### THE KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 1.3.24

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to say thank you to the Year 10 parents/carers who attended the parents evening just before half term. It was an excellent turnout and it was great to have lots of positive and constructive conversations about your child's progress. We look forward to sharing a summer update with you all following the summer GCSE mock examinations.

Year 10 has also taken part in an exciting initiative, **'Frost v Poss'**, which we hope will really engage the students in an 'Ant v Dec' style competition over the next few weeks. There is more information about this within the bulletin pages but the early signs are very positive and I am confident of a team 'Frost' victory, although team 'Poss' have taken week I by three points to one.

Last week saw seven Year 10 students attend an army work experience residential for four days. The boys did us proud and returned full of stories about range shooting, camp building and search & rescue missions.

In other news, since half term we have seen students working extremely hard across a wide range of subjects across the school. The students are in the process of receiving their new look progress reports. Students will be bringing these reports home over the course of the half term.



Year 11 has been working extremely hard in lessons and

as most of the GCSE content has now been completed, lessons have been designed to focus upon revision and examination techniques. The school will be offering a range of Easter revision sessions and information about these will be circulated in due course.

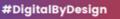
Finally, we will hold our second whole school reward trip on the 22nd of March 2024. Mrs Castrey is hard at work organising the trip which will be a visit to the Trafford Centre. All year groups will be in attendance and Mrs Postlethwaite has set the criteria which is a maximum of 10 behaviour points for 15 days and 100% attendance. We hope to see every student qualify. Good luck to all!



Yours faithfully, Mr S Frost

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Monday 4.3.24 - Year 11 Mock 3 Examinations Begin Thursday 14.3.24 - Year 8 Parents' Evening (Online) Wednesday 20.3.24 - Headteacher Reward Lunch Thursday 21.3.24 - Reward Assemblies Friday 22.3.24 - Easter Whole School Reward Trip







### FROST



### POSS

A week ago, we launched a Year 10 competition called 'Frost v Poss', (a brilliant idea dreamt up by Mrs Frost to generate an 'Ant & Dec' style rivalry between the male and female students).

Each week, there are **4** points up for grabs! These are for...

Highest attendance % Highest behaviour ratio Highest number of 'above & beyond' slips Winners of a weekly challenge



Located on the wall between our offices is a box that the fantastic Mr Harris has made and this has continually been filled with red 'Team Frost' and green 'Team Poss' slips over the course of the week. The students that go 'above and beyond' are being recognised by staff and the totals will be independently verified by Ms Wood each week.

We hope that the students will be engaged in some friendly competition with the winning team all receiving a shopping voucher each to be spent at the upcoming Easter reward trip to the Trafford Centre.

#### Let the battle commence!









, ,			eader Boa	rd	
	Week	Attendance	Behaviour	Challenge	Above & Beyond
	1				
	2				
	3				
	4				

#### Attendance

#TeamPoss took the lead with an amazing 97% this week whilst #TeamFrost came second with a respectable 95%.

#### **Behaviour**

Whilst both teams saw a huge spike in the number of achievement points this week, #TeamFrost couldn't quite pip #TeamPoss to the post who had an amazing 98% behaviour ratio! #TeamFrost came second with 94% which is still a significant improvement on the week before.

#### Above & Beyond

The slips are in and have been counted and verified! It's been a close race all week and brilliant to watch the box filling with green and red slips but #Team Frost took the winning point with 80 slips V 64 slips for Team Poss.





This week's challenge was fiendishly thought up by Mrs Postlethwaite and took the form of a **Bushtucker Trial.** 

Each team had 3 volunteers who were blindfolded and were challenged to eat a variety of gruesome foods. They weren't told what these foods were until they ate them, but their teammates who were watching knew as it was displayed on the screen behind them!

On the menu were:

- Eyeballs (Skinned grapes in jelly)
- Earthworms (Udon noddles)
- Fish eggs (Tapioca)
- Fish brains (Salmon paste)
- Frog livers (Cooked white kidney beans)
- Dried mealworms (Allbran cereal)

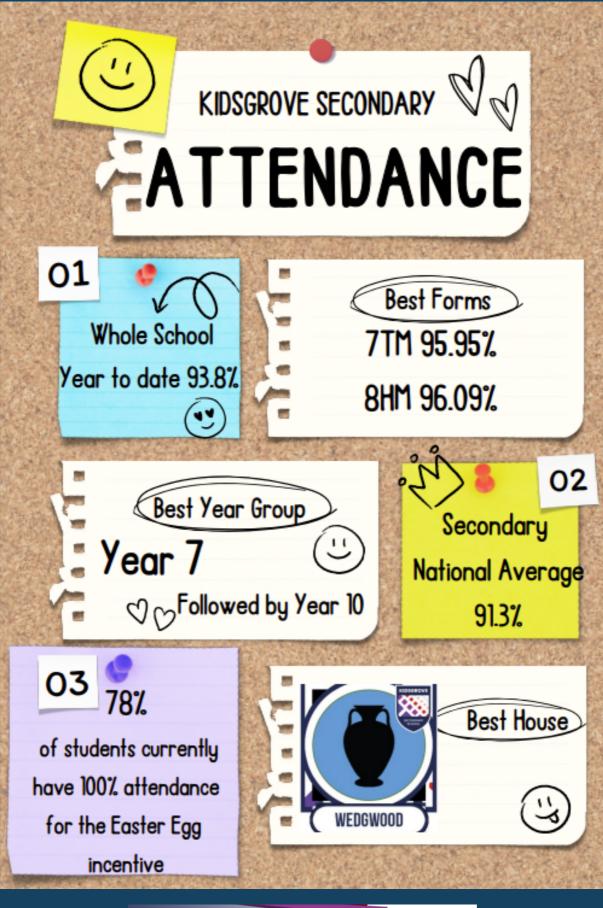








## Attendance



Kidsgrove Secondary School

## SCIENCE



A message from Mrs Emily Grice-Lowe...

Year 8 have been quizzing each other on key concepts in Science, practising their communication and having fun along the way!

They've been playing quick games with questions they have written to find the lesson's Star Pupil! **#** It's great to see them moving around, using keywords and scientific language, as well as engaging in competition.

This week, they've been writing questions on Adaptations of the Leaf 💰 Great work year 8!

Year 11 have been continuing with their Required Practicals in Science. This week, 11S have been using the evaporation method to measure the amount of dissolved solids in various samples of water. () 🖉 🧟

They are pros now at following Laboratory procedure and can link their skills to real life practical applications in environmental science.









## **National Award**

I am delighted to share that Kidsgrove Secondary School has been recognised for our excellent attendance. The school is in the top 25% of all similar schools nationally for the high levels of attendance in the autumn term.

This is testimony of all of the parental support that we receive and a credit to the resilience of our students.

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### National School Attendance Award

### 2023/24 Autumn Term



Kidsgrove Secondary

Top 25% of similar FFT Secondary Schools in England



## 2024 Admissions

Congratulations to everyone who has received their Secondary School placement with KSS. We have the highest number of admissions in the Kidsgrove Secondary Schools history with a remarkable 90 students joining us in September.

We can't wait to meet you and welcome you to the KSS family.

Further information and transition packs will be sent out shortly. In the meantime if you have any questions, please contact our transition lead on kim.castrey@kss.set.org



## **KS3 Boys PE**









A message from Mr Till...

Year 7, 8 & 9 have been showing great resilience and organisation whilst learning, what for most is a new sport, volleyball.

Students have been taught the core skills in volleyball with a high number starting to learn some advanced skills.

A controlled and consistent execution of skills in addition to positive team work has been more than demonstrated by our students!









### **Y11 ACADEMIC FOCUS**





Year 11 have remaining less than 40 school days before the summer examinations begin and the opportunity to attend intervention at lunchtime and after school has never been more crucial.

The timetable above is also supported by a compulsory form time intervention schedule.

We are confident that if students attend these sessions it will have a huge impact on their progress.



## **KS3 Girls PE**





A message from Mrs Castrey...

KS3 girls have been showing how creative they can be in Gymnastics and Trampolining this term.

They have developed their balance, flexibility and shapes on the floor and then been able to transfer these skills onto the Trampoline.

Mrs Castrey has been super impressed with the students' resilience and initiative when working on these skills.







Well done ladies!











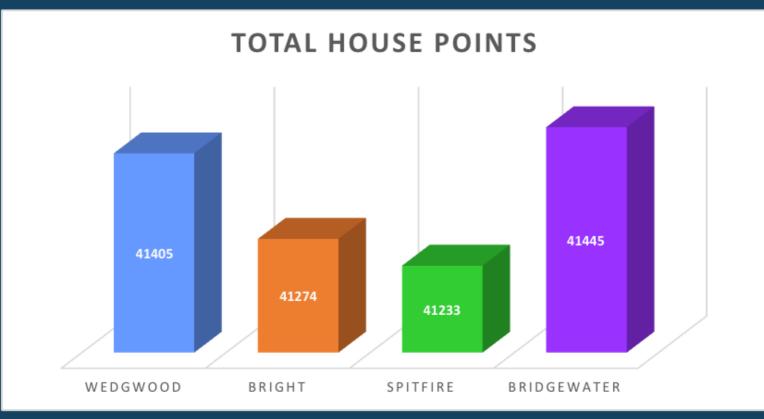


## House Update

Below are the House totals for the year so far...

Well done to Bridgewater who are just in front by 40 points.

It is still all to play for with 3 weeks left of the term!







**#DigitalByDesign** 





## **SPANISH**

A message from Ms Hud...

Year 7 are learning all about how to describe people this term. I n class, they have been doing particularly well in their speaking tasks, and I have been really impressed with the quality of their homework recently too.

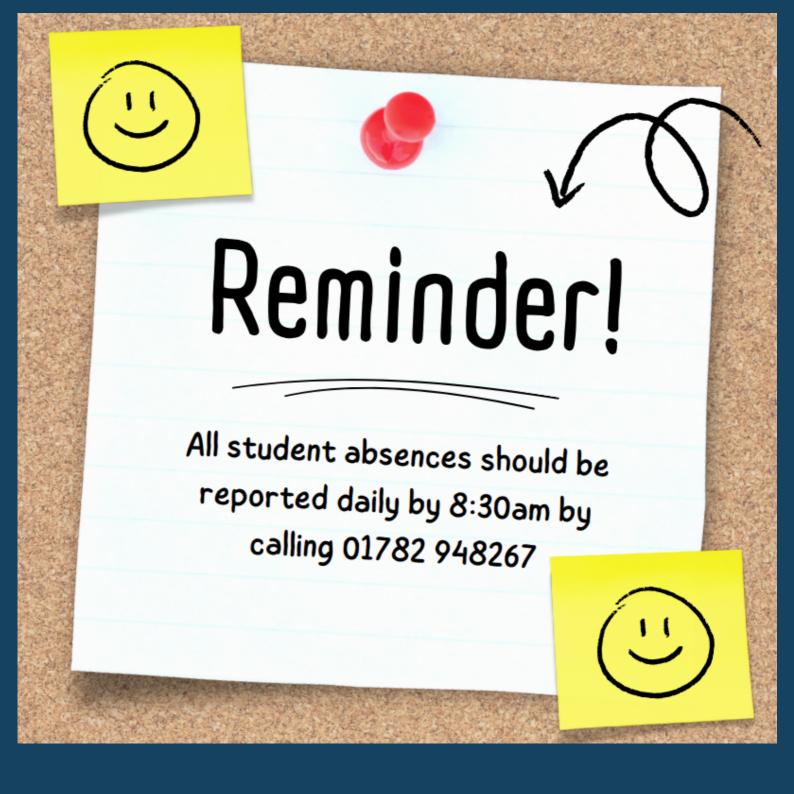
Amazingly well done Year 7.



## **SPANISH**









## ENGLISH

A message from Mr Old...

### 100,000 club!

Congratulation to the following students who have read 100,000 words or more this academic year. Certificates will be made and sent home to celebrate their wonderful efforts with reading this year.

Amber	D	Veer 0
	В	Year 9
Sophie	E	Year 9
Lilly	В	Year 10
Holly	P	Year 9
Shakirah	М	Year 8
Isabella	Р	Year 8
Joshua	В	Year 7
Reece	l	Year 9
Brooke	н	Year 9
Ellie	L	Year 9
Lily	s	Year 10
Gracie	н	Year 10
Leah	R	Year 9
Maisie	В	Year 8
Tommy	D	Year 9
Callum	s	Year 7
Logan-Jai	L	Year 8
Harry	с	Year 7
Madison	R	Year 9
Olivia	D	Year 8
Victoria	н	Year 8
Isaac	в	Year 8
Mystaya	н	Year 8
Leighton	E	Year 8
Tyler	D	Year 8

Ebony	Р	Year 10
Abi	G	Year 8
Tyler	н	Year 7
Ollie	Q	Year 8
Ava	В	Year 8
Nevaeh	м	Year 10
India	в	Year 7
Tristan	в	Year 7
Charlie	в	Year 8
Mason	D	Year 10
Olivia	L	Year 9











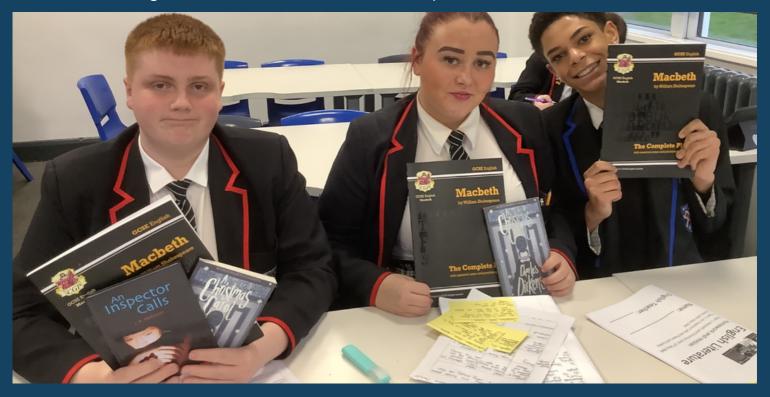
## ENGLISH

A message from Mr Old...

The English department are proud to report that we have ordered copies of the four main texts to support the study and revision of students in GCSE English Literature.

These are Macbeth, A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls, and the Power and Conflict anthology study guide.

We will be using these in class as well as study at home.









**FEB-MAR** 

## **KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL**

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

MONDAY								
Lunchtime 13.30-14.00	ا 🏷 ا	Science Support	KS3	Room 23 – Dr Ma				
TUESDAY								
After School		Y10 Performing Arts	Year 10	Music – Mrs Evans				
15.05-16.05		Open Studio	Open to all	Room 10 - Mrs Mason				
WEDNESDAY								
	<b>.</b>	Multi Sports Club	Open to all	Changing Rooms - Mrs Castrey				
After School 15.05-16.05	Reisten	Football	KS3	Changing Rooms – Mr Hilditch				
		Fitness	KS4	Fitness Suite – Mr Till				
THURSDAY								
Lunchtime 13.30-14.00	\$	Science Support	KS4	Room 23 – Dr Ma				
	- <b>*</b>	Open Studio	Open to all	Room 10 - Mrs Mason				
After School	Retent	Football Fixtures	KS4	Changing Rooms - Mr Till				
15.05-16.05		DofE Sessions	DofE	Room 9 - Mrs Weaver				
	11							
		D&D Club	ted, speak to Miss Ayers	Room 14 - Miss Ayers				
FRIDAY		D&D Club	10 D.A.	Room 14 - Miss Ayers				
FRIDAY Lunchtime		D&D Club Chess club	10 D.A.	Room 14 - Miss Ayers Room 3 - Mr Baldwin				
		DAD CIUB	Ayers					
Lunchtime 13.30-14.00		Chess club	Ayers Open to all	Room 3 – Mr Baldwin				
Lunchtime		Chess club Pride Club	Ayers Open to all Open to all	Room 3 - Mr Baldwin Room 14 - Miss Ayers				



The electronic tablets are used to develop pupils' digital skills, alongside enhancing subject learning. OFSTED 2023



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A message from Mrs Frost...

We set each year group the challenge of which student could earn the most XP points on Sparx maths in a week. Wow did they rise to that challenge! Below is an image of the winners from Year 7 through to 11, they each received a £10 voucher. We could not help but notice that it was all boys that won – it is clear that they love a bit of competition!

A huge well done to **Tyler in Year 7, Connor in Year 8, Tommy in Year 9, Tyler in Year 10 and John in Year 11**.

The maths department continue to be impressed by how well students respond to the use of Sparx Maths and the impact it is making on their understanding and progress.







## MATHS















## **YEAR 11 PROGRESS PUSH**

A message from Mrs Frost...

A few weeks ago we launched a Year 11 intervention competition where students acknowledged their attendance to lunchtime or after school intervention by popping a token into their respective form box.

On Thursday we completed a count of the totals so far and the leading form was 11WB, with a staggering **164** tokens.

As a well done for their efforts, the form were treated to a reward lunch as a small gesture to thank them for going above and beyond with their relentless focus on their studies.









## Year 11

# YEAR II **REVISION HUB KIDSGROVE** Now Open Daily from 3.05pm to 4.30pm

A place to revise in a quiet environment each afternoon.



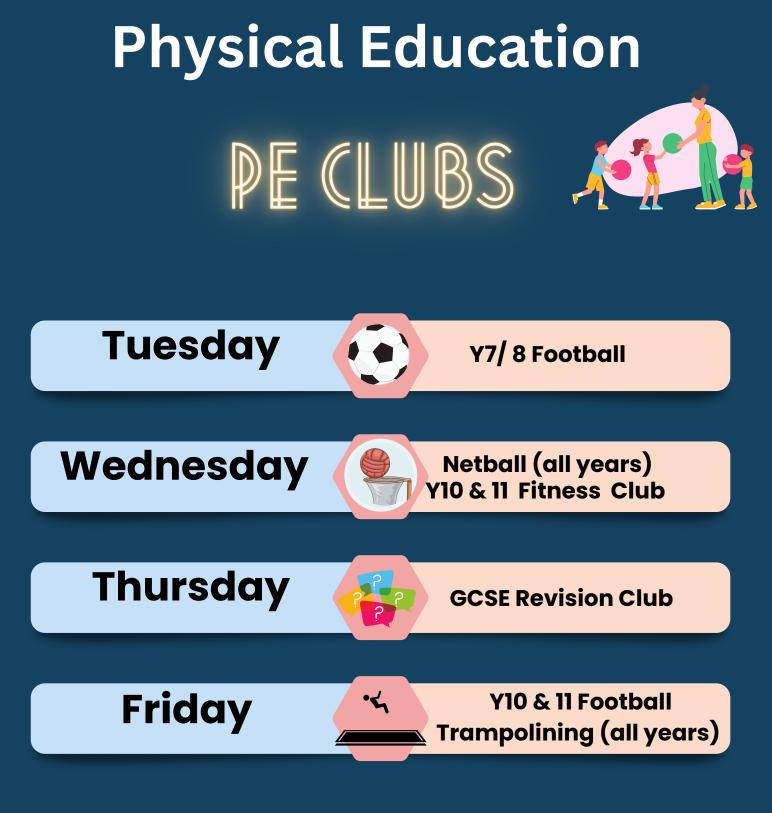
## **DofE Award**

A message from Mr Till...

The Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh groups have begun planning their expedition routes. Following some sessions on route planning, the students now take ownership of selecting an appropriate route and completing expedition route cards.

There are some exciting days planned ahead in the beautiful White Peak area of the Peak District.





### Please see a member of the PE department for further details about these sessions.



"If you do enough small things right, BIG THINGS can happen"







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KSS

