

Kettering Science Academy

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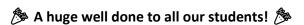
Dear all

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a restful break and is settling back into routines.

Year 11 & Year 13 Mock Exams

This week marks the start of the **second set of mock exams** for Year 11 and Year 13, and I have been **absolutely blown away** by the behaviour, commitment, and dedication of both year groups.

Mr. Reid, who has been at KSA for quite some time (!), commented that it is the **best conduct he** has seen in the start to a mock exam series in all his years at the school.



I encourage them to keep up this fantastic attitude and use these exams as an opportunity to give their very best effort. This will allow us to fine-tune our final feedback and offer targeted support before the real exams.

We recognise that this period can be stressful, and student **wellbeing remains a priority**. We have many resources and access to support available—please do not hesitate to contact your **child's form tutor or year team** if needed.

Year 9 Options Evening

This week we also had our Options Evening which always proves an exciting one for students as they start to think about their **next steps** and choose subjects they are **truly interested in**.

We had a **phenomenal turnout**—the best the school has ever seen! It was standing room only, which really reflects the **commitment** of this year group and their parents.

This is just the **start of the journey**, and we will be providing plenty of **information and support** over the next few weeks to help our young people make the best possible choices for their future.

Isebrook School Visit – Hair & Beauty Collaboration

On Friday, Mrs. Redmayne-Addison took a group of students to Isebrook School, where they have an **industry-standard salon**.

Our students spent the morning learning **basic hairdressing skills**, and Mrs. Redmayne even returned with some beautiful curls courtesy of our young people!

We are hoping to extend this opportunity to more students, and we are seriously exploring the possibility of developing our own salon at KSA.

We know this is something many of our students are interested in, and alongside the expansion of our construction and trade provision, we want to develop this aspect of vocational education.

If you, or someone you know, is a qualified instructor or professional who would be willing to support this initiative, we would love to hear from you.

At this stage, we are keen to connect with industry professionals who could help us set up and potentially run this provision.

Tuniform & Conduct

The **first week back** always takes a little time to **settle into routines**, and overall, student **conduct has been very good**. However, **uniform** has been a bit of a **mixed bag**.

We really appreciate your **support** in ensuring children **leave home wearing the correct KSA uniform**.

⚠ If students arrive in **non-KSA items**, they will be asked to **swap them on entry**. As always, if they do not wish to do this, they **simply need to wear the correct uniform!**

Attendance Matters

Attendance has been **strong** since returning from the break, and we **appreciate your support**.

While we know that young people become unwell and that for some, attendance is a challenge, we encourage every student to attend as much as possible.

Thank you for your **continued efforts** in ensuring your child is **in school whenever possible**.

© Community Art Class

Mrs. Mawle has launched our first community art class, which is open to all parents.

Information has been shared, and the first rotation of classes are taking place on Tuesday afternoons after school.

This is a fantastic opportunity to attend with your child and learn a new skill together—or come alone if you prefer!

We still have space for more of you to join us so please reach out for further information or to book. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

☐ Changes to Communication – Moving to Notifications

We are working hard to **streamline communications**, as we know that receiving lots of emails can sometimes become overwhelming and mean it is hard to identify the most important information.

To help **declutter inboxes**, we are shifting to a **push notification system** through **EduLink** rather than emails.

The vast majority of parents (75%) who use EduLink already have the app, meaning this change should have minimal disruption.

For those who have **not yet downloaded it**, we will be resending **details on how to access EduLink**.

Additionally, we have heard your **feedback** about wanting **more details on the nature of behaviour points**.

As part of the changes outlined above, which will **improve the efficiency and functionality** of EduLink, we should be able to implement this improvement in the next stage.

This will include providing further details about the specific incident that led to behaviour points being issued, ensuring greater transparency for parents.

A few key points to note:

- **Detention notifications will still be sent via email to parents** to ensure they are seen, but students will receive these as **push notifications**.
- Serious behaviour incidents will not be included in standard notifications—these will continue to be communicated separately by staff where necessary.
- Emails about trips and events will now be scheduled for after 5:30pm following feedback from parents who found it difficult to keep up with information during the day. This means you will now know when to check for these updates.
- If you need any help with the app or using EduLink, please contact: Sara Gilbert (sara.gilbert@ketteringscienceacademy.org), who will be happy to assist.
- Over the coming weeks, we will also be reaching out to parents for further engagement on communication preferences to ensure we continue to refine how we share important information with you.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to updating you again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli