

Dear Parents/Carers,

The final half term of the academic year is nearly upon us. We cannot believe how fast the academic year is going and how much we have been able to achieve, which has been a consistent theme of my communication with you this year.

I am delighted to announce that we have received a significant amount of applications for students to join KSS in September as new Year 7's. This is extremely pleasing as the reputation of the school is improving due the changes that we have made since the start of the academic year. Mrs Castrey is now making strides to invite the new Year 7 students into school over the course of the final few weeks of the term.

As we near the end of the first half of the summer term, I thought I would share some key events that are taking place.

Year 9 Students have been presented with their option choice information in the last few weeks and they have until the 20th May to make their final decisions regarding their Key Stage 4 studies. This is a big milestone for the year group and I would like to thank all parents & carers for their support with this and for your attendance at the recent parents/options event.

The Year 11 students begin their summer examinations on Monday (16th May) and these will run all the way until the 23rd of June which then culminates with the prom on the 1st of July. A letter will be sent home about the finer details for the prom in the next week.

As soon as the Year 11 students leave, the Year 10 students will be able to access additional support in preparation for their summer examinations in 2023. This will include Maths tutoring and access to the revision hub from Monday 27th June. I have been extremely impressed with a large number of Year 10 students and their focus.

Finally, Year 7 and 8 will be able to take part in their reward trip that was unfortunately cancelled back in February. This will be taking place on the 27th of May. Mrs Castrey will be sharing the final arrangements very soon.

The next few pages show that even though this is a short half term we have had some great activities and initiatives taking place and there is much more to come. As I am writing this, we have a motivational speaker in school supporting KS4 students with anxiety, well being and growth mindset principles. We will share some information about this in the next bulletin.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Frost



- 20.5.22 Year 9 Option Choice Deadline
- 26.5.22 Year 7 Parents Evening
- 27.5.22 Year 7 and Year 8 Cadburys World Reward Trip



#DigitalByDesign

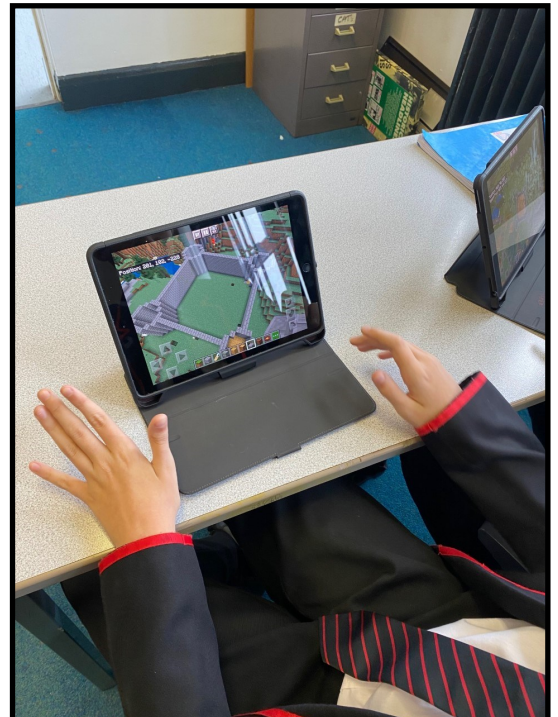


Headteacher Bulletin

Digital Strategy...

The use of Minecraft in Humanities lessons has been a real hit with KS3 students recently.

7B have been experimenting with building their own medieval castles. They researched castle structures and defences, once the knowledge was established it was all about the students designing their own castles. The level of thought and detail is exceptional and they are really enjoying the immersive experience of Minecraft. Mr Jackson our digital strategist in the Trust will be very proud to see the finished castles.



#DigitalByDesign



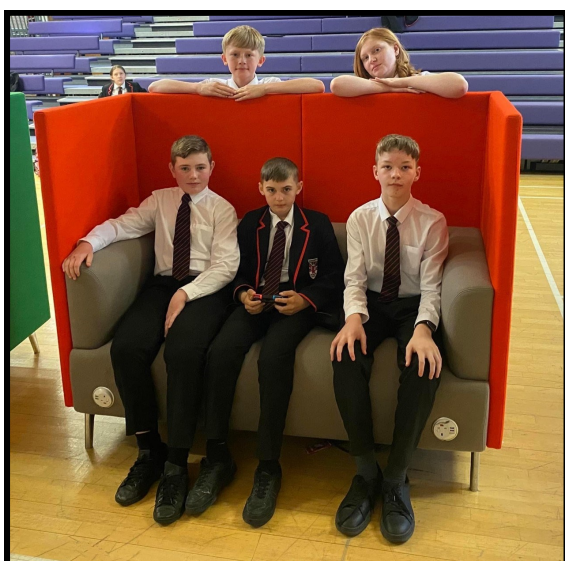
Headteacher Bulletin

Super Smash Bros Digital Tournament...

I am delighted to announce, that KSS won a Shaw Education Trust digital Smash Bros tournament, in what was a highly contested event between teams from three local schools.

The tournament was decided by a closely fought final match up between KSS and The Orme Academy. The sudden death battle was close with KSS pipping The Orme Academy team with a last minute special power up proving the difference.

A huge well done to Tyler, Callum, Jamie, Fox and Reece. A huge thank you to Harry and Tommy for the organisation and Fox for being the driving force behind the event.



#DigitalByDesign



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mr Till...

We had such a lovely atmosphere at the KS3 celebration assemblies, with an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of all students throughout the Spring Term. Awards were given for outstanding achievement and attendance. It was great to see a number of learners being recognised for their hard work and conduct. Well done KS3.



#DigitalByDesign



Kidsgrove Learning Campus
INSPIRE INNOVATE CREATE



Shaw Education Trust

Charity Work...

During our recent Enrichment Day in April, the students took part in a 5k fun run for the 'Race for Life' charity. The students raised a total of £240 which was a brilliant achievement. This demonstrates the incredible empathy and respect that our students and parents/carers have for important and worthwhile causes. This is something that we are extremely proud of. A big thank you from all staff at KSS.



Reading...

Reading is a real focus for us at KSS, as the power of reading comprehension and understanding of key words unlocks so many doors for students.

Mr Till has launched a whole school reading strategy called 'The Day' which we believe will have a big impact.

This is an online resources delivered through the iPads and will be delivered through the form time programme. The Day supports differing levels of reading abilities and reading ages.

Watch this space for more information from Mr Old and Mr Till but in the meantime, please take a look at the website for more details.

<https://theday.co.uk/>

Why should I read?

- For enjoyment and to develop imagination
- It improves your ability to pay attention
- It improves ability to focus for longer periods of time
- It develops your vocabulary and improves communication
- It develops and improves concentration
- It is a mental task that utilises your brain positively

Shaw Education Trust

The Importance of Reading

The more you read,
The more you know.
The more you know,
The smarter you grow.
The smarter you grow,
The stronger your voice,
When speaking your mind
or making your choice.

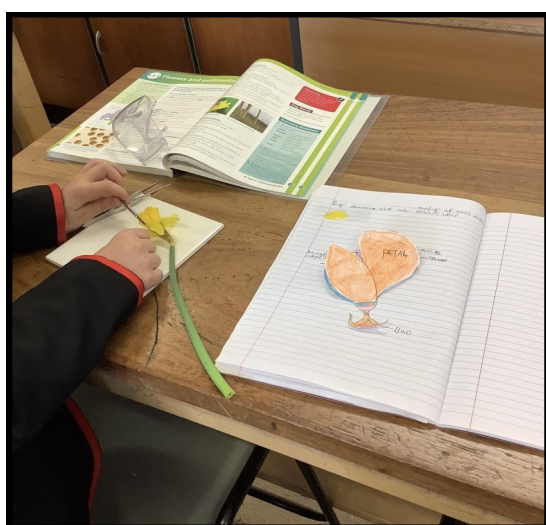
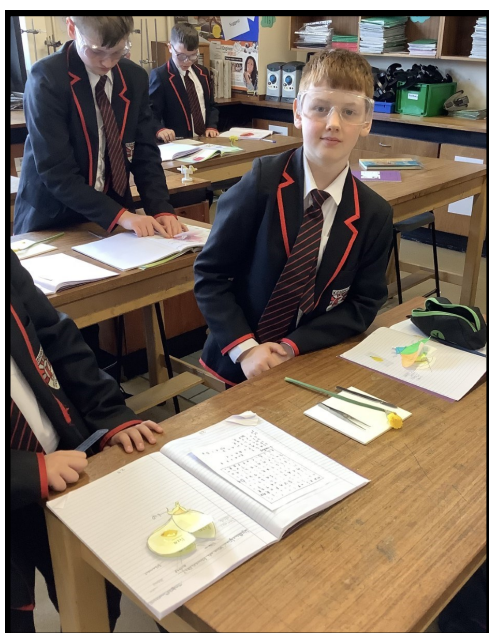
Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Podmore...

As part of the year 7 study of reproduction the students dissected a daffodil to reveal the different parts, both male and female, that make up the flower.

The pupils learned about the importance of bees and how they facilitate the movement pollen from the anther to the stigma, so the plant can produce offspring by making seeds.

The pupils also got to use their microscopy skills to view the pollen from the flowers they had dissected.



Headteacher Bulletin

Another message from Mr Till...

Well done to Y7 taking part in their first football fixtures as part of the Newcastle School's Football League. It was brilliant to see a mixed team being so welcomed and supported. The students were a credit to all. Thank you to parents/carers that came to the fixtures in support of the team. Team Captain: Evan, Students' Player of the Match: Leighton and Mr Till's Player of the Match: Amy.



#DigitalByDesign



Kidsgrove Learning Campus
INSPIRE INNOVATE CREATE



Shaw Education Trust

Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mr Birchall...

Well done to the students that represented KSS at the Staffordshire athletics event at Northwood Stadium.

Team KSS did very well with students achieving well and winning some very competitive events.

A special mention to Emmie (Year 9) for her brilliant performances.



#DigitalByDesign



Headteacher Bulletin

Another message from Mr Birchall...



#DigitalByDesign



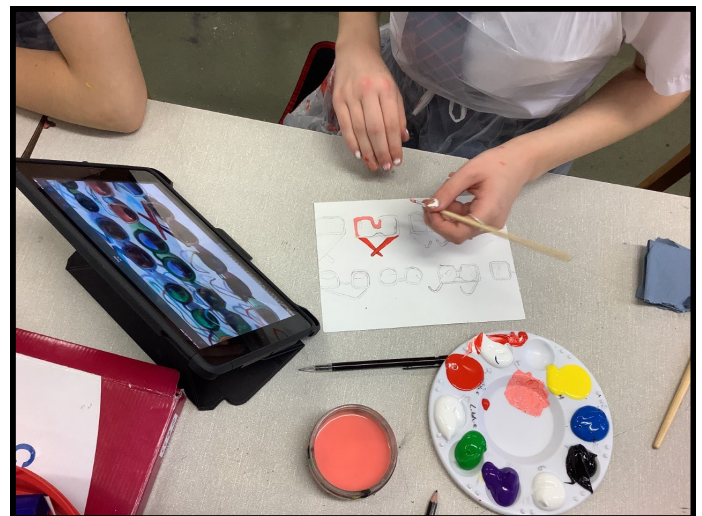
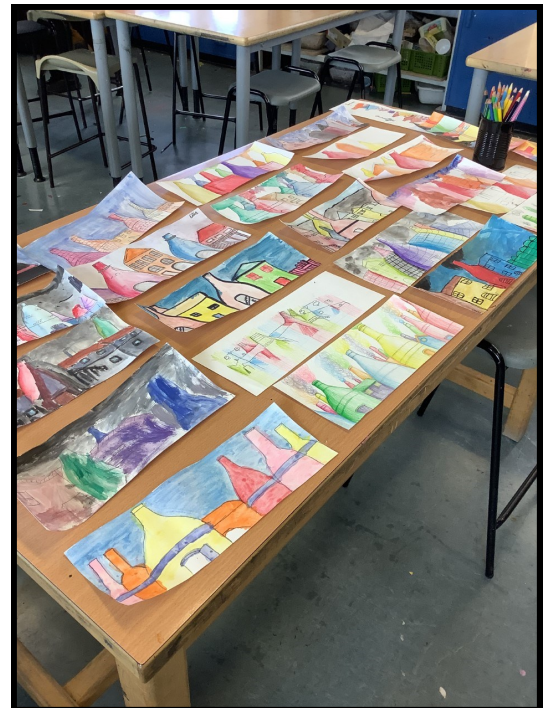
Headteacher Bulletin

Another message from Mrs Mason...

Year 7 have completed their Potteries landscape work based on the work of local artist Michael Pritchard. They have explored the bottle kiln form, applying colour with watercolour and working in with mixed media.

Year 9 have completed their Wayne Thiebaud project creating painted examples of the artists colourful everyday objects.

Lastly, we have had year 5 groups from the local primary schools explore the art department. They explored Line and Colour by creating Zentangle designs. The process of Sgraffito was used to print their patterned designs in their chosen colours.



Headteacher Bulletin

Another message from Mrs Podmore...

Year 7 were cooking burgers from scratch in food technology this week.

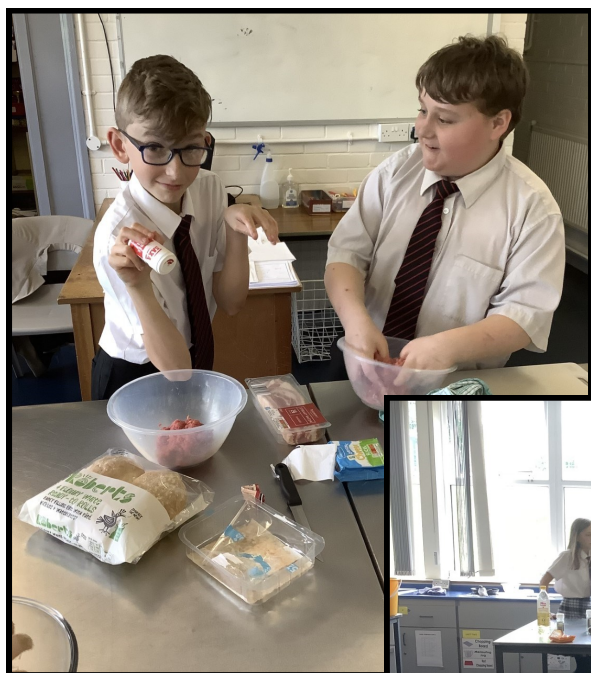
What an eventful lesson!

We nearly caused a whole school evacuation when frying our burgers and bacon. Mr Frost came to the rescue and helped to dissipate the smoke while we took a short break from frying. Phew!!

We have our very own 'Salt Bea' in Isaac and we had a birthday burger for Maisie.

The lesson was nicely timed to enable the pupils to eat their burgers for lunch.

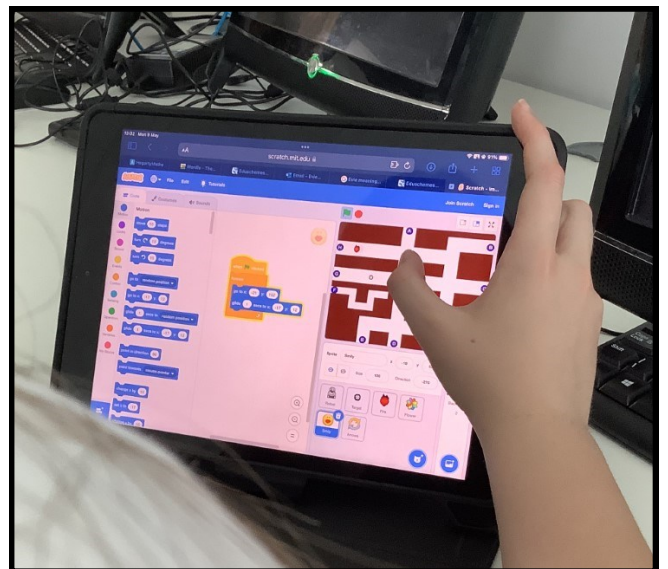
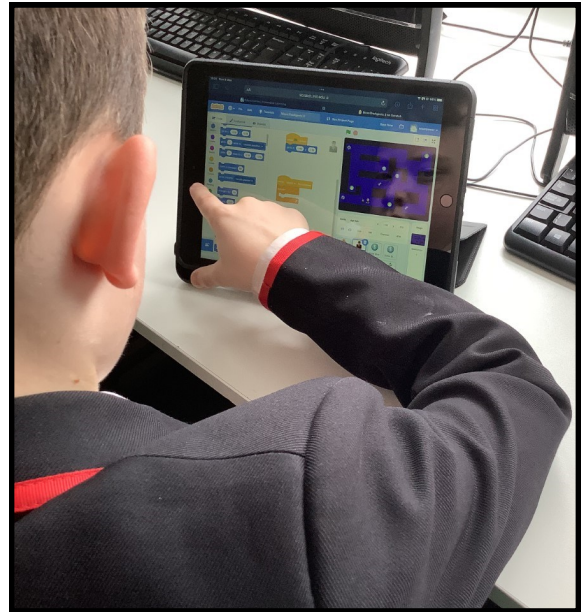
We are now planning our next practical. Hopefully some food makes it home next time for parents and carers to try.



Headteacher Bulletin

Another message from Mrs Morrell...

Y7 have been testing their skills as game developers using scratch. They have interpreted flowcharts to create algorithms allowing their sprite to move around their maze. They have developed their own variables to keep score when their sprite collects items in the maze and used loops to make their programming more efficient. Great work Y7!



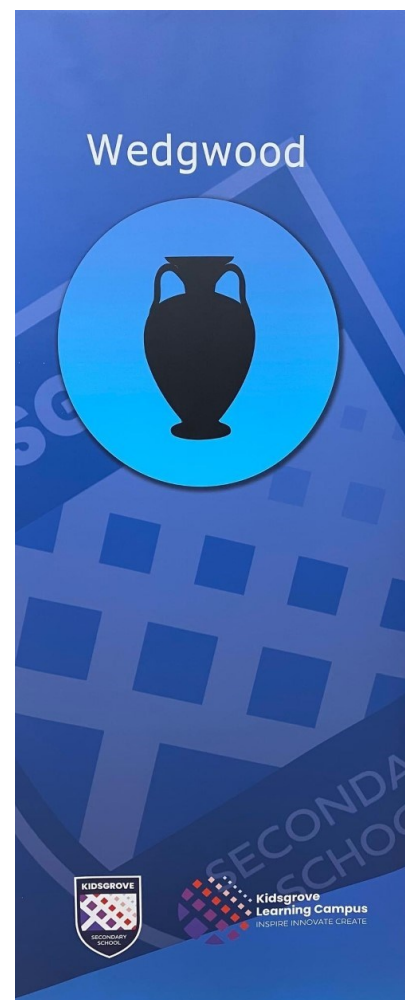
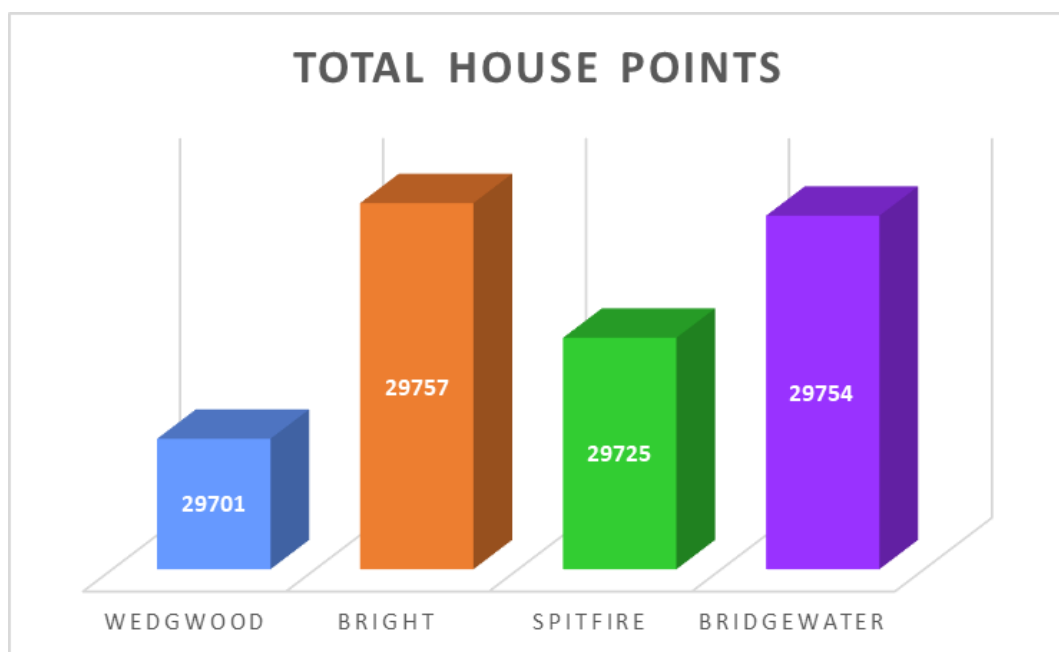
Headteacher Bulletin

House Points Update...

A huge well done to 'Bright' House who are just pipping Bridgewater to the first place position on the House leader board.

Wedgwood enjoyed a special reward on the last day before Easter, as they were invited to attend a film morning in the hall, organised by Mrs Castrey, they led the way at Easter.

There will be a summer reward for the winning house in July to look forward to. Remember, points mean prizes.



#DigitalByDesign

