

KHS News

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of a very busy and successful spring term, I have to share some important news with you. For personal reasons, Mr Leyland has decided not to return to Kirkby High School. I am aware that the school community will be saddened by this news and I share that sentiment.

I am, however, pleased to inform you that I will continue with the good work that is being done at our school as I take on the role of headteacher. This will be a secondment, for an extended time, from the Rowan Learning Trust.

Embarking on this journey as headteacher makes me feel very proud. I have shared with your child the hopes and aspirations I have for them and the staff of

school are fully supportive of the direction in which we are going.

As Ofsted recognised in their recent monitoring visit, 'students' achievement is improving' and 'key changes are becoming firmly established throughout the school'. This is evidence that the ongoing work is impacting positively on the daily experience of your child. I am offering you a heartfelt guarantee that the staff and I will ensure that this improvement continues.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you a happy and peaceful Easter.

Yours faithfully
Mrs R Conefrey

Ofsted monitoring visit January 2018



OFSTED FEEDBACK JANUARY 2018

This is a true reflection of the hard work of the whole school community. Knowing what we do well and what we can improve upon helps to provide the best education for our students.

"Pupils' achievement is improving".

"Staff have a clear sense of purpose and support school improvement enthusiastically".

"Pupils say that behaviour is much better and almost all attribute this to 'stricter' behaviour management".

"Behaviour around the school has improved considerably".

"The most impressive aspect of pupils' behaviour is that seen during break and lunchtimes"

"Pupils are calm and sociable. They chat with friends and adults".

"Clear signs of improvement since last Ofsted visit".

"Key changes are becoming firmly established throughout the school".

"The quality of the school's leadership has improved".

"Improvement in pupils' behaviour since September is very impressive".

"Pupils show respect for their environment and there is now virtually no litter left in any part of the school".

Values News

February saw the second successful 'Values' day at KHS: a day for discussion of identities, self-reflection and personal development, combining elements of PSHE & Citizenship with emotional literacy.

Key stage 4 students enjoyed whole day workshops by humanutopia, an educational organisation that runs inspirational, life-changing course for young people.



Year ten attended the *Who am I?* day:



Whilst year 11's focus was on *The Final Push*:



Both events received excellent feedback from staff and students alike; we look forward to welcoming the humanutopia team back to KHS in the near future.

Meanwhile, key stage 3 students enjoyed fascinating sessions on LGBT History Month. They learned about gender identity, different flags and groups from around the world, whilst designing classroom bunting and performing role-plays based on specific, real-life case studies.



Big thanks to all the young people and staff who made the day so positive and memorable.

Meet our Governors

Our Governing Body is a group of volunteers from the Trust and local community who are elected to make decisions about how the school is run and how the school's budget is allocated. Each Governor serves for a period of four years after which they can choose stand for re-election.

Parent Governors are a valuable part of the school's Governing Body. They are able to voice parental concerns and ensure that communication between the school and parents is informative and easy to understand.

Governors meet every regularly to monitor the school's progress. The main aim is to provide robust challenge to the school on the progress being made since the last Ofsted inspection.

Carol James (Chair of Governors)

Empowering young people from the local area to have high aspirations and achieve their full potential is something that Carol is passionate about and has long been at the centre of Carol's personal and professional life.

On a personal level, Carol spent her formative years in Kirkby and chose it as the place to raise her family. Her children attended local primary and secondary schools where they achieved the academic and interpersonal outcomes needed to forge rewarding careers in their adult life. On a professional level, Carol served her community as a primary school teacher in a local school for twenty years.

Carol remains passionate about education. As the newly elected Chair of Governors at Kirkby High School, she is committed to ensuring the students of Kirkby High School achieve the best possible outcomes by helping drive forward the changes necessary to bring about tangible improvements in the school.

Wayne Foy (Vice Chair of Governors);

Wayne is the Vice Chair of Governors at Kirkby High School. Having spent 10 years in the armed forces and then going on to be a broadcast journalist for the BBC and commercial radio, he has been part of the governing body for nearly four years.

With one child in Year 11 and a second due to enrol in 2019, Wayne has been with Kirkby High and the Rowan Learning Trust from the start.

Bob Downing

Bob is a retired teacher who taught at the original schools of Brookfield and Kirkby Sports College for all of his 40 years in teaching. He was head of PE but also taught some English, mathematics and French before becoming a head of year then head of lower school, taking on the responsibility for primary transition. He gained a First Class Honours Degree in Educational Management and Administration in 1987 and oversaw the maintenance and refurbishment of the original school buildings.

Bob retired from teaching in 2007 and then represented the school to the Borough of Knowsley and to Balfour Beatty Construction in the Building Schools for the Future Initiative until the present Kirkby High School

opened in 2009. He became a governor of the new school in 2013 and then Chair of Governors shortly afterwards. He stepped down as Chair in September 2017 but remains a governor as committed as ever to the students and families of Kirkby and to the staff of Kirkby High School.

John Robinson

John has worked in the IT sector for over twelve years, working in the utilities industry before joining Hawkey Hall High School in 2006. He currently holds the post of Information Systems Manager for the Rowan Learning Trust. In this role, John has responsibility for the IT support & development of all Trust schools, devising and implementing ICT strategy, information security and technical e-Safety. John has extensive experience of working with schools to align technology with teaching & learning priorities, working with senior leaders and key stakeholders, with a core focus on improving standards and achieving value for money. John has also led on major ICT projects, including extracting schools from managed services, academy conversions, and is currently leading the Trust in preparation for GDPR.

John has been a governor in schools for the past several years, and holds a BSc (Hons) in Information Systems, an MSc in Educational Leadership & Management, is a qualified PRINCE2 practitioner for project management, and GDPR foundation certified.

Robert Zajko

Robert is a senior HR professional and is currently responsible for recruitment and resourcing across Europe, Middle East and Africa for one of the world's largest hospitality companies. Previously, he has over 20 years of experience in leading multi geography teams for a number of international organisations within the banking, IT and telecoms and engineering sectors.

Robert has been a school governor on and off for over 7 years, initially as a parent governor in the primary sector and more latterly as Chair of the Resources and Finance Committee of a new UTC.

Outside of work Robert enjoys the highs and lows of being a season ticket holder at Everton FC, travel and riding motorbikes.

Continued overleaf....

Meet our Governors

Valmai Roberts

Valmai has 14 years experience as a headteacher of a large Primary School which is a main feeder school for Kirkby High School.

Previously she has been an advisory teacher for Sefton Borough Council, an executive headteacher and has amalgamated two schools into a new purpose built school – seeing this through each process of the design stage. She has chaired the Kirkby Collaborative and been a member of Dean Trust Governing Body. She is currently involved in several Local Authority Boards including; Children and Families Board, School Commissioning Board, Behaviour Review Group and A Level Summit Board.

Lorraine Hughes

Lorraine has worked in education for over 30 years. She was appointed to Knowsley Hey School in 1986 as a general assistant/administration clerk. She held a variety of roles and responsibilities during her time at Knowsley Hey School including; Office Manager, Examinations Manager and Finance Manager prior to becoming School Business Manager in 2007. Lorraine joined Kirkby High

school in 2009 as Business & Finance Manager and was appointed as Senior Operations Manager in the same year.

Lorraine has a wealth of experience working in a secondary school setting. She supports the leadership and management of the school in HR & Personnel, Health & Safety, Building & Facilities Management and Finance. She has Certificate of School Business Management (CSBM) and Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) accreditation.

Denise Cunningham

Denise Cunningham is staff governor for Kirkby High School. Denise is head of the creative arts faculty and teaches art. The creative arts faculty is a successful area of school and subjects are popular amongst students as proven by the GCSE options process in year 9. Denise has been a teacher at this school for fifteen years. Before the amalgamation of the schools she was head of art at Ruffwood School. Prior to her teaching career she gained a BA Honours in Graphic Design and worked as a Graphic Designer, Illustrator and medical illustrator in London for eleven years.

Mobile App

Don't forget to download the Kirkby High School mobile for free from either the Apple or Google Play app stores.

You can download the app by searching for Kirkby High School and downloading the app that displays our school logo.



The app provides instant access to term dates, letters, events, newsletters and many more features. We will also be using it to send out important information that is relevant to your child.



Women Who Wander

Well done to all our year 8 students who participated in a women who wander competition. Working with Daisy from Community Rail Lancashire, our students looked at what it is like to be a Woman in 2018. The girls wrote pieces celebrating women. All pieces were published in a book celebrating women who wander. Our successful winners were presented with their published pieces at a celebration at Manchester Piccadilly Train Station. Well done to all involved.



tRAILblazers

A big well done to all of our year 8 students who were involved in our tRAILblazers Project with Community Rail Lancashire.

Our students had the opportunity to take photographs of a trip to Liverpool Museum by rail. The idea was to capture images of a fun day out on the train. The images were used as part of a local community project to encourage young people to use the train. Selected images were used on billboards with the aim of encouraging teenagers to use the train. The images were presented at selected train stations between Moorfields and Wigan. The images were presented at selected train stations between Moorfields and Wigan.



Changing Stations

Well done to all of those students who have been attending drama club this term. The students have been working on a project called Changing Stations. The focus of the project is how a train line could represent a life. The different destinations on the train line could represent different parts of a life. The piece is in its very early stages and will involve music, dance and drama all created by the students involved. Changing Stations is being developed in collaboration with Community Rail Lancashire and will be performed at Moorfields Train Station in July. It isn't too late to get involved. See Miss Gill, Miss Cowley or Mr Walker for more information.



Drama

This has been a busy time for drama this term. Year 11 have worked extremely hard on their scripted pieces for component three. The hard work and dedication of year 11 has been amazing. Year 10 have been looking at the theme of body image and created some thought provoking pieces. Year 9 have looked at Status and how one decision can change things for the better. Year 8 have created some outstanding pieces on the theme of fame. Year 7 have looked at evacuation and WW2. Keep up the hard work. It's been a great term!



Merseyside Handball Champions



Kirkby High School year 10 students represented Knowsley at the Merseyside Handball Championships in March. They had this privilege after they won the Knowsley Tournament back in December without losing a game. They started the tournament with two wins and then took their foot off the gas and lost the next two. This left them in 4th position meaning they had to play Wirral Grammar in the Semi-finals as they were seeded number one. Wirral Grammar are the current National Champions so they knew it would be a really tough game. The game ended 5-5 going into two minutes extra time ending in a very strong won 7-6. The boys then played Meols Cop in the final and won 9-6 to become Merseyside Champions. They now represent Merseyside in the northern games. *Well done boys.*

Bootroom Academies

Bootroom Academies came in to our year 11 assembly with Steve McMahon to promote their post 16 provision for Kirkby High School students. The legendary footballer talked about the opportunities provided by his company and discussed how sport and football has influenced his whole life. It was great for our year 11 students to see the benefits of choosing a sports provider in their future quest for success and to realise the fantastic opportunities available to them when they leave us in the summer.



Merseyside Athletics 2018



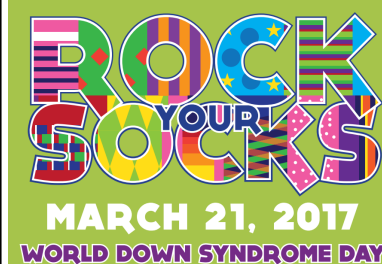
Our year 7 and 8 boys and year 8 girls were successful champions of the Knowsley Indoor Athletics competitions held in February this year and thereby won the opportunity to represent the borough at the Merseyside competition last week. The standard of competition was exceptional and our students performed with immense individual talent and excellent team camaraderie. We had some superb victories throughout the day as students competed in the track and field events in turn. Overall, the boys and girls came respectable 8th, 9th and 10th placings out of 16 teams from all over Merseyside. A big well done to all involved.

Karate Union of Great Britain



Well done to year 9 students Marcus and Bradley Barker who have been selected to represent English on the KUGB Kumite Squad 2018.

Local Charity Support



World Down Syndrome Day

Kirkby High School staff and students 'rocked their odd socks' to school in support of World Down Syndrome Day. The odd socks campaign is to raise awareness of everyone being different and that this should be celebrated. **We raised £147.22**, which is going to the Down Syndrome Liverpool Society, a local charity which supports some local families who have down syndrome children.

Year 8 Assemblies



Well done to 8JS and 8JC. Both forms have presented informative assemblies on the themes of racism and anti-Semitism to year 8. The assemblies were a huge success.

Shaping Futures

A group of Year 10 boys have been chosen to take part in a 'raising aspirations' project in partnership with Shaping Futures. In conjunction with a group of students from All Saints Catholic High School the boys began the project back in February, with hopes of raising aspirations towards a university degree or higher level apprenticeships. With the ultimate aim to improve the final grades of all boys involved and inspiring them to aim high once they leave Kirkby High School in the summer of 2019.

The boys have so far attended whole day aspirational events at Liverpool John Moore's University, Liverpool University and Carmel Sixth Form College. Still to come in the summer term is a day at Goodison Park, looking at careers in the sports industry, an overnight residential to Keele University and a full day trip down to London, to visit the Houses of Parliament and other attractions. So far, the feedback from the boys and staff working with them has been nothing but amazing. The commitment shown by these boys has been outstanding. Well done boys.



Year 9 News

Miss Maloret completes the Liverpool Half Marathon

Congratulations to Miss Maloret who completed the Half Marathon on Sunday 25th March in an impressive 2hrs 11mins! Well done Miss Maloret, 9CMA and the whole of year 9 and Kirkby High are very proud of you!



Georgiana Grecu 9NN wins Piano Craiova award

Congratulations to Georgiana for winning a prestigious music competition in her native Romania. A gifted pianist, Georgiana is proof that practice really does make perfect! Well done, we're very proud of you!

Year 9 get a taste for University Life! Dream Plan Achieve!

John Moores University are working with 30 year 9 students to offer them a taste of what they can expect if they go on to study at degree level. The first session covered course options and university qualifications.

Students will have the opportunity to visit the campus at JMU, attend a university lecture and see, first-hand, what student accommodation has to offer.



Business Mentor Programme

Sir Alan Sugar eat your heart out because year 9 business mentors are hot on your heels! As we reported in the last newsletter, 16 lucky year 9 students began the pilot scheme with Sefton Business Enterprise.

Students are working in small groups of 4, with mentors from a variety of backgrounds, such as banking, nursing and construction. One group, working with Dave Wright, Operations Director, from Priory Asset Management LLP, is going to see the construction of the new runway at Manchester Airport.

Communication and Literacy News

The English department celebrated World Book Day 2018 in style, with each classroom being transformed into a literary world!



Students enjoyed lessons in far off places such as Oz, Middle Earth and the Magic Faraway Tree, meeting characters such as Mary Poppins, Nancy (from Oliver Twist) and Bellatrix Lestrange (Harry Potter) plus our head of faculty, The Queen of Hearts in Wonderland.

During the week, we held a very popular and successful Scholastic book fair, with a linked 'design a bookmark' competition. Students also had the chance to meet award winning author, Melvin Burgess. Despite the snowy conditions, he made in into school to give talks and writing workshops.



On the day, students learned about different stories and completed a range of activities linked to the featured books. Quizzes, riddles, photo booths.... these year 7s even had a Wizard of Oz balloon debate:

All of this supplements our ongoing promotion of the power of reading; you can find out more by following us on Twitter: @EnglishKirkbyHS and @KCarticularcy

To all involved, well done... Keep reading!

KIRKBY
HIGH SCHOOL



'Year 11 Prep for Success'

EASTER REVISION SESSIONS

Tuesday 3rd April	Maths	9.30 - 12.30
Wednesday 4th April	Spanish	9.30 - 12.30
Wednesday 4th April	RE	12.30 - 3.30
Thursday 5th April	RE	9.30 - 12.30
Thursday 5th April	Music	9.30 - 3.30
Friday 6th April	Science	9.30 - 12.30
Monday 9th April	Imedia	9.30 - 12.30
Tuesday 10th April	English	9.30 - 12.30
Wednesday 11th April	Computer Science	9.30 - 12.30
Friday 13th April	Science	9.30 - 12.30

**All students must arrive on time and stay for the
duration of the session or they won't be able to
get into the building**



Help us improve life chances for
Kirkby High School students.

There is a clear link between good school
attendance (above 95%) and future
health, wealth and happiness.

94%

Below Average

V

95%

National Average

Improving attendance at Kirkby High
School is vital to ensure the best
platform for our students (your
children) to start their futures.

**Good attendance promotes future
health wealth and happiness.**

**Poor attendance is linked to future
poverty, crime and unemployment.**

**ATTEND EVERYDAY – ACHIEVE
TOMORROW**



What are we doing to improve attendance?

- Rewarding both outstanding and improving attendance.
- Tracking attendance and providing support for students and families who are struggling with school attendance.
- Continuing to improve the standard of teaching and learning in school to enhance the learning experience of students.
- Providing fun extra-curricular opportunities and trips to help students enjoy their education.
- Working with families to break down barriers to attendance through home visits and attendance contracts.

What can students do? Turn up – every day – on time.

What can parents/carers do?

- Avoid making non-essential appointments during school time.
- Share any concerns you or your child have with school.
- Make sure a child is only absent for unavoidable reasons.

ATTENDANCE COMPETITION: SUMMER TERM

**Every 100% week + 1 entry into the
'Attendance Games' draw**

Win an iPhone X – RRP - £999.00

MAY THE ODDS BE EVER IN YOUR FAVOUR



**THE
ATTENDANCE GAMES
2017 - 2018**

**ONE 100% WEEK = ONE ENTRY
ATTEND FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN AN iPad OR**

i PHONE  **R.R.P £999.00**

Uniform and Standards

As you will be aware, we are always seeking to improve the consistency with which we apply our uniform and other policies. It is essential to ensure that students have the highest standards of personal appearance appropriate for a school environment. Being consistent also helps to guarantee that the policy is seen to be fair and equitable for all students.

It has become noticeable that an increasing number of girls are either wearing skirts which are extremely short and not appropriate for a school environment, or wearing make up to school and re-applying it throughout the day.

Our **current** uniform policy on both of these issues is clear:-

Skirts:

Should be **knee length** or longer.

- **Girls wearing skirts with no tights - Skirts should be touching the top of the knee or longer when standing.**
- **Girls wearing skirts with tights (80 denier or more) - Skirts should be no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee when standing.**

Make up:

- **No make-up/nail polish – students caught wearing these will be asked to remove them.**
- **No false nails or false eyelashes - students caught wearing these will be asked to remove them.**

The wording of the uniform policy is under review and further details will be sent to parents during the summer term in preparation for September.

I would ask for your support in ensuring that if your child does wear a skirt to school, that it conforms with our school policy. I would also ask that your child does not wear make up to school or bring make up in a bag, the temptation to re-apply it during the day increases.

We will, of course, be following up any breaches of the uniform policy in the normal way and if students persist in wearing skirts that are too short for school or applying make-up before school or during the school day, parents will be contacted and students may be isolated until their uniform is appropriate, thus missing valuable learning time.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining the high standards at Kirkby High School.

Mr J Webb
Assistant Headteacher

Parking enforcement in the vicinity of school

Message from Knowsley Council:

School keep clear / yellow zigzag markings are there to improve road safety for all road users by maintaining clear, unobstructed access to and from school entrance/exit points. With this in mind and to reaffirm this message, Knowsley Council will be issuing postal Penalty Charge Notices to any vehicles observed parking on school keep clear markings during the operative times. So if we don't issue a ticket on the day, drivers should be aware they may still receive a fine in the post.

Can parents also refrain from parking on the grass verges outside school as we have received a number of complaints from local residents.

Change machines in school

After the Easter holidays the change machines in school will distribute £1 coins only, all other coins will no longer be available.

KEY DATES UP TO END OF TERM

Thursday 29th March	Non-uniform day School finishes for Spring Break
Friday 30 th March to Friday 13 th April	Easter holidays
Monday 16 th April	Staff training - school closed
Tuesday 17 th April	Students return to school
Thursday 26 th April	Year 10 parents evening 4-6.30pm
Monday 7 th May	Bank holiday (school closed)
Thursday 10 th May	Year 7 parents evening 4-6.30pm
Monday 28 th May to Friday 1 st June	Half term break
Monday 4 th June	School re-opens after half term
Friday 29 th June	Year 11 Prom
Wednesday 4 th July	Year 6 Transition day
Wednesday 18 th July	Kirkby's Got Talent
Friday 20 th July	Non-uniform day Students finish for summer 12.30pm