THE KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 23.10.26

Follow us @ https://www.facebook.com/KidsgroveSecondary

Dear Parents/Carers,

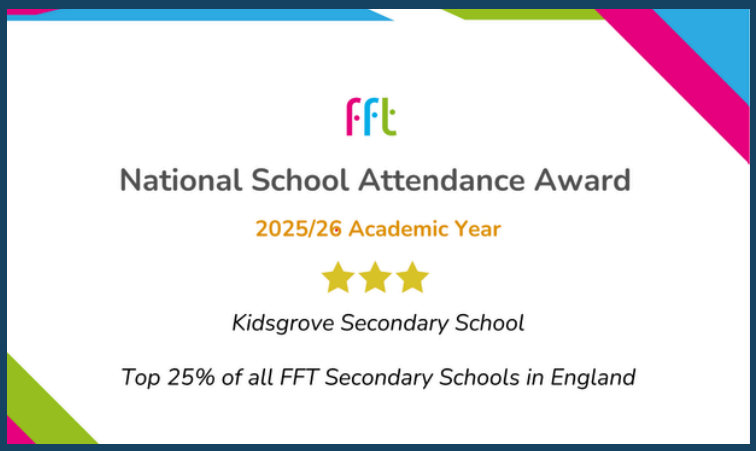
The first half term of the academic year is complete and autumn has most definitely arrived with a cold snap in the air. The last eight weeks have been fantastic, with plenty of highlights and I am delighted to share some of these with you within this bulletin.

Firstly I wanted to mention the importance of strong attendance and to thank parents/carers for their continued support in ensuring that student absence is low. Good attendance really does support the students academically & pastorally and once more KSS has been recognised for its excellent whole attendance figure, placing in the top 25% of all schools in England for the summer term.

The Year 11 students spent last weekend with some of our wonderful staff team at the annual Year 11 residential. It was a weekend action packed with Maths and English sessions, team building and white knuckle experiences. The students embraced every challenge and we cannot wait to see how the impact of the weekend translates itself when the mock examinations begin from the 9th of November. A big thank you to Mr Barker Brown for organising the weekend and to all of the staff that made it possible.

When we return after the half term break, we will be hosting our extra special Year 11 progress event which is an opportunity for parents/carers to meet members of the schools leadership team to look at mock examination preparation and to look at individual subject performance since the summer assessments.

It is not just Year 11 students that have been working hard this half term. The KSS staff have been really impressed with students across all year groups who are consistently meeting our expectations each and every lesson. We have never seen so many positive points being issued and we handed out a record number of certificates on Wednesday morning for subject specific excellence. It really does make the staff team fill with pride when we see students with their subject badges and certificates, which are well deserved.



Finally, this week saw the student production of 'Matilda' take place. When we talk about Core Values, nothing compares to the resilience and leadership skills shown by the cast and crew in what was an amazing showcase of student talent. Thank you to all of the parents/carers that attended on Tuesday afternoon, it is great to see so many of you supporting our wonderful cast and crew..

Wishing all of our students a relaxing and safe half term break and we look forward to our return to school on Monday the 2nd of November.

Yours faithfully,
Mr S Frost



Y7 Golden Ticket

As part of our Year 6 transition activities, our new students were challenged to take a photograph of themselves with their Golden Ticket in the most creative place or imaginative way possible!

We were absolutely blown away by the fantastic entries! From clever ideas to brilliant locations, our students certainly showed off their creativity and imagination. Choosing our winners was no easy task!

🏆 Our Golden Ticket Winners! 🏆
🥇 1st Place – Isabelle 🌟
🥈 2nd Place – Charlie 👏
🥉 3rd Place – Edee 🎉

A huge congratulations to our three winners and a massive well done to everyone who took part.

What a fantastic way to begin your journey at Kidsgrove Secondary School. We loved seeing your creativity, enthusiasm and individuality shine through!





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Y7 Golden Ticket









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Save the Date

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Year 11 Progress Event – 5.11.26 (4pm to 6pm)

Year 11 Mock Examinations Begin – 9.11.26

Year 10 Spanish Trip – 11.11.26

Remembrance Event – 11.11.26

Poland Trip Parents/Carers Information Meeting – 11.11.26 (5pm)

Children In Need – 13.11.26

"If you do enough small things right, BIG THINGS can happen"

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ATTENDANCE



WHOLE SCHOOL: 94 %

YEAR 7 - 96.8%

YEAR 8 - 95.0%

YEAR 9 - 93.1%

YEAR 10 - 90.4%

Year 11 - 92.6%

NATIONAL AVERAGE: 92.9%

BEST FORM YTD: 7HNO

BEST HOUSE: Spitfire



Enrichment Day

Our students stepped away from their usual timetable to take part in a fantastic Enrichment Day last week, developing important skills and knowledge that extend far beyond the classroom. Across the different year groups, students explored a huge range of topics, including road safety, cyber bullying, first aid, mindfulness, resilience, self-confidence, online safety, managing anxiety, careers, leadership, CV writing, revision skills and future decision-making.

Days like today are an important part of preparing our young people for life beyond school. They give students the opportunity to develop their LORIC values – Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication – while exploring their wellbeing, relationships, aspirations and future pathways.

A huge thank you to all of our staff who planned and delivered today's sessions, and well done to our students for getting involved so positively. A special mention to Mrs Weaver for organising the day.





Enrichment Day







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Welcome

Hello! My name is Miss North, and I am an English teacher at KSS. Outside of school, I love going on long dog walks, getting stuck into a good book, spending time with my family and friends, and watching documentaries! 😊
I joined KSS because I was drawn to its nurturing, welcoming and supportive environment, and I wanted to be part of a school community that truly believes in helping every student reach their potential. I strongly believe that if you do enough small things right, big things can happen, and I love being part of a team that works together to make a positive difference in students' lives.

So far, my experience at KSS has been amazing. I have particularly loved being a form tutor to Year 7. It has been lovely getting to know the students, supporting their progress in English and seeing the effort they put into their learning. - Miss North



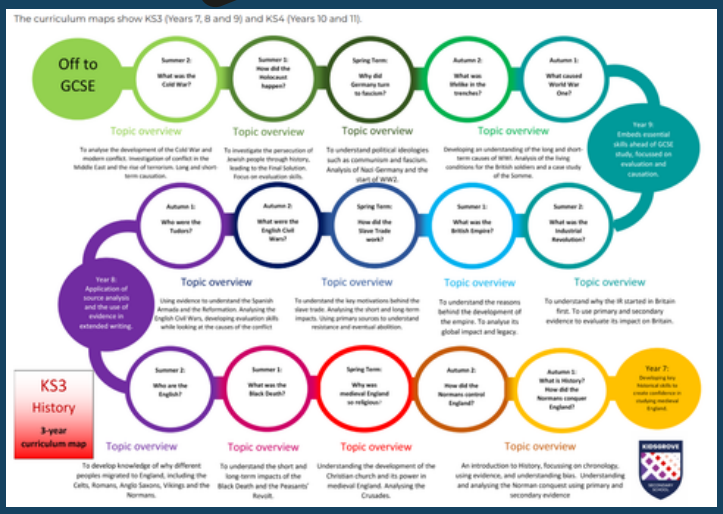
KSS Curriculum

At the heart of everything we do at Kidsgrove Secondary School is our curriculum, designed to inspire, challenge and support every student across a wide range of subject areas. **We have several updated curriculum maps for parents & carers to view on the website.** To help you have meaningful conversations with your child about their learning, we've made detailed curriculum information for every subject available on our website. Simply click the link to explore what your child is studying this year.

Curriculum at the Kidsgrove Secondary | Kidsgrove Secondary

CLICK HERE







"If you do enough small things right, **BIG THINGS** can happen"

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL **PROUD TO BE KSS**

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KIDSGROVE

EDUCATIONAL VISITS & TRIPS 2026 – 2027

If you do enough small things right, big things can happen



MONTH	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	MIXED YEAR GROUP
SEPTEMBER			English – Romeo and Juliet New Vic Theatre			
OCTOBER		Spanish/Art Liverpool Visit		History Salford Visit KS4 ScareFest Trip	Geography Salford Visit Stanley Head Residential KS4 ScareFest Trip	
NOVEMBER			KS4, Krakow Poland Visit	KS4, Krakow Poland Visit	KS4, Krakow Poland Visit	
DECEMBER	Christmas Disco/Film KS3 Reward Trip	Christmas Disco/Film KS3 Reward Trip	KS3 Reward Trip	T Level Takeover at Stoke Sixth Form College Ebenezer Cinema Trip KS4 Reward Trip	T Level Takeover at Stoke Sixth Form College Ebenezer Cinema Trip KS4 Reward Trip	
JANUARY			Aspire Day @ SSFC Art Blue Planet Aquarium		H&C Stoke College Visit	Basketball Final at Utilita Arena
FEBRUARY	Art - Emma Bridgewater Visit	Geography Peak Wildlife Visit	Paris Visit	H&C Football Stadium Visit IMedia - Gaming Careers Campus Visit		
MARCH	History Warwick Castle					Dance Club Performance at the Victoria Hall
APRIL		Higher Horizons Campus Visit RS Coventry Cathedral Visit	Geography Etihad Stadium - Regeneration	Higher Horizons Campus Visit		
MAY				Spanish/Art Liverpool Visit		
JUNE	Aberdovey Visit RS Places of Worship Visit	London Tudor Trail Visit		Geography Dovedale Visit		
JULY	Summer Reward Trip	Summer Reward Trip London Tudor Trail Visit	Summer Reward Trip	Summer Reward Trip		

RESIDENTIAL VISITS
These trips include an overnight stay and provide **unforgettable experiences** that build independence, resilience and friendships.

FUNDED BY KSS
These visits are **fully funded** by KSS to support post-16 next steps or are mandatory skills studies that prepare students for future opportunities and success.

REWARD TRIPS
Awarded for positive behaviour, attendance and contribution to school life.

OUR TRIPS AND VISITS HELP STUDENTS TO EMBRACE OUR LORIC VALUES

L – LEADERSHIP
Taking responsibility, encouraging others and leading by example.

O – ORGANISATION
Preparing effectively and managing ourselves independently.

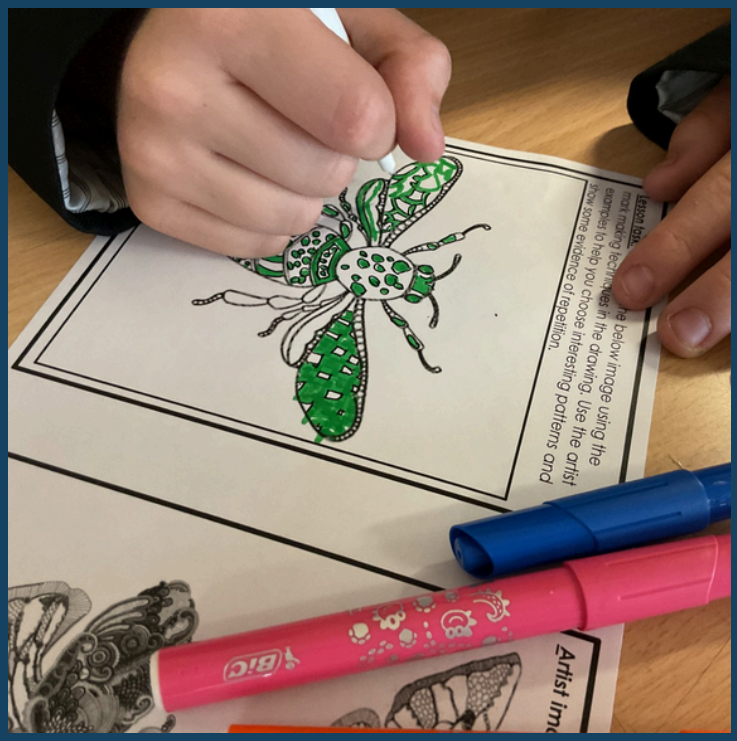
R – RESILIENCE
Embracing challenges and stepping outside our comfort zone.

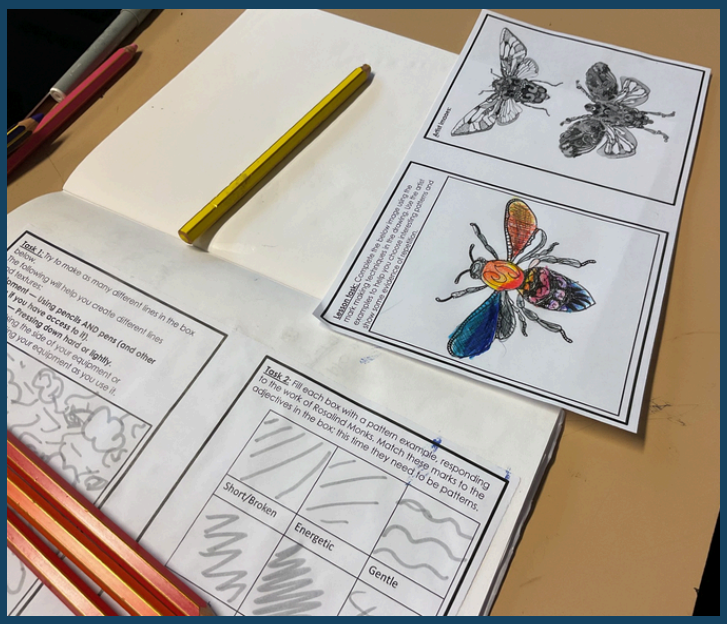
I – INITIATIVE
Showing curiosity, confidence and a willingness to try new experiences.

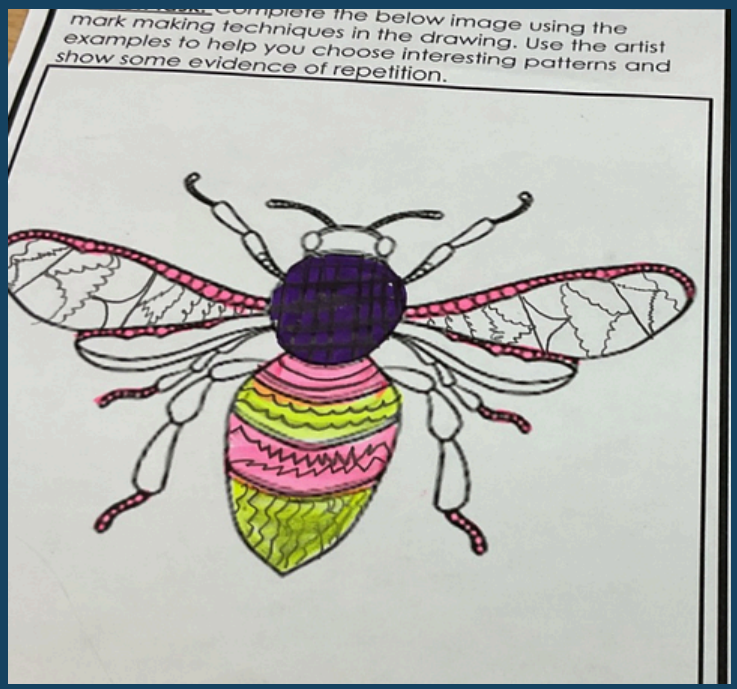
C – COMMUNICATION
Working collaboratively and communicating respectfully with others.

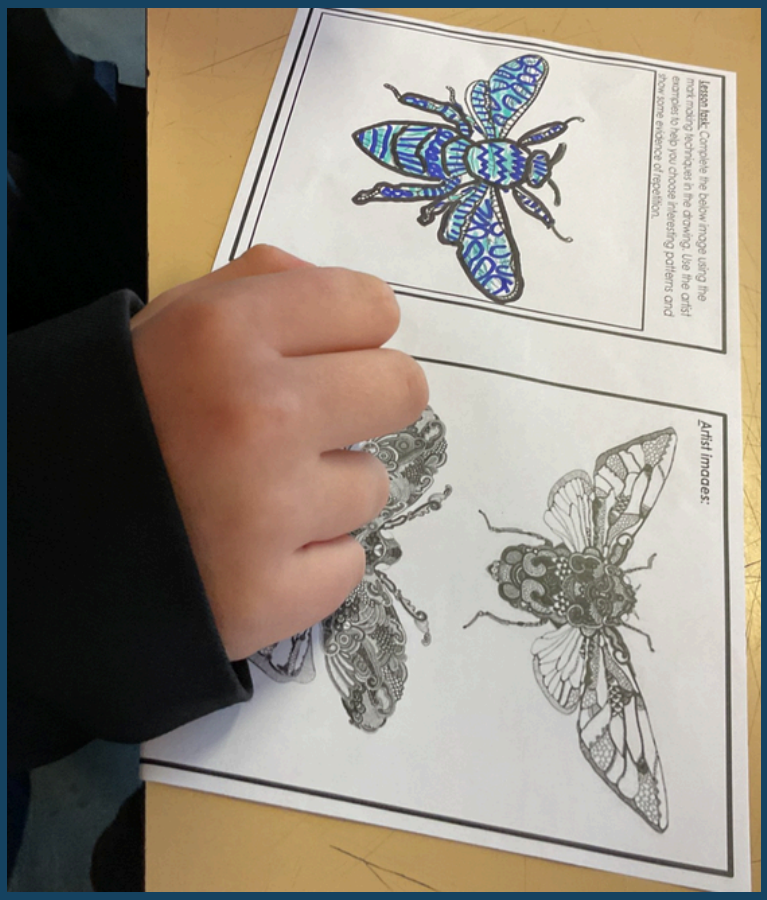
Art

Year 7 have been studying Rosalind Monks. Inspired by the environments and people around her, Rosalind divides her time between snowy mountains and ocean waves. For Rosalind drawing is a way of taking what she loves from the world around her and visually processing it to create her own little universe in her head. She then feeds this directly into her beautiful images, one carefully drawn line at a time.
As you can see there are some brilliant artists in our Year 7 cohort. Amazing work Year 7, well done.









Art

Our KS4 Art students have been working hard to develop their artistic skills by exploring a range of materials and techniques, including pencil tonal drawing, oil pastels and watercolour painting. Through practical experimentation, pupils are learning how different media can be used to create depth, texture, contrast and realistic effects in their artwork. They have been developing their understanding of light and shadow through pencil tone, exploring vibrant colours and expressive mark-making with oil pastels, and experimenting with colour mixing, blending and layering using watercolours. These experiences are helping students build confidence, make informed creative decisions and discover how different materials can communicate ideas and bring their artwork to life.

It has been fantastic to see students embracing new challenges, refining their techniques and developing their own artistic styles. These skills are an important part of their GCSE Art and Design journey, supporting them in creating personal, imaginative and high-quality outcomes that demonstrate creativity, experimentation and technical development. We look forward to seeing their continued progress!

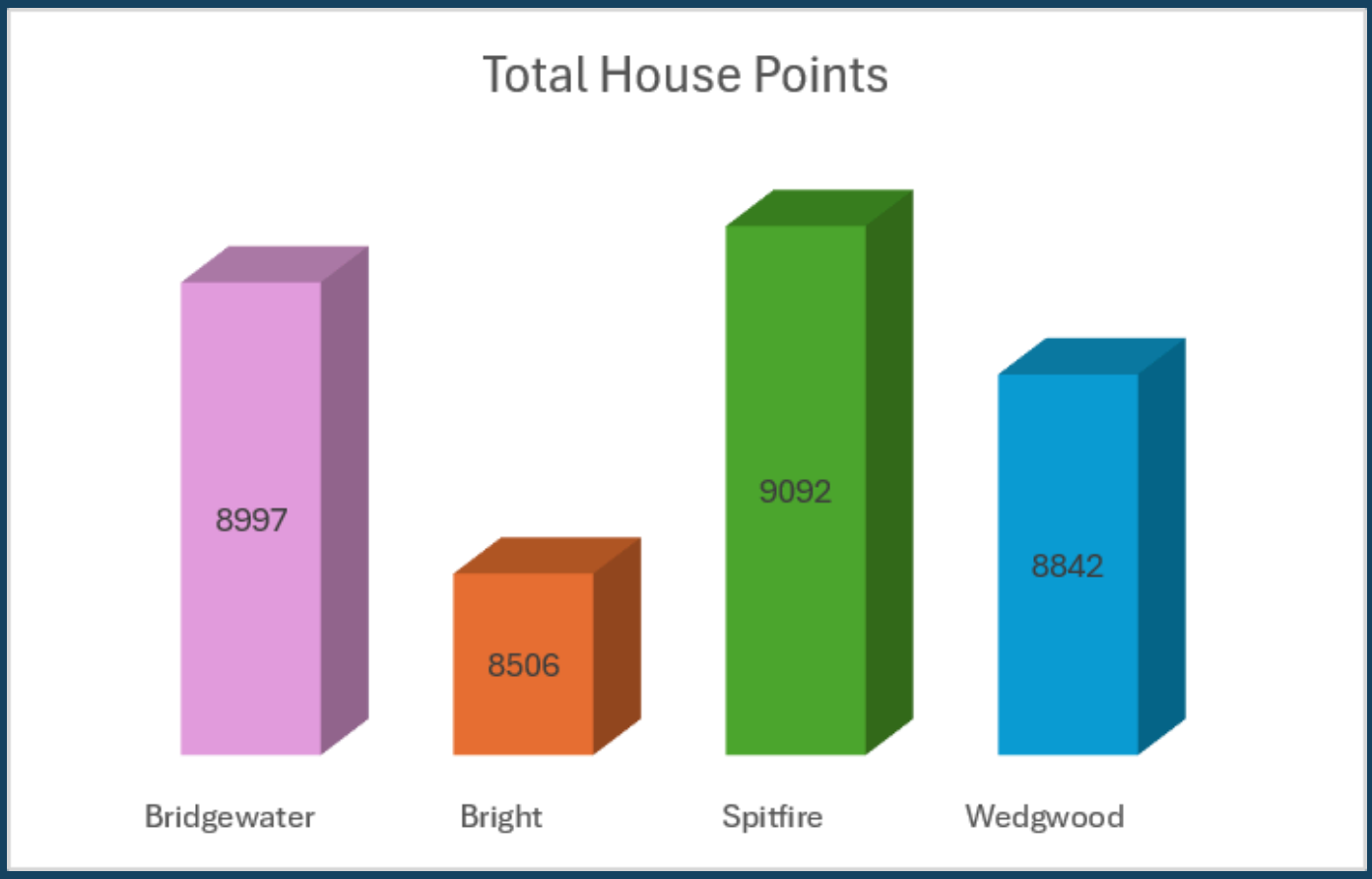


House Points

🏆 The Race Is On!
The competition is heating up at Kidsgrove Secondary School as our four houses battle it out for the top spot!
🔥 Spitfire has taken the lead with an impressive 9,092 points, closely followed by Bridgewater on 8,997 points – just 95 points separate our top two houses!
💙 Wedgwood is in third place with 8,842 points, while 🧡 Bright is still very much in the race with 8,506 points.

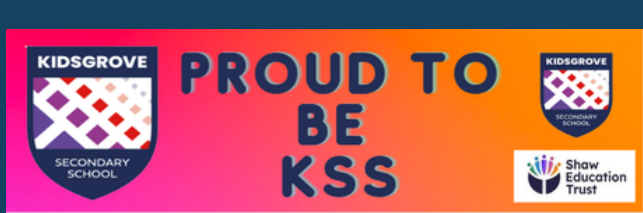
With suchclose scores, everything is still to play for! A huge well done to all students who have earned house points through their hard work, positive attitudes and demonstration of our school values.

Keep collecting those points – which house will come out on top next? 🌟









Headteacher Reward Lunch

As a small token of our appreciation to all of the students that helped out at the recent open evening, we invited all volunteers to the second Headteacher reward lunch of the half term on Wednesday. These students showed initiative and leadership in providing support to visiting parents and prospective students, in what was our best attended open evening event. We were also joined by students from KPS, to celebrate the students who have achieved the most positive points this half term.
Well done and thank you to each and every one of you.







Welcome

Mrs Barker-Brown: Art and Textiles Teacher

With 14 years of teaching experience in Art and Textiles, I was really excited to join the team at Kidsgrove Secondary School. Since joining KSS, I've felt incredibly welcomed and have quickly realised what a fantastic school it is to work in. There is a real sense of family within the school, with supportive colleagues who genuinely care about one another and want the very best for our students. It really does feel like a special place to work!

One of the highlights so far has been getting to know the students. They are a real credit to the school, and it's been wonderful to see their personalities, creativity and potential shine through. I'm passionate about helping young people build confidence, discover their talents and take pride in what they achieve, particularly through Art and Textiles.

I feel very fortunate to have joined such a welcoming school community and am looking forward to being part of the KSS family, inspiring our students and celebrating their successes along the way!



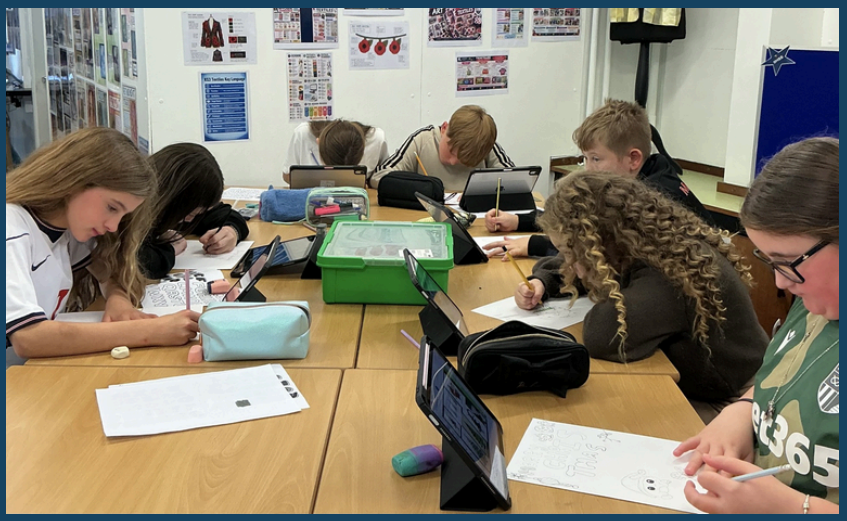
Textiles

Our KS3 Textiles students have made a fantastic start to their textiles journey! They have explored the exciting world of textiles, learning about the importance of design, creativity and innovation. Students have been developing and sketching their own design ideas, using their imagination to explore possibilities and beginning to understand how initial concepts can be transformed into exciting, purposeful products.

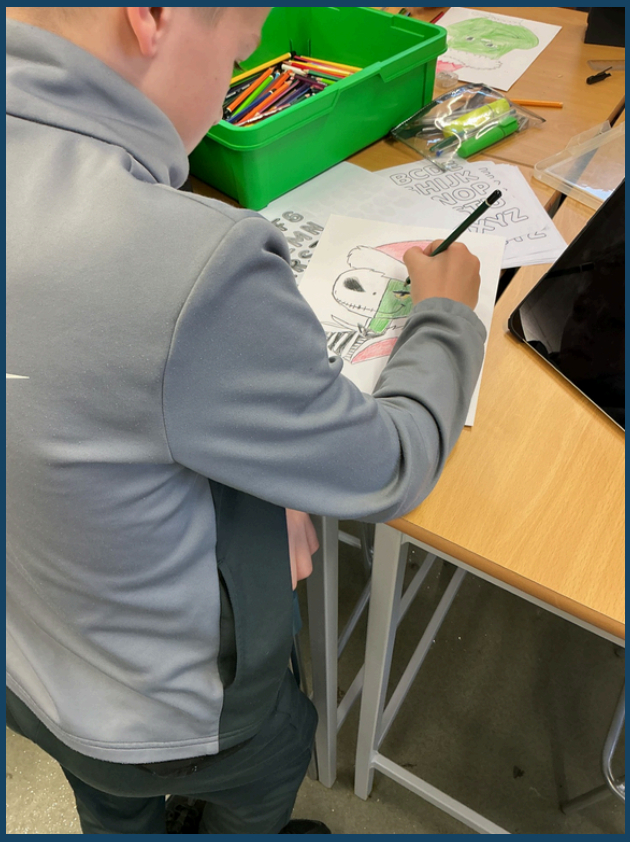
They have also discovered the wide range of careers available within the textiles industry, from fashion design and costume making to interior design, sustainable fashion and textile technology. Students have learnt that Textiles is much more than fabric and sewing; it is a creative and innovative industry that combines artistic flair, practical skills and problem-solving to bring ideas to life.

It has been wonderful to see students embracing their creativity, sharing their ideas and developing their confidence as young designers. We are incredibly proud of their positive start and look forward to seeing their imagination and design skills continue to flourish as they explore the endless opportunities within Textiles!









Physical Education

Our Year 8 students have been demonstrating fantastic leadership, initiative and independence during their netball lessons.
It has been brilliant to see students taking responsibility for their own learning, working together as a team and showing confidence in making decisions on the court.
From organising their games to supporting and encouraging one another, Year 8 have shown that PE is about so much more than developing sporting skills. A huge well done to Year 8 for demonstrating our KSS values and developing important life skills along the way.









World Mental Health Day

Kidsgrove Secondary School has been a sea of yellow as our students and staff came together to raise awareness of mental health and show their support for #HelloYellow! It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, spreading positivity and kindness, and reminding each other of the importance of looking after our mental health.







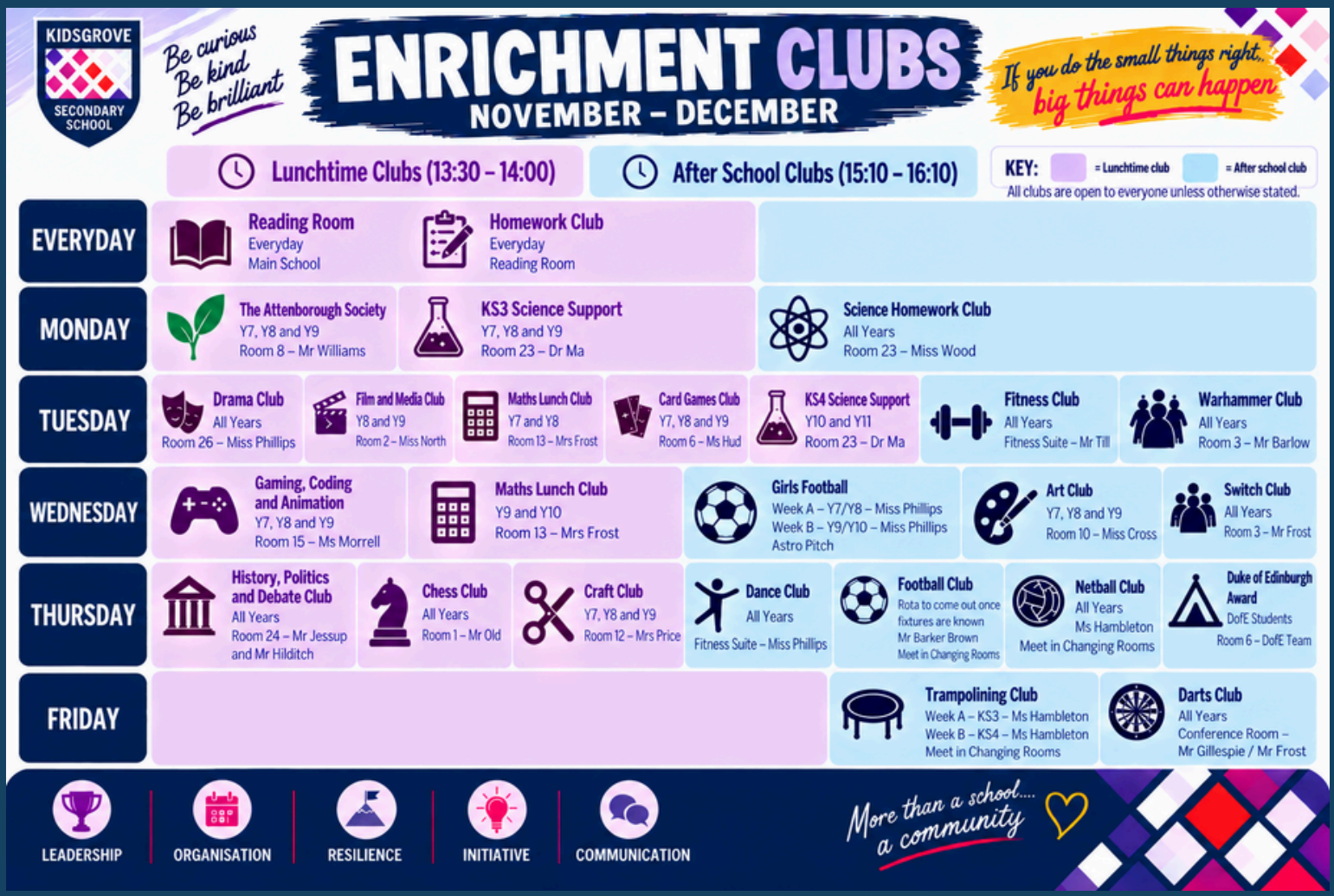








Enrichment


KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
Be curious
Be kind
Be brilliant
ENRICHMENT CLUBS
NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
If you do the small things right... big things can happen
Lunchtime Clubs (13:30 – 14:00)
After School Clubs (15:10 – 16:10)
KEY: = Lunchtime club = After school club
All clubs are open to everyone unless otherwise stated.
EVERYDAY
Reading Room
Everyday
Main School
Homework Club
Everyday
Reading Room
MONDAY
The Attenborough Society
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 8 – Mr Williams
KS3 Science Support
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 23 – Dr Ma
Science Homework Club
All Years
Room 23 – Miss Wood
TUESDAY
Drama Club
All Years
Room 26 – Miss Phillips
Film and Media Club
Y8 and Y9
Room 2 – Miss North
Maths Lunch Club
Y7 and Y8
Room 13 – Mrs Frost
Card Games Club
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 6 – Ms Hud
KS4 Science Support
Y10 and Y11
Room 23 – Dr Ma
Fitness Club
All Years
Fitness Suite – Mr Till
Warhammer Club
All Years
Room 3 – Mr Barlow
WEDNESDAY
Gaming, Coding and Animation
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 15 – Ms Morrell
Maths Lunch Club
Y9 and Y10
Room 13 – Mrs Frost
Girls Football
Week A – Y7/Y8 – Miss Phillips
Week B – Y9/Y10 – Miss Phillips
Astro Pitch
Art Club
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 10 – Miss Cross
Switch Club
All Years
Room 3 – Mr Frost
THURSDAY
History, Politics and Debate Club
All Years
Room 24 – Mr Jessup and Mr Hilditch
Chess Club
All Years
Room 1 – Mr Old
Craft Club
Y7, Y8 and Y9
Room 12 – Mrs Price
Dance Club
All Years
Fitness Suite – Miss Phillips
Football Club
Rota to come out once fixtures are known
Mr Barker Brown
Meet in Changing Rooms
Netball Club
All Years
Ms Hambleton
Meet in Changing Rooms
Duke of Edinburgh Award
DofE Students
Room 6 – DofE Team
FRIDAY
Trampolining Club
Week A – KS3 – Ms Hambleton
Week B – KS4 – Ms Hambleton
Meet in Changing Rooms
Darts Club
All Years
Conference Room –
Mr Gillespie / Mr Frost
LEADERSHIP
ORGANISATION
RESILIENCE
INITIATIVE
COMMUNICATION
More than a school.... a community


Opportunity
Integrity
Community
Equity


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Welcome

I'm Miss Phillips and I'm the new Performing Arts teacher at KSS.
KSS is my first school, as I recently graduated from Birmingham City University. Whilst I was there, I was a part of the competitive cheerleading team, where I competed in different locations across the UK. I also currently play competitively for a local netball club. I have danced since I was 6 years old, and have always had an interest in music, dance, and musicals, which led to my career in Performing Arts.

Since joining KSS, I have been lucky enough to experience a number of opportunities, which have involved the school production 'Matilda Jr' and the Year 7 Aberdovey residential. The high volume of opportunities available for the children, both academic and personal, is one reason why KSS is a fantastic school to be a part of. Although I have not been here for long, the warm and friendly atmosphere has never faded, which makes KSS a positive place to come to everyday, for both the students and staff members. I am very lucky to be a part of such a fantastic school and I look forward to what the future has to hold.



‘Matilda’ the Musical

Just wow! Our brilliant cast and crew delivered an amazing show on Tuesday for KPS and our parents/carers and to top it all off, delivered a whole school performance on Wednesday this week. Each and every student did themselves proud with superb acting and singing skills on show. Thank you to Mr Gillespie and Ms Phillips for supporting the students so brilliantly over the last few months o f rehearsals.





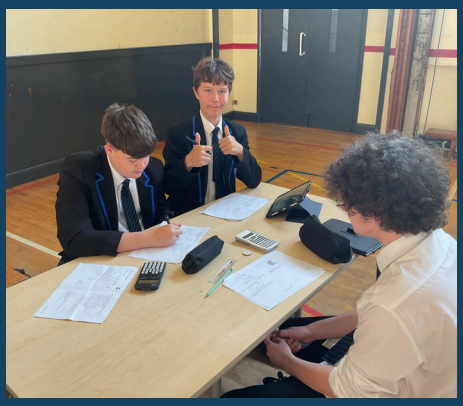


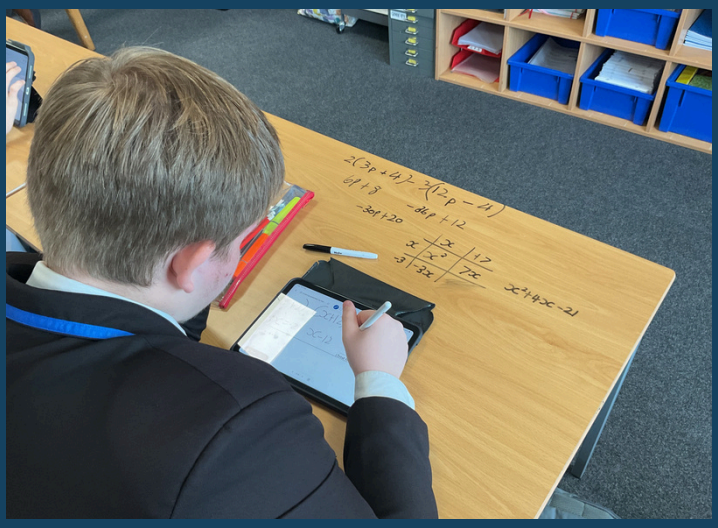
Maths

Year 11 continue to show a fantastic attitude to their learning. The Maths department wanted to share some pictures of the work that students have been doing in after school intervention sessions, as well as examples of methods they are using to improve their understanding.

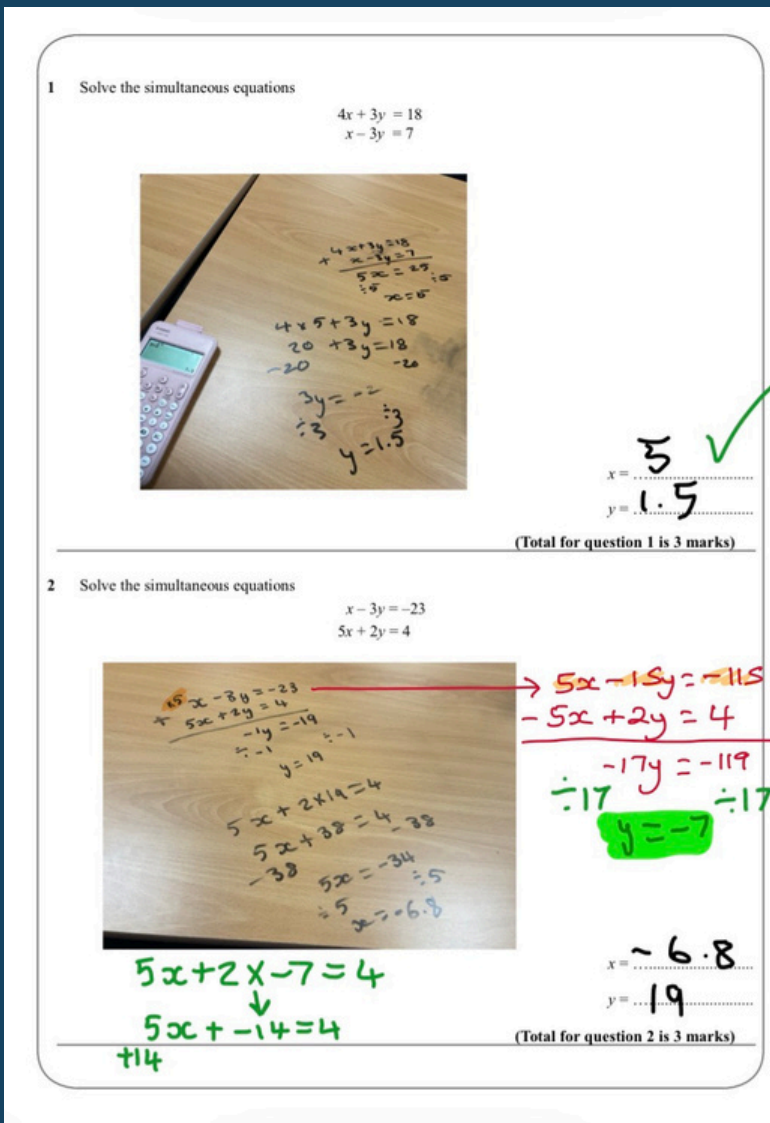












1 Solve the simultaneous equations

$4x + 3y = 18$
$x - 3y = 7$

$x = 5$
$y = 1.5$

(Total for question 1 is 3 marks)

2 Solve the simultaneous equations

$x - 3y = -23$
$5x + 2y = 4$

$x = -6.8$
$y = 19$

(Total for question 2 is 3 marks)

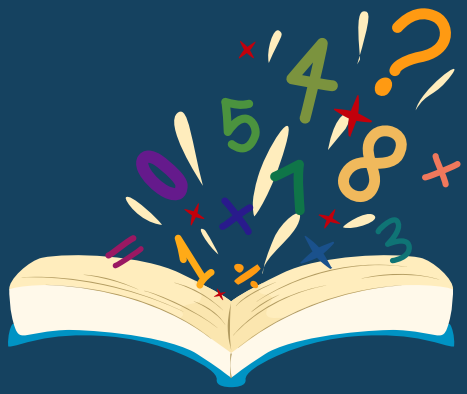
Opportunity Integrity Community Equity

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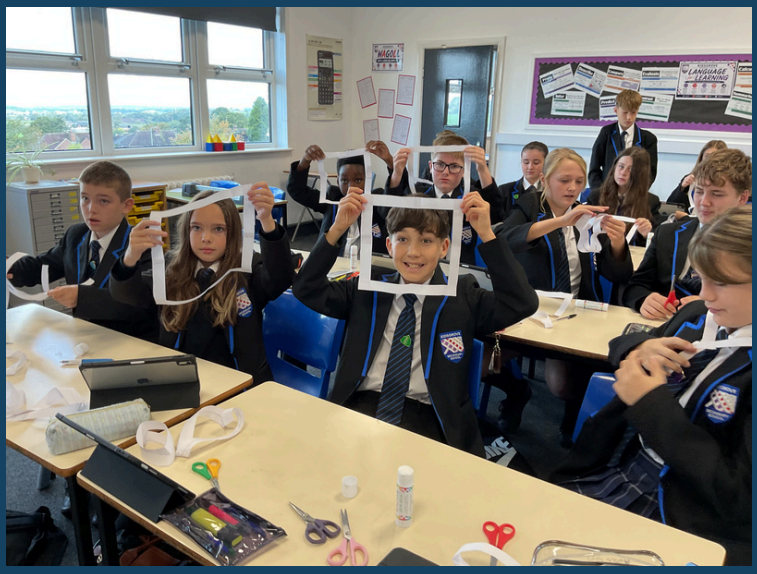
Maths

7K have been exploring the science of topology by experimenting with loops and mobius strips. They made predictions then conducted an experiment to discover what would happen if you cut a mobius strip in half. After, we looked at computer models to better understand why and make further predictions about more complex situations. We also learned how to make a square from two circles and why that was possible. The class demonstrated excellent resilience and initiative in their learning of this advanced mathematical field.













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Scarefest 2026

Year 10 and Year 11 students were rewarded with a visit to Scarefest yesterday to celebrate their fantastic start to the year. We have been blown away by the resilience and initative shown by students since they returned from the summer break. Key Stage 4 lessons are a joy to visit with staff challenging students to tease out high level answers and secure tasks. Well done students!







KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
SUCCESS FOR ALL

LEADERSHIP – Be the change
ORGANISATION – Seek it out
RESILIENCE – Show you care
INITIATIVE – Do what's right
COMMUNICATION – Stronger together

If you do the small things right, big things can happen.

YEAR 11 YOUR NEXT STEPS

PREPARE | EXPLORE | APPLY | ACHIEVE

YOUR FUTURE STARTS NOW

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES
Different paths. Brighter futures.

COLLEGE | SIXTH FORM
APPRENTICESHIP | EMPLOYMENT

1 KNOW YOUR OPTIONS
Find the right path for you.

- Find out about local colleges and sixth forms.
- Explore apprenticeship opportunities.
- Learn about different careers and industries.
- Attend open events and taster days.
- Talk to family, teachers and the Careers Team.

2 DO YOUR RESEARCH
Make informed choices.

- Visit college and sixth form websites.
- Look at course information, entry requirements and facilities.
- Watch videos and read student reviews.
- Compare your options.
- Use Unifrog to explore careers and pathways.

3 PREPARE AND APPLY
Don't leave it too late.

- Check application deadlines.
- Make sure your application is complete and accurate.
- Write a strong personal statement (if needed).
- Ask for a reference if required.
- Follow up on your application and check your emails.

4 DEVELOP KEY SKILLS
Show you're ready.

- Build your confidence and communication skills.
- Gain work experience or volunteering (if possible).
- Take responsibility and be reliable.
- Show a positive attitude and be ready to learn.
- Keep working hard in your GCSEs.

5 THINK ABOUT FINANCE
Be prepared for the costs.

- Find out about student transport options.
- Look into bursaries, financial support and free school meals (if eligible).
- Consider costs such as equipment, trips and travel.
- Plan a budget and talk to your family if needed.

6 LOOK AFTER YOURSELF
A positive you, a brighter future.

- Manage your time effectively.
- Take breaks and look after your wellbeing.
- Ask for support if you're feeling uncertain or anxious.
- Celebrate your achievements – you're almost there!

KEY THINGS TO DO NOW

- Attend open events
- Research and compare your options
- Complete your applications
- Keep checking your emails
- Speak to the Careers Team for support
- Continue to work hard in your GCSEs
- Have a plan (and a backup plan)

Opportunities don't just happen, you make them happen.



Your Future Your Choice

EXPLORE
LEARN
BELONG
ACHIEVE

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
SUCCESS FOR ALL
LEADERSHIP | ORGANISATION | RESILIENCE | INITIATIVE | COMMUNICATION

Opportunity · Integrity · Community · Equity

PROUD TO BE KSS

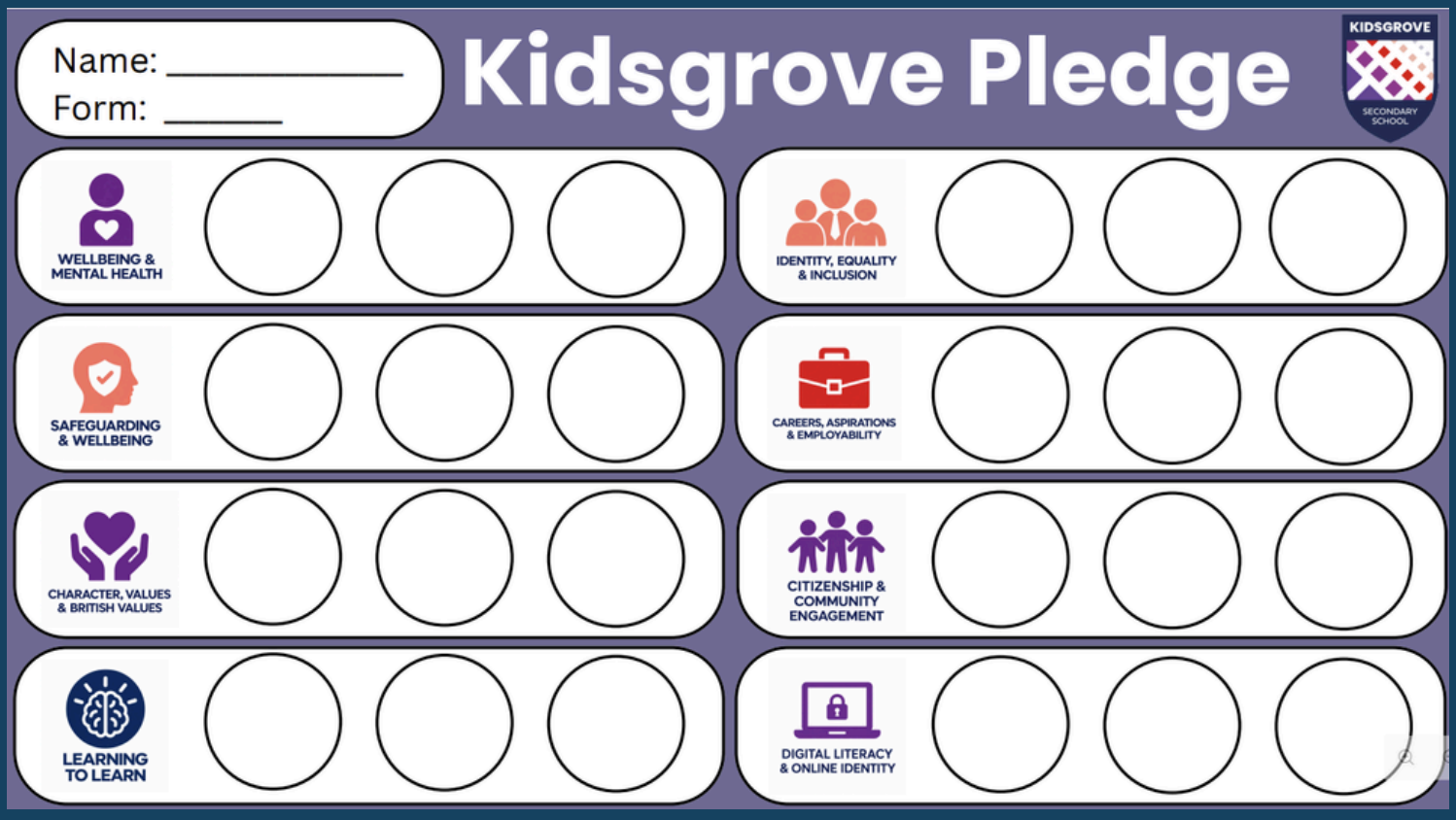
Shaw Education Trust

The KSS Pledge

The KSS Pledge is built around eight key strands.
. Together, these strands provide a broad and meaningful framework for developing the whole child, ensuring that students have opportunities to build healthy relationships, make informed choices, develop resilience, explore future aspirations and understand their role within their communities.

The pledge is being embedded through our personal development curriculum, with students in Years 7 to 10 already having dedicated folders ready to record their progress. Throughout the academic year, students are encouraged to engage with a range of activities and experiences linked to the eight strands, collecting evidence to demonstrate how they are developing their knowledge, skills and understanding. This evidence might come from activities completed in lessons, participation in wider school opportunities, contributions to the community or experiences beyond the classroom.

It is particularly encouraging to see that lots of students are already evidencing their pledges, demonstrating enthusiasm for the initiative and recognising the value of their personal development. This early engagement is a positive step towards building a culture in which students take ownership of their growth and celebrate achievements that extend beyond examination results. We look forward to seeing the pledge continue to grow throughout the year and to celebrating the many achievements our students will make along the way. Every pledge completed is another step towards becoming the very best version of themselves.







Welcome

Hi, I'm Miss Brawn. I am delighted to have joined Kidsgrove Secondary School as the new Admin Assistant and Data Manager. I have worked in education for six years, gaining experience in a variety of roles, including Admin Assistant, Pastoral Support Assistant and Safeguarding Lead. I decided to join KSS to broaden my knowledge and experience, as well as have the opportunity to work in a mixed secondary school.
My time at KSS so far has been a really positive experience. I have felt very welcomed by both staff and students, and getting to know the students has been fantastic. I'm looking forward to continuing my journey at KSS, building relationships and being part of the school community.

Outside of work, I'm a proud mum of two. When I'm not at school, you'll most likely find me at a motocross track, supporting my son and cheering him on!
I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone more and being part of the KSS family.







Welcome

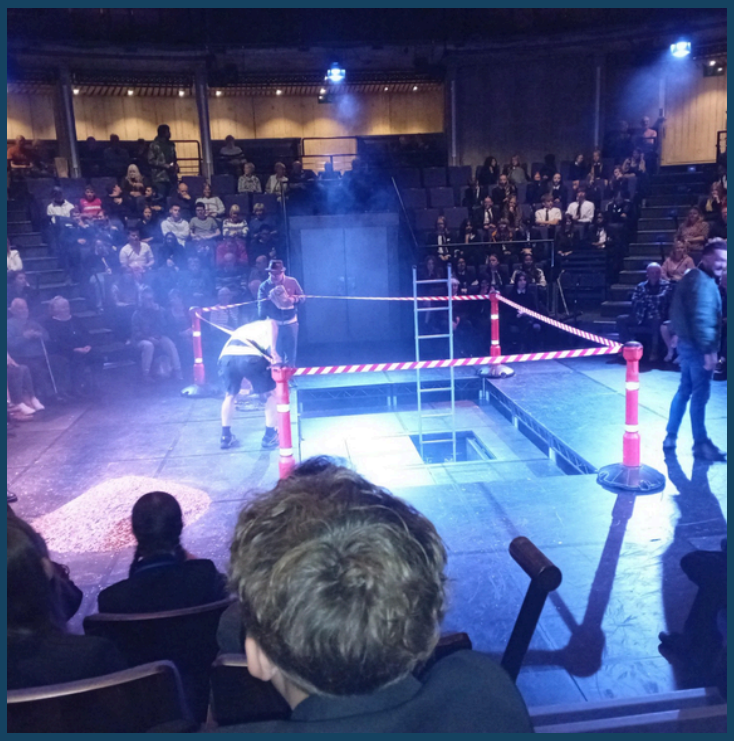
My name is Mr William's and I have joined KSS as an ECT 2, having worked previously as an outdoor instructor. I teach Geography and Science and I am involved with helping the school's Duke of Edinburgh programme too. So far, I have enjoyed my time at KSS and have felt welcomed into a very community-focused school.



English

Year 9 students enjoyed a fantastic trip to the New Vic Theatre to watch Romeo and Juliet. The students were a real credit to the school throughout the day. They demonstrated excellent behaviour, showed respect to theatre staff and fellow audience members, and engaged thoughtfully with the performance. The production brought Shakespeare's famous tragedy to life in an exciting and memorable way, helping students deepen their understanding of the text while experiencing live theatre. Many students commented on the creativity of the staging and the powerful performances from the cast.

A huge thank you to all the students who attended for representing the school so positively, and to the staff who supported the visit. A special mention to Mr Old for organising and leading the trip.







English

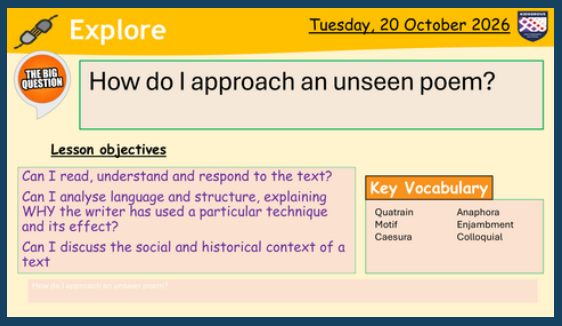


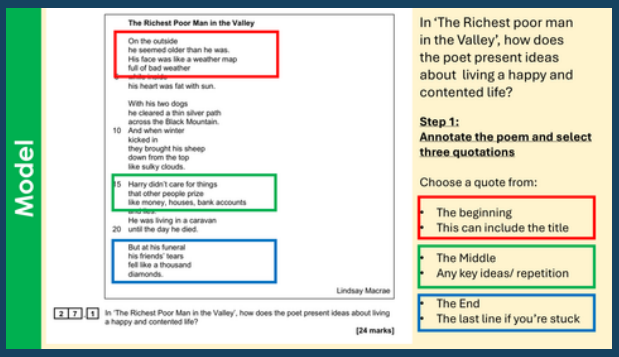
Year 11 students recently attended an English Literature Masterclass designed to support preparation for their upcoming GCSE PPE examinations.

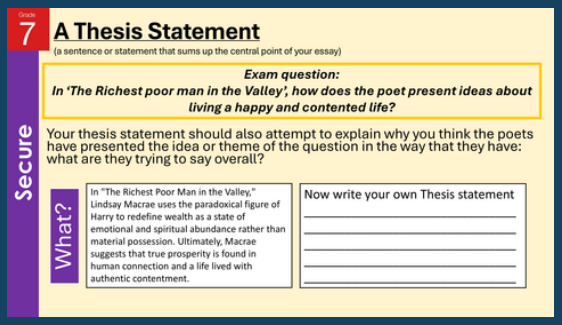
During the two-hour session, students focused on developing the skills required to analyse unseen poetry effectively. Using the poem 'The Richest Poor Man in the Valley', students explored how to interpret unfamiliar texts, analyse language, form and structure, and respond to GCSE-style examination questions with confidence.

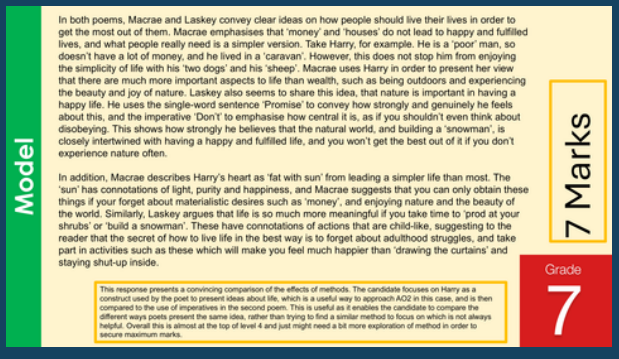
The masterclass provided opportunities for students to:

- Develop strategies for approaching unseen poems.
- Explore the writer's methods and intentions.
- Analyse key themes and ideas in depth.
- Practise constructing detailed, evidence-based responses.
- Refine examination technique and time-management skills.









Students engaged thoughtfully with the poem and demonstrated excellent commitment throughout the session. The masterclass provided valuable preparation ahead of the PPE examinations, helping students build confidence in one of the most challenging areas of the English Literature course.

A huge thank you to all students who attended and contributed so positively. Their dedication and enthusiasm were excellent, and we look forward to seeing these skills applied in their upcoming examinations.



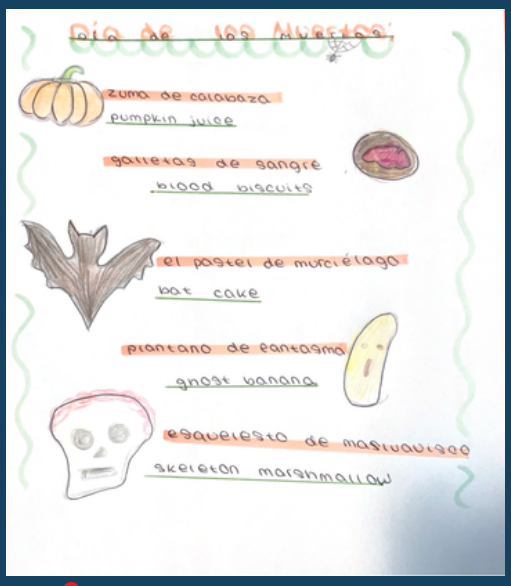


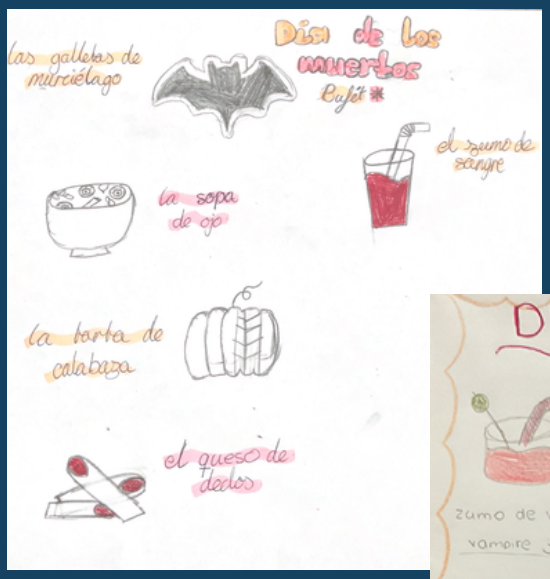
Spanish

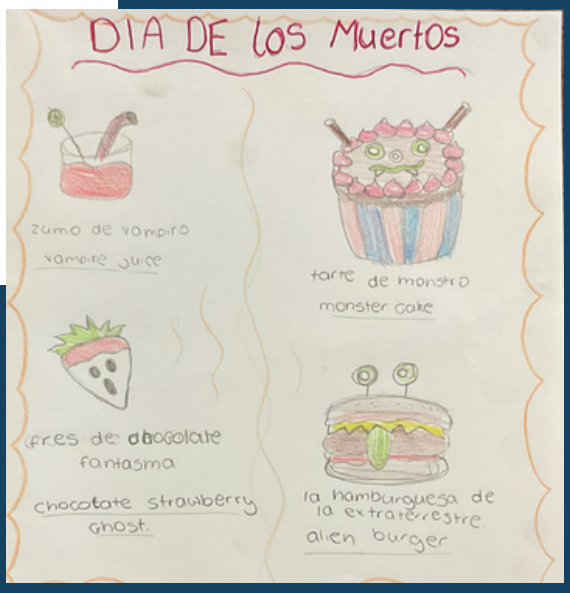
To round off the half term, Year 9 Spanish students combined challenging grammar with creativity and cultural learning in a lesson inspired by Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

Students tackled the tricky grammatical concept of using “de” to show possession in Spanish, a structure that can often lead to misconceptions for learners. Through guided practice and examples, students developed their understanding of how to express ownership accurately in Spanish.
Having practised the grammar, students then put their learning into action through a creative task: designing their own Día de los Muertos buffet. They used their Spanish to label and describe the food, applying the target language in a meaningful context while exploring an important Hispanic cultural celebration.

The lesson provided an opportunity for students to develop grammatical accuracy, build confidence in applying new language independently and deepen their understanding of Hispanic culture. It was fantastic to see students bringing together language learning and creativity in such an engaging way!







Opportunity Integrity Community Equity

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL PROUD TO BE KSS Shaw Education Trust

Year 11 Residential

Last weekend, our Year 11 students took part in the annual Stanley Head residential, and they were an absolute credit to Kidsgrove Secondary School. Throughout the weekend, their attitude, conduct and enthusiasm were exceptional, and they represented the school with pride.

Students threw themselves into every activity, including archery, climbing, canoeing, axe throwing, rifle shooting, orienteering, team games and group challenges. They approached each experience with confidence and determination, showing a willingness to step outside their comfort zones and embrace new challenges. Just as importantly, they consistently encouraged and supported one another, demonstrating excellent teamwork, resilience and a real sense of camaraderie.

Their behaviour throughout the residential was absolutely exemplary. Students were polite, respectful and well-mannered towards all staff, both from school and the Stanley Head centre. They also took great pride in their accommodation, keeping it in immaculate condition and demonstrating responsibility and maturity throughout their stay.



Year 11 Residential

Alongside the outdoor activities, the residential provided valuable opportunities for academic development. Students participated in Maths and English sessions, as well as a dedicated study skills session, designed to help them prepare effectively for their upcoming GCSE examinations. They explored practical revision strategies, including creating effective flashcards and considering key methods to use to maximise retention and recall, using colour-coordinated mind maps with dual coding (images and key information) and interpreting command words to ensure they respond accurately and precisely to examination questions. These sessions reinforced the importance of independent learning, effective revision habits and taking ownership of their academic progress in Year 11.





Year 11 Residential

A huge thank you must also go to the 12 members of staff who generously gave up part or most of their weekend to support the residential and deliver such invaluable contributions across the activities and academic sessions. Their time, commitment and enthusiasm helped make the experience so successful. Student feedback highlighted how much they enjoyed spending time with staff, building positive relationships and getting involved in activities alongside them. These opportunities to strengthen rapport outside the classroom were clearly valued by the students and helped make the weekend even more memorable. The residential was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop both personally and academically. Their fearless approach to new challenges, willingness to support their peers and consistently positive attitude made the weekend a real success.

We are incredibly proud of every student who attended. They demonstrated the very best of Kidsgrove Secondary School, and their attitude throughout the weekend was flawless. On behalf of the students, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all staff involved for making such a valuable and memorable experience possible. A special mention to Mr Barker Brown who organised and led the whole weekend.



Year 11 Residential







Opportunity Integrity Community Equity

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

PROUD TO BE KSS

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Shaw Education Trust

Welcome

Hello, I am Ms Wild. Having grown up in Kidsgrove, being part of Kidsgrove Secondary School means so much to me. The opportunity to give something back to the community I grew up in and play a part in helping local children grow, learn and reach their full potential is something I feel passionate about. I wanted to work at KSS because I believe every child deserves to feel supported, encouraged and able to succeed, and I'm proud to be part of a school that allows me to make a difference. I'm really enjoying my time here so far, and the children have made me feel so welcome. It's been lovely getting to know them, and the support and encouragement I've received from the staff has been amazing throughout my journey so far. I'm excited to continue learning and developing in my role, and I can't wait to see what the future holds at KSS.



Art Visit

Earlier this month, our Year 8 pupils enjoyed a trip to Liverpool's World Museum and Walker Art Gallery as part of their Spanish and Art studies. At the World Museum, students explored the World Cultures collection, beginning with Mexico and Mesoamerica before discovering other cultures from around the globe. They were challenged to consider what different objects reveal about people, their cultures and their stories, whilst questioning stereotypes and reflecting on the statement, "People from different cultures are very different from us." Students also visited the Egyptian Mummy Room, where they had the opportunity to learn about ancient Egyptian beliefs, and burial practices. The visit continued at the Walker Art Gallery, where pupils explored a diverse range of artwork, from Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque art to works by celebrated artists such as J.M.W. Turner and Claude Monet. It was a valuable opportunity to encourage curiosity, challenge assumptions and broaden perspectives through learning beyond the classroom.



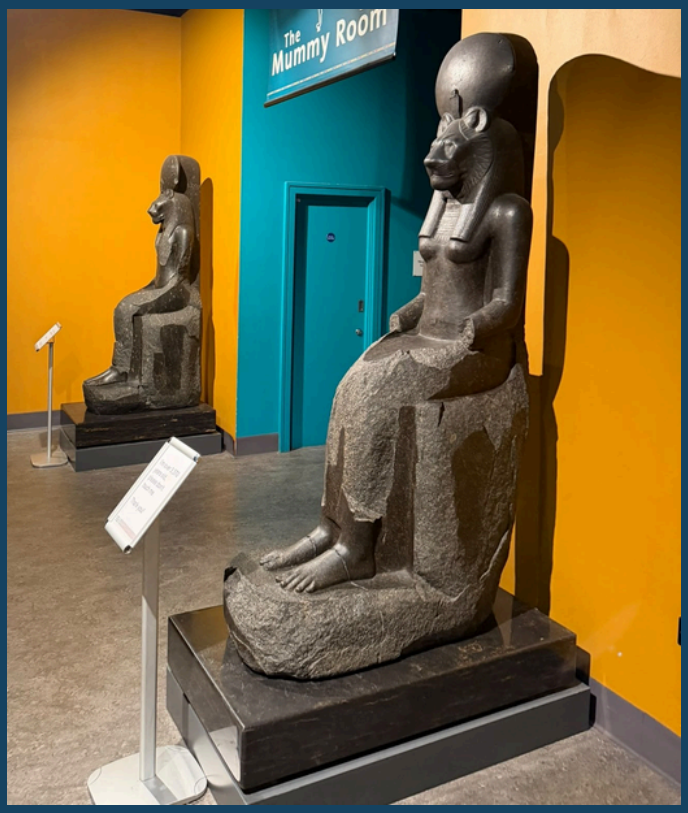




Art Visit







Opportunity Integrity Community Equity

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

PROUD TO BE KSS

Shaw Education Trust

Celebration Assemblies

What an amazing morning we had on Wednesday as we celebrated the achievements of our students this half term.

It was great to see so many students receive certificates and subject badges for their excellent progress. Well done to every student that was recognised for their hard work.









PROUD TO BE KSS

Celebration Assemblies













Celebration Assemblies



Well done!



Congratulations!



Celebration Assemblies













COMING SOON!



KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

PROUD TO BE KSS

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Shaw Education Trust

Welcome

Mr Hawkins - Science Teacher.
In my free time I enjoy playing guitar, mountain biking and I am a fan of Stoke City . I also, love spending time with my family and going on walks in the countryside. I chose to join KSS because of its fantastic community spirit and well-rounded approach to student growth. Everyone has been incredibly welcoming so far, and I have already felt right at home. I am really looking forward to getting to know the students, staff, and families as I settle into my new role.



Opportunity Integrity Community Equity

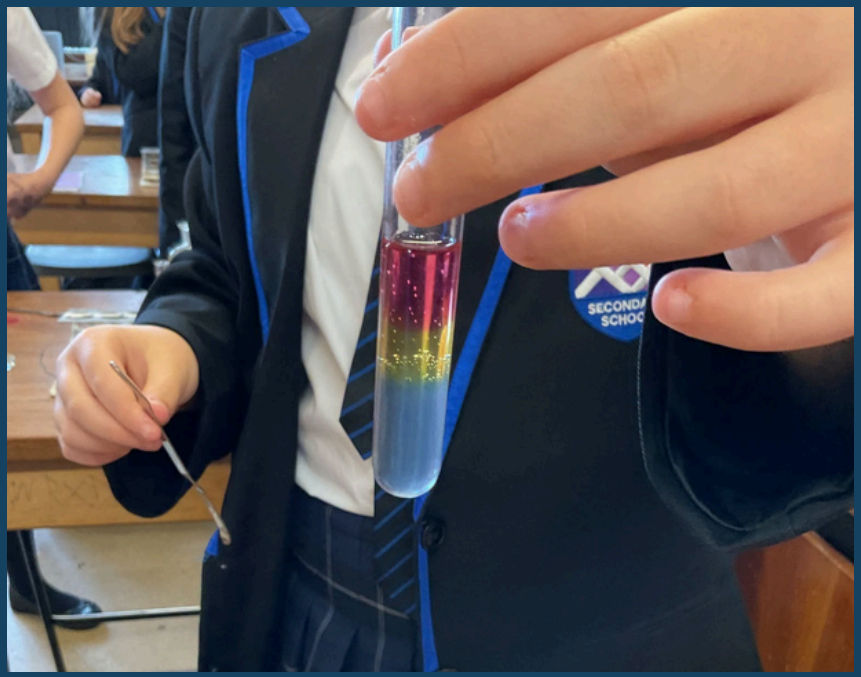
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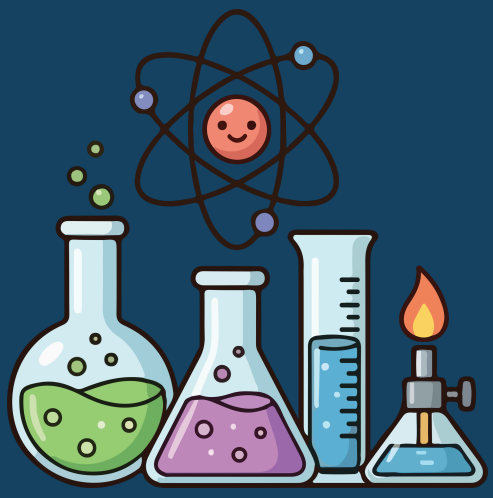
Science

Our Year 8 scientists in 8T have been busy putting their scientific skills to the test as they explored acids, alkalis and the pH scale.
Students took part in a practical experiment, investigating different substances and discovering how the pH scale helps us identify whether something is acidic, alkaline or neutral. It was fantastic to see our students developing their practical skills, making observations and applying their scientific knowledge in the classroom.
A brilliant example of learning coming to life through hands-on science!
Well done, 8T!









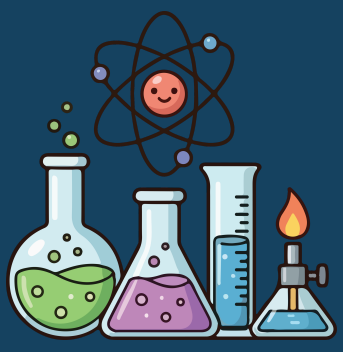
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Science

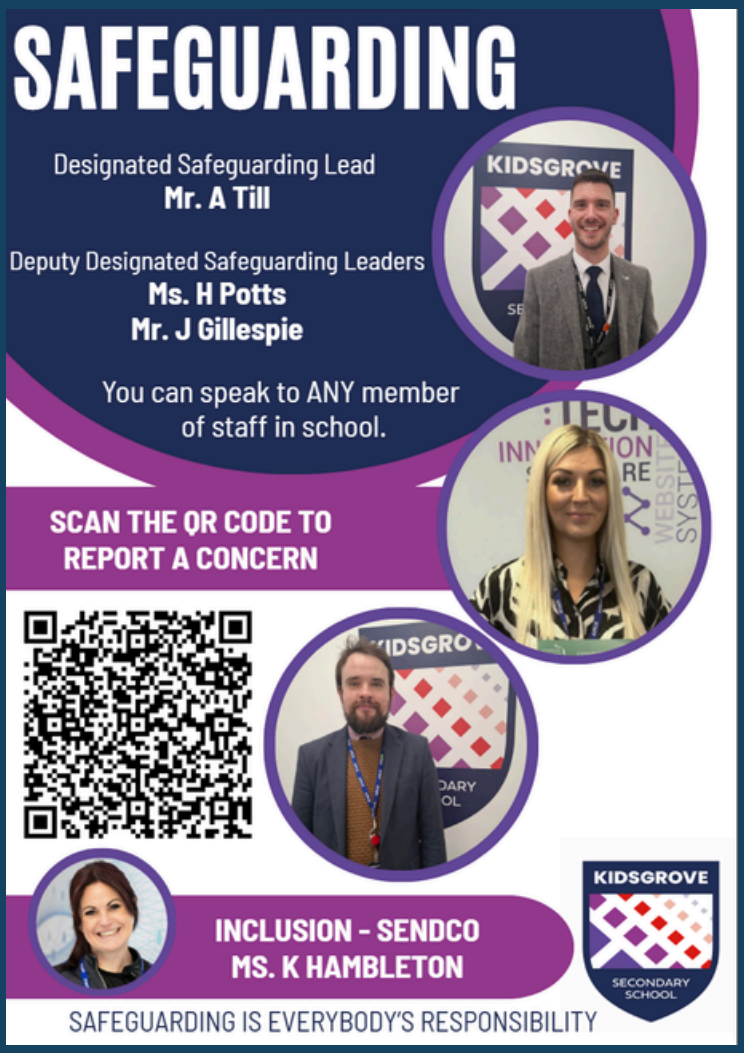
Year 10 have enjoyed carrying out lots of biology practical's recently to determine the effect of temperature and the effect of pH on enzyme action. A great deal of teamwork was required to ensure that continuous sampling was performed correctly so that accurate results were obtained. Students worked brilliantly and discovered that enzymes are denatured if the temperature or pH is not optimum. They also learned that rennin works best in acidic conditions, showing that this enzyme is found in the stomach of young mammals.

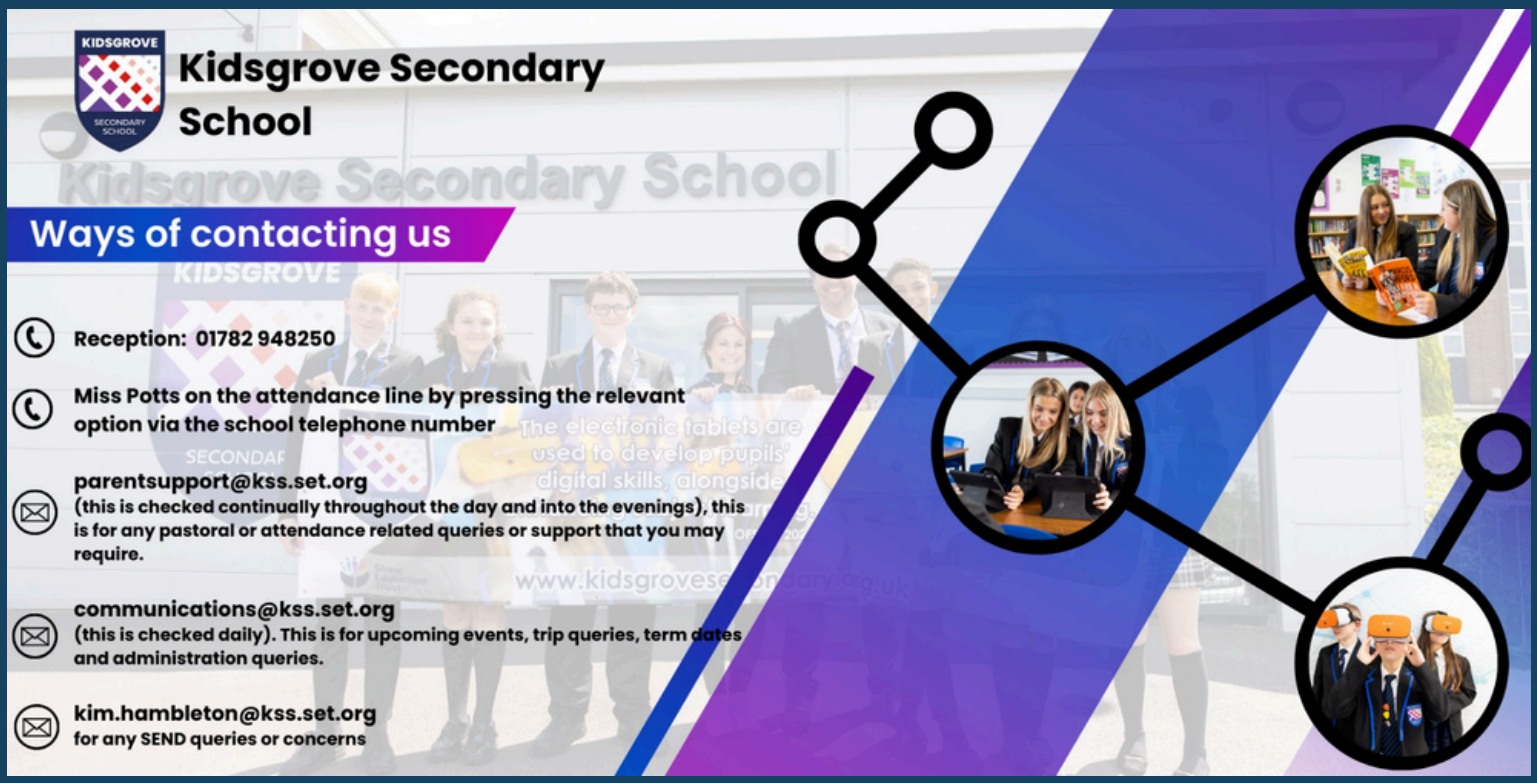
Amazing scientific skills demonstrated all round Year 10-well done!






CONTACT
US


SAFEGUARDING
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr. A Till
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leaders
Ms. H Potts
Mr. J Gillespie
You can speak to ANY member of staff in school.
SCAN THE QR CODE TO REPORT A CONCERN
INCLUSION - SENDCO
MS. K HAMBLETON
KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY


Kidsgrove Secondary School
Ways of contacting us
Reception: 01782 948250
Miss Potts on the attendance line by pressing the relevant option via the school telephone number
parentsupport@kss.set.org
(this is checked continually throughout the day and into the evenings), this is for any pastoral or attendance related queries or support that you may require.
communications@kss.set.org
(this is checked daily). This is for upcoming events, trip queries, term dates and administration queries.
kim.hambleton@kss.set.org
for any SEND queries or concerns


"If you do enough small things right, BIG THINGS can happen"


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