



NEWSLETTER

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Welcome

A very warm welcome to the start of this new academic year and an even warmer welcome to you if you are reading this as the parent of a new Year 7 pupil here at Kesteven and Sleaford High School. I hope your daughter has had an enjoyable first full week at the school and that she has shared with you many of her new experiences. This special edition newsletter hopes to give you a glimpse into what Year 7 have been up to over the past few days.

As term goes on we hope you enjoy reading our whole school newsletter which is published every other Friday during term time. It's our best way of regularly communicating with parents

and friends of the school and of celebrating the many opportunities in school and successes of our students.

Please do remember that your daughter's form tutor is more than happy to get in touch if you have any queries about how your daughter is settling in. A good way to do this is often through messages in the student planner but don't hesitate to pick up the phone if necessary. We look forward to meeting you at the Year 7 settling in evening too on 20th October when you can meet with your daughter's tutor face to face.

Kind regards
Mrs J Smith
Interim Head of School

C.A.T. Tests

This week all year 7 pupils have sat some short Cognitive Ability Tests not dissimilar to ones they undertook in the 11 plus tests. Many schools ask pupils to sit these right at the start of the year because they provide information which helps teachers understand pupils' particular strengths and areas of aptitude, as well as providing information on preferred learning styles. We spend some time as a staff looking at what the tests tell us, as well as balancing that information about what we are learning about your daughter's skills and strengths in class work.

We have been sure to stress with all of Year 7 that these are quick tests which they can't prepare for and are simply to provide teachers with a bit of baseline information about them so we can get to know about their strengths as quickly as possible.

Because the tests are nationally benchmarked using a large, annually reviewed data set they also provide some estimates of your child's likely academic progress over the next five years up to GCSE level. They are just one piece of information we then use to set targets for your child which we again share with you via our reporting systems. We will be sharing the information about your daughter provided by these tests with you in the next few weeks.





Year 7 Teamwork and Study Skills Day

Today your daughter has been off timetable taking part in what hopefully has been a very enjoyable and active day getting to know her fellow year group members and finding out what makes a good learner in Key Stage 3.



Coming Up.....

This term promises to be a busy one for all High School Pupils and below are some early Year 7 events to look forward to:

Freshers Fayre. 23rd September

A chance for all pupils to find out about and sign up for lunchtime and after school clubs. Our sixth form subject captains run many of these and there is a chance to get involved in everything from sport to public speaking to art. More details to follow.

Year 7 Roman Day. 30th September

You should have received a letter about this engaging day which brings the current History Topic alive for pupils.

Year 7 Overnight Camp. 13 May 2016

This will be an action packed camping experience in Walesby Forest, Lincolnshire. We hope to instil confidence in your daughter by giving her the opportunity to try some exciting activities such as abseiling, raft building and archery. They will be sleeping in the tented village creating the ultimate outdoor sleepover. We hope that you are as excited as Miss Beckitt and Miss Duffy are!!



Quotes from Year 7 – ‘My best bits so far....’

7A

‘I like how much my buddy helps me.’

‘I love how this school makes ‘boring’ subjects fun! Also I have met loads of new friends and people at this school and they are really kind and helpful.’

‘In French a girl didn’t get what we were doing so I helped her out and it made her understand which made me happy.’

7F

‘I have started Year 7 and it has been great, I have an amazing form tutor and great lessons, I know I will love it here.’

‘I’ve enjoyed PE at KSHSSA because we have a very bubbly PE teacher (and form teacher) who is really kind to anyone who is worried.’

‘I’ve enjoyed all of my time at this school so far but the best things so far have been making so many new friends, having a great form tutor who teaches great PE.’

7L

‘My best bits so far were when we went into Tech because even though I wasn’t in the same form as my friend I was still able to sit next to her, another one was when I met two new friends, Mia and Hannah.’

‘The highlight for me so far has got to be meeting all of the lovely staff and how supportive they have been to us.’

‘So far I’ve really enjoyed how the lessons have been really interactive, and I like how we are free to do anything at break times. All the teachers are also great and make the lessons fun.’

7W

‘My best bits so far have been being able to have different teachers, making new friends, walking to class and being able to choose your lunch at that very moment.’

‘My best bits so far are definitely meeting new friends and classmates who I have been laughing and thoroughly enjoying my time here with, especially when the sixth formers were lost and we weren’t!’

‘My best bits so far include all of the new lessons at KSHSSA, the new challenge of making new friends and meeting new people – I am looking forward to everything at the Girl’s High.’