



Friday 19th December 2025

Dates for your diary:

Friday 19th December – Last day of term, finish at 1.05pm

Tuesday 6th January – School reopens after Christmas holiday

Student absences & medical appointments:

If your child has to have some time off school unwell or for any other reason, please ensure that you contact the absence team if possible **before 8.30am** via our absence email on:

studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk or call the new absence line
01553 602874 and leave a message.

Please include your child's name, year group and why they are absent. If we have no contact from you we will send you a text message if your child is absent.

If you need to take your child to a medical appointment during school time please can we ask that you either send in an appointment card or letter with your child or please email them to **studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk** so we are aware in advance when you collect your child.

Requesting time off in term time:

In the exceptional circumstance you need to request time off in term time, please complete an application for pupil leave of absence from school during term time, as soon as possible and return it to the attendance department or email it to **studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk**. The form can be downloaded from the link below, found on our school website or collected from the school reception. Requests can only be actioned if submitted on this form, you will be notified via email of the decision. Please note requests will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.
[download.asp](#)

We are recruiting:

We have some fantastic opportunities to become a member of our esteemed team here at KLA. Please follow the link below to see our latest vacancies.

[Eastern Academy Trust - Vacancies and Careers \(eastern-mat.co.uk\)](#)

KLA Christmas lunch:

On Wednesday we held our annual Christmas lunch with many students enjoying the festivities. We would like to say a special thankyou to **Barnes Construction** and **AMR** for donating the Christmas crackers not only for the student Christmas lunch, but also for our Community Christmas lunch where over 120 people are invited to enjoy a Christmas lunch and so much more.



Festive Photography competition:

Layla Langley in year 8 won the festive photography competition, winning a Chocolate Father Christmas.

Thank you to all who took part, Merry Christmas.



Christmas Jumper Day:

We raised a massive £270.91 for Save the Children holding our Christmas jumper day, thank you to everyone who took part.

KLA extension progress:



Dining Hall – Storm Water Drainage in Progress.



Dining Hall – Storm Water Drainage in Progress.



Dining Hall – Concrete Blinding & Reinforcement.



Dining Hall – Reinforcement Installation in Progress.



Dining Hall – Reinforcement Installation in Progress.



Dining Hall – Reinforcement Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation Commenced.



CDT – Steelwork Installation Commenced.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



CDT – Steelwork Installation in Progress.



Hard PE – Fence Installation Complete.



Hard PE – Netball Line Marking Complete.



Hard PE – Netball Line Marking Complete.



Surplus Soil Removed from Site.



FREE
Family
Event

Family Christingle Services in the Minster

Christmas Eve 2pm & 4pm

The Christingle services are FREE to attend, and you don't have to book but it does help us to make sure we have enough Christingles!

Bookings can be made via Ticket Tailor using the QR Code or link:
bit.ly/ticketsKLMinster



Free
Family
Events

KING'S LYNN
MINSTER

Hope - Hospitality - Heritage



Christmas Films at the Minster

Father Christmas
Wednesday 17th December
4pm & 6pm

Christmas Raffle & free children's draw.



It's a Wonderful Life
Thursday 18th December, 7pm
Bar & Christmas Raffle

Tickets are FREE, follow the link to book:
bit.ly/ticketsKLMinster

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI TOYS

This festive season, the newest toys on the shelves do not just blink or make noise; they listen. Many now come with artificial intelligence (AI), allowing them to talk, learn, and even respond to a child's emotions. These toys can be educational and engaging, but they also collect, store, and process information. This guide explains what that means for families and why it matters.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN

When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.

WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS

Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Others may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.

ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE

For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate. If the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.

PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING

Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.

MARKETING THROUGH PLAY

Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.

PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING

The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines 'understand' people. Play becomes part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START WITH A CONVERSATION

Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy, blind trust is not.

SET LIMITS ON USE

Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. Treat connected toys like any smart device; they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.

MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS

Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.

RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY

Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS

Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit those permissions whenever possible.

BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY

AI toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.

Meet Our Expert

Clara Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Mental health

Information for parents and carers

Did you know?



Research states that mental health issues affect about 1 in 10 children. The emotional wellbeing of children is just as important as their physical health. Good mental health allows young people to develop resilience, cope with the ups and downs in life and grow into healthy adults.

Surveys suggest that most young people are mentally healthy but more children are having problems due to life changes, traumatic events, feeling vulnerable or not coping with difficult situations. The Guardian has recently published that tens of thousands of young people in Britain are struggling with their mental health and are seeking help online for problems.

Research indicates that common mental health problems for young people include depression, self-harm, eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and panic attacks. Poor mental health in childhood affects educational attainment, increases the likelihood of smoking, alcohol and drug use, and has consequences for poorer physical health in later life.



What can you do?

Take time to do some research about mental health issues and symptoms with young people. Point your child towards websites or helplines that can give them information as well. Here are some useful websites to get you started:

www.mind.org.uk www.youngminds.org.uk

Seek further advice from a professional if you are worried or concerned about your child.

Talk to your child about any worries they have, be supportive and show empathy and understanding. Try to avoid persistent questioning but encourage them to open up to you and reassure them that you are there to help them. Try to make your child feel loved, trusted and safe.

Don't blame yourself for any problems your child is having as this will not help the situation. Be honest and explain that you are worried and help them access the right kind of help. Encourage your child to take up healthy habits to help them to maintain a positive state of mental health. Examples are:

- Healthy eating
- Good sleep routine
- Seeing friends and connecting with others
- Taking time out to relax
- Exercising
- Doing hobbies
- Spend time outdoors

e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

PE Weekly Sports Bulletin:



We would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us in the P.E department.



Year 7 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Mann:



The first term is done and dusted and what a term it has been. I am so proud of how well the students have settled at KLA, and even more for how well they have worked this term. They are shattered; I can see that but they have not quit! Absolute troopers!

We have had the most fun with our end of term house assemblies this week and have given sooooooooooooo many certificates and awards out. Students have received certificates for blazer badges, the Rotary Project, Endeavour awards, Head of Year and Head of House awards. So many celebrations.

My Head of Year awards this term went to the following students -

La Rochelle – **Lakeisha Crowson**

Riga – **Jack Massingham**

Stargard – **Leo Tsirkou**

Hamburg - **Lilly Godfrey**

I have an Endeavour nominee which was Alice Head and the Endeavour winner was **Cody Collins**, both representing Stargard.

A HUGE well done to everyone on any awards that have been received across the four house assemblies and across the term.

Attendance has been better this week which has been nice to see, especially as it's the last week full of celebrations and festive fun.

Thank you to all the students that have given me Christmas cards, gifts, sweets and cookies this past week! It's been a lovely treat.

Term one done and in the bag, so that just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here's to 2026!

Take care, stay safe and don't eat too many mince pies.

Mrs Mann.

Year 8 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Lockey:

Happy Friday! Happy Christmas!

We finally made it! It has been a privilege and a pleasure supporting you and your children over the past few months. I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and all the very best for 2026.

What a busy week it has been this week!

As a year group we have achieved **46,061!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** points since September up to Wednesday! How amazing year 8, I'm so proud of each and every one of you.

We have been running rewards assemblies this week:

Monday was La Rochelle:

Head of Year Award went to **Mark Charters**, always trying his best each and every day.

Endeavour nomination was **Phoebe Metcalfe**, well done Phoebe.

Tuesday was Riga:

Head of Year Award went to **Ellie Smith**, well done Ellie, your positive attitude always makes me smile.

Wednesday was Stargard:

Head of Year Award went to **Willow Crouch**, well deserved award to receive, well done Willow.

Endeavour Award went to **Bow Russell**, you are a true inspiration Bow, well done.

Thursday was Hamburg:

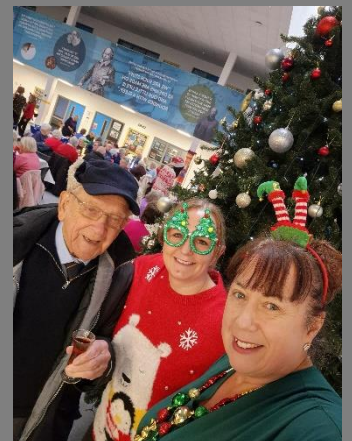
Head of Year Award went to **Bradley Mendham**, well done Bradley.

Thanks to all Heads of House, you did a fab job Mr Towler. He inspired us with his snowman challenge and the hard work and effort he put in once again. 🧊

Heads of Year were privileged to help with the Christmas Lunch which the ladies in the canteen lovingly prepared. It was great to see so many students enjoy their Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. Thanks go to every single person that made this possible, it is a lovely part of Christmas we love to see.

We have been running the hamper challenge again this year; all contributions have been gratefully received. I cannot thank you all enough for all your support once again.

These are given out every year to OAPs in the community. This means so much to so many, thank you. We need to say a massive thank you to **Lynmoore Engineering** who kindly donated over 100 gifts and extra trimmings for the OAP meal. Huge thanks also go to **Sharon, Wendy** and the team for their help and support; this could not happen without you all and the site team and all staff & volunteers. Here is a picture from last year.



Dates for diary

Year 8 parents evening was cancelled, new date to be re-scheduled

Last day of term Friday 19th December

Community Christmas Meal 20th December

Tuesday 6th January 2026 return to school

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year, take care and stay safe.

See you all in 2026!!!!!!!!!!!!!!.

Mrs Lockey.



Year 9 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs West:



WE HAVE MADE IT!

It has been an absolutely lovely week to spend with the students. We have had Christmas lunch, singing and dancing performances, award ceremonies and many happy moments. We are so lucky to have all these things happening within the school and I know that all the students really appreciate the opportunities.

The final award points totals of the year are as below:

Student	Totals so far
Clarke, Oliver	1727
Gedge, Florence	1666
Murray, Martha	1660
Russell, Ralphie	1641
Tsirkou, Freya	1593
Oakes, Molly	1579
Dennis, Ozzy	1543
Eastwood, Rosie	1539
Reeve, Emee	1515
Thorburn-Woodhouse, Lili	1513

★ ★ The final student of the year goes to **Craig Shelbourne**. Craig, you have had a fantastic term, well done! Keep up the hard work. ★ ★

We have begun calls for our parent voice survey. This is simply a phone call from Mrs White giving you the opportunity to give feedback on how you feel your child is doing at school. This will take 5-10 minutes and we really appreciate your time in completing this. It has been brought to our attention that when Mrs White calls it is from a withheld number, just so you are aware.

I cannot thank all the students enough for the term that we have had together. I really value the time I get to spend with your children each day and I look forward to continuing to support them in the new year.

Have a wonderful Christmas everybody.

Mrs West.



Year 10 Round Up – Compiled by Miss Fountain:



Well, here we are! The end of a full term of my lovely students being year 10!!

Please see below the top 10 students with the highest achievement points for the term from September until today.....

Student	Term
Rutter, Freya	500
Smith, Martha-Louise	412
Dey, Millie	404
Rushbrook, Amelia	395
Manning, Elliemay	391
Watts, Samuel	391
Garrod, Harley	386
Orlova, Alisha	383
Tann, Nancy	367
Hastings, Kain	365

WOW! I am so proud of them all, what a wonderful group of students they all are too. Well done 😊

I hope you all have the best Christmas whatever you may be doing, and I shall see you all in the new year.

Take care, stay safe.

Miss Fountain.

Year 11 Round Up compiled by Mrs Laws:

We made it to the last day of term! And sadly year 11's last Christmas here at KLA.

We had our last mock exam on Tuesday. No more now until February (apart from MFL speaking mocks).

House assemblies were great fun this week although I missed a couple of them through illness. Lots of prizes being given out: blazer badges, 100% attendance, Head of Year and Endeavour awards. It's always a pleasure to reward students for the things they do right consistently day in and day out.

Wednesday saw Christmas lunch in the academy which as always was fabulous fun. Big thank you to the ladies in the kitchen who furnished us with a lovely turkey Christmas dinner and to everyone behind the scenes who helped serve, dress the tables etc.

Wednesday and Thursday evening saw the school concert which was a roaring success.

Quick reminder: if you are purchasing new school uniform over the holiday that leggings, jeans, jeggings are not acceptable for school, tailored trousers only. Blazers are compulsory, school jumpers are not, shoes need to be all black.



Year 11 attendance was 90 % this week. Attendance in year 11 is CRUCIAL. Literally every day matters. It's a proven fact that the better your school attendance, the better GCSE grades you achieve, the better job you get so the more money you earn. I will be constantly reminding you of this throughout the year. When we come back in the new year, we need to make sure we are in school on time and every day as those GCSEs are fast approaching.

Session 5 will be back in the new year and will be more important than ever.

Well done to those of you who were all here every day, and to those of you who still have 100% attendance this academic year, that is amazing!



Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, safe New Year. I hope the lurgy stays away from your households and you enjoy a restful break. See you all Tuesday 6th January 2026 when we begin the countdown to mocks, GCSEs, finishing KLA and prom!

Mrs Laws.



Year 11 PPE timetable 2025 - 2026

	08:45	13:15
Thursday 5 th February	Hospitality & Catering Unit 1 5409UB0-1 (1hr 20) French Listening and Understanding 1FR1/2F/H (50min/1hr 05)	Hair and Beauty Synoptic 12:45 start
Friday 6 th February	Religious Studies A P1-3 Christ Religious Studies A P1-5 Islam 8062/13 & 8062/15 (1hr 45) Business Paper 1 8132/1 (1hr 45)	German Listening and Understanding 1GN1/2F/H (50min/1hr 05)
Monday 9 th February	English Literature Paper 1 8702/1 (1hr 45)	French Reading and Understanding 1FR1/3F/H (45min/1hr) German Reading and Understanding 1GN1/3F/H (45min/1hr)
Tuesday 10 th February	Mathematics Paper 1 8300/1F & 8300/1H (1hr 30)	Sprt Stdies: Cntmpry Issues Sprr Wrtn R184/01 (1hr 15)
Wednesday 11 th February	English Language Paper 1 8700/1 (1hr 45)	Business paper 2 8132/2 (1hr 45) Early Lunch
Thursday 12 th February	Maths Paper 2 8300/2F & 8300/2H (1hr 30)	Computer Science Paper 2 J277/01 (1hr 30) Citizenship Paper 1 8100/1 (1hr 45) Early Lunch Hair and Beauty Synoptic 1pm Start
Friday 13 th February	Geography Paper 1 8035/1 (1hr 30)	French Writing 1FR1/4F/H (45 min/1hr) German Writing 1GN1/4F/H (45 min/1hr)

	08:45	13:15
Monday 23 rd February	Combined Science Trilogy Biology 8464/B/2F & 8464/B/2H (1hr 15) Biology Paper 2 8461/H/F (1hr 45)	Religious Studies A P2A Excl Text 8062/2A (1hr 45) Early Lunch
Tuesday 24 th February	Mathematics Paper 3 8300/3F & 8300/3H (1hr 30)	Geography Paper 2 8035/2 (1hr 30) Early Lunch
Wednesday 25 th February	English Literature Paper 2 8702/2 (2hr 15)	Combined Science Trilogy Chemistry 8464/C/2F & 8464/C/2H (1hr 15) Chemistry Paper 2 8462/2H/F (1hr 45) Early Lunch
Thursday 26 th February	History Paper 1 8145/1A/B & 1B/A (2hr)	Hair and Beauty Synoptic 12:15 start Citizenship Paper 2 8100/2 (1hr 45) Early Lunch
Friday 27 th February	English Language Paper 2 8700/2 (1hr 45)	Combined Sci Trilogy Physics 8464/P/2F & 8464/P/2H (1hr 15) Physics Paper 2 8463/2H/F (1hr 45) Early Lunch