

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2023





Welcome back to KPS.

It has been an unusually busy term for KPS, with so many wonderful events to cover that we could not possibly fit them all within the pages of our termly newsletter.

Students returned to find that the school received something of a makeover, with updated colours, logos, and a brand new interactive website, featuring new interviews with students, updated schools videos, and a host of new photographs of life at KPS.

As we embark on our seventh year as a school, we hope that this will reflect the latest chapter in our school's history, and our modern, diverse, and forward-thinking approach to education.

As you will see throughout the pages of our newsletter, the excitement and vibrance of Kensington Park School can now be felt more than ever before.

CONTENTS

The Arts **3**

Singapore **5**

Our Cultural Community **6**

The Festival Season **7**

Wembley **8**

Sixth Form **9**

A Look Ahead **12**



The Arts



Robin Hood Pantomime

Joining us for the special panto performance of **Robin Hood** were students from Fox Primary School, who were invited to watch the interactive stage production alongside our pupils. Each visiting student received a commemorative badge to mark a truly magical afternoon.

Participation from the audience was highly encouraged, as the actors updated a timeless classic with performances of pop hits and jokes calling back to the cultural highlights of 2023.

With colourful costumes, elaborate scenery, and impressive lighting design, the performance allowed students of all ages to fully immerse themselves in the world of make believe.



House Music Competition

Students from Year 7-12 showcased their musical talents, and it was amazing to hear the vast range of repertoire performed for the school.

From Beethoven to Spider-Man, Daft Punk to traditional Czech music, the students gave it their all, many of whom were performing in front of the whole school for the very first time.

Walbrook came out triumphant again, with Adéla playing the piano, Lilla singing and also accompanying herself on the piano, and Henry singing a wonderful rendition of 'Losing My Mind' from the musical, 'Follies'.

Needless to say, we eagerly await what the Spring House Music Competition will bring.



The Arts (cont'd)



A Visit to the West End

Years 10 and 11 were treated to a performance of **The Ocean at the End of the Lane** at the Noël Coward theatre on the West End, with our Drama students taking creative inspiration from its powerful story, elaborate special effects, and remarkable performances.

From the imagination of Neil Gaiman, best-selling author of *Good Omens* and *Coraline*, this smash hit production follows an unnamed man who returns to his hometown, recalling powerful events that began forty years earlier.

West End trips are at the heart of our Drama curriculum at KPS, giving our students the opportunity to take their learning outside of the classroom.



Junior Andre Comes to KPS

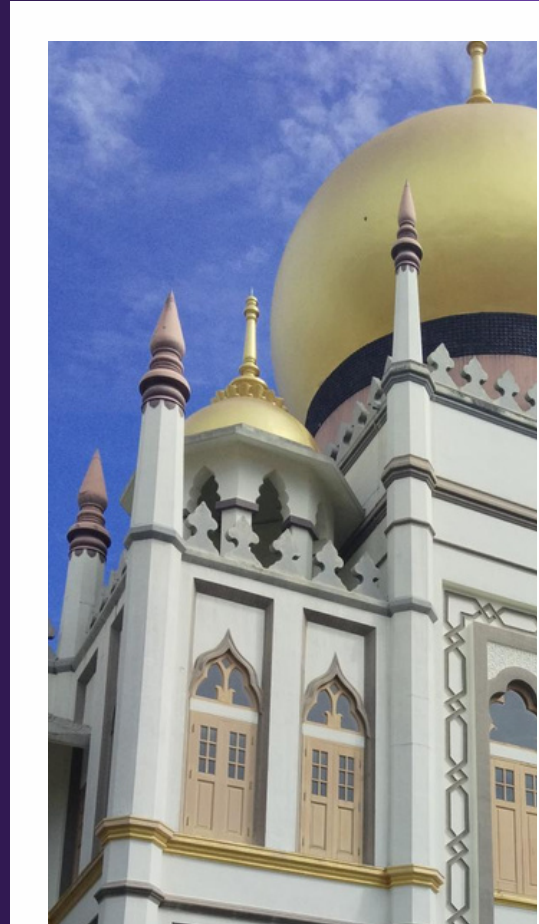
Students and staff were treated to an all-school performance by rising artist Junior Andre, as he embarked a mini-tour of schools throughout the UK, performing for students, and providing inspiration for those interested in pursuing a career in music.

Following the performance, Andre took the time to answer questions from students about tips for breaking into a competitive industry, his musical inspirations, and how to navigate the demands of success at such a young age.

We are very grateful to him for visiting Kensington Park School, and wish him every success as he continues to follow his dreams.

Singapore

JUNE 2023



Our Teacher of Mandarin, Ms Lu, supervised a group of our languages students on a weeklong trip to Singapore.

Over the course of the week, students took part in a range of worthwhile activities including workshops in calligraphy and traditional cooking techniques, as well as a night-time safari.

Each experience provided ample opportunities to improve their language skills, all while enjoying the amenities of a world class city.

The trip constitutes the further our school has traveled since we opened in 2018, as well as our first-ever trip outside of Europe.





Our Cultural Community



International Languages Fair

Our students participated in an International Fair, creating booths centred around the food, culture, and customs of their home countries.

Students were invited to taste foods from the around the globe and get to learn a bit more about each other's unique cultural backgrounds.

From Australia to Egypt, students brought delicious treats and fun activities from all across the globe.

It was the culmination of a week's worth of events celebrating our diverse school community, from quizzes, foreign language film screenings, and an international lunch in our canteen.



Sushi Day

Holroyd Howe, our remarkable in-house catering team, provided a delicious live sushi demonstration for our students.

With a chef on to create fresh rolls from scratch, it is difficult to say which was more satisfying – watching him carefully prepare our food or getting to eat it.

Cuisine is yet another way that we remain committed to broadening the cultural horizons of our pupils, and each week, the team provides dishes nutritious dishes from all over the world.



The Festive Season



KPS Parent Christmas Party

'Tis the season to bring our school community together, as parents and staff were invited for an evening of handmade festive cocktails, savoury treats, and a DJ on hand to keep everyone moving.

The sounds of laughter and the rhythm of dancing feet echoed through the theatre, with staff and parents enthusiastically engaging with one another, and celebrating another successful term for our school.

Fostering a sense of community between staff and parents is at the heart of what we do, and events such as these further renew that sense of togetherness and school spirit as we close out one eventful calendar year and begin another.



Festive Lunch & Winter Walk

To finish off a week of festive celebrations – from bake sales and carol concerts to holiday themed science practicals – our Senior School students spent the last full afternoon of term enjoying a traditional Christmas lunch, followed by a relaxing afternoon walk through Hyde Park and the Serpentine Lido.

Splits into groups led by their tutors, students were led on a relaxing walk with tutors given the chance to offer further guidance and support.

Later, the groups met at the Serpentine Cafe & Kitchen in the park for a complimentary hot drink or beverage. Overall, it was a wonderful way to close out the last full school day of 2023.

Wembley

NOVEMBER 2023



Our students embarked on an exclusive tour of the iconic home of football history, Wembley Stadium.

The 'Home of Football' greatly fulfilled expectations, allowing students to step into the shoes of legends, providing them with a newfound sense of inspiration they can take with them to their next KPS FC match.

Throughout their tour, they toured the stadium grounds, royal box, team changing rooms, and each held John Stones' latest Player of the Match award.

Finally, they entered the Press Room, imagining themselves at the centre of a post-match conference, fielding questions and posing for photos.





Sixth Form



A Level Subject Fair

The Sixth Form was abuzz as Year 11 students and their parents were invited to attend our A level Subject Fair.

Teachers were on hand to provide insights and key information about their subjects, and help prepare our students for the future.

Our Year 11 students were also able to meet and ask questions of current Sixth Form students in order to better understand how the A Level programme works, and how the school will support them as they take the next step on their KPS journey.



Shivan Attends PM Forum

Shivan in Year 13 recently attended the Future Resilience Forum at the Old Royal Naval College hosted by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

Focused on promoting global resilience, the event featured Heads of State as well as leaders in business, national security, and academia, discussing how best to meet the emerging challenges from across the globe.

Shivan served as an intern at this memorable event, assisting the organisers and attending a range of fascinating discussions – not to mention having his picture taken with the UK Prime Minister.



Sixth Form (cont'd)



Ethical Fashion Factory Visit

Our A level Business students recently embarked on an insightful trip to a social enterprise clothing factory located on historic Hermitage Road in London.

During the visit, the Production Director, Caroline Ash, engaged students with her energetic and inspiring presentation, offering a comprehensive understanding of the various processes involved in clothing production within the context of an ethically focused social enterprise.

Our students gained further insights into how to manage and run a successful large-scale organisation, not just in the fashion or garment industries, but across the wider world of business or project management.



John Locke Award for Esther

We are very pleased to announce that Esther in Year 13 has been awarded a Distinction in the 2023 John Locke Institute Philosophy Essay Competition.

Judged by senior academics from leading universities including Oxford and Princeton, Esther held her own in a rigorous and selective writing competition, where candidates picked from 3 questions in a chosen subject and persuasively argued their position.

Our sincere congratulations to Esther for successfully representing KPS in such a prestigious competition and for paving her way towards attending a top university.



Sixth Form (cont'd)



Festive Eve in Kensington

Sixth Form students closed out the term with a festive evening at HUX Brasserie in South Kensington.

Students across both year groups enjoyed festive cocktails, Christmas crackers, and a delicious modern brasserie meal including traditional turkey, seasonal vegetables, cranberry sauce, and rosemary roast potatoes.

With a DJ on hand and lots of good cheer from our teachers and staff, it provided students the perfect opportunity to get into the festive spirit as they prepare for a relaxing break after a busy term of academic study.



Art Students At Tate Britain

Our Year 12 art students visited the Tate Britain in London, providing them an in-person look at 500 years of British artworks, including the world's largest collection of paintings by legendary 19th century landscapist, J. M. W. Turner.

Amongst the galleries prodigious collection of iconic masterpieces, a highlight for the group was viewing the artwork of English painter and collage artist, Richard Hamilton, who the class had researched during the previous half-term break.

Overall, the trip was a brilliant success, with the class now feeling inspired to visit more galleries and museums across London.

A Look Ahead

SPRING TERM 2024

As 2023 comes to a close, we look forward to the new year and the many exciting events that the spring term will bring.

Whether a student is interested in joining a new club, attending a school trip, or participating in an art or music competition, we trust that 2024 will bring with it countless opportunities for further learning and enrichment – see you all in the new year!



Mock Exams

JAN 2024



KPS Ski Trip

FEB 2024



Easter Revision

MARCH & APRIL 2024

