Edith Kay School Newsletter



November 2025 Issue-Looking back at October and September

<u>Highlights From the Year</u>

- 1. School Council Elections
- Dress Up Day pioneered by
 S (image on page 2)
- 3. **Baking** and **cooking** with *Lamaar*
- 4. **Wear Red Day:** Stand Up to Racism
- 5. Diwali Assembly

Acts of Kindness:

L and **S** can regularly be found helping out in the kitchen to prepare lunch each day.

N made individual posters for each subject that can be seen on display around the school.



Drawing by N

Awards

Most Merits for October: A

Best Attendance:

Ι

Most Punctual:

R

Leadership:

W and S have been elected as President and Vice-President of the student council.

N for editing and designing the school newsletter.

Dress Up Day





In the back, from left to right: Malik, N, Celia, Ana, Ayo, R, Jo, E and Moya

In the front, from left to right: S, Karen, Matt, Daniel and Vince

Student Cooking and Baking



Each week *Lamaar* supports **E**, **H**, **I**, **L** and **S**



Arts and Sports



<u>Comics/Art:</u> Ena bu N





Sports:

Biography of Liverpool's Hugo Ekitike

by R

I am writing about a young French footballer who goes by the name of Hugo Ekitike, a striker currently playing for the current Premier League Champions.

Ekitike started his youth football career at Cormontreuil FC, a small club in his local area. His family loves football and shares his same passion. Ekitike grew up more with his mum and little brother. Hugo used to play football on the street and played at school. He joined the academy at Stade de Remis in 2013, idolising players like Neymar and Karim Benzema. When the Frenchman was younger he was smaller so he was a winger, but around 16 he grew a lot and was utilised as a centre forward.

In July 2020, Ekitike signed his first professional contract with Remis. His debut came in a 3-1 Ligue 1 loss. In late January he joined Danish club Vejice Broadbent on loan till the end of the season ending his spell in Denmark with 3 goals. On 26 September 2021, Ekitike scored Remis' second and third goals in a 3-1 win having come on as a substitute.

In the summer of 2022 PSG announced the signing of Ekitike on a season long loan. 4 months after joining, he scored his first goal in the French capital. He ended the season with four goals and four assists, winning his Ligue 1 title. The following season his transfer became permanent. In September 2023 he was excluded from the Champions League squad for the 2023-24 season.

Hugo struggled at PSG and later on received significant social media abuse which mentally affected him due to the lack of playing time.

On February 1 2024 Ekitike signed for Bundesliga club Eintracht Frankfurt on loan until the end of the ason with a buy option. In mid April he scored his first goal for the club in a 3-1 home victory over FC Augsburg. 1 week later the option for him to stay in Germany was activated. He signed a deal until the end of the 2028-29 season. The following day he scored away in a 2-1 loss to Germany's most successful club, Bayern Munich. At the end of the 2024-25 season Hugo scored 22 goals and got 12 assists in 48 games. The club did extremely well finishing 3rd, their highest position in the Bundesliga. He appeared in the 2024-25 Bundesliga team of the season.

On 23 July 2025, Ekitike signed for current Premier League Champions, Liverpool in a transfer worth up to £82.4 million with a performance based add on. If reached Frankfurt would present a club record sale. His six year deal has excited Liverpool fans giving them that extra boost to clinch another league title.

Joke Of The Month:

Q: What's between the numbers 5 and 8?

A: 6, 7

Opinion Piece



How to Reform the UK Universities by Y

Universities and domestic students within the UK are all facing major problems and will keep on struggling while the UK government cannot find a permanent solution. The problems mentioned beforehand are mostly financial, universities such as York are complaining that they're unable to find money from the international students that they rely on. Other universities such as King's College London state that they cannot find enough money for their debts and are struggling to support their staff and students. How to tackle the UK education crisis' by Shitij Kapur who is the vice-chancellor and president of King's College London will be the first article we will look at. The second article, 'Universities need new ways to make their research pay', is written by a business columnist of the Financial Times, John Gapper. In this article he sheds light on the University of York's current financial situation, he argues that they need to find more funding to avoid bankruptcy. While both these articles are fundamentally similar they differ on their solution to the issue, the article on York suggests that they need to find more diverse pools of money however, King's College London's approach is that they cannot rely on international students for their money, their proposal is that the UK government needs to raise funding for the best of the entire country. Personally I somewhat agree with the proposals of the latter of the two. My thoughts are that the UK government should find a budget cut and fully fund UK higher education, this means that in my hypothetical, universities in the UK wouldn't cost anything. I do admit at first this can sound quite unrealistic but with the right leadership this idea could become a reality. In this article I will try to discuss the pros and cons of my idea while also linking it back to the two articles stated above.

One of Kapur's main point is that the UK refuses to follow the system of other developed nations such as Canada and Australia whose system of tuition fees are based off of how much the degree is worth. He states 'tuition for nursing and education costs to the individual are about C\$6,000 and C\$5,000 [...] whereas for law it is C\$13,000 and dentistry C\$24,000'. In Gapper's article he briefly avers Kapur's point articulating that many UK students actually want degrees to be linked to their value, however he quotes someone saying 'this would stop the situation from getting worse, rather than making it better'. Kapur and Gapper both agree that prices of degrees should be linked to their worth however they disagree on where to find funding for the plans. I believe that Gapper is wrong in his approach to get funding, universities should not be focusing on how to increase funding and instead focus on how to support their students and staff to a better standard. They shouldn't just rely on international students and other pools of money for their funding, it would put too much work on an educational institution that is there to provide an education. Therefore if the UK government wants educated, hardworking individuals for the next generation, it should be in their best interest to increase funding for universities.

The UK likes to highly regard its universities as some of the best in the world, with the likes of Oxford and Cambridge and statistics like 'highest graduation rates in the world' and '17 British universities make the top 100 of QS World University rankings, second only to the US'. With these statements, it's very hard to disagree. However despite all this success Gapper acknowledges that there is a regional divide between the top universities of the UK and more specifically England. Gapper realises that although the UK boasts top universities, particularly the "Golden Triangle", outside of this triangle the other universities don't get as much funding as the top schools creating an imbalance. Although this is not that major of an issue it does raise concern that those outside the triangle will struggle to stay afloat and not be able to perform at the top level. Kapur recognises that universities outside of the triangle are beneficial in allowing the next generation of students to thrive as their graduates will get jobs in their field and contribute to the economy. Hence the government should be taking higher education more seriously as it is the foundation for their economic benefit. Furthermore, contrary to what the UK says about its universities, Kapur notes that international students are now choosing other countries for their education as they believe that the UK is no longer the gold standard. He believes this is because UK universities are not cost effective. Kapur also thinks that the UK's universities are falling behind their international rivals, such as the US and other European nations. This is not only a problem for their revenue from international students but it is also a problem as the UK government uses these universities as research facilities. Gapper states 'universities perform a quarter of the UK's research and development'.

I think this uncovers one of the UK universities biggest problems, if they want to be considered truly great, it cannot be a select few which thrive and the rest don't. For this to be fixed I would propose a minimum threshold funding for all universities equally, and for the ones that can't compete I would suggest that if they ever get at risk of going bankrupt then the government should take over and help until they have it solved. A downside would be that this may mean that there will be a higher tax. In most of Scandinavia higher education is free at the cost of higher taxes, with Norway's tax rate being approximately at 42%, according to Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD figures from 2021. My point is that the people of those countries don't complain with their high tax rate as they know it goes to something beneficial. If the UK government can convince citizens that the money that they will collect will go to a better future for the next generation of the UK then I believe there will be no problem if they implement a tax rise.