

Kettlethorpe High School

Standbridge Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7EL

Headteacher: Mr T Griffiths



Newsletter 1

15 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

Following the recent return to school for the new academic year, we are pleased to report that the pupils really have made an excellent start. They look impressive in their uniforms and are going about their learning with a sense of purpose. Very well done everyone, and be sure to enjoy the year in school.

Welcome also to the new Year 7, all 355 of them, who have already shown themselves to be a keen and enthusiastic year group. They had a super team building day at 'Mission Out', in Tingley, last week that also built on a very successful summer school in August. To all our Year 7's do get involved in the life of the school, be kind and be sure to get into school every day. Enjoy your first year at the school.

GCSE Results: The results this summer were amongst the best ever for the school and certainly reflected the hard work and focus of our 320 Year 11 pupils, their families and staff in school. There were some exceptional individual performances both in terms of getting the highest grades, as well as importantly, pupils achieving personal bests against their target grades.

Once again, the school's English Baccalaureate (EBacc) results were the best across the Wakefield district both for percentage of entries (77%) as well as at 4+ (43%) and 5+ (31%). This has now been the case for the last four years and represents GCSE passes across English, mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), science and a humanity entry per pupil. In terms of the overall EBacc entry at 77%, this will certainly be amongst the highest entries for any school across the North of England.

In terms of combined English/mathematics passes, these were 73% for 4+ passes, 57% for 5+ passes and 20% for 7+. Again, some impressive outcomes and results that pupils can be proud of as they move onto college or employment.

Very well done to all our ex-Year 11 pupils and we wish you every success going forward. We very much look forward to seeing you at the school's presentation evening on Thursday 16 November where our guest for the evening will be Stuart Pearce, the ex-England international football player.

Parking: Do please observe the parking restrictions around the school and also the bus bay area so that these areas remain free of traffic and pupils are able to cross the road safely. Thank you for your support here.

Form Tutors: All form tutors will be contacting families to introduce themselves to you. They are normally the first point of contact for families if you have any questions or concerns about your child and school. In addition, we have Year Leaders who support individual year groups, as below:

- Year 7: Ms Doggett (ldoggett@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Mr Rawling (irawling@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Miss Wood (awood@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 8: Ms Mallinson (lmallinson@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Miss Cattle (pcattle@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Miss Shorrock (gshorrock@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 9: Miss Skotny (nskotny@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Ms Mallinson (lmallinson@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 10: Mrs Lancaster (llancaster@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
Mr Lewton (jlewton@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)
- Year 11: Mr Lewton (jlewton@kettlethorpe.wakefield.sch.uk)

Pupil Behaviours: Over the year, the school will record positive pupil behaviours and this will then lead to recognition through a number of rewards. The ultimate reward will be the end of year trip/visit. We would encourage every pupil to attend regularly and give their very best to all that they do. This, to be fair, is the working approach for the vast majority of our pupils who are a pleasure to know and teach.

Like any school, we have rules and high expectations to support behaviour. Do please note the following so that we are all clear about school expectations:

- Any vapes/cigarettes or related paraphernalia will always be disposed of regardless of who it belongs to.
- The possession of any illegal substance will always lead to permanent exclusion from our school community.
- Pupils who are unkind, rude or disrespectful to others, or cause disruption to learning, will run the risk of suspension/removal from school.
- Pupil behaviour on public buses, at Asda and across the local community matters, and pupils who fail to behave as expected or cause a nuisance or disruption run the risk of removal from the school community.

As a large school community, every child and adult should be allowed to go about their business without worry. As already mentioned, the vast majority of our pupil body get it right all the time. The points above have been made explicit so that everyone is very clear about what consequences can come into play.

Pupil News: Very well done to Laycee Scott, in Year 10, who was the goalkeeper for the Brighouse Town Division 1 under 14 team, who won the league and cup double this season. Nicely done!

As the term progresses, school will keep families informed of key events and dates. A lot of information about the work of the school can be found on the school website.

In conclusion to all our pupils:

- Get to school every day because every lesson counts.
- Be sure to get involved in the life of the school, especially clubs and activities.
- Be kind to others.

In the word of Ralph Waldo Emerson, 'The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be'.

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

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary:

- Thursday 21 September 2023: Year 11 Parent/Carer Information Evening
- Thursday 05 October 2023: Year 6 Open Evening (4.00-6.00pm), school closes at 1.15pm
- Friday 06 October 2023: INSET day, school closed to pupils
- Wednesday 11 October 2023: Year 7 and 9 individual photos