

# the Edwardian



The latest news from King Edward VI High School, Stafford

Sep/Oct2014

## Students congratulated on exam results



Students and staff have been congratulated by the Headteacher, Mr Christey, for all their hard work and effort after GCSE and A Level exam results were published in August.

King Edward VI High School has achieved some excellent results once again with Deputy Headteacher, Mr Smith, recognising that "pupils that receive Pupil Premium progressed rapidly this year, and it reflects the inclusive education that is promoted at this school."

At GCSE 55% of students achieved at least 1 A\*-B, which shows how hard the pupils and staff worked. Outstanding achievements were made by a number of students including;

Grace Edge (3 A\*s, 3 As, 4 Bs, 2 Cs), Emily Gledhill (2 A\*s, 9 As, 1 C), Bethany Knott (3 A\*s, 4 As, 5 Bs), Hannah Musgrave (3 A\*s, 6 As, 4 Bs), Luke Phillips (2 A\*s, 8 As, 2 Bs) and Amy Watts (7 A\*s, 4 As, 1 B).

A Level students at the school have also achieved excellent results for another successive year with a 99% pass rate, and the vast majority of students attaining their first-choice university placement.

Mr Christey, Headteacher, highlighted, "the excellent achievement of our amazing students is down to the hard work and commitment of both themselves and the staff, well done to them all".

## Welcome from the Headteacher

Hello and welcome to a new term at King Edward VI High School. As I write this it is hard to imagine where the first month has gone, as there has been so much happening already.

As a school we are committed to moving forwards and making improvements so as to support all our learners with their progress during their time here. With the support of a new Chair of Governors, Mrs Mary Witts, we have already implemented new initiatives this term. As you will read on page 2, we have recently launched "Show My Homework" in school to make it easier for our students to access their homework and for parents to monitor their progress. We have made changes to our marking and feedback strategy by adopting the SWaNS method, encouraging all learners to reflect on the strengths, weaknesses and next steps in their work. We have dedicated literacy time each day now as well as a new house system to encourage healthy competition but also create a sense of family and community spirit.

This edition should give you just a taste of the many achievements and events happening in school, testament to the passion we have here to provide a first-class educational experience for all our learners.

**Mr J Christey**



Year 5 and 6 students from St. Lawrence's taking part in KEVI business day

## Gnosall primary school faces the Dragons

Pupils from St. Lawrence's Primary School in Gnosall have taken part in an enterprise activity hosted by King Edward VI High School which saw them face challenges to impress a panel of judges, in a tribute to BBC hit series, *Dragons' Den*.

Students from Years 5 and 6 spent the day working as teams to develop a product, market it and then pitch it to a group of "dragons". Each team had the opportunity to make a "bath bomb" in the Science Department with Mrs Green and Mrs Picken before working together to consider how best to market their product to their chosen target audience.

Pupils from the Gnosall school worked to a tough deadline, each member of the team taking on specific responsibilities to ensure they finished on time. After deciding on concepts, brand names, logo designs, advertising and target audiences, pupils then prepared a pitch to three senior leaders to persuade them that their product was worth "investing" in.

The day was organised and led by Mrs Harte, Leader of Year 7 and Mr Lomas, Lead Teacher in Humanities, as a way of supporting the transition from primary school to high school but also to allow younger pupils the opportunity to engage in a business enterprise day, held annually for King Edwards' pupils by the Business and Enterprise Department under Mrs Bentham.

Pupils were full of praise for the day, with one student saying "I have had a really enjoyable day and have learned so much about business and working as a team".

The "Dragons", Headteacher, Mr Christey; Deputy Headteacher, Mr Smith and St. Lawrence's staff member Mrs Witts, had a difficult decision on the day but settled for the group "Blitz" as overall winners. Each winner received a bouncy ball making kit and sweets for their outstanding achievement.

*More schools to follow...*

## New homework initiative launched

The school has introduced a new program to help support students with their homework and independent learning. Show My Homework was launched in September as an online tool to enable students to access their homework and independent study from anywhere with internet access. Students can see when homework was set, when it is due in and access materials, resources and links to support them with their learning.

Assistant Headteacher, Ms Knights, said "the software will help students to access their homework more easily and allow parents to monitor their child's progress and decide how best to support them at home."

Headteacher, Mr Christey, said "This new program is just one of many new ways in which the school is moving forwards and making radical changes to support our learners and help them make more rapid progress during their time at King Edward's."

Show My Homework can be accessed from the school website at [www.kevi.org.uk](http://www.kevi.org.uk), although logins for students and parents are set to be rolled out very soon.

For now, parents and pupils can visit the school website and see what homework is being set for them.

## Two students scoop Bronze in global competition

Two budding young writers at King Edward's have received a prestigious award this month after taking part in a global literacy competition.

Eleanor Mills 9LAJ and Georgia Brown 11DLT have both been given a Bronze Award in the Commonwealth Essay Competition 2014 for their respective entries. Eleanor received her certificate for her poem "United We Stand".

Georgia has been rewarded for her essay on "How can sport build peace in troubled communities?"

Organiser and Lead Teacher in Humanities, Mr Lomas, said "Eleanor and Georgia's awards are well-deserved. They were both excellent pieces of writing and testament to their talent and skill. Well done!" Headteacher, Mr Christey, added "Eleanor and Georgia are a credit to their school and we are all very proud of their incredible achievements. Very few people in the United Kingdom have received this award, making this an even more prestigious honour. You should be very proud of your hard work and efforts".



Georgia and Ellie joined other students from across the Commonwealth in March to take part in the Commonwealth Day Observance at Westminster Abbey, in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen.

Read Ellie's and Georgia's entries for the competition on the school website, [www.kevi.org.uk](http://www.kevi.org.uk)

Competition winners Georgia (bottom left) & Ellie (top right)

## New House system introduced

Red, yellow, green and blue! At King Edward VI we love achievement, whether it's a personal achievement or as part of a team, it's all very important. But of course being able to work in a team is very important for possible future careers and it is vital we keep ourselves fit and healthy. So this year King Edward's has introduced a housing system. It consists of the four colours; red for Stoke City footballer Sir Stanley Matthews; yellow for Marie Curie, green for Florence Nightingale and finally blue for Winston Churchill.

The system will see each year separated into four teams, with students randomly assigned to each colour, a boy team captain and girl team captain for each year was then selected by democratic vote. Teams will then take part in events and competitions throughout the school year either just in a single year or as a whole school.

The system has been headed mainly by the PE department who are keen to add sporting rivalry between teams. This has been kick-started this week (22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>) with rugby and netball tournaments which pitted each year's teams against each other at lunches throughout this week. This sporting line up is set to continue throughout the year with more sporting events planned and also other activities planned too.

Report by Matthew Winnington Y11

Which house are you? Find out more about your House and who it is named after at [www.kevi.org.uk](http://www.kevi.org.uk)

Matthews

Curie

Nightingale

Churchill



## School welcomes Class of 2014

We have been back at school for nearly a month and the once timid Year 7 students should be happily settled in now. Daniel and I managed to get an interview with a couple of Year 7 students to find out what they were like when they first joined the school and what they are looking forward to.

### What were your first impressions of the school?

Looked really nice, teachers really helpful, very big but after a while, I found my way around easily.

### What do you think of your lessons?

I thought they were quite challenging but very well presented and explained, my favourite lesson would have to be Science because you learn lots and it's something that has always interested me.

### What do you think of your form? Have you made many new friends?

I have made a lot of new friends and Mr Simmons is a very good form tutor; I will learn a lot from him and as he is a Science teacher, I can ask him any science-related questions.

### Is there anything you are looking forward to in the future?

I am looking forward to the other challenges that my other lessons will bring and also Science Club.

### Who would you say is your favourite teacher and why?

I would have to say that Mrs Dolloway is my favourite because she's a really fascinating Science teacher and really helpful.

**Report by Chloe Bromley Y10 and Daniel Aris Y10**

See more news and photos at [www.kevi.org.uk/school-news](http://www.kevi.org.uk/school-news)

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**KING EDWARD VI  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
A LANGUAGE COLLEGE

## School Clubs – “be the best you can be!”

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Lunch	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library News Team	Do My Home-work! ICT/Library Hear4U	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library Netball	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library Poi Spinning
After-school	Do My Home-work!		Do My Home-work! GCSE Art	Do My Home-work! GCSE Art	

For a full list and more details go to [www.kevi.org.uk/school-clubs](http://www.kevi.org.uk/school-clubs) or see in school