



# KPS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2023

ISSUE 4



*Coronation Walk in Hyde Park*

It has been another jam-packed term, with our Creative Arts evening, Sports Day, the Year 11 and Sixth Form Proms, an exchange programme with Taiwan, and a trip to Italy!

Everywhere you turned, KPS was on the move, whether it was our joyous afternoon walk in Hyde Park to celebrate the Coronation, or Sports Day, which brought out the competitive spirit in all of us. Our arts department put on two wonderful displays of GCSE and A level artwork, with painting, sculpture, textiles, and musical accompaniment. During Life Day, we celebrated the diversity of our school community, including a talent show that was full of surprises.

The world became smaller for KPS as students travelled to Italy to explore the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum. The Sixth Form, in turn, played host to a group of 16 students from Taiwan for a week of cultural exchange. Despite the stress of exams, the enthusiasm, community spiritedness, and energy of our students remained as strong as ever this term!

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Sixth Form Arts Evening

## Painting Their Futures

### Lower School Arts Evening

One of the highlights of the Lower School calendar this term was our Creative Arts Showcase, an event that brought the community together to enjoy an evening of music, drama, and inspiring GCSE artwork.




Visitors had the opportunity to explore the artwork on display, while enjoying refreshments and live music performed by our students. Guests were also treated to a series of promenade-style performances as aspiring actors across Years 7 to 10 turned the theatre into an immersive experience for all.



### Sixth Form Arts Evening

The Sixth Form enjoyed a sophisticated evening of wine and cheese as they showcased the artwork of Year 12 and 13 students. From dioramas and colourful sculptures, to decorative costume design, there was an impressive variety of work for parents and friends of the Kensington Park School community to enjoy. The talent, technical skill, and creativity of our students was plain to see, and we have no doubt it will be rewarded on Results Day in August!





Sixth Form Prom at Hux Brasserie

## Life of the Party



### A Night to Remember

Our much-anticipated Lower School Prom took place in the theatre, providing an unforgettable evening for our Year 11 students as they celebrated the end of their GCSE exams.

Adorned with colourful decorations arranged by our wonderful Facilities Manager and teacher-volunteers, the space underwent a breathtaking transformation, featuring a Photo Booth, live DJ corner, and a 180-degree buffet stocked with Five Guys, Dominos, and plentiful refreshments.

Our students revelled in the party atmosphere as they danced the night away. With the balloons popped and the glitter now settled, we wish all our students a well-deserved rest over the summer, and look forward to welcoming them to the Sixth Form in September!

### One Last Dance for Year 13

Our Sixth Form students had a night to remember at the elegant Hux Brasserie in South Kensington for their end-of-year Prom!

Dressed to impress, students enjoyed a three-course meal, followed by music and dancing, with a photo booth to capture their happy memories. There was a bittersweet atmosphere in the room as students marked both the end of their exams, and their time at KPS, with tears as well as laughter!

We would like to congratulate our outgoing Year 13 students on their hard work in their exams.

We wish them the very best of luck as they embark on their future journeys!





## A School for All



We rounded up the Summer Term with a series of events exploring the themes of equality and inclusion, and celebrating the wonderful diversity of our school community.

### Dress Down Day

On the final full Friday of term, the school charity, KPS CAN, organised a Dress Down Day. Students were invited to dress in clothing that celebrated their cultural heritage. At break time, students raised money with a delicious Bake Sale featuring delectables from around the globe.

### A Range of Thoughts and Experiences

During Sixth Form assembly, students delivered presentations on the themes of ethnic and cultural diversity. Topics included how students can better understand the experiences of LGBTQ+ classmates, and the importance of reading widely from a range of diverse authors.



### Life Day

Lower School students kicked off Life Day with a talent show celebrating the varied abilities and interests of the student body. Students showcased their skills in fields such as singing, kickboxing and even geography, with Imtiaz in Year 9 impressively recalling the capitals of many countries! Students then worked in groups to 'create' their own countries, including the country name, flag, motto, government structure, culture, and geography. Each group created a visual presentation to showcase their new country to their classmates.

After their presentations, students joined support dog, Reggie, for a sunny afternoon walk in the park!



*Portrait of Vesuvius by Anton, Year 10*

## Pizza, Pompeii, and Pyroclastic Flow



During the Easter Break, KPS enjoyed an Italian adventure with a trip to the Bay of Naples, organised by the classics department. Over the course of five memorable days, students and staff immersed themselves in the splendour of Italy's ancient sites, while indulging in exquisite culinary delights.

On their first day, students visited the Vesuvius volcano, where they learnt about its history and cultural significance in the Ancient world. They then took a coach to Villa Poppea, also known as Villa Oplontis, located in Torre Annunziata. This distinguished Roman villa, believed to have belonged to Emperor Nero's second wife, was buried and preserved in the eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD, and remains one of the most significant Vesuvian archaeological sites. A guided tour gave students privileged access to the villa's resplendent frescoes and mosaics.



During their trip to Pompeii, students also visited the much-anticipated House of the Vettii, which only opened to tourists in January 2023 following two decades of restoration. One of the richest and most famous houses in ancient Pompeii, students were given a rare glimpse into a bygone era, as they traversed the hallowed halls of this architectural marvel.



Overall, the trip was a resounding success, which gave our Classics students the opportunity to experience what they had previously only seen in their textbooks.

KPS Sports Day 2023

## The Sport Report



### The Winningest School in West London

Our Lower School students participated in a total of six fixtures throughout May and June, competing against schools such as Maida Vale and Fairley House in football, netball, cricket, and tennis. In every instance, KPS were victorious! Special mention goes to the Girls' cricket team who defeated Maida Vale by an astounding 18 runs!



### Walbrook Crowned Sports Day Champs

On a sunny Friday afternoon in Battersea Park, the four KPS houses went head-to-head during our annual Sports Day. Donning the colours of their respective houses, the stage was set for a fierce but friendly competition encompassing Javelin, Shotput, Discus, Long Jump, and the 100m, 200m, 400m, and 800m races.

Amassing an impressive total of 241 points, Walbrook prevailed with a close victory in an impressive field! They were closely followed by Effra, who secured second place with a margin of just 20 points.

Our students' impressive sportsmanship, along with the enthusiasm of parents and guardians cheering from the stands, ensured a memorable afternoon was enjoyed by all.





Taiwanese Students at the Natural History Museum

## Six Thousand Miles to Sixth Form



This term, the Sixth Form was delighted to host 16 students from Taipei Municipal Yangming High School in Taiwan for a cultural exchange programme.

Each student was paired with a buddy from Year 12, creating a wonderful atmosphere of camaraderie as students studied and socialised together, and engaged in cross-cultural exchange.

Throughout the week-long programme, our exchange students attended A level lessons with their buddies, and enjoyed a series of workshops and sessions designed to improve their conversational English and encourage their critical thinking and creativity.



They also had the opportunity to explore some of London's best attractions, including the Natural History Museum, the London Aquarium, and a West End musical!

Recognising that many of our visitors were experiencing London for the first time, our Year 12 students fully embraced their roles as hosts and welcomed their Taiwanese counterparts with open arms. Well done to all our wonderful Sixth Form ambassadors who went above and beyond to make our guests feel at home.

We hope that our guests returned to Taiwan with a deeper appreciation of British culture and education, and that they might consider studying in the UK again in the future!



*Economics Trip to the Bank of England Museum*

## London is Our Classroom

### Making 'Cents' of History

Our Year 12 Economics students spent a sunny afternoon at the Bank of England Museum, helping to enrich their A level coursework.

With the guidance of Ms Bungler, their Economics teacher and Head of Sixth Form, the students delved into the complex history of the British economy, from its historical roots to its modern-day significance.

Additionally, they explored the thought-provoking exhibition 'Slavery & the Bank', which traces the history of the transatlantic slave trade and its former connections with the Bank of England and City of London.

### Boarding Goes Modern

Earlier this term, our boarders visited the Tate Modern to enjoy the latest exhibition, 'Hilma af Klint and Piet Mondrian: Forms of Life,' which examines the work of two groundbreaking modern artists.

Our students discovered a world of abstract art rooted in nature, exploring the mechanisms of life on Earth revealed through paint and canvas.



### Monkey Business

To celebrate their hard-won victory at this year's Sports Day, Walbrook House were treated to a day out at London Zoo during the final week of the Summer Term. Joining them were our Year 7 students, who are equally deserving of celebration, having successfully navigated their very first year at Kensington Park School.







KPS Singapore Trip Info Session

## On the Horizon

### KPS Abroad

This July, Ms Lu will take our students the furthest afield they have ever been with our school trip to Singapore!

Over the course of seven days, students will explore Singapore's top attractions, including Universal Studios and the famous Gardens by the Bay. They will also visit the Night Safari, and take part in cultural activities such as calligraphy and traditional cooking.

It will be the longest journey our students have undertaken since the school first opened in 2018. We look forward to sharing highlights from the trip in our next newsletter!



### Sixth Form in the Spotlight

Featuring cameos from many of our Sixth Form students and the creative input of the Student Council, the marketing department have been working on a Sixth Form video to highlight the unique pre-university experience that our Queen's Gate site offers A level students.

The short video is inspired by our unique central London location and the cultural and educational opportunities it affords us. We look forward to sharing it with you very soon!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### 2023-24 Term Dates

**Autumn Term:** Monday 4th September to Thursday 14th December 2023

**Boarders Return:** Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd September 2023

**GCSE Results Day:** Thursday 24 Aug 2023

**A level Results Day:** Thursday 17 Aug 2023