



news from

King's Lynn Academy

Friday 18th September 2026

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th September – open day tours (booking required)

Wednesday 23rd September – Open evening

Friday 25th September – MacMillan non uniform day

Monday 28th - Wednesday 30th September – Year 7 PGL trip

Thursday 22nd October – Last day of term

Communication Chart:

	Who should I contact?	When will I get a response?	What should I do if I don't hear back?
My child will be absent from the academy	studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk 01553602874	The absence will be added to Arbor, no response is needed	
My child has an upcoming appointment	Head of Year Firstname.surname@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk	The appointment will be added to Arbor, no response is needed	
There is an issue that I would like to discuss	Head of Year KLA reception – 01553 774671	Within 48 hours	Contact the Pastoral Manager Debbie.germaney@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk and KLA reception
I need to speak to the school urgently (same day)	KLA reception – stating that a response if required on the same day. This request will be passed on to the most relevant team member 01553 774671	Within 24 hours	KLA reception Kla.safeguarding@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk

Please be aware that we are not able to see you if you arrive at the academy without an appointment

We're now on Facebook!

We're excited to announce the launch of our **brand-new Facebook page!**

Our page is the perfect place to keep up with everything happening in our school community, including **exciting events, school news, pupil achievements, activities and special moments.**

[King's Lynn Academy | King's Lynn | Facebook](#)

👉 Give us a follow today so you never miss an update!

Drama classroom update:

The Drama classroom has had an update and we now have carpet on the floor. Students will be required to take their shoes off for the lesson. Please ensure students have suitable socks on for their Drama lesson.

Miss Mace

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 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.

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 \(eastern-mat.co.uk\)](#)



KING'S LYNN ACADEMY

Y6 OPEN DAY TOURS

Tuesday 22nd September-Thursday 24th September 2026
@ 9:00am, 12:00pm & 2:00pm

Come and see our school in action during one of our open day tours. It's a great opportunity to experience the atmosphere of our school and find out more about what we offer.

The tours and open evening are intended for parents and carers with a child currently in year 6 who will be moving to secondary school next September. We look forward to meeting you and your family.

To book your tour ticket please call our reception on 01553 774671

Y6 OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 23rd September 5:30pm-8:00pm.
Principal's talks at 5:45pm & 6:45pm

Queen Mary Road
King's Lynn, Norfolk
PE304QG
Telephone: 01553 774671
Email: office@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk
www.kingslynnacademy.co.uk



SUCCESS IN ALL WE DO

- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Resilience
- ▶ Aspiration







KLA Coffee Morning with Family HUB



Date: Tuesday 29th September

Time: 9:30am to 11:30am

For: any parent/carer of a student at KLA

To confirm attendance or find out more, please contact Alex Hills (SENCo) on alex.hills@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk

Attending agencies:

- Family HUB
- Community Police
- SEMH specialist
- Autism Support Team
- Tech skills
- Schools and Communities Team
- Redi Team
- MAP
- Young Carers
- Kids
- Sendiass
- Library
- On Track, Matthew Project
- FNM (Family Network Group)

**WINTER
SHOW
AUDITIONS**

Bring a 30 second snippet
of intended performance.

THEME:
GOOD VIBES ONLY

MUSIC • DRAMA • DANCE • ANY TALENT

AUDITIONS ON
Wednesday 23rd
and Thursday 24th
AT LUNCHTIME

11-16
group



KING'S
LYNN
**CHILL
SPOT**

STARTS **22nd**
OF SEPT!

 **Gaywood Community
Centre, Gayton Rd,
Gaywood, King's Lynn
PE30 4EE**
 **Tuesdays,
4-5:30pm**

 **For ages 11-16**

Follow the QR to find out
more, or email **youthwork**
@mapyoungpeople.org.uk



Questions & Info:
youthwork@mapyoungpeople.org.uk



1. Pop-it's
2. Fidget rings
3. Stress balls
4. Marble mesh tubes

Fidget Toys

We understand that fidget toys can be a useful strategy for some of our students to help them focus and regulate.

These pictures show the fidget toys that are now allowed to be used in school, and we ask parents/carers to help support us with this by keeping other fidget toys at home.

If you have any questions, please contact the SENCo at
alex.hills@kla-eastern-mat.co.uk



Harley, Dominykas, Mikaela and Titas with Help for their classmate Hayden, teamed up to build a web-based project they called **computer science trivia website** aimed at helping them revise GCSE computer science. They presented this project in front of their peers which for them was stepping out of their comfort zone. We are indeed proud of them

COMPUTING

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CHARACTER.AI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0800 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership, and governance. He works internationally, supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance, as well as teaching the key fundamentals of AI use and safety to educators at The National College.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

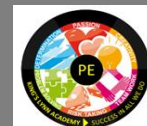
/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 09.09.2026

PE Weekly Sports Bulletin:



PE – Welcome back!

A huge welcome back to all our students and families! We have had a really positive start to the new academic year in PE, and we would like to thank all of our students for the fantastic attitude and effort they have shown so far. It has been brilliant to see everyone getting involved, working hard and getting back into the routine of PE.

We have lots planned this term, both within lessons and through our extracurricular programme. Please see our Week A and Week B extracurricular timetable below.

PE Extracurricular Timetable

Day	Week A	Week B Week commencing 21 st September
Monday	Department Meetings	Department Meetings
Tuesday	Sports Leaders - DHE Year 11 Intervention – SLM Badminton - JOM	Year 8 and Year 10 Netball & football fixtures at Smithdon All clubs cancelled
Wednesday	All Years Football - DHE Boys' Basketball - JOM Netball – LCT / SLM	Year 6 Open evening All clubs cancelled
Thursday	Year 7 & 8 – Rugby - GRO Year 9 & 10 – Rugby DHE Girls' Basketball - LCT	Year 7 & 8 – Rugby – GRO Year 7 and Year 9 Netball and football fixtures at Smithdon

We will always do our best to keep parents and students informed if a club is unable to run. We will aim to stick to the timetable above wherever possible; however, we have a full fixture timetable coming up this term, which may occasionally affect our after-school clubs.

If a club needs to be cancelled or changed due to fixtures or other school commitments, we will communicate this as soon as possible.

We really appreciate your understanding and support while we balance our extensive programme of clubs, fixtures and competitions. We are excited to give as many students as possible the opportunity to get involved in sport both in school and through representing KLA.

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate footwear ready for their PE lessons. Having the correct kit and footwear allows students to get the most out of every lesson, whatever the weather!

Thank you again for your continued support and for such a positive start to the year. We are really looking forward to another fantastic year of PE, with lots of opportunities for students to get involved, develop their skills and represent the academy.

The PE Department

Year 7 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Laws:



Good evening from KLA year 7.

It's been another fantastic week here at the academy. Year 7's are settling in wonderfully and starting to become accustomed to life in "big school". We had the school photos taken on Tuesday so you should all have seen your child's beaming face on Arbor.

Attendance in year 7 overall was 95.3% last week. Well done to those of you who were here all week, and to those of you who have 100% attendance this academic year, that is an amazing achievement! If your child has to have time off school, please ensure that you call the absence line on **01553 602874** or email **studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk** to explain why, if we send you a text message and you are unable to respond, please send a note in with your child when they return to school explaining why they have been away.

I have had quite a few students coming into school late this week from year 7, please remember school starts at 8.40am so students need to be here no later than 8.35am. If students are continually late this will affect their school attendance marks and could ultimately lead to fines by the local authority to parents, which is something we really want to avoid. If you have any concerns on your child's lateness, please feel free to contact me and we can arrange a meeting.

Just a reminder we are a "no mobile phone" school, so ideally your child needs to leave theirs at home but if they do have to have it, it must be in their bag from the moment they walk in the academy door, switched off until when they leave the academy at 3pm. If we see a student on their phone, we will confiscate it and it will be returned at the end of the day. If they are caught a second time parents will need to come and collect it from reception.

My normal working hours are Mon –Thurs 8am to 4pm & Fri 8.30am to 3.30pm so please be aware any contact after that time will not be seen until the next working day. Please remember as a school we have a 48hr return call policy as it may not always be possible to return your call/email the same day, but I will endeavour to get back to you as soon as I can. My contact details are **07591 388678** or **jacqueline.laws@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk**

As a group we have achieved over 3000 reward points which is amazing!

Our **highest achievers** this week are:

Karina B

Molly-Rose M

Victoria S

Bethany B

Izzy H



Have a wonderful weekend and I will see you all on Monday.

Mrs Laws.

Year 8 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Mann:



This quote is a small, but powerful one. “Kindness is something we can all offer with something simple from a smile, to a ‘hello, how are you’ to a ‘do you want to hang out with us’ to a hug.” It makes me proud to see my students being kind to others and something we all need to see more of. ‘In a world where we can be anything, be kind’

Year 8’s have been hard at work again this week and have racked up a phenomenal 2192 positive achievement points from Thursday 11th to Wednesday 16th. I’d like to give a shout out to these students as since we started year 8 they have a staggering amount of positive achievement points. Well done and make sure to keep this up.

Lewis H with 101



Annabel T.S with 98



Well done to you both and make sure to keep this up as **Ayden S** and **Arthur P** are hot on your heels.

Thank you to you all for your support and cooperation with the uniform expectations so far. As you know, I will continue to remind you of the uniform expectations, now even more than ever so any corrections can still be made at the start of the academic year.

Our uniform policy states the following; KLA blazer, white shirt, KLA tie showing 7 black stripes, black tailored trousers, (or tailored shorts), KLA skirt or a **knee length** alternative skirt, black socks and leather shoes or all black leather trainers. **NO** air bubbles or gaps in soles of trainers. Hair must be a **natural colour**, acrylic nails are **NOT** allowed and one stud only per lower lobe. Hoops or earrings that dangle are **NOT** permitted. Students **MUST** bring a bag daily. All students **must** bring **3** basic pieces of equipment **every day**; a black pen, a pencil and a ruler.

Dates to remember

Thursday 22nd October – Break up for half term

Monday 2nd November – Back to school

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Mann.

Year 9 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Lockey:



Happy Friday!

Just a gentle reminder from me about uniform, thanks to all who have been fantastic supporting us with this; if there are any issues, please feel free to let me know if we can help in anyway. We always endeavour to support all the children. Some parents have been contacted regarding their child not wearing blazers and ties; these are not optional I'm afraid they need to be worn every day. Please remember **black socks** only and no fluffy socks to be worn. Jewellery reminder studs only please and no smart watches.

We have also had a small number of students forgetting their PE kits if they could be reminded to check their Arbor for their PE days it would be much appreciated. PE kits are part of KLA uniform and are expected to be brought in for the lessons needed. We do have spares but not always enough to go round.

If your child is unable to take part in PE for medical reasons, we kindly ask that they bring a written note from a parent or guardian, or medical evidence if the issue is ongoing.

Attendance this past week has been **89%** this is much lower than last week. Can we please attend each and every day wherever possible. I totally appreciate there are some illnesses that cannot be prevented.

If your child has to have some time off school, please ensure that you call the absence line on **01553 602874** or email us on studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk If we send you a text message and you are unable to respond, please send a note in with your child explaining why they have been away.

Heads of Year call each day to check in with parents and students; at the third day of absence we will be required to carry out a home visit.

As you are all aware the mobile phone policy came into place well over 2 years ago. To support the students and to set the right example, I will not be using my mobile phone when I'm out and about around the school. Please take this into consideration when contacting me, I may not be able to answer your call or text as quickly as I would like. I will endeavour to return your call/text as soon as I can during my working hours. If you have a pastoral issue you would like to discuss with me as Head of Year, then please email me on Hayley.Lockey@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk

Thank you all so much for your support with your child arriving on time this week, great start back.

If your child is late without a valid reason time will be made up and they will work in the late room on arrival. Detentions are then set followed by after school detentions without good reason for lateness.

As a year group we have achieved **3,654** points this past week up to yesterday! **Well done year 9!** Keep up all your hard work!

Our **highest achiever** this week in the year group was once again **Bella W** a massive well done goes to her. Keep up the hard work and effort in your lessons.

Student of the week this week goes to **James H** he has made an amazing start here in school. Well done, keep up the amazing work, you have been fabulous. 😊

Shout out section

If your child does any activities outside of school, please let me know; I'm so happy to share - email me as I always love to know what the students are doing in their own time. Hayley.Lockey@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk

Dates for diary

Break up for half term Thursday 22nd October 2026

Have a wonderful weekend, take care and stay safe 😊

Mrs Lockey.

Year 10 Round Up compiled by Mrs West:

We find ourselves at the end of another busy week. It has been a really positive week in school with students all settling into their options choices. Can I please ask that if you have a young person worrying they have made the wrong choice that they seek out myself or Ms Leeming-Watts out as soon as possible.

A polite reminder about uniform standards:

- Socks need to be black
- Blazers need to be in school each day
- One stud per ear - students are really getting annoyed at me for repeatedly asking for additional piercings to be removed. I would really appreciate your help before they enter school to try and remove these negative interactions from their days.
- No facial piercings at all. Clear retainers need to be worn.

Attendance is such a key part of education and the results that are achieved. I will be beginning the first round of communication for any concerns I have in the next few weeks. I only ever want to support and help your young person to be as present as possible at school. Please work with me on this. Let's set these young people up for the brightest futures possible!

The football team went out on Wednesday night for their first cup fixture. I am yet to hear the result at the time of writing this, but I know they were all excited to represent the school. Thank you to Mr May and the PE department for making the sporting events possible & to Miss Whitehead for accompanying them in the minibus.

A massive thank you and congratulations to the students below and their achievements this week.

Student	Thur - Wed
M, Martha	52
C, Wesley	48
G, Martynas	44
C, Harry	41
C, Oliver	40
G, Elisa	40

★ ★ Student of the week ★ ★

Ollie D. You have really impressed with your mature attitude and the way you have committed to your studies in Year 10. Keep it up - one day you may even earn a high vis 😊

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Football and fishing for me this weekend with my boys! ⚽ 🎣

Mrs West.

Year 11 Round Up compiled by Miss Fountain:

Happy Friday everyone!

- Well, what a week! Year 11 are really looking smart and beautifully presented. All I can say is thank you to you all for your support in getting them all here, on time and smart. It sets them in great stead for their post-16 journeys, whatever they may be.
- Whilst discussing future plans, GCSE's are creeping up slowly but surely. There are some incredible teachers and staff members giving up their own time to take period 5 sessions. Could I ask you encourage your young people to attend as many as possible. It is such a great opportunity.

What's on offer at KLA:

Just a reminder of what's on offer during lunchtime and afterschool, from sports, such as badminton or trampolining at lunchtime or afterschool training for KLA teams, down to **homework clubs at lunchtime and afterschool from Monday to Wednesday 3-4pm**. Please keep a check on the bulletin each week to see what is available.

Celebrating our achievements:

This week as a year group we achieved a whopping 2318 achievement points! Well done year 11!

Uniform:

Please can you check your young person's uniform every day as we are now issuing lunch time detentions for incorrect and/or missing uniform.

The following rules are non-negotiable:

Skirts which are knee length are permitted, anything shorter will need to be changed.

- Leggings are NOT permitted.
- The only jumpers we should be seeing are KLA jumpers, no hoodies or sports jumpers please.
- Blazers are to be worn at all times, as are ties.

Attendance:

Can I ask you keep me updated when your young people are too unwell to attend by contacting KLA on either:

studentabsence@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk or call the absence line **01553 602874**.

Anything else:

If you have anything you think deserves a shout-out, please let me know and I will pop it into the bulletin next week. I have nothing left to say other than have a fabulous weekend and stay safe.

Miss Fountain.

Year 11 Period 5 and lunchtime sessions:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	ADT – N19/20	English -	ADT – N19/20	Business - CG3
	Maths – CF2 RES (Set 2 Higher)	ADT – N19/20	Chemistry – S16 LJO	P5 Computer Science Catchup - CG2 (Lunchtime)
	Maths – CF4 JRC (Set 5 Foundation)	RE - CF11 MBO	Maths – CF4 CKW (Set 3 Foundation)	
	Drama– S1	German – CF7 DCH	Drama– S1	
	Biology S18 LBE	Maths – CF4 CKW (Set 3 Foundation)	Music – S1	
		Drama – S1	Business - CG3	
		Physics – LSH S11	P5 Computer Science Catchup - CG2 (Lunchtime)	
		Geography –S8 NBO		

Late bus leaves at 4.30pm (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs).

Year 11 The college and 6th form application window :

The college and 6th form application window opens from the 1st October. Students applying to somewhere in Norfolk will need to use Help You Choose. Account details have been emailed to student school emails. Those wishing to apply to a provider in Cambridgeshire will need to use My Choice 16 and register as 'out of area'.

Here are the dates and links for the various open evenings:

- [College of West Anglia](#) – Saturday 17th October, 9.00 - 12.30
- [KES](#) – Thursday 15th October, 6.00 - 8.00
- [Springwood](#) - Thursday 8th October, 5.30 - 7.00
- Fakenham - Wednesday 30th September, 6.00 - 8.00
- Athena - TBC
- [Cambridge Regional](#) - Wednesday 21st October, 4.30-7.00
- [Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology](#) – Wednesday 21st October, 5.00 - 7.30

Kind regards,

Mrs Leeming-Watts

PE Teacher and Careers Leader