

Kettering Science Academy

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Principal: Jennifer Giovanelli

2nd February 2025

Dear all

Uniform - A Big Thank You!

Firstly, a **huge thank you** for your continued support with uniform. We have seen a **significant improvement** since last week, and we really appreciate your efforts in ensuring that students come to school dressed appropriately.

✓ What we will continue to do:

- Ask students to swap any items that do not meet our uniform policy.
- Provide support where adjustments are needed please contact us proactively to avoid any challenges for your child.

Children's Mental Health Week - Next Week

Next week marks **Children's Mental Health Week**, and we have a range of activities planned to support and raise awareness among our students.

What's happening?

- Assemblies for each year group, led by our fantastic school counsellor, Martha.
- A variety of activities throughout the week.
- The sharing of useful resources to support mental well-being.

Amental health is important all year round, and we are incredibly proud of the support we offer through our safeguarding team. If you think your child would benefit from additional support, please get in touch.

KSA is linked with **NHS Children and Young People's Mental Health Support Team (MHST)**. MHST are conducting a survey to assess your understanding of the current mental health needs within KSA, what is already in place to support those needs as well as areas you feel need additional support. Your responses will be part of their audit and will help to improve the mental health provision in KSA.

Parent/Carer: School Mental Health Needs Questionnaire - KSA

Please also see attached for details of 3 events which our friends at Green Patch are running next week.

<u>M</u> **Important:** Some discussions around mental health can be triggering for certain children.

• If you feel this may be the case for your child, please inform their **form tutor** so we can make the necessary adjustments and ensure content is handled sensitively.

Teaching & Learning: Helping Every Child Succeed

This week, we held a **Teaching & Learning Twilight** session focused on how we can best support all children in their learning.

What we did:

- Teachers shared strategies on **executive functions** our key skills for learning and organisation.
- A swap shop where staff shared resources and explored best practices across different departments.
- Teach Meets: Heads of Year shared successful strategies for children who find school challenging.

There was a **real buzz in the room**, and it was inspiring to see such dedication to our **Kids Do Well If They Can** philosophy. Staff were **enthusiastic and open** to learning new strategies to **improve communication and teaching** for all children.

Year 11 Parents' Evening – Thursday 6th February

A reminder that our **Year 11 Parents' Evening** is taking place on **Thursday, 6th February**.

- We will share **key strategies and up-to-date information** to help students achieve their best in the summer exams.
- A great opportunity to discuss **progress**, **next steps**, **and support available**.

We strongly encourage all Year 11 parents and carers to attend.

S Occupational Therapy at KSA

This week, we were **delighted** to welcome an **Occupational Therapist** to KSA – the first of several days she will be working with us.

What this means for students:

- Development of **bespoke sensory programmes** for those with sensory sensitivities.
- Staff training on strategies to help students self-regulate throughout the school day.

Why this matters: As a parent, I know how crucial it is to understand and support a child's sensory needs. By proactively managing this during the school day, we aim to help students:

- Stay regulated and engaged in learning.
- ✓ Prevent the emotional overload that can often lead to meltdowns at home.

An Exciting Project: Celebrating Girls in Sport

Mrs Charlton is undertaking an **exciting project** to celebrate the sporting achievements of our female students by creating a **Wall of Fame** in the PE wing.

What is it?

- A space to **highlight the talent** of our female students in sport.
- An opportunity for girls to **share their achievements** and inspire others.
- A chance to **promote clubs and training opportunities** for students interested in trying something new.

How to get involved:

- A document will be sent home via **Edulink**, inviting students to submit a **photo** of themselves participating in their chosen sport.
- Parental consent will be required for any photos to be displayed.

We look forward to **celebrating the achievements** of our students and **encouraging more girls to get involved in sport.**

Thank You for Your Support

As always, we appreciate your **ongoing support** in helping us create a positive and engaging learning environment for all our children.

Mrs Giovanelli