

9<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear all

Apologies for the late scheduling of this week's newsletter - last week ended on a busy note, and this week has started off even busier.

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### Celebrating International Women's Day

This Saturday marked **International Women's Day**, and I'd like to take this opportunity to celebrate the incredible women I am privileged to work with every day at KSA.

We are fortunate to have fantastic female leaders and colleagues whose contributions make a huge impact. And while there may be fewer female students at KSA, they certainly make their presence felt - we absolutely celebrate their fierceness, determination, and ambition.

And, of course, a special mention to all the Mums and female carers in our community—we know how tough and important your role is, and we appreciate everything you do.

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### Performing Arts Shines at Move It

As our Performing Arts programme continues to flourish, we were thrilled that **KSA was represented for the first time at the prestigious Move It event in London on Friday.**

Our students **took the stage by storm**, showcasing their **talent, dedication, and passion** and further cementing KSA's identity as a school that celebrates creativity and the arts. By the end of the day, our students were more motivated than ever for the year ahead as they prepare to be our very first Year 10 Dance Cohort.

### Standout Moments:

- **Year 9 student Ethan Mwedzi** took on the **freestyle stage** after a little encouragement and absolutely **smashed it**. He **WON** his stage and made it through to the **finals**.
- **Ethan was also scouted by Britain's Got Talent**. A representative from the show has requested further contact, opening an exciting opportunity for him.
- **Mariia Filonenko, our Latin World Champion**, also delivered a **stunning performance**, proudly representing KSA.

A huge well done to everyone involved and a particular thank you to Miss Heath and Mrs McNaughton-Brown for making this possible. They are already looking forward to doing it all again next year!

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### **KSA Awarded Grant for Gardening Project**


Our success in being awarded a **£1,000 grant** last year has now been published on the **Kettering Town Council website**.

This project has taught students how to **grow their own vegetables**, promoting **sustainability and life skills**, particularly for our students with **special educational needs**.

**Thanks to this funding, our pupils have been able to:**

- ✓ **Grow cress, beans, and tomatoes**
- ✓ **Create bug hotels** to support local wildlife
- ✓ **Develop gardening skills** that will continue into the summer months

We are incredibly grateful to **Kettering Town Council** for their generous support, which has enabled our students to engage in hands-on learning, develop valuable skills, and take pride in their environment.

 Miss Shackleton thanked the council saying: *"Your contribution has not only enriched our curriculum but also fostered a sense of community and environmental stewardship among our students as local, national, and international citizens. Thank you for making this possible."*


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### **BWT Inclusion Conference Next Week**

Next week marks the **Brooke Weston Trust Inclusion Conference**, and we are delighted that **KSA will once again play a leading role**.

- I will be hosting the day and delivering the closing address.
- Mr. Dudson (Inclusion Lead), Mr. Mbelesi (Head of Geography), and Martha Winterflood (School Counsellor) will be leading workshops, sharing the work we do at KSA to support inclusion.

However, we are **not complacent** in this area and we know there is still much more to do.

 **This week, we are working to pull together a clear Inclusion Offer** so that all staff and families can see the **full range of resources and provision available**. We look forward to sharing this with you soon so that every family is aware of the support available.

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## Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams

Our **Year 11 and Year 13** students continue to impress us with their **dedication** during mock exams. Their **attitude and commitment** have been outstanding.

✓ **We know this can be a stressful time**, so please encourage students to:


- **Take regular breaks**
- **Look after their well-being**
- **Ask for support when needed**


✎ As always, if you would like any further support or information, please do not hesitate to **reach out to your child's form tutor or year team**.


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## World Book Day at KSA


We are always looking for ways to make **reading fun and accessible** for all students. This week, we celebrated **World Book Day** with several exciting initiatives:


 **Book Swap** – Students donated and traded books.


 **Scavenger Hunt** – Pupils searched for hidden book covers around the school and won book-related prizes.

 **'Read Your Way' Theme** – We promoted **audiobooks, eBooks, and reading across different formats** with colourful displays throughout the school.

At KSA, we celebrate and encourage a **love of reading all year round** through:

 **Book Buzz** – Every Year 7 student receives a book to explore new genres.

 **Reading Ambassadors** – Students promote book recommendations and literacy events.

 **KSA Reads** – Weekly exposure to short articles and recent news stories to develop reading skills.

A special mention goes to Ms Galer, our fabulous librarian, for all her hard work and passion in this area.

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With another busy week ahead, I look forward to updating you all again soon. As ever, if you need us, you know where we are.

Mrs. Giovanelli