

# Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



30 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

This really has been a very busy half-term in the life of the school and on Friday we will all be breaking up for the Easter holidays.

**Year 11:** Very well done to all our Year 11 pupils for their continued focus and efforts as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. Staff feedback from the recent PPEs has been very positive and it is good to see the pupil cohort preparing well and taking their assessments seriously. Over the Easter break, there are a number of interventions and examination preparation events taking place. All pupils involved will have received invitations from their teachers. Be sure to maintain this excellent preparation Year11. Very well done!

**Late to School:** Over the last two weeks, we have recorded the number of pupils who arrive for morning school late. What is interesting is that a lot of families drop their children off early but pupils tend to gather ahead of walking into school. This can then cause them to be late for registration. Last week, we sent out 200 text messages to families of pupils who were late into school. Do please note that all pupils need to be in form registration areas for 8.40am each day. Thank you for your support with this issue.

**Hubalaboo:** This week saw the Kettlethorpe High School choir performing at the Wakefield Education Music Hub event, Hubalaboo, which was staged at the Wakefield Theatre Royal. It really was a super event and the choir gave a first class performance. It was also good to see our pupils performing with the Wakefield Youth Session Orchestra and Youth Jazz Band. Well done to everyone involved for their efforts, which is preparation ahead of this year's school music tour to Germany.

**Past Pupil Presentations:** This week saw two of our ex-pupils returning to school to talk to pupils about their career choices and to answer questions from pupils who were also interested in going into law. Thank you very much to Natalie and Calvin from Ridley & Hall Solicitors. A very informative session.

**Year 8 Football:** Very well done to the Year 8 football team who have won the Wakefield Schools' League Final with a 2-1 win over Carleton. A great performance after the recent heartbreak of losing a cup final on penalties, two weeks ago. A great effort by the team, on the night, and the whole squad over the season. Let's do it again next year, boys.

**Scotland U16:** Very well done to Harry Roper who is in Year 11 and has been selected to represent Scotland at Rugby League. Very much following in the footsteps of Dom and Alex Young. Be sure to enjoy the experience, Harry.

**Staff Leaving:** We have a number of staff who are leaving the school, this week. They are:

- Ms M Pearson: Food Technology teacher at the school for 24 years. We wish her well in her new role at Leeds University.
- Mrs H Millington: English teacher, who is taking time to support her family and work more locally to her home. All the very best.
- Mrs S Valovin: Science teacher, who is returning to King James High School, Huddersfield as a second in science lead. Thank you for your efforts whilst at the school.

**Mr David Milburn:** Sadly, last week, a number of staff attended the funeral of Mr Milburn, a science teacher, who had retired from school only five years ago. He was a very popular and highly regarded teacher who will be known to past pupils and families. Mr Fitzsimons read a reading at the service and the following passage is taken from the poem, Look, Look! By Gideon Heugh which was also read out during the service. Our thoughts and best wishes have been extended to Mr Milburn's family:

‘Look, look, it is spring, it is spring!  
Look, Look! Life is rising from beneath the ground.  
The green river is flowing, the green river is flowing!  
It is ready to burst its banks.’

Be sure to have an enjoyable and safe Easter break.

Very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths  
Headteacher

**Dates for the Diary:**

- Friday 31 March 2023: School closes for Easter.
- Monday 17 April 2023: School re-opens.
- Monday 01 May 2023: Bank Holiday.
- Monday 08 May 2023: Bank Holiday (King's coronation).