THE KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 21.3.25

Follow us @ https://www.facebook.com/KidsgroveSecondary

Dear Parents/Carers,

Since the last edition of the bulletin back in February, I cannot believe how many events and activities have taken place at KSS in only three weeks. In addition to these numerous events it has been brilliant to see the fantastic learning that has been taking place in classrooms.
We have held a superb enrichment day focused upon 'employment' which was jam packed with external speakers, there has been an amazing 'World Book Day', a trip to Warwick Castle for the whole of Year 7, a visit to the Peak District, two weeks of Year 11 Mock exams and a visit from Thursfield Primary School for a Year 5 'Roman Day' and even a parents evening for Year 8.

As well as these events, it has been great to see so many engaging lessons as we visit classes each day. There have been some superb examples of students using Showbie to create brilliant work and students demonstrating their understanding of some very difficult concepts in a range of topics.
There have also been in-class assessments completed by all year groups in a range of subjects and we are looking forward to seeing how students have performed.

An area to celebrate this month has been the improved attendance rates of all year groups.
This excellent daily attendance (some days, whole school attendance has hit 97%) has seen the whole school year to date figure increase well above the national average which is amazing to see. We are almost 2% higher than the national figure which is down to the support of our fantastic parents & carers and the resilience of our students.

Over the course of the next three weeks the term gets even busier. We have lots of enrichment events to look forward to, the start of the Year 11 exam season, a trip to the Trafford Centre for the best attending form group, our celebration assemblies and a Year 9 parents evening.

Watch this space for exciting updates and please follow us on Facebook for day to day snippets of life at KSS.

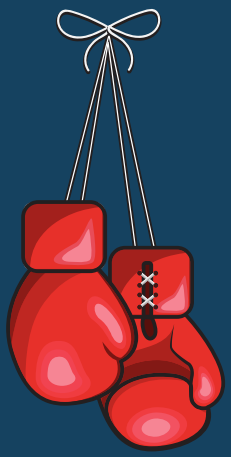


Yours faithfully,
Mr S Frost

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 25th March - Year 11 Macbeth Theatre Trip
Wednesday 26th March - Year 11 Maths and English Masterclasses
Thursday 27th March - Year 11 Science Masterclasses
Wednesday 9th April - Headteacher Reward Lunch
Thursday 10th April - Year 9 Parents Evening
Friday 11th April - Celebration Assemblies
Friday 11th April to Sunday 13th April - Year 11 Residential

Y9 Boxercise



Our Year 9 girls have kicked off their fitness unit with an exciting new challenge—Boxercise!

This high-energy workout is not only a fantastic way to build strength, coordination, and endurance but also a great way to boost confidence and have fun in the process.

From footwork drills to punch combinations, they're already showing great enthusiasm and determination.
Keep up the hard work, girls!













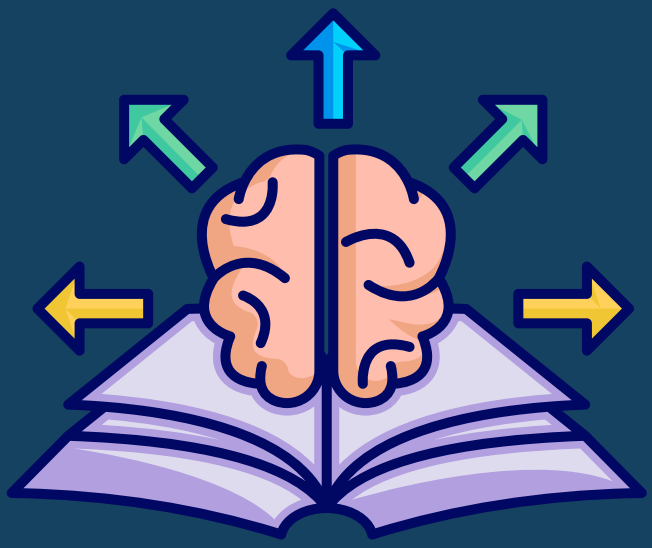




Enrichment

FEB-APR EXTRA CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

	Lunchtime Clubs - 13.30-14.00		After School Clubs - 15.05-16.05	
EVERYDAY	Reading Room	Open to all		
MONDAY	Science Support	Y7, Y8 and Y9	Science Club	Y7 and Y8
TUESDAY	Science Support	Y7, Y8 and Y9	Dance Club	Open to all
			Open Art Studio	Open to all
WEDNESDAY	Young Carers	Invite only	Drama Club	KS3
	Graphic Design Club	Y7, Y8 and Y9	Open Art Studio	Open to all
			KS3 Football	KS3
THURSDAY	Music	Open to all	GCSE Open Studio	GCSE Art
			Cooking Club (Wk. 2)	Open to all
			Hockey Club NEW!	Open to all
			Duke of Edinburgh	Y9, Y10 and Y11
FRIDAY	Crochet Cave	Open to all	KS4 Football	Y10 and Y11
	Pride Club	Open to all	Darts Club	Open to all
	Chess Club	Open to all		



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

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL PROUD TO BE KSS

Shaw Education Trust

FORM ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

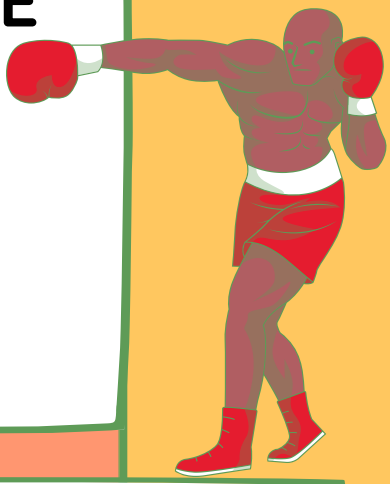


WIN!

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!





LETS GET READY TO RUMBLE...

What is my child learning?

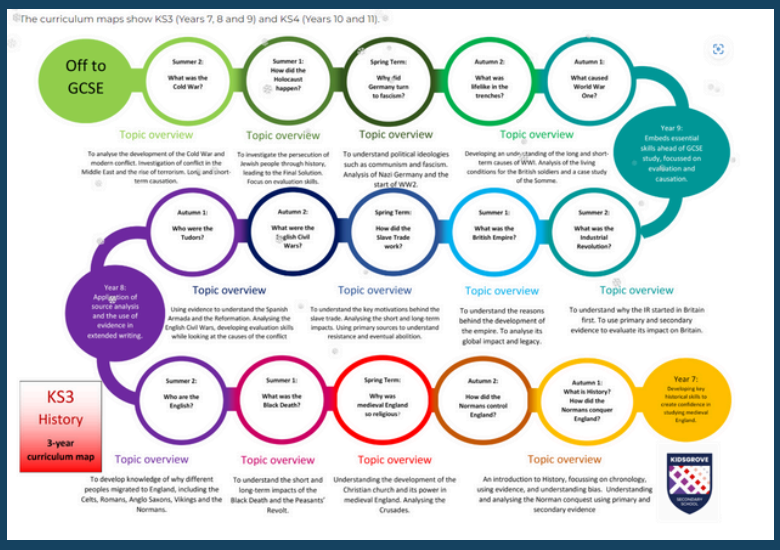
One of the strengths of KSS is the fantastic curriculum that we deliver to all students.
When Ofsted visited the school last year they were impressed with our subject curriculums and how the students were taught the key themes.

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.





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

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
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ATTENDANCE

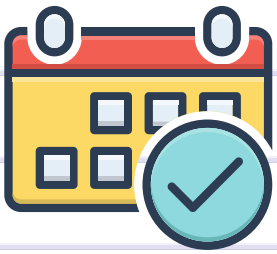
WHOLE SCHOOL: 93.6%



YEAR 7- 96.2%

YEAR 8- 94%

YEAR 9 - 93.3%



YEAR 10- 91.9%

YEAR 11- 91.4%

NATIONAL AVERAGE 91.7%

BEST FORM YTD: 7CH

BEST HOUSE: WEDGEWOOD 94.6%





Form Attendance





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 **rises 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:

60% Less likely to be employed when **persistently absent***

75% Less likely to be employed when **severely absent***

*Compared to their peers with near perfect attendance

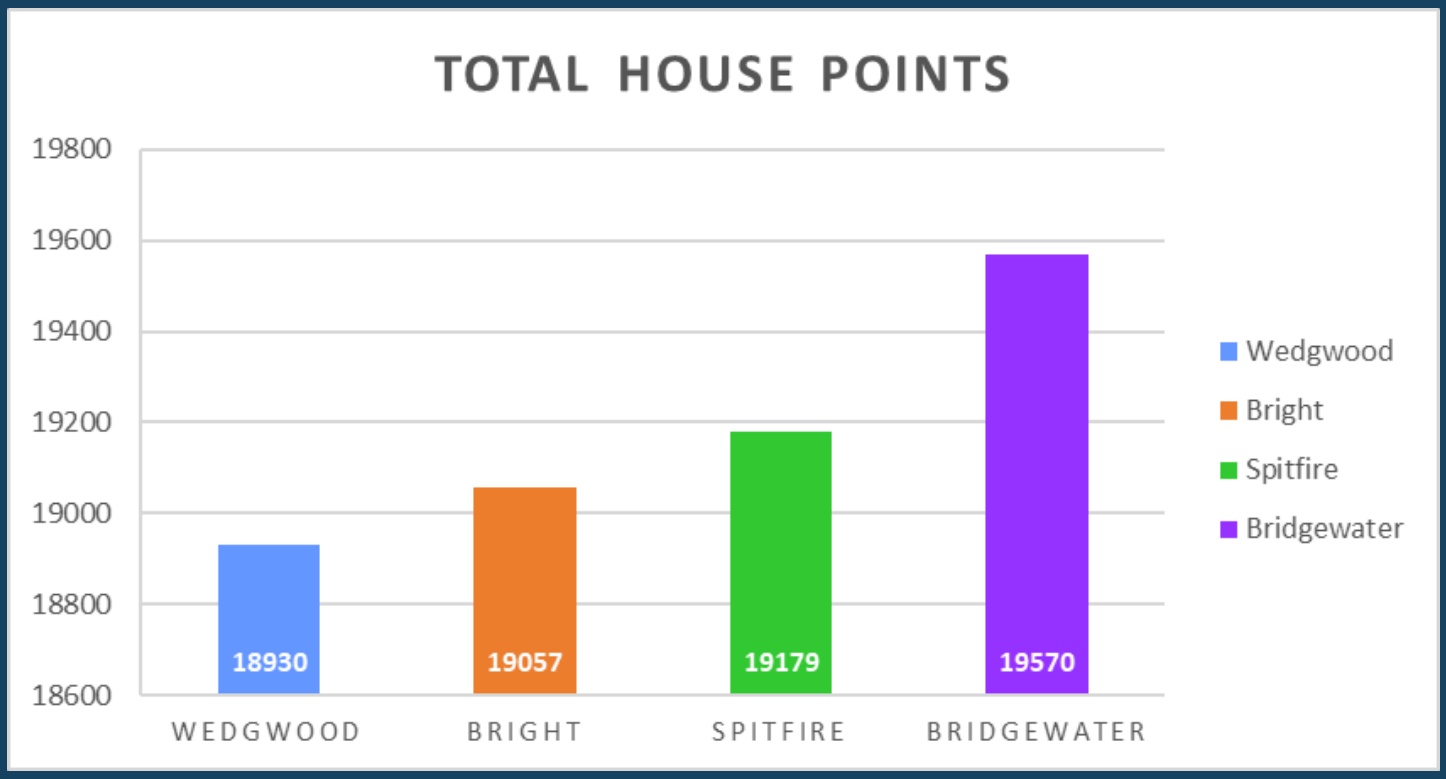


House Points

Achievement points are being earned for a variety of fantastic reasons!

This week, the house topping the charts is....

BRIDGEWATER



Well done to all the students in Bridgewater, keep up the hard work! Let's see which House can knock Bridgewater off the top!



Frost vs Till

Team Frost were the commendable winners of the Y10 Frost vs Till challenge. Following the positive engagement from all, the reward was extended to the whole year group for their developed attendance and exceptionally positive behaviour ratio. Students had a film and pizza afternoon - voting for The Super Mario Bros movie.







Save the Date

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Save the Date

SEND Parent Review Day

Thursday 15th May

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

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL
LEARNING SUPPORT DEPARTMENT
ENGAGE, EDUCATE, ENABLE



Invites and booking information to follow



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



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Shaw Education Trust

KSS Code

I am delighted to share our new corridor display modelled by the wonderful Sophie and Brooke from Year 10. This display perfectly sums up our KSS code and beliefs.
We believe that its the day to day consistently positive things that we do that make all of the difference and lead to success. You never know where this mindset will take you!



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

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Recent Highlights



Spring



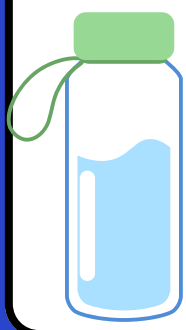
PROUD TO BE KSS

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.





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The Crochet Cave



Ever wondered how simple knots can become cozy masterpieces?



Ready to craft something amazing while spending time with friends?

FRIDAY DINNERTIME

JOIN US

Room 12



YEAR 11 HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE RESULTS

Mrs Postlethwaite had the absolute pleasure of sharing the Cambridge National Health & Social Care results with her Year 11 class on Thursday morning over a lovely breakfast. It really was a time of true celebration and reflection of how far they had come.

This group of students have worked so hard over the past 18 months and have achieved results that truly reflect the effort that has been put in. We couldn't be prouder of them all. A huge well done!

#ProudToBeKSS

✨ **"With hard work, anything is possible."** ✨



Year 11 Leaver's Hoodies

Year 11 Leader's Hoodies are available to buy now!

https://smartuniform.co.uk/product/kidsgrove-academy-leavers-hoodies/



DEADLINE

Extended until next Friday (28.3.25)!

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

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Recent Highlights



career goals



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Shaw Education Trust

March for March

What a way to celebrate 10 years of The Shaw Education Trust!
Students from all of the SET schools are marching 100 miles or more to celebrate the 10 year trust milestone.
Lets see how many steps and miles our wonderful KSS student team can achieve together.
Mrs Weaver has been proudly passing the baton from form to form and we were also joined by Kidsgrove Primary School in a march on Wednesday.
Well done to everyone taking part!







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

KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL PROUD TO BE KSS Shaw Education Trust

March for March



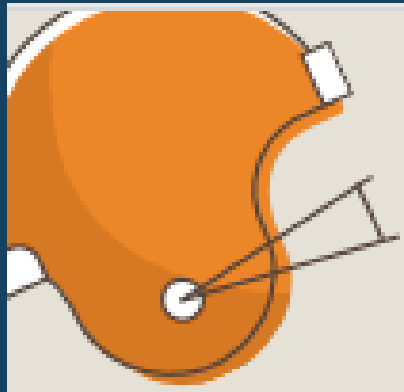




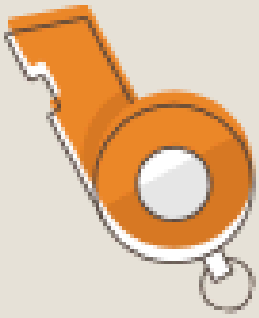


"If you do enough small things right, BIG THINGS can happen"

PROUD TO BE KSS



JOIN US



HOCKEY CLUB

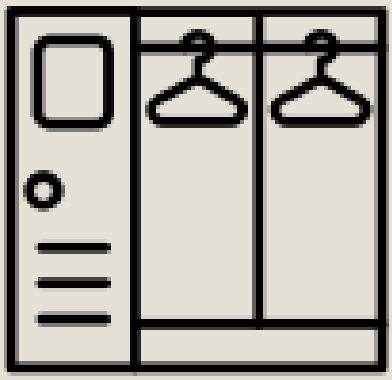
Want to try a fast-paced and exciting sport?

After an excuse to get out, have fun, and blow off some steam?

THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL

3.05-4.05







Y7 Warwick Castle Visit



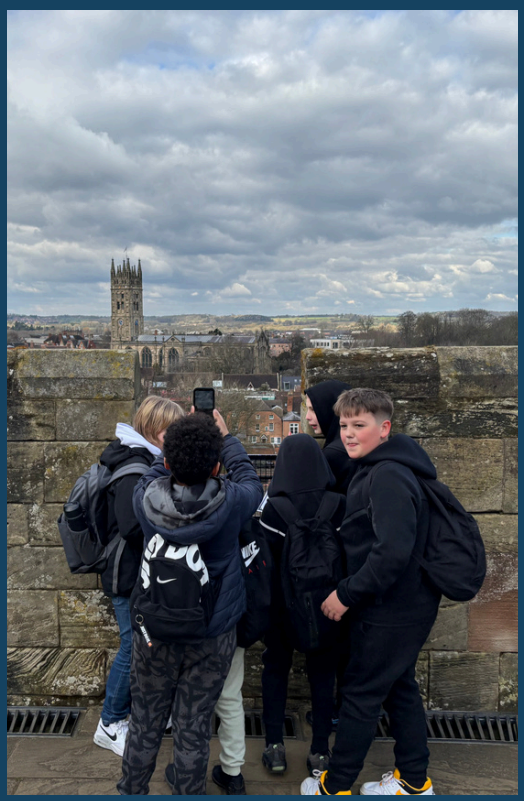
Our Year 7s recently visited Warwick Castle to support their learning in History. It offered a fantastic, hands-on experience of medieval life. The castle provided an opportunity for students to explore its impressive architecture, learn about its role in English history, and see how people lived in the past. Such a good day was had by all. Students were fantastic Ambassadors, and a big thank you to the staff team!











Y7 Warwick Castle Visit

Not only did we connect with the topics we are studying, but we also got to watch the 'Falconer's display'. There were some really close calls as we watched these magnificent displays, and got to learn about these fantastic birds.



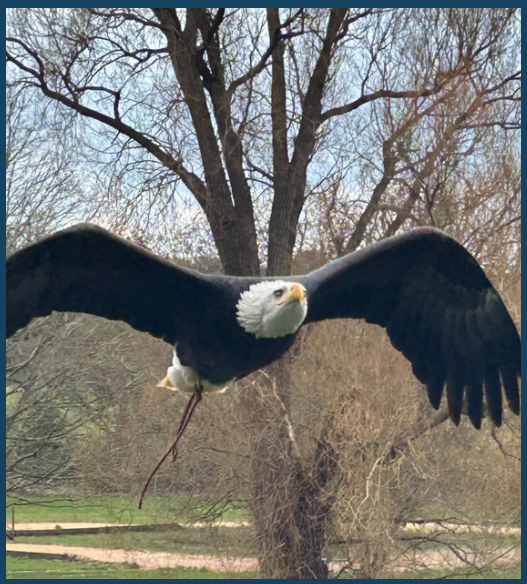


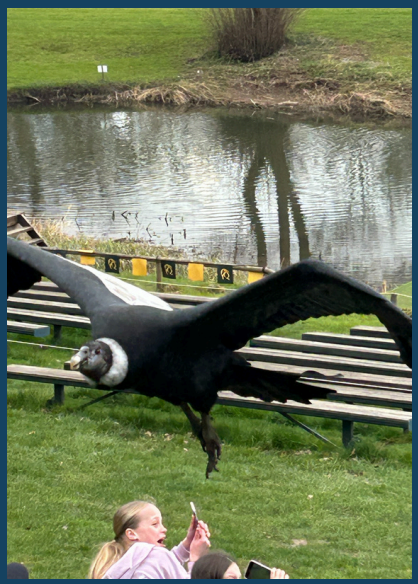
















SUPPORT

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.

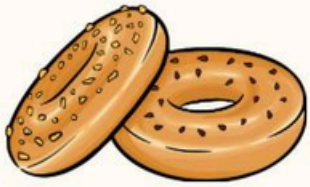
KIDSGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Support at KSS

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



Uniform bank



Breakfast bagels



Equipment shop



Free sanitary products



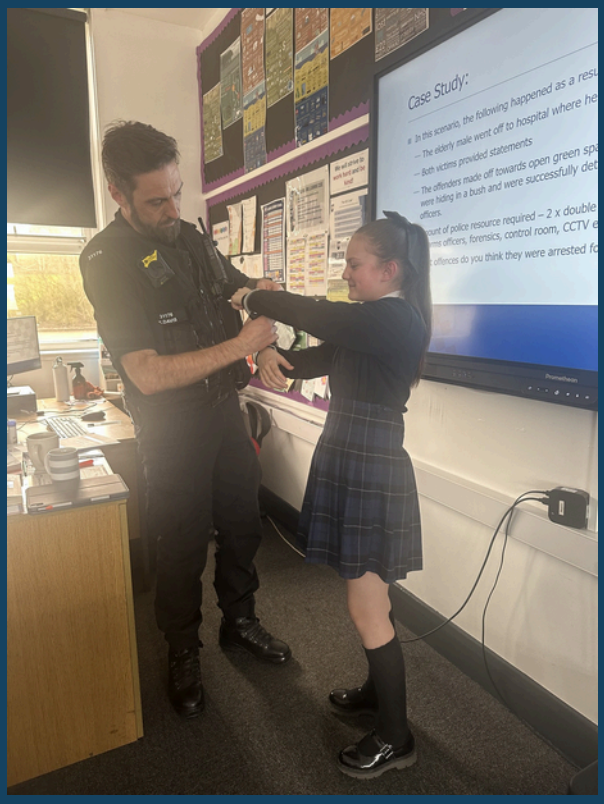
Mental health support







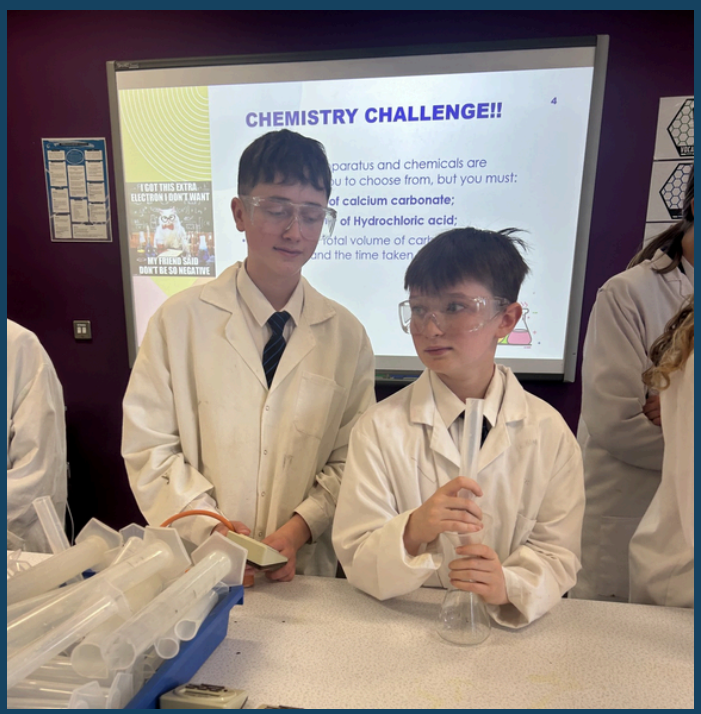
Recent Highlights





CAREERS





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Shaw Education Trust

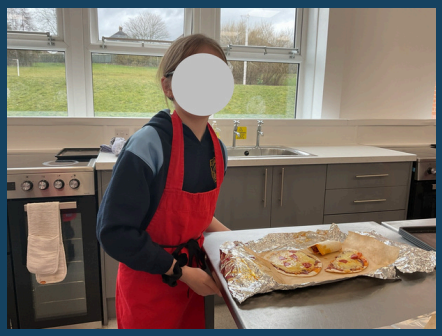
Y5 Roman Day

- A Journey Through History!

Last week, Year 5 students stepped back in time for an unforgettable Roman Day!

We were thrilled to welcome students from Thursfield Primary School to join in the excitement. Students took part in History, Art, Performing Arts, Geography, Maths, English and Food Technology!

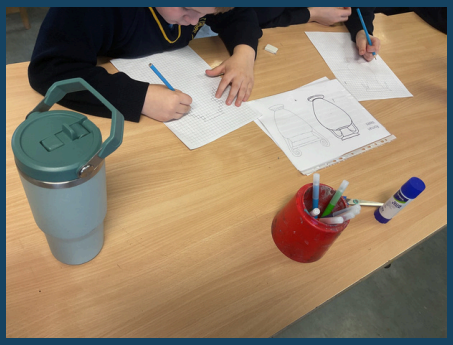
The enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork were truly worthy of a Roman triumph!











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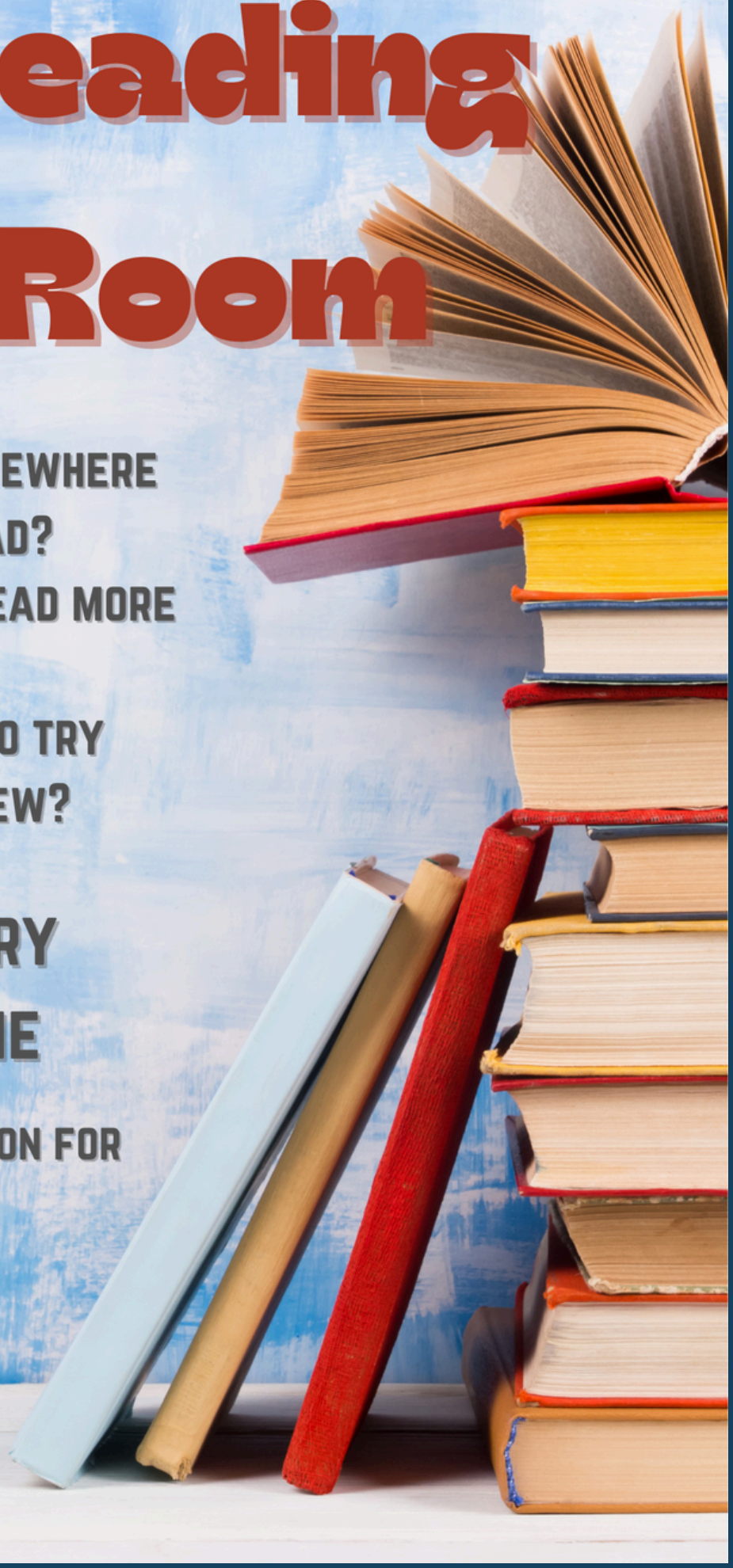
Reading Room



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

National Careers Week

National Careers Week (NCW) is important in schools because it helps students understand the wide range of career opportunities available to them and supports their future planning. Here are some key reasons why it matters:



Raising Career Awareness – It exposes students to different career paths, industries, and job roles they might not have previously considered. It helps students understand the connection between their education and future employment.



Informed Decision-Making – Provides valuable information to help students make informed choices about subjects, qualifications, apprenticeships, or university pathways. It encourages students to think about their long-term goals and how to achieve them.



Building Aspirations – Inspires students to aim high by showing real-life success stories and career journeys. It helps break down stereotypes around certain careers, encouraging all students to pursue their passions.



Practical Guidance – Offers practical advice on CV writing, interview techniques, and job applications. It engages students with workshops, talks from industry professionals, and work experience opportunities.



Connecting with Employers – Provides opportunities for students to interact with local businesses and employers and enhances students' readiness for the workforce.



Personal Development – Encourages self-reflection on strengths, interests, and career ambitions and boosts confidence by preparing students for the world beyond school.

National Careers Week

A spotlight on careers

National Careers Week kicked off with a visit by the Newcastle College Careers Bus. Students had the opportunity to participate in engaging hands-on activities, honing their communication skills while exploring potential career paths and the key skills needed for success. They also took part in a mini quiz to identify their strengths and discussed various options for their future.







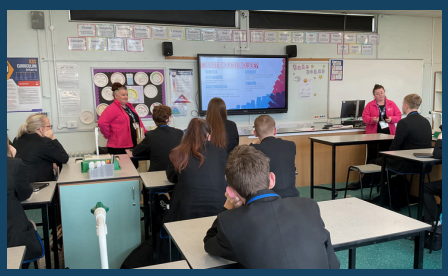
During our Enrichment Day, we welcomed a diverse line up of speakers who shared their career journeys with our students! These experts talked about their roles, the paths that led them to where they are today, and explored how they apply transferable skills in their careers. Our students then engaged in a variety of activities based on those that our visitors did.





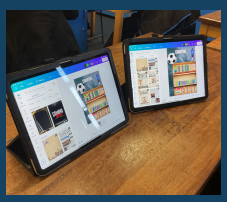






We welcomed visitors from a range of sectors such as sustainability, catering, and digital as well as careers in literacy. Stoke on Trent College also spoke to our Y10s about what makes a good CV.





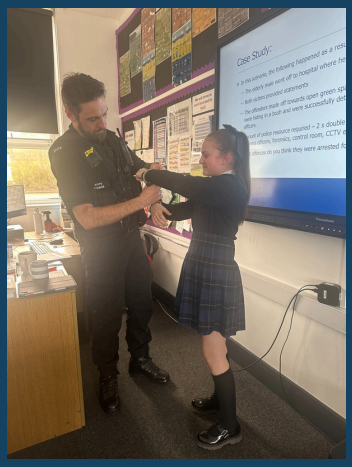


National Careers Week

A spotlight on careers

Information Opportunities Advice Education
CAREERS
Kidsgrove Secondary School

Speakers also visited us from Amazon, Virgin O2, PGMOL, Manchester Airport Group, Staffordshire Police and Hannan Associates.









THANK YOU

to our visitors






WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

It was lovely to read the feedback from our students who said...

"It's given me more ideas about different careers."

"It was interesting to hear from the Police"

"The speakers were friendly and we could ask questions."

"It was good to learn about things I hadn't really thought about"

WE WANT YOU!

It was also great to find out about what careers they would like to hear about in the future!

Is this something you could help with?
communications@kss.set.org

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
Monday			
Tuesday	Maths	7+ Maths (SFt)	Maths Higher Chemistry (EGL)
Wednesday	English Maths	5+ Maths (SFt)	English (MO) PE (AT & KHA) Biology (EP) History 7+ (SF)
Thursday			Photography (SB) Art (TM) Physics (NM)
Friday	PP Mentoring	Art (TM)	Spanish (KH) Geography (LW) Maths Foundation



Easy Fundraising

Did you know you could raise funds for Kidsgrove Secondary School every time you shop online?

Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!

easyfundraising

Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

1. Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Sign up and search for us
3. Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them



SHOP NOW



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Personal Development and Careers

COMING SOON



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

Higher Horizons

So far, our Y7s have engaged in mini sessions ran by Higher Horizon and our Y8s have taken part in a Campus visit of Staffs Uni as part of the support offered to pupils to raise awareness of Higher Education opportunities.



We are looking forward to welcoming them back to carry out Mini Programmes with both our Y9s and Y10s, as well as the return of the StarDome visit for Y7s and Y8s.



we are excited to take a group of students interested in Criminology to a talk hosted by Stoke Sixth Form College. We are striving to ensure a variety of offers to support students in their areas of interest.

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
KIDSGROVE
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