



Chief Master & Principal's Message

It has been another exciting and fulfilling term at KEHS. Our annual ACS conference once again drew together the 14 Foundation Schools at KEHS to hear from some inspirational speakers and role models.

During the heatwave, girls in the Lower Sixth joined the boys for two days of interdisciplinary learning and research, inspired by the legacy of the International Baccalaureate: feedback for this first event was very positive.

On the sporting front, we were delighted to host the Pakistan and India women's cricket teams as they completed their final training before the ICC Women's T20 World Cup at Edgbaston, and equally delighted that one of our talented cricketers at KEHS was able to bowl to them in their preparations. Talking of sport, KEHS Sport has had arguably its best ever season this year, with four teams making national finals: our U16 tennis came 1st in School Sport Magazine National Cup; the KS4 Badminton team, came 2nd in School Sport Magazine National Cup and 3rd at National School Finals; the U15 Cricket came 5th in the Indoor Cricket National Finals and our U13 Swimming team came 12th at ESSA National Schools. The department ethos is about strong participation as much as it is about sporting triumph, and it is heartening to see so many girls turning up for their morning training every day.

Our most recent Old Edwardian event, the Milestone Reunion, took place in early June, with Old Eds from both Schools celebrating their anniversary years. We were delighted to welcome back the classes of 1996, 2006 and 2016. These events provide opportunities for alumnae to reconnect with one another and with their schools.

In another activity, the BGOEC, led by Chair Annette Duffy, has been donating chairs from the archive to the Exhibition at the MAC: [MAC needs your chairs! | Mac Birmingham](#)

I trust that you have all been enjoying the latest Keynotes publication, which has now landed: the publication reflects well on all our varied activity this year.

We will have lots to get involved with next year, as the Foundation and King Edward's School enters its 475th year, so do look out for the usual, and some novel, ways to engage. The strongest schools are always those whose alumnae are engaged in uplifting life for current pupils. We very much value all the contact with you and thank you for your support!

With best wishes for a lovely summer.

Kirsty von Malaisé

Interdisciplinary Event

At the end of June, Year 12 pupils from KEHS and KES came together for two interdisciplinary project days designed to encourage collaboration, curiosity and creative thinking. Working in mixed groups across the two schools, pupils explored one of two broad themes (Perception and Green), developing their own research questions and investigating topics that ranged from social media algorithms and greenwashing to branding, culture, health, medicine and the natural world.

Pupils spent two days planning investigations, collecting and analysing data, carrying out research, and designing posters to communicate their findings. The project culminated in a presentation session where groups shared their work with peers and staff.

The interdisciplinary days were a valuable reminder that the most interesting questions rarely belong to a single subject, and that innovation often emerges when different ways of thinking come together and proved to be overwhelmingly positive.



Music News

Final Performers' Platform of the School Year

In our final Performers' Platform of the year we showcased the talents of many of our girls, particularly in the string and piano department. We heard a range of music from Haydn to Debussy and from Beethoven to Faure. A big well done to Eileen, Olivia, Emma, Ruoyi, Michelle, Clarice, Lauren, Yishi, Bella, and Athena.

Summer Jazz Concert

The final big concert of the year featured our Big Band who played from Glenn Miller's *'Moonlight Serenade'* to a thrilling finale of Oasis's *'Wonderwall'*, the entire ensemble showed precision and phenomenal teamwork. It was an unforgettable celebration of musical talent and a massive highlight of the summer.

There was also a variety of exceptional small ensembles: soulful takes on jazz classics like *'Take Five'* (featuring Toby (UM) and Ryan (Fourths)), *'Falling Behind Moon River'* sung by Tayesha (Upper Fifth - KEHS), *'Fly Me To The Moon'* and *'Summertime'* sung by Alex (Divs).

We have also enjoyed many wonderful recitals throughout the year and are incredibly fortunate to have such a depth of musical talent across both KES and KEHS. Our pupils have shone as soloists and as members of small ensembles, choirs, bands and orchestras, enriching our schools with their exceptional musicianship.

Ms Sanders

National Youth Theatre Success!

Huge congratulations to Poppy (Lower Sixth) and Zach (KES Divisions) on being selected for the National Youth Theatre!

What an incredible accomplishment, well done to them both!





ACS Conference

KEHS hosted the Annual African Caribbean Society Conference for the King Edward VI Foundation in late June. The theme, '*Honouring Your Community*', sparked inspiring conversations about the importance of giving back, creating opportunities and supporting the next generation. We were fortunate to hear from an incredible group of guest speakers and panellists who shared their experiences, insights, and

commitment to making a positive impact.

One of the highlights of the day was celebrating the outstanding young people across the Foundation. Their talent, ambition, and dedication are a reminder of the transformative power of education and the opportunities it can create. Events like this reinforce the importance of investing in our communities and ensuring that future generations have the confidence and support to thrive. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making the conference such a meaningful and successful event.

Miss D P McKee

KEHS hosts ICC Women's T20 World Cup

Training day!

On 12 June, KES was proud to support the Pakistan and India women's cricket teams as they prepared for their opening match at Edgbaston in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup. Both teams spent time at the KES Eastern Road cricket ground, just a mile from the stadium, making use of the top-class facilities on a glorious day.

Pupils from both KEHS and KES were selected to be net bowlers for the day. Nathan Round, Director of Cricket (KES), said: *"This was a unique chance for these students to work alongside some of the world's best cricketers, observe elite preparation first hand, and gain valuable experience in a high-performance environment."*



Tennis Champions!

The U16 Tennis Team came 1st in the School Sport Magazine National Cup. The girls played brilliantly, not dropping a match all year, which was an incredible achievement, especially for Nella (Number 2 Seed) and Esther (Number 3 Seed) who are in Years 7 and 8 respectively, playing in a Year 11 competition!

Mr Davies

Gold in National Biology Challenge

In May, Lower Fifth Biology pupils took part in the National Biology Challenge competition, which consisted of two 25-minute multiple choice papers to be taken online, under exam conditions.

Questions are set on the school curriculum, but the competition also rewards those pupils whose knowledge of the subject has been increased by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes, taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest, and are generally aware of our natural flora and fauna.

This year we had a bumper result for medals and commendations for this year group. Well done to all pupils, with a special mention to our Gold Medal winners: Hemali, Avnie Mae, Beatrice, Isha and Mandy.

Miss Rollason



The Final Bid – an exhibition by Michael Pinsky - Midland Arts Centre (MAC), Cannon Hill

A few months ago, whilst visiting the MAC, I saw an appeal for an unusual exhibition. The curator wanted people to donate chairs that they no longer needed. Within our archives we do have many lovely chairs from the New Street site.

The MAC had come into being through the efforts of an Old Edwardian. Mollie Randle attended KEHS from 1922 – 1927 and developed a love of theatre and drama that lasted her lifetime. While working at Highbury Little Theatre in Sutton Coldfield, she met her husband, John English, and they set up a touring company to bring theatre to young people in post war Birmingham.

In 1962 the Council approved their ambitious proposal to create a permanent centre where children could learn about the theatre, donating 8.6 acres of land in Cannon Hill Park and the Midland Arts Centre was born. Mollie and her husband worked in the MAC and following John's death, Mollie continued as a member of the MAC Board. She received an MBE in 1999 for services to Community Arts.

With such a strong connection to the MAC it seemed only fitting to donate some of our chairs. I took two in initially, but the staff were so interested in them they asked if we could donate any more, so I took another three.

The exhibition is running from Saturday, 25 July – Sunday, 4 October.

The chairs will be suspended from the ceiling and people are invited to bid on a chair they like. As the bids come in the chairs will be raised up to creating a kinetic sculpture. At the end of the exhibition the chairs will go to the highest bidder. [MAC needs your chairs! | Mac Birmingham](#)

Any funds raised from the KEHS chairs will be donated to the KEHS Trust Fund for Assisted Places.

Annette Duffy (née Glennon) (1983), Chair of the BGOEC

Leavers' Picnic

On 26 June, we welcomed the Class of 2026 to the Old Edwardians' Club at their Leaver's Picnic.

For the first time in several years, the picnic was held in the school hall due to the extreme heat, instead of the usual location of the Principal's Garden. It was wonderful to see so many of the class attend and collect their Old Edwardian leavers' bags. Many staff came along to wish them well as this was their last day as KEHS pupils!

We wish them all the very best for their upcoming A Level results, and every success for the future. We look forward to staying in touch with them as Old Edwardians!



Milestones Reunion

Our most recent Old Edwardian event, the Milestone Reunion, took place in early June, with Old Eds from both Schools celebrating their anniversary years. We were delighted to welcome back the classes of 1996, 2006 and 2016.

The weather was not always on our side, but it didn't dampen the spirit of the occasion. Guests enjoyed guided tours of the School, followed by a warm welcome from the Chief Master &

Principal.

Year group photographs were taken, between downpours! These photos not only serve as treasured mementos but will also become an important part of the School's archives for years to come.

The celebrations then moved to the Dining Hall for dinner and drinks, where it was wonderful to see both new and long-standing connections being made. A beautiful rendition of 'Jerusalem' was a highlight of the evening, before guests continued to the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre.

Thank you to everyone who joined us. We look forward to welcoming you back for your next decade reunion!

Dates for your Diary

Friday 11th September 2026 - [University Networking](#)

If you left KEHS in or after 2021 then why not join us back at school in September to help the Class of 2027 with advice on universities, different degree courses and university life in general! Taking place from 16.00 - 17.30 at the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre. [Click here to book your free place now.](#)

Saturday 27th February 2027 - [Gemstones Reunion](#)

Did you leave KEHS in 1957, 1967, 1977 or 1987? Then we want to see you at this very special reunion, joint with KES, in February to celebrate your Milestone. This is a once in a decade opportunity so do not miss out! Please save the date.

Tuesday 20th April 2027 - [Tolkien Lecture](#)

We are delighted to announce that the 2027 Tolkien Lecture will be delivered by world-renowned author Lee Child (Jim Grant OE 1973) at the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre. More information to follow in due course.

Saturday 15th May 2027 - [Milestones Reunion](#)

We are holding a special reunion in May for the classes of 1997, 2007 and 2017 from both KEHS and KES and we want you to be part of it! Please save the date.

Friday 28th May 2027 - [Dentist & Medic Mock Interviews](#)

We will once again be hosting a Mock Interview event for aspiring students who are looking to pursue a career in Dentistry or Medicine and we are seeking industry experts to conduct approximately 20-minute mock interviews for our students.

The event will be held between 15.30 and 17.30 in the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre. If you are interested in helping, then drop us an email and please include your current job title and specialism.

Friday 25th June 2027 - [475 Careers & Networking Day](#)

Throughout the day, we'll be hosting a programme of events tailored to each year group – from workshops to talks and interactive activities. This event will bring together alumni, parents, partners and friends of both KEHS and KES to share insights and offer guidance. If you are interested in taking part in this event, you can express your interest [here](#).

Sunday 27th June 2027 - [475 KE Community Day](#)

Enjoy a 475th anniversary cricket match alongside family activities, food, games and entertainment. Bring friends, family and picnic blankets for a relaxed day of sport and community on South Field. More information to follow in due course.

Visit our [OE upcoming events page](#).