



**KINGSDOWN
PRESENTS**

ROAR!

**1ST EDITION
2025**

What is ROAR?

“In the wild jungle of school life, where whispers turn into wildfire, victory roars, and tales lurk in every corridor, one voice rises above the noise. This is **ROAR**, the school newspaper that doesn't just whisper...it shouts. This is more than ink on paper. It's the voice of the students. The heart of our community. The spark that ignites ideas, displays opportunities, and celebrates every success, big or small. Grab your copy, join the pride and discover the power of your voice.”

Ultimately, **ROAR** is a celebration of our school's community. It is a platform for your voices, your opportunities, and your stories. It is led by the talented PRESS team, in charge designing and writing is Nel. The amazing writers consist of Selma, Elsie, Connor, Adrian, Debashis and Namish. We hope that **ROAR** encourages you to take part, join this community and tell your story, **because when OUR students speak, they ROAR!**



Our Head Students

In May 2025, seven Year 10 students were appointed as part of the new Student Leadership team, which is now led by three Head Students, Daniel, Ollie and Elsie. Appointed for their crucial leadership and communication skills, these students ensure that every student's voice are not only acknowledged, but listened to and heard.

"I'm **Daniel** and I am a head student and lead the School Council. Ever since I was young, I always wanted to be a head student so I could help others succeed, achieve their own goals, and give students a voice. As a head student, I will support all pupils and teachers while remaining approachable to everyone, enabling me to build strong relationships and create a positive, inclusive school environment."



"I'm **Ollie** and I am a head student and I lead on Here to Hear and student voice. I wanted to be a head student because I wanted to be able to make a change in the school and help people find their voice when they're not as confident as some people may be. Hopefully I'll be able to help encourage people to be more confident in themselves, to be able to help with any issues brought up in school as an open minded friend, ready to listen and help."

"I'm **Elsie** and I am a head student and I lead on communications including Peer Education. I wanted to be a head student to ensure students feel safe in school. This includes guaranteeing that all students feel comfortable in being themselves and not feeling judged. As a head student, I hope to make every student feel comfortable in their own skin and stop and prevent any bullying, specifically towards characteristics."



Our Deputy Head Students



"I'm **Nel** and I am a senior deputy head student and lead on press. I wanted to be a head student because I wanted to be a voice for all students and teachers, ensuring that everyone's concerns, opinions and ideals are not only heard - but acknowledged and acted upon. By using this role to encourage and assist others, I hope to make certain that every student feels valued and has the opportunity to succeed in any way."

"I'm **Buddy** and I am a deputy head student and I lead on the Year 7 school council. I wanted to be a head student to create a better relationship between students and teachers and to show the quiet students that they also have a voice in this school. As a head student, I hope to change the relationship between pupils and teachers in our school community, ensuring there is no abuse of power and making it overall more respectable."



"I'm **Lexi** and I am a deputy head student and lead on the Year 9 school council. I wanted to be a head student because I wanted to demonstrate my leadership skills and be a role model who is there to listen, towards all students. As a head student, I will provide a strong voice for all students, creating a more inclusive environment, ensuring each student feels heard and valued in our school community."

"I'm **Selma** and I am a deputy head student and I lead on the school council and the press team. I wanted to be a head student because representing the school and making a positive impact on school life is important to me. As head student, I will ensure that each and every student's voice is heard and I will do my best to make their requests a reality. I hope to encourage students to embrace every opportunity given to them."



Our Houses

OUR SCHOOL

4

We have four houses named after types of lion and excitedly this year we have a new shield for each house which represents the house's individual identity. Each house pride chose three words that represented how they saw there house. These three words are represented by a tree which shares the same qualities.



Atlas - the Oak tree
Courageous
Aspirational
Honest



Barbary - the Mangrove tree
Brave
Fearless
Adventurous



Mosbach- the Giant Redwood
Confident
Ambitious
Resilient



Nubian- the Olive tree
Courageous
Resilient
Kind

Atlas House



"Everyone in **Atlas House** are aspirational, courageous and honest. We are considerate and help each other during desperate times. Our House tree is an oak tree, which is a symbol of strength, endurance and wisdom. These virtues are represented in our house and in the UK culture. Our main goal, as a house, is to win the House Cup. However, in order to do so, we want to achieve 100% participation from all house members in every event. We are looking forward to the Christmas toy appeal, spelling bee, Harvest Festival and finally the annual Sports Day! I believe that Atlas can win the House Championship this academic year!" -

Mr Svensson, Head of Atlas

Atlas House is supported by two **House Captains:**
Isabelle and **Tegan**.



Isabelle



Mr Svensson



Tegan



Daisie



Barbary House



Mr Strutt

Izzie



Barbary House is supported by two **House Captains: Daisie and Izzie.**

“**Barbary** is the best at sports! A formidable team spirit unites the house making it the strongest contender for this year's house cup. I love the house because of everyone's enthusiasm. It's awesome! Our **House Tree** is the Mangrove - one of the coolest trees on the planet. Resilient, protective, adventurous - these are all words that come to mind when I think of the Mangrove tree, and all traits that match Barbary. This year I am looking to achieve victory of course! I'd like to say it will come easy, but really it's all about working together really hard to achieve that dream. Something I know we as a house are capable of. The food bank challenge is one I'm most looking forward to, particularly as it's all about helping our local community.” -

Mr Strutt, Head of Barbary



Mosbach House

“**Mosbach** is the best house hands down. The students in the house are amazing, resilient and ambitious, the same as our Student Leaders from **Mosbach**. Our **house tree** is giant redwood, it symbolises confidence, resilience and ambition. It is way better than the other Houses’ trees! Our main goal this year is to win everything. I am looking forward to the Spelling Bee, Harvest Food Bank and of course, Sports Day. And yes, we will be winning everything!”

-Mr Dadge, Head of Mosbach

Mosbach House is supported by two **House Captains: Casey and Amy.**



Casey



Mr Dadge



Amy



Nubian House

Paige-
Isabella



Mr Strett

Isabelle



Nubian House is supported by two **House Captains: Paige-Isabella and Isabelle**

“The students from **Nubian** are amazing! They show their great pride and passion everywhere, representing themselves like a big family and community! Our house tree is an olive tree, which represents resilience, peace and courage for a peaceful house. My goal is for everybody to surpass last year’s house point total, achieve greater success, and help each other as needed. I am looking forward to food bank donations and Christmas toy appeal, as I believe the real success is not who wins, but that people in need receive the help they require.”

Mr Strett, Head of Nubain

House competitions

Last year there were a number of competitions for the houses to be involved in from the spelling bee, to assembly construction challenges to house point totals and sports day all events combined to give Nubian the win!



Nubian
(733,424)

2nd place: Barbary (730,810)
3rd place: Mosbach (723,094)
4th place: Atlas (703,583)

The first big event for this year is the food bank challenge which is currently running till the 10th October.

Students and staff can donate in the name of their houses to the Swindon Food Collective harvest festival collection.

Last year Nubian won this - who can take the crown this year!



Where can you receive support in Kingsdown?

1

SAFEGUARDING TEAM (SLT) is led by 3 talented teachers, Mrs Agambar, Mr Hathaway and Mrs Coles. They are here to ensure your safety from harm, bullying, abuse of any kind, discrimination or harassment. They ensure that every student and staff feels safe in our environment. If you have any concerns, please feel free to talk to them.

YOUR TUTORS OR HEADS OF YEARS are more than happy to talk to you about anything. They are here to provide support for your academic progress, as well as your emotional and social development!

2**3**

SHARPS is a website that users can report incidents anonymously. It is monitored by the Safeguarding team every 24 hours. Users can leave their contact details on the message so the Safeguarding team can know who you are so the problem is solved more easily.



HERE TO HEAR is a new program introduced this year, being led by Ollie. He says:

4

“In the library (LRC), there will be a new **Here to Hear** area in which certain members of the student leadership team will be on duty to be able to listen to any problems, help with homework, and be there for anyone who needs it. It will take place at lunch time in the library every day”

Kingsdown's Eco Group

Our **Kingsdown School** holds a reputation for championing each and every student. Amongst such high expectations, the students reflect the same expectations.



The Eco Group has demonstrated these characteristics since last year when it was established. Last academic year, the Eco Group presented assemblies to raise awareness regarding our school's environment which positively impacted our whole school. Irrespective of the difficulties faced by the students of this action team this year, **the Eco Group** has demonstrated the KDS virtue of resilience and is back with even more drive to bring about change! **The Eco Group** possesses ambitious plans for this year like they always do. In order to achieve the Bronze Eco Award for Kingsdown School, the students are focusing on 3 pillars: Biodiversity, Litter and Global citizenship. The students are seeking out hard working students who can harness their time and energy for such a great cause which will make Kingsdown a great school. Therefore, if any student believes that they can contribute and be a member of this action team, then have a conversation with Mr Newman and join this initiative.

WRITTEN BY: Namish

Kingsdown's Charity Group

A similar action group, **the Charity group**, has done phenomenal work this academic year. In September, the charity group members democratically elected Cancer research as the charity of the year. To provide a local context, they contacted the local store in Greenbridge. To foster a strong relationship, the team arranged a visit to the store where they gained an insight of how it feels to work in a charity shop. The first fundraiser for this year : A non school uniform day on 4th April where the students raised a sum of £280 (in partnership with prom). Their next venture incorporates a sponsored shootathon on sports day with a "goal" to raise even more money for Cancer research.

"We have hopes of raising even more money on sports day. Let us all donate to Cancer research to beat Cancer!" -**Mr Raisey**,
Lead staff of the Charity Group.

Kingsdown has always been fond of bringing positive change in the school and the wider community. The students are beautifully demonstrating the **Kingsdown** beats and virtues who are proudly working in partnership with Charity focus group and Eco group. Even though these groups have been organised last year, they have already made a massive impact in the school with ambitions even higher.



Champions of Change

This year the **Champions of Change** got relaunched to make students feel recognised, and it has been very successful, especially with Culture Week happening in Term 5.

So, who are the **Champions of Change**? Well firstly, it is led by Miss Ben-Ali every Thursday lunchtime in B26. We currently have 5 official members, consisting of Elsie, Ava, Melissa, Isabelle and Nel. Feel free to come to our sessions!



So what have **Champions of Change** done? Well we launched Culture Week, which had positive responses and experiences, including trying the variety of food choices from different cultures.

As of Term 6, we launched a Pride Week. This included an assembly on the history of pride to raise awareness. From next year, we are hoping to create an LGBTQIA+ Club for all students if they want somewhere safe to go once a week. This will include sharing experiences, reading and watching films. Stay tuned!

Champions of Change was created to make sure every student feels noticed and championed, so if you have an idea or event in mind to showcase, feel free to join us!

WRITTEN BY: Elsie

Student Council Report

This year has been exciting for **Student Leadership**, with **Senior Students** stepping up to run year councils. Their ideas have brought real change and given everyone a stronger voice in school life.

A highlight was the brilliant presentation to the **Senior Leadership Team (SLT)**, written and delivered by our Head Students. Their passion and hard work set a high standard for future student-led projects.

The council also made sure student feedback was acted on, with a virtual assembly from **SLT** and **Mrs Leigh Bennett** showing exactly how ideas were being listened to. One big result was the end of toilet zoning – now all toilets are open all day, which has made school life much better for everyone.

The overall School Council, led by **Daniel, Selma and Nel**, has guided these successes, while year councils continue to be run by **Senior Students**.

Next year will be even bigger, with more input from groups like Rights Respecting Schools, the Eco Group, the Charity Focus Group and house reps. This means more fresh ideas, more achievements, and better tutor time discussions for all.

WRITTEN BY: Selma

Our School's Clubs

In **Kingsdown**, we offer a variety of extra-curricular activities during lunchtime and after school, ranging from sports to clubs to activities. It is a perfect opportunity to stretch and challenge yourself by trying something new. New clubs are added all the time so keep a look out!

Lunchtime Extra-Curricular Activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Board games G21	Board games G21	Board games G21	Board games G21	Board games G21 4 Square Y7 Zone
Chess C26	Chess C26	Chess C26	Choir B23	
4 Square Y7 Zone	Eco club C22	Keyboard B23	KS3 Basketball New Gym	
	KS3 Basketball New Gym	KS3 Basketball New Gym	Dodgeball Old gym	
	4 Square Y7 Zone	4 Square Y7 Zone	4 Square Y7 Zone	

After School Extra-Curricular Activities

Name	Year	Days	Meet	Teacher
Learning lounge	All	Thursday to Friday	LRC	MWI
Fitness	KS4	Monday	Sports Centre	PE
Boys Football	KS3	Tuesday	Changing rooms	CSH
Rugby	KS3	Tuesday	Changing rooms	TSV/ SDA/ JOW
Dance	KS3	Tuesday	Changing rooms	GVI
Badminton	KS4	Wednesday	Sports Centre	SDA
Netball	KS3	Wednesday	Changing rooms	NMA
Dodgeball	All	Wednesday	Changing rooms	TSV
Football	KS4	Wednesday	Changing rooms	CSH
Girls Football	KS3	Thursday	Changing rooms	GVI
Badminton	KS3	Thursday	Changing rooms	NVO
Basketball	All	Thursday	New Gym	NMA
Debate	All	Thursday	A13	KPU

Normandy

On the 7th of July to the 11th of July, 50 Year 9 Students had visited **France, Normandy**. They had the opportunity to visit many French landmarks like Arc de Triomphe, Parc Asterix, Arromanches and of course, the Eiffel Tower! We hope you returned with memories for a life-time!





Pencelli

Over a five-day trip to **Pencelli** from May 4th to 9th, 48 students participated in a variety of activities including caving, rock climbing, and canoeing. These activities required strong teamwork and communication skills and these students were more than capable of doing them! The adventures increased with an exciting journey through a long tunnel and waterfalls, with all the students returning home with big smiles!





Duke of Edinburgh

17 Year 10 students have completed their assessed **DOFE Silver Expedition** from 6th of June till 8th of June in Northleach. Before this they had to have lessons on map reading, first aid, cooking on Trangia, and many training walks in unexpected weather! In order to receive their certificate they had to do volunteering, a physical activity and a skill activity for over 3 months. Congratulations to them!



WRITTEN BY: Connor



Look out for our
second edition
coming at the
end of Term 2