Hi, and welcome to the Student Voice Newsletter. Student voice is a staff-led enrichment, held on Tuesdays, during common time, with a collection of both Year 12s and Year 13s. Our main purpose here at Student Voice, is to listen to students opinions on the college, and any issues that they may have, so that we can put these ideas forward and act upon them, making changes that will benefit you through your two years at King Edwards.

Although we are only three months into the academic year, Student Voice has already been proactive in making changes that we will all value. We have conducted two research projects:

1. **Year 13 leavers’ event** - gathering ideas for a special event to celebrate your last day at college

2. **British values** - looking at ways in which the college can promote these core values more effectively

We have also been working closely with the **college caterers** to improve the food that is provided in the Foley building. From the Student Voice feedback it became clear that students prefer to buy their lunch in Stourbridge, making use of special meal deals; so the college canteen now has a larger variety of affordable food and will continue to develop the menus based on student feedback.

We have also hosted our first event, the ‘**Student Voice Question Time**’, in which students can put questions to a panel of college staff about any issues. Watch out for further events in the new year, held in February and March!

By Isabella Shek
The first student voice Question time event

The first student voice question time event took place on Thursday 10\textsuperscript{th} of November and was hosted by Katy Kim and Johannes Cross Warren from the Student Voice enrichment group. The panel for the event consisted of Claire Bou Aziz (Student voice co-ordinator, Subject Leader of communication and culture), Mark Brown (Student and staff counsellor), Shona Currie (International Tutor and English teacher), Stuart Parkes (international, Lead and Independent living tutor) and Anna Smith (Curriculum Leader, Subject Leader for dance and Teaching and Learning Mentor). The event took place in the lecture theatre and was attended predominantly by members of the student voice enrichment group. The purpose of the event was for students to ask the panel questions about college issues in a question time format. The event worked well.

Students asked many interesting questions about the various roles of the members of staff on the panel as well as discussing issues specific to subject areas. The whole aim of the session was for students to be able to engage with staff and put names to faces, as well as ask questions about college life. The next Student voice question time event will take place in the JCR at 1pm on Wednesday 1\textsuperscript{st} February, so please attend and participate. For further details about student voice events please contact Claire Bou Aziz – cet@kedst.ac.uk.
Your opinions count at King Edwards:

The Leavers Day Event for year 13 students-

The student voice enrichment group have already done a lot of research into the sort of event year 13 students would like to have to commemorate the end of their time here at King Edwards. To ensure that we can give year 13s a fantastic send off—the enrichment group are working on fund raising ideas to have an event of some kind or activities before Easter break. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved in the fundraising project please contact Claire Bou Aziz (The Student Voice Co-ordinator: cet@kedst.ac.uk)

The student voice enrichment group have been doing some research into how many of you know what British values are. Research indicated a lot of you were unsure. So here is the list of British Values:

- Democracy
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.
You Said:

“There is not enough space for private QUIET study between 11am and 1:45pm. The library computer rooms downstairs are used for lessons, and when they are not they are full... not all students use them for working either. The computers in the main library are full and the upstairs mezzanine area is full too. The quiet study area in the old JCR is full of students eating lunch or socialising (the main JCR is not big enough for all students) and is not quiet or available for study. The main JCR is usually full too and too noisy for study.”

We Did:

“Thank you for your comment – in terms of private study the old JCR has got areas which are marked as being for quiet study and group work, which is what the areas should be used for. If these areas are not being used for study please can you alert a member of staff so students can be reminded of what the areas should be used for. As an alternative the Students can also study at the Old Edwardian’s Club on Market Street – it’s a lovely room and ideal for working alone or in study groups.”

Student Voice Events in the new year:

Student voice Question time
Wednesday 1st February 1 pm—The JCR/Foley Building

Panel—Remley Mann (Principal), Paul Wooldridge (manager of careers), Nick Barley (Teacher of History) and Bev Harris (Curriculum Leader and Subject Leader for Psychology)
Please come along and be part of the audience to pose questions to the panel.