

We made it...we have completed our first half term of 2021, albeit not in the way we would have liked.

Thank you for all the lovely photographs and video clips you have sent in of the pupils working hard at their KGS@Home remote learning. KGS@Home remote learning will return on Monday 22 February 2021.

We wish you all a restful and peaceful half term break.



Kindness during the coronavirus outbreak



Kindness during the coronavirus outbreak

Arrange a cup of tea and virtual catch up with someone you know



Kindness during the coronavirus outbreak

Arrange to watch a film at the same time as a friend and video call



One thing we are seeing all over the world is that kindness is prevailing in uncertain times. People are coming together to sing on balconies in Italy, others are setting up groups to offer support to the elderly or vulnerable - such as collecting groceries or calling them for a chat. We have heard stories of people having virtual movie nights and creating choreographed dances over video chat to share with the world. We have learnt that amid the fear, there is also community, support and hope.

The added benefit of helping others is that it is good for our own mental health and wellbeing. It can help reduce stress and improve your emotional wellbeing. In short, doing good does you good.

Acts of kindness make the world a happier place!

The government is telling us to stay at home and only go outside for food, health reasons or essential work, to stay two metres away from other people and wash our hands as soon as we get home. This will mean that more of us will be spending a lot of time at home and many of our regular social activities will no longer be available to us.

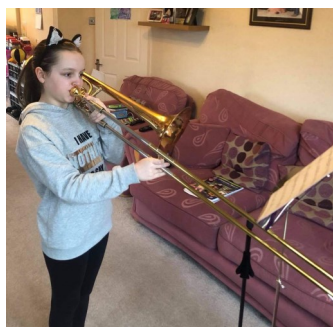
Why not get involved with acts of kindness during half term?

- Make a cup of tea for someone you live with
- Help with a household chore at home
- Donate to foodbanks
- Offer to skill share with a friend via video call - you could teach guitar, dance etc.

Please share your half term 'act of kindness' selfie/photograph with us at actofkindness@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk and all pupils who submit a photograph will be entered into a draw to win a prize!

It has been fantastic to see our talented pupils continue with their co-curricular activities during this recent lockdown period. The wonders of technology has allowed our pupils to connect with their music and LAMDA teachers from home.

Thank you to all of our peripatetic teachers for their dedication during these challenging times, and in turn allowing our pupils to continue to develop in their chosen co-curricular subjects.



In their art lesson, our I3 pupils have been studying the artist, Giuseppe Arcimboldo, an Italian painter best known for creating imaginative portrait heads made entirely of objects such as fruit and vegetables. Our I3 pupils were tasked with creating their own portrait!



We were delighted to receive a lovely letter and Covid-19 commemorative coin from Councillor Angela Jacques, Mayor of Fylde, in recognition of the hard work that our students have carried out to continue their Duke of Edinburgh journey.

Speaking of our pupils achievements, Mrs Sutcliffe said, "I am very proud of the work our students have undertaken, especially in the area of volunteering. It certainly encouraged me to keep working hard, seeing our DofE participants' efforts during the challenging times. From litter picking in their local areas to getting involved with the various support groups to help elderly/shielding residents - I was humbled to hear of their activities. Not only did they complete many volunteering hours, but they also kept themselves fit and active for their physical section and developed new skills for the skill section; many undertook online courses such as learning British Sign language and learnt to cook or knit. We had a number that learnt to sew and made face masks for friends, family, and neighbours. The DofE Award is a fantastic opportunity for young people, and I am delighted to hear that the Mayor of Fylde is recognising this."

Very well done to you all!



Our Lower Sixth A Level Computer Science students have been using their home learning time to their advantage. They have allocated this time to the investigation and development of their programming skills in Python and learning how to use Unity.

The students have taken on the challenge and have started to create retro style playable games, some of which have been launched on Itch.io.

Oliver and Aaron have made individual games 'Meteo-Saur' and 'Desgate'. They have also collaborated on 'Dense Metal' which was entered into a Game Jam on Itch.io – where they came approximately 230 out of 1069 entries. These are all downloadable from <https://nakel-games.itch.io/>.

Thomas has made a game called 'Space Horizon' reminiscent of Space Invaders style games which is downloadable from <https://peeteus.itch.io> – lots of fun and very playable.

Impressive work for students who are new to the game engine, well done to you all!



Third Year pupil, Keira, has been volunteering this week. Her dad received an email from one of his schools last weekend asking for volunteers to acquire a few hundred carrier bags to make personal hygiene support packages for local underprivileged families.

Keira contacted Tesco to ask for their help and they kindly donated 100 carrier bags and then bought the rest of the bags with her own money from Amazon. A huge donation was made by Boots and Mark Hill and Keira and her dad then spent Monday morning making up the bags.

This is a fantastic start towards the volunteering element of your Duke of Edinburgh, Keira...well done!



Our Junior and Infant pupils have been thinking about 'making a difference' in their pastoral assembly with Mrs Shuttleworth and learnt a fantastic new song. The half term break is an ideal opportunity for our pupils to break away from their computer screens and we would like the pupils to see how they can make a difference to others as well as making time for themselves.

We would love to see their short 'making a difference' video clips (maximum 10 seconds). Please email these to Michelle Tickle at makingadifference@kirkhamgrammarjnr.co.uk by 5pm on Sunday 21 February 2021.

Please visit the news section of the school website at www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/news to watch a video clip featuring some examples as demonstrated by our wonderful KGJS



Week 5 of our KGS CCF Challenge is to identify the regiments, vehicles, ships or aircraft.

Please email your answers to s.moffatt@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk. Entries with 5 or more correct answers will be entered into a draw for a £10 Amazon voucher. Entries closes on Wednesday 25 February at 11.00 am.

The winner of last week's challenge was Fourth Year pupil, Erin Worth. Well done, Erin! Mr Moffatt has posted out a £10 Amazon gift voucher for you!

Our J2 pupils have been learning about the Tudors and explored the Tudor Rose in Creative Arts last week. They were tasked with creating their own 'Tudor Rose' in a media of their choice.

In Science, they have been exploring the effect that different drinks have on their teeth. They used eggs to mimic the teeth and placed them in different drinks for a week. They predicted what might happen to the eggs and then wrote down their findings. We think Alexia (see far right), had the right idea to wear a mask whilst carrying out the experiment!

They have also enjoyed reading 'The Spiderwick Chronicles' this term and were inspired to write letters to the authors telling them what they thought of the book and asking some questions. The pupils spent one lesson looking at the structure of a formal letter and writing a first draft. The next day, they edited their letter, checking carefully for missing punctuation and to see if they could add any more detail.



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Please continue to email your KGS@Home remote learning photographs to m.tickle@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk

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