

# Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



19 November 2020

Dear Pupil, Parent/Carer

This is a newsletter that I intended to get out to families at the very start of the week. However, things in school have been very busy as we have dealt, already this week, with four positive Covid-19 pupil cases and two members of staff who have been infected. As a result of this we now have nearly 200 pupils, across the year groups, isolating at home.

Staff in school are doing their utmost to 'track and trace' as well as monitor and record when isolated pupils are allowed to return to their classroom lessons. At the very start of the term, we were led to believe that if schools had more than two cases it would be regarded as an 'outbreak'. We are now at 26 cases of infection and anticipate seeing the numbers grow. Thank you to everyone for their patience, support and calm at these difficult times.

**After School Sport:** Activities are now back up and running for year group bubbles each night after school. Feedback from pupils and families clearly supports the value and worth of the activities. They are open to all pupils and all sessions end at 4.15pm:

Year Group	Day
Year 7	Thursday
Year 8	Tuesday
Year 9	Wednesday
Year 10 and 11	Friday

**Children in Need:** The school, once again, got fully behind this year's Children in Need national fundraising event with self-organised events. As a result of these, a total for this year of £13500 has been raised. This really is a staggering amount, especially given the difficult circumstances that families are dealing with. Over the last 8 years, a grand total of £95000 has been raised by the school. Very well done to all our pupils, staff and families for their efforts here. An update is attached to the end of this newsletter.

**Year 11:** Our oldest pupils continue to work hard despite the uncertainty felt around the planned GCSE examinations next summer. We are continually impressed with their work ethic and super attendance at after-school learning/revision sessions. Keep it up!

All Year 11 pupils will be involved in PPE examinations that start on Monday 07 December.

Our advice to Year 11 is to do your very best at all times and to keep on top of assessments. This is just in case schools are required to use moderated work if examinations end up not being taken. Hang in there!

**Remote Learning:** The school has spent a lot of time, and deployed considerable resources, to set up a range of remote learning activities. Unfortunately, senior staff, are today, contacting a number of Year 10 pupils who, whilst working from home, have shared log-ons/password access to unknown third parties. This, along with silly behaviour, has then compromised 'live' lessons. This type of behaviour will not be tolerated, and pupils involved will have their access privileges withdrawn as well as face severe consequences.

Update: Seven pupils have now been identified and have had their access to remote live lessons removed.

It is a shame that a small number can significantly disrupt at a time when things are hard enough as it is.

**Road Safety:** Unfortunately, last week, one of our pupils was knocked off his bike by a car, whilst riding to school along Durkar Low Lane. Fortunately, he was only badly shaken up and bruised. Can all our current bike riders ensure they wear clothing that makes them visible, along with helmets and lights etc. Ride safely folks!

**Christmas Hampers for our pupils' families:** On Monday 23 November, we will be launching the appeal for pupils and staff to all donate one item of non-perishable food to bring in and give to their teacher P1 on Friday 04 December. This will be led using the video from the Head boy and Head girl. We are asking for items then, so they all have time to be isolated before packing the boxes.

We will be suggesting the following donations to try to ensure we have a variety of products, but any item is welcomed:

- 7K: Tinned vegetables including peas, sweetcorn, tomatoes, beans, carrots, spaghetti hoops, etc.
- 7S: Tinned fruit or puddings such as peaches, rice pudding, Christmas pudding, etc.
- 8K: Pasta, rice, pasta sauce, cooking sauce.
- 8S: Tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned pies, stuffing, gravy.
- 9K: Cereal, jam, marmalade, chocolate spread, porridge, etc.
- 9S: Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, bag of sugar.
- 10K: Christmas sweet things such as selection boxes, mince pies, nice chocolate, Maltesers, etc.
- 10S: Squash, fruit juice, UHT milk.

11K: Tinned soup, sachet or pot meals.

11S: Cereal bars, biscuits, crisps, snack items.

Thank you for your support with the Christmas hampers, which do make a real difference in helping our pupils and their families manage Christmas each year.

In a week that really has seen the school community pull together to help make a difference for others, the following quote from Maya Angelou seems well suited...

‘I’ve learned that people will forget what you said,  
people will forget what you did,  
but people will never forget how you made them feel.’

Thank you for your continued support for the work of the school and do please contact us if you have any worries, concerns or questions. We will endeavour to provide support to the best of our abilities.

Very best wishes

T Griffiths  
Headteacher

As a school, we all need to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean our hands more often using soap and water as well as the hand sanitiser found in all classrooms and social spaces.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have good respiratory hygiene habits: <b>‘Catch it, bin it, kill it’</b>. Use the tissues and bins provided.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow the year group ‘bubble’ systems and stay in your dedicated areas as required.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not enter the 2-metre teaching areas as marked out in classrooms during lessons.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use the year group specific entrance/exit to enter and leave school.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow instructions from all adults quickly and sensibly.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not attend school and follow public health advice if we have any symptoms of coronavirus.</li></ul>