

# Kettlethorpe High School

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



05 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

We are now getting towards the end of a very busy and successful autumn term. School still continues to work well, despite having to deal with staff and pupil absences as a result of colds and viruses. Hopefully, the spring term will see improvements in this area. Most days we see whole school attendance at the 92-93% figure. This is below the figure of 95% that we would see normally. Across the local authority, attendance for secondary pupils is at around 90%.

Today in school, our pupils are preparing hard for their production of Matilda. This afternoon, we have invited pupils from our local primary schools to watch the dress rehearsal. The production is being performed from Tuesday 06 December to Thursday 08 December with performances starting at 7.00pm in the school hall. From what I have seen in rehearsals, we really are in for a treat. Well done to everyone involved in getting the production through to the performances. Enjoy!

Please see link below, to take you to the booking page for Matilda tickets:

<https://tinyurl.com/mr3sa8j4>

- **Children in Need:** This year the school launched a £5.00 challenge, rather than our usual £10 pupil/staff challenge to take account of the economic situation we all find ourselves part of. In school, the fundraising week went really well and our school community is pleased to report that a total of £8400 has been raised. A number of individual pupils raised sums of money that were well into the hundreds. Particular mention to Travis Clark and Yasmin Coe who between them raised £880 with their cake bake. Also, Adam Bernardo, who raised £390 by running 10K, every day, for a week. Well done to everyone for their support this year. The school's running total for fundraising over the last ten years is now in excess of £110000.

**Food Hampers:** Every year, as a school community, we prepare and deliver food hampers for families within our school community. This year is no different. If you are able to help by the donation of cash or goods, do please note what is required from the list below. Thank you in advance of your generous support here:

- Year 7: Pasta, rice, spaghetti, pasta sauce and super noodles.
- Year 8: Baked beans, spaghetti hoops, hot dogs, ketchup, mayonnaise and jam.
- Year 9: Biscuits, stuffing, Christmas pudding, mince pies and jelly.
- Year 10: Soup, canned tomatoes, canned vegetables and sweetcorn.
- Year 11: Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, sugar and cereals.

Food can be left at the school reception. Financial donations to Miss Lee please.

**Year 11 PPEs:** These have now started and our Year 11's have made an impressive start. The summer examination timetable has now been released and can be found under the Year 11 page tab on the school's website. This link also includes useful information to support pupils with preparing for their public examinations this summer. Be sure to keep the focus going Year 11!

As we work into the final week of the term, pupils are expected to continue to be organised with their preparation for lessons and learning. Over the last week there will be Christmas assemblies for each year group and Christmas dinner will be available to pupils on Wednesday 14 December. This will be served in the school hall.

Thank you for your continued support over what has been an interesting, and at times, challenging calendar year. All the very best to you and your families for a very successful 2023.

Christmas is always a time for nostalgia and family reflection and the following passage seems pertinent:

‘It was snowing. It was always snowing at Christmas.  
December, in my memory is white as Lapland, though there were no reindeers.  
But there were cats!’

Dylan Thomas 1914-1953.

A child's Christmas in Wales is a piece of prose recorded in 1952 that provides an anecdotal reminiscence of a Christmas from the view point of a young boy, portraying a nostalgic and simpler time. It is one of Thomas's most popular works.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths  
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary:

- 06 – 08 December 2022: Matilda Production.
- Wednesday 14 December 2022: Christmas Dinner.
- Friday 16 December 2022: School closes for Christmas at 3.05pm.
- Tuesday 03 January 2023: School reopens.

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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.   |