

HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 5th of May 2023

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Although on the surface this is a short half term, with a number of Mondays affected by an INSET day and two bank holidays, rest assured there have and will be lots of remarkable events planned and achievements being secured by the students and staff at KSS.

As you are aware, the school was inspected by Ofsted on the 18th and 19th of April, 2023 which is the first official inspection as The Kidsgrove Secondary School. Unfortunately, I cannot share with you the outcome of the inspection until the report is officially published but what I can say at this point, is that I was extremely proud to lead our school through the process, confident that we know how far the school has moved forwards in the last 18 months. I am grateful for all of the parents/carers that took the time to complete the Ofsted survey which is a vital aspect of any inspection as an opportunity to share what you know and feel about your child's education. I look forward to sharing the report with you in due course and before the end of the summer term.

Year 11 begin their summer examinations from the 15th of May, which is a really exciting time for the year group. We will release details of the official leaving date very soon, which will be after the majority of whole year group examinations have been completed. The GCSE Art and GCSE Spanish speaking examinations have already been sat and the students have shown a really strong growth mindset.

We have shared with Year 11 students through an assembly this week, how the next few weeks are important for them as a year group and as individuals but we also want to support each and every student through the next five weeks as much as possible. If you have any concerns at all regarding your child's mental health then please do not hesitate to contact us. It is vital that we work together.

Just over the horizon, we have the Year 11 prom to look forward to on the 7th of July 2023.

I am delighted to share that Years 7 to 10 have voted in assemblies last week, for their preferred end of year reward trip and the criteria has been explicitly shared with all students. It would be fantastic to end the year on a real high, with all students attending. Lets hope that every student meets the challenge ahead of them. The results of the vote can be found on the final page of the bulletin for all of you that are interested.

Finally, the big event this term for Year 9 has been moved to Thursday the 18th of May. The parents/options evening will be a great opportunity to speak to staff face to face about the KS4 choices that your child will select for their GCSE studies. We have more option choices available than ever before, which is something that we have worked hard on over the last few months to secure. We look forward to seeing all Year 9 parents/carers on the night. The following week we have the Year 7 parents evening taking place online which will be a great opportunity to meet teaching staff and to review the fantastic progress that the year 7 students are making.



Upcoming Events:

Monday 8th May 2023 - School closed for the King's Coronation
Thursday 11th and Friday 12th May 2023 - Year 7 'Bikeability' Course
Thursday 18th May 2023 - Year 9 Parents/Options Evening
Thursday 25th May 2023 - Year 7 Parents Evening
Friday 26th May 2023 - End of Half Term 5

Yours faithfully,
Mr S Frost

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK



Walk this May



Attendance

KSS



ATTENDANCE

**WHOLE SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE THIS
HALF TERM
92.30%**

NATIONAL AVERAGE 89%

BEST HOUSE



BRIDGEWATER

**BEST
FORM
9EG
95.47%**

**200 STUDENTS ON
100% ATTENDANCE
SO FAR THIS HALF
TERM**

Welcome TO

I am delighted to introduce Mr Harris who joined KSS as our site supervisor back in the autumn term. I have worked with Mr Harris previously and you would be hard stretched to meet a more dedicated professional. Below is a picture and a few words from the man himself.

My name is Kev and I am delighted to be working at KSS. I have many years experience working in schools and in other fields of education. I started my careers as a joiner, then onto all types of construction, including construction site supervision. I am really enjoying this latest challenge here at the school and the students are an absolute credit to the school and you as parents/carers.



Summer Reward Trip

To celebrate how amazing our students are and how they have demonstrated our LORIC core values, we are inviting everyone to attend the whole school trip at the end of term.

Students need to achieve 90% attendance and fewer than 30 behaviour points between 2nd May and 14th July (10 weeks) in order to qualify to attend the trip!

Students also got to vote live digitally, on where they would like to go on the trip. As can be seen on the next page.

How will you continue to demonstrate the school core values and ensure you attend the trip?!



Summer Reward Trip



Digital Strategy



A message from Mrs Weaver...

Year 7 geographers had a blast today using the VR headsets. The students were bringing to life the curriculum content by actively engaging in geographical locations virtually. This enable the students to ask in depth questions about their learning and really opened their eyes to the world we live in.

Well done Year 7!



Digital Strategy



English

A message from Mr Old...

Congratulations to the Year 11 students who have completed their spoken language presentations this week. There has been a wide range of topics, from conspiracy theories to sports and even love of horror films. It was great to hear so many of you enthusiastic about the issues that interest you.

Watch this space!

In the summer term, plans are in place to take Year 7 to see a production of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. This will give them a great opportunity to build on their learning from curriculum time as well as develop valuable cultural capital.



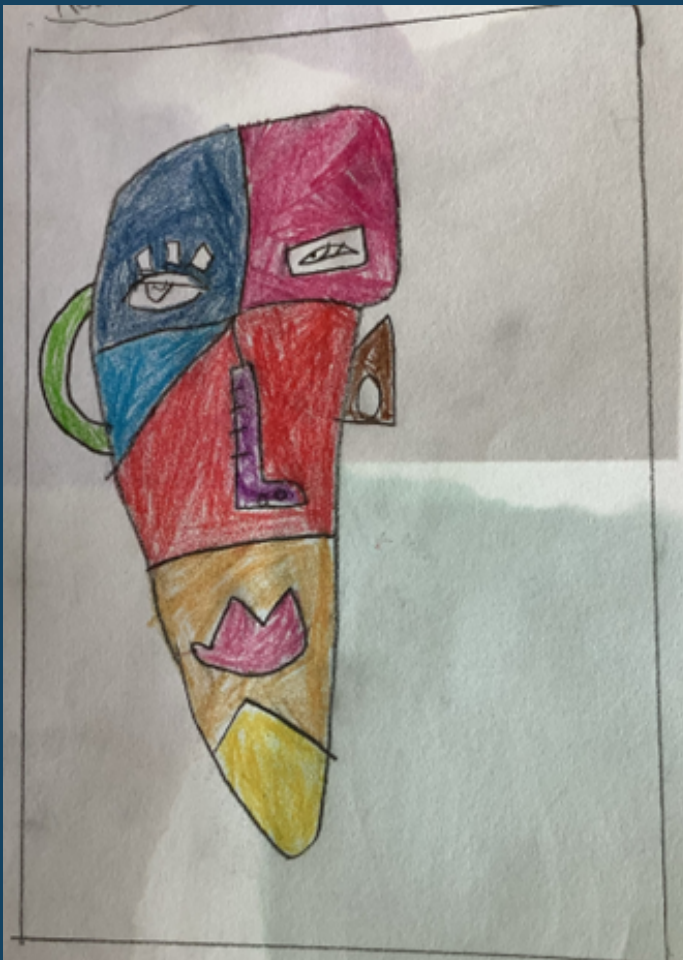
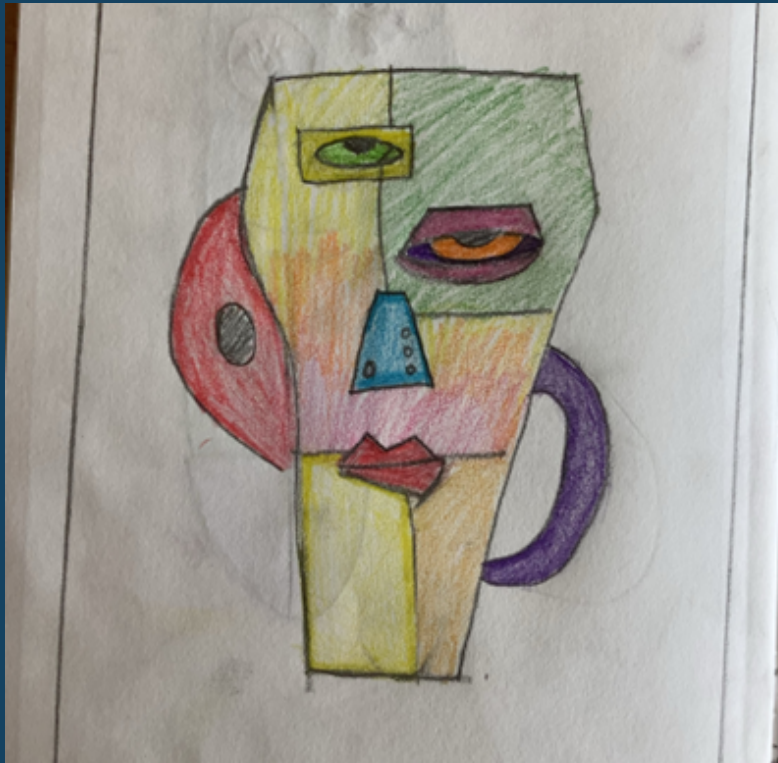
Art

A message from Mrs Mason...

Year 7 have begun their African Art project focusing on face masks. They have tried to create symmetry through completing mask drawings. We have now started to look at the artist Kimmy Cantrell and have drawn our own versions of his work.



Art



Maths



A message from Mrs Frost...

We wanted to take the chance to thank Year 11 for their continued hard work in maths and the effort they put in to be prepared for their upcoming exams. It was great to see so many of you attend the revision session during the Easter break. Below are the exam dates for the GCSEs and we welcome all of Year 11 to join us from 8:10am on each of these days for breakfast in Room 12.

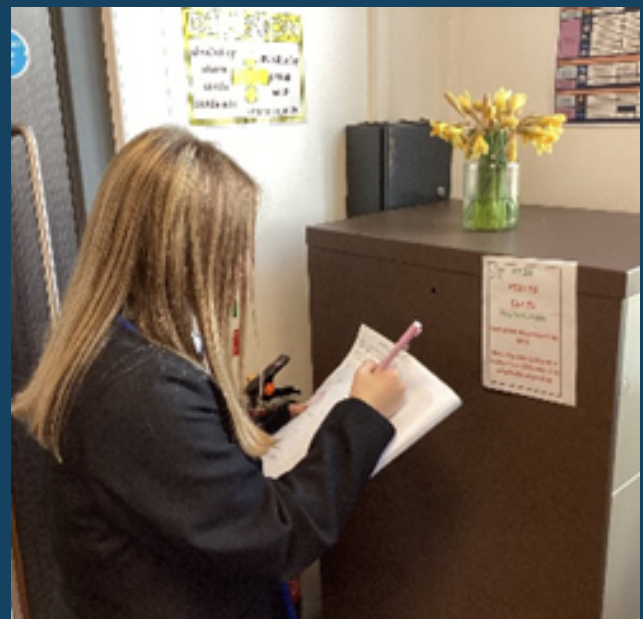
Paper 1 – Friday 19th May (non-calculator)

Paper 2 – Wednesday 7th June (calculator)

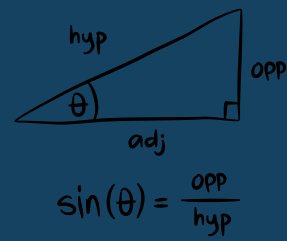
Paper 3 – Wednesday 14th June (calculator)

Good luck Year 11, you will be amazing!

We also wanted to share some of the work Year 7 have been doing recently. They enjoyed the chance to explore some of the activities available on an interactive website dedicated to help them with their maths and also answering a variety of questions positioned around the room in a question trail. Keep up all the great work Year 7.



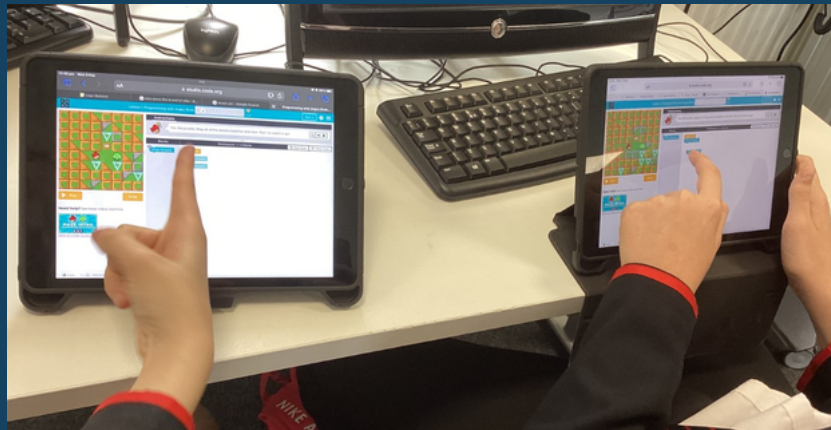
Maths



Computing

A message from Mrs Morrell...

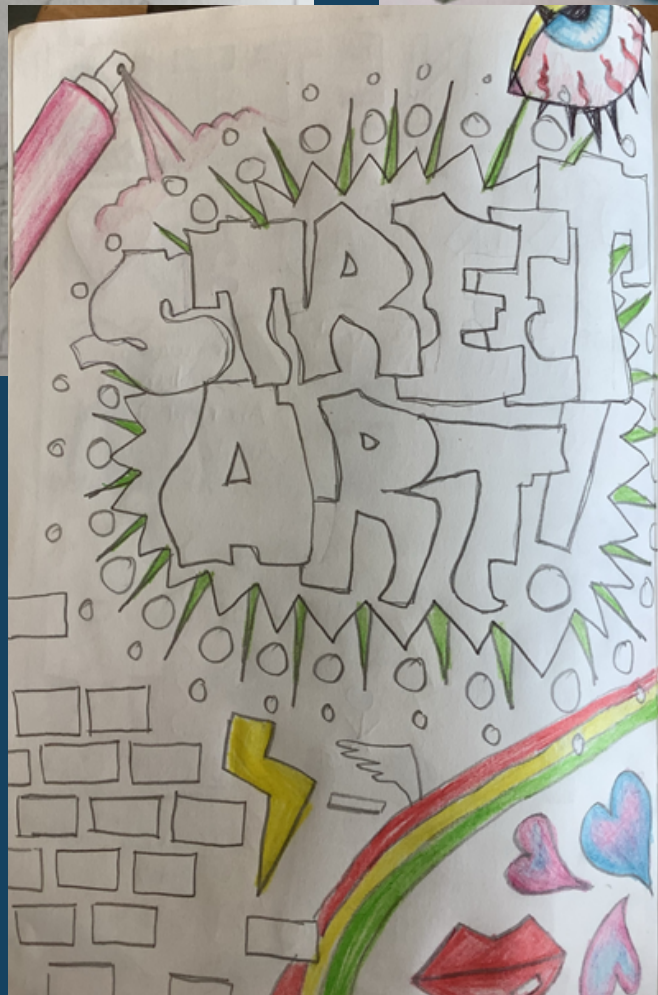
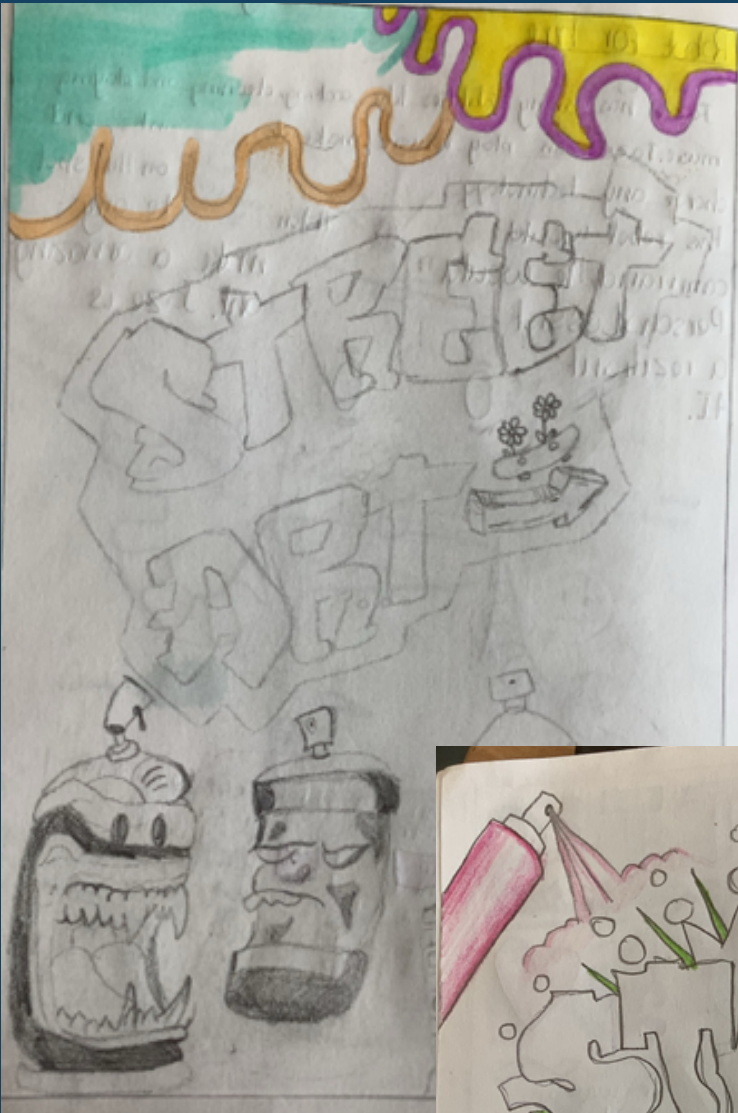
8S have been perfecting their programming skills in computing using the website code.org. Code.org is a non-profit organisation that aims to give all students the opportunity to learn computer science – it can be accessed at home free of charge. 8S were using the popular game 'angry birds' to create code that moves their angry bird to destroy the green pigs trying to steal their eggs. 8S showed great resilience in learning new skills. Well done 8S.



Art

A message from Mrs Mason...

Year 8 have started looking at street art. Their first task is to create a title page including their own graffiti writing and graffiti style drawings. Well done so far Year 8.



Year 9 Options



A message from Mrs Castrey...

Attention year 9.

A reminder that the options evening will be taking place on the 18th of May 2023 from 5pm.

Your subject staff will be discussing with you the potential choices for your KS4 studies. Please speak to myself or your form tutor about your options if you have any queries at all.

Don't forget
parents'
evening!



?PATHWAYS



Bagels

We are delighted that the popularity of the breakfast bagels is continuing to go from strength to strength.

Each morning we serve over one hundred bagels which is making a big difference to each and every student in terms of focus and engagement within learning, especially first thing in the morning.

Well done everyone!



House Update

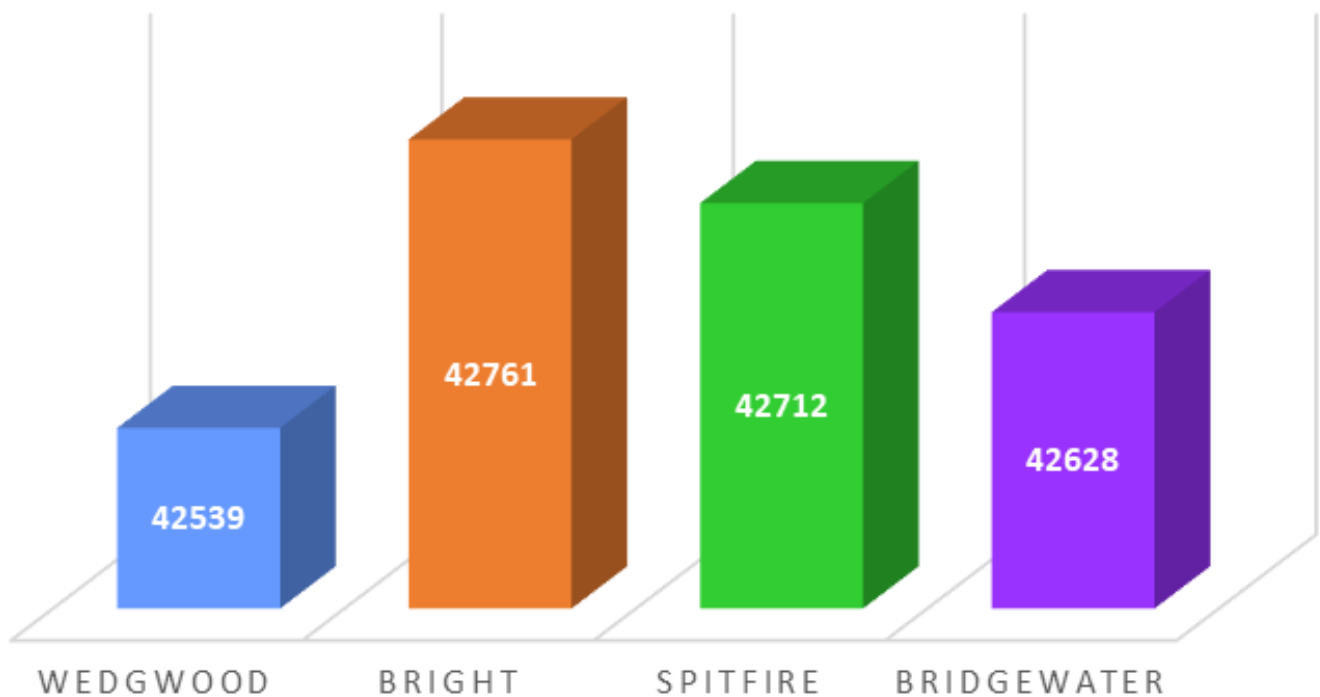
The term 3 competition is heating up.

As you can see below the points are close and we are tightly poised for the final push as we enter the sports day in June.

Every point does really count and it could be the difference between first and second place come the final standings in July.

Good luck everyone, its neck and neck.

TOTAL HOUSE POINTS



CORE VALUES



**PROUD TO
BE
KSS**



#DigitalByDesign



**Kidsgrove
Learning Campus**
INSPIRE INNOVATE CREATE



**Shaw
Education
Trust**

Art



A message from Mrs Mason...

Year 9 have completed their marine life project with an air-drying clay outcome. There are some brilliant pieces. Well done Year 9!



Art



Science

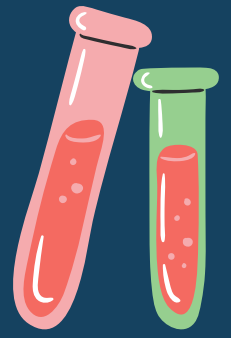
A message from Ms Baker...

Year 7 have been exploring different types of rocks and minerals in their last few science lessons, looking at the chemistry process with Mrs Grice-Lowe. Today to expand their knowledge on how fossils are made one of the year 7 groups had the opportunity to make some fossils using Plaster of Paris.

We can't wait to see the results of their outstanding work! Later on this week the other half of year 7 will have the opportunity to make theirs.



Science



Personal Development

A message from Mrs Weaver...

On Wednesday, Mrs Postlethwaite accompanied thirteen Y10 students to Keele University for the second session in their CASLOE (Creating A Sustainable Life On Earth) project.

Students had a tour of the university to find out how it had become one of the Top 40 universities in the world for sustainability. They got to see the wind turbines and solar energy field up close and find out how the university meet demand for energy at peak times.

Students then took part in a workshop to find out how we can be more sustainable in terms of how we live as consumers. Everything from clothing to electronics has an impact on resources and energy and students were tasked to think about how this could change.

The final part of the day involved students turning their ideas about sustainable schools into visual models using Lego. We are really looking forward to our next session on the project in school next week.

Over the next seven weeks, they will be engaging in a variety of school-based workshops and visits to both Keele University and Reaseheath College. They will investigate sustainable living, meet industry representatives and learn more about career opportunities in this growing field.



Personal Development



Science

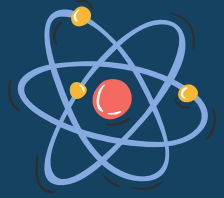


A message from Ms Baker...

In physics year 7 got the opportunity to enjoy science outdoors. Accurately recording the time of different vehicles to pass, outside the gates on the front of the school they can calculate the speed that the vehicles were travelling at. Well done Year 7!



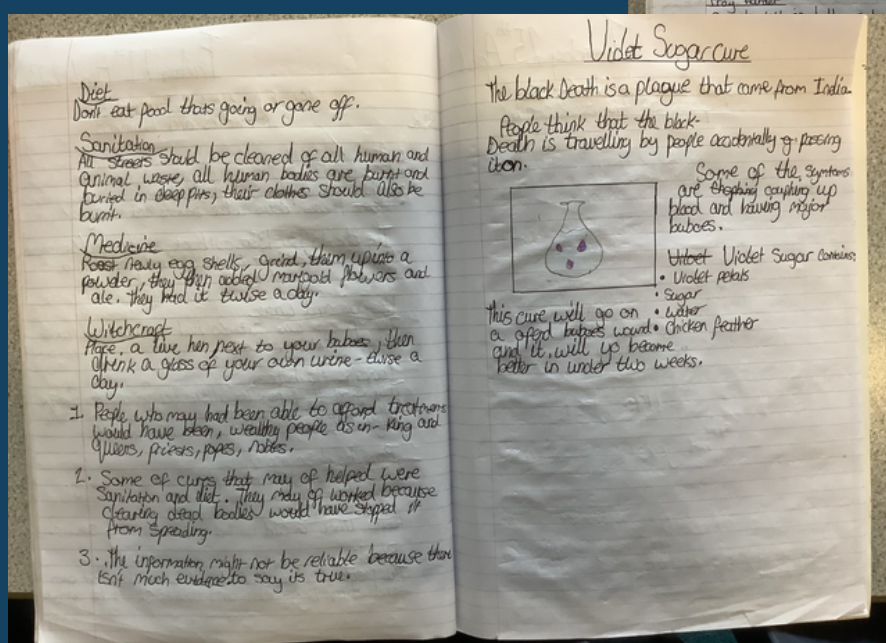
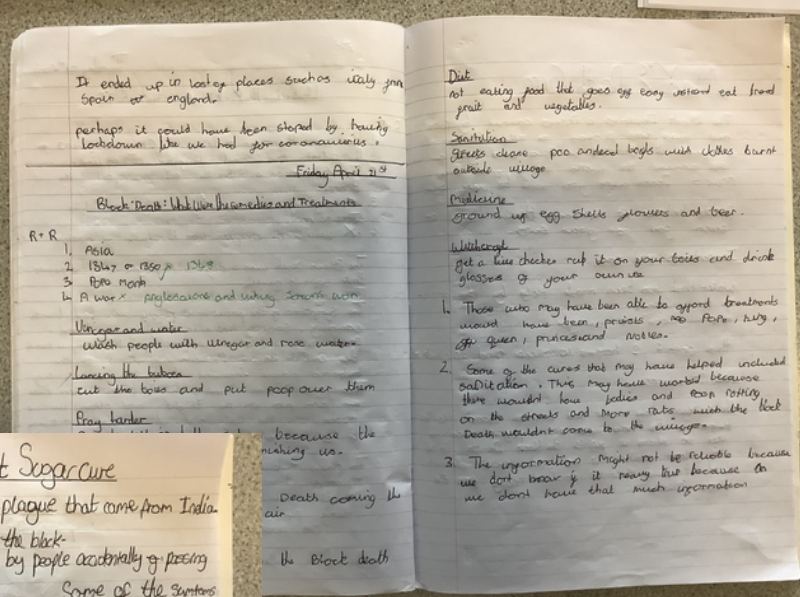
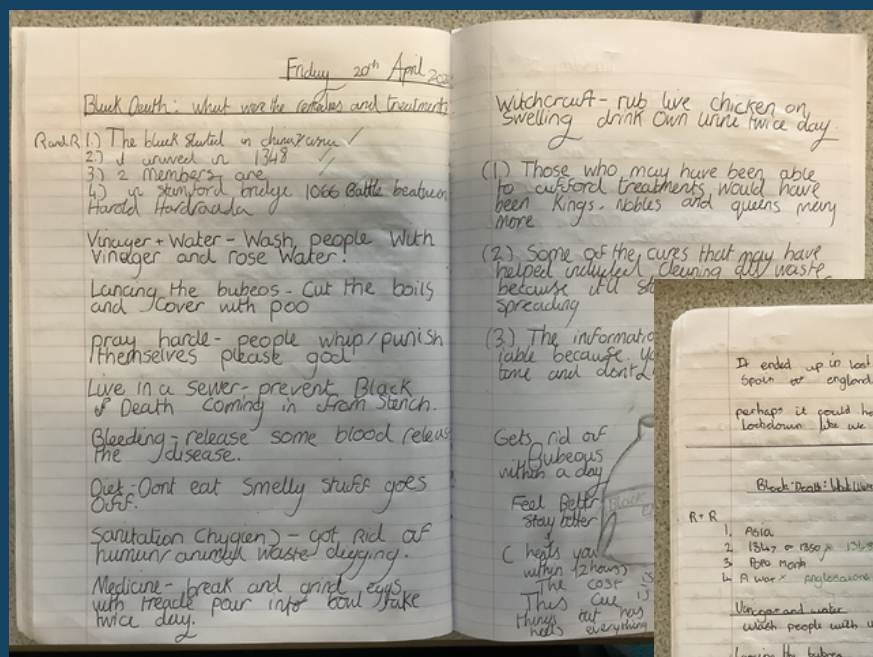
Science



History

A message from Mr Hilditch...

Our Key Stage 3 History students have been investigating some of the most intriguing parts of the past this half term. Year 7 have been exploring the Black Death and the impacts that the plague had on England. They have enjoyed researching medieval remedies that people tried and also created their own potential cures. Year 8 pupils have been studying the British Empire and its global impact. They are currently working on the East India Company and the resistance to British rule. Year 9 students will be focussing on the Holocaust this half term and have been charting the growth of antisemitism across Europe. They will be investigating the events of Auschwitz as a case study, analysing primary evidence and its implications.



History

C Thursday 27th
April 23

Development of
certain industries
(Especially mining).

70,000
Killed.

British destroyed
India's textile
industry.

Sent to fight
for the British
Empire all
around the
world.

(From 'famine')

In my opinion,
I think that
Indians suffered
the most because
of all the bad
events happening
to them. On the
other hand, Britain
benefited as
they were in
control.

India.

Benefits.

Downsides.

Britain.

Trade became most
important country.
Dams and irrigation
were provided. In 1942,
amount of land for
farming was 8 times
bigger.

Trade built over 24k
miles of railway to
increase trade.
Permission to establish
business was given.

Indians owned companies
were taxed at a higher rate. Hard
for them to compete. Imported
foods, resulted in not producing
food for locals. Poor harvests =
starving. 25m. Under British
rule, no right to vote.

Accused of increasing cultural
divisions in Indian society.
Did not allow Indians to vote.
Result - bad reputation. Also
in the

I think that the fourth point about abolishing slavery
(Powerful people spoke up about slavery) is the most important
point because they realised how bad they were being
treated and so they spread the word to abolish slavery.

Monday April 24 2023

How did Britain take control of India?

- 1) Pepper and Spices were produced in India. These were
highly valued by the British.
- 2) In the 18th century, Mughal Empire lost power
because they started to not respect others religions.
This made them more vulnerable because it caused
revolts in the country which allowed countries to
invade.

'British expansion in India was achieved through military action'

I agree and disagree with this statement because
even though some of it was because of military
action, some of it was politics and lots of other
methods like agreements. eg. Dalhousie used doctrine of
lapse which meant that if an Indian ruler died and
had no male heir, the land would not be theirs
any more.

Dalhousie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dalhousie developed an idea known as the 'doctrine of lapse'. This meant that if an Indian ruler died and had no male heir, the land would become company territory. The India natives had little chance but to accept this as British power was so strong by then.
Wellesley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellesley sent British forces to defeat the Mysore and the Marathas. He made deals with the Indian princes. This was vicious as he said that they could keep everything but let British in their territory and their lands.
Robert clive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clive attacked to defeat the Nawab of Bengal at the Battle of Plassey (1757). Used 'peppet rulers'. Sent Mir Jafar to take control of Bengal.

Friday 21st April 2023

- 1) What was evacuation in 1942?
Children were sent away from the city to the countryside for safety.
- 2) Where did people stay safe from the bombs in the cities?
Underground stations, Anderson shelters and Morrison shelters.
- 3) What did Hitler mean by the 'master race'?
The Aryan race.
- 4) Give 2 impacts that the British Empire had on India.
Forced religion on them.
Starved them to death.

How were Jews persecuted in
medieval England?

The persecution of Jewish people is called antisemitism.

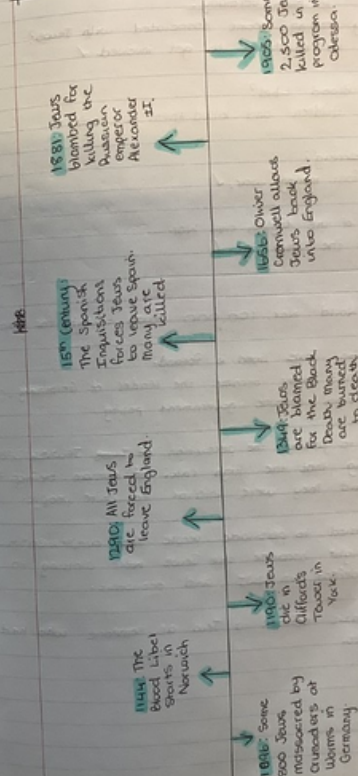
- 1) What have one thing I have learned is that Jews in medieval
England were persecuted because they loaned people money.
I also know that Jews were targeted in medieval England
because they killed young children in religious rituals.

- 2) What can you learn from source A about:
why the attack happened.

We can understand from source A that the attack happened
because of envy, for example 'because of their luck and
from envy of their good fortune'.
William felt that the attackers were lucky. I know
this because he said 'Bold and greedy'.

William meant that the attackers were free to kill the
Jews this is because the king and the law would not
stick up for them.

How were Jews
persecuted in Europe?



Wednesday 26th April 2023

- 1900: Some 2,500 Jews killed in a pogrom in Odessa.
- 1905: Over 100 Jews killed in a pogrom in Vilna, Lithuania.
- 1914: Jews are blamed for the Black Death, many were killed.
- 1918: Jews die in Cliffo's Tower in York.
- 1919: The 'Liber' blood libel in Norwich.
- 1920: Some 900 Jews massacred by Cossacks in Ukraine.

Digital Tournament

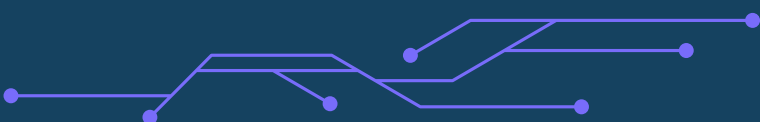
KSS hosted a digital gaming tournament during April, led by the fantastic student digital champions.

We welcomed The Orme Academy, Madeley High School and Endon High School to take part in the biggest Shaw Education Trust tournament yet. In a closely fought tournament with players taking part in games such as Ultimate Smash Bros, Mario Kart and Overwatch 2 we are delighted to announce that the overall winners were...

KSS

It was a close fought competition, and the participants did their respective schools proud.

Very well done to the KSS team and the MVP, Tyler.



Digital Tournament



KSS Sprints

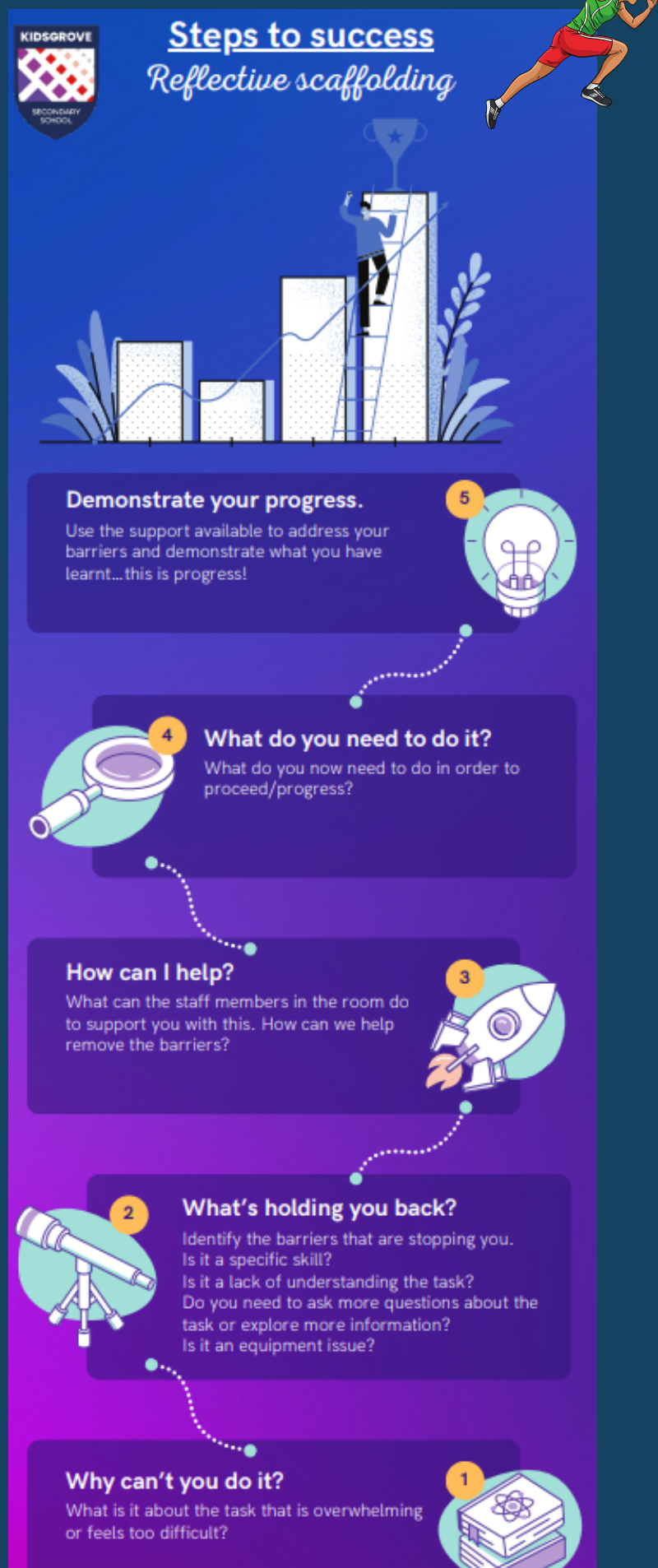
Since last January, KSS has been utilising an 'agile' approach to school improvement.

This approach has brought about significant improvements in key areas of the school.

Mr Till has produced some very informative posters to showcase our work.

In the last Headteacher Bulletin we showcased our work on student well being.

In this bulletin we are showcasing our work on supporting students with 'Reflective Scaffolding'. This ensures that students know the steps it takes to ensure that they can secure new knowledge, break down barriers to learning and best utilise new skills to secure progress.



WELCOME

I am delighted to introduce Mr Rodricks who has joined KSS as our new IT technician. Below is a picture and a few words from the man himself.

My experience is wide and extensive with over 5 year's experience in IT and recently I managed the IT infrastructure for a group of hospitals where I undertook various projects.

I have many hobbies which include watching football, reading , research in Finance, socialising with friends and I love travelling. I am delighted to have joined the school at such an exciting time with the students using iPads.

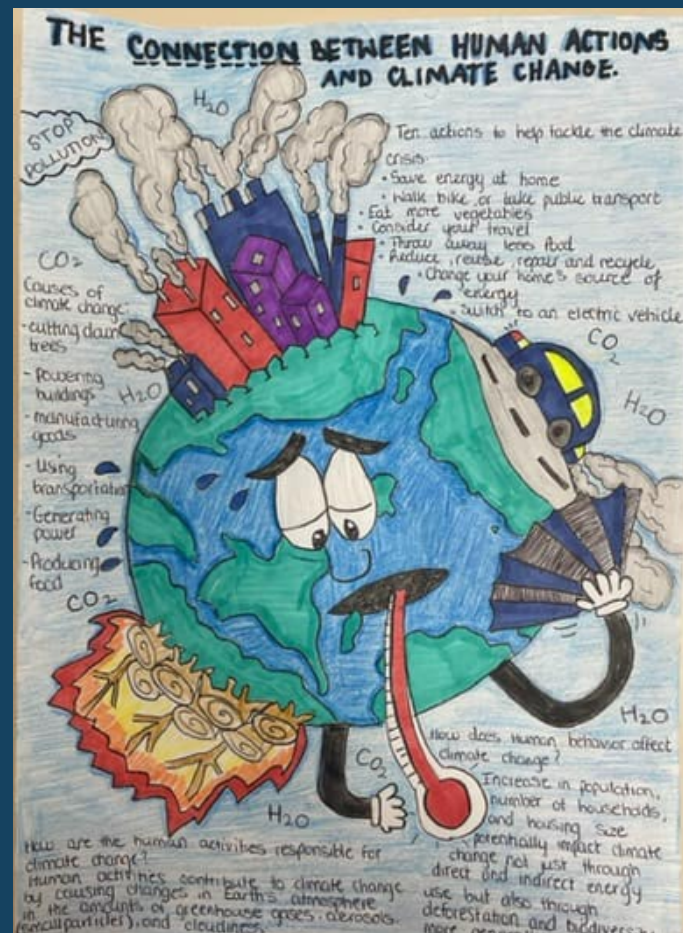


Shaw Education Trust Competition Winner

Lily (Year 9) was selected as the overall winner of a multi school competition from thousands of entrants last month.

As well as the chocolate Easter egg she received from Dr Ma before Easter, Lily also received a gift card from Mrs Ellams, an Executive Assistant at SET Head Office.

Congratulations Lily. What an achievement!



Enrichment

APR-JUL

EXTRA CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EVERYDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Reading club

Open to all

Reading Room – Mr Baldwin

MONDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Computing club

KS3

Room 15 – Ms Morrell

Choir and Rehearsal rooms

Open to all

Music – Mrs Evans

After School
15.05-16.05



Cooking club

Open to all

Technology – Mrs Bryan

TUESDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Computing club

KS3

Room 15 – Ms Morrell

Puzzle club

Open to all

Room 12 – Mrs Frost

After School
15.05-16.05



Football Training

Y7 and Y8

Astro/Field – Mr Hilditch

WEDNESDAY

After School
15.05-16.05



KS4 Basketball

KS4

Gym – Mr Till

KS4 Football

Y9 and Y10

Field – Mr Frost

KS3 Trampolining

KS3

Hall – Mrs Castrey

Open studio

Open to all

Room 10 – Miss Mason

THURSDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



iMedia catch up

GCSE

Room 15 – Ms Morrell

Warhammer Club

Open to all

Room 10 – Miss Mason

After School
15.05-16.05



Open studio

Open to all

Room 10 – Miss Mason

FRIDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Chess club

Open to all

Room 3 – Mr Baldwin

Pride Club

Room 14 – Miss Ayers

Keyboard club/Rehearsal rooms

Open to all

Music – Mrs Evans

After School
15.05-16.05



GCSE composition and Rock Band

Open to all

Music – Mrs Evans

Trampolining

KS4

Hall – Mrs Castrey



KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL



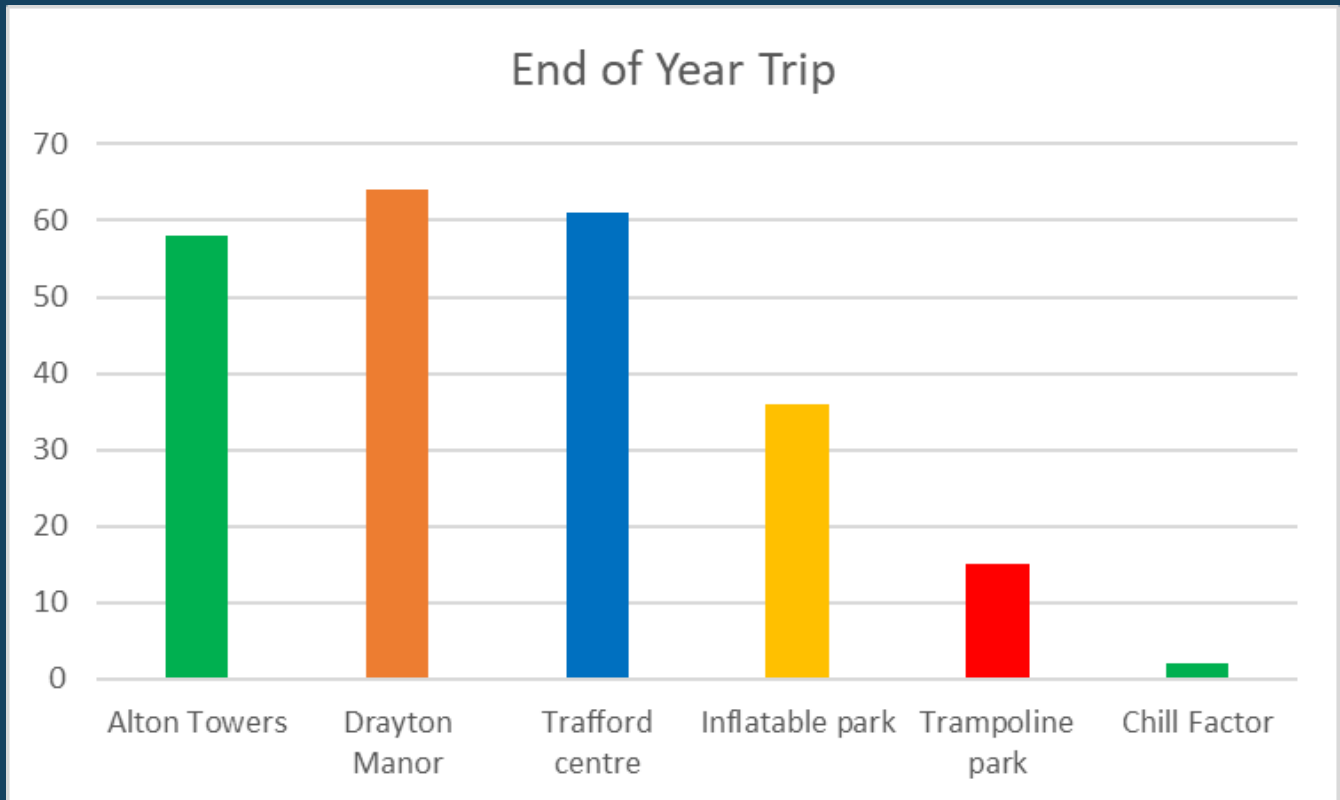
The Results



A message from Mrs Castrey...

As seen within the bulletin the students voted live during the assembly on where they would like to go on the summer reward trip.

The results are in.....



The two most popular choices are **Drayton Manor and the Trafford Centre!**

As the difference between these two choices was minimal, both will be offered to students and they can decide which trip they would like to attend.

How will you now demonstrate the core values to ensure that you get to attend the trip?!

