

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of the term has arrived and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support in the first term of the 2021-2022 academic year. It has been an extremely successful term with over 50,000 achievement points being earned by students, three exciting reward trips have been attended, a high number of praise postcards have been sent home and students have embraced the new digital strategy by using their iPads expertly in lessons. This combined with student leaders, digital ambassadors and a KS4 prefect team being launched the students have been extremely busy inside and outside of lessons.



Student attendance has been much higher than the local and national average and student engagement in lessons has been excellent. I have had the privilege of showcasing our wonderful school to many visitors and all bar none been impressed with the students conduct and behaviour. This has resulted in a number of students from other schools applying to join KSS.

The Personal Development of the students and their growth mindset is beginning to develop which is excellent to see and I am extremely excited for what 2022 will bring. This is not just the case for the hardworking Year 11 students but all year groups who are demonstrating progress across a wide variety of subjects.

The student and parent/carer feedback about the improvements made at KSS has been positive and can I thank you personally for taking part in the recent surveys that the school and the Shaw Education Trust have distributed to you. Where there are improvements to be made, please rest assured that myself and the staff will work hard to improve all aspects of your child's education at KSS.

On our return in January we will open on Tuesday, **4.1.22 for Covid-19 testing only** to ensure everyone's safety after the Christmas break. A letter will be circulated indicating your child's test time. **The school will resume as normal on the 5.1.22** for students who receive a negative lateral flow test. Can I also ask that students resume the normal routine of wearing full school uniform everyday when we return as the PE changing room issue will then be resolved. Therefore, students will change for PE at the start of their PE lesson.

In addition, can I please ask for your continued support in ensuring that students arrive for school before 8.40am. It is vital that students do not miss any part of the daily form session as this is a key part of the school day, where information is shared, use of iPads are developed and Personal Development is celebrated.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours Faithfully,



- 4.1.22 Students Return for Covid-19 Testing Only/ School reopens fully on 5.1.22
- 3.2.22 Year 11 Parents Evening (Virtual)
- 18.2.22 Year 7 and Year 8 Reward Event

A message from Head Student Lewis...

This term the school has really changed and has become more welcoming with the introduction of the new entrance and front desk, this has created a more hospitable environment for the students and has improved the presentation of the school. We now have a school to be proud of!

The introduction of rewards for behaviour and attendance such as trips has encouraged students to engage in learning positively and attend school every day. Not forgetting the iPad's which are fantastic.



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Headteacher Bulletin

Headteachers Christmas Lunch...

Well done to the students who were invited for the Headteacher's Christmas Reward Lunch on the 10.12.21.

The students were invited to lunch for their continued commitment to studies and for going above and beyond this term. The students who joined Mr Frost for lunch were:

Callum

Emily

Joshua

Macy

Ryan

Holly

Tyler

Dante

Kayleigh

George

Kitty

Levi

Olivia

Sophie

May

Iona

Logan

Olly

Ollie

Liam

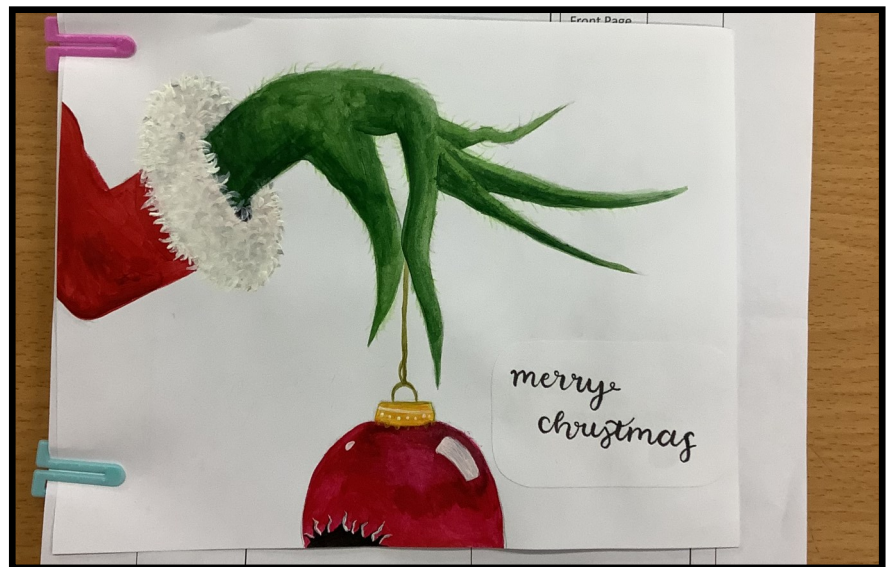
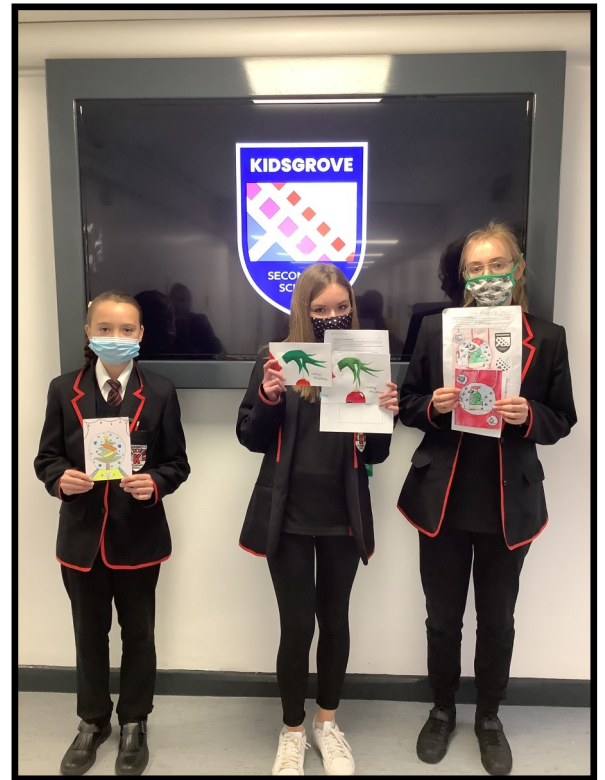
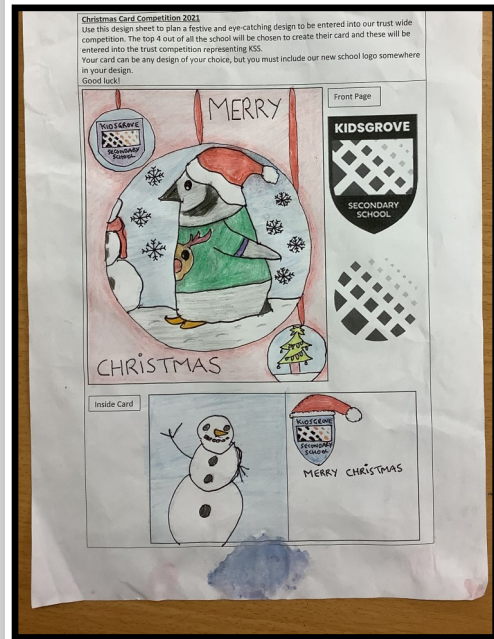


Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Mason...

A big thank you to all of the students involved in the Shaw Education Trust Christmas card competition. As you can see we have some very talented students who produced some brilliant card designs.

Well done to the students, May, Amelia and Isabelle for their designs. I am sure you will agree they are all fantastic pieces of art!



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Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Podmore and Mr Smith...

Year 7 were getting into the festive spirit (this week/last week) making Christmas cookies. The students really enjoyed the practical lesson. Mr Smith had prepared the dough earlier in the day so the students could get straight on with rolling out, adding their choice of spices such as ginger. Then using the Christmas shaped cutters they shaped them ready for baking. Some year 11 students took a bit of time out from their mock revision to help out. I think they appreciated the break and the year 7s were very grateful for the help. There were some very colourful creations by the end of the lesson. Merry Christmas everyone!

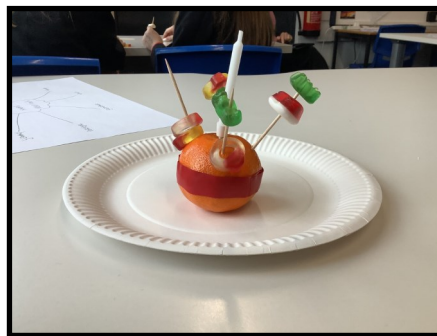
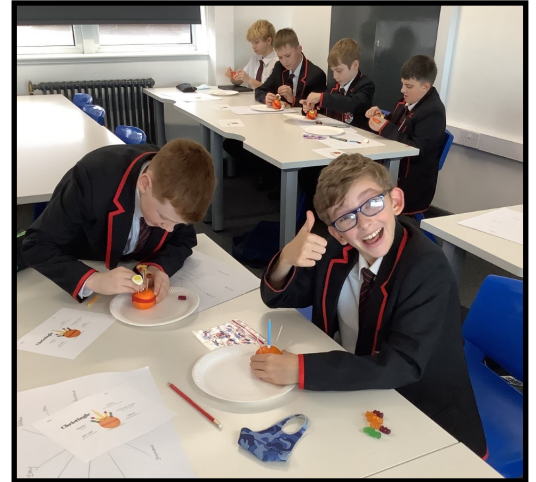


Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Podmore and Mr Smith...

Year 7 were getting into the festive spirit again as you can see and not just baking cookies...

This week as part of their religious studies year 7 students made a Christingle each. Mr Smith explained the significance of each part they were adding to the orange and the students soon set about work creating their own!! There was a lovely smell of orange in the classroom!



A message from Ms Critchlow...

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL CHARITY BAKE OFF!

This month our KS4 students were given the opportunity to take part in a charity 'Bake Off' supporting Douglas MacMillan. Students did an absolutely fantastic job and all produced some phenomenal bakes!

Their criteria was to bake either cookies or cupcakes in a batch of twelve. We had a range of Bakes submitted in the bake off ranging from Spiced Chocolate Cupcakes, Marbled Vanilla and Chocolate Cupcakes to Ptsyie.

The effort and dedication the students showed during the bake off was fantastic to see and the pride and care they took in creating their bakes was fabulous. Many students experimented with piping their icing for the first time and these turned out brilliantly!!

Our winners of the 'Bake off' were Amelia and Dominika, the points were very close with Amelia scoring 88 out of 100 and Dominika scoring 87 out of 100.

Amelia baked chocolate cupcakes with a pink buttercream icing and golden sugar sprinkles and Dominika baked Ptsyie, a Polish dish drizzled in chocolate. Both dishes turned out really well and both students were happy with their results!

Staff helped judge just the 15 entries to the Bake Off and score the students out of 5 for Taste, Texture, Smell and Presentation.



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mr Birchall...

As we come to the end of what's been an incredibly rewarding first term, I'd like to extend my thanks to all Year 11 parents and carers who have supported with our revision event and intervention sessions. I have been blown away by how maturely our students have approached these mock examinations, and I am also really impressed by how many students have attended our intervention sessions. These will continue throughout the duration of Year 11, so I thank you for your continued support with this.



A further message from Mr Birchall...

Our U14 football team played out a hard-fought 2-1 win against Sir Thomas Boughey in their first match of this year's league. The work-rate of every single player, which included some students who were playing up from the year group below, was incredible. The students were: Owen, Taylor, Charlie, Jack, Jack, Archie, George (Man of the Match), Callum, Bailey, Billy and Jack. Good luck to the team for the rest of their fixtures!



A message from Mrs Castrey...

On the 2nd of December myself and Mrs Podmore, Mrs Raybould and Mr Hilditch took the Year 9 students to the National Football Museum in Manchester.

The students undertook some very exciting activities and went on the hunt for some of English football's greatest items of memorabilia.

Owen was tasked by Mr Frost to find and take a photo of the Jules Rimet trophy that England won in 1966. The mission was accomplished and Owen took a selfie.

The students behaviour was exceptional and the museum curator contacted the school to thank us for the excellent conduct and good manners of our students.

Well done Year 9!



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Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Ms Mason...

Year 9 have been undertaking some exciting work for their photography project. Below are examples of work from Owen, Emmie, Logan and Poppy.



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Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Evans...

A huge well done to our Year 10 musicians, they have all made a superb start on their creative compositions & performances. We have been delighted to invite pupils from Kidsgrove Primary School, it has been great to hear them choir singing, playing the ukuleles & keyboards.

There has been big increase in pupils wanting to learn a musical instrument; we offer a huge variety of instrumental lessons. If you are interested in singing/instrumental lessons register now at:

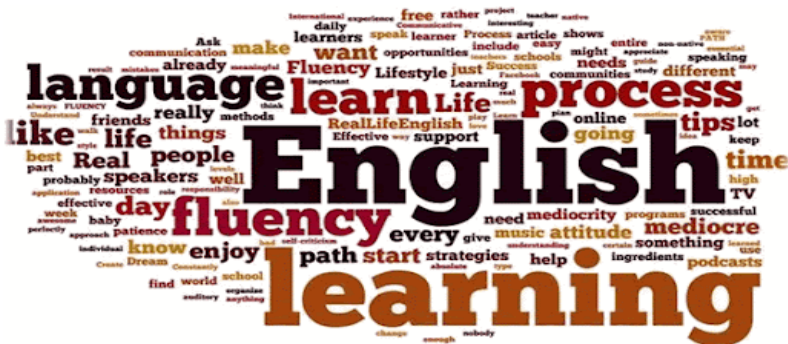
<https://www.entrust-ed.co.uk/our-services/music/instrumental-and-vocal-teaching/>



A message from Mr Old...

Year 8 English - Sherlock Holmes

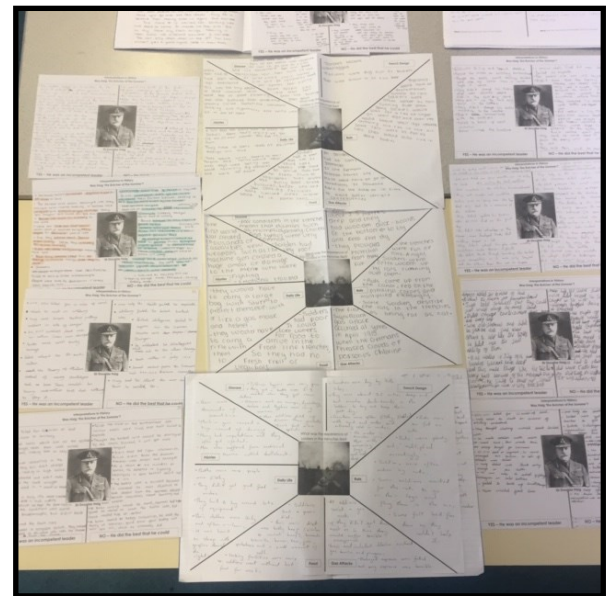
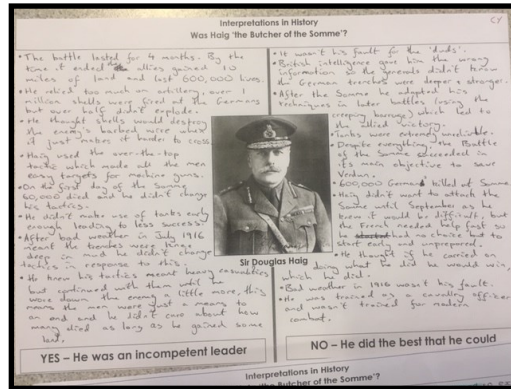
Congratulations to the students of 8a1 who have performed excellently on their Sherlock Holmes assessments. Special praise goes to Matthew, Nevaeh, Lily and Mason for their excellent preparation and performance on this.



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mr Hilditch...

Year 9 have produced some excellent work in History this half term as we turned our focus to WWI. Students showed some excellent creative and historical skills to produce authentic pieces of WWI propaganda. Students also studied the conditions of trench warfare, analysed the Battle of the Somme as a case study and evaluated General Haig's leadership of the British Army at the Somme. This has led to some fantastic work as students really engaged with the topic, often doing independent research.



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Weaver...

On the 10th of December we had our second enrichment day of the term.

We had a range of visitors into school including the ex-captain of Stoke City and former Newcastle United full back Andy Griffin. He spent some time coaching students on the Astro pitch and also discussing his extensive Premier League football career.

The students also took part in a community litter pick with numerous bags of rubbish being collected along the way and many other activities were undertaken that enhanced the students understanding of potential careers and their own personal development.



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mrs Castrey...

Below are some pictures from our Christmas reward trip to 'Cinebowl' in Uttoxeter. We had over 200 students attend the trip for their continued high levels of excellent behaviour and attendance. Well done everyone! We are already planning our next reward trip at Easter which once more will reward the students who meet our very high expectations.



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