

Dear Parents/Carers,

The first half term of the Spring term has moved by so quickly but we have collectively continued to move forward the quality of education, engage the student leadership and enhance the use of iPads across a range of subjects.

In the recent student survey regarding the use of iPads, students fed back that they thought the iPads had supported progress in lessons and supported homework which was very pleasing to see. One area of development that was highlighted by a number of students, was that they wanted to utilise games to enhance and maximise their learning experiences.

As a result, we invited into school the Shaw Education Trust, Director of Digital Design, Mr Jackson. The whole school engaged in a digital treasure hunt assembly using iPads to find out answers to various questions based around curriculum subjects. The students who were the first to deliver 10 correct answers were awarded an iPad pencil. The winners were Jack (Yr10), Alesha and Emily (Year 8). This demonstrated the power of interactivity in engaging our learners and we will expand on this in lessons over the next few weeks.

In addition to the student voice capture, I would like to invite parents/carers to share their thoughts about the impact of the digital strategy. If you could please complete the survey by using your smartphone camera to scan the QR code or alternatively the survey can also be accessed via the schools website @ kidsgrovesecondary.co.uk and through the school Facebook page.



A theme that we will continue to revisit over the course of the academic year is that of students displaying a 'Growth Mindset' to their learning.

Students have now completed a number of summative assessments (end of unit tests) and the school has been able to capture a lot of progress data. When analysing the students performance it has been fantastic to see students across all year groups outperforming their subject targets. I have written many praise postcards to these students over the course of the past week to thank them for their continued growth mindset, for overcoming obstacles and for demonstrating a resilience to set backs and challenges.



Finally, a special mention to the parents/carers of Year 7 students. They have impressed the whole staff body and have been an absolute delight to teach in the first term and a half of 2021-2022. The attendance, attitude and number of achievement points is remarkable and we are looking forward to the reward trip to Cadbury's World on the 18th of February to celebrate their collective achievements. Keep up the great work, Year 7!



Yours faithfully
Mr S Frost

- 16.2.22 Headteacher Reward Lunch
- 17.2.22 Student Council Meeting—Teaching and Learning
- 18.2.22 Year 7 and Year 8 Reward Event



Headteacher Bulletin

A message from Mr Birchall...

Mr Frost and I met with each individual student in Year 11 last week in order to share mock exam results with them. There were some fantastic sets of results which offer these students a great foundation on which to build towards their final exams. We are meeting with Heads of Faculty this week to identify intervention needs and next steps for every student, and we will be keeping the Revision Hub open every evening for those who wish to use it. There will be another round of mock exams later this term which I would encourage all students take as seriously as they will the final exams. Keep up the great work Year 11, you're doing amazing.



I have also been incredibly proud of the progress that Year 10 have made with regards to their academic attainment, but also with regards to their standards and attitudes. Their work-ethic has been excellent since September, and I'm really looking forward to what the next 18 months will bring. Again, keep up the great work.

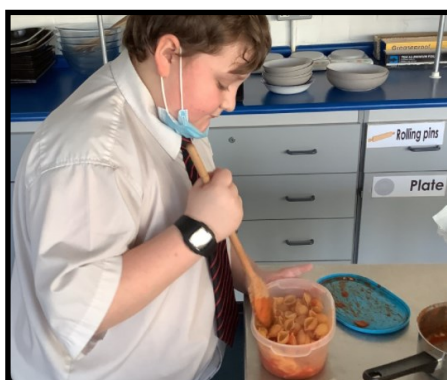
A message from Mr Smith and Mrs Podmore...

Following on from the recent practical where the pupils made pasta from scratch the pupils got to make their favourite pasta dish this week.

There was a definite divide between a tomato based dish and tuna pasta.

Ollie earned the title of 'Star chef'. He worked quickly and efficiently and was the first to be finished and washed up. It seems Ollie is no stranger to the kitchen and often makes meals for the family at home.

We also saw some great team work and kindness with the sharing of ingredients. Well done year 7 you are a credit to the school.



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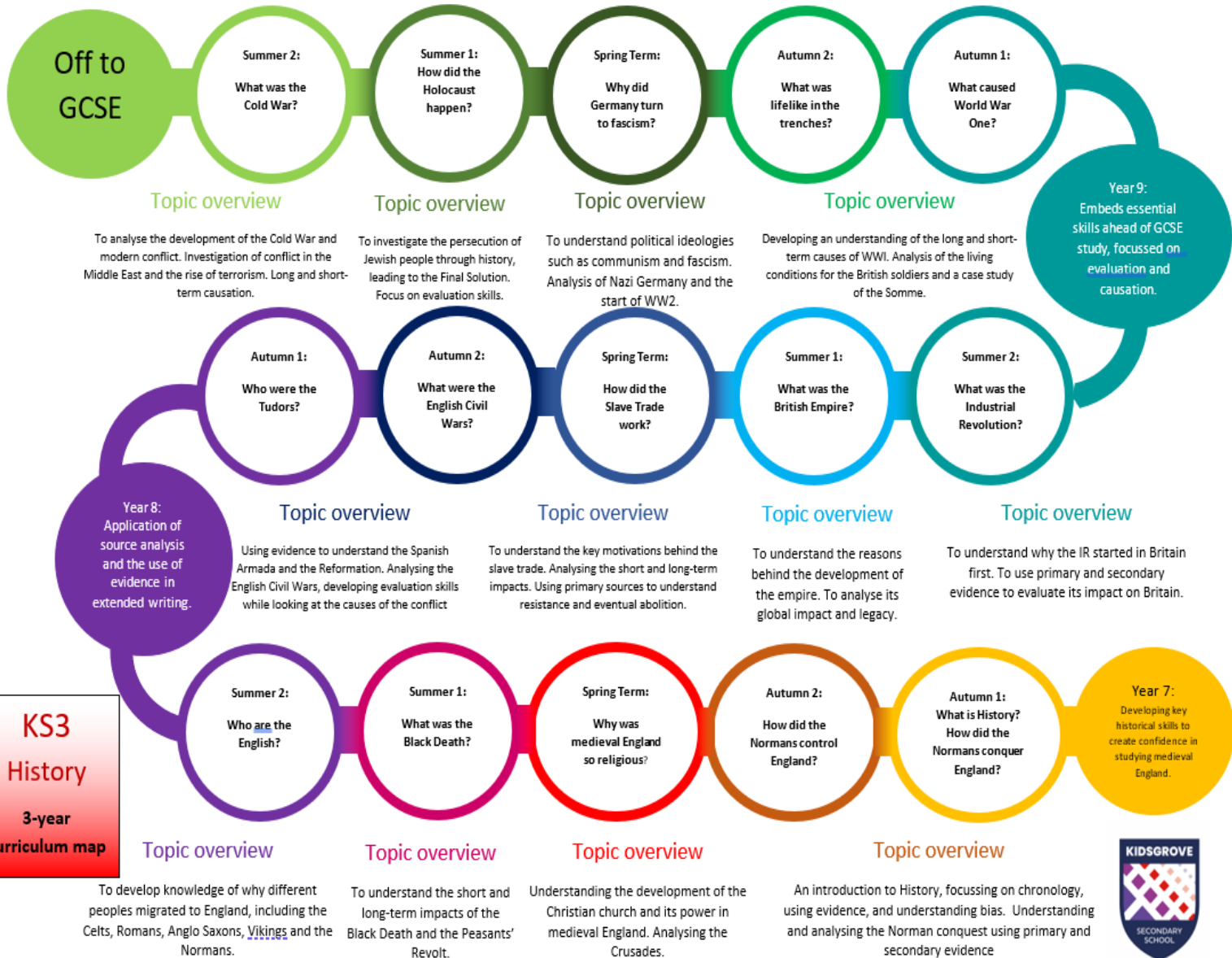
Headteacher Bulletin

Curriculum Feedback to Parents/Carers...

An area for development that was raised in our recent parental survey results, was that you would like to know more about what your child is studying in each of their subjects.

As a result of this feedback, the staff at KSS have created a new way of presenting the curriculum content for each subject that is visual and eye catching. Over the next few Headteacher bulletins I will be sharing with you curriculum maps from a variety of subjects.

Below is the KS3 History curriculum map produced by Mr Hilditch:



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A message from Mrs Weaver...

Personal Development is the cornerstone of everything that we do at KSS. Our Personal Development curriculum is aimed to help our pupils gain the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active and responsible citizens. Over the next two pages you will find information about what we deliver to your child in PD lessons and through our enrichment days:

It is split into five different categories:



Over your five years students will cover the following.



- It is important we learn what makes a positive and safe relationship and how to recognise unsafe ones and know what to do.
- We will look at all types of relationships within friendship groups, family and when falling in love.
- We will look at conflict management, consent, contraception and child exploitation.



- We will look at how to keep ourselves physically healthy.
- We will look at the dangers associated with vaping, smoking, drinking and drugs.
- We will learn about cancer awareness.
- We will learn about how to look after ourselves mentally. How we can look out for warning signs of distress and anxiety and how we can support others.

A message from Mrs Weaver (continued)...



- What is citizenship and how can we be a good citizen?
- We will look at British values.
- We will learn about and carry out volunteering, both in school and in the local community.
- We will learn about important issues such as human rights, LGBTQ, identity, antisocial behaviour, knife crime, human trafficking and discrimination.
- We will investigate what jobs are associated with your likes, skills and interests.
- We will learn about the local labour market information, and you will use this when thinking about your future.
- We will use online programmes such as START UExplore to begin and develop your careers journey.
- We will support you when choosing your future options.



Charity Events



Enrichment Days



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Kids Grove
Learning Campus
INSPIRE INNOVATE CREATE



Shaw
Education
Trust

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Digital Schoolhouse Competition...

We are delighted that through our fantastic Student Digital Ambassadors, KSS has entered the prestigious Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Team Battle for 2022. Mr Till has been working with the group to organise a gaming event that will be held on the 9th of February. The Digital Ambassadors have invited teams to participate in the school knockout with winners representing the school in the next round of the regional finals. There will be stiff competition but if students can master teamwork skills and tactical nous, we could be invited to play in the national finals, held in London.

More details can be found @ [Digital Schoolhouse Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Team Battle 2022.](#)

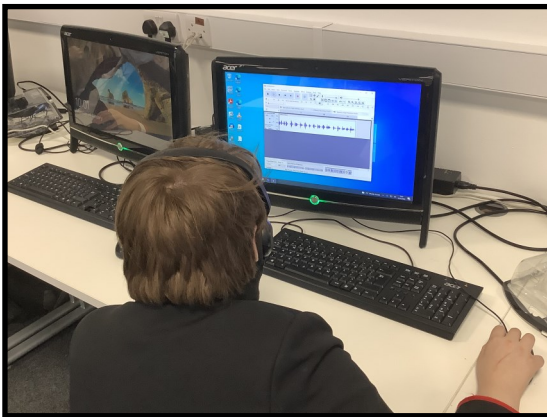


A message from Mrs Morrell...

9B have been using a piece of software called 'AUDACITY' to edit sound files.

They have learnt how to sequence and apply different effects to a sound clip and to record their own voice.

They will use these skills to create a news clip with sound effects during the next phase of lesson. Well done 9B.



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Facebook Page Highlights...

Mrs Castrey works tirelessly behind the scenes making sure that the KSS Facebook page is full of important updates about what goes on once students enter the building each day. Since September our Facebook posts have reached more than 20,000 people and posts relate to a wide variety of good news stories and student successes.

If you do not follow the page please find us @ <https://m.facebook.com/KidsgroveSecondary/>



Here are some social media highlights from the last few weeks from food lessons, to sporting success and use of the immersive room to explore the northern lights.



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