

24th October 2025

Issue #04

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

As we reach the end of the first (and longest) half term of the year, I am filled with immense pride in our school community. Even as the days have grown shorter and the weather more unpredictable, our students and staff have approached every challenge with energy, determination, and positivity. It has been a truly remarkable start to the academic year.

This half term has been a celebration of our values: Aspire, Belong, and Care. I have loved seeing our students aiming high, embracing new challenges, and supporting one another so generously. The sense of belonging in our school is tangible in every classroom, corridor, and playground, and it is this sense of community that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow. The care our staff show for every individual, and the care our students show for each other, continues to impress me day after day.

I hope that all our families, students and staff can enjoy a well-earned, restful break. Take time to relax, recharge, and celebrate all that has been achieved so far. I am confident that when we return, we will continue to dream big, support one another, and make the second half of the term even more amazing than the first.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making our school a place where everyone can thrive and flourish. "Let all that you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

- 27th - 31st October- Half Term (School closed).
- 6th November- Y11 Progress Evening.
- 7th November- Y9 reports sent home.
- 11th November- Y12 & Y13 Progress Evening.
- 13th November- Y8 Jodrell Bank trip.
- 14th November- Y10 Reports sent home.
- 19th November- Y10 Keep the Cash event.
- 20th November- Y9 Keep the Cash event.
- 27th November- Awards Evening.
- 1st December- Start of Y12/13 Mocks.
- 5th December- School Closed (INSET).
- 8th December- Start of Y10 Mocks.



A message from...



Our Chaplain

What's brought you joy this term?

What have you learned?

What are you thankful for?

A lot has happened in the past 8 weeks. There is so much that's been achieved and a huge amount to be thankful for. I've seen students aiming high and trying to do their best in all things.

So how can we use the half term break to rest and come back in November ready to continue learning?



It's good to take a moment to stop, rest and reflect. The Bible says that resting is something Jesus did intentionally. He would go and find a quiet and solitary place to rest and pray.

Jesus said, "come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Jesus was saying that he can provide spiritual rest and a sense of belonging and peace.

How will you use this half term to rest and look after yourself in your mind, body and spirit?



Attendance

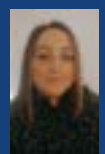


Spotlight on The Attendance Team

Mr Worthington
Assistant Principal & Attendance Champion



Mrs Beswick-Pepper
Attendance & Welfare Officer



Mrs Thorne
Home School Link Worker



Year to date attendance
Y7- 95.3%
Y8- 94.5%
Y9- 92.2%
Y10- 90.4%
Y11- 87.9%



The Importance of Consistent School Attendance

At The King's, we believe that every day at school is an opportunity for growth, learning, development and forming meaningful connections.

Regular attendance is key to academic success, as it allows students to fully engage with lessons, participate in discussions, and build essential skills for the future.

Missed days can result in gaps in knowledge, making it harder to stay on track. So, we encourage all students to make school a priority, stay committed, and be present and be punctual each day.

Remember, your education is your future!

Let's continue to make every day count!

The King's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY EDITIONS

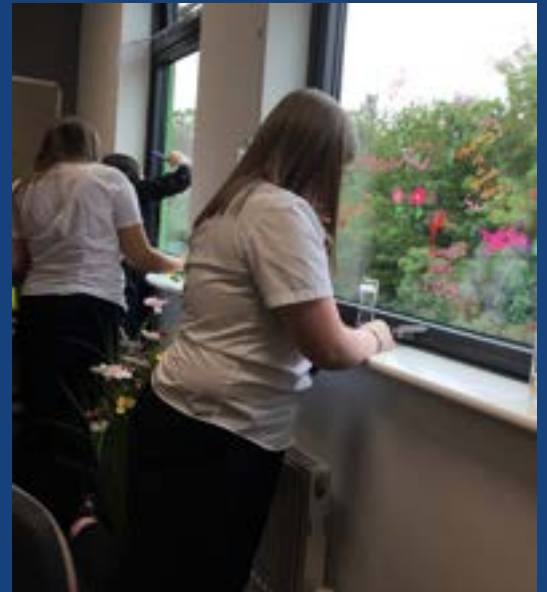
Attendance Ladder

Equates to number of school days off each year	
	100% > Perfection
4 School days missed	98% > Impressive
6 School days missed	97% > Good
7 School days missed	96% > On Target
9 School days missed	95% > Slight Concern
13 School days missed	93% > Concerns
20 School days missed	90% > Very Concerned
30 School days missed	85% > Serious Concerns



Safeguarding

This week, we had a visit from Chester, our school dog. Chester is an important part of our school community, helping to support children who may be finding it difficult to regulate their emotions.



This term, the Safeguarding Team has introduced a new Craft Club, open to all year groups every Thursday lunchtime. The club provides a welcoming space where children can build friendships, practise mindfulness, and enjoy some relaxing creative time together.





Christian Distinctiveness

Remembrance Poppy Parade – Student Artwork on Display

Our students have created their own Remembrance poppies, which will be proudly displayed along the parade route in Kidsgrove. This community display is a chance for our young people to honour service and sacrifice while sharing their creativity with everyone who passes by. The poppies will be up through early November and over Remembrance weekend. Do take a walk along the route to spot your child's design and the work of their friends and classmates.

Huge thanks to everyone who supported the creation of these poppies. We're proud of our students for learning about remembrance and contributing so thoughtfully to our community.



Enrichment



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Girls Football Whole school	Music coursework catchup Year 11	Netball Whole school	Samba Band Year 7, 8, 9	Football Year 7 and 8
Football Whole School	English Masterclass Year 11 set 3	Football - Year 9, 10 and 11	Jam Session Year 10 and 11	Chess and Board Games Club Whole School
GCSE Science Drop in Year 10 and 11	Christian Union Whole school	Choir - Year 9, 10 and 11	Spiritual Quiet Space Whole School	Creative Writing Whole School
GCSE Science Higher tier Masterclass Year 10 and 11		English Masterclass - 11 set 2	KS4 Art Masterclass	English Masterclass 11 Set 5
11-4 ENG Masterclass		English Masterclass - 11 set 1	Pioneers Year 7, 8, 9	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
Nat Art Club Limited to 8 students in Yr 8 and 9	Badminton 16 Students max	English Masterclass 11 set 5	Musical Drama Group Whole School	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
India drop in Year 9 students going to India		English Masterclass 11 set 2	GCSE Science foundation class Year 10 and 11	
Rotary		School biodiversity club Whole School		
IT Masterclass Year 11	11 Masterclass Year 10	Code club Whole School		
Enterprise Masterclass Year 11		KS4 Art Masterclass Yr 10 and 11		
		Mindful Colouring Club Whole school		
Computing Masterclass - Yr 11	Humanities games and support club Whole school	KS3 Science club WEEK A ONLY		
KS4 Art Masterclass Yr 10 and 11	KS4 Art - Year 10 and 11			
KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11				

After school
15.05

Lunch
13.20



Year 11 Sporting Success!



Our Year 11 boys' football team played their first match away at Newcastle-under-Lyme College, holding a strong St John Fisher side to an impressive 0-0 draw. The team showed outstanding teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship throughout — a fantastic start to their season!

Meanwhile, our Year 11 netball team competed in a tournament last Friday and put in some brilliant performances, including a standout 8-4 victory over Chesterton. The girls displayed excellent organisation, determination and motivation — a true credit to Miss Kaminkas and the school.

Well done to all involved — we're incredibly proud of your effort, attitude and achievements!



Home-School Links

Newcastle Family hub are running a free 6 week course for parents of teenagers to feel more confident in your parenting, develop more effective communication and learn about why they do the things they do.

Visit their facebook page for more information and the other events they run.

<https://www.facebook.com/Newcastlefamilyhub>

Talking Teens Virtual



Scan for more information

Would you like to feel more confident parenting your teen? Would you like to understand their emotions and behaviours, and receive support to help set clear and appropriate boundaries? Our **FREE Virtual Talking Teens course** for 13-18 year olds may be for you.

When and where?
Various dates and times available, please contact us to find your local course.

To register your interest please contact groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



Family Hub
Staffordshire

- Right help.
- Right time.
- Right place.

Search Family Hubs Staffordshire to get the support you deserve

English

As we close the chapter on an exciting term, a new one is ready to be opened:

- Year 7 – Poetry
- Year 8 – Poetry & Diversity
- Year 9 – Unseen poetry & rhetoric
- Year 10 – A Christmas Carol
- Year 11 – Macbeth



Check out these exciting national writing competitions by following the links!

Year 12 and 13



Year 10-13

GCSE Killer Quotes

Stage directions

'We hear the sharp ring of a doorbell. Birling stops to listen.'



Mrs Wilson

Science

What's been happening in science?

This week has seen an exceptional turn out for Mrs Wilsons Monday drop-in with a whopping 28 students who turned up to revise and improve their subject knowledge!



What learning has been taking place this week?

This week KS4 have been learning about Specific Heat Capacity in Physics and started a new topic- Homeostasis which looks and nerves and internal systems! We've also seen KS3 have been smashing Meaningful Homework submissions, so keep up the good work!



WED LUNCH WEEK A

KS3 Science Club

This week we did some spookily wicked experiments; including tea bag ghosts and slippery slime! The students were able to make their own slime and watch as we used convection currents to sent lit tea bags floating into the air!

KS4 Science Study Support Sessions

KS4 Drop-in - come with a question!	Monday Lunchtimes	3.11
KS4 Higher tier Masterclass	Monday After school (3.15-4)	3.11
KS4 Foundation tier Masterclass	Thursday Lunchtime	3.8



Computer Science

This half term, our amazing Year 9 students have been completing their assessments that included questions from the internet safety units studied in Y7 and Y8.

A special shout out goes to the students below who hit 100% in their first assessment. Yes, full marks! Mr Aslam and Mrs Kirk are extra proud of you.

Pearl A

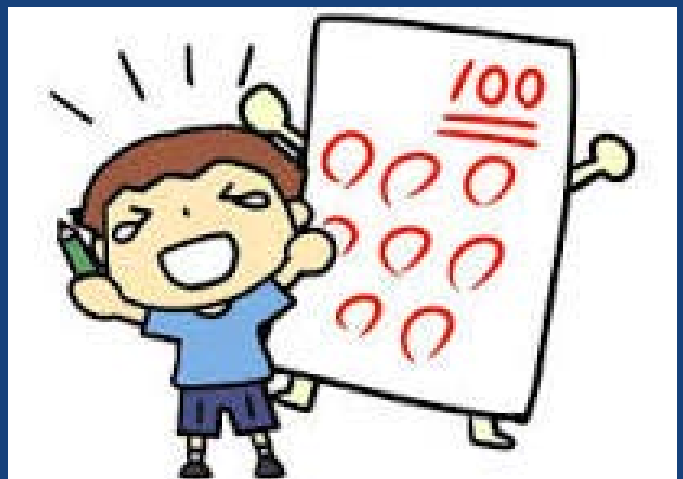
Maisie G

Sophie I

Alisha R

Finley E

Sienna H





Performing Arts

This half term, year 7 have been focusing on FUEL BAG skills. We had a strong focus this week on audience awareness and making sure we don't turn our back to the audience. Students were given laminated audiences to help them with this during their rehearsal time.

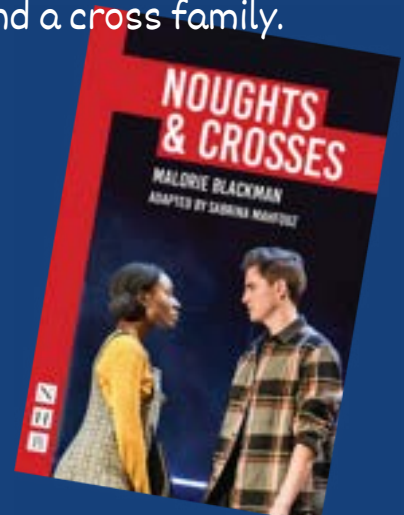


**FUEL
BAG**

This half term, year 8 have been focusing on the GCSE skill 'Devising'. This skill has taught them how to understand the use of Stimulus material used as inspiration for a scene. Students used skills like mind mapping to help them use their imaginations about various objects/images.



This half term, year 9 have been focusing on 'Noughts and Crosses' which is a play based on a role reversal of racism in England. In this play, noughts are treated like criminals because of the colour of their skin. Students in Year 9 looked into families and the difference between a nought family and a cross family.





Wellbeing Hub



Staying Warm in PE



With the colder weather setting in, our Year 7 students have been excellent role models, demonstrating all the different ways to stay warm and comfortable during PE lessons.

They've been showcasing the full range of approved PE kit options, including the blue King's PE T-shirt, King's skort or shorts, plain black leggings or tracksuit bottoms, and the King's quarter-zip jumper — perfect for those chilly outdoor sessions!

A big well done to our Year 7s for looking smart, staying active, and representing The King's in true style!

Sixth form Sport & Health & Social Care



Over the last fortnight, our Year 12 and 13 BTEC Sport students have been deepening their understanding of training methods used to develop each component of fitness. As part of their learning, students were challenged to plan and deliver a presentation and a practical session based on an assigned method of training. This task really pushed them outside of their comfort zones, encouraging confidence, creativity and teamwork. The experience has been invaluable for developing key employability skills such as planning, delivery, communication and leadership — and our students absolutely smashed it



Meanwhile, our Year 12 Health and Social Care students have been engaging in cooperative learning activities to consolidate their understanding of Anatomy and Physiology – Learning Aim A. They have been revising key topics including cells, energy, homeostasis and genetics, demonstrating excellent teamwork and focus throughout. The girls have shown real dedication to developing their knowledge of complex scientific concepts and have made outstanding progress — well done everyone!



KS4 BTEC Sport Study Support Sessions

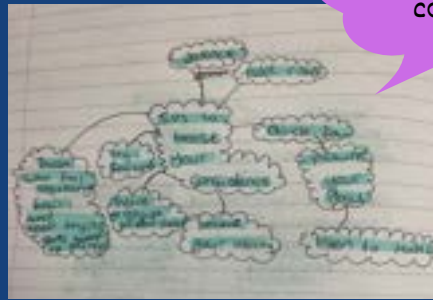
Sport	Wednesday Lunchtime	1.6
Health & Social Care	Wednesday Lunchtime	1.6
Child Development	Wednesday Lunchtime	1.6

Miss Nicholls

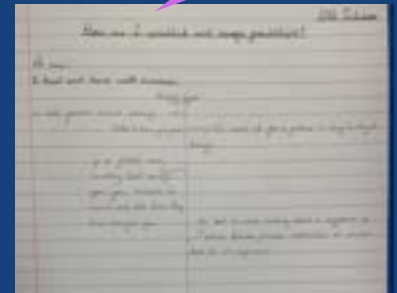
RSHE



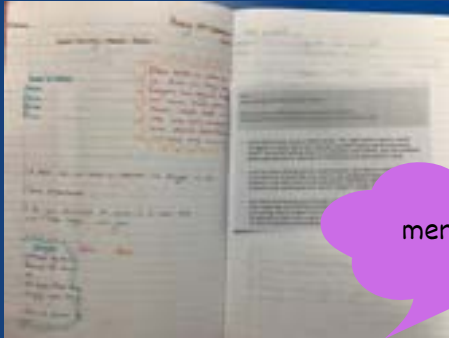
self worth and confidence



friendships



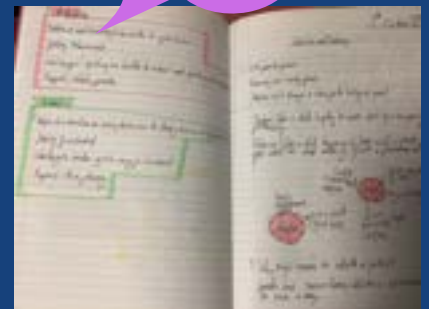
mental health



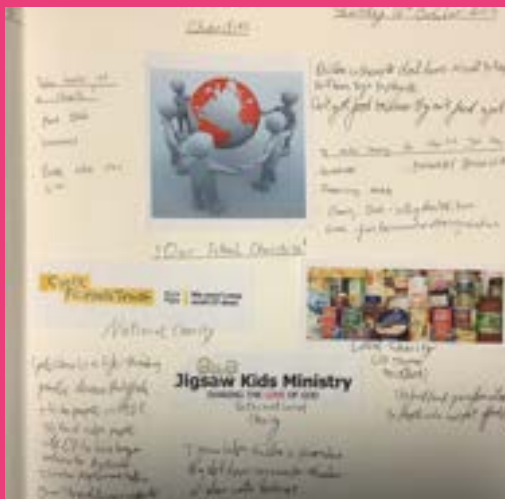
First Aid and CPR



fostering and adoption



Form Time Floor Book Spotlight



Mr Haworth and Nazareth 9

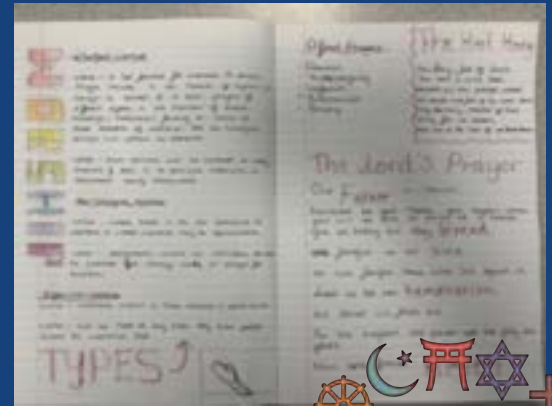
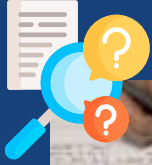
Nazareth 9 have created an excellent piece looking at our local, national and international charities we support here at The King's.

They have recognised the importance each charity does to support people and why it is important to raise the profile for charities!

Miss Sharrock

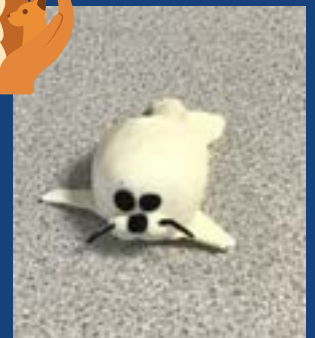
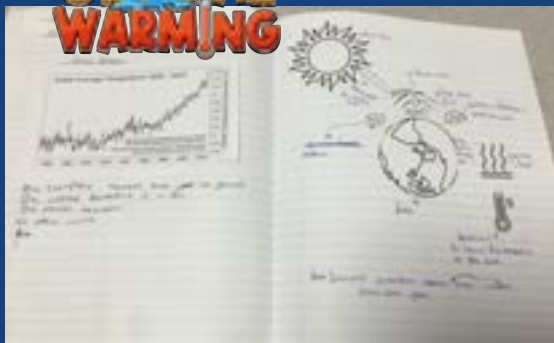


Humanities



What we've been learning this half-term...

GLOBAL WARMING



field trip

Our Year 11 students had an amazing day in Shrewsbury exploring how the town changes from the CBD to the suburbs.

From observing land use patterns to spotting how services and housing vary across the town, the students were fully engaged and applying their classroom learning in the real world. Well done to everyone for your enthusiasm and curiosity!



Creative Arts

The Year 10 GCSE Art group has been busy this week preparing their own sketchbooks ready for their first art trip to Birmingham on Monday 3rd November. As a reminder, can all consent and payments be made by the end of this week please!



Year 7 Music – Half Term Overview

This half term, Year 7 students have been introduced to some of the key building blocks of music, including pulse, rhythm, and basic musical notation. Through a range of listening exercises and practical activities, they have started to develop their understanding of how music is structured and how it can be created and performed. Students have had the opportunity to get hands-on with a variety of percussion instruments, working in small groups to rehearse and perform short rhythmic pieces. They've also taken their creativity a step further by composing their own music, applying what they've learned about rhythm and notation.

It's been a fun and engaging start to their music journey here at the King's, and they've made great progress in developing both their musical skills and their confidence when performing as part of a group.





Careers

Over the last half term our KS4 students have been really busy with writing CV's, applying for college places and researching and contacting employers for work experience placements. The effort students are putting in to work towards their post 16 provisions is amazing - Keep up the hard work.

Upcoming Unifrog Events

unifrog

November

- **w/c 10 Nov - Apprenticeship application masterclasses:** Expert tips from some of the biggest employers on how to write a great application and ace the interview process to get an apprenticeship.

December

- **2 Dec - GCSE choices:** How do you choose the right subjects for GCSEs? We'll share some key things to think about!
- **3 Dec - Post-16 options:** Not sure what to do after GCSEs? Explore your options with schools, colleges, and employers and discover the best fit for you.
- **9 Dec - How to prepare for exams:** If you have mock or real exams coming up, this webinar will give you top tips on revising and getting ready.



Log in and scan to
sign up or visit:
[unifrog.org/student
/webinars](https://unifrog.org/student/webinars)





Year 7

WOW - what an incredible start to your secondary school journey!

Year 7 have settled into The King's exceptionally well and are enjoying a wide range of subjects and extra-curricular clubs

You have definitely all earnt a well-deserved rest over half term - well done!

A reminder to all students about brining in your "super six" equipment every day - pen, green pen, pencil, ruler, calculator and reading book.

Also, to keep going with our attendance to keep us top of the school for year group attendance.

Thank you for a lovely half term :)



Year 8

Wow! What a phenomenal half term we've had!

Year 8 continue to go the extra mile and never fail to put a smile on my face day in, day out.

A special shout-out goes to Sophia B, Maisie P and Aleah D, who have consistently been in the top three students week after week – well done, girls!

It's always fantastic to see every Friday that our Year 8 form groups are giving the other year groups a real run for their money and consistently placing in the top 10. Keep up the great work everyone!

Just a gentle reminder that all Year 8 students are required to have their Super Six items each day: a pen, pencil, ruler, green pen, calculator, and reading book. Please do check that your child has all of their essential equipment in their bag every morning.

Wishing you all a restful and well-deserved half term break, and I look forward to seeing what the next half term has in store for my amazing Year 8s!

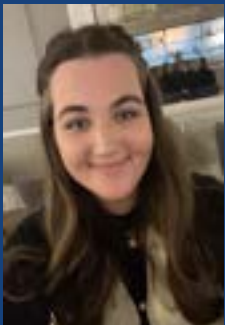


Year 9

Well done to our top 10 students for positive points this half term

Aiden M
Jaiden ES-G
Caitlin A
Lexi C
Sophie I
Yana A
Imogen H
Ethan H
Ava S
Busola A

The amazing year 9 team



'I'm Miss Thwaites and I am form tutor for Cana 9. I took them on as my form at the beginning of year 8 and am so proud of who they are becoming and how well they are doing. I am very caring of my form and always hope the best for them, checking in on them whenever I can. On top of that I am a history teacher and teach many of our year 9s. I moved down to Stoke to work for the Kings and love the kind atmosphere of the school. I am a keen reader and love doing charity work, especially with our school Rotary for Jigsaw

My name is Mr Haworth, I am the form tutor for Nazareth 9 and teach maths from year 7 up to year 13. I run board games club on Friday lunchtimes which includes chess, connect 4, battleships, draughts, card games and other table top games. I also run badminton club on Tuesday lunchtimes in the sports hall. If your child is interested in any of these enrichment opportunities, please ask them to come and see me so that they don't miss out!

I am Mr Griffiths and the form tutor for Galilee, I am a teacher of PE so I can always be located down in the sports hall if my form need me. I love a footy catch up from the weekend and hope to see many of Galilee joining in the school sports teams



My name is Mr Vesty, I have been teaching Science here at the Kings for a while now. My hobbies outside of work include fishing. I really enjoy each morning with my form which is Jericho.

In our team this year we also have Mrs Williams who is supporting this year in covering Damascus, I know Mrs Williams put huge support in for the harvest collection and helped Damascus gather 3 boxes in total.

Inspirational quote - Always work with the people who care the most



Year 10

What a fantastic half term it's been!

Year 10 have made an outstanding start to their first GCSE year — their enthusiasm, effort, and attitude have truly shone through. Many students have already begun securing placements for next year's work experience, which is the strongest start we've ever seen. Well done, Year 10! We can't wait to see all that you achieve on your placements.

A special congratulations also goes out to the top student in each form for earning the highest number of positive points since returning in September — an incredible achievement!

Galilee: Kateryna H

Cana: Florence T and Andrew R

Damascus: Alexis R

Jericho: Rose R

Nazareth: Tania M

Before we all enjoy a well-deserved half-term break, a quick reminder for parents and guardians: please ensure that students return in full school uniform and without jewellery or false nails. As lovely as they may be, these items are not permitted, and we'd appreciate your support in upholding our uniform expectations.

Have a wonderful half term, Year 10 — you've absolutely earned it!



Year 11

The pupils listed below have gone through the half term not picking up any negative points. Well done, I'm super proud of you.



Nnenna A	Alfie B	Isabelle D	Alania J	Sophie N	Niko S
Stas A	Elizabeth B	Ogan D	Timothy K	Amelia P	Harrison S
Lily A	Chloe Annelise B	Milly E	Dru L-J	Lewis P	Devon S
Jay B	Lochlan B	Lilly-Mae E	Cleo M	Ayden P	Mariella S-S
Lucas B	Finley B	Oliver E	Leah M	Michael P	Amelia S
Max B	Max C	Max F	Joseph M	Megan P	Ella T
Hannah B	Alfie C	Flo G	Amber M	Kitty P	Elizabeth V
Jack B	Alex C	Sophie G	Brandon M-S	Evie R	Liam W
Jacob B	Sophia C	Imogen H	Peter M	Kaila R	Sophie W
Lexi B	Liam D	Jakob H	Daisy-Mae M	Sophie R	Benjamin W
Ethan B	Ellie-Mai D	Connor H	Nsikayethu N	Bethan S	
Laurie B	Lennon D	Olivia J	Tia N	Hayden S	



**School days
until the first exam**



Sixth Form



As part of our Harvest celebrations this week, we had the amazing opportunity to welcome Jane B from Kidsgrove Foodbank and The Trussell Trust into the Sixth Form.

Students engaged in thoughtful discussions, sharing their ideas, feelings, and attitudes about food poverty and community support. They also explored ways to volunteer and make a positive impact within the school and the wider community.

We were especially proud to highlight Benasil M, one of our Year 13 students, who frequently volunteers at the food bank, demonstrating one of our school values, Care. It is inspiring to see our students living out our values in their everyday lives.

It was a privilege to host Jane and benefit from her knowledge, experience, and inspiring commitment to helping others.

Student spotlight

This week, we're celebrating two of our incredible A Level Maths students, Evie B and Jacob C!

Evie and Jacob have generously given up their own time to create a GCSE Maths Support Group for students preparing for their resits. Their initiative, kindness, and commitment to helping others truly reflect the values we're proud of as a school community.

They will be recognised with a Pride of the Kings Award for their outstanding contribution. We are so proud of moments like these, well done, Evie and Jacob!

