



Dear Parents and Carers,

15th December 2023

As we are approaching the end of the first term of the school year, it is useful to reflect on some aspects of our work so far this year.

2023 Exam Results – DfE School Performance Tables

The DfE have now published initial school performance data for the 2023 exams on the DfE's performance tables website. This provides detailed information and shows the school's performance against the national picture. Currently this only shows Year 11 results for 2023; the 16-18 data for the 22-23 cohort (Year 13) will be made available by the DfE in the Spring term. The link below will take you to the website.

[The Kimberley School - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK \(compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/compare-school-performance) There is much for the school to celebrate in these performance tables but, as always, some areas for us to continue to strive for further improvement.

Personal Development Curriculum


The Personal Development curriculum gives pupils the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe and to prepare themselves for life and work in modern Britain. This year we have had an increased number of external providers running sessions for students. Year 7 enjoyed a drama road safety workshop delivered by VIA from Nottinghamshire County Council; Year 9 had the NHS Think CAREers roadshow to give them an insight to the wide range of jobs within the NHS, the largest employer in the UK. Year 10 students had workshops on healthy relationships, child on child abuse and pornography as part of the statutory relationships and sexual health education curriculum. Year 11 took part in a careers 'speed networking' session with a large number of employers and will benefit from some personal finance workshops run by Experian next term. Should any parents / carers who are employers wish to participate in future careers related activities in school we would be delighted to hear from you.

STEM activities

We have had an increased focus on activities to enhance aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) in the curriculum. A group of Year 11, 12 and 13 students visited the Graduate and Apprentice Engineer Show at the Derby Arena and had the chance to meet a wide range of STEM related employers. Some Year 8 students have taken part in the Faraday Challenge full day workshop which tested their scientific thinking skills, whilst students in Year 7 were encouraged to take part in the Chemistry week scavenger hunt with clues placed around school. A level Chemistry students were able to complete a workshop on Spectroscopy at the School of Chemistry at the University of Nottingham.

School Trips

A number of school trips have taken place this term all designed to enrich our curriculum in school. The Battlefields trip to France/Belgium took place during the October half term holiday enjoyed by over seventy students; the Arts faculty took a trip for exam group students to London to the Tate Modern gallery and to see a performance of the Lion King; a large number of Year 10 students did their first human geography



fieldwork visit to Nottingham; Year 12 students visited Holderness for their A Level Geography fieldwork; A level Physicists visited Derby velodrome to consider the physics involved in track cycling – and to have a go themselves. The English department took a large number of exam group students to a performance of ‘A Christmas Carol’ at Nottingham Playhouse; the Design Technology department took a trip to the Design Museum in London and the Languages department took a number of students on an exchange trip to Aachen in Germany. Thank you to all the staff who have arranged trips for the benefit of our students.

Upcoming school events

We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas music concert in the school hall on Monday 3rd December. Well done to all who performed to such a high standard and thank you to the Music department and all of the other staff volunteers who helped to put on a very enjoyable evening. On Monday the 18th and Tuesday 19th December we are looking forward to the school show ‘Alice in Wonderland’. The cast have been working very hard, as have the Drama department staff and other staff volunteers; we wish them well for the performances next week. We will also welcome back many of last year’s Year 13 students for a celebration evening on Thursday 21st December.

The Advanced British Standard – consultation

You will have seen recent announcements from the government regarding planning for a future replacement for the current A Level system for 16-19 year olds at some point in the future. The government have now launched a public consultation until 20th March 2024 and are seeking the views of all stakeholders including students and parents / carers. You can access the consultation from this link [The Advanced British Standard consultation](#)

Last day of term arrangements

As per the school calendar, school will close at 12.30 p.m. on Friday 22nd December for the Christmas break. School buses will be rearranged to be at school for this departure time. Students who benefit from Free School Meals will be able to purchase this at break time. Students will return for the first day of the Spring term which begins on Monday 8th January 2024.

Yours faithfully,



Andy Park

Head Teacher

