

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the academic year ends, I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank you for your support this year. I am sure, like me, you cannot believe how fast the weeks have passed as the summer holidays are now upon us.

We say goodbye to a few colleagues this summer whose impact at KSS cannot be underestimated or overlooked. Their dedication to the school has been tremendous but we wish them every success in their next adventure whatever that may look like. These include Mr Smith and Mrs Raybould who are both retiring from the teaching profession after many years of outstanding service. They have been an absolute pleasure to work with and are excellent teachers in their respective specialisms. There is also Mrs Nicklin who left the school in May, whose passion for English will be missed enormously by all the students that she taught. Finally, Mr Birchall leaves us after securing the position of Assistant Headteacher at a school in Wales. I know that the students will miss him greatly as he has joined me each morning in welcoming every student and he has always been a huge part of the pastoral care and guidance that KSS is proud of. I am sure he will be a huge success in his new role.

I am delighted to announce that the school has been able to recruit fantastic new appointments who will start with us in September. We have Mrs Postlethwaite joining us as Senior Assistant Headteacher. She will lead years 9, 10 and 11 and lead on many more aspects of school leadership. She joins us as an experienced senior leader and moves to us from another Shaw Education Trust school where she has a legacy of success in school improvement.

In English, we have appointed Mr Baldwin as an English teacher, who will also lead our whole school reading strategy. He joins us with a wealth of experience from a few schools where he has had a tremendous impact, in improving English outcomes and the student enjoyment of the subject.

There is also Ms Hud, joining us as a Spanish teacher. Her energy and enthusiasm is infectious, and she is very passionate about her subject. She has already planned exciting Spanish enrichment activities for the new academic year including a visit to a Spanish restaurant for GCSE students.

We also have Ms McDermott joining us to teach Mathematics, following Mrs Lloyds retirement in February. She is one of the most hardworking and dedicated Maths enthusiasts I have met, and I know the students will really enjoy her lessons, which are engaging. Finally, we have Ms Baker joining us from industry to be our new Science technician and Ms Hall joining as our new receptionist.

Finally, from all of us at KSS, we hope that you have a fantastic summer break and I look forward to seeing the students when they return in September. The school will be closed on Monday 5th of September for staff training and will be open for Year 7 students only on Tuesday 6th of September. Years 8,9,10 and 11 will return on Wednesday 7th of September at 11am. We will send a reminder to you about the return via our Facebook page closer to the date.

Yours faithfully
Mr S Frost



- 5.9.22 Staff Inset Day— School closed to students
- 6.9.22 Year 7 Students Only
- 7.9.22 All Students Return (Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 at 11am)



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Uniform and Equipment 2022-2023...

A letter has been sent home and students have also had an assembly to share the amendments to the uniform and equipment expectations for 2022-2023.

The highlights from the letter sent home can be found below:

Shoes- These must be smart black school shoes and not trainers, pumps or boots. Please avoid purchasing brands such as Adidas, Nike, Lacoste and Converse etc which are not suitable. I am fully aware that retailers deliberately target parents to sell them trainers that have been marketed as shoes, but quite simply it must be a black school shoe such as the examples below.



Jewellery- Only a watch on the wrist and one plain stud in each ear is permitted. Please ensure your child does not wear rings, necklaces or bracelets to school. They will be asked to remove these.

Hoodies and jumpers- A plain black V-neck jumper may be worn under the blazer. No other jumpers or hoodies are allowed on the school site. If a student is cold, they should wear a coat over their blazer whilst outdoors.

Equipment- All students are required to bring with them the following equipment every day:

Pencil case containing the following:

Black or blue pen x2

Green pen x2

Pencils x2

Rubber

Highlighter

30 cm Ruler

Charged iPad to 60%



May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support with these expectations. If you have any questions about the suitability of uniform items, please contact us via the school Facebook Page and we will be happy to provide further clarity to help you with your purchasing choices.

Headteacher Bulletin

Introduction... I am delighted to announce the appointment of the staff below, who are joining KSS in September.

Ms Hud...I have been teaching Foreign Languages at a school in Crewe for the last few years, and have previously lived and worked in Gibraltar/ Spain and Austria. I love teaching Spanish, as I believe it's important that we all learn a language so we can learn more about our world and all its different people.

I'm looking forward to joining KSS and getting involved in school life. In visits to the school, I've found the students to be considerate, respectful and in all the lessons I saw they were engaged and trying their hardest.

I have a two-year-old daughter, and we spend lots of time playing outside, visiting new places and having tea parties with dolls. When I get time to myself, I enjoy cooking, going to the gym, and learning more languages!

welcome
TO THE
TEAM



Ms McDermott...I am in my fifteenth year of working with Secondary School students to develop their Maths skills. I love working with students to help them understand mathematical concepts and form connections between other subject areas, college and careers choices. Maths is not just about getting an answer correct, it's about thinking analytically and looking for solutions to problems by using logic and critical thinking. These are important real life skills for next steps after leaving Secondary School and embarking on a chosen career path.

During lockdown using technology became an even more important skill for everyone, this is an area I am keen to embed further into the Maths classroom. The school's digital strategy is an exciting development within lessons and I look forward to embedding the use of iPads into my lessons.

After visiting KSS, I was so impressed by many factors; students' engagement in lessons and mature approach to their learning, the staffs' enthusiasm in delivering lessons and the Head's vision for the school. As a result, I knew I wanted to be a part of this community and am looking forward to joining the school in September.

In my spare time I love spending time with my family and enjoy gardening, exercise and reading.



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Headteacher Bulletin

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Mr Baldwin... I am thoroughly excited to be joining Kidsgrove Secondary School and supporting the staff with the school ethos, raising standards, and encouraging all students to achieve their best.

As an English teacher I am passionate about cultural capital, reading for pleasure and exploring the literary canon. Alongside teaching English, I believe it is vital to offer students a range of experiences and opportunities - extracurricular is something I pride myself on due to the skills students can build outside of the classroom.

I have been fortunate enough to have a range of roles within my career with the most recent being Head of KS4 English in a large secondary school, I am, therefore, looking forward to joining a much smaller school where I can get to know all staff and students as well as developing our whole school reading strategy.

I look forward to working closely with all students and families very soon. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!



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Headteacher Bulletin

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Hi, I'm the new laboratory technician at Kidsgrove Secondary School.

I have been working in laboratories for the past 3 years, starting in the Chemistry & Pharmacology shared laboratories before moving to the Medical School Laboratories at Keele University.

From there, I headed to the construction industry working as the chemistry laboratory technician for Lhoist.

I am myself hoping to continue with my education to gain a Master's Degree in Chemistry as I have a strong interest in catalysts and I'd also like to finish my studying that I started before the Covid-19 pandemic.

I am passionate about delivering quality teaching to students sharing my interest and knowledge with future scientists.



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Headteacher Bulletin

Head Students and Prefects...

Myself and Mrs Castrey are delighted to share the Head Students and the Prefects for 2022-2023.

We are sure that they will have a big impact in school and to the rest of the students body. The Head students appointed the prefect team which is a first for KSS, with Mrs Castrey overseeing the process.

Head Students: Emily and Ryan

Deputy Head Students: Amelia, Ashleigh, Isabella and Keira

Senior Prefects: Nathan, Kyle and James



Headteacher Bulletin

Headteacher Reward Lunch...

The students with 100% attendance for the whole of the 2021-2022 academic year were invited to the final Headteacher reward lunch on Monday the 18th of July.

To attend every single day is a brilliant achievement and demonstrates excellent resilience.

Well done to the following students:

Holly, Amelia, Gracie, Daniel, Rick, Leah, Lily, Macy, and Aaron.



Headteacher Bulletin

Reward Trips...

There was a KS4 and a KS3 reward trip last week, with visits to The Trafford Centre and to Alton Towers.

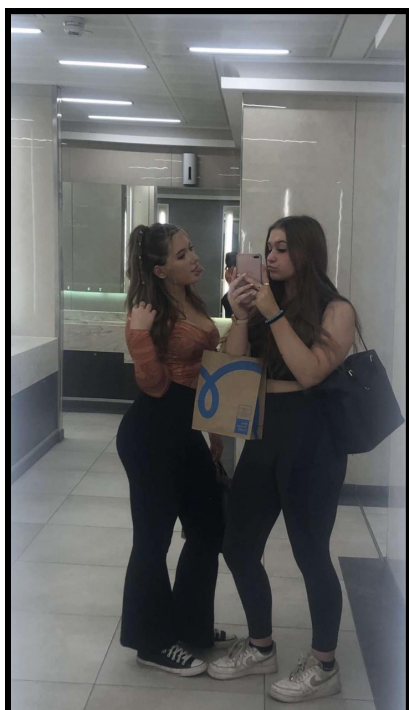
Below are some pictures from the days out. As you know rewards are really important to us at KSS and next academic year the bar will be raised even higher with a challenging threshold for trip qualification.



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A message from Mr Old...

Spoken Language presentations

Year 9 and 10 have this week created and delivered some dazzling spoken language presentations. The topics have been as varied as sports and popular music through to women's rights and the history of the pressure washer. I have enjoyed hearing about topics of which I have little knowledge, so it was great to hear Cody y9) speak so passionately about the Epic of Gilgamesh, Emily (y10) deliver a great piece on Volunteering, Isabella (y10) explain the issues around the Death Penalty and Keira (y10) great piece on The Internet and Social Media.

There were many others of a high standard; too many to praise adequately here.

Great work everyone.



Headteacher Bulletin

SET 'Above and Beyond' Winners...

As mentioned previously in the last bulletin, we were delighted to receive the news from the Trust that our students had been selected from thousands of students to be recognised for going 'Above and Beyond'.

Mrs Raybould was delighted to award Chloe, Leo, Logan and Aaron with their certificates.



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A message from Mrs Morell...

Y8 have been exploring two apps on their iPad that enable them to create a 3D augmented reality of a favourite story.

Students have created 3D models of their favourite characters and props from the stories on an app called keynote. They have then used the app MAKR to project their 3D object onto a real-world image displayed on their iPad. They were able to make a 3D augmented reality 'book' and visualise their favourite story in a new way. The students were highly engaged with the task and enjoyed bringing their favourite story to life. They were able to retell the story in a new way, exploring different details and overcoming challenges through collaboration.



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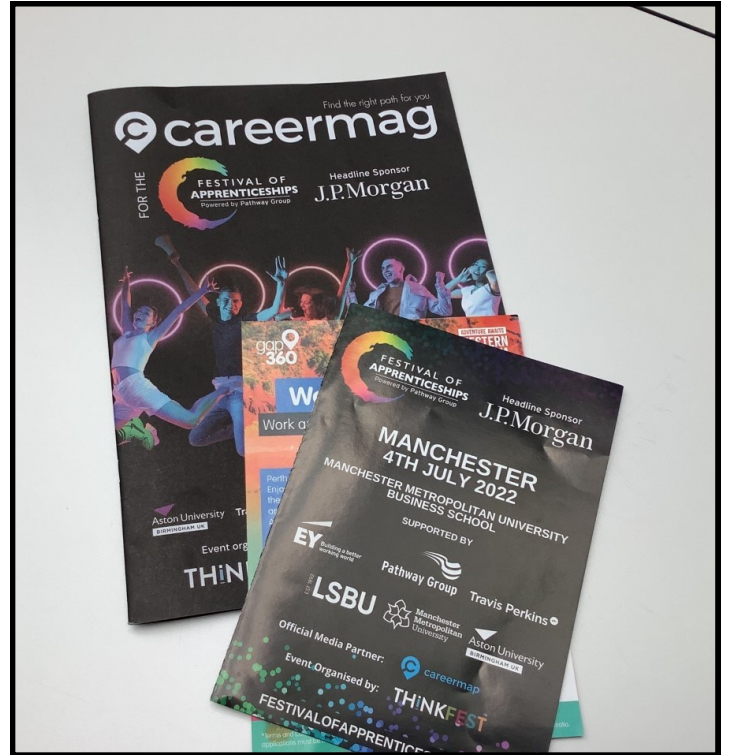


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Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Weaver...

Our Year 10's visited the 'Festival of Apprenticeships' at Manchester Metropolitan University Business School. They took part in talks hosted by businesses about routes into apprenticeships, how they can develop their skills and they had the opportunity to speak to a variety of providers. They represented us brilliantly.



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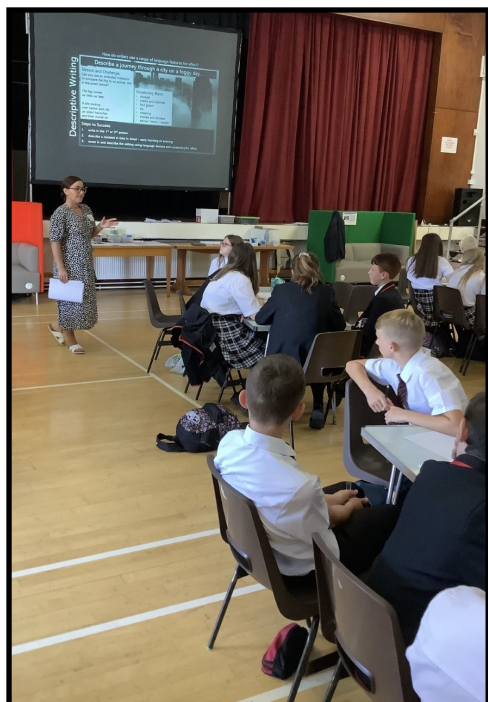
Headteacher Bulletin

Subject Masterclasses...

Over the last few weeks we have trialled a new idea of subject masterclasses for English, Maths and Science.

This has seen the students take part in extra-special whole year group sessions with a more interactive approach to learning.

I have included lots of photographs below of the sessions who were co-delivered from members of the Shaw Education Trust, including colleagues from Fortis Academy, Madeley High School and the Shaw Education Central Team.



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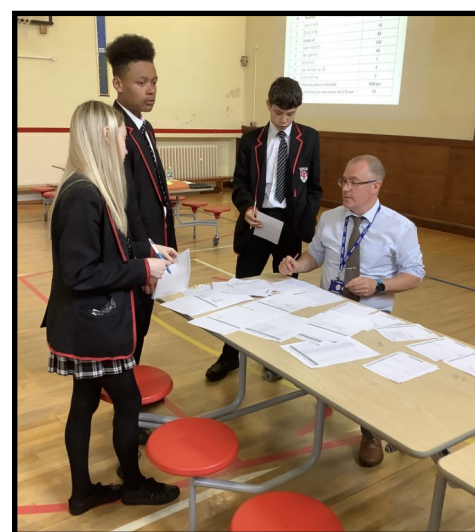
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Subject Masterclasses...



Subject Masterclasses...

English Masterclasses, a message from Mr Old.

All year groups enjoyed a Masterclass on Monday 11th July. Miss Cassem, our colleague from Fortis Academy, and Mr Old led sessions to all year groups on descriptive writing (y7), rhetoric in Animal Farm (y8), William Blake's London (y9) and using nouns for impact in creative writing (y10).

Many thanks to all those who participated to make it such a purposeful day.



Celebration Assemblies...

We have ended the term today with achievement assemblies for all year groups.

Students have received awards for a variety of subject nominations, for 100% attendance and improved attendance and Headteacher awards.

There were also 28 students that received a very special award for receiving zero negative behaviour points this academic year. These students were awarded their own personal laptop as a symbol of recognition for being consistently excellent day in and day out.

Well done to every student that received an award.



Time to Celebrate!