

Kettlethorpe High School

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



Newsletter 7

21 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

Mr Denis Barry: Chair of Governing Body

It is with much sadness that I need to inform the wider Kettlethorpe High School community of the recent death of Mr Denis Barry following a short period of illness.

Denis Barry had been on the school's governing body since November 2007 and had been the chair of the governing body for 15 years. In addition, he was also the chair of governors at Mackie Hill Junior and Infant School, one of Kettlethorpe High School's strongest feeder schools.

In addition, Denis had also chaired the Wakefield Council's school forum for 10 years and had played a central point in supporting the work of schools, academies, and post-16 colleges across the wider district.

Denis, who was born in Middlesbrough, had worked both as a teacher at Hemsworth High School and with local student teacher colleges/universities. He had also worked as a National Leader of Governance supporting a number of schools across the country. In addition, he had been involved with inspection work with Ofsted.

Colleagues at Kettlethorpe High School will miss his strong advocacy and support for pupils and teachers along with his strong moral purpose. His advice and counsel were always valued along with his enthusiasm for all things Kettlethorpe.

The school would like to express our best wishes and condolences to Jane, who many will recall as the headteacher at Dane Royd Junior and Infant School, and Sarah, Denis' daughter who had been a pupil at Kettlethorpe High School.

A big loss to our school community.

'My wish for you is that you continue.
Continue to be who and how you are.
And continue to astonish a mean world
with your acts of kindness.'

(Maya Angelou: 1928-2014)

Very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

T Griffiths
Headteacher