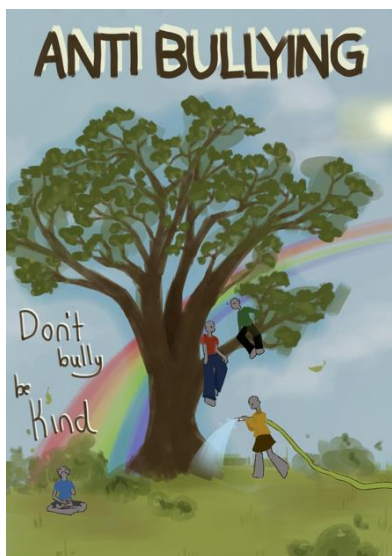


It has been another full and varied month at KLB, one in which the range of opportunities on offer – and the level of student engagement – really stands out.

There is a strong sense, running through this edition, of students getting involved. This is evident not only in the big events but also in the everyday moments: in classrooms, on trips, and in the way students represent the school both on and off site.

There have been some excellent successes. Our year 9 rugby team reached the county plate final at Kingsholm after an impressive run of results, while our Key Stage 3 dancers were crowned regional champions at the Great Big Dance Off and now go on to the national finals.

Trips and visits remain a valuable part of the KLB experience, giving students the chance to practise their learning in a different setting. Our year 10 geographers, for example, spent time in Lyme Regis carrying out fieldwork in challenging conditions, approaching it with focus and good humour (even if the local seagulls had other ideas).



There are also many examples of students contributing beyond the classroom. From the Sixth Form charity bake sale supporting a local organisation, to work alongside residents at Westgreen Care Home, and student-led initiatives within school, there is a real sense of students taking the lead and giving something back to both the school and the wider community.

The impact of last term's production of *Les Misérables* continues, with students taking a selection of songs to perform for residents at a local care home. It was a simple set-up, but a powerful reminder of what those performances can mean to others.

Our Diversity Group have also led a series of events to mark Vaisakhi, including assemblies, tutor activities and a drumming workshop, alongside work with a local primary school.

As always, this newsletter gives a glimpse of life at KLB in all its variety. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Hannah Khan, Headteacher



Diversity Group Organises Vaisakhi Celebration Events

The Diversity group meets to organise events, to learn about different cultures and beliefs and views. The students plan assemblies, tutor activities, and events for the whole school. In the past they have been involved in planning the school carnival, celebrating Chinese New Year and many more. The group is currently made up of students from KS3 and KS4.

Over the last few weeks, the Diversity group has led a series of events to share the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi with students and to consider our own school values.

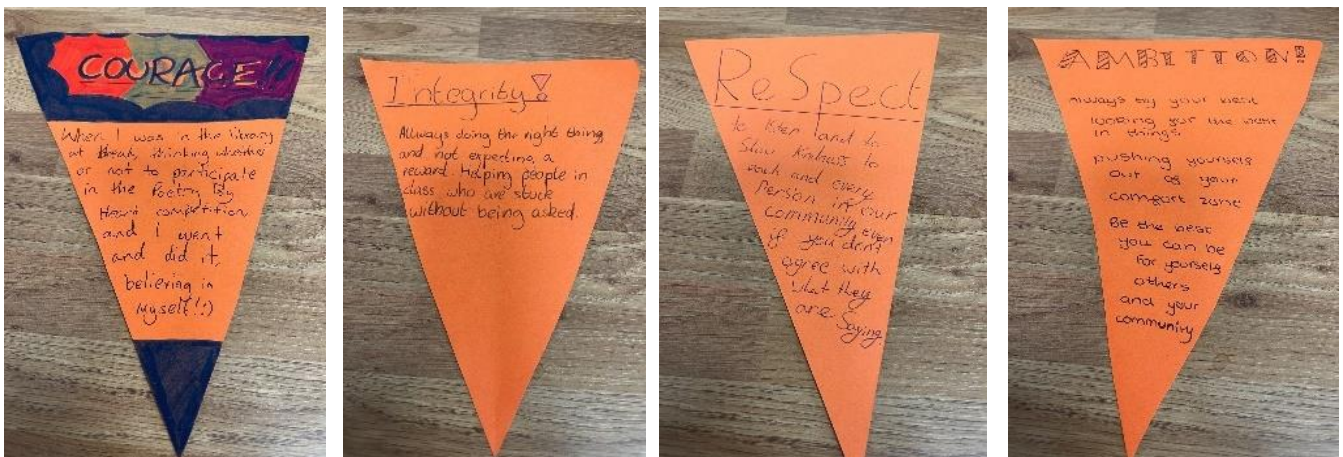
What is Vaisakhi and how is it celebrated?

Vaisakhi takes place every year in April. It began as a harvest festival in Punjab, in northern India, celebrating the gathering of crops. But for Sikhs, Vaisakhi has an even deeper meaning. In **1699**, a Sikh leader called Guru Gobind Singh made a historic decision. He created the **Khalsa**, a community of Sikhs committed to equality, courage, and standing up for what is right.

School events

Diversity group members have led assemblies, made quizzes for a tutor competition, planned a bunting activity to share our school values and community links, helped to organise a northern India curry meal for the canteen and run a clothing collection to raise money for charity. Thank you for all your hard work.

A huge well done to 9ACO who won the tutor competition.



Indian drumming



One of the highlights of the week was an **Indian drumming workshop** led by Tej, a professional drummer. Students were invited to take part after being nominated by their Heads of Year for regularly displaying some of our school values of respect, inclusion, resilience and loyalty.

Students learnt how to do a bhangra drumming beat and about different ways of playing the **dhol**, the traditional drum. The dhol is widely used in Punjabi weddings, celebrations, and harvest festivals

(Vaisakhi) to create a high-energy, rhythmic beat. Pupils really enjoyed the workshops, and it was great to see their enthusiasm and laughter. The sound of the twenty dhol drums being played together was truly impressive and Tej was a great teacher.



St Andrew's Primary School Visit

On Friday 24 April, members of the Diversity group visited the year 5 and 6 class at St Andrew's Primary School in Cromhall. Students shared an assembly on Vaisakhi and helped to run some craft activities with the pupils. Pupils at St Andrew's considered their own school values (many are similar to the KLB values) and made bunting to display in their classroom.

It was great for the younger pupils to have a chance to also chat informally to KLB students about being a member of the KLB School community. We look forward to meeting many of the year 6 pupils on their transition days in the summer term.

Kate Williams, RE teacher

The Great Big Dance Off Success

A group of students from year 7 and 8 competed in 'The Great Big Dance Off' competition at The Bath Forum on Monday 27 April. We entered two KS3 groups – one contemporary dance and one street dance.

Both groups have been working hard over the last few months in preparation for the competition. The contemporary group have been rehearsing every Friday lunchtime with Miss Beattie and the street dance group have been attending an after-school club on a Monday with LA Dance.

Both groups went up against some strong schools from across the southwest. All their hard work paid off as the street dance group were crowned winners of the competition, making them **KS3 regional champions!** The girls will now go through to dance in the national finals at the end of June. Well done to all the students involved!



S Prosser, PE Teacher

Strong Season for Year 9 Rugby Team

The year 9 rugby team has had a fantastic year. After narrowly losing their first game they then went on an eight-game unbeaten run in both friendly and cup fixtures. This led to a thrilling county plate semifinal against Kings Gloucester who had beaten KLB by over 50 points the previous year. The commitment and hard work put in by the boys on the training ground resulted in their performance of the season winning with the last play of the game and qualifying for the county final.



The final was held at Kingsholm Stadium the home of Gloucester rugby. The sun was shining and the large contingent of KLB supporters was treated to an outstanding afternoon of rugby. Sadly, despite a huge performance from the whole squad the team lost 21-19 against a very impressive Dean Close team. Harry W, Hugo and Harvey were combined players of the day.

R Daniel, Head of PE



Year 10 Geographers Take on Lyme Regis (and the Seagulls...)

Our year 10 geographers recently headed to Lyme Regis to complete their all-important fieldwork in preparation for their exams, investigating the effectiveness of coastal sea defences. Armed with clipboards, ranging poles, and just a slightly exaggerated pre-trip briefing about compulsory high-vis jackets, hard hats, and life jackets (thankfully optional...), students set off ready for action.



Over the two days, students showed fantastic commitment as they carried out a range of fieldwork techniques, including beach profiling, sediment sampling, questionnaires with both locals and tourists, and detailed field sketches. Their focus and enthusiasm were evident throughout—despite the best efforts of the British seaside to provide ‘character-building’ conditions.

Day 1 brought particularly strong winds, which added an unexpected twist when one student’s hard work was quite literally swept away—notes disappearing dramatically into the air and out to sea before anyone could react. A powerful reminder, perhaps, of coastal processes in action!



Day 2 was a much calmer and sunnier affair, though the local seagull population proved no less formidable. Despite repeated warnings, we counted at least ten students (and one member of staff!) who fell victim to expertly executed snack thefts. Ice creams and lunches alike were no match for the aerial precision of Lyme Regis’ finest.

A special mention goes to Mr Dudbridge, Head of Year, who joined the trip and played a crucial role in locating what is now widely agreed to be the best ice cream shop in town—an essential component of any successful field trip.



Most importantly, all students across both days were an absolute credit to the school. Their behaviour, effort, and engagement made the trip a genuine success, and the geography department could not be prouder of their hard work.

A memorable trip full of learning, laughter, and a healthy respect for both coastal defences—and hungry seagulls.

K Probyn, Head of Geography

Model UN Club Supports UN Act Now Campaign

This term, Model UN Club members have been engaging with the United Nations **Act Now** campaign which encourages people of all ages to 'embrace the possible'.

The UN has outlined 17 Sustainable Development Goals which together make 'a blueprint for a better world'. The 17 goals sit under four themes - Healthy Planet, Just Society, Peaceful World and Better Economy.



KLB students have been finding out how they can make small changes in their own lives to support the UN campaign. For example, some students are focused on saving electricity at home, while others are thinking about how they can change their diet to reduce their carbon footprint.

As members of the club, the students are also taking action for 'a Peaceful World' by educating themselves about current affairs and the role of the UN in an uncertain political climate.

N Kelly-Davies, Sociology Teacher

Year 8 Sikhi Workshop

On Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 April, year 8 students enjoyed an interesting and interactive Sikhi (Sikhism) workshop run by Sakhya and Kavita. We converted the library into a temporary Sikh Gurdwara for the sessions.

Students engaged with various religious and cultural aspects of Sikh life, including exploring the 5Ks, Sikh clothing and wearing of the Sikh dastar and Turban. In each session, volunteers also dressed up as the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh and as Sikh princesses whilst exploring the roots of the Khalsa and the symbols of faith. Some students had traditional Sikh hand / face paintings and motifs.

Students also learned about Langar (the free kitchen), traditional Sikh foods and Seva (selfless service) and what that entails for many Sikhs.

Many thanks again to Sakhya and Kavita!



Wearing of the Kara, the steel bracelet that symbolises Waheguru's eternal nature and a commitment to righteousness.



Examples of the traditional Sikh hand / face painting that pupils had as part of the workshop.

A Jones, Head of RE and KS4 PSHE

Sixth Form Charity Cake Sale

On Wednesday 22 April, the KLB Charity Team hosted a bake sale. Sixth Form students and teachers descended on the area surrounding the new coffee machine to feast on the array of delicious delights carefully baked by the school community.

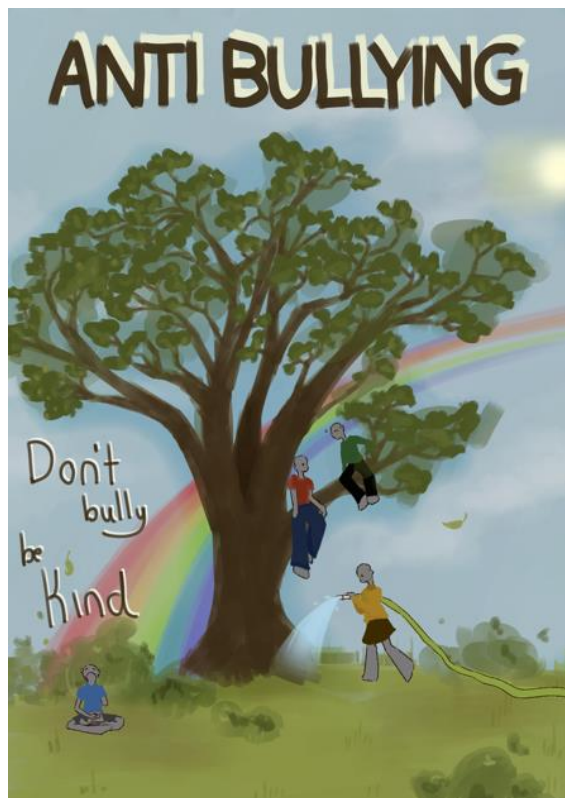


In total, we raised just shy of £250 for local charity, The Bournstream Trust, who run an incredible outdoor playground for children requiring special needs support. We hope that our donation will help this amazing charity continue their work.

Zoe Shepherd, Year 12



Anti-Bullying B Team



Being part of the B team has been so fun and rewarding. We have done so many things that have helped the school community and we have many more ideas planned for the future.

Last month, we ran an Anti-Bullying poster competition. There were so many entries and it was hard to choose the winning one. We enjoyed putting the winning poster up around school for everyone to see and have a visual reminder to not bully and to be kind”.

Cerys Jones, Year 8

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry and well done to Mathilda in year 8 for the winning design (pictured left).

J Ilic

Horticulture News

Thomas in year 8 and Aimee in year 9 spent a lovely afternoon at Westgreen Care Home where they planted sweet peas, nasturtiums and oriental lilies, along with help from the residents.

The students also planted up some of the plant pots they had painted with the residents at the last visit and filled these with flowers to go in the residents’ bedrooms.

Emma Taylor-Roach, Horticulture Teacher





Library News

Student Librarians

We have successfully recruited eleven new student librarians! These year 8 students all applied for the role by completing an application form and attending an interview and will now join our experienced student librarian, Felicity (Year 9), to help keep the library running smoothly.

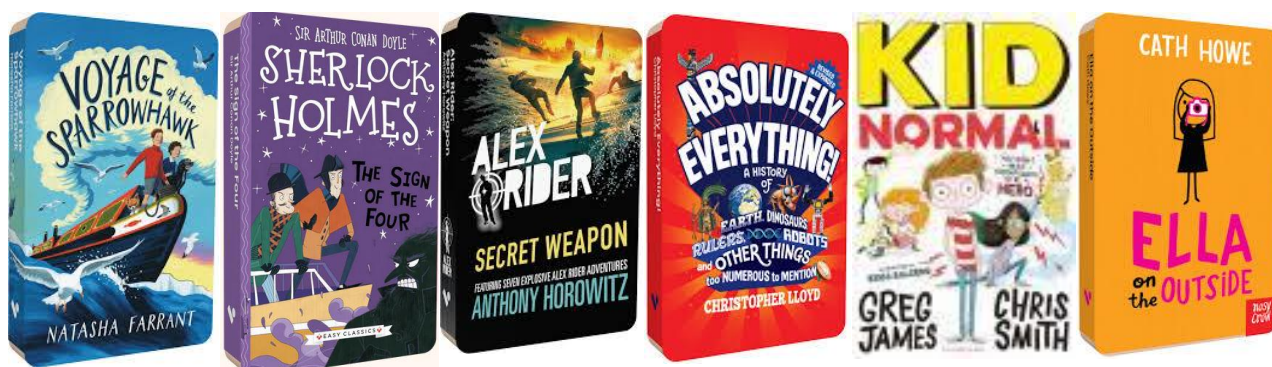
The new recruits will now be completing a short training process to get them up to speed with the fine details of shelving books correctly and how to issue and return books at the Issue desk before earning their red librarian badge.

Having an enthusiastic student librarian team will make a big impact on the library, making sure that the space is welcoming, neat and tidy and running efficiently. If you have any questions when using the library, feel free to ask one of the student team – they will be more than happy to help!

Audiobook players

We are pleased to confirm that the audiobook players funded by the KLB friends are now available for students to use within the library. There are 20 audiobook players with 40 book titles to choose from including the ones pictured below. Students can borrow a book player and select their choice of audiobook from the Issue desk during break or lunch and hand them back in at the end of the session.

We are also planning a silent reading disco which will take place during the summer term! Thanks again to the KLB Friends for funding this fantastic resource for the library.



The 2026 Carnegies Book Award Shadowing

Each year, we have taken part in shadowing The Carnegies Medal of Writing award. The Carnegies are the longest running and the most recognised children's book award in the UK. This year, instead of running a weekly lunchtime club, we are taking a different approach where students will be able to read the shortlisted titles independently in their own time and at their own pace.



Students can read as many of the shortlisted books as they like and there will be an opportunity for all the shadowers to get together and discuss the books and argue the case for their favourite, over biscuits of course, before casting their vote ahead of the closing date on Tuesday 9th June. The winner of the 2026 Medal for Writing and the Shadowers Choice award will be announced on 23rd June 2026 - it's always interesting to see if the judges agree with our choice!

If any students are interested in taking part in shadowing the award and having their own say about the nominations, please send us an email on library@klbschool.org.uk or come and sign up in the library. There are no year group restrictions, everyone can take part.

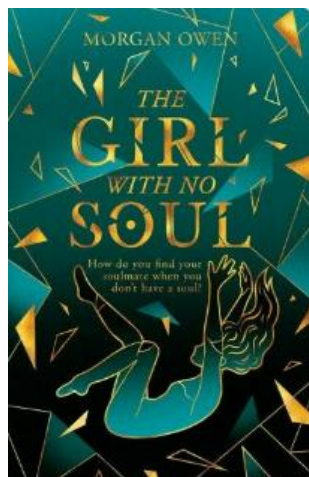
Leavers! Please don't forget...

... to return your library books! We would remind students in Year's 11 and 13 to return their library books before heading off on study leave so that others can enjoy them. Many thanks and the very best of luck with your exams!

L Hill and N Dix, Librarians

April Diversity Books

Each month we are sharing two books recommended by students in our recent diversity book project in RE.



The Girl with no Soul by Morgan Owen

How can you find your soul mate, when you don't have a soul?

Iris lives in a world ruled by The Order. Inspectors police the population by keeping careful watch over people's souls. If they shine their lanterns on you, your soul is projected for the world to see... and judge.

But Iris has a deadly secret ... she is a hollow, a person with no soul. She must hide from the Order at all costs, scraping a living in the shadows.

When she's sent to steal a ring said to hold the memory of a soul's destruction, she is reunited with her Spark – one of the five parts that make up her own missing soul.

Now she must rely on the help of a young scholar named Evander Mountebank to track down the other four missing pieces of her soul, all the while evading The Order.

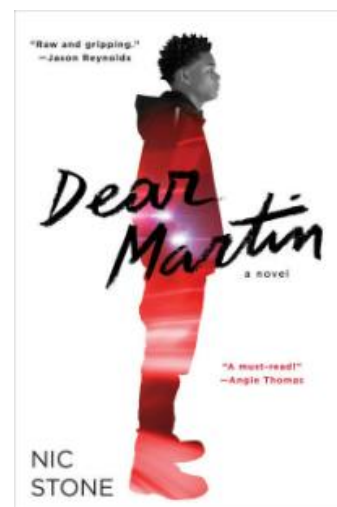
Will she be able to protect her heart as well as find her soul?

Dear Martin by Nick Stone

Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set for the Ivy League—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. And despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr Martin Luther King Jr for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr King to find out.

Then comes the day Justyce goes driving with his best friend, Manny, windows rolled down, music turned up—way up, sparking the fury of a white off-duty cop beside them. Words fly. Shots are fired. Justyce and Manny are caught in the crosshairs. In the media fallout, it's Justyce who is under attack.

K Williams, RE Teacher



House Update

April has been a jam-packed month for House Activities.

We had the results through for the following independent challenges: Durand took the overall win for the Coding Competition, Logan were victorious in the Unifrog Challenge, and Wellicome just took the win in the Warhammer contest with a one-point victory over Berkeley. Well done to all students who took part in these activities and helped build up the points tally for their houses.

The big challenge for this term was the House Music Competition! The performances were full of fun and energy, particularly the tutor group performances from years 7 and 8. The year 7s had the theme of 'Before You Were Born' with song choices from a range of decades. The winning performance was 7IRO's fantastic rendition of Shakira's 'Waka Waka' with excellently rehearsed choreography alongside brilliant singing taking the win for Wellicome. Another highlight of the competition was the year 12 students getting involved with some lovely solos and ensembles. Thanks also to the student House Leaders for supporting the event.

So, what does this mean for the House standings? Here are the results at the end of April:



Berkeley

978



Durand

908



Logan

915



Wellicome

837

K Wyndow

Les Mis On Tour!



The principal cast of our recent production of *Les Misérables* delighted residents at Westgreen Care Home with a snapshot of the full-scale show last week. The students were excited to work together again a month after the final night performance and brought the same energy and enthusiasm which made the whole show so incredible.

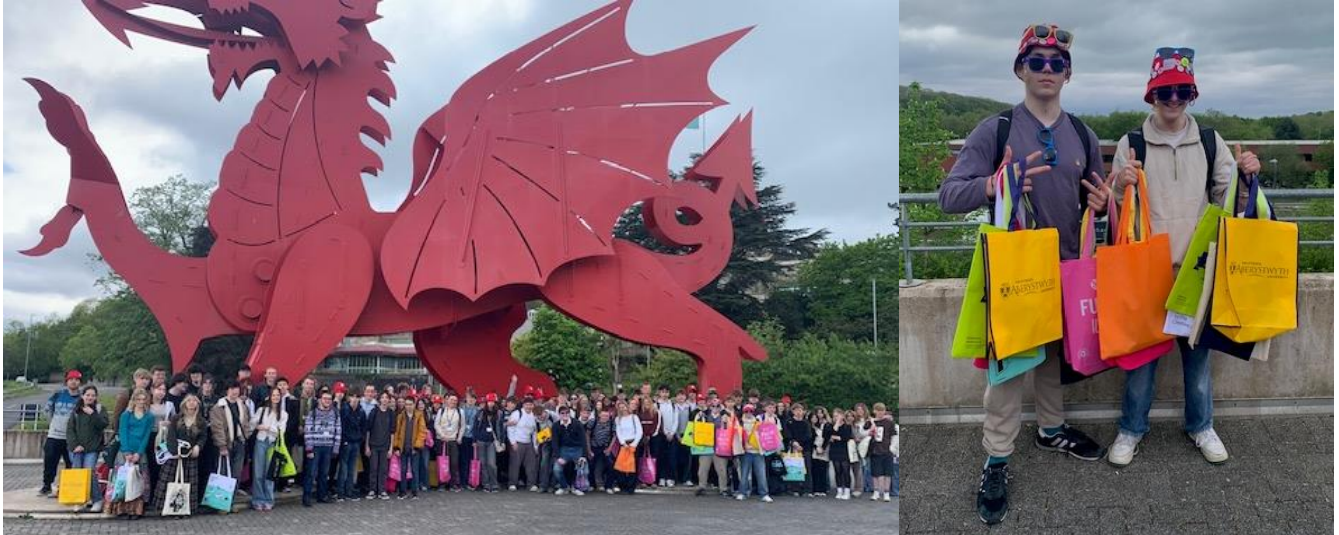
Students sang some of the most well-known numbers, including *Castle on a Cloud*; *Little People*; *I Dreamed a Dream*; and *Bring Him Home*. Without the lights, set, costume, tech, or band, the pure talent of the students was on full display, and that was all it took to evoke the powerful emotions of the songs and storyline.

The full cast, crew, and band then had the opportunity to watch a screening of their own final night performance, all together in the Berkeley Theatre. It was a lovely way to get closure on the project and enjoy being a team one final time.

M Smith, Head of Music

Year 12 UCAS Exhibition Visit

On Tuesday 28 April, I was proud to take the whole of year 12 west into sunny Wales where the UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) Exhibition was being hosted at the Newport International Convention Centre. This trip is a staple of the sixth form future plans calendar. It is a great opportunity for them to research the increasingly daunting range of higher education opportunities available within a focused two-hour slot. A huge number of institutions were present - universities were well represented from across the nations as well as the armed forces, and companies such as Dyson and Specsavers.



Students started their research for the event in the classroom through general studies sessions and tutor time. They had made excellent use of Unifrog and the UCAS website to ensure that they were impressively prepared for the day. They were equipped with a clear plan of action and questions to ensure that they made the most of the opportunity by collecting prospectuses and making enquiries about possible courses, entry requirements and routes into employment. Also, of course, they made sure to collect the best tote bags, water bottles, pens, hats and sunglasses as can be seen from the photograph.

J Campion, Head of Sixth Form



Kickboxing Success

Fillip Tomi in year 7 has been to compete in the British Nationals for kick boxing in Barnsley.

Fillip stepped up into the Older Cadets (13–15yrs) category this year and absolutely smashed it, bringing home 1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze medal.

We are so proud of the determination, courage, and hard work Fillip has shown.

Fillip has qualified for World Kickboxing Championships in Italy in September to represent Great Britain – an amazing achievement.

J Morris, PE Teacher



KLB Friends News

Upcoming Events and Activities

We are currently requesting help for the following events. Please sign up below.

- Lions 10,000M Under the Edge Sunday 31 May
Refreshments and BBQ - <https://volunteersignup.org/RL8QE>
- Charfield Village Fete Saturday 6 June
Bottle Tombola - <https://volunteersignup.org/ALF94>

Charfield Village Fete Saturday 6 June 🍷 Bottle Tombola Donations Needed!

We are collecting **bottled items** for our popular **Bottle Tombola Stall** — and we'd love your help! If you're able to donate, please send items in with your student to **KLB Reception by Wednesday 22 May**. Suggested donations include:

- Shower gel
- Non-alcoholic drinks
- Cordials
- Perfume
- Moisturiser

Every contribution helps make our fundraising events a success with all monies raised going directly towards enriching students' educational experience at KLB School.

KLB Friends Carnival and Classic Car Show — Saturday 11 July 12-5pm

The **biggest fundraising event of the year is only two months away** and we'd love your help to make it our best one yet.

We need sponsors who are willing to support our BBQ, Bar and tearoom in return you will receive free advertisement in our event brochure, social media posts linked to your business and on the day prime location visible advertising space.

We're looking for a team of volunteers to run the hugely successful BBQ do you have a group of friends who like to sizzle a sausage or flip a smash burger? Then get in touch.

Stallholders, Sponsors and Raffle Prizes

We're now on the lookout for:

- Brilliant **stallholders**
- Exciting **raffle prizes**

If you or someone you know can support the event — whether you're a local business, a crafty creator, or simply someone who loves backing the school — we'd be thrilled to hear from you.

Volunteers Needed: BBQ and Tea Room Team

We're also building a friendly crew to run the **BBQ** and **Tea Room** on the day. If you enjoy being part of the action, love a busy atmosphere, or just fancy helping for a couple of hours, this is a fantastic way to get involved. No experience needed — just enthusiasm. If you can help in any way, big or small, please reach out. Your support genuinely makes this event possible.

EasyFundraising App - <https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/causes/klbfriends>

Get in Touch

We're always excited to welcome new faces and fresh ideas.

Email: klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk or our new email address: Admin@klbfriends.co.uk

The KLB Friends Committee

What's on in May?

The Keepers is a community hub supporting the residents of Wotton and surrounding areas. It is here for everyone. Either come along to one of the organised groups below, or just pop in for a chat and a cuppa - whenever we are open. Come as you are, bring what you can and take what you need.

Monday

Parent Support Group - a support group by parents for parents. Weekly 9:15am - 10:45am

Citizens Advice - to book an appointment call 0800 800 0510/0511 or just drop in. 11th and 25th May 10am - 2pm

Age UK - a social group for those who are 50+. 11am - 12:30pm

Digital Drop-in - any help on anything digital. 11th and 25th May 11:30am - 1:30pm

Keepers Kidz - board games, craft and toast available. Children to come with an accompanying adult. Also runs through the holidays. 3:15pm - 4:30pm

Chair Yoga - join in with some gentle, supportive yoga. Open to all. No booking is needed. Pay As You Feel. Followed by refreshments (optional). 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Tuesday

The Keepers' Garden - the garden is open - come along to plant, dig, weed, sit or just chat with our gardener. Refreshments provided. 10am - 12pm

Sing 2 Remember - sing together, share memories and make friends. Come and join this supported, dementia-friendly singing session. Just turn up. 12th and 26th May. 10:45am - 11:45am

Tuesday Lunches - come and join us for a meal and chat. Open to all and Pay As You Feel (PAYF). Spaces are limited, so to book a place please call 07585 466418 or pop in to find out what's on the menu! 12:30pm - 2pm

The Keepers' Car Club is also running on Tuesdays to provide transport from your home to the hot lunches. Places are limited. To book, please call 07585 466418 or pop in.

Wednesday

Drop In Café - all welcome on a Pay As You Feel basis. 10am - 12pm

The Keepers' Car Club is also running on Wednesdays to provide transport from your home to The Keepers. Places are limited. To book please call 07585 466418 or pop in.

P3 Drop In - help with a range of issues e.g. housing, debt and benefit support. No booking needed. Weekly 10am - 1pm

Health Visitor Drop In - bring your baby in to get advice from a Health Visitor 6th May 10am - 12pm

Stroud Foodbank - offering emergency food and essentials along with support and advice. 10am - 11:30am

Talk Club - a talking and listening club for men to help keep mentally fit. 6th and 20th May 7pm - 8:30pm

Stroud District Council Housing Officer Drop In - pop in and talk to Becky. Monthly on the last Wednesday of the month. 27th May 10:30am - 11:30am

Wotton Area Neurodivergent Support group (WANDS) - a group run by, and for, neurodiverse adults and parents/carers of neurodiverse children. 27th May 9:30am - 11:00am.

Thursday

Lloyds Bank - drop in for basic transactions. No cash services are available. 9:30am - 3pm

NHS social prescriber's Drop In - help to connect and grow in confidence. Just come in, no appointment needed. 11am-1pm

Rethink Welcome Group - a drop-in mental health group. Every Thursday. 1pm - 3pm

Spanish For Beginners/The Terrified - informal Spanish conversation group. Just drop in. 7pm - 8:30pm

Age UK Help Session - drop in for assistance for those who are 50+. 28th May 9am-11am.

Alzheimer's Society Advice Drop In - Practical advice for anyone suffering from Dementia (or their carers) 14th May 12pm-4pm.

Community Autism Support and Advice - book a one hour advice and support session for autistic adults, and friends and family of autistic adults. 28th May 11:30am-3:30pm
To book go to: ca@ccas.org.uk or email them at infocasa@grcc.org.uk

Cancer Support - We will be hosting Charlies Community Support every first Thursday of the month from 9am-1pm.

Wotton Area Breast Cancer Support Group - anyone touched by breast cancer is invited to drop in and meet others who know just how it feels. 21st May 10am - 11am

Warm and Well - a drop in session for energy saving tips and more! Thursday 28th May 2:15pm-3:45pm

OPENING TIMES

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:
9:00am - 4:00pm

Wednesday and Friday:
9:00am - 1:00pm

CLOSED ON BANK HOLIDAYS

For more details please go to our website:
www.thekeepers.org.uk
Call: 07585 466418 or Email:
thekeeperscommunityhub@gmail.com
or pop in

NEW/CALENDAR EVENTS

Keepers at The Lake - Join us for a fundraising event at Tortworth Lake. 3rd of May from 10am.

Dementia Action Day - Alzheimer's Society, Age UK and the Frailty Nurse will be hosting an informational session for visitors with Dementia and their families. 27th May 2:15pm-3:45pm

Connect to Work - This session offers tailored 1:1 employment support for those facing specific barriers or long-term unemployment, however, anyone seeking career guidance is welcome as we can also refer you to the broader Employment and Skills Hub. 11th & 25th May 1:45pm-3:45pm.

Chronic Pain & Fatigue Support Group - This group offers a gentle, understanding space where you can simply be yourself. Monthly on Thursdays. 7th May 1:15pm-2:25pm.

Strength and Balance - a fitness class specifically targeting the strength and stability required for fall prevention in older visitors. Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm.

Covid Jobs Drop In - 18th May 9:30am-12pm

Out of Hours Session - 21st May 6pm-8pm

Friday

The Keepers Tots - a session for babies, toddlers and their responsible adult. 9:15am - 10:30am

The Keepers' Garden - the garden is open. Come along to plant, dig, weed, sit or chat with our gardener. Refreshments provided. 10am - 12pm

The Friday Table - Join us for a seasonal lunch (now serving jacket potatoes), all welcome on a Pay as You Feel basis. 12:00pm-12:30pm

Closed Days:
May Bank Holiday - Monday
4th May

It's important to us that everyone is included, the Hub is accessible to all and we work in collaboration with other local organisations.
www.thekeepers.org.uk Reg Charity No. 1192121

5 - 7 June 2026

Wotton



Walking Festival

FREE guided walks

Book
now!

wottonwalkingfestival.com

