

Dates for your Diary

School finishes at 3pm on Friday 22nd March
Monday 25th March to Friday 5th March 2024- Easter Break
Return to school on Monday 8th April at 8:40am



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

What an amazing week! I am overwhelmed by the range of opportunities that President Kennedy School staff have provided for our students in just one single week.

Shakespeare has certainly been a prominent thread, with Year 11 enjoying the live performance of 'Romeo and Juliet' in our hall and Year 13 visiting London to watch King Lear. What life changing experiences these have been.

Year 8 students have been busy too! Thirty Year 8 students have enjoyed their 'Bush Craft Day' and have hopefully started to build their leadership skills ready for embarking on their Duke of Edinburgh award (D of E), just like the six dedicated Year 10 students who received their Bronze certificate this week.

What a fantastic achievement - they have definitely shown **PRIDE**, **I**nvolvement, **D**edication and **E**xcellence.

Thank you to all the staff for their hard work this half term and to students who have demonstrated PRIDE in all that they do.

Thank you for your support this term.

I wish you all a enjoyable and restful Easter break,

Ms Rooke, Headteacher

Post 16 Students Win First Place in Debating Competition

On Saturday 16th March, the President Kennedy School Youth Speaks team went on to compete in the Midlands final after winning the district and regional finals previously.

The competition was held at the Weston Road Academy in Stafford by the Rotary Club. Mason, Isla and Alisha competed with their debate on cancel culture and won first place.

The judges remarked that all three students had demonstrated impressive confidence, enthusiasm and persuasiveness in their arguments.

Mason was praised for his passion and manner of speaking, Isla for her clear control and outline of the debate, and Alisha for her statistics and convincing line of argument.

The team will be moving on to compete in the National Final on 21st April in Norwich.

Sophie Rejali, Teacher of Religious Education and Leader of Personal Development in Post-16

Year 13 English trip to watch King Lear at the Almeida Theatre

On Tuesday the 12th of March, Year 13 were lucky enough to visit the Almeida Theatre in London.

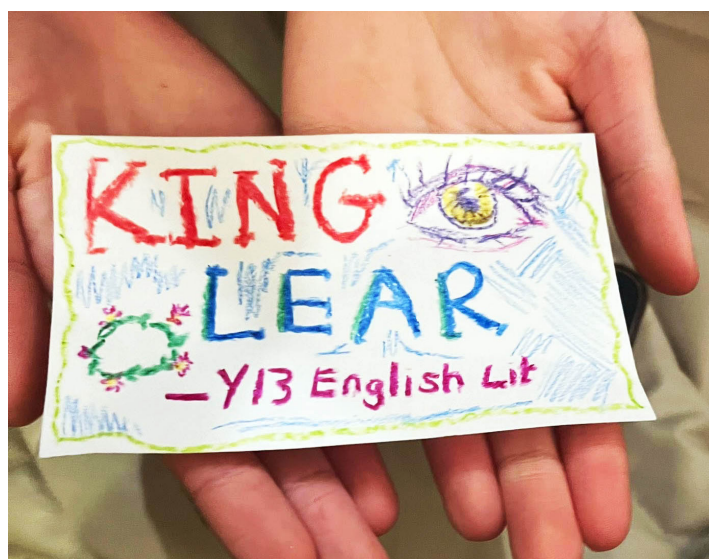
The English class visited a production of Shakespeare's '**King Lear**' directed by Yaël Farber starring Danny Sapani as King Lear.

The production tells the story of Lear's journey after dividing his country between his daughters and then his subsequent unravelling. The consequences of Lear's actions were beautifully presented by Farber that provoked laughter and tears through beautiful stage directions and the comical 'Fool'.

Our English class gained valuable insight which could be used in our up coming A-levels.

Farber's interpretation of the characters is unique; to see the ideas our class have been talking about over the last few months on stage at such a high standard is an invaluable experience.

Erin Ford, Year 13



Romeo and Juliet

A touring theatre company visited President Kennedy on Monday 18th March to deliver a live performance of Romeo and Juliet. It was an enriching experience for all students who study the play in Year 11.

During the performance of this classic Shakespearean tale, students were treated to superb energy and interactions that brought the story to life in a whole new way.

Not only was it an entertaining experience, but it also provided a great revision opportunity, allowing students to deepen their understanding of the play through a different medium.

Mrs Jones, Assistant Headteacher and Subject Leader of English



STEM with HS2

On Tuesday 12th March, twenty five Year 8 students were invited to take part in a STEM event led by HS2. Students were introduced to Molly and Michael who told them about all the exciting work opportunities that HS2 offer. Students then worked in teams to design a train station and

build a bridge. Students all demonstrated wonderful teamwork skills and showed PRIDE. Well done Year 8!

Ms Brogden, Leader of Progress, Learning and Teaching for Year 8.



D of E Bronze Awards

A big well done to the six Year 10 students that received their Bronze DofE certificates this week. These students undertook a skill, physical and volunteering activity with many giving back to the community helping in local primary schools and charity shops in their own time.

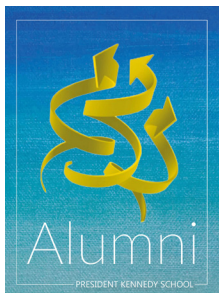
The also did a two-day expedition last summer at Hatton Locks in hot conditions.

Well done to Melissa, Emily, Gio, Adam, Ria, and Yathurshanaa.

Miss Kirkham, Teacher of Design and Technology, Centre Manager of Duke of Edinburgh's Award



CBS Apprenticeship Talk



On Monday 18th March, President Kennedy Alumni Reece Palmer returned to talk to our Post 16 students. Reece works for Coventry Building Society in their recruitment department and specifically for their apprenticeships.

He came to discuss the application process for apprenticeship schemes with students and share his expertise on what he looks for when interviewing applicants.

Students from both Year 12 and Year 13 were thoroughly engaged with Reece's talk and took a lot from his discussion around what makes an impressive applicant. Post 16 students took advantage of his expertise and asked questions and advice on their own future aspirations.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students and we really appreciate Reece's time and support.

Sophie Rejali, Teacher of Religious Education and Leader of Personal Development in Post-16



An Adventure Away from Home - Bush Craft Day

Thirty Year 8 students had a bush craft day provided by 'Wild-Earth' Coventry on Tuesday 12th March at Rough Close. Funded by UK Youth, students undertook team building activities, building a fire and how to tend to it and shelter building.

Although there was persistent rain during the morning session the students all showed great resilience and perseverance whilst taking part in the activities. Students commented on how much they enjoyed learning new skills and getting to explore.

Mrs Murray, College Director - The Gateway



BeYOUty Project

Week two of the BeYOUty Project aimed to focus on empowering our students by helping them to embrace their unique qualities both inside and out.

We had a local beautician come in to discuss the importance of skin care and how this can help build your confidence.

Miss Hedge, Teacher of English



Fire Service Deliver Car/Road Safety Experience for Post 16

Post 16 welcomed a team of fire fighters as part of a 'Car Safety Awareness' campaign.

A talk was given by the crew, followed by a montage of videos relating to car safety. This included:

- ~ Keeping within the speed limit
- ~ Considering the road conditions
- ~ Adapting your driving speed when roads are busier
- ~ Keeping a sufficient distance between you and the vehicle ahead
- ~ Identifying reasons why young people may engage in certain behaviour and take risks
- ~ Identifying and develop strategies to keep themselves and others safe and in control
- ~ Recognising the wider impact that choices of behaviour can have on themselves and others

Students were also given the opportunity to observe a real life scenario whereby fire fighters attended a response call which resulted in a fire engine to come on site.

They had to use their equipment to cut and pry open a vehicle to free the occupants safely. Working quickly and carefully to minimize further injury to the 'victims' in the simulation, they successfully cut into the vehicle to release the passengers to safety.

It demonstrated not only the type of machinery they have to use but how the fire-fighters play a critical role in assisting medical professionals.

Actors were used to play the role of injured crash victims.

Ms Bartley, Pastoral Leader Post 16

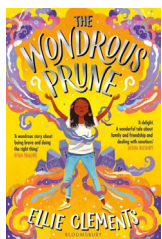


The Library

At President Kennedy School

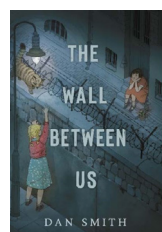
Fantastic Books and Where to Find Them...

This week the Library's recommended reads are...



The Wondrous Prune by Ellie Clements

Uprooted by her single mum along with her troublesome older brother, eleven-year-old Prune Robinson is trying to settle in a new town. She figures she can't burden her hard-working mother with the fact she's being bullied. Or the fact that her drawings have started coming to life. But with her brother soon in danger, Prune comes to realise that she can't hide her power forever; in fact, it might just be the one thing that brings her family back together and saves them all.



The Wall Between Us by Dan Smit

Berlin 1961, Anja and Monika live opposite each other. They play together every day, with Otto the cat. One night they wake up to bangs and shouts. Soldiers are building a huge barbed wire fence between them. A terrible forever wall that gets longer and higher until it divides the whole city.

On the East side, Monika is scared - neighbours are becoming spies and there are secret police everywhere. It's Anja who spots that Otto has found a way across. If he can visit Monika, then perhaps she can too. But Anja gets trapped and there's no safe way back...

Both books are available to borrow from the School Library.

Library Staff