

Kickstart News



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we reach the end of this academic year, I would like to thank all parents / carers for your continued support of your child's educational journey.

We are extremely proud of the progress all our young people have made this year. We are looking forward to Year 11 GCSE results day on Thursday 22nd August 2024.

Can I take this opportunity to say goodbye to Mr Mauremootoo who is leaving us to be closer to family. 'Mr M' as he is known, has worked exceptionally hard this year in English and this has shown in the Functional Skills qualifications awarded. Thank you and good luck in your new role.

We are excited about the new pathways opening within Kickstart in September 2024. We feel we will be able to support the needs of our students more effectively, ensuring student happiness and success. This growth has resulted in new staff being appointed.

We welcome to Kickstart:

- ❖ Miss Wharton – Learning Mentor
- ❖ Miss Eddowes – Teaching Assistant
- ❖ Mrs Jones – Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- ❖ Mr Jones – Teacher of SEND, Construction & Duke of Edinburgh
- ❖ Miss Gywnne – Teacher of SEND, English
- ❖ Debbie Price – IN-Reach Mentor

School reopens to students on Wednesday 4th September 2024. Kickstart Endeavour opens at 8.45am, Kickstart Empower opens at 9.00am and Kickstart Engage/Emerge starts at 9.30am.

I wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer break.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Rennie-Gibbons

Headteacher Kickstart Academy



Safeguarding

- Mind's Infoline - Call 0300 123 3393 (9am - 6pm weekdays except bank holidays)
- Side by Side - Mind's online peer support community
- Samaritans - call 116 123 (24 hours a day)
- Childline (under 19s) - call 0800 1111 for their online counsellor chat
- Shout - text SHOUT to 85258
- NHS - call 111 or make a GP appointment.
- Hub of Hope - enter your postcode to find mental health support in your area.
- Community Advice and Listening Line (Wales) - call 0800 132 737 or text help to 81066.
- Black, African and Asian Therapy Network - to find resources and therapists.
- BAYO - an online space to find collectives, organisations and services that offer mental health support to the Black community.
- Switchboard (LGBTQIA+ community) - call 0800 0119 100 or use their online chat (10am - 10pm every day)
- NotJUST A Store - NotJUST A Food Bank – 07775505434.

For further guidance please visit:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/our-policy-work/sport-physical-activity-and-mental-health/spot-support-signpost/>

ART

This term we have been working on an exploration of materials which is one of the four Art GCSE assessment objectives. Here are some examples of work where techniques were tried and where techniques were used effectively.

Mrs K Roberts,
Art Teacher



Exams



We were very proud of our students who conducted themselves very well in the recent public examinations. The attendance was great given the bigger cohort of students entered for these exams. We wish all our students the best as they go on to the next part of their education/training. Please remember that results day is Thursday August 22nd, 2024. We will be at school from 9.30am on that day. If your child needs further help with their next destinations, please contact us directly.

Mrs K Roberts
Exams Officer

SENDIASS

If you are a parent with a child at school, or you are a young person up to the age of 25, and you are looking for practical help with special educational needs procedures, information concerning health or social care, or you just want someone to listen to your concerns, then get in touch with SENDIASS. They provide free, confidential, and impartial support so that you feel much more confident in being able to take an active role in making sure any of your/ your child's needs are met.

SENDIASS can help even without a diagnosis, if you have concern that there is a special need or disability. The special educational need may or may not include one or more of the following:

- ADHD or ADD
- ASD or ASC
- Anxiety
- Attachment disorder
- Developmental delay
- Dyspraxia or movement coordination
- Foetal alcohol syndrome
- Genetic condition
- Health condition
- Moderate learning difficulties
- PDA
- Physical disability
- Sensory impairment
- Complex learning needs
- Speech and language difficulties
- Social, emotional, or mental health difficulties
- SpLD or dyslexia
- Tourette's syndrome

On the SENDIASS website, there is a wealth of helpful advice, including fact sheets, policies and website links. There is also a 'young people's zone' for those aged 16-25 that also signposts support for a wide range of needs.

Call: 01952 457176

Email: info@iass.org.uk

Website: <https://www.telfordsendiass.org.uk/>

Home Cooking

In Food Technology the Year 11 students have now left and 22 have completed and passed their level 2 BTEC award in Home Cooking, I'd personally like to say well done to every one of the students for their fantastic efforts and attitude.

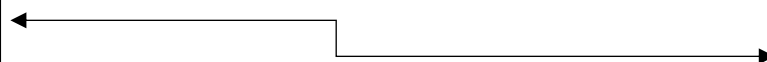
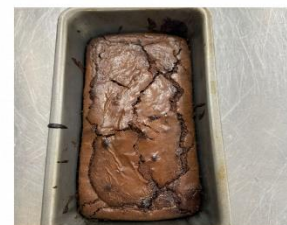
Additionally, I would like to announce I currently have 22 year 11 students who have also passed their level 2 food hygiene certificate. It's fantastic news and a skill they can use going into their adult life.

Without forgetting the year 10 students, they have also been busy cooking recipes like spring rolls, Brownies, Pancakes, Tuna pasta & Bread and Butter Pudding they've continued to practice health and safety within the kitchen and continue to practice good knife skills that can be used during different stages of cooking. The student's washing up skills have improved and I'm looking forward to stretching and challenging their capabilities moving into year 11.

If anyone parents/careers have any empty take away tubs that you no longer need, can I kindly ask that you donate them to the school.

I look forward to welcoming the students back in September, where the new Year 11's will be starting their BTEC level 2 qualification and year 10's will be starting their Level 1 Qualification.

Have a lovely summer break and I can't wait to welcome you all back September.



Working Experience

This year we have had fifteen students who have participated in work experience placements, each student has done incredibly well we have been impressed with their attitude towards a workplace.



English Language

This term the year 10's has been practising their creative reading and writing. They have continued reading Lord of the Flies which has helped them understand how to construct engaging narratives of their own. They have also been developing their vocabulary by looking at various synonyms so they can make their reading as exciting as possible. It has been very fun to read all the wonderful stories that have been created.

Our year 11 students have finished sitting their GCSE's. We are incredibly proud of the maturity and resilience they have shown during a very productive few weeks! We'd also like to pass on our congratulations to all students who have finished Speaking and Listening assessments to finalise their grades for Entry Level and Functional Skills qualifications.

Lexonik

A huge well done to all students who have participated in either their Lexonik Flex intervention or their Lexonik Leap intervention.

Lexonik Flex is designed to rapidly improve reading, vocabulary, spelling and comprehension, especially with anyone needing immediate impact on their literacy levels, including adult learners.

Lexonik Leap is a phonics intervention which effectively resolves phonics gaps for learners who find literacy particularly challenging and those for whom English is not their first language.

It has been a pleasure introducing the interventions to our students, as we are able to witness the dedication to their learning.

I hope you have a lovely half term.

Miss Stastna



Kickstart Swap Shop and Food Bank

It has been another successful term regarding the swap shop and food bank. We have had a lot of generous donations especially for the swap shop. There are some lovely stylish clothes and shoes that the students are welcome to take for themselves or as a gift for family members. With a wide selection of summer clothes being brought in to get everyone excited for the warm summer we are hoping to have this year.

The food bank is still fully stocked with several different food items such as rice, pasta, pasta sauce etc. We encourage the students to help themselves and appreciate everyone who has donated towards them. If anyone would like to make any donations, please feel free to bring them into the school and ask for Miss Jones.

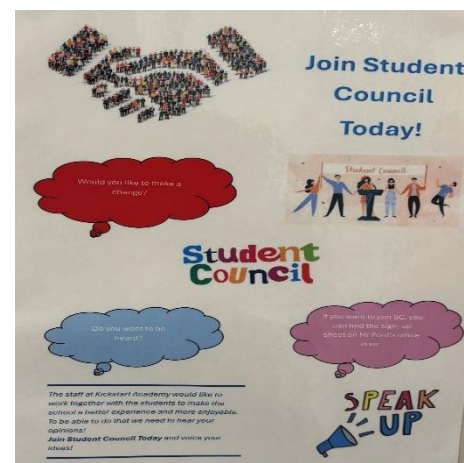


Kickstart has now introduced the Student Council, where we welcome every student to come and voice their opinions and help make the change they want to see in the school. We have had our first student council meeting where several students explained how they feel the school could do better to benefit them.

One of our most requested changes was to have the water fountain moved into the common area, giving the children to opportunity to help themselves to drinks instead of asking the staff to grab it for them. We give the children their own cup every morning which they must keep hold of or can leave on the fountain and they can fill it up as and when they please. The students have been very responsible, and we are proud for the positive outcome.

Mr Ford and Miss Jones will arrange a student council meeting every term, our aim is one every other week to ensure the students are being listened to regularly. We encourage students to join and let their voice be heard. If any students are interested, please speak to Mr Ford or Miss Jones about joining.

Student Council



Science

As a school we are working within the AQA GCSE Biology and AQA Entry Level Certificate Science (ELC) framework. The design of these qualifications allows student to engage, explore and succeed in science.

The straightforward language within the programme has allowed students to focus and achieve success. Due to the component-based structure of the ELC.

Consequently, a significant number of Year 11 students have developed their knowledge and understanding while completing practical investigations this term. The successful outcome of completing assessments and assignments has culminated in certification for each student. On completion, all students have achieved an entry level certificate in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Year 10 students are continuing to develop a sense of personal reflection, growth and the development of a social conscience. Having covered elements within cell biology such as microscopy, cell structure and adaptation and cell division. We will continue to encourage independent thought to enable all our students to become reflective, articulate, and independent thinkers and lay foundations for future learning.



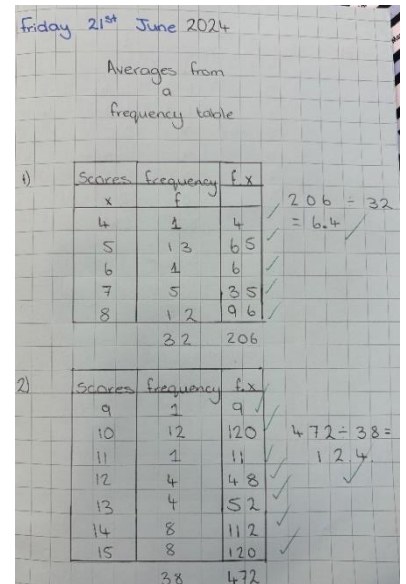
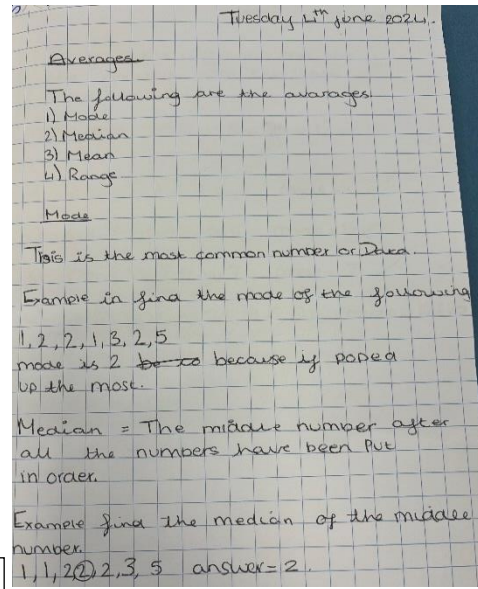
Maths

Well done to all the Year 11 students who have completed their GCSE Maths exams, I wish you all the best for Results Day.

The year 10 students have been focusing on averages identifying what; mode, median, range, and mean is. They have been incredible at becoming able to understand how to work each individual average out independently.

A huge well done to all students, their hard work has not been unnoticed.

I wish you all a lovely Half Term.



Sports Leadership

In PE lessons this term, we have been trying out some new sports such as golf where we have been creating our own mini putting courses around the school. Other sports we have tried are Mexican Tennis and French Cricket, both can be played in small groups and are more inclusive to our students and facilities.

Football

We have had a lot going on this half term with the football team. We've had friendly matches with both the winners of the A league (Oasis) and B league (Woodlands) and have given both teams a good run for their money, narrowly missing out in both games. Our students performed brilliantly and will take a lot of confidence out of the experience.

We go to Birmingham City's training facility on the 26th June to watch the semifinal between Woodlands and Sandwell Academy, where Mr Ford will take charge of the game as referee and will be ably assisted by OJ who will be running the line. This will be a good opportunity for our students to see how a professional football club operates.

On the 12th of July we will be hosting a 5-a-side football tournament for our year 10 students to participate in, this will give more opportunity for some new students to get involved in the school football team.

Careers Day



On 12.06.24, Careers Day was held at Kickstart, featuring workshops and stalls from colleges, training providers, and employers to showcase courses and future jobs. We encouraged parents and caregivers to attend, as they provide valuable information for students to make informed decisions. A prize draw was held for the winners of the morning and afternoon sessions. On 13.06.24, students participated in a Construction Site Visit for the Health and Safety in Construction Course, allowing them to experience real-life work. More visits are planned for next academic year. Year 10 participated in the Lead Up program at the Cavalier Centre, where they learned about Monty Roberts' horse Whisper and Join-Up, a technique to prevent and reduce youth violence through horse-mediated emotional regulation.



School Uniform Project

TCS school uniform project is a year-round project that provide Telford children with pre-loved school uniform. TCS school uniform project is free and available to all residents of Telford and Wrekin. Clothing will be mainly pre-loved (supplied and laundered). TCS will endeavour to supply as complete a uniform as possible based on availability at the time of the request. We have stock from all schools in Telford across the primary and secondary sectors. Referrals can be made via our website.

School Uniform Project – Telford Crisis Support

We appreciate donation of all school uniforms including PE clothing. Clean and suitable for reuse school clothing can be dropped off at our address 9-5 Monday to Friday. TCS, 1c Radford House, Stafford Park 7, Telford TF3 3BQ

Happy Healthy Active Holidays Summer 2024

An England Lioness is coming to Telford this Summer.

Your chance to meet Jess Clarke England footballer and take part in football fanatics from drills and goal shooting. Have your picture taken with a famous footballer.

Please go to <https://hhah.telford.gov.uk/> to book the activities for HHAH.

- 22nd July – Oakengates Leisure Centre 9am – 1pm 5-11yrs 1-4:30pm 12-16yrs
- 23rd July – Abraham Darby Leisure Centre 9am – 1pm 5-11yrs 1-4:30pm 12-16yrs
- 24th July – AFC Telford 9am – 1pm 5-11yrs 1-4:30pm 12-16yrs

Eligibility Criteria:

- Reception – Year 11 benefit related FSM Children
- SEND Children
- Referral in by schools/services for vulnerable/at risk students or families identified that may benefit from the scheme.

If you child would benefit from this scheme who doesn't qualify for FSM but can be included as part of the 15% allocated funding for our vulnerable and deprivation areas, please contact and provide their details to the:
holidayactivityhub@telford.gov.uk

Discounted Meals



LAS IGUANAS

Join 'My Las Iguanas' via the App & Niños eat free with every adult main

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

TRAVELodge & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

TESCO CAFES

1 Free Kids meal with every 60p Spend. Available from July 1st Scotland and NI - from July 22nd England & Wales

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

YO! SUSHI

From Monday 1st July - Friday 30th August 2024, kids eat free all day Mondays to Fridays at YO! Sushi (min adult spend £10).

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

COCONUT TREE

One child (aged 10 and under) eats free per paying adult. Valid Daily, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 22nd July to Friday 6th Sept 2024.

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

For further information in relation to locations where children eat free or have discounted meals, please visit:

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

Tournament



Inaugural Kickstart Cup competition took place with two teams from Woodlands and two teams from Kickstart. Woodlands 1 won in the final 4-3 against Kickstart 1, Kickstart 2 placed third in the tournament.

Reading Resources.

Teaching your children to read and write is crucial for their success in school and beyond. Active readers can use their skills to explore their passions, connect with others, and learn about various subjects. Learning to read is complex, involving decoding, fluency, absorbing new vocabulary, understanding text, and discovering the pleasure of reading.

At Kickstart we are participating in the Bookbuzz Programme which aims to support all our student's reading skills in their development.

I have attached some resources that Bookbuzz provide to support student's individual needs.

The Literacy Hub website has a variety of reading resources for parents and carers to support children's development, they do this providing strategy resource packs that can be easily accessed:

<https://www.literacyhub.edu.au/families/resources-to-support-reading-at-home/>

I have also included Lexonik Vocabulary Toolkit for parents to participate at home with their children.

I wish you all a lovely Half Term.

Miss Stastna.

Your child has just received their Bookbuzz book! And here's why...

Our school is taking part in BookTrust's Bookbuzz programme, which aims to get children reading. Your child chose their own book to keep out of the sixteen Bookbuzz titles, discovering what gets them turning the page at school and at home.

Bookbuzz is run by BookTrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity that transforms lives by getting children and families reading. Each year BookTrust reaches millions of children across the UK with books, resources and support to help deliver a love of reading. To find out more about BookTrust visit booktrust.org.uk.

We hope that Bookbuzz will encourage your child to read more frequently, which will help improve their wellbeing, spark interesting conversations and inspire creativity.

Here are three steps you can take to get involved:

- 1. Get talking!** The easiest way to get involved is to talk to your child about books and reading. Their Bookbuzz book is a great place to start. What do they enjoy about their book? Who is their favourite character? Talking about books together can help show the value of reading and encourage your child to form and share their opinions on what they like to read.
- 2. Find out more.** You can find lots on the BookTrust website to share and enjoy with your child, helping them to discover more about their Bookbuzz book. There are videos and blogs from the Bookbuzz authors, quizzes, competitions and more at booktrust.org.uk/bookbuzz.
- 3. What next?** The adventure continues when your child finishes their Bookbuzz book! No matter what their interests, there are thousands of fantastic books out there to discover. To find their next read you can ask a librarian, visit a local book shop, or go to BookTrust's Bookfinder at booktrust.org.uk/bookfinder.

If you have any feedback or questions about Bookbuzz, BookTrust would love to hear from you. You can contact them by emailing bookbuzz@booktrust.org.uk or phoning **020 7801 8800**. You can also follow [@BookTrust](https://twitter.com/BookTrust) on social media to find out more about the best new books and how you can continue to encourage your child to read at home.

Literacy Hub Reading Strategies

The child's classroom teacher is best placed to advise on how to support the development of literacy skills at home. Teachers will be able to draw on a range of resources from the Literacy Hub that will reinforce learning that is underway in the classroom.

Follow-up strategies

- Access [Helping young children to read – What parents can do](#) – a great resource for families.
- Make time to read every day with your child.
- Share the pleasure in stories through sites such as [Storyline Online](#).
- Provide varied reading material – some for reading pleasure and some with information about your child's hobbies and interests.

Lexonik Vocabulary Toolkit

KEY

						
Prep time 1 clock = no prep needed; 2 clocks = very little; 3 clocks = longer prep needed	Writing equipment needed	Independent activity	Paired work	Group activity	Used in any subject	Specific subject

LETTER STORY



- Choose a letter
- Write a story, letter, article, postcard, poem, instructions, etc. using words that only start with the chosen letter

ACROSTICS



- Choose a word and write it down the page
- On the opposite side of the page, write the same word but in reverse
- Fill in words that start and end with the letters on the page
- The winner could be: person who finishes first; person with the longest word or person with the highest score

E.g.
The chosen word is English
Each
NameS
Gobal
Literal
Indulging
Seven
HugE

ACRONYMS



- Choose a word – this could be subject specific
- Create a sentence which includes each letter of the chosen word
- The sentence must relate to the chose word
E.g. SNAIL: Slimy Nocturnal Animal Invading Lettuce

Leavers Day



On Friday 28th June 2024, Year 11 students had their final assembly, featuring awards and goodie bags. Mrs. Parry donated a Goodbye Year 11 cake, followed by a big breakfast with Year 10 participation students. Kickstart staff participated in a Guard of Honour walk, showcasing the students' achievements. Over the months, the students have matured and grown, demonstrating dedication to exams and enjoying their time at Alton Towers.

The school wishes them the best in their future and is excited to hear their success stories.

Parent and Carer Champions

We are pleased to be launching PACC Meetings during the next academic year.

PACC stands for - Parent and Carer Champions

In attendance will be:

- Mrs Rennie-Gibbons – Headteacher
- Mrs Webster – Deputy Headteacher / SENDCO
- Mr Ford – Behaviour Lead and DSL
- Miss Gilson – Family Liaison Officer
- Miss Rogers – Clerk
- Mrs Cooper – Parent Engagement Lead
- Miss Cleo Robson – Parent Governor

The dates for PACC discussions 2024/25:

- Monday 21st October 2024
- Monday 16th December 2024
- Monday 10th February 2025
- Monday 7th April 2025
- Monday 19th May 2025
- Monday 14th July 2025

The meetings will run from 3.00 – 4.00pm and will be an opportunity for parents/carers to give feedback on how we can improve our school community and to share any good news. We also hope this will be a good source of support for parents/carers. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Parent Governor

Our Parent Governor is Miss Cleo Robson.

Miss Robson is pleased to be taking up this very important role as she would like to make a difference to the lives of our young people.

We recognise that the best way to support our students is to work closely with families. We have established the PACC meetings for parents/carers and would welcome you all to attend. Miss Robson will be at these meetings for you share ideas or ask any questions. Her role will be to represent your voice at the Governor's meetings.

Tips to help your wellbeing this

Researchers from the University of Cambridge and students at Northgate High School have compiled a list of 10 tips to boost wellbeing during the summer holidays. These include taking time out, building a routine, getting active, prioritizing sleep, staying connected, trying a digital detox, sharing your thinking, and breaking down work into smaller parts.

Taking time out allows you to decompress and prioritize recovery, while building a routine helps establish balance and structure in your day. Physical and mental wellbeing are often linked, so getting active and getting outdoors can boost mental health. Prioritizing sleep is crucial for recovery and resetting.

Staying connected with networks and communities can help you stay connected and maintain your wellbeing. Trying a digital detox can help reduce screen time and reduce social pressures. Sharing your thoughts and feelings can help you navigate difficult situations. Breaking down work into smaller parts each week can help it feel more manageable and manageable.

St Georges Park



On Wednesday 3rd July, we were invited to watch the SEMH football league Final due to the outstanding student behaviour at Birmingham City's training ground. At St Georges Park, students represented our school brilliantly. A tour around the park was amazing, with one student's comment "I feel honoured to be walking in the same footsteps as the England players, I can't wait to tell my dad as he will be so jealous". This experience aims to inspire next year's students to make the final.