



KING'S MATHS SCHOOL

SPRING TERM 2023

Aiming high

There's been lots to celebrate including Mr Abramson, receiving an OBE for services to Education and KCLMS earning the top grade for A-level results in England in 2022, according to detailed figures from the Department for Education. We are pleased to have confirmed Timothy Bateup, Head of Maths at a prestigious secondary school, as Mr Abramson's successor from September 2023. We look forward to welcoming him.

It was great to see so many parents and carers at the bingo night in February. Thank you to the Friends of KCLMS for sponsoring it. A big well done to our students who helped with decorating, hosting and cleaning up. They were the real stars of the evening. Students have had many opportunities for exciting trips, visits and a range of activities including matches against other schools for members of our nascent Bridge Club and also our football team. Great work all.

Maths schools

We had a breath-taking trip to the stunning Lake District (picture above) with Liverpool and Lancaster Maths Schools. It was fantastic to explore the great outdoors altogether. We were so impressed with our student walkers' positive attitudes, perseverance and enthusiasm. In March, we were delighted to have visiting staff from the maths schools network including from Cambridge and Lancaster to discuss different approaches to teaching Personal Development. We had some lovely feedback from our sister schools who noted it had been "an excellent and thought provoking day" which had helped them focus on the essentials to get in place for their students.

Charity bake-off

Students organised a bake-off to raise funds for victims affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. They collected hundreds of pounds for the Disasters Emergency Committee. Our thoughts continue to be with the Turkish and Syrian people.

Outstanding wins

We continue to excel in competitions. In Physics, 6 students were invited to Round 2 of the prestigious British Physics Olympiad. Ten students participated in the British Astronomy & Astrophysics Olympiad. Notable mentions go to Charlotte S and Katie S who are attending the Oxford Training Camp over Easter as a result of their stellar performances. Bravo to Y12 Fred B, who secured a Bronze Award in the BAAO, alongside multiple Y13s.

The British Mathematical Olympiad Round 2, a 3.5-hour Challenge, saw us earn jaw-dropping results: 4 Distinctions and 3 Merits. Thomas K, who received a Distinction, secured a perfect 40/40 score. He also represented the UK in the Romanian Master of Mathematics competition, earning a Bronze medal. Ema K is part of the UK team for the European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad in April. Arya G, Ryan B, Ema K all received Distinctions. Nguyen N, Aarnav W, Lizzie R all had Merits. Well done all.



Left: Soumya's impressive win in the pi day contest. Right: Students wear their running medals.

Personal Development

We have been thrilled to work with a range of insightful organisations across the Personal Development (PD) space. Lessons and assemblies have seen visitors from Discover, Brook and Advocacy Academy who are all about empowering students to take care of their mental health and thrive academically and personally. This term marks the end of our Managing Needs parent event series. If anyone has suggestions as to what they would like to see in this space, please let Ms Kettleborough know.

Speakers

We had some great speakers come in. Dr Lassina Dembélé, a KCL Lecturer in Computational Number Theory, spoke about prime numbers, factorisation and secrecy. Thank you to the Worshipful Company of Actuaries for putting so many speakers our way including Brandon Horwitz who discussed emotional intelligence and Adrian Waddingham CBE whose book on Breakspear, the only English Pope, blew us away.

Outreach

Our exciting schedule of Outreach events and activities continues apace. We will soon welcome 160 students from across London for our REVISION+ Easter School. This is a fantastic free programme for Year 11s who are aiming for a top grade in their GCSE. We are so pleased to have KCLMS alumni return to be group leaders and help us with this important programme. Our collaboration with the charity MESME (Mathematics Education for Social Mobility and Excellence) is thriving. Their Maths Circles, which we support, have been a real hit with local young mathematicians and enabled us to refresh links with alumni who come back as MESME tutors.

House events

There's been lots going on with house events from University Challenge, King's Konzert, Poetry to Film Festival. Congrats to our filmmakers, particularly Noether who were voted 'Best Film' by peers for their meta narrative on filmmaking itself. Bravo to Mirzakhani for their University Challenge victory. Fun times!

Victoria Park

What pride we felt on 19th March as over 20 students and staff took part in the Victoria Park Parkrun which comprised various events including a half-marathon (21k), a 5K or a 10K. We were delighted to watch our athletes' tenacity and team spirit as they raced into the sunshine. The way everyone supported each other was heart-warming. Although getting one's personal best (PB) is fab, running is not all about times. It's about getting up, turning up and just doing it. Bravo all. Well done to Max R who ran and raised money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

WEEKLY MATHS CHALLENGE

A triangle with sides of length a , b and c has perimeter 2.

Show that
 $ab + bc + ca > abc + 1$
 for all such triangles.