day library tasks.

A warm welcome to:

Esther Y10  
Layo Y10  
Maisie Y12  
Poppy 12  
Hauwa Y12



# Our Students

## KEY STAGE 3 CELEBRATION EVENING

*Mr. R. Gardiner, Assistant Headteacher KS3*

We hosted the third Key Stage 3 Celebration Evening on Tuesday 15 July, with many parents and students attending a wonderful evening. We had amazing performances from a Year 7 and 9 Dance Group, Year 9 Drama students, and a fantastic vocal performance from Isabel Fletcher. Plus. we had over seventy winners across the night!

Courtney Hastings won the Endeavour Award. She was presented with this by Ms A Murray for her resilience, positive attitude and determination throughout Key Stage 3. She asked afterwards if the award was definitely for her!

Freya Hill was awarded the Javid Khan Award for her outstanding contribution to School sport and beyond. Mrs J Murray presented this award and gave a lovely speech.

Lily Mohamed was awarded Key Stage 3 Student of the Year Award. Her family were thrilled to see her win it. She was presented this by George Scammell, who won the award last year.

Well done everyone!



# Our Students

## YEAR 11 PROM

Our Year 11s enjoyed their Prom at The Edge, University of Sheffield, on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June.



# Our Students



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KS3 STUDENTS

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

### KES Sports Leaders

KES Sports Leaders have been very busy organising lots of events for our local primary schools.

Year 5 pupils from Westways Primary School took part in a series of trampolining sessions led by our fantastic KES Sports Leaders. The Westways pupils had fun, developed new skills, and experienced a really positive introduction to KES.



### Y2 Sports Festival at KES

KES Sports Leaders organised a fantastic afternoon of sport for Year 2 pupils from a range of local primary schools. The aim of the event was to give the children a fun and active experience—and they certainly delivered! The afternoon was packed with exciting multi-skills activities, where pupils had the chance to develop their agility, coordination, and teamwork through a variety of fun stations.

The event ended on a high with all the schools coming together to perform a group dance, creating a brilliant sense of unity and celebration.



# Our Students

## PE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KS3 STUDENTS

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

### Y7 Cheer Club

Year 7 Cheer Group performed their cheer dance in front of Year 2 students from local primary schools. The girls have shown incredible talent and dedication, working hard every week at Friday night Cheer Club to create such a polished performance.



### Sports Leaders Partnership Games

Our Year 7 and 8 Sports Leaders made us incredibly proud at the Primary Schools Partnership Games. A total of fifty-three of our students supported Year 5 and 6 pupils from primary schools across Sheffield in a wide range of sports activities.



I was overwhelmed by the number of positive comments from the primary school teachers about how outstanding the KES students were.

# SPORT



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KS3 STUDENTS

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

### Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders organised a Year 4 football festival for local primary schools, including Hunters Bar, Lydgate, and Westways. They led fun and engaging warm-up activities and taught a variety of football skills, finishing the event with a tournament.

The aim of the festival was to encourage girls to enjoy football and have fun—and judging by the smiles on their faces, every child certainly did! It was a fantastic event that showcased teamwork, enthusiasm, and a love for the game.

## SPORT



### This Girl Can – A Celebration of Confidence and Participation

At King Edward VII School, This Girl Can is a very important event on our calendar. We believe in encouraging all our students—especially girls—to engage in physical activity in a way that is fun, inclusive, and empowering. That's why we are always eager to take students to this fantastic event each year.

This Girl Can gives our students the chance to try a wide variety of activities, some of which they may never have experienced before. This year, students took part in parkour, ice skating, boxing, a glow rave, and the always-anticipated Colour Run Dash to end the day with a burst of colour and excitement.

It's a day filled with fun, laughter, and energy, and it perfectly reflects our commitment to building confidence, breaking down barriers, and showing that sport and physical activity can be for everyone. We are proud to give our students this opportunity to explore, express, and enjoy movement in all its forms.



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KS3 STUDENTS - ATHLETICS

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

# SPORT

### Sheffield Schools Relay Competition

KES athletes made a strong start to the season despite the heat. The Year 7 Girls team finished 3rd in both the 4x100m and 4x400m relays. In the Year 7 High Jump competition, Ellie impressed with a close 2nd place.



### Athletics Year 8

It was a fantastic evening of athletics at the Year 8 Sheffield Schools selection meeting. It was wonderful to see so many Year 8 students rise to the challenge of representing their schools, some for the very first time. There were some outstanding performances, with many students qualifying for the City Finals in June. Amazing effort, Year 8!



### Athletics Y9

An incredible evening of athletics saw our students take on schools from across the city in a fantastic display of talent, determination, and team spirit. Every athlete gave it their all in a competitive and supportive atmosphere – and we came away with some brilliant results!

#### Special mentions:

Freya – stormed to victory in the 800m, showing incredible pace and control throughout the race.  
Sophie – powered through the 300m, holding her lead with strength and focus to cross the line in first place.



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS - RUGBY

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

### RUGBY

#### Sheffield Schools' Final

#### What a Way to Finish the half term!

Friday evening marked an exciting end to the half term as the Year 7/8 girls' rugby team took to the field in an unforgettable final. The match was held at Steel City Stadium just before the Eagles' clash with Hunslet – an incredible opportunity to showcase their talent in front of a large crowd.



The Y7/8 girls showed tremendous determination and skill throughout the game, growing stronger with every play. Although they narrowly lost to All Saints, their performance was nothing short of inspiring.

Reaching the final itself was a huge achievement and playing as the warm-up act for a professional match made the experience even more special. Well done to the entire team – a fantastic way to wrap up the term!

## SPORT

### Rugby Festival

Well done to the Year 8 and 9 rugby players who took part in the recent Rugby Festival. The team showed fantastic commitment and teamwork throughout the event. It was great to see them developing their skills, supporting one another, and growing stronger as a unit with each match. Their hard work and determination paid off as they went on to win all their games.



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR KS3 STUDENTS - ROUNDERS

*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

### Rounders Season in full swing!

## SPORT

Our rounders teams have had an exciting and action-packed start to the season, with both Year 7 and Year 9 girls showcasing fantastic skill, teamwork, and determination on the field.

### Year 7 Rounders

The Year 7 girls have made an impressive start to their rounders journey, with many playing their first ever competitive matches this term. They began the season strong with brilliant wins against Notre Dame and King Ecgbert, showing confidence, cooperation, and lots of enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see their teamwork shine through from the very start!

In their fixture against Meadowhead, the team continued to build on their success. Their previous match experience paid off, and their batting and fielding were outstanding, securing a well-deserved 17 – 5½ victory. The girls' communication and strategic play were a real highlight.

Later in the week, the team took on Girls' High in what proved to be their most challenging game yet. Despite facing tough opposition, the girls played with grit and spirit. Their performance showed real growth, with excellent teamwork and determination in every innings. It's clear they are developing with each game – well done, girls!



### Year 9 Rounders

Our Year 9 team had a thrilling match against Meadowhead that kept spectators on the edge of their seats! It was a close and energetic game, full of strong performances. Special shoutouts go to Lily for some incredible fielding and Shesho for her powerful batting. The girls fought hard and were rewarded with a narrow but well-earned win, finishing the match 9½ – 8½.



## PE ACHIEVEMENTS - SOUTH YORKSHIRE SELECTION SUCCESS

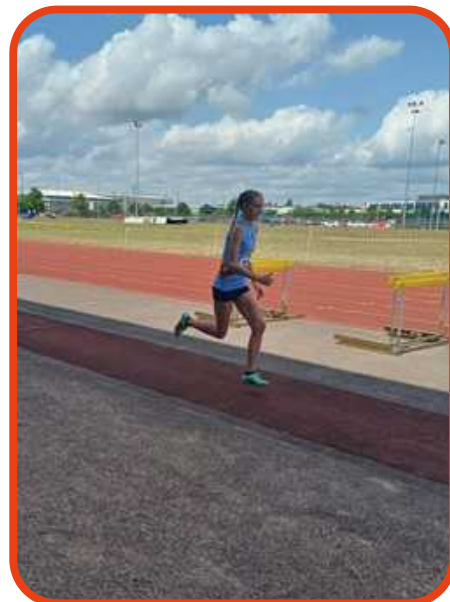
*Mrs. J. Murray, Second in Department, PE*

Several students were selected to represent Sheffield in the South Yorkshire Schools Athletics Competition, where they competed against the very best athletes from across South Yorkshire, including teams from Rotherham, Barnsley, and Doncaster. Finishing in the top four across the whole region is a truly remarkable achievement and highlights the exceptional talent and dedication of these athletes.

Among the standout performances were Casey Musgrave winning gold in the 200m, Charlotte Jackson and Freya Hill both securing silver in the High Jump and 800m respectively, Sophie Hindle and Jaden Bernard earning bronze in the 800m and High Jump and Ellie Murray achieving 4th place in both the Long Jump and Ball Throw.

Casey Musgrave has also been selected for the South Yorkshire team and will go on to compete in the 200m at the English Schools Final.

## SPORT



## Athletics Sheffield Schools Selection Meeting

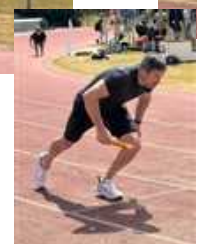
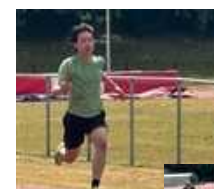
These students were selected to represent Sheffield in the South Yorkshire track and field athletics competition on 14<sup>th</sup> June. They competed against the best athletes from Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster.

Sofia (Y9) Shot Put and Discus, Ellie (Y7) Shot Put and Long Jump, Jasmin (Y7) Shot Put, Charlotte (Y8) High Jump. Freya and Sophie (Y9) 800m and Charlie Y9 in the Shot Put.



## SPORTS DAY 2025

On Monday 7th July, students from Year 7 to Year 10, and Year 12, decamped to Sheffield Hallam University City Athletics Stadium on Woodbourn Road to participate in our annual Sports Day. Students were able to take part in various track and field events including relay, high jump, long jump, javelin, discuss, shot put, tug of war and football.



# Our Students

## SPORTS DAY 2025



# OUR SIXTH FORM

## FAREWELL TO OUR WONDERFUL YEAR 13 STUDENTS!

*Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form*



On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 we held a leavers' pizza picnic at our Upper School site on the final afternoon for Year 13 students.

The pizza van and ice cream van made for a memorable way to celebrate the end of an era for our students who had just finished their last ever lessons in School and were leaving Sixth Form.

After the final external A Level and BTEC exams, we held our Year 13 Leavers' Prom at the Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria Hotel on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June. 175 students filled the sumptuous ballroom with outfits to match. With a formal meal and a lively dance floor it was a lovely occasion to mark the end their Sixth Form experience. We wish them well with their plans for Post 18 progression.



# Our Sixth Form

## STUDY VISIT TO BERLIN, MARCH 2025

*Mrs R Williams and Ms E Lamb, Modern Foreign Languages*

In March 2025 we accompanied fourteen students studying Art and German to Berlin for 6 days. The students were all very excited and fully engaged with the activities organised for them. We visited the 'Fernsehturm' (tv tower) on the first day which is a well known landmark and speedily arrived at the viewing area with panoramic views of east and west Berlin. We also took part in a VR session where we learnt what it was like to live in Berlin in the time of the wall dividing East and West.



We visited the Reichstag in the afternoon and students took part in an exploration game to find answers to clues in questions (they had to translate the German first!).

On the second day we visited a memorial to the persecution of the Jews and also an exhibition about this. In the afternoon we viewed a range of artworks including Gerhard Richter at the neue nationalgalerie.



Wednesday saw us splitting off into our subject groups in the morning to see the DDR museum (German students) and Urban nation art gallery (Art students) and in the afternoon we reunited to visit the Bunker museum and walk along the East side gallery (remaining parts of Berlin wall commissioned art by various artists).

***Continued on page 3***

# Our Sixth Form

## STUDY VISIT TO BERLIN, MARCH 2025, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 35*

Thursday included a street art tour by a local street artist and tour guide who educated us about the different types of art and the social history of the local areas. We had some free time to look around the area and in the afternoon we visited the museum for architectural drawing which was a very impressive building in its own right.

On the last day students were given the opportunity to bring out their creative side by creating their own piece of graffiti street art. We learnt some more about graffiti artists and how they go about their work. In the afternoon students had free time to explore, buy gifts and see any last sights they wanted to. Students navigated the city independently using public transport and some even learnt a bit of German!



We ate a selection of delicious foods during our joint evening meals every evening where we shared our highlights of the day. Overall there was a great balance of activities for both groups of students. Special thanks go to Ms Lamb for another meticulously organised trip.



*Continued on page 37*

## STUDY VISIT TO BERLIN, MARCH 2025, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 36*

### What the students said:

"The galleries we went to visit were all so inspiring and there was a great mix of fun and entertaining but also educational activities throughout the trip." Cambria (Art)

"The best bits were seeing the Blue Man Group and the street art workshop." Elly (Art)

"Ich würde die Blue Man Group gerne wiedersehen, Frau Lamb hat einen tollen Vorschlag gemacht." Diana (German)

"I enjoyed walking through the streets of Berlin and seeing all the variety of street art that would not have been done in Sheffield. It was very helpful to get inspiration for multiple different art subjects." Bethany (Art)

"Berlin allowed me to explore and analyse all art in a sense that's not offered day-to-day." Camron (Graphics, Photography)

"Ich habe die Reise und die Aktivitäten sehr geliebt." Sam (German)

"Berlin was very educational and helpful for my art projects and inspiration for the future!" Mai (Art)

"Meine Lieblingsveranstaltung war die Kunstgalerie, weil der Reiseleiter total packend war!" Dexter (German)

"Wir haben viel gelernt und erfahren: äußerst tolle Kunst und wichtige Geschichte wurden alle in die Reise integriert. Das Essen und die Blaue Mann Gruppe waren auch wirklich wunderbar!" Justin (German)

"Ich wollte mich ganz herzlich bei allen Lehrern bedanken, die uns auf dieser Reise unterstützt haben. Ich persönlich hatte eine tolle Zeit. Vielen Dank für dieses gemeinsame Erlebnis." Erik (German)



## Y12 STUDY VISIT TO PARIS, JULY 2025

*Collaborative article by Ellie, Flo, Matilda, Olivia, Xavier & Ethan*

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Gabbani and six delightful Year 12 French students met at Sheffield train station to begin our adventure to Paris...



After a full day of travelling by train, we arrived at the Gare du Nord station in 39 degrees of heat!! We briefly checked into the hotel, then went to the Latin quarter for dinner (a 3 course menu) and afterwards strolled along the Seine to the newly restored Notre Dame cathedral.

Day two, we started off the day in the Madeleine (built as a Temple to Napoleon's Armies but later reverting to its original plan as a church) before trying some macarons, La Durée of course! We walked on to the Galleries Lafayette, admired the beautiful ceiling then took in the panoramic views of Paris from the roof before getting the metro to Porte Dorée! We had a yummy French lunch from a boulangerie and visited the Immigration Museum. This tied into our Year 13 themes of study and luckily there was a temporary exhibition on the 'Banlieues' linking nicely into our study of the film La Haine. At the end of a long and extremely hot day, we went back to the Latin quarter for dinner and tried Cous Cous followed by crêpes whilst we watched Ethan's attempts at card tricks.

On the third day, we saw the Place de la Concorde before going to the Orangerie Museum in the Tuileries Gardens, where Monet's Water Lilies are housed and other Impressionist paintings. After that, we split up for our free time in the afternoon, where people went to the Musée d'Orsay, the Rue de Rivoli for shopping, to see the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre, amongst other things. In the evening, we went to a bouillon restaurant called Chartier famous for its traditional French cuisine. We tried a variety of dishes including 'escargots' 'confit de canard', 'céléri remoulade' and 'isles flottantes'. We followed this with a scenic boat ride along the Seine in the late evening, seeing the sites of Paris, from the Notre-Dame to the Louvre as the sun was setting and ending with seeing the Eiffel Tower lit up and sparkling!



*Continued on page 38*

# Our Sixth Form

## Y12 STUDY VISIT TO PARIS, JULY 2025, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 38*

### HIGHLIGHTS:

“Monet’s huge “water lillies” paintings which wrapped around two whole rooms and took 30 years to complete, it was beautiful as well as all the other great painting and photos in the Orangerie museum.”

“Learning all bout Paul Guillaume.”

“The efficiency of the metro!”

“The funicular that is used to go up and down the steps of Montmartre, this was pretty cool.”

“The “Bateau Mouche” boat ride along the seine let us see Paris at evening, dusk, and dark. During this boat trip the Eiffel tower began to glow and was very picturesque, the exact Eiffel tower you expect to see.”

“Chocolate recreations of Notre-dame and Arc de Triomphe and a creepy chocolate gremlin that was hidden from the rest of the shop.”

“The food was delicious crepes and other stupendous confectioneries, also duck and beef and chicken and snails and pork and fish, not a vegetarians dream!”

“Getting rejected from high end restaurants and eventually ordering a meat and cheese board.”

“Going into shops walking along the seine and looking at the stalls along it.”

“Going to the Louvre and taking photos, then going to the Eiffel tower.”



# Our Sixth Form

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SHEFFIELD WORKING WITH KES SIXTH FORM GIRLS

*Contribution from Daphne Cawthorne, Soroptimist International Sheffield*

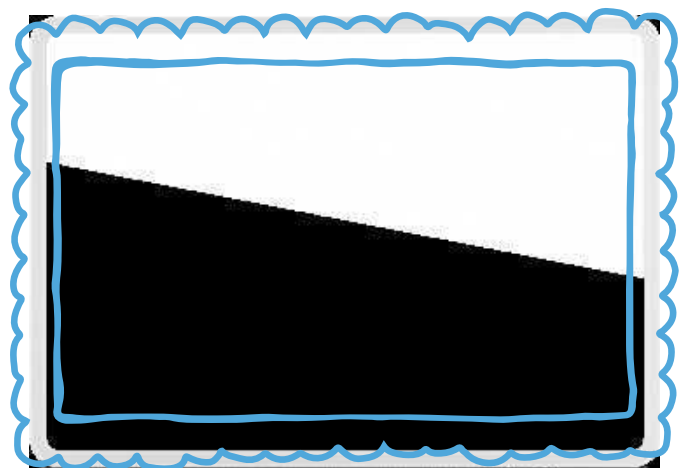


*Thank you for helping us to be able to give a cheque to Mums In Need of £1646.*

For the past few years, groups of Sixth Form students at King Edward VII School in Sheffield have worked with members of the women's organisation Soroptimist International of Sheffield organising and managing fund raising events for Mums In Need and the food bank at Winn Gardens. The girls also help to develop members of the club's social media sites.

The Soroptimists are an international women's organisation with a focus on transforming the lives of women and girls, locally, nationally and globally, through education, empowerment and enabling initiatives. Soroptimists make a difference to the lives of more than half a million women and girls in the world every year.

The project involved raising money for 'Mums In Need' (MIN), a Sheffield charity, which helps mums who have left emotionally abusive relationships with the parent of their child/children, and are looking for support to rebuild their lives. The women and children are given access to a caseworker who helps with wellbeing sessions, support groups, counselling and legal support. Money was also sent to the Food Bank at Winn Gardens and enabled the group to buy more fresh fruit and vegetables. KES girls can be proud of helping to raise £1,646 for MIN and £500 for Winn Gardens.



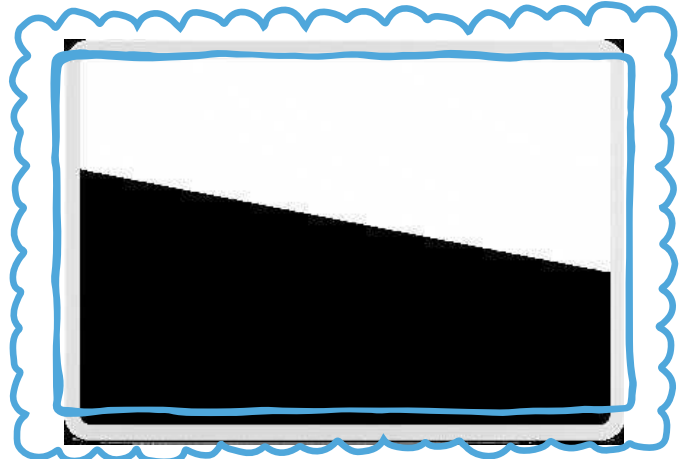
*December Bun Sale raised £389.80*

*Continued on page 41*

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SHEFFIELD WORKING WITH KES SIXTH FORM GIRLS, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 40*

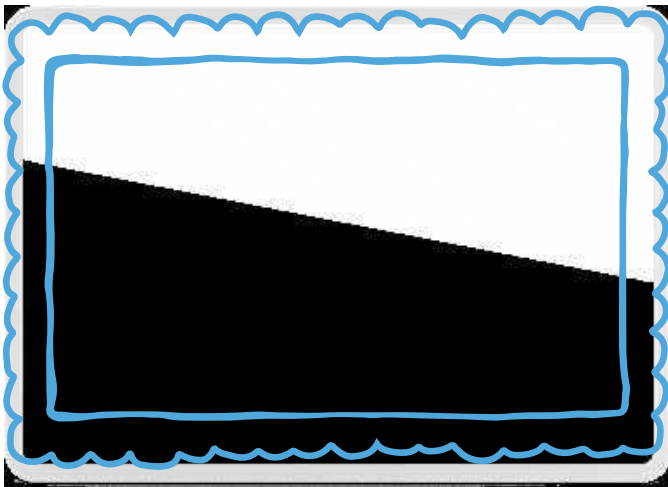
This year in addition to the fundraising events, girls were involved in distributing hundreds of books to children who do not have any. Two girls helped at the International Day launch of the Fresh Thoughts booklet. This event was supported by the South Yorkshire Mayor, Oliver Coppard and Sheffield Central MP, Abtisam Mohamed.



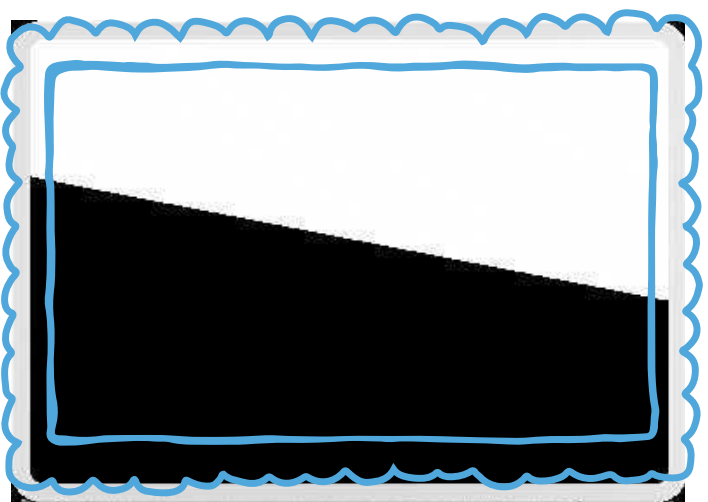
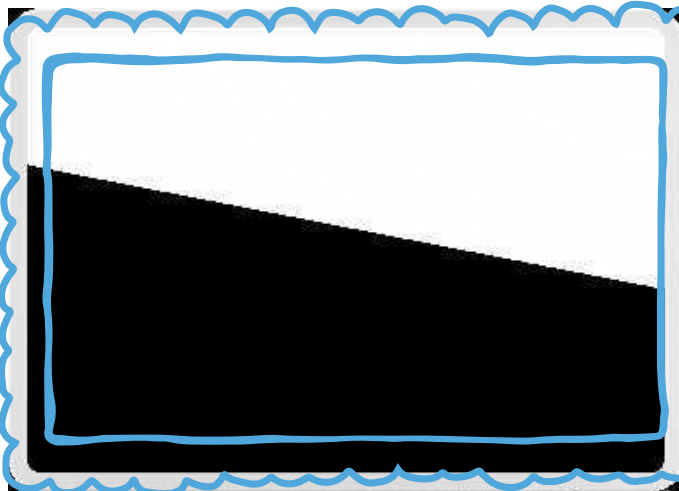
*Diana and Maisie helping at the Launch of the Booklet.*

Thank you to all the girls involved. They will receive their certificates of participation during an assembly next term.

Thanks too to the Head and staff for enabling them to take part.



*Spring Fayre at the Broomhall Centre and additional sale in school raised £441.42*



Soroptimist International of Sheffield works at local, national and international levels to educate, empower and enable women and girls.: <https://sigbi.org/sheffield>



# Our Sixth Form

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH (DOFE) GOLD

Our DofE Gold students have trained hard and prepared well over the last few months. They finally set off on their journey to Scotland on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

Here they are enjoying the warm weather and beautiful views at their starting points before setting off on their expeditions.



# OUR STAFF

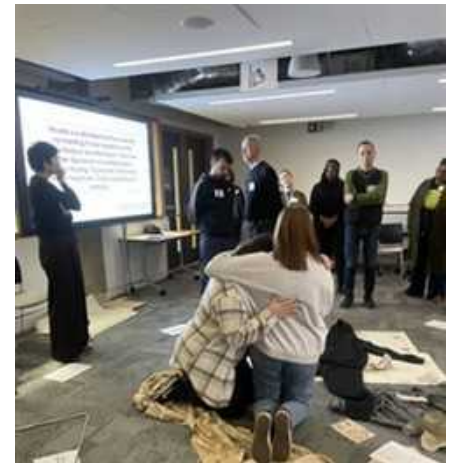
## CURRICULUM LEADER FOR DRAMA - MS. OATES

Ms Oates is currently Chair of her Professional Association (National Association for the Teaching of Drama). She has had a busy but inspiring year as the Chair and has used her work with our students at KES as the basis of her work for the association.

This academic year, in her capacity as Chair, she planned and led an International Conference in November at the Institute of Education, UCL, London. As part of this conference, she ran a workshop on GCSE Drama; chaired the online event that sat alongside the conference; made the opening address to the face-to-face to frame the work of participants and chaired the plenary at the end of Conference. She then went on to lead the planning committee for NATD's next conference which was in June, where she delivered a workshop on using Teacher in Role at A Level.

In October she had an article published in the Journal for Drama in Education about workshops that she has been delivering this year nationally for Student teachers and teachers exploring the ways in which our Drama department's practice first pedagogy can be used to teach set texts at GCSE. Ms Oates was delighted with the feedback she received that fully recognised the value of the way in which we work with our students at KES.

In her capacity both as an experienced Drama teacher and as the Chair of NATD, she has been invited to be a panel member for a roundtable discussion on the future of Drama in Higher Education, at the HE Futures Conference in June held at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.



*Ms Oates' workshop for delegates at the NATD conference in October 2024.*



*Ms Oates' workshop for teacher-Mentors and student teachers at the Institute of Education, UCL.*

## LONDON MARATHON RUNNER, MOLLY

*Miss M Wragg, Post 16 Pastoral Manager (Year 13)*

On Sunday 27th April 2025, I proudly took part in the 45th London Marathon – an unforgettable experience that combined personal achievement with community support. I chose to run in aid of a brilliant local charity, Sheffield Young Carers, which supports young carers and young people impacted by drug or alcohol issues within their families across Sheffield. A charity that has recently had cuts in funding, having an impact on the grants we've helped distribute to young carers in KES.

My original fundraising goal was £500, but thanks to the incredible generosity of friends, family, colleagues, and the wider community, we raised an amazing £800. I am so grateful to everyone who donated – your support made all the early mornings, late nights, and long winter training sessions absolutely worth it.

Despite soaring temperatures reaching the mid 20°Cs, I completed the 26.2-mile course in 4 hours, 23 minutes and 34 seconds. I couldn't have been happier, it was an unforgettable day, made even more special by the cheering crowds along every mile.

This year's London Marathon was record-breaking in many ways, with over 56,000 participants crossing the finish line and a total of £73.5 million raised for charities – the highest amount in the event's history and I'm incredibly grateful to have been a part of that.

Later this year, on Sunday 7th September, I'll be taking part in the Great North Run, this time to raise funds for the Stroke Association. Thank you once again to everyone who has supported me so far — your donations and kind words have meant so much throughout the running journey.

If you'd like to find out more about why I'm running for Stroke Association and support my fundraising efforts, please visit: <https://ajbellgreatnorthrun2025.enthuse.com/pf/molly-wragg>



## WIPRO MENTORING CASE STUDY – ALISTAIR LOWE

My name is Alistair Lowe, and I'm a Computer Science teacher at King Edward VII School in Sheffield. As part of the Wipro Mentoring Programme, I've had the privilege of mentoring Megan Walker, the Computing Lead at Oughtibridge Primary School.



From the outset, Megan showed a strong commitment to developing computing provision across her school. Our mentoring partnership focused on deepening curriculum understanding, aligning with national standards, and enhancing subject leadership. Together, we identified two key areas for development: the need to embed national standards into teaching practice, and how to translate theoretical approaches into practical, meaningful learning in the classroom.

Our first meeting was a face-to-face visit to Oughtibridge, where we carried out lesson observations, held informal discussions with Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 students, and spoke to teachers about their experiences delivering the computing curriculum. These conversations uncovered important insights—such as some pupils perceiving computing as simply “using the computer suite”—and raised key questions like, “What is the purpose of this lesson, and why now?”

This evidence formed the basis of our collaborative action plan. We agreed on the need to improve the clarity of curriculum intent, strengthen lesson rationale, and incorporate real-life problems to make learning more meaningful. Megan and I continued our work over Zoom, focusing on creating a progression grid to justify the sequence and purpose of each computing unit. Megan led the creation of this resource, and we each contributed to it with the aim of further evaluating it in a follow-up meeting.

One of the most rewarding outcomes of our mentoring partnership was the impact it had on the school's wider development. In January 2025, an academy-led inspection was carried out as part of a computing review at Oughtibridge. This formal visit by senior leaders and trust representatives used a deep dive approach—observing lessons, interviewing staff and students, and reviewing curriculum intent and delivery.

The feedback from this review was overwhelmingly positive. Inspectors praised Megan's subject leadership, highlighting her clear vision, effective planning, and the cultural shift she had achieved within the school. The report recognised how well the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) Teach Computing scheme had been implemented, noted high pupil engagement, and commended the thoughtful sequencing, modelling, and vocabulary use observed in lessons.

This successful inspection validated the work we'd done together. It was a tangible demonstration of the progress made—not just in planning and delivery, but in building confidence, capacity, and leadership. For me, this mentoring journey has been deeply rewarding and a clear example of how collaboration and reflective practice can drive real improvement in computing education.

## MICHAEL LEWIS (FORMER HEADTEACHER OF KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL) BOOK LAUNCH

Michael Lewis will be launching his book, 'Flight from Prague - the Making of a Refugee' at King Edward VII School on Friday 19 September 2025 at 7.00pm.

Setting the context of his book, Michael Lewis has shared the following:

'Flight from Prague - the Making of a Refugee' is the story of how in 1939 my father fled Nazi persecution in his homeland of Czechoslovakia to seek sanctuary as a refugee in the United Kingdom.

In that same year King Edward VII School employed a refugee, Eva Paneth, to teach German.

Whilst the book focuses on one family's quest for safety, it also explores what it means to be forced to exchange a secure existence for a life of uncertainty, fear, loneliness and isolation.

Over the years KES has welcomed many refugee students from around the world and given them hope and a new start in their disrupted lives.

"I am grateful to KES for hosting the launch of my book. Whilst it deals with events over 80 years experience which will still resonate today.'

## FLIGHT FROM PRAGUE

### The Making of a Refugee - A True Story From WW2



Czechoslovakia, 1938. Jewish businessman, Harry Lewis, flees for his life as German soldiers stream across the border. Fear, uncertainty and danger stalk him as he weaves his way across Europe and through the heart of Nazi Germany. Penniless and alone, he finds sanctuary in the United Kingdom.

**LAUNCH EVENT**  
19:00  
Friday 19th September 2025  
King Edward VII School  
Glossop Road



For events and information,  
contact author Michael Lewis on  
[michael@flightfromprague.com](mailto:michael@flightfromprague.com)

Paperback, £13.99  
Out September 2025  
ISBN 9781914487552  
Also available as an ebook  
Pre-order: Scan QR code right



## What they say...

Michael Lewis captures perfectly the mix of terror, determination and sheer exhaustion that his Jewish father experienced as he fled for his life from his Czechoslovakian homeland, eventually crossing Nazi Germany to safety in Belfast shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War.

While it is the unique story of one refugee who loses everything, risks everything and starts again in a foreign country, it will surely help us understand better the plight of those who continue to make such perilous journeys in our own time, and perhaps deepen our compassion for them as well.

*The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings*

Harry's story is richly informative about historical events that should never be forgotten. At the same time, its human details engage our current predicament.

It narrates an individual as we hope they would be treated in law and policy – not labelled as 'refugee', 'asylum seeker' or 'migrant', but recognised as a person with dignity, needs and rights.

*John Birtwhistle*

# KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL

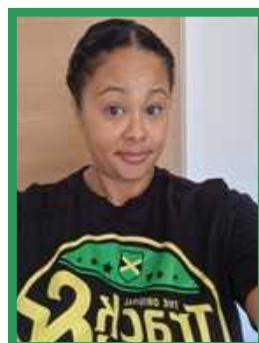
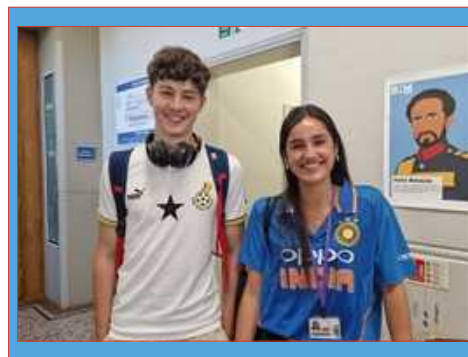
# OUR SCHOOL

## CULTURE DAY

*Ms. C. Benloss, KS4 Year Leader*

Our wonderful students and staff celebrating their cultural backgrounds for King Edward VII School's first Culture Day.

There was an amazing array of flags, clothing, food and enthusiasm in celebrating our identities and what makes us special. Thank you to everyone who donated, the School Council also raised £165 for Mums In Need.



*Continued on page 47*

# Our School

## CULTURE DAY - FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 47*

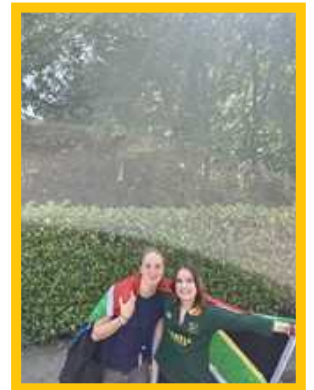


# Our School

## CULTURE DAY - FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY, CONTINUED

*Continued from page 47*

At Lower School, students took part in assemblies for Culture Day. There were so many students up on stage talking about the amazing parts of their culture, as well as performances and a fashion show. What a fabulous day!



## BIKEABILITY

*Ms. C. Perry, Curriculum Leader for PSHE*

In May this year sixty-five students completed Bikeability training to build their cycling confidence and skills. Many of the students didn't have access to their own bikes. I thought there may be some staff members with bikes they were no longer using so I asked for any support they could give. I also spoke to a bike repair shop 'Put me back on my bike' on Abbeydale Rd. In total we've gathered, cleaned up and redistributed eleven bikes with more in the pipeline. The students who have received them have been delighted and many are using them to get to school which is great for their health and that of the planet! It's been lovely to see them go off with huge smiles and increased independence.

We plan on doing some bike maintenance training with students and are building a bank of tools to use.

Big thank you to all the staff who've donated bikes so far!

Please get in touch if you have a bike you can donate, even if it needs a bit of fixing up! Contact:  
[cperry@kes.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:cperry@kes.sheffield.sch.uk),



## CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

The King Edward VII School community has been learning about the importance of VE Day to the people of Sheffield in 1945, and its resonance eighty years on, in History lessons, assemblies and tutorials throughout the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> May.

The image shown here has been used in Key Stage 3 lessons and assemblies.



## KES GOVERNOR PUBLISHES INSPIRING BOOK CELEBRATING WOMEN'S ENDURANCE SPORT

Congratulations to School governor Emma Wilkinson on the publication of her new inspiring book celebrating the incredible achievements of women in ultra-endurance sport.

Co-authored with fellow freelance journalist Lily Canter, *Ultra Women: The Trailblazers Defying Sexism in Sport* highlights stories of female determination, strength, and resilience across running, cycling, swimming, adventure racing and more.



The pair spent two years researching and writing the book which uncovers how women are winning races outright, breaking records and setting fastest known times in ultra endurance challenges.

It includes Jasmin Paris who won the 268-mile Winter Montane Spine Race from Edale in the Peak District to Kirk Yetholm in Scotland in 2019, while expressing breast milk at aid stations along the way. She was hours ahead of her nearest male competitor. Later that year another British athlete Sabrina Verjee won the summer version covering the same route. Just last month women placed first and second overall at the 2025 race.

Yet this is not a phenomenon confined to running or even to recent years, they have been beating the odds throughout history, Emma explains. We can go back centuries to find stories of women excelling at endurance, she says.

“Lily and I have both done ultra running events and we were fascinated by how women seemed particularly well-suited to longer distances. Through the book we also look at the physiological and psychological factors that might explain it,” she explains.

“But we also found many barriers that prevent women even getting on the start line of ultra events and a lack of sports science research to support them in meeting their full potential when they do,” Emma adds.

Through the book, she hopes to empower women – and girls – to understand they may be capable of far more than they realise.

*Continued on page 50*

## KES GOVERNOR PUBLISHES INSPIRING BOOK CELEBRATING WOMEN'S ENDURANCE SPORT

*Continued from page 51*

Emma, who works as a specialist health journalist, and has a daughter in Year 9, has donated a signed copy of *Ultra Women* to the School library and notes it would be an excellent topic to study during GSCE PE.

"We spoke at the Sheffield Adventure Film Festival just before the book came out in May. There were some girls from KES there who asked some very insightful questions. They were so keen to learn more and that's when I decided the school library should have a copy."

You can find *Ultra Women* in all the usual places but local bookshops including Novel in Crookes and Rhyme and Reason at Hunter's Bar have stock if you want to support local independent stores, Emma adds.



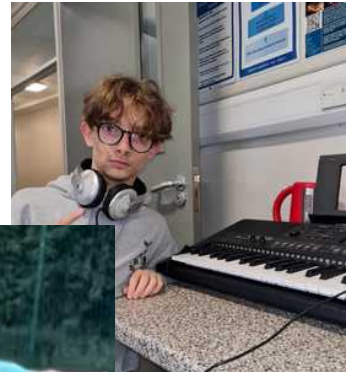
# OLD AND YOUNG EDWARDIANS

## ISAAC NOCKELS

On Saturday, 22 March, a large group of family, teachers, friends, and members of the local community gathered to celebrate the life of Isaac Nockels. A Japanese Blossom Tree was planted by Isaac's family, and guests were invited to help fill in the hole as a symbolic act of remembrance.

Isaac was a very talented sportsman and musician, as well as a kind and generous person. The memorial tree now stands as a lasting tribute, allowing the school to remember Isaac as one of our valued Old Edwardians.

In July of this year, our current Year 9 students were shown the tree as part of their induction day to Upper School. They were told about the fantastic student that Isaac was and the legacy he has left behind.



## John Calvert Cornwell

In memory of John Cornwell (see his obituary in the December 2024 School newsletter), the Lower School Sports Hall has been renamed the John Cornwell Sports Hall.

I shared the following information with all staff after the event on Wednesday 11 June 2025:

### **Unveiling ceremony of the John Cornwell Sports Hall**

The unveiling ceremony was a truly wonderful, special and significant event for King Edward VII School and to continue the legacy of John Cornwell. It was so lovely to welcome John's family, friends and distinguished guests, including two former Headteachers of the School, Michael Lewis and Bev Jackson.

I received numerous messages from various people who would have attended if possible and I shared these with our guests, including a message from Lord Blunkett, stating, 'I would have loved to have been there to celebrate the life of my old friend, but shall be landing in the US for my son's graduation.' He was really sorry he could not attend.

I shared information about John's role in the School, including being the Chair of the Governing Board from 1994 – 2002, and information about the many books he produced about the School. With reference to *Hear Their Footsteps: King Edward VII School, Sheffield, and the Old Edwardians in the Great War 1914 – 1918*, I informed our guests that forty-one Year 9 students and staff were currently on a Battlefields Trip to Belgium and France and shared how John Cornwell's book was being used by Sarah Davis, Curriculum Leader of History and Politics, to tell the stories of ex-students who lost their lives in this war. I shared some photographs that Sarah had sent to me earlier during the day. See attached.

I also informed our guests that I introduced an annual prize as part of Ex-Year 13 Presentation Evening each year to continue John Cornwell's legacy: The Sheffield Royal Grammar School and John Cornwell prize for History. It was first awarded to Leo Silvester in December 2024 by Simon Cooke (AHT Post 16).

Michael Lewis explained in detail how John Cornwell secured the Lower School Sports Hall as part of the PFI contract almost twenty-five years ago and shared the following:

- At the end of the 1980s the School was spread over a number of dilapidated sites.
- Upper School was in danger of being handed to the National Trust to offset death duties!
- No PE facilities at Upper School. The LA rented gym space from the YMCA at Broomhall.
- 1995: a new building (now called the Michael Lewis Building) was constructed.
- New Lower School building was constructed but the original plans did not include any sports facilities.
- At every PFI meeting with the LA and the School 'there would be an intervention from John, patient, courteous but firm. King Edward VII School required a sports hall which would be of great benefit not only to the 720 students at the new school but also to the senior students at Glossop Road and the wider community.'

## John Calvert Cornwell

*Continued from page 54*

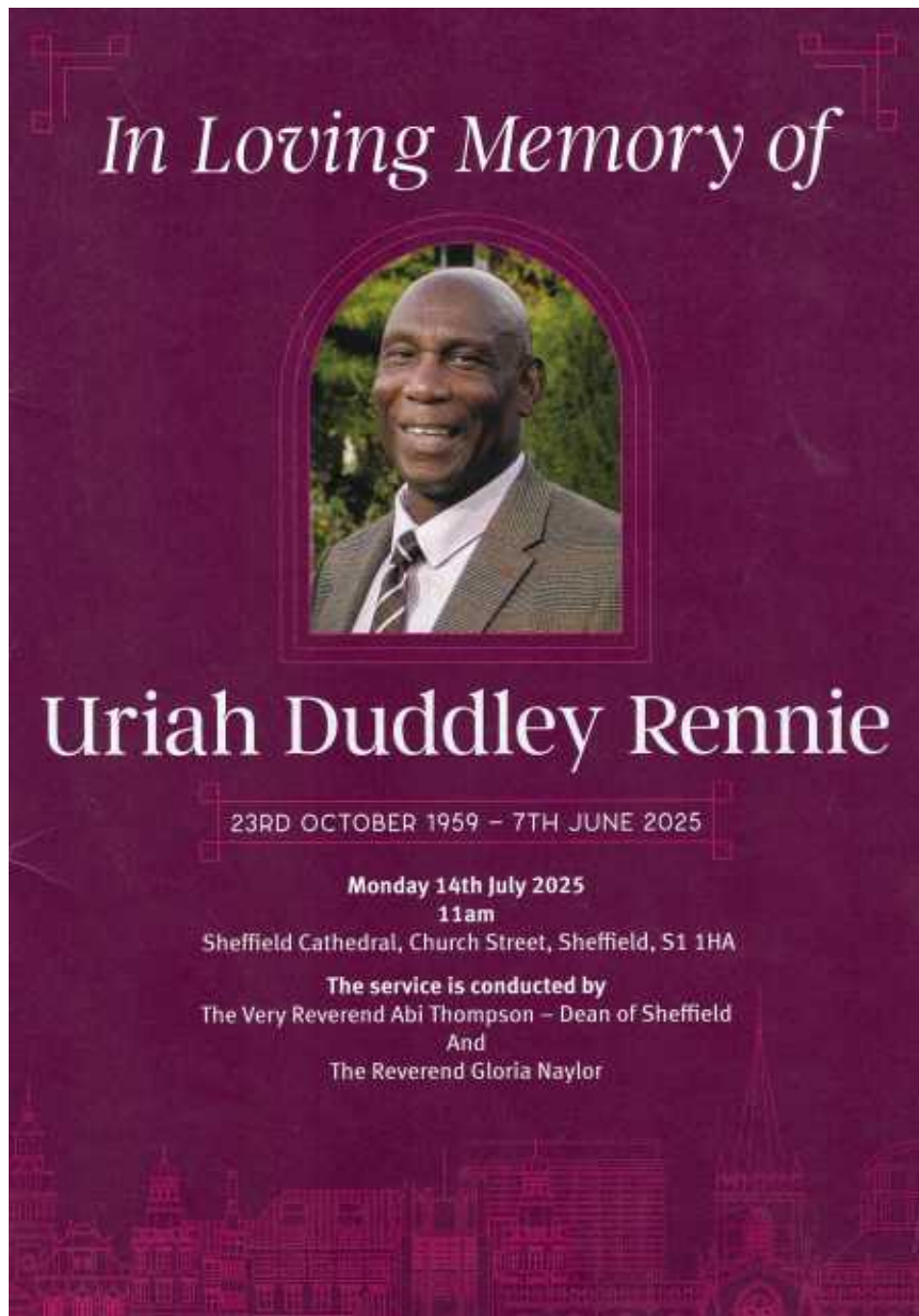
- The new School opened in September 2001... with superb sports facilities! 'Thousands of young people and members of community organisations have derived benefit and pleasure from the sports hall.'
- 'It is a tribute to the vision, determination and persuasive abilities of John Cornwell that the hall, which henceforth will bear his name, will continue to serve future generations.'

There are two plaques on the John Cornwell Sports Hall – one on the outside of the building at the entrance to the sports hall and one inside, at the entrance to the main hall.



# OBITUARIES

**Uriah Duddley Rennie**  
**23 October 1959 - 7 June 2025**



## John Calvert Cornwell

### *Continued from page 56*

Uriah Rennie was born in Jamaica and moved to Sheffield when he was very young. He lived with his family in the Arbourthorne area.

He was an exceptional football referee and began officiating in local leagues in 1979, progressing to the Northern Premier League. He was appointed to the Football League in 1994 and became the first Black referee in the Premier League in 1997. He officiated over three hundred professional matches from 1997 to 2008.

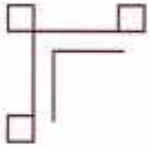


His distinguished and successful life and career included being a Magistrate in Sheffield from 1996, completing a Master's Degree in Business Administration and Law, receiving an Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University for his work in the community, being the President of Hallam Football Club and supporting a number of charities and organisations in Sheffield. Prior to his passing he was installed as the Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University.

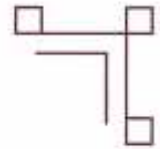
Uriah Rennie had a long connection with King Edward VII School and I was asked to contribute to the tributes in his service booklet.

Linda Gooden  
Headteacher

Continued from page 57



## Tributes



### Linda Gooden, Headteacher, King Edward VII School

#### Celebration of Uriah D Rennie

It is an absolute honour to have the opportunity to write a few words about Uri, as I always called him, in celebration of his remarkable life, influence and legacy.

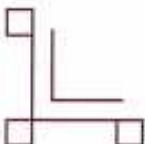
I have known Uri for decades, as a successful, fellow professional and a very good friend. He believed in aspiring to excellence in all that he did and was always determined to challenge the barriers that prevented individuals or communities from progressing. Equity and social justice ran through his veins and he was quite prepared to ask questions, in a calm and influential way, of organisations that failed to change in an effort to maintain the status quo. Whether we met at the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield, Weston Park Hospital in his latter days or elsewhere, we always had much to discuss and he continued to plan ahead for his future.

In the words of Booker T Washington, 'Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.' Uri certainly overcame many obstacles and inspired others to do the same with his encouragement, support and vision.

As the very proud Headteacher of King Edward VII School, Sheffield, Uri had a long connection with my School. We believed in networking! Last summer he supported our KES Festival 2024 and donated many swimming vouchers as raffle prizes! We had many meetings in my office to discuss and plan how we could continue to work together in the best interests of young people. He had super relationships with former governors and staff who were particularly keen on access to the arts and sports. Their conversations opened up many opportunities for our students and young people across the city. On 1 May 2012, Uri opened the new sports centre on the Upper School site, Glossop Road, after the extensive Building Schools for the Future work had been completed. His legacy will be forever present at the School.



Uri Rennie, Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University, iconic sportsman, magistrate, community and civic leader. I have lost a dear friend but his legacy will live on.



## John Stuart Richardson



We are sad to have received the news of the death of John Stuart Richardson on 17 July 2025.

Much loved husband to late wife Karen and loving dad.

The funeral took place at Hutcliffe Wood Crematorium, Sheffield on Thursday 7 August 2025 at 12.30.

Family flowers only at the service. Donations can be made payable to St Luke's Hospice and sent to Wood Funeral Service.

John started King Edward VII School, the family believe, in 1961. He often attended the annual dinner and was a stalwart of Old Edwardian's cricket in the 1970s.



**Check out the Old Edwardians' new website:  
[www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com](http://www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com)**

**John Calvert Cornwell**

**Old Edwardians Association  
John Parr 1968-75  
President  
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**Pete Kersh 1967-73  
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