

# Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL  
Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



13 July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

As we work towards the final week of what has been an unprecedented year, the following news items will help us all with the end of term arrangements as well as the return to school in September.

First of all, we hope our pupils and families enjoyed Eid-al-Adha last weekend. This is the Muslim 'festival of the sacrifice' or more known colloquially as 'Big Eid'.

**Hot weather:** As you will be aware it has been unusually hot recently and we are aware that temperatures on Monday are forecast to get as high as 33/34 degrees centigrade.

The school has already relaxed school uniform protocols and pupils are not required to wear jumpers and ties until the return to school in September. We have also purchased 2 large pallets of water for pupils. We would encourage all pupils to bring water bottles which can be filled at the various water machines around school.

On Monday and Tuesday next week, pupils can choose to wear their PE kit into school instead of the relaxed uniform, if they wish.

For Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 July, parents/carers may wish to review sending children into school who suffer physically or emotionally in high temperatures. If you decide to keep your child at home on Monday/Tuesday, please inform the school's attendance office before the end of school on Friday so that the attendance team can correctly code the school registers. Please use the absence tab on the Edulink app.

**Charity Updates:** Very well done to all the pupils who took part in the French, Spanish and Ukranian Spelling Bee recently. Over £2000 was raised in support of Unicef. Our ASDAN pupils have also been fundraising for Mencap and raised £219.52 with their cake and bake sales. Very well done to all involved!

**Induction Day:** Our recent Year 6 Induction Day was a huge success with well over 330 new Year 6 pupils in school for the day. They really got involved in the day and we wish them every success when they join us full-time in September.

**Rewards Trips:** These have been taking place this week with over 1000 pupils enjoying the day out in super weather. Very well done with your behaviour and focus on school and learning this academic year.

**Year 11 Prom:** The school held a very successful end of Year 11 prom with 200 pupils for the first time in three years, after the Year 11 GCSE examinations. It was a great event. Next year's Year 11 prom is to be held on Tuesday 27 June 2023 at Rogerthorpe Manor Hotel.

**Results Day:** This year's results day for Year 11 is on Thursday 25 August 2022. School will be open from 9.30am and results will also be available through Edulink. For college places, pupils will require their results on school headed paper so we would advise pupils to come into school. Careers support will be available in school on results day.

**Class Charts:** We really have had some very positive feedback from families who like the 'live' feed information they are receiving from school. If you still need to register an account, we would encourage you to do so. Please contact [adminoffice@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk) if you require advice here.

**Year 8 Choices:** Families will soon be receiving letters informing them of their child's KS4 courses and options for next year.

**School Day:** As previously communicated with you, we have made changes to the school day to support our Richer Reading programme. The school day is as below with Wednesday now being the same as the rest of the week:

# School Day

Registration	08.40-09.00
Reading/PSHE	09.00-09.20
Period 1	09.20-10.20
Period 2	10.20-11.20
Morning break	11.20-11.35
Period 3	11.35-12.35
Lunchtime	12.35-13.10
Period 4	13.10-14.10
Period 5	14.10-15.05

## Punctuality

Pupils should arrive at school for 8.30 each morning.

Pupils are expected to arrive in school and to lessons on time. The bell for movement to registration will sound at 8.40.

Any pupil who arrives after 8.45 will be marked late and given a concern in their planner.

**Richer Reading:** After a successful year of Richer Reading with Key Stage 3, we are introducing the programme across all year groups. Starting in September, pupils will read three times a week in tutor time. At Kettlethorpe High School, we value the importance of routinely reading high quality texts. We want pupils to access a range of voices, cultures and genres throughout their time at secondary school. Our new “Kettlethorpe High School Reading Canon” reflects this and our core values of respect, resilience, reflection and responsibility. Across the year, pupils will read texts from the following key areas:

- Modern Classics
- Ours and Others’ Worlds
- Literary Heritage
- Key Issues and Concepts

All copies of the books will be provided by the school. We will begin the next academic year with a Modern Classic:



We are looking forward to an exciting year of reading with our pupils!

**Sports Awards Evening:** On Tuesday 05 July the school held its annual Sports Award Evening with ex-professional rugby league player, and parent, Jimmy Gittins as the presenting guest. It was a great event and probably the largest event the school has ever held with 800 people in the school's sports hall. Very well done to all our budding sportstars.

Also, well done to Noah Riley, Year 7, who recently competed at the Middlesex Gold Squash Tournament, finishing third overall. Noah is hoping this result will see him ranked as 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally. Well played Noah.

Congratulations also to Abigail Duggan, in Year 8, who has achieved the black belt second dan at karate.

**Music Update:** At the school's Young Musician of the Year competition, the school winners were:

- Year 10 Travis Clark
- Year 11 Harry Moulson.

Joint second place were:

- Year 7 William Spiers
- Year 8 Alice Mitchell
- Year 9 Lola Firth.

The number of entries this year was high, as was the level of competition. Very well done to all those pupils who entered, rehearsed hard and performed in front of large audiences. It really was great to see.

Rock the Quad returns on Tuesday 19 July and will, no doubt, be a super, if not hot day, for those taking part. Be sure to enjoy it.

Also, very well done to the school choir for a very polished performance at Wakefield Cathedral earlier in the month. They really represented the school well and were a credit to themselves and their families. Very impressive.

**End of Term:** School will close at 1.10pm on Friday 22 July for the summer break. The school will return in September, as below:

- Monday 05 September: Staff Training Day (no pupils)
- Tuesday 06 September: Year 7 and Year 11 only
- Wednesday 07 September: all pupils in school.

**Being Safe:** Do please talk to your children about keeping themselves and their friend's safe over the summer months. This week, a Year 11 pupil from another Wakefield school tragically drowned in a local canal, swimming in the hot weather. We have over the years seen pupils get into difficulty on open water, railways, unused quarries and abandoned buildings. Let's all be safe and enjoy the summer break. The following link may help parents/carers:

<https://www.leedsscp.org.uk/families/teenagers/playing-safe>

Thank you for your continued support for the work of the school.

The following last verse of the poem, Summer Sun, by Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1994) is somewhat appropriate:

Above the hills, along the blue,  
Round the bright air with footing time,  
To please the child, to paint the rose,  
The gardener of the World he goes.

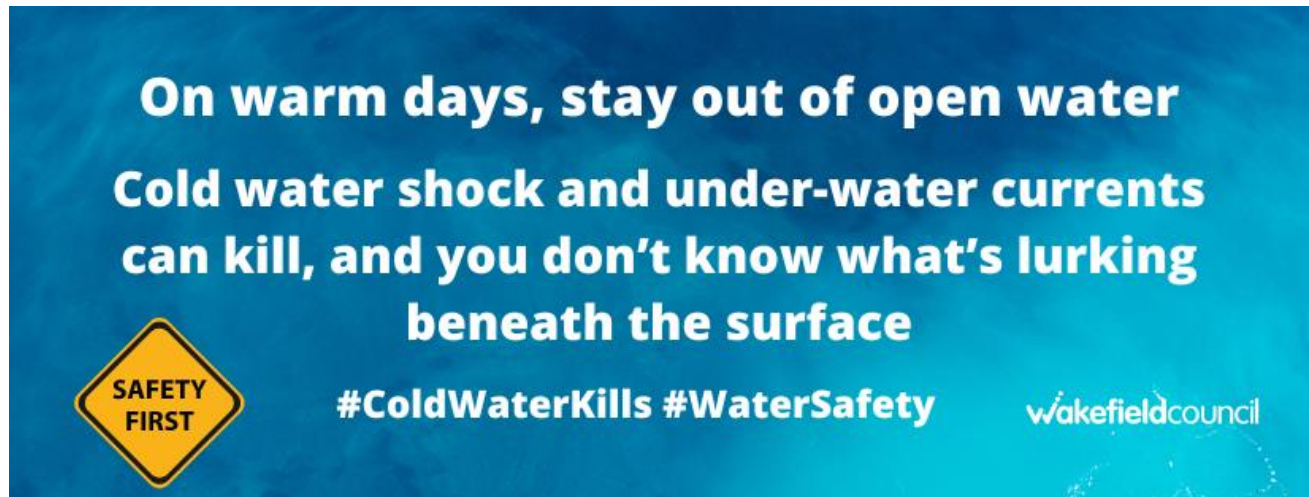
Robert Louis Stevenson was born in 1850 in Edinburgh and died aged 44 in Samoa. He was a Scottish novelist, poet and travel writer. His most famous books are Treasure Island and the strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths  
Headteacher

## Water Safety: Yorkshire Water



We urge you to share this message and the video from Yorkshire Water with parents and students to warn them of the dangers of open water.

During the current heatwave, we're urging everyone to be aware of the risks of cooling off or playing in ponds, lakes, and flooded quarries.

Swimming in open water is extremely dangerous as hidden dangers can lurk beneath the surface.

This can include discarded waste which can trap people, as well as slippery rocks and sudden changes in water depth. Jumping into cold water can also cause people to go into shock.

This video shows the tragic consequences - <https://youtu.be/1le-FwNEafk>

Previous warm and sunny weather has seen people risking their lives, and sadly losing their lives, by swimming in open water – despite signs warning them not to.

We're urging people to call 999 immediately if they see anyone in danger.