

Peter Smout Summer Essay Competition 2023

This is an opportunity to:

- engage with a topical issue
- complete extensive research
- construct an argument presenting both sides of an issue
- come to a well-reasoned, evidence-based conclusion

Entries will be assessed (considering their age and stage) on:

- Engagement with a breadth and depth of research
- Fluency and structure
- Critical engagement and strength of conclusion

Entries are in the form of an essay in the region of 1500 words.

All groups require an uncontroversial totem around which to rally. How far and in what ways do you think King Charles can unify the multi-cultural peoples within the UK and/or around the Commonwealth?

The coronation of Charles III and his wife, Camilla, as king and queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms, took place on 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey. Charles acceded to the throne on 8 September 2022 upon the death of his mother, Elizabeth II.

The coronation elicited both celebrations and protests in the United Kingdom, with surveys carried out in April 2023 suggesting that the British public was ambivalent towards the event and its funding. Celebrations included street parties, volunteering, special commemorative church services, and a concert at Windsor Castle on 7 May. The events in London and Windsor drew large crowds, but were also protested against by republican groups. The response in the other Commonwealth realms was similarly mixed; while there were many celebrations, some governments and indigenous groups took the opportunity to voice republican sentiments and call for reparatory justice.

Adapted from: [Coronation of Charles III and Camilla - Wikipedia](#)

Faced with a long list of issues within his realm and a not uncontroversial journey to this point, how can King Charles be a unifying force for good for the peoples both in the UK and overseas?

More information and some resources to get you started can be found on Showbie (Course code: FK2KU). Resources are also available in the Vanbrugh Library and the librarians have put together a selection of books that you can borrow.

Overall winning essay will be awarded £200

There are also four highly commended prizes:

- Senior Category (4th Form to L6) – 2 x £50
- Junior Category (1st Form to 3rd Form) – 2 x £50

(Courtesy of a very generous Old Kimboltonian, in memory of Mr Peter Smout, a former Deputy Headmaster of Kimbolton School)

Entries are due by Friday 8th September and can be sent to me at cws@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk or printed and put in my pigeonhole via tutors.