news from

King's Lynn Academy

Thursday 22nd October 2026

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 22nd October – Last day of half term

Monday 2nd November – school reopens after half term holiday

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

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 ad Careers (eastern-mat.co.uk)

Student expectations:

Uniform:

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards of uniform at KLA. The improvements have been noticed by staff, governors and members of the wider community, and we are extremely proud of how smartly our students are presenting themselves.

We would like to remind families of our expectations regarding jewellery and nails. Students may wear one pair of plain stud earrings and a watch (not a smart watch). Bracelets, facial piercings and any other jewellery are not permitted. In addition, students should not wear nail varnish, gel nails or acrylic nails in school.

Our staff work hard to reinforce these expectations and support students in meeting them. During the week beginning **19 October**, there will be a renewed focus on jewellery and nails, and uniform checks will take place throughout the school day. We kindly ask parents and carers not to arrange for students to have gel or acrylic nails applied during the holiday period unless they can be removed before returning to school.

The vast majority of our students consistently meet these expectations and look fantastic. Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that our students continue to represent KLA with pride.

Canteen:

From Monday 12th October, food will be available to purchase in the canteen before school, during Break 2, and at lunchtime. Please note that food will no longer be available at first break.

If your child is likely to need a snack before 11:30am, please ensure they bring one from home or encourage them to purchase something from the canteen before the start of the school day.



Online Safety:

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

DEEPFAKES

A deepfake is a piece of artificial intelligence (AI) trickery designed to make you believe that a person has said or done something they haven't. AI models are able to use audio, video and photos of a subject to produce misleading mimics. Initially unsophisticated and easy to spot, deepfakes are improving every day. And with the spread of user-friendly AI, it's easier than ever for children to make their own, or be the unsuspecting target of them.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A BULLYING RISK

AI has got easier to use and more widespread, making it a "gift" to bullies. Children can generate fake audio of peers saying damaging things, or pictures of them doing something embarrassing. More disturbingly, Metro recently highlighted cases where fake sexualised images of teens are spread through social media. Mainstream apps don't allow this usage, but with AI becoming widespread, easy-to-use sites without guardrails keep emerging for darker uses.

FAKE FAMILY SCAMS

With a few seconds of audio — from an Instagram reel or TikTok — scammers can clone a person's voice. They can then use this to scam relatives with phone calls asking for money or assistance. This is a widespread tactic for scammers, with the FBI reporting 22,000 such cases in 2025, defrauding victims out of $893 million that year alone.

FAKED CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

With the technology getting easier to use and public figures having lots of clips for training, celebrities are a frequent target. According to McAfee, the most deep faked celebrities are Taylor Swift, Scarlett Johansson, Jenna Ortega, Sydney Sweeney and Sabrina Carpenter, and their AI dopelgangers are usually pushing scams. Even YouTuber MrBeast has been deepfaked by scammers on TikTok. It can be used for propaganda too, making politicians appear to do or say things to improve or harm their reputation.

EXTORTION RISK

You might not be the one being tricked by a deepfake — you could also be the star of it. Blackmail videos are as old as film itself, but with deepfake technology you don't have to have done anything wrong to be a target. A deepfake video showing a person in an uncompromising position could make the victim pay up, even when the content never happened.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP PROFILES PRIVATE

To make a convincing deepfake, you need a supply of images, audio or video of the subject. That means that most non-celebrity victims are targeted via social media where there's a ready-made repository of media to train a deepfake from. Most social media companies have privacy settings to prevent unauthorised access. Enable these to keep strangers and bullies away.

KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR

While deepfakes are getting harder to spot, there are still telltale signs to look out for. Deepfake creation can leave blurry edges and flickering textures, especially around hair and teeth. It can also look too sleek, with models often trained on professional video. Make sure the mouth shapes match the spoken words, too. As for audio, listen out for mispronounced phrases and a slightly unusual, robotic rhythm of speech.

USE RESEARCH AND COMMON SENSE

Even perfect deep fakes rely on trust, so think critically. If it's someone you know claiming to need help, then ask them to prove they're who they say they are with an inside joke. For public figures, try Googling the person along with a bit of the contentious speech in quotation marks. Also question why you're seeing the video. If it's a paid promotion, then ask yourself who's paying and why. If someone is sharing the clip, do they dislike the target?

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN

As well as emphasising the need for privacy and to not trust everything they see online, it's important to ensure children realise why deepfakes are problematic in the first place. With deepfake technology getting more accessible and easy to use, children can start using the technology to make deepfakes of schoolmates, teachers or other adults. Ensure they're aware of the serious trouble the technology can cause, and the ethical problems of manipulating someone's image without consent.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of The Guardian, The Telegraph, The i, Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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Year 7 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Laws:



Well, we made it!!! You have all made it through your first half term here at KLA. It's certainly been a chaotic week here at KLA. Lots of ins and outs of lessons and lots of fantastic learning going on.

Quick reminder if you are buying any new uniform over the holiday, please make sure you refer to our uniform policy before purchasing them to make sure they are ok.

Don't forget no nails, bracelets, rings are allowed in school (nothing new we are just enforcing it) one stud earring in each ear only please. No smart watches either.

Attendance in year 7 was 91% this week which is up slightly on last week. Congratulations to those of you who were here all week, and to those of you who have 100% attendance so far, this academic year, that is an amazing achievement! 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. If your child is late without a valid reason time will be made up and they will work in the late room on arrival. Please bear in mind Heads of Year will be calling you daily when your child is absent from school and on the third day of absence, one of us will be doing a home visit to check in with you and your child and see if there is anything we help or support you with.

As a group we have achieved nearly just over 1500 reward points which is amazing! Our highest achiever this week is **Kajus B,** congratulations to him!



Have a wonderful week off. Enjoy yourselves but stay safe. See you all on Monday 2nd November, ready for the run up to Christmas.

Mrs Laws.

Year 8 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Mann



Happy half term indeed. It has been an incredibly busy half term but as always a fun one with lots of hard work along the way .

On Tuesday, Mrs Culley-Tea hosted the Academic Excellence Awards Ceremony with selected students from across the academy to celebrate their successes at the end of the last academic year. It was a lovely hour with certificates and awards being handed out along with cookies to top it all off.

Congratulations to all the year 8's that took part by being invited and celebrated for being amazing, to the certificate and award winners and to **Alice H** for being the overall award winner. Sadly, Alice was absent due to illness however Alice will still receive her award and certificate.



Thank you for your continued support regarding uniform expectations. I hope to see this continue after the half term.

I am so pleased to see that year 8 attendance has improved this week. We are at 93.5% and hopefully this will continue to climb after half term. Great to see students returning after absences, fit and well so fingers crossed the germs stay away.

Congratulations to the highest achievers this week, **Bailey B, Darcie M, Hettie B** and **Lacey G**, girl power at its best. Well done to you all. An incredible way to end this half term.

An extra big congratulations to the highest achievers this half term, **Lewis H** and **Annabel TS.**





With Halloween approaching, I do hope that you all have a spooktacular night but please stay safe and enjoy the night as it should be.



I look forward to seeing you all back on **Monday 2nd November**.

Have a great week.

Mrs Mann.

Year 9 Round Up – Compiled by Mrs Lockey:

Happy Friday! Happy half term!





Just a gentle reminder from me about uniform, thanks to you all for being supportive with this if there are any issues, please feel free to let me know if we can help in anyway. Please remember **black socks** only and no **fluffy socks** to be worn. Jewellery reminder; one set of studs only please, including retainers in nose piercings please, also bracelets to be left at home. No acrylic nails are permitted or nail varnish.

As a year group we have achieved **3,990** points this past week up to yesterday! **Well done year 9.**

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

Student of the week this week goes to **Patricia K,** she has been trying really hard this week. Well done, keep up the amazing work, you have been fabulous. ☺

Shout out section

If your child received a recognition at the Excellence Awards on Tuesday well done to you all, it was a lovely recognition of your hard work and commitment.

Many thanks go to all the staff involved especially Mrs Culley-Tea.

Have a wonderful half term, take care and stay safe ☺

Mrs Lockey.

Year 10 Round Up compiled by Mrs West:

Just a short and sweet one from me this week. I cannot thank you all enough for all the help and support you have given to your children and to me over the last half term. I have enjoyed spending time with the year group and it has been fantastic to see how they have settled into year 10 and their GCSE courses.



⭐ ⭐ Student of the week is **Alisha G**. Well done Alisha! You have been a superstar this week - all weeks to be fair! Thank you!! ⭐ ⭐

School photos have been delivered to school this week so hopefully I have been efficient enough to get them all handed out before the break. Please be assured that if any are still with me they are safe and will be handed out when we return.

A special congratulations to **Ralphie R** for being selected for the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award this half term!



Have a great break. I look forward to seeing all the students back on Monday 2nd November!

Mrs West.

Year 11 Round Up compiled by Miss Fountain:

Happy Friday all! I hope you are all well. The last Friday of the term!

Firstly, a huge thank you to all of you who have supported us with the jewellery policy recently. It is a massive help when we have everyone on the same page regarding how our young people come into school and how their uniform is.

Can I please stress nothing has changed! The policy has always been KLA policy however we are just reinforcing it to ensure everyone is safe in school.

In the last couple of days year 11 have received revision packs. Please make sure they put them to their full use!

Homework Matters

I know homework can sometimes feel like a battle, but it really does make a difference. There is a strong link between regular homework completion and academic success, and we are continuing to reinforce this message with our young people.

We would be incredibly grateful for your support at home in encouraging good homework habits. Whether it is helping them organise their time, providing a quiet space to work, or simply asking about what homework they have, these small conversations can have a big impact.

By working together, we can help our students develop the routines and resilience that will support them not just this year, but throughout their future education too.

Mock Exams Are Nearly Here!

The full examination timetable is :

Please note that the first exam will take place on Wednesday 4th November at 9.00am, when students will sit Mathematics Paper 1.

Over the coming weeks, I would encourage all students to make the most of every opportunity available to them. Regular revision, attending **period 5** sessions, completing homework and maintaining strong attendance are all key ingredients for success.

The effort our young people put in now will help them feel more confident and prepared when the exams arrive. As always, thank you for your continued support. Together, we can help them achieve their very best.

Attendance Matters!

We all know that some mornings can be more challenging than others, but being in school every day really does make a huge difference. Good attendance is about so much more than just lessons. It helps students build confidence, strengthen friendships, develop positive routines and feel fully connected to school life.

As we move closer to the mock examinations, every lesson becomes even more valuable. The small pieces of learning that happen each day quickly add up, and students who attend regularly are often the ones who feel most prepared and confident when exam time arrives.

Thank you for your continued support with attendance. By working together and encouraging our young people to be in school, on time and ready to learn each day, we can give them the very best opportunity to succeed and reach their full

potential.

If you need to contact me at all the best way is via email at: **lucy.fountain@kla.eastern-mat.co.uk**

Have a wonderful half term holiday and I look forward to catching up in the new half term.

Take care.

Miss Fountain.