

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr T. French

11th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of our first term as 'Ken Stimpson Academy', and my first as the school's Headteacher, I hope that it has been clear that the impact I have been focusing on has been around expectations, classroom discipline and an improved approach to learning.

We have introduced the Golden Hour to ensure every day starts off smoothly, and consistently, for all of your children. This has had an incredible impact, so much so we have welcomed multiple staff from schools across Peterborough who have wanted to see this in action. Uniform compliance and general 'readiness to learn' has improved significantly; we do continue to struggle with appropriate skirts, but generally speaking, the basic expectations have been adhered to by the vast majority. This makes such a difference and enables us to concentrate on the more important aspects of school - primarily the teaching and learning.

In some of the early assemblies, I stated that I wanted KSA to be the 'kindest and safest' school in Peterborough. Creating a culture like that doesn't happen overnight, but I genuinely feel we have made huge strides forward! We do have to hold a very clear line around expectations and standards, and whilst we have seen an increase in Fixed Term Suspensions, we do now have a very calm school with disruption-free learning in all our classrooms.

This term there have been lots of successes. On my daily walks of the school, I have observed our teachers teach without distraction and students focusing on their learning. The Remembrance Ceremony will be a lasting KSA memory. Children in Need day - the positivity felt across the school and raising £1400 was sensational. This mix of exceptional learning and a real sense of community is what we are all about and is nothing more than what your children deserve. These are aspects that we will continue to further develop and improve!

As a reminder, the last day of this term is Wednesday 20th December, with an early finish at **12.20 pm**. The Spring term then opens on Wednesday 3rd January (there is no teacher training day).

In the New Year, we move to the Year 11 Finals in Jan/Feb; these are their last major exams before the GCSEs this summer. Year 8 will also sit exams at the same time which will inform Pathways Choices (GCSE choices) in the early Spring. The other year group exams are later in the year with Year 10 at Easter and Years 7&9 towards the end of the academic year.

I am always keen to receive feedback. Earlier this term we completed an internal staff survey which was extremely pleasing and demonstrates that we have made huge strides forward. I am acutely aware that to build a complete picture, we need to gather feedback from across our community, this includes from students and their parents. I would therefore like to invite you, as parents/carers, to complete this Parent Survey [here](#). Please do take a moment to offer your feedback, I would really appreciate it.

Alongside the survey I would again like to offer the opportunity to come in and visit the school. This invite is for anybody that is interested. There are three different dates available:

Headteacher: Damien Whales, Ken Stimpson Academy is a school within the Four Cs Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)

Four Cs MAT is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with company number 7333133, exempt from using the word 'Limited'.

Registered office: Helpston Road, Glinton, Peterborough, PE6 7JX



- Wednesday 17th Jan: 8.20am to 9.30am
- Thursday 25th Jan: 9.30am to 10.30am
- Friday 29th Jan: 11.30am to 12.30pm

To book a slot please [click here](#)

I have received a couple of queries around uniform now that we are 'Ken Stimpson Academy'. There are no planned changes to uniform. Although the badge will change slightly on blazers with the change of name, this will only apply as we phase in new stock. There are no expectations to buy new or changed uniform. The only exception will be that we are currently investigating a 'school skirt' that will form part of the school uniform.

Lastly, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Please make sure you look after yourself and those around you.



Mr D Whales
Headteacher