

# Kettlethorpe High School

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



## Newsletter 1

07 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

This week, we have seen the return to school for the new academic year 2022-23. It really has been great to welcome our new Year 7, all 325 of them, to the school community and we wish them every success going forward.

We would also like to wish our Year 11 pupils all the very best for a purposeful and focussed year where they can demonstrate their talents and abilities to the full, as they work towards their GCSEs and plan for their next steps. They are a very talented year group and our advice to them all is to 'have a plan' for next year as this will help focus their energies. Go for it Year 11!

Welcome back also to all our other pupils and year groups. Be sure to get into school every day, do what is asked of you by your teachers, get involved in everything, and also read for pleasure. We are sure you will all have an enjoyable year.

**GCSE Results:** Very well done to the 334 pupils from last year's Year 11 who obtained some tremendous GCSE results last month. Pupils did really well across all subjects and at all abilities. The results are our best ever on record and our English Baccalaureate (EBacc) results, were once again, the best across the Wakefield district by a country mile. In fact, the EBacc suite of subjects which supports a broad and balanced curriculum offer (English, maths, science, MFL and a humanity subject) underpins the school's curriculum offer and enables pupils to move onto the post-16 provider of their choice. I would hazard to guess that our EBacc entry numbers at 74% of the year group will be amongst the highest in the North of England. This is underpinned by high numbers of pupils (247 last year) taking a MFL. This represents a cohort that is bigger than most other local Year 11's.

These results are a delight to see and we very much look forward to sharing them when they are published by the DfE later in the autumn term. They really do reflect the hard work and efforts of all pupils who worked closely with a skilled teaching staff who adapted and responded to the real challenges we all faced dealing with Covid-19. It also further reinforces the value and worth of close family support and working relationships. A truly collaborative and community effort. Well done to all involved and be proud of your successes.

**Ofsted:** Towards the end of the summer term, the school was inspected by Ofsted as part of its routine inspection cycle. The school was previously inspected in December 2016.

The school has, today, received the final report that details the inspection that took place in June 2022. It provides a positive picture of the work of the school and also endorses the school's own self-evaluation of how we perform and what we need to further fine tune for continued improvement.

A real strength of the report is the quality of relationships that exist across the school and the impact of the school in preparing our pupils for adulthood. The wider development of pupils is described as 'noteworthy', and the curriculum ensures there is a 'real sense of purpose' in what the pupils learn.

Overall, it is a very strong report and one that pupils, staff and parents/carers should deservedly be proud of. Well done to everyone for their sustained support and efforts here.

Please find a copy of the report for you to read in full:

<https://kettlethorpehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/OFSTED-Report.pdf>

**Uniform:** The school has listened to the feedback from our parent/carer consultation last term regarding uniform. The school uniform shop has been stocked to reflect feedback and changes. The school also has a supply of uniform that, has been cleaned, pressed and is available to families who may be struggling to cover the cost of school uniform. These items are available at £2 each, all monies from the sale of these items will be donated to the schools chosen charity.

Do please contact your child's Year Manager, if you require support with the purchase/obtaining of school uniform. These colleagues are also key contacts for the new academic year:

- Year 7: Ms J Davies: [jdavies@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:jdavies@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 8: Ms N Skotny: [nskotny@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:nskotny@wakefield.gov.uk)
- Year 9: Mrs L Lancaster: [llancaster@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:llancaster@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 10: Mr J Lewton: [jlewton@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:jlewton@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 11: Ms E Lee: [elee@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:elee@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- and Mr J Betts: [jbetts@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:jbetts@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support for the school and let us all endeavour to have another very successful year in school.

*'Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it.'*

Maya Angelou (1928-2014): an American writer and civil rights activist. She wrote seven autobiographies. She was also an actor and nominated for the Pulitzer prize.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths  
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary:

- Thursday 06 October 2022: Open Evening
- Friday 07 October 2022: Inset Day
- Wednesday 12 October 2022: Year 7 and 9 photographs
- Thursday 13 October 2022: Year 11 Consultation Evening
- Friday 14 October 2022: Non-Uniform Day: Environmental Day

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| • Clean our hands more often using soap and water as well as hand sanitiser.                                    |
| • Have good respiratory hygiene habits: <b>'Catch it, bin it, kill it'</b> . Use the tissues and bins provided. |
| • Follow instructions from all adults quickly and sensibly.   |