

Kettlethorpe High School

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



21 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

Today has been a busy day in school despite the inclement weather. It certainly feels a long time ago that our lessons were being delivered in rooms that had hit 35 degrees centigrade.

Yesterday, our Year 8 rugby team were involved in a training session that was filmed by ITV news. A number of the pupils were interviewed about the rugby league world cup and their thoughts on the selection of Dom Young, England and his brother, Alex for the Jamaican team. Both Dom and Alex are ex-pupils at the school and it is clear that they continue to act as positive role models to our current pupils. The broadcast is due to go out on Friday 21 October at 6pm on ITV.

At the end of the day it was great to see pupils staying on in school and working with staff as they rehearse for their production run of Matilda. The school will be putting on three performances on Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 December. Details on arrangements for tickets to follow.

Year 11 Senior Prefects: Following a selection process that involved candidate hustings and a pupil vote, the following pupils have been selected as senior prefects:

- Head Prefects: Megan Simpkins and Luca Cutts.
- Deputy Prefects: Emma Keates and Ted Layfield.

We wish them every success in their new responsibility roles over the remainder of the academic school year. Well done!

Children in Need 2022: The school week starting on Monday 14 November will see the school community involved in a number of fundraising activities alongside normal curriculum lessons. There will be a themed non-uniform day on Wednesday 16 November. Pupils have been given details about our Children in Need week in assemblies and form tutor time. It will, no doubt, have some 'magic moments'.

Statement of Intent: In lessons, the vast majority of our pupils behave well and really are a credit to themselves. They demonstrate very positive attitudes to learning (ATL). This is evidenced by the 110412 positive classcharts referrals set against 10500 negative referrals, a ratio that shows that most pupils are getting it right.

However, since the return from the second Covid-19 pandemic lockdown, we have had to deal with a very small number of pupils who, for whatever reason, are slow to get to lessons; involved in internal truancy and/or refuse to follow polite teacher instructions. This was noted in the school's June 2022 Ofsted inspection.

Whilst this type of behaviour only involves a minority of pupils, I want to make it very clear to the whole school community that such behaviours are not acceptable at this school and the school will continue to use, considered and escalated consequences, to remove behaviours that disrupt the working business of the school.

This means the school will follow its published behaviour system and move from detentions, to ARC, then offsite provision at other schools and/or a specialist provider. We will use suspension from school and for those pupils, who repeatedly get it wrong, the school will consider and use 'Permanent Exclusion' from this school community.

I am making this very clear so that there can be no surprises or family upset when I do take the decision to permanently exclude a pupil from Kettlethorpe High School despite our best endeavours.

Please note, the majority of our pupils are an absolute pleasure to teach and it is only right and fair that they can go about their learning without undue disruption.

Environmental Day: The school's newly formed environmental group launched their intent with a green fundraising day that raised nearly £700. They have plans to work towards The Green Award with support from Ms Keddy and Mr Boothman, one of our school governors. A great start. Well done!

Year 11 Netball: Very well done to the Year 11 netball team on their recent success coming second overall across Wakefield. They have been together since Year 7 and are a fantastic team to work with. A number of the team play for outside clubs and are taking up umpiring to gain additional qualifications. Nicely done!

Attendance: This really does matter and the pupil body have made a very good start to the academic year with their attendance and punctuality. Now we are hitting the dark mornings it is just as important that we all get into school every day on time. Attendance at school really is

key to getting the best outcomes in Year 11 and it really is a five year journey. Keep the standard up here after the half-term break.

Parent Governor Election: There are currently three parent governor vacancies in school. Closing date for all nominations is Friday 18 November 2022. All information regarding the election will be emailed to parents and on the school website:

<https://kettlethorpehigh.co.uk/governors/>

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary:

- Friday 21 October 2022: Finish for October half-term break
- Monday 31 October 2022: School re-opens
- Thursday 03 November 2022: Year 7 Tutor Evening
- Wednesday 16 November 2022: Children in Need non-uniform day
- Thursday 17 November 2022: Year 11 Presentation Evening
- Friday 18 November: INSET day
- Wednesday 23 November 2022: Year 11 Photograph

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