

# HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 11.4.25

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Easter is finally upon us after what has felt like a really long second half of the Spring term. When we return after the Easter break we only have 18 school days before the final half term of the academic year. Time really does fly by and the summer is almost upon us.

After Easter we look forward to welcoming our new colleagues to the KSS team and for the Year 11 GCSE examination season to formally begin.

We also host our final few parents evenings with the Year 9 options evening and the first parents evening for our Year 7 cohort still yet to take place.

The attendance at the Year 9 parents evening last night, along with the Year 11, 10 and 8 parents evenings that have all taken place since Christmas, show how amazing your support is for your child. We have hit record attendances for these events with an average of 85% turnout. This is certainly a trend that we wish to see continue into the remainder of this year and into the next.

I was delighted to have been joined by 31 students for the Headteacher reward lunch this week. It is always a pleasure to spend some time with students that go above and beyond and who give back to the school and the staff. This was certainly the case with Sofia, Cassidy, Ayla-Jayne, Devon, Myla and Isabella. These students were joined by Ms Wagstaff at a recent Stoke Schools dance event at The Victoria Hall and they performed brilliantly in front of a large crowd. They did the school proud with their dancing talents clear to see for everybody in the audience.

Finally, we held our end of term celebration assemblies earlier today, which is as always such a highlight of the school calendar. We had a significant number of students pick up certificates for their brilliant progress, excellent attitudes to learning and commitment to their studies. A huge congratulations to each and every student that came to the front of the hall to show off their certificates of achievement. We are looking forward to see what the students can achieve in the summer term.

## Upcoming Events



**Monday 28.4.25 - School Closed to Student (INSET Day)**

**Monday 5.5.25 - Bank Holiday**

**Thursday 8.5.25 - Year 9 Options Evening**

**Thursday 22.5.25 - Year 7 Parents Evening**



Yours faithfully,  
Mr S Frost





# Enrichment



At Kidsgrove Secondary, we believe learning extends far beyond the classroom and that's where enrichment clubs come in.

These clubs offer students the chance to explore new interests, develop important life skills, and build confidence in a fun, low-pressure environment.

Whether it's graphic design, drama, sport, or chess, enrichment clubs help children discover their passions, work collaboratively, and strengthen their sense of belonging in the school community. They're not just "extras", they're valuable experiences that support well-rounded growth.



## ENRICHMENT CALENDAR

### APR-MAY

#### EVERYDAY

##### READING ROOM

Ms Hambleton



##### HOMEWORK SUPPORT



LSC

#### MONDAY

##### SCIENCE SUPPORT



Dr Ma

Rm 23

Y7, 8, 9

#### TUESDAY

##### SCIENCE SUPPORT



Dr Ma

Rm 23

Y7, 8, 9

#### WEDNESDAY

##### GRAPHIC DESIGN



Ms Morrell

Rm 15

Y7, 8, 9

#### THURSDAY

##### CHESS CLUB



Mr Old

Rm 2

All welcome

##### CROCHET CAVERN



Mrs Price

Rm 12

All welcome

##### SWITCH CLUB



Mr Frost

All welcome

Mr Frost's office

##### YOUNG CARERS



Ms Potts

By invite

Conference RM

##### CROCHET CAVERN

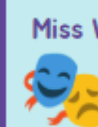


Mrs Price

Rm 12

All welcome

##### MUSICAL REHEARSAL



Miss Wagstaff

Rm 20

Cast

##### OPEN ART STUDIO



Mrs Mason

Rm 10

All welcome

##### KS4 OPEN STUDIO

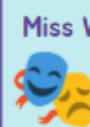


Mrs Mason

Rm 10

GCSE

##### MUSICAL REHEARSAL



Miss Wagstaff

Rm 20

Cast

## IDEAS?

Do you have any ideas of enrichment clubs you would like to see here at KSS? If so, please speak to your form tutor!



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

##### MUSICAL REHEARSAL



Miss Wagstaff

Rm 20

Cast

##### HOCKEY CLUB



Miss Hambleton

All welcome

Changing Rms

##### DARTS CLUB



Mr Frost

All Welcome

Conference Rm

##### KS3 FOOTBALL



Mr Hilditch

KS3

Changing Rms

##### DOFE



Ms Hud/Mrs Weaver

Y9, 10, 11

Rm 6

##### KS4 FOOTBALL



Mr Till

KS4

Changing Rms





# Year 11 Easter Sessions

It would be amazing to see as many students as possible attend the Easter sessions over the Easter break.

Thank you to the teachers who are leading these sessions.

## Easter Revision



	Morning	Afternoon
Monday 14 April	9-11 History (MH) 11-1 Spanish General conversations (KH)	1-3 Spanish appointments (KH)
Tuesday 15 April	11-1 Spanish Practising the photocard (KH)	1-3 Spanish Practising the role play (KH)
Wednesday 16 April	9:30 - 12:30 Btec Perf Arts	
Thursday 17 April		
Friday 18 April	Good Friday	

Monday 21 April	Easter Monday	
Tuesday 22 April	10-12 Geography (LW) 9-12 Spanish speaking (KH)	12-3 Art (TM) 12-3 Spanish speaking (KH)
Wednesday 23 April	9.30-11.30 English (MO) 9:30-11:30 Sport Studies (AT)	1-3 Maths Higher (Sft) 1-3 Maths Foundation (CH)
Thursday 24 April	10-12 History (SF)	
Friday 25 April	10-12 Photography (SB)	12-2pm Hospitality & Catering (SB)

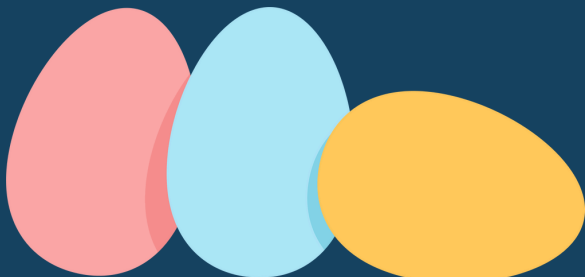


# Headteacher Reward Lunch

It was delighted to be joined by 31 students for the Headteacher reward lunch on Tuesday.

The students selected have contributed so successfully to school life over the last 6 weeks and have really gone above and beyond.

Well done to all students invited and it was lovely to sit outside enjoying the Spring sunshine on our picnic benches.





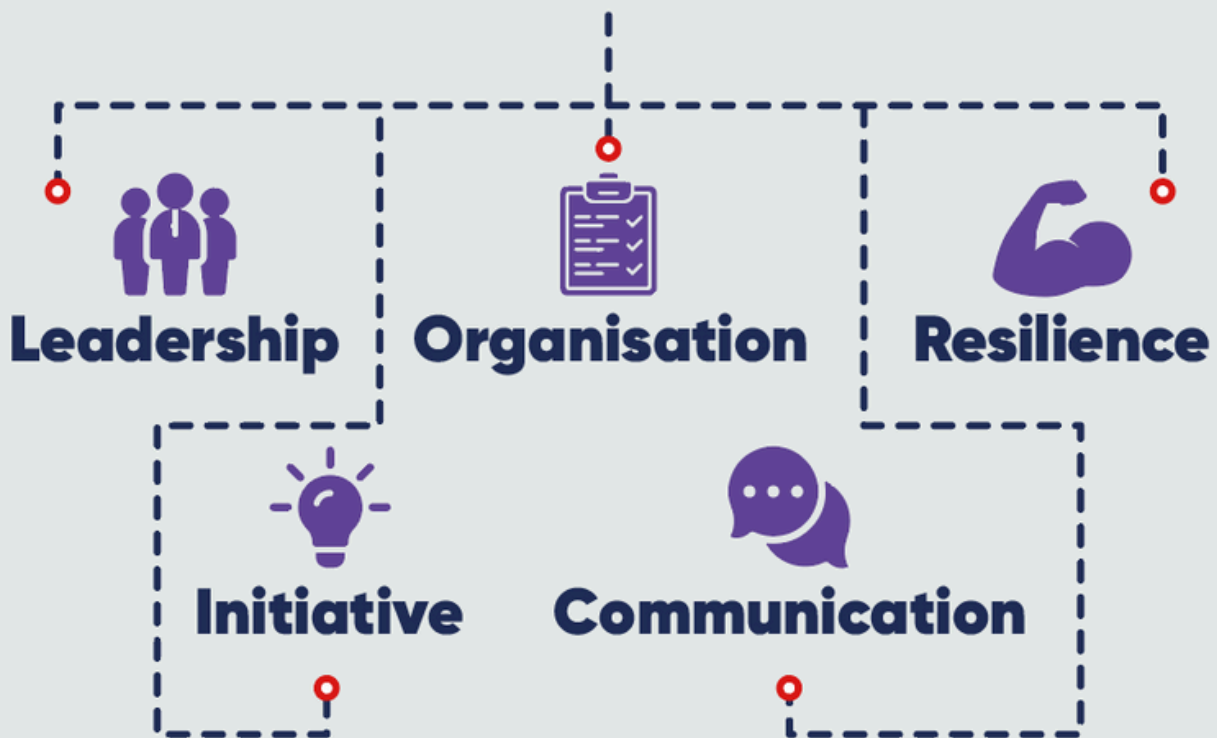
# Core Values

The KSS Core Values drive everything we do at school from lessons to enrichment and everything in between.

These skills are really important for life beyond school, and can also help students fulfil their potential in classroom based learning.

In the summer term we will be exploring further with students how these Core Values can be developed. Please watch this space...

## CORE VALUES





# Form Attendance Challenge

Congratulations to 8NM and 10MH for winning the Easter form attendance challenge, it really was a close fought race.

The reward was a trip to the Trafford Centre yesterday for some retail therapy. As you can see a great time was had by all of the students invited.

Well done to form 10MH and form 8NM! A great effort to hit over 97% attendance for the last four weeks.



**FORM ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE** DON'T MISS OUT!

**WIN!**

ITS A FORM V FORM ATTENDANCE SHOWDOWN

3.3.25 TO 4.4.25

THE FORM WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE WILL WIN A TRIP TO THE TRAFFORD CENTRE!

**BEST OF LUCK**

**LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE...**





# Form Attendance Challenge





# Form Attendance Challenge





# Year 11 Intervention

We have a number of Year 11 Intervention sessions that are on during the school day and after school.

Please encourage your child to attend as they really do have a big impact on progress!

## ***Intervention Timetable***



	Form time	Lunch time	After school
<b>Monday</b>			
<b>Tuesday</b>	Maths	7+ Maths (SfT)	Maths Higher Chemistry (EGL)
<b>Wednesday</b>	English Maths	5+ Maths (SfT)	English (MO) PE (AT & KHA) Biology (EP) History 7+ (SF)
<b>Thursday</b>			Photography (SB) Art (TM) Physics (NM)
<b>Friday</b>	PP Mentoring	Art (TM)	Spanish (KH) Geography (LW) Maths Foundation



# Non Uniform Day Challenge

Mr Till set the students a challenge earlier this week. If we could achieve a low score of negative points as a collective group, we would have a non uniform day, today!

Guess what... the students smashed it and beat Mr Till's target comprehensively.

It really does show, if you do the small things right, big things will happen.





# ATTENDANCE

## WHY IT MATTERS



**Persistent absence** means pupils who miss more than **10% of school** every year.

-£750

For each additional day of absence between years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out on an average of **£750** in future lifetime earnings

-£10,000

**Persistently absent** pupils in year 10 and 11 could earn **£10,000 less** on average at age 28, compared to pupils with near perfect attendance

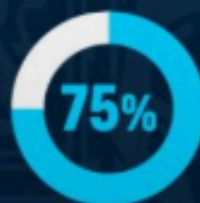
This **risks to almost £20k less** on average at age 28 for those who are **severely absent**

-£20k

For **employability over a sustained period**, people age 28 were around:



Less likely to be employed when **persistently absent**\*



Less likely to be employed when **severely absent**\*

\*Compared to their peers with near perfect attendance

Kidsgrove Secondary School

**Attendance Matters**

#StopTheDrop





# Year 7 Form Challenge

Mr Gillespie's form challenge is going from strength to strength with our Year 7 students.

Each week he has been meeting with the year group to discuss positive & negative points, attendance and the highlight his weekly challenge.

This week the challenge was 'Live' in the school gym!

Students were invited to 'shoot some hoops' in front of the year group. Mr Gillespie emailed the students period 5 yesterday to share this weeks overall winner from the challenge, which form had the best attendance and the most positive points.

The form challenge will run for a further four weeks after Easter with a special reward once concluded.





**KSS**  
*production*



# Open Call AUDITION

All year groups welcome

Where: GYM



All students attending will be required to bring:

PE Kits to change into

A drink

suitable footwear (PE trainers will do)

endless enthusiasm





# Duke of Edinburgh

Our Year 9 and Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group have been diving into the essentials of expedition nutrition, learning how to plan meals that are lightweight, energy-packed, and easy to cook on the go. With great enthusiasm, they put their knowledge into practice, cooking up pasta and noodles on Trangias under the spring sunshine. Their teamwork, creativity, and cooking skills shone through, a brilliant effort all round and a great step toward their DofE journey!







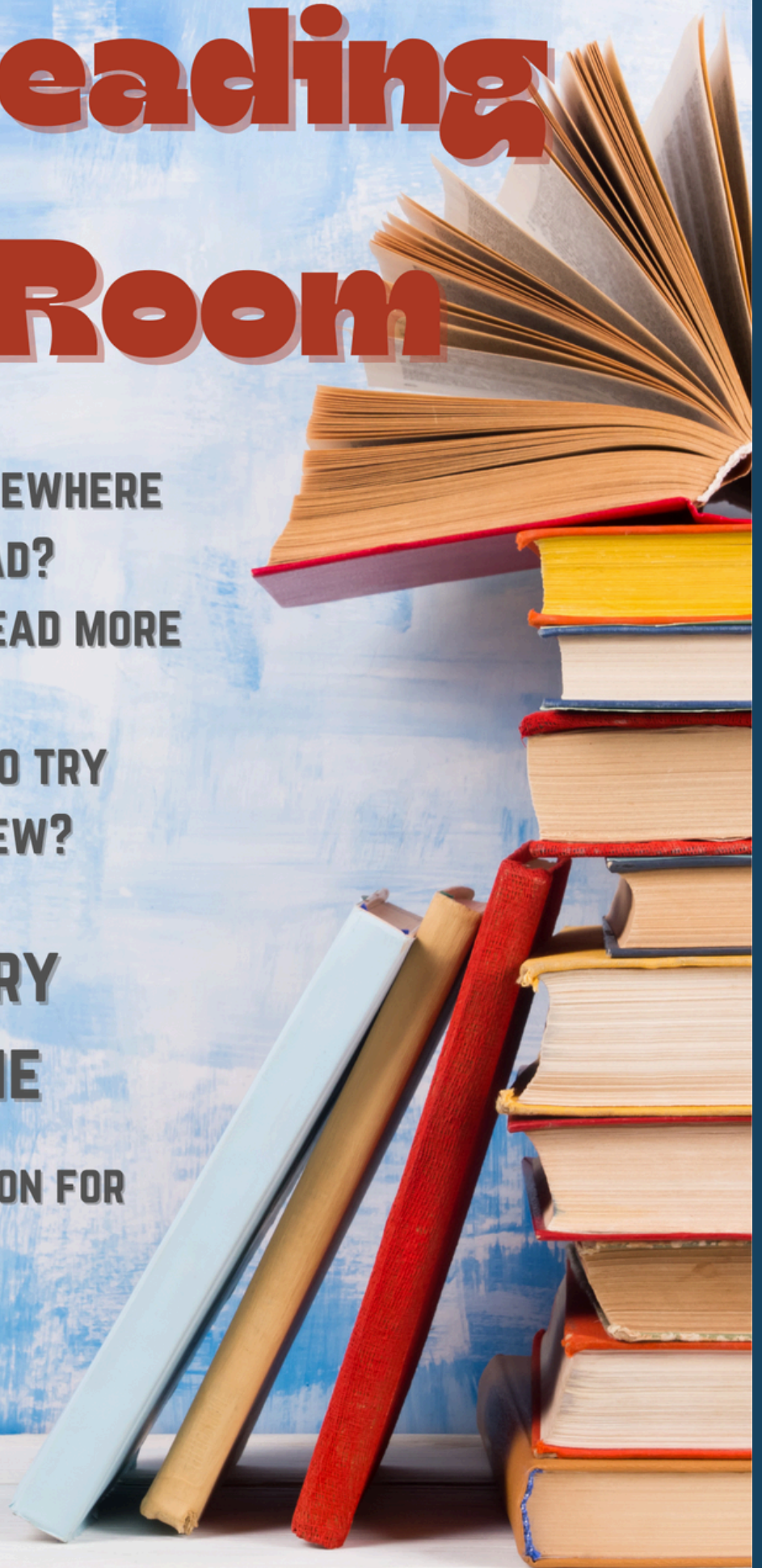
# Reading Room

**DO YOU WANT SOMEWHERE  
QUIET TO READ?  
DO YOU WANT TO READ MORE  
BOOKS?**

**DO YOU WANT TO TRY  
SOMETHING NEW?**

**OPEN EVERY  
LUNCHTIME**

**SEE MS HAMBLETON FOR  
DETAILS**





# Celebration Assemblies

It is always such a highlight of the half term to see so many students recognised for their amazing work across the different subject areas and to be recognised for this by teachers and senior leaders.

Well done to every student who received a certificate and a subject badge. We are very proud of you!





# Celebration Assemblies



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

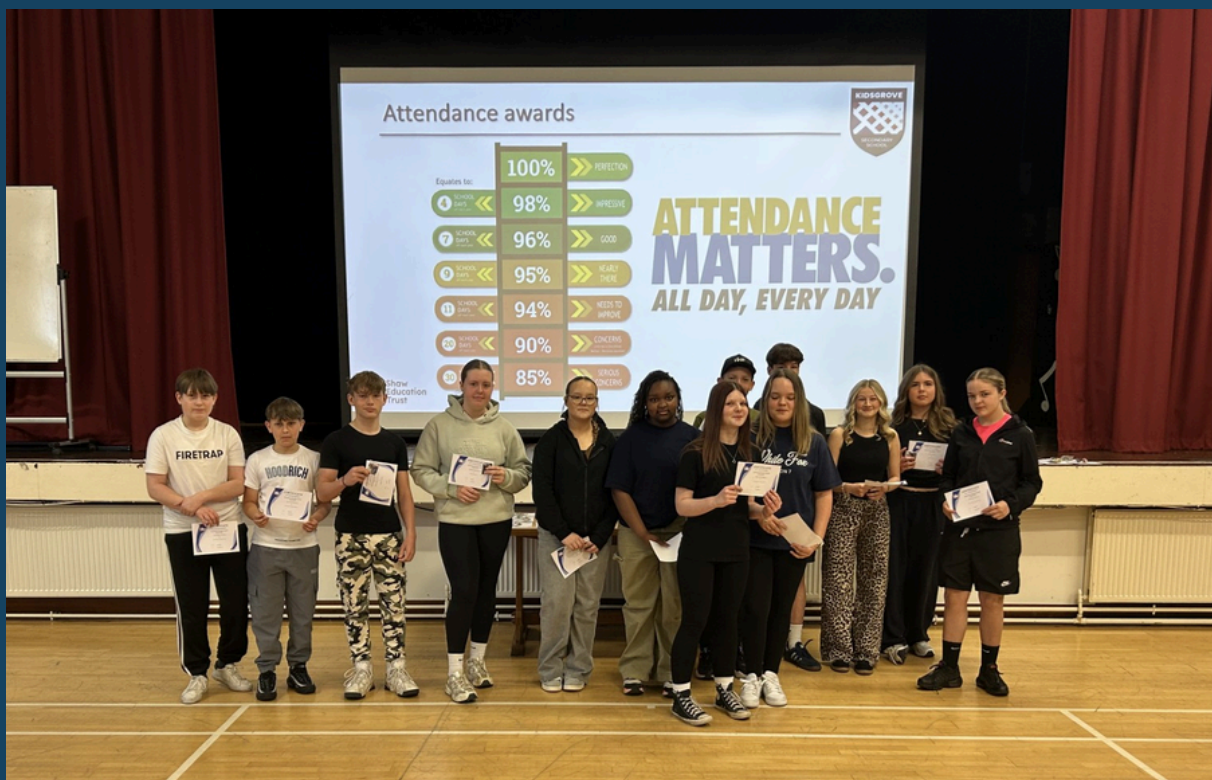


**PROUD TO  
BE  
KSS**





# Celebration Assemblies





# Celebration Assemblies



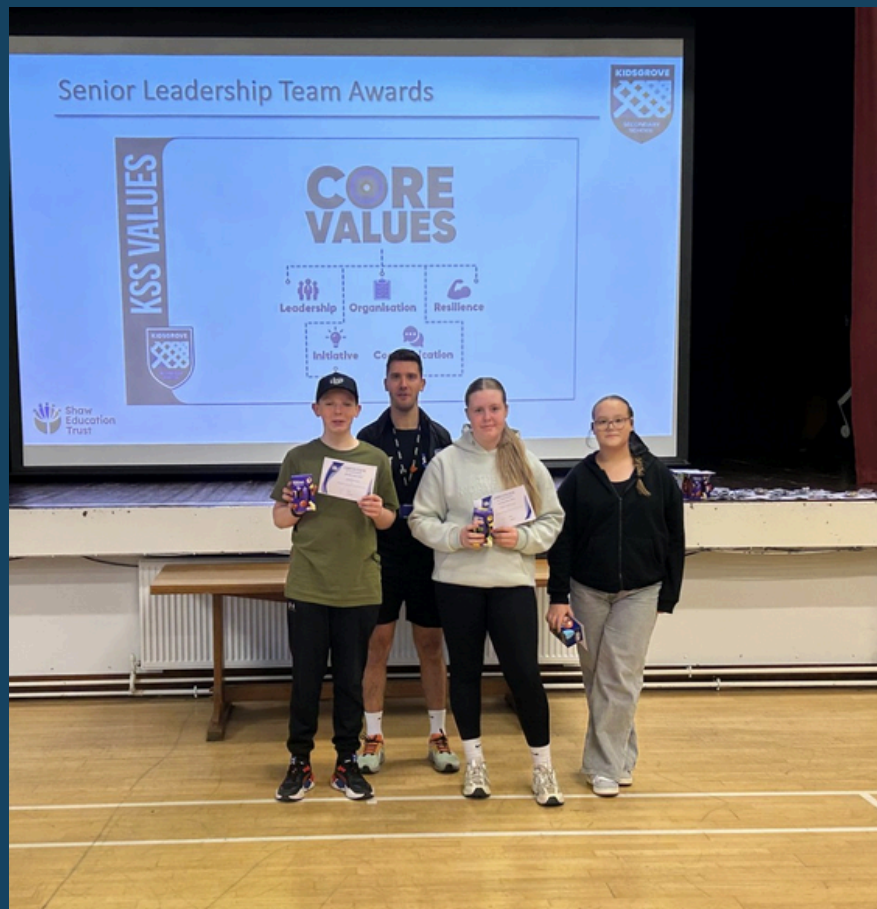


# Celebration Assemblies





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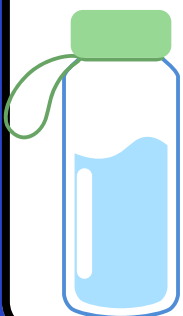


# WATER BOTTLES

As the weather is starting to turn for the better and the temperatures are starting to rise, we are getting an increasing number of requests from students for cups to get a drink of water during the day.

Can parents/carers please encourage students to bring a water bottle with them to school so that they can then use the water fountains to fill their bottle when required.

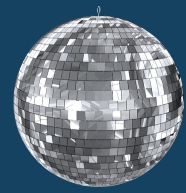
Thank you for your anticipated support with this matter.







# KS3 Dancers



Congratulations to the Key Stage 3 students that took part in the recent dance event at The Victoria Hall. They did the school proud and smashed their performance. Thank you to Ms Wagstaff for the countless hours of afterschool dance practices to perfect the performance.

Well done to; Sofia, Cassidy, Ayla-Jayne, Devon, Myla and Isabella.







# Enrichment



## KS3

# GRAPHIC DESIGN CLUB

**Unleash Your Creativity!**

**Every Wednesday  
Lunchtime**

**13:30 – 14:05**

**Room 15**



- Create eye-catching posters & digital art
- Learn cool design software
- Take part in fun challenges
- Build your own portfolio

**No experience needed – just bring your imagination!**

**All KS3 students welcome**

**Come along and get designing**





# Maths Pizza Nights



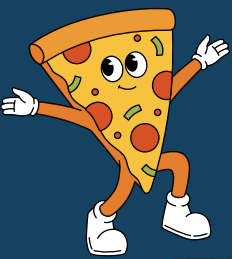
It was amazing to see so many Year 11 students attend our Maths Pizza nights on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

The students completed a Maths treasure hunt and various engaging games to support their Maths revision.

A big thank you to Ms Ayres, Mrs Frost, Mrs Price and Mrs Hawthorne for these very engaging sessions.





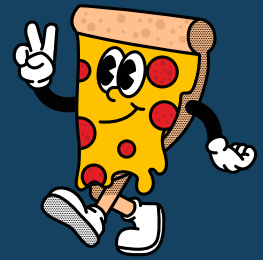


# Maths Pizza Nights





# Maths Pizza Nights





# Senior District Athletics

Our amazing students did us proud at the Senior District Athletics Championships held at Northwood Stadium. Lyla threw her way to a Gold in Shot Put and added a Bronze in Javelin to her collection.

Evan showed great strength and skill to win Silver in Javelin.

Atalya sprinted to success with a Silver in the 200m.

Our talented Year 9 Boys Relay Team powered through to earn a Bronze medal. Every student gave it their all and proudly demonstrated our core values of Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative, and Communication throughout the day.

We couldn't be prouder—well done to all who participated!





# ***ATTENDANCE***



**WHOLE SCHOOL: 93.5%**

**YEAR 7- 96.0%**

**YEAR 8- 93.9%**

**YEAR 9 - 93.1%**

**YEAR 10- 92.1%**

**YEAR 11- 91.2%**



**NATIONAL AVERAGE 91.5%**

**BEST FORM YTD: 7CH**

**BEST HOUSE: WEDGWOOD 94.3%**





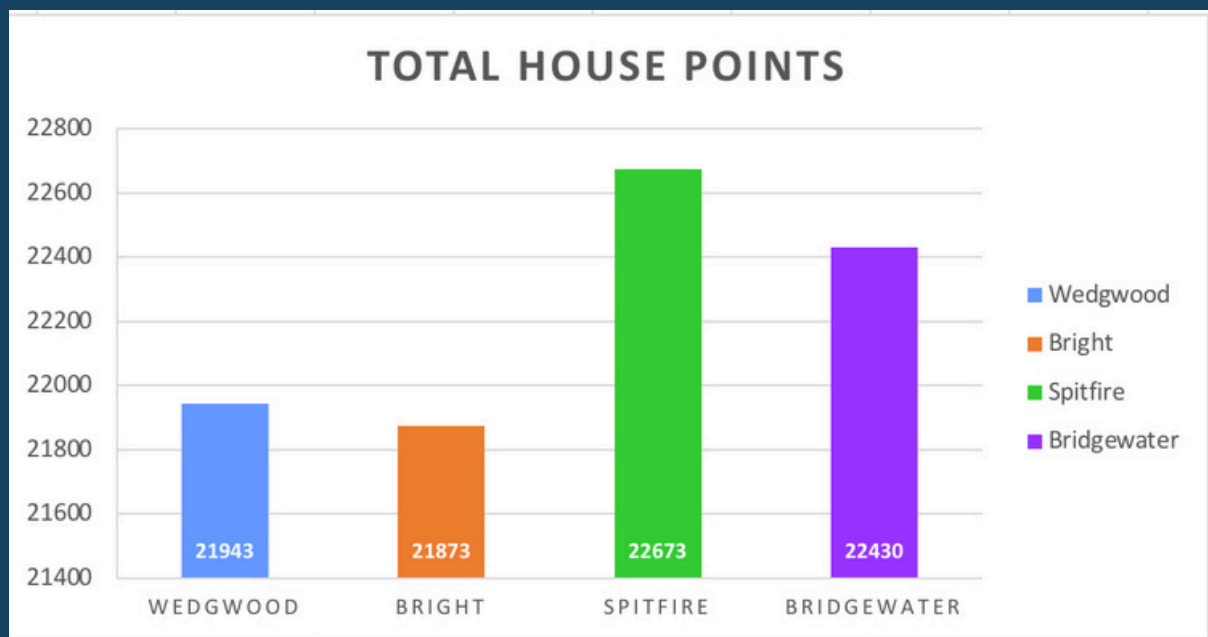
# House Points

Achievement points are being earned for a variety of fantastic reasons; from reading to being a good citizen, meeting expectations in lessons to sporting achievements. All of the points per student add up!

This term has been very tight with House points. Each House has fought hard every week to be top of the leaderboard.

The winning house this term is.....

## Spitfire



Well done to all the students in Spitfire! You will receive a reward after the Easter break!



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BE  
KSS**





# Form Attendance



Kidsgrove Secondary School

**Attendance Matters**

#StopTheDrop





# Personal Development and Careers



Higher Horizons is part of the Uni Connect Programme, funded by the UK government to provide free and impartial higher education outreach to schools and colleges across Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire. Their mission is to support young people in making informed decisions about their future educational pathways.

Jemma spoke to our Y11 students about University options. Students were informed about student finance options, different types of universities and the living arrangements. While university and post-college decisions seem a long way off, it was a great opportunity to raise awareness of the options for when they get to make their decision.



Our Y9 students will be choosing their options when they return after Easter. Higher Horizons have led a Mini Programme which discussed Post-16 options, how and why they should make option choices and also raised awareness of University life and the opportunities that offers. Students engaged brilliantly in the session and really got involved asking some fantastic questions.





# Personal Development and Careers

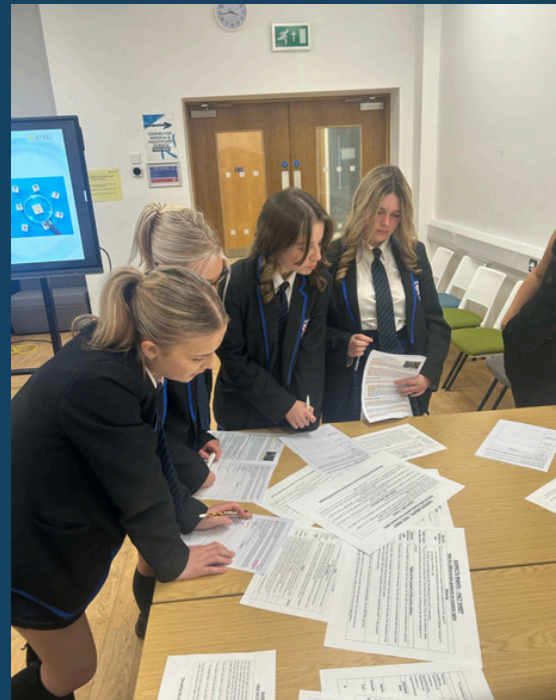


As part of our exciting partnership with local post-16 providers, we are striving to give our students the chance to dive into subjects they're passionate about through tailored taster sessions.

Recently, a group of seven curious and ambitious Key Stage 4 students stepped into the world of criminology during a bespoke visit to Stoke Sixth Form College, getting a real taste of what studying this fascinating subject could be like beyond school.



The session they engaged in thought about a scenario and discussed the cause and potential sentencing of the crime as well as the psychological and sociological elements. Students engaged brilliantly in the session.

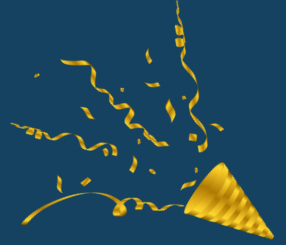




# Year 11 Prom

Thank you to those Year 11 parents who have paid the deposit for the Prom. Please can you ensure the full payment is made before the 22nd May 2025.

If you have any questions regarding prom, please see Mrs Weaver.



*You are invited to*

**KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL**

*Prom Night*

**Dress to impress**

*July 4th | 7:00 - 10.30 PM*

*Alsager Golf Club*



# Personal Development and Careers



Alongside attending our face to face Parents Evenings, Jess from the Mental Health Support Team has presented assemblies and joined our Y9 and Y11 students to discuss mental health and resilience.

Learning about mental health in school is important because it helps students understand their emotions, build healthy relationships, and know when and how to seek help. Just like we learn about physical health to stay strong and avoid illness, learning about mental health teaches us how to take care of our minds.

When students understand mental health, they're more likely to recognize stress, anxiety, or depression in themselves or others and take action before things get worse. It also reduces stigma, so people feel more comfortable talking about how they feel instead of hiding their struggles. This can lead to a more supportive and respectful school environment.



[How to deal with exam stress](#)

[Conquering exam stress](#)

[What teenagers need to know about resilience](#)

[Building resilience in children and teens](#)

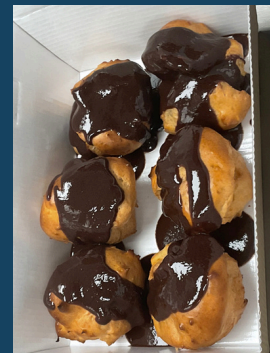




# Personal Development and Careers



As part of their Hospitality and Catering course, our Y10 students visited the team at Stoke on Trent College. The students had the opportunity to discuss careers and courses, cooking techniques and work in an industrial style kitchen. The honed their skills creating choux pastry before turning them into profiteroles and eclairs. The staff who really impressed by their behaviour, engagement and the quality of their work.





# Personal Development and Careers

**COMING SOON**



We are looking forward to welcoming back Higher Horizons to work alongside our Y10 students. They will be leading them in mini sessions based around Post-16 options, employability skills in preparation for their work experience in July and will introduce why they may want to go to University.

During the first week back, Y7 and Y8 students will be visited by the **Star Dome**, when we will be bringing learning to life as we delve in to 'We are Aliens' and explore our role in the Universe.



We are excited to be offering some of our students the opportunity to take part in a '**Forensics Experience Day**'. This will be a fun and interactive sessions with workshops in how to process a crime scene, digital forensics, biological forensics and forensic chemistry.



## Are you able to support us?

By offering a work experience placement, your business can shape the future workforce, spark ambition, and give young minds a chance to shine.

- ◆ Inspire the next generation – Share your expertise and ignite passion in young people.
- ◆ Boost your business – Fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and potential future talent at your doorstep.
- ◆ Make a difference – A small opportunity for them, a huge step toward their future success.

Join us in empowering young talent—be the business that helps students take their first step into the working world!

✉ Get in touch today to offer a placement and invest in tomorrow's workforce! – [communications@kss.set.org](mailto:communications@kss.set.org)

## Y10 Work Experience

Monday 30th June – Friday  
4th July 2025



During this week you will be out in the work place rather than in school unless you can not arrange a placement.



# Save the Date



## Save the Date

### *SEND Parent Review Day*

**Thursday  
15th May**

A CHANCE TO  
DISCUSS YOUR  
CHILD'S PROGRESS  
WITH THEIR SEND  
KEY WORKER

Invites and booking  
information to follow



**PROUD TO  
BE  
KSS**



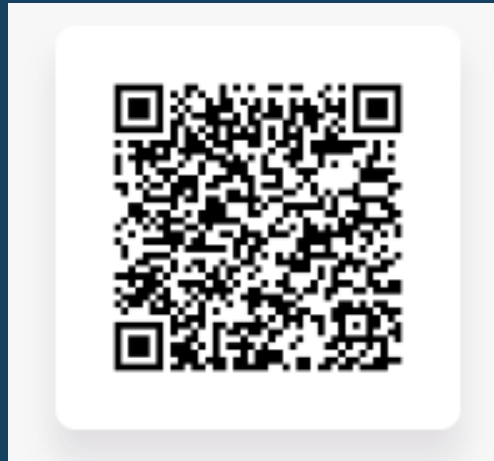
# What is my child learning?

One of the strengths of KSS is the fantastic curriculum that we deliver to all students.

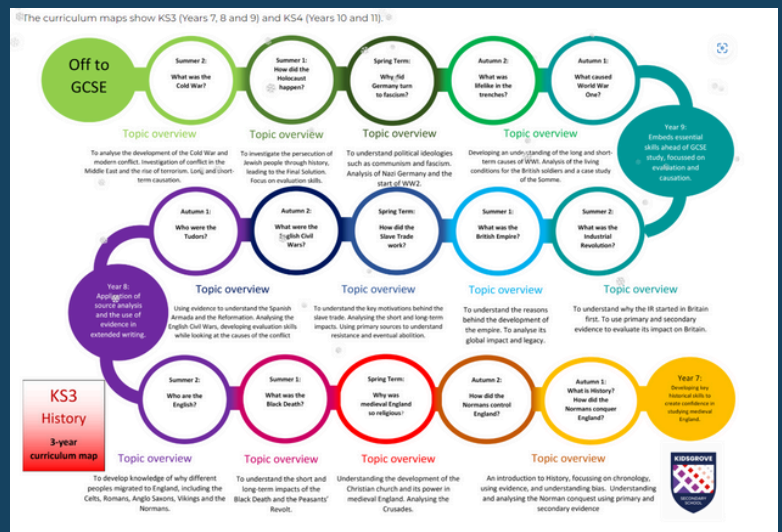
When Ofsted visited the school last year they were impressed with our subject curriculums and how the students were taught the key themes.

From the recent parent & carer survey, a common area for feedback is that you are interested to know more about is the curriculum and what your child is learning.

To find out more, please scan the QR code below or visit the website @ <https://kidsgrovesecondary.org.uk/curriculum/subject-curriculums>



Once on the website you can click on each subject, read about the curriculum and even follow a map to see the key topics and content.







At KSS our students come first and to enable them to be the best version of themselves, we offer a wide range of support!  
From a bagel as they enter the building, to providing equipment and mental health support.



## Support at KSS

"If you do enough small things right,  
Big things can happen!"



Uniform bank



Breakfast  
bagels



Equipment  
shop



Free sanitary  
products



Mental health  
support



# Attendance



**KIDSGROVE**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

**IS YOUR CHILD FACING  
BARRIERS TO  
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE?**

**KIDSGROVE SECONDARY  
CAN HELP!**

**WE CAN  
SUPPORT  
YOU WITH**

- Breakfast On Arrival
- Uniform
- Equipment
- Transport
- School Meals

 Shaw Education Trust

Kidsgrove Secondary School

**Attendance Matters**

#StopTheDrop

