

HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 25.10.24

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Dear Parents/Carers,

How time flies! The first half term is behind us and it's been a truly brilliant seven weeks. The year 7's are starting to meet our high expectations and we have seen real progress made in the last few weeks with the majority of students as they acclimatise to life at KSS. The launch of the new 10th generation iPads have been a great addition to classrooms and this combined with 'Showbie' has seen some great additions to the teaching and learning approaches in a range of subjects.

The Year 11 students have returned after the summer break with superb focus for their final push towards the summer examinations and Year 10 have seamlessly transitioned into Key Stage 4 with much improved attendance and maturity in lessons.

As ever, Year 9 lead the way with their school leading behaviour for learning scores and as a result were invited to the Key Stage 4 'Scarefest' reward trip last Friday.

Last but certainly not least is Year 8, who have shown maturity beyond their years in the first seven weeks of the term and we have been very impressed with their focus in lessons and attendance to the many enrichment activities that the school offers.

When we return for the second half term we look to build upon this progress even further. We have lots of activities planned along with the Year 11 mock examinations and the performance assessments that all students will complete in November and December. I will write to all parents/carers about these assessments when we return after the half term break. Following the completed assessments, a first progress report of the year will be sent home to parents/carers.

This week has seen us celebrate the students successes in celebration assemblies and through the Headteacher reward lunch. It is the highlight of our half term to see so many students chosen for their exceptional attitude to learning. This was summed up brilliantly by Mr Till and his 100% club, where he recognised those students with perfect behaviour and attendance records.

We have some key events taking place in the next few weeks which are highlighted on page two. As always, thank you for your continued support as we continue to work together, improve and provide the best possible education for Our students. Your support is always welcomed and appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
Mr S Frost

Key Dates

Autumn Term

- **Wednesday 6th November**- Year 11 Progress Evening
- **Monday 11th November**- Year 7/8 Remembrance event
- **Monday 11th November**- Year 11 Mock exams (2 weeks)
- **Friday 15th November**- Children in Need (Non-Uniform)
- **Monday 25th November**- Year 7-10 Assessments (2 weeks)
- **Wednesday 11th December**- Headteacher Reward Lunch
- **Thursday 12th December**- Year 11 Mock Result Meetings
- **Tuesday 17th December**- Christmas Showcase & Christmas Dinner. Christmas Jumper Day
- **Wednesday 18th December**- Year 7/8 rewards trip
- **Thursday 19th December**- Year 9/10/11 reward trip
- **Friday 20th December**- Staff INSET (School closed to students)

Save the Date

Scarefest 2024

Students from year 11, 10 and 9 that were eligible for the 'Scarefest' reward event had a whale of a time last Friday.

The students had an action packed afternoon and evening, going on many rides and visiting a number of scary mazes.

Many thanks to the staff that were in attendance, giving up much of their Friday evening in the process. Thank you to Miss Hambleton for organising this event so brilliantly as always.



COMING SOON



REGISTER NOW



KIDSGROVE'S GOT TALENT

Have you got a talent?

Dancing? Singing? Comedy? Play an Instrument?
Juggling? Football Skills?



Tuesday
17th December 2024

Start From
14.00



Please email Miss Wagstaff if you wish to
audition: billie.wagstaff@kss.set.org



**PROUD TO
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KSS**



House Update

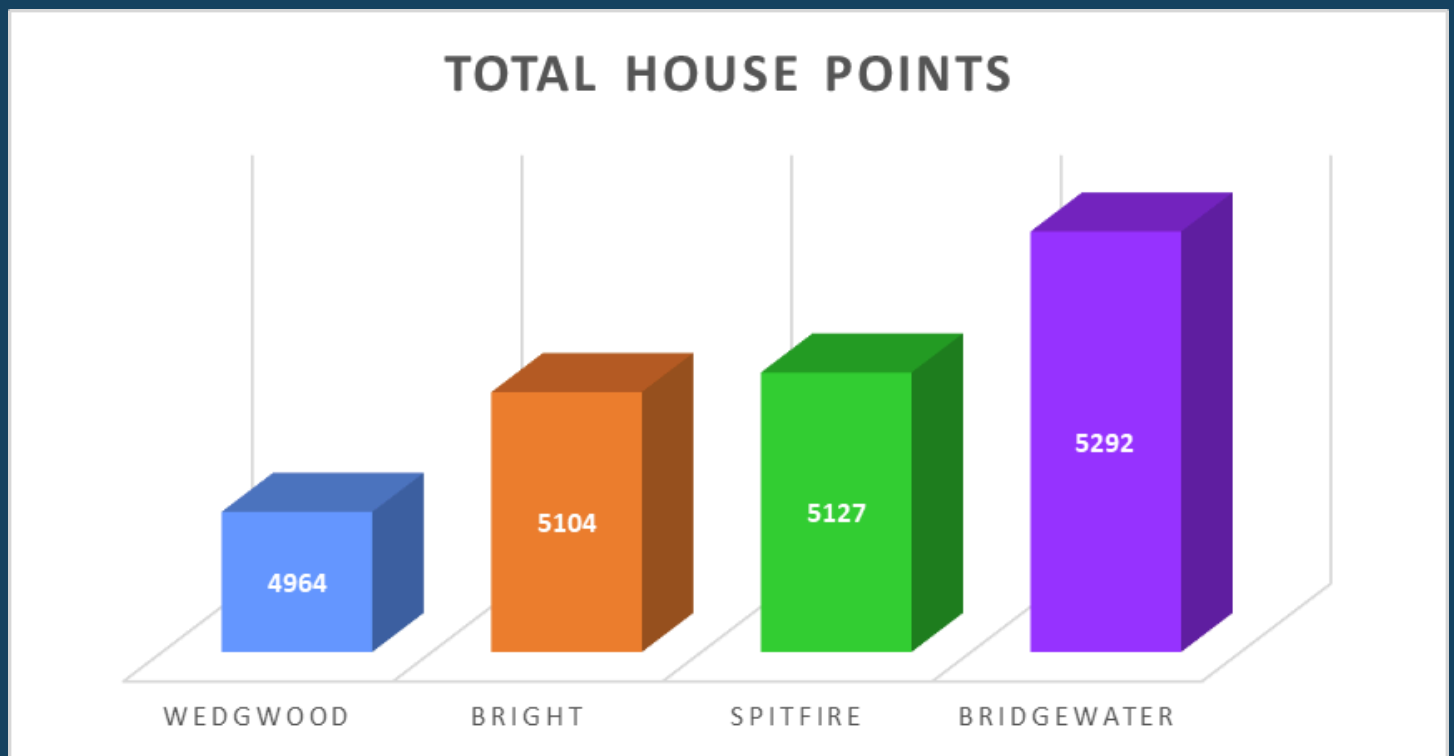


It has been a very close competition this half term.

In total students have achieved **18,467** positive behaviour points! This, together with house sports competitions has resulted in **21,731** achievement points going towards the House Cup!

This half term, the winners are.....**Bridgewater!**

All members will receive a Dominoes reward after half term!



Enrichment Day

Our Personal Development curriculum at Kidsgrove Secondary School 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.

It is taught as a distinct subject as well as embedded into other lessons and our wider school activities and has five main foci.



Last week our students took part in their first Enrichment Day of this academic year:

Our 7s and Y8s focused on 'being a good citizen'.

Our Y9s focused on 'being kind to yourself and others'

Our Y10s and Y11s focused on 'preparing for my next steps'.

All students were off timetable and took part in a range of workshops focused on our Personal Development provision and developing our core values.



Enrichment Day

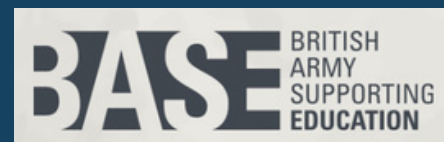
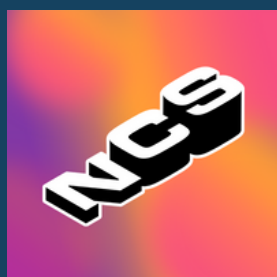
Our Year 7s had a visit off FIFA and Premier League Assistant Referee and former student Simon Bennett. He spoke to our students about his journey to where he is today, his experiences along the way and how our core LORIC values support him in his career.

Our Year 7s listened brilliantly and it was great to see that so many of our students had really great questions. In fact, they were posing such fantastic questions, Simon even popped back at break to answer some more and of course our iPads came in useful to get some photos and an autograph.

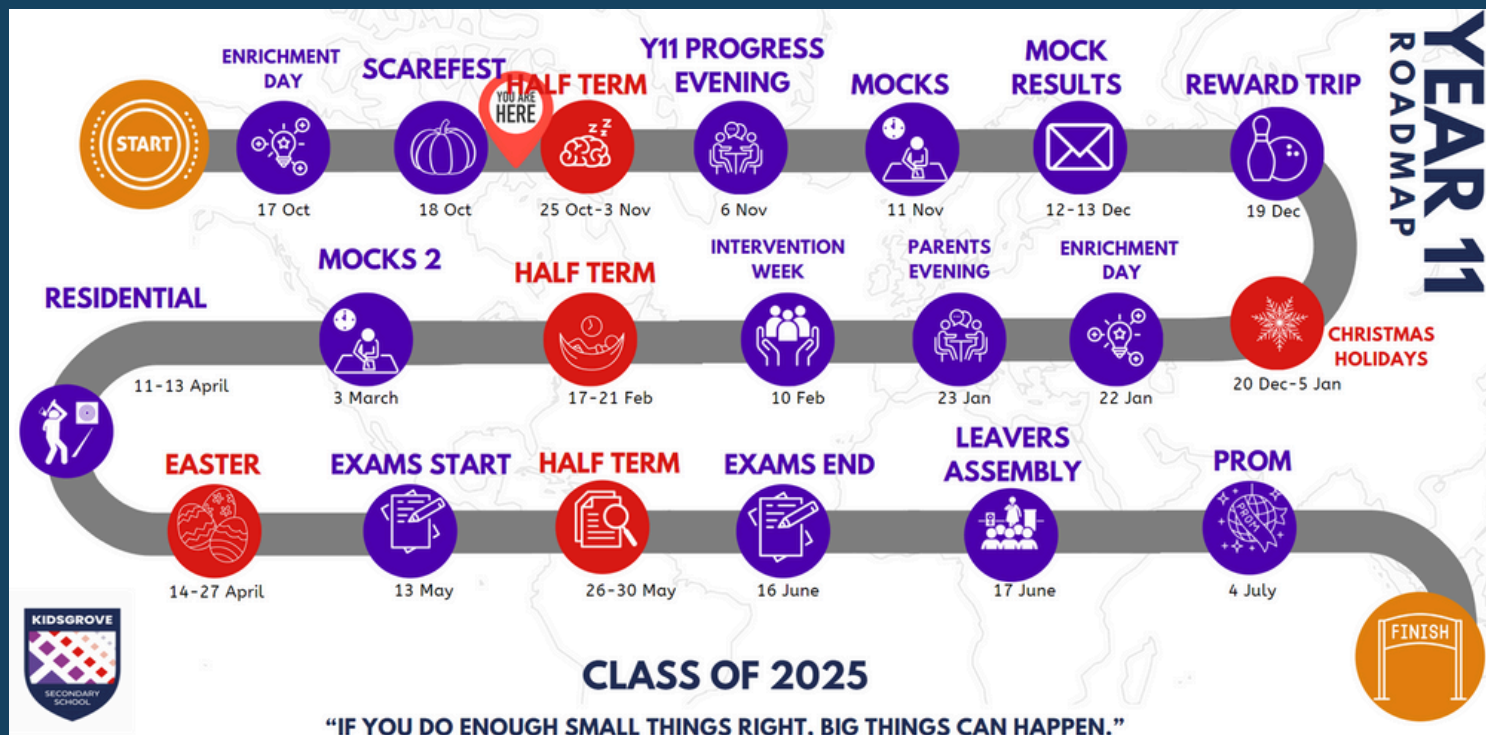


What's next?

Our next Enrichment day is in January and we have lots in the pipeline. We are looking forward to working with lots of external providers to deliver more meaningful sessions. Watch this space!



Year 11



We have just **108 school days** left before the Year 11s start their GCSE exams in May.

In the last few weeks, students have had Enrichment sessions and an assembly where they have looked at revision techniques and produced a revision timetable.

If students dedicate **just one hour per school day** to additional revision between now and the exams, this will add up to an amazing 16 hours of revision per subject!

Our upcoming Y11 progress evening is an important event in the Y11 calendar and we look forward to seeing you there. If you are unable to make the evening we can make an alternative appointment time for you. Please email emma.postlethwaite@kss.set.org if you require a different appointment time.



KSS AUTUMN TERM ATTENDANCE

Whole School: 94.1%

YEAR 7 – 96.9%

YEAR 8 – 93.8%

YEAR 9 – 92.7%

YEAR 10 – 91.8%

YEAR 11 – 91.8%

NATIONAL AVERAGE – 91.8%



Year 11 Progress evening



YEAR 11 PROGRESS EVENING

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENING
FOR YOUR CHILD THIS TERM

**WED
6TH
NOV**

**4:30-
6:00PM**

APPOINTMENT TIMES HAVE BEEN
SENT TO YOU. PLEASE LET US
KNOW IF THE TIME IS NOT
SUITABLE AND WE WILL CHANGE IT

**REFRESHMENTS**

**COLLEGES**

**1-2-1 DISCUSSION**

**GOODIE BAGS**

PLEASE ARRIVE BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME OR STAY AFTER
TO TALK TO COLLEGES/ APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS





YEAR 11 PROGRESS EVENING

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENING
FOR YOUR CHILD THIS TERM







PLEASE ARRIVE BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME OR STAY AFTER
TO TALK TO COLLEGES/ APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS



Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 have Mock exams from **Monday 11th to Friday 22nd November.**

Could we please ask for your support in ensuring that students are not having time off during these two weeks.

Students have a full range of revision resources available for all subjects on their 'Y11 Mock Exam' Showbie.

KSS Year 11 Mock 2 Exam Timetable - Nov 2024

Spanish speaking exams - Wednesday 16th and 23rd October- KH will notify you of your time

WEEK 2	Reg	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon 11th Nov		English Language Paper 1 (1h 45m)		Spanish reading (45m/ 1h) and Spanish listening (35m/ 45m)		Science
Tue 12th Nov	Health & Social Care (1h 15m) Spanish writing (1h/ 1h 15m)		Maths	Geography Paper 1 (1h 30m)		English
Wed 13th Nov	Biology Paper 1 (1h 15m)		Food, History, Geography	Maths Paper 1 (1h 30m)		PE
Thu 14 Nov	Sport studies (1h 15m) Hospitality & Catering (1h 20m)		Photography, Spanish, HSC, Geog	History Paper 1 (1h 15m)		Maths
Fri 15 Nov	Chemistry Paper 1 (1h 15m)		English	Maths Paper 2 (1h 30m)		PE

WEEK 1	Reg	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5		
Mon 18 Nov	Physics Paper 1 (1h 15 min)		Maths	Maths Paper 3 (1h 30 mins)		Food, History, Geog		
Tue 19 Nov	History paper 2 (2h 15m)			Photography, Spanish, HSC, Geography	History, Art, Sport	English		
Wed 20 Nov	Geography Paper 2 (1h 30m)		Maths	English Lit (1h 45m)		PE		
Thu 21 Nov		Art exam (Day 1- 5 hours)						
Fri 22 Nov		Art exam (Day 2- 5 hours)						

Student Absences

Any students that miss exams due to absence are responsible for liaising with their form tutor on their return to identify an upcoming exam session where they are not involved. Form tutors can then notify Mrs Correia that these students will report to the hall to catch up on missed exams during this time.



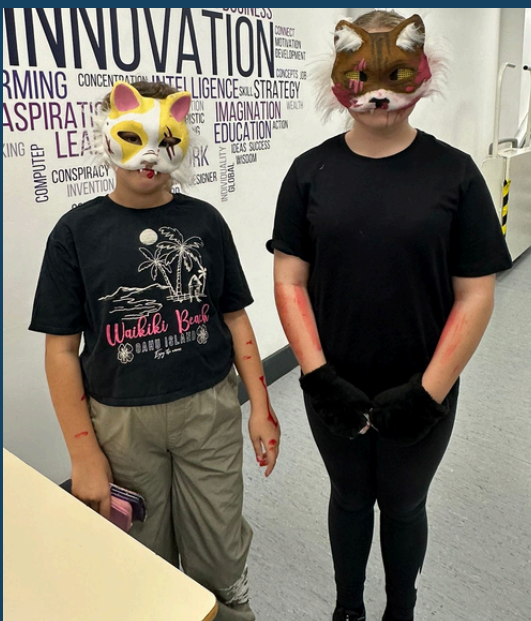
showbie



There was one hundred and thirty five Year 7 and Year 8 students that met the criteria for the Halloween reward disco yesterday.

The many students in attendance had a brilliant time at the event organised by the student council.

The fancy dress costumes were incredible and there was a real buzz of excitement. A special mention to Kai in Year 9 who was the resident DJ for the afternoon.





**PROUD TO
BE
KSS**







DIGITAL CHAMPIONS

Do you want to be at the cutting edge of our new iPad's?

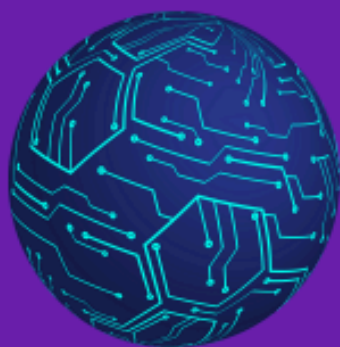
Do you have a passion for digital innovation?

Do you know the latest apps that will push students to a higher level?

Watch this space...

Mrs Weaver is forming a digital champions team.

Could it be you?



**PROUD TO
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Young Carer Champion

I am delighted to share that Miss Potts has qualified to become our Young Carer Champion.

Miss Potts will support any of our students that are young carers and will meet with students individually to offer support and guidance.

We cannot think of anyone better qualified to become our champion!

Thank you Miss Potts and thank you to all of our students that care for loved ones at home.



“So many young carers feel unseen and unheard at school. I believe that having a Young Carer Champion, a teacher each young carer knows is in their corner would increase their confidence and wellbeing hugely.”



NOV-DEC

EXTRA CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Kidsgrove
Secondary
School

MONDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Science support

KS3

Room 23 – Dr Ma

After School
15.05-16.05



Science club

Y7 and Y8

Science Rm – Miss Wood

TUESDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Science support

KS3

Room 23 – Dr Ma

After School
15.05-16.05



Dance club

Open to all

Fitness Suite – Ms Wagstaff



Photography club

KS4 GCSE

Technology – Digital Hub



Art club

Open to all

Room 10 – Miss Mason

WEDNESDAY

After School
15.05-16.05



Drama club

KS3

Room 26 – Ms Wagstaff



Art club

Open to all

Room 10 – Miss Mason



Kitchen garden club

Open to all

Tech – Mrs Bryan and Ms Morrell



KS3 Football

KS3

Changing Rm – Mr Hilditch

THURSDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Music

Open to all

Room 26 – Ms Wagstaff

After School
15.05-16.05



GCSE Open studio

GCSE Art

Room 10 – Miss Mason



Netball

Y7, 8 and 9

Changing Rm – Ms Wagstaff



Netball

Y10 and Y11

Changing Rm – Ms Hambleton



KS4 Football

Y10 and Y11

Changing Rm – Mr Till



Reading club

Open to all

Reading Room – Ms Tucker



Duke of Edinburgh

Y9-11

Room 7 – Miss Hud and Mrs Weaver

FRIDAY

Lunchtime
13.30-14.00



Chess club

Open to all

Room 2 – Mr Old



Pride club

Open to all

Room 14 – Miss Ayers

After School
15.05-16.05



Trampolining
Starts AFTER Assessments

All Years

Hall – Ms Hambleton

BAE Systems Roadshow

Electricity

What an experience! Our Y7 and Y8s have been treated to an engaging theatre show today celebrating STEM. The theme of the show was 'Electricity' and it explored what electricity is and how we can generate it. It was great to see so many of our students (and staff) volunteering to take part in the demonstrations.

Thank you to BAE Systems, RAF and Royal Navy Education for this inspiring and engaging visit.



Welcome

Ol would like to introduce you to a new member of staff that has joined the KSS team.

Miss Tipping-Brown has joined us as our new Technology and Art technician. She has replaced Mr Wilson who is retiring after many years supporting in Technology with woodwork and resistant materials lessons. We wish Mr Wilson every happiness in his well deserved retirement.

Below are a few words from the lady herself..

Hi, I am Fawn Tipping-Brown, I am the new Technology Technician, I will be assisting Mrs Bryan in Food Technology and Photography lessons, I will also be assisting Mrs Mason in Art. I am enjoying my journey so far with Kidsgrove Secondary School.

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my partner and daughter who is eleven and is in Year 7, I love to go shopping and eat out at restaurants.

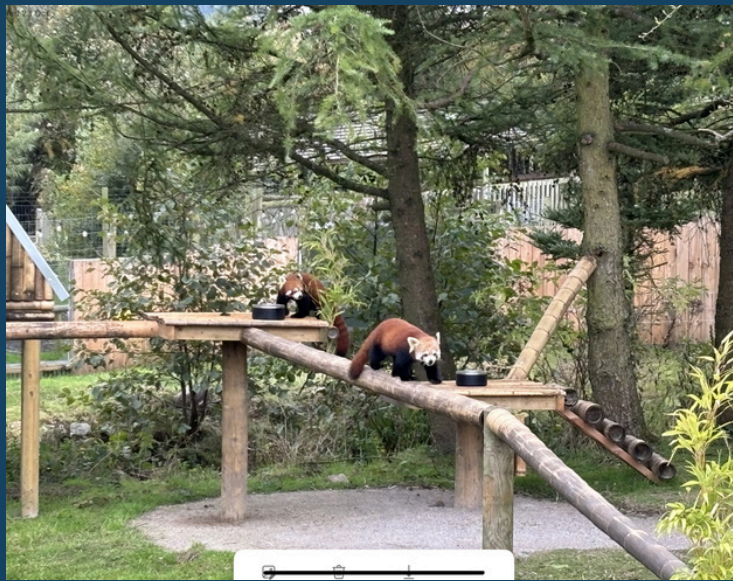


Geography Visit to Peak Wildlife Park

In preparation for their work on ecosystems next half term, our Y8 Geographers visited Peak Wildlife Park. They spent time exploring, learning about animals and their habitats and some may have even treated themselves to an ice cream. What a day!



Geography Visit to Peak Wildlife Park



READY, NET, GO!



**NETBALL CLUB
ALL YEAR GROUPS
THURSDAY
3.05-4.05PM**



**PROUD TO
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KSS**



New iPad Launch

Last week we rolled out our new 10th Generation iPads for all students and staff.

Over the course of the week, we ensured all students were able to access a range of apps and programmes to support their learning and foster independence.

In an area where the importance of digital skills is growing, it is fantastic that we are able to support our students in this way.

We can't wait to see the quality work that the students produce!



New iPad Launch



New iPad Launch



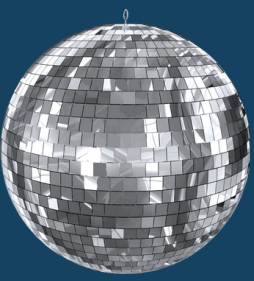
Welcome

Miss Longmore has joined us as one of our teaching assistant team. She works with students in classrooms and also with students one to one, supporting with reading and literacy skills.

Below are a few words from the lady herself..

Hi, I am Kayleigh Longmore ,I have three children and two dogs, so my life is very hectic, love spending quality with my family and reading in my spare time.





DANCE PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY



Kidsgrove Secondary School have been given the opportunity to perform at The Victoria Hall Theatre. If you want to be apart of the Barbie themed live performance, please come and speak to Miss Wagstaff and attend Dance club Tuesdays afterschool.

**REHEARSALS TUESDAYS AFTERSCHOOL
3:05 - 4:05**



**PROUD TO
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KSS**



Headteacher Reward Lunch

I was joined by thirty eight students from all year groups for my first Headteacher reward lunch of the academic year.

The students were selected for the lunch based upon their amazing start to the term. There could have been many more students chosen as we have had so many of our cohort meet our expectations each and every day.



Headteacher Reward Lunch



Headteacher Reward Lunch

Well done!



Celebration Assemblies

The celebration assemblies are always a highlight of the half term and this is especially the case this half term as Year 7 experienced their first one. We were delighted to see so many students receive certificates and subject pin badges. Well done every student that received an award.



Celebration Assemblies



Celebration Assemblies



Celebration Assemblies



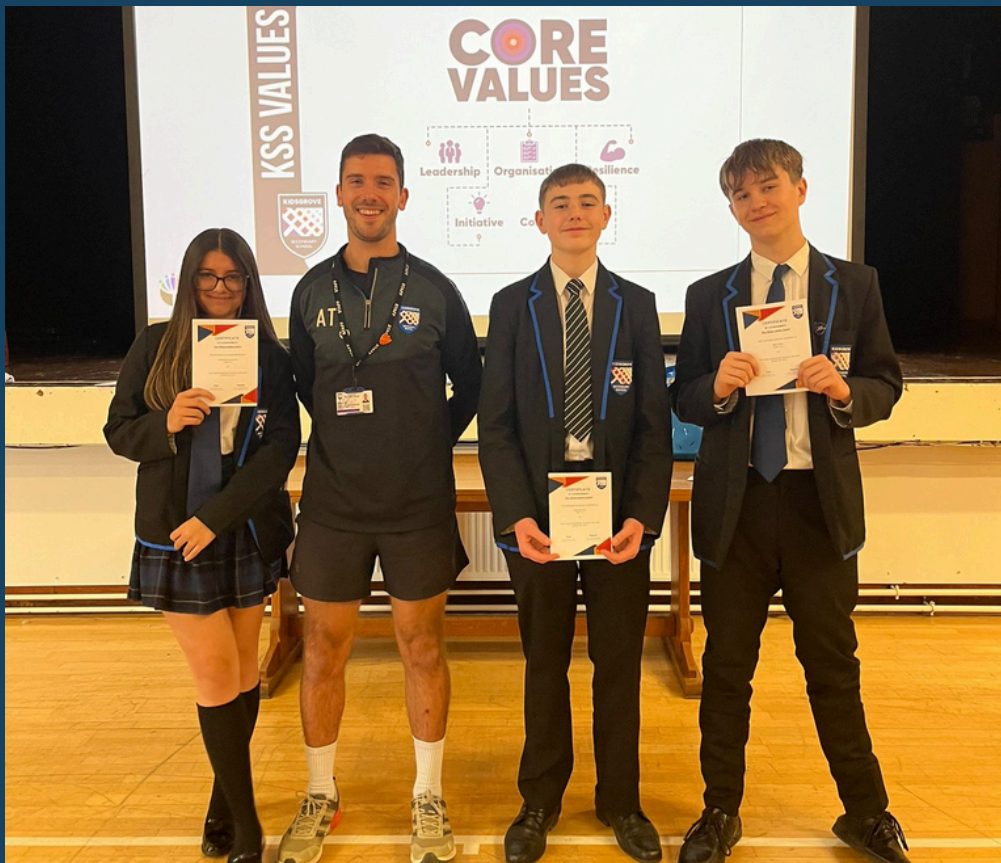
Celebration Assemblies



Celebration Assemblies



Celebration Assemblies



Celebration Assemblies



Reminder

PE and Performing Arts

To support a smooth start to Key Stage 3 PE and Performing Arts lessons, we would like to offer to students the opportunity to arrive to school in their PE kit from Monday 7.10.24.

This is only for classes that have PE or Performing Arts at 9.10am on specific days. The students will then get changed back into their full uniform once the lesson has ended.

The classes impacted are period one classes on the following days:

Week 1

Monday – 7K Performing Arts
Tuesday – 7T Performing Arts
Wednesday – 9S Performing Arts
Thursday – 7K Performing Arts
Friday – 9S Performing Arts

Week 2

Monday – Year 8 PE
Wednesday – 8S Performing Arts
Thursday – 9K Performing Arts
Friday – 7T PE

If any parent/carers has any concerns at all about this, we are more than happy for students to arrive to school in full uniform and to get changed before the lesson into their PE kit or Performing Arts kit.

If you have any queries, questions or worries about this, please contact parentssupport@kss.set.org.



Attendance



**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



Kidsgrove Secondary School

Attendance Matters

#StopTheDrop

