

6th Form Parents' Bulletin: October 2020

Welcome to the first Parent Bulletin of the new academic year! We hope you find it informative.

We have been delighted with the manner in which both Year 12 and 13 have settled back in to school life. They have adapted superbly to the necessary changes to systems and routines and it has been a pleasure to be back in school working with these resilient and positive young people.

Key dates

- **Monday 2th - Monday 9th November:** GCSE Maths and English Resit Exams
- **Friday 13th November:** Children in Need Day in school run by 6th Formers
- **17th November:** Year 12 and 13 Interim reports issued
- **Thursday 19th November:** Year 12 and 13 Virtual Parents' Consultation Evening
- **Monday 8th February 2021:** Mock Exam period begins for Year 12 and 13 before half term
- **Thursday 11th March 2020:** The second Year 12 and 13 Parents' Consultation Evening
- **Start of A level Exams:** 7th June 2021 (provisional)
- **A Level Exam Results Days:** 24th August and GCSE: 27th August 9 (provisional)

Our new Sixth Form Centre



Students have settled really well into the fabulous new building where they have much more space and several areas where they can quietly study when they don't have lessons. The centre is open until 6.00 pm every evening for students to work and have access to the facilities.

Students have come back with a superb attitude to their work and Year 13s are helping the Year 12s to settle into 6th form life. Please encourage your son/daughter to get involved in the student mentoring scheme that we have where Year 12s can meet with Year 13 students who do the same subjects for helpful tips and advice.

If you have concerns at any point this year that your son/daughter is struggling with their work, or other aspects of school life, please do get in touch so that we can work together to support them.

Keeping school safe

We have been really grateful to you as parents for the support you have given us in terms of Covid control measures. Students are wearing masks, keeping to the one way system and sanitising their hands and tables regularly. Thank you also to those of you who have self-isolated as a family whilst waiting for results of a Covid test. So far we have kept all lessons going and this is in no small part down to your actions.

As a reminder please ensure your son/daughter does not attend school if:

- They have any [symptoms of coronavirus](#). This [flowchart](#) may help you if your child is unwell and you are unsure if you should send them into school.
- They've tested positive for coronavirus in the last 10 days or live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive; or
- They've received an unclear, void, or borderline coronavirus test result due to having coronavirus symptoms or live with someone who has received an unclear, void, or borderline test result as a result of symptoms.
- Someone in their support bubble (*where people who live alone (or just with their children) meet people from 1 other household*) has symptoms or has tested positive; or
- They've been told by [NHS Test and Trace \(including the NHS Test and Trace App\)](#) that they've been in close contact with a person with coronavirus

When any of points 1 to 6 happen, families must follow the [stay at home guidance](#) which sets out that students should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to [have a test](#). Parents must inform school of the outcome of a test.

Thank you again

School work if self-isolating

Whilst self isolating students will be set work by their subject teachers and this will be via their school email account or through Show My Homework. Please do let Mrs Booth know if there is an issue with accessing work

'Settling in' by Year 12s

This year we had a record number of students apply and successfully gain a place in the Sixth Form. Here are a few comments from Year12 students about the experience of joining the 6th Form.

“When I moved to Kimberley Sixth Form, despite all of the new rules and restrictions, straight away I felt comfortable and at ease with the teachers, surroundings and the other students who were very welcoming.” Jessica Shepherd

“Coming from a different school, I found that over the first six weeks of Year 12 everyone at Kimberley was very welcoming and has helped me feel at ease. I have settled in well with the subjects I am taking and the teachers are always there to help you make the right decision.” Emily Cawkwell

“My first 6 weeks at the Sixth Form have ran very smoothly. I have settled in really well as I have got to know my subjects and am starting to understand the new and difficult content with the help of my teachers who are always willing to help either in their breaks or afterschool. The new Sixth Form Centre is better than I expected as it has many facilities to aid our learning which we can use in our free time such as computers and lots of classrooms, all for sixth formers only meaning they are quiet allowing us study effectively. Mrs Booth and Mrs Livings, as well as the other sixth form team have been excellent helping us to settle in and are always there if we need any additional help and support.” Saskia Bexon

“My first 6 weeks at sixth form have been great. I’ve settled in well with my new subjects and my teachers are helping me understand all of the new content. The new Sixth Form Centre has great facilities for study periods which has already allowed me to keep on top of my work and any extra revision. The sixth form team are excellent at helping you with anything you need.” Maisie Woolis

Year 13 Geography Field Trip to the Holderness Coast

Our Year 13 Geographers were able, following a cancelled trip due to Covid, gain first-hand experience of fieldwork when they spent a day on the coast this half term.....



Kira and Isobel examining sea defences in a socially distanced manner!

An account of the day....On Tuesday 6th October, the Y13 Geography classes took a day trip to the Holderness Coast, in order to complete a fieldtrip session that we’d unfortunately missed out on before the summer. Despite having to get to school for 6:50am, the attitude on the coach was lively,

and by the time we arrived at our first destination, Flamborough Head, everyone was raring to go. After an hour of data collection such as sediment analysis, we hopped back on the coach to travel to Hornsea, where we collected more data, and explored the many sea defenses we had learnt about during our Y12 lessons, such as groynes (wooden posts that lie perpendicular to the sea), and sea walls. For lunch, some of us even managed to get fish and chips on the seafront! Finally, we went to Mableton, where we completed a human geography fieldwork task, which definitely added a bit of variety to our day. Despite everything going on in the world at the moment, I'm glad that we all got the opportunity to complete some fieldwork together, as to better prepare us for our coursework that we'll be completing from now, up until Christmas. Kira Toplis



Parents' Evening on November 19th

We look forward to seeing you, albeit virtually, at the forthcoming Parents' Evening. The evening gives you a valuable opportunity to discuss your son's/daughter's progress with staff. This year we are using the on line booking system in the 6th Form. Details of how to access this facility will be emailed at a later date. Mrs Booth, the 6th Form Co-ordinator will also be available for appointments if you feel you would like to discuss any concerns.

Charity matters: Fundraising

Sixth Formers play a key role in the fundraising that goes on in school and have been determined to make a difference despite needing to adhere to all the necessary Covid safety measures in school.

The Charity Committee Heads have this to say on the matter of fundraising.....

“Despite COVID meaning a slow start to fundraising this year, we in the sixth form are still very keen to keep events going as normally as possible. We are currently planning two charity days – with the first being this Friday 16th October where we are wearing red in order to raise awareness for the charity campaign, ‘Show Racism the Red Card’. The second event will be Children In Need which will be taking place on Friday 13th November. Whilst some of the Children In Need events can't go ahead in the same way as they normally would, we are trying our hardest to find safe ways to raise money for this very worthy charity. We have

been really pleased with the response of the 6th Formers in terms of attendance at charity meetings and look forward to a successful, socially distanced and safe Children in Need Day”!

From the Charity Committee Heads : Georgia Flinton, Amelia Hardy and Eve Mcgrenaghan

Year 12 Community Service

Unfortunately students have not been able to take part in community service this year because of the restrictions. As soon as we can we will be encouraging Year 12 students to get involved in some form of service. In the past 6th Formers have helped in lower school lessons, charity shops, primary schools and care homes. All of which has given them valuable experiences and increased self-confidence.

Year 12 Work Experience

We are hopeful that Work Experience week will take place next summer (dates to be confirmed).

In previous years all Year 12 students have had the opportunity to take part in a week's Work Experience in the Summer Term and they receive help and advice on how to arrange this after Christmas. If your son/daughter already has a clear idea of what they would like to do please do encourage them to start thinking about this. If in doubt they can talk to Mrs Booth, Mrs Livings or Miss Iwanczuk. If you feel you could offer an experience placement we would really like to hear from you.

Life after the 6th Form

- **Careers Advice**

We regularly have our Careers Advisor in school on Wednesday afternoons giving independent advice to Sixth Formers. If you feel your son/daughter would benefit from a meeting then please encourage them to make an appointment through Mrs Booth. Alternatively, please feel free to email either Mrs Booth, Miss Iwanczuk or Mrs Livings if you have a concern about career pathways.

- **Year 13 : University Help**

Mrs Livings and Miss Iwanczuk are available on Fridays after school (3.30pm-6.00pm) to help students with their personal statements and to go through the process of applying to university. Please encourage your son/daughter to come to these sessions. Help with apprenticeship applications is also available once the placements become available for application . A number of university applications have already been sent off and the offers are coming in. If your son or daughter is asked for an interview please remind them to book a mock interview with Mrs Livings.

- **Year 13: Apprenticeships**

A programme of opportunities is offered to students who do not wish to apply to university. So far the students have received a workshops from the Careers Service with

another one planned after half term. There are further advice sessions planned for next term including talks from ex- students who are now working for Rolls Royce and Boots.

Tutorial Work

During each Tuesday Period 3 all 6th Formers have an hour dedicated to Tutorial Work. We try to make this relevant to the needs of each year group and along with working on aspects of learning such as study skills and self-assessment we also involve outside experts to enhance the experience for students.

So far this half term Year 13 students have received a workshop delivered by The University of Nottingham on applying for university. They have also been involved in interactive Road Safety Workshops with the Road Safety Partnership.

Year 12s have received Study Skills workshops from the University of Nottingham as well as a post 18 options talk, again from the University of Nottingham.

Ill Health

Please let us know as early as possible in the morning if you feel your son/daughter is not well enough for school. Students emailing or ringing up doesn't allow us to authorise an absence. We do need to hear that the absence has been authorised by parents/carers. Our extension number is 225. Please avoid taking holidays in term-time as it seriously affects students' ability to keep up with the fast pace of A level work.

Emails

Please encourage your sons/daughters to check their emails regularly as this is a vital way of staff communicating with students.

Student Bulletins

Students are emailed the weekly Student Bulletin each Sunday night and this contains important information about the week ahead as well as forthcoming events that students need to be aware of. The bulletin also contains up to date information regarding university run events and apprenticeship opportunities. It is put on to the 6th Form website each week. We have attached the latest Student Bulletin for your information.

We hope you find this bulletin useful in terms of keeping you in touch with what is going on in the Sixth Form. We will send another bulletin out before Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you 'virtually' at the Parents' Evening on the 19th November

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