

Friday 7th November 2025

Parental Communications this week

	Subject	Recipients
Year 7		
Year 8		
Year 9		
Year 10		
Year 11	Barcelona 2025 Parental update	Families of students who attended the Barcelona residential
Whole school	Parent Space Reminder	All Families
	Arbor Transition Email	All Families

If you have not received a communication noted above that you are an intended recipient of please contact enquiry@knbs.co.uk

King's Norton School for Boys Remembrance – Assemblies and Service

This week, assemblies have focussed on Remembrance and, in particular, how it can be a powerful way of recognising some of the more forgotten and hidden histories in our nation's past. Mr Williamson has spoken to the boys about the Black Rose of Remembrance which is used to focus remembrance on the contributions of soldiers in past conflicts from all parts of the British Empire and Commonwealth, including those from Africa, the Caribbean, India, Asia and the Pacific Islands, and how this reflects our diverse community in modern times.

The King's Norton School for Boys Act of Remembrance service will take place this Sunday 9th November at 10:45am, convening around the school memorial at the front of the school itself. We invite all members of our school community to attend should they wish to do so, and there will be refreshments provided shortly after the conclusion of our service after 11am.

Introducing Our Librarian

We are delighted that our long-awaited librarian, Kate Fletcher, has joined us this week and here she tells us a little bit about herself:

Hello! My name is Kate Fletcher, and I am delighted to be the librarian at KNSB. I am really looking forward to working with the school community. I am a passionate reader and writer – I have an English Literature degree, and my first job was with a newspaper as a features writer. I then trained as a secondary Teacher of English, so I have always worked with 'words'. I write short stories, and I am a judge for the BBC 500 words competition.

My favourite two quotes about reading are:

'Find time for reading, or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance' (Confucius)
And, most importantly:

'Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success' (www.gov.co.uk)

I can't wait to welcome boys into the library in the coming weeks to talk to them about reading!

The school library will now be open at lunchtimes for boys to do quiet reading or use the computers to complete homework. It is also open on Monday and Wednesday until 4pm and on Thursdays until 5pm for completing homework or doing revision.

Parent Forum Wednesday 10th December

The school is delighted to host our termly Parent Forum, in which key members of the school staff meet with a selection of parents to share ideas, give information or seek opinion. Topics are decided prior to each meeting, and recent meetings have focused on the school mobile phone policy, safeguarding, personal development and student rewards. This term we intend exploring your thoughts about the Year 6 into Year 7 transition process, including how it supported and impacted you and your son and how it could be improved.

The Parent Forum this term will meet in the school Drama studio for a 6pm start and will finish by 7pm. We would be delighted to welcome contributions from parents of boys from all year groups, but particular invitations go out to parents of boys in our new Year 7 intake, for whom the experience is most recent. If you would like to be involved and haven't yet made contact, please email me on j.butcher@knbs.co.uk with your son's name and your contact details. I look forward to meeting you on the evening.
Mr J. Butcher (Deputy Headteacher)

Lockdown Practise

As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe learning environment, we have many practices and procedures that the boys need to know and do well. This is why we regularly practise fire drills and hold systematic lockdown walkthrough, practises and drills.

Why do we have lockdown drills?

Lockdown drills are an essential part of our safeguarding procedures. They prepare students and staff to respond calmly and effectively in the unlikely event of an emergency that requires us to secure the school premises quickly. These drills help

ensure that everyone knows what to do to stay safe should a situation arise that threatens the safety of our school community.

Why do we practise them?

Just like fire drills, lockdowns are practised so that the process becomes familiar and instinctive. Practising these procedures enables us to:

- identify and address any potential issues in our emergency response plan
- build confidence among students and staff in how to act during an emergency
- ensure a swift, organised, and safe response to protect everyone in the school.

We understand that lockdown drills can be unsettling for some students and parents, so, we wanted to let you know that this will be happening over the next few weeks. The first thing to happen will be a form group discussion and talk through of the practices for lockdown. Next will come a planned walkthrough so students are prepared and know when this will be happening – it gives their teacher a chance to talk through what we are doing as we do it. Finally, we will provide staff and students a window where a drill will happen so they can show us what they have learnt.

We hope that you can see our approach aims to bring everyone up to speed, but in a structured and calm way. We had always planned for this to take place in November as we have got to know new students better by this point and can support them in the practices; we know these things can cause a little bit of nervousness. We also note that there have been a few lockdowns in West Midlands School recently, so it looks like it has come at a suitable moment.

Update on Arbor Parent App

Following our recent communication regarding our move from Bromcom to Arbor, we have received a number of enquiries about the Arbor Parent App.

Please note that the Parent App is not yet available to parents. We are currently in a testing and review phase, ensuring that all systems and processes are working correctly before launch.

Once this review is complete, we will provide full details and guidance on how to access and use the Arbor Parent App.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make this transition to improve our communication and data systems.

Updated PE Extra-Curricular Timetable

Please see below the updated timetable:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School3.05-4.05pm	After School3.05-4.05pm	After School3.05-4.05pm	After School3.05-4.05pm	After School3.05-4.05pm
Sports House Competitions(Week 2 Only)		Dodgeball Years 7-11(SM)Rugby 7-11(KF MLT)	Year 7-11Basketball(MLT, PG)	Fixtures

Dates for your diary

- Friday 21st November 2025 – INSET Day *KEVI* (school closed to students)
- Thursday 4th December 2025 – – Year 7 Parents Evening
- Wednesday 10th December 2025 – Parent Forum
- Thursday 11th December – Year 11 Parents Evening
- Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January – Christmas Holiday
- Monday 5th January 2026 – INSET Day (school closed to students)
- Thursday 15th January 2026 – Year 10 Parents Evening
- Wednesday 4th February 2026 – INSET Day *SAN* (School closed to students)
- Thursday 5th February 2026 – Year 8 Parents Evening
- Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026 – Half Term Holiday

INSET Days (School closed to students)

- Friday 21st November
- Monday 5th January
- Wednesday 4th February