

# KAS Connected



## Expert Advice

The students also enjoyed workshops with professional actors Daniel Lapaine and Adjoa Andoh.

An actress, director and educator, Adjoa delivered an exceptional masterclass in Shakespeare and audition technique. Students were

## ACTING ACTION

Our Sixth Form Theatre Studies and UAL students were busy recording the Upper School Film last term (more on that soon) but they also had a lot of work to do!

Y12 students were introduced to the work of leading theatre practitioner Stanislavski. They explored his system of building a character then applied these skills to an extract of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams.

Lucy Hall, Head of Drama, said: "I was extremely proud of the students' ability to focus on stage, even without an audience. They demonstrated professionalism and maturity above their years and, given that these were workshop performances, such a high standard of acting was shown. As ever King Alfred Drama students continue to inspire me, I am so excited to see how they develop over the next two years.

I hope you enjoy these performances which you can [view here](#).

required to prepare a classical speech to explore how they could use their own vocal quality and expressiveness. Particular attention was made to language, emphasis and rhythm.

Students auditioning for Drama school must submit their pieces online due to Covid restrictions, so having Adjoa - who herself sits on the panel for RADA - advise on preparing material digitally was an especially useful resource for students.

All participants were worked hard and challenged, it was amazing to see how they were able to take risks, respond to direction and how their pieces developed over time.

**Lucy Hall, Head of Drama**



## HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Mark Levy joined Y13 historians (via Zoom) to talk about his experiences during the Freedom Summer.

"Mark Levy was a volunteer in the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964 and he spoke to us because we're learning about Civil Rights and Race Relations in the USA. It was interesting to find out about the complexity of the Civil Rights Movement which is not always shown in history textbooks.



What really stood out to me was what he said about the local people in Mississippi who let white volunteers into their homes. They had never had a positive experience with a white person and yet they were brave enough to let them in, even though the volunteers could leave later on, but the local people had taken a lifetime risk.

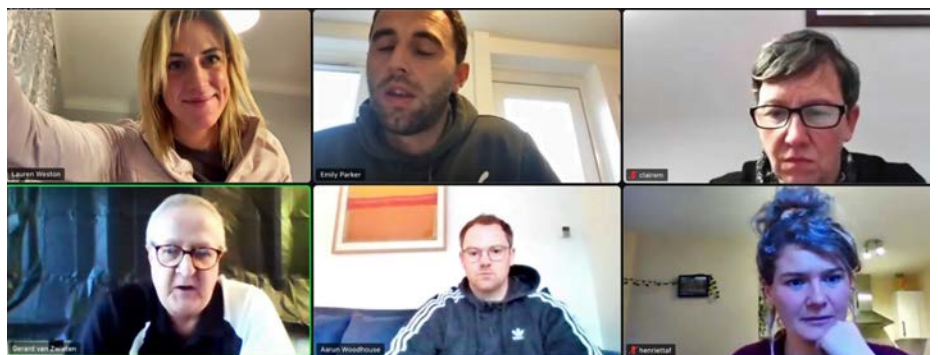
Details like the fact that Bayard Rustin organised for 80,000 cheese sandwiches to be made to feed the protesters on the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom added to the stories.

Learning about the Freedom Summer was useful as many of us are focusing on this for our coursework. His talk really helped me understand the importance of the local people and grassroots organisations in shaping the CRM. Textbooks tend to concentrate more on legislation and the role of the President."

**Hannah W, Y13**

## GAMES ON

"First day back and even all the organising needed for KAS Connected Learning didn't stop the PE teachers completing a staff professional development session with Olympic Volleyball Player, Gerard.



An experienced player and coach, Gerard ran a session with the PE Department focusing on putting the fun back into volleyball. He shared excellent hints and tips on coaching volleyball both in school and online, and inspired the Department with his stories of volunteering at the 2012 Olympics as a Games Maker.

The PE Team are now very much looking forward to getting back into the Sports Hall and trying out some of the new games with students. Until then.... the PE team are turning their hand to being creative online with balloon and sock alternatives! (Despite appearances, Tom promises he wasn't asleep during the session!)" **Lauren Weston, Director of Sport**



## COOKING FOR CHRISTMAS

Before the Winter break students in Y3, and those in Y10, were both cooking up a festive storm. Students in 3S baked yule logs and other seasonal treats for their own end of term party while those taking cooking for Choice were continuing a KAS tradition — they just didn't know it!

"Apparently making Christmas Cakes is an old KAS tradition, I discovered this when I was about to bake the Y10's cakes and LS teacher, Josie, told me that many years ago LS students used to bake cakes at Christmas to take home for their families.

Each week I was nervous we might not be able to finish the cakes should Y10 be sent home but, thankfully, that never happened. Making the cakes took a few weeks as they had to be baked, then covered in marzipan and finally covered in handmade Royal Icing and decorated.

All the decorations were handmade meringues and I think they each did an amazing job, I especially love the snowmen! I hope the families enjoyed the cakes, I cannot wait to get those ovens fired up when we return to school to make more treats you can share!"

**Claire Rasul**



## YEAR 3 ORCHARD ROOM KITCHEN TAKEOVER





## SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Construction of the new building continues. Inside, electrics and plumbing are underway and on the exterior the timber cladding is being fitted.



## PROTEST PRESENTATIONS

Y11 Geography students took part in a lesson on Resource Reliance recently. They worked together in breakout rooms to prepare a short news report on The Mexico Tortilla Food protests in 2007. Geography teacher Eileen said: "I was most impressed by the presentations and that Sammy had managed to superimpose the protests as his background. It was like he was there reporting from the field. There were also



two dog visits for Ellie and George providing some welcome pet therapy for the group mid session."

## COUNSELLING AVAILABLE



Unbelievably we find ourselves in lockdown again with all the emotions and upheaval that entails.

School Counsellor, Tracy is available for sessions if students need any emotional support or counselling during this time. She says: "I'm happy to email, chat or Zoom with anyone who needs it – as always it will be confidential."

Contact: [tracy@kingalfred.org.uk](mailto:tracy@kingalfred.org.uk)

## ROBERT AND KAREN'S MESSAGE

As we come to the end of week 2, it feels that we are once again settling into the rhythms and routines of KAS Connected Learning.

While we are all much more experienced, we will continue to make tweaks and adjustments to ensure all students are able to get the maximum value out of their learning experience. Look out for a survey about online provision soon.

Our other priorities during this time are the wellbeing of all our students and staff and supporting the school community. We have met with key representatives from Parent/Staff, Council and staff reps as we negotiate what we know is a challenging time for everyone, and hope we can continue to provide a positive focus as we all adjust.

