

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

Dear all

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

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### 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.

### A huge well done to all our students!

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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### **Uniform & 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!**

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### **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**.


☒ **This remains the single best way for them to achieve their potential.**

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

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### **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.

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## **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**.


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### **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](mailto: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.

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

Mrs Giovanelli