



KHS News

Message from the Headteacher, Mrs Conefrey

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is that time of year when I send out a Christmas message to all our families to thank you for your support throughout the autumn term and wish you all well. It was wonderful to welcome all students back in September to a more 'normal' school with our young people once again enjoying lessons in specialist rooms. We are very proud of how students settled back in and especially how our Year 7s quickly grew to know how a school of this size operates. There have been challenges regarding a small minority of students who have had to work a little harder to re-engage with the high expectations we have at Kirkby High School but we are pleased with the progress they have made. Of course, punctuality and attendance remain a priority for all.

To the vast majority of parents and carers who support our Kirkby Child rules and expectations, I thank you. You place your trust in us, as a school, and your children know that. As a result, they too support and adhere to our high expectations.

A message was sent out last week reminding you that students must return to school in correct uniform in January. I ask that you support your child with this so that their first encounter with staff in 2022 will be positive. Piercings, nails, eyelashes etc are not allowed

so it will be better for the children if this conversation does not need to take place in school.

I know it is the festive season but the harsh reality is that the government is increasing restrictions because of the new Covid-19 Omicron variant. As a result we have to carry out testing on students who have parental consent, upon their return in January. Details of this will be sent out via Parentapp/text message so please keep an eye out for that. Be aware that Thursday January 6th is now the testing day so students will be invited in at specific times. Friday 7th January is the start of term for all students.

You will see in the newsletter that students have continued to enjoy a variety of activities at Kirkby High School and I hope you enjoy reading about some of the events that occur in school. May I thank all staff at school who contribute so much to the lives of our students.

From all the staff at Kirkby High School, may I wish each and every one of you a happy and peaceful Christmas. I look forward to continuing our excellent work with you in 2022.

Mrs Conefrey
Headteacher

Merry
Christmas

KEY DATES UP TO EASTER 2022

Tuesday 21 st December	Students finish for Christmas holidays, 12.15pm
Wednesday 22 nd December to Tuesday 4 th January	Christmas holidays
Wednesday 5 th January	Staff Training (school closed)
Thursday 6 th January	Student Covid Testing Day
Friday 7 th January	All students return to school
Thursday 20 th January	Year 11 Parents' Evening 4-6.30pm
Thursday 27 th January	Year 9 Parents' and Options Evening 4-6.30pm
Friday 18 th February	School finishes for half term
Monday 21 st February to Friday 25 th February	Half Term break
Monday 28 th February	Students return to school
Thursday 17 th March	Year 8 Parents' Evening 4-6.30pm
Thursday 24 th March	Year 6 Information Evening 5.30-6.30pm
Friday 8 th April	School finishes for Easter holidays
Monday 11 th April to Friday 22 nd April	Easter holidays

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Year 11 News



This has been a busy term for year 11 students. They have worked incredibly hard to prepare for their mock examinations. Their dedication and focus have been exemplary. As well as focusing on their present studies, students have also begun to plan for their futures. Considering best career paths, academic studies and what they need to do get their chosen destination have been a focus in form time, careers interviews and assemblies. Many students have also

taken time to visit Mr Jackson in our careers' hub, gathering all the information they need and applying for college. It's not too late to apply. Visit Mr Jackson every Wednesday in PC2 at 3pm.

Congratulations also to our form reps, prefects, and school leadership team. Our students have taken their roles very seriously and demonstrated commitment and dedication throughout this term. Well done to everyone involved.

We are pleased to confirm that Prom 2022 is going to take place at Aintree Racecourse on Thursday 30th June 2022. This is going to be an amazing event where we will have the opportunity to celebrate our last five years at Kirkby High School.

Keep up the hard work #Beheretogether.

Drama News

This has been an amazing term in drama.

KS3 classes have focused on the horror genre, life on the streets and the seven deadly sins. GCSE classes have worked incredibly hard on their performance work. Year 10 focused on 'Our Day Out' by Willy Russell and Year 11 devised emotional pieces based on the Holocaust. Well done to all our students on such amazing performances. Finally, this term, we saw the wonderful world of 'Matilda' unfold on stage.



Students and staff worked tirelessly this term to bring a little magic to Kirkby High School at this special time of year. The Creative Arts team would like to thank you all for attending and hope that you enjoyed the show. Special thanks to all the cast, crew and parents. We couldn't do it without you.

Keep your eyes open for more exciting projects in the drama department next year.



Year 7 News

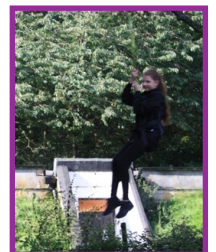


Year 7 students have made an amazing start to life at Kirkby High School. The year 7 pastoral team and I are extremely proud of how they have settled in so quickly. They are all a credit to their families.

As well as working hard in lessons, at the start of our autumn term, every Year 7 student took part in a team building day over at Lord Derby's estate working with their form class, form tutor and Mrs Greenbank. They participated in activities that



included raft building, canoeing, a zip wire and bush craft. These activities developed our students' team building skills and their confidence. The resilience shown by all students was amazing and every student should be very proud of what they experienced and achieved.



Careers Information and Guidance (CIAG)

Careers Fair

On the 13th December we had our annual careers' fair, open to all of year 9, 10 and 11. We had stands from more than 25 local businesses, colleges and universities including KCC, Carmel College, Winstanley Sixth Form College, Liverpool Hope

University and the Steven Gerrard Academy. This gave Kirkby High School students an opportunity to speak to providers and begin planning their future beyond the walls of Kirkby High School.



Work Experience On the 21st March 2022 our year 10 students will embark on a week long work experience programme designed to give them an insight into the world of work. Many students have chosen their own placements at local businesses, companies or schools but all students will have an opportunity to experience, first hand, the expectations of working life.

Website The careers' page on the school website has been regularly updated over the past 12 months with plenty of advice and guidance including local apprenticeship opportunities, application support and information on local colleges and universities. If you haven't yet, please have a look and see how the careers' curriculum supports Kirkby High School students.



Music



The Music Department has been awarded the Music Mark for 2021-2022.

This is the fourth year in a row that they have been recognised for their varied and balanced curriculum and commitment to the Arts. Well done to all students who contribute to extra-curricular activities to help us achieve this prestigious award!



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL

Year 11 Mock Exams

We are so proud of the way in which year 11 have completed their mock GCSE examinations. The attitude, conduct, resilience and effort they have shown have been exemplary.

Attendance to school during mock exams for English, maths and science was outstanding, and it is vital that this continues moving forward. Your child's teachers are using the information to inform their teaching, ensuring that all gaps in knowledge are addressed so that your child has the opportunity to achieve their potential in the

summer GCSE exams.
Congratulations year 11!



Personal Development

IT'S ALL
ABOUT YOU



This term, year 7 have been learning about healthy and unhealthy choices in their Personal Development lessons, including a series of lessons on friendship and bullying. One class has

enjoyed working with Cogs who have started delivering sessions on mindfulness, breathing and yoga with a focus on mental health. You can find out more information about them at their website: www.cogseducation.co.uk

Also, weekly wellbeing lessons at Key Stage 4 have been introduced, covering a range of topics such as emotional wellbeing, online safety and healthy relationships as part of the new RSE curriculum.

Meanwhile, in form time, students have also been learning about protected characteristics and career opportunities for the future, including a visit to the Careers Fair in December. We have also re-launched the Rainbow Club, with lots of new members attending and planning assemblies, writing their own newsletter and learning about World AIDS Day.

Next term, we will be looking at re-accreditation for the Rainbow Flag award and forming links with local businesses to prepare for work experience!

We hope you have a very happy and peaceful Christmas.



Rainbow Club



The KHS 'Rainbow Club' was able to start meeting again this half term and saw record numbers attending! This half-term, we have been looking at how we can learn from the important issues raised on World Aids Day, and contributing to the promotion of the 'One Kind Word' theme for national anti-bullying week.

It was great to see so many of our young people wanting to be LGBT allies and eager to learn more about issues facing the LGBT community.

The Rainbow Club is every Thursday lunchtime in EN1.



Positive Vibes

As part of our intervention activities, a cohort of year 9 students were involved in a challenge on the Positive Vibes programme, seen here in Our Place in Huyton with staff from VIBE UK who facilitate the programme.

The students went on to successfully complete all the challenges and finish the course. They were rewarded with a celebration event in Tenpin bowling in Warrington.

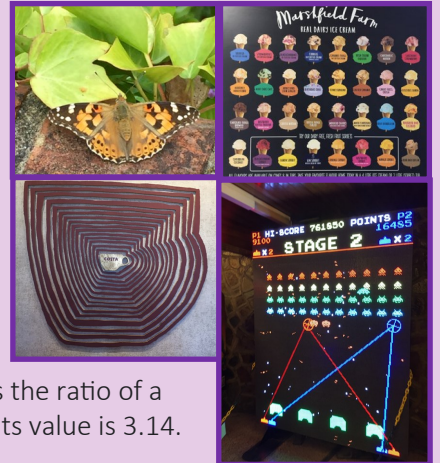


Maths News

During National maths week in November, students saw variety of photographs in every subject area. They were then asked: "where is the maths in that?" Some of the pictures are displayed on the right. Can you see any symmetry, enlargement, combinations, angles?

Next term, we are looking forward to year 7-10 competing in the UKMT challenge. This is a multiple choice set of challenging questions. The questions are designed to encourage fluency, mathematical reasoning, and precision of thought. Only the 10 top students in the year will be selected. Watch this space for our results!

We will also be celebrating Pi Day on March 14th. Every year on March 14, the world celebrates Pi Day to recognise the mathematical constant, Pi. It defines as the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter and the value for Pi is 3.14. diameter and its value is 3.14. So, look out for our circle problems.



Christmas Sticky Buns – This recipe makes 12 sticky buns

Ingredients:

- 150ml milk
- 60g butter
- 60g light brown soft sugar
- 1tablespoon dried yeast
- 350g plain flour
- 1teaspoon salt
- 175g cooked Christmas pudding, crumbled
- 100g pecan nuts, chopped
- 3tablespoons golden syrup



As it is nearly Christmas, we thought we would share our favourite recipe.

- * Can you use ratio to alter the ingredients to make other amounts?
- * If we want to make 36 buns, how much milk will we need?
- * If you only have 600ml of milk in your fridge, how many buns will you be able to make?

Cabbage Patch Kids

Our gardening project has been a great success during the autumn term. We have had a bumper crop of fruit and vegetables which have been handpicked for use in school for catering projects and distribution in the community.

