

# NEWSletter



SUMMER 2022

It has been fair to say that this term has been a rollercoaster of emotions. There have been so many wonderful events that our pupils and staff have taken part in and developments to celebrate this summer term, just a few are mentioned below. However, in May, we also felt the untimely passing of a much loved and respected colleague for over 19 years, Mrs Cecelia Prescod. Her loss is keenly felt within our school community.



On Saturday, over 50 pupils and 16 members of staff (including an ex-colleague) braved the heat in Cofton Park to take on the 'Race for Life' all wearing T-shirts with Mrs Prescod's favourite mantra "One step at a time" to raise money for Cancer Research. I am sure that she would have approved and been as proud of their commitment and spirit, as we are.

As we continue to work to repair the damage of the pandemic, additional tutoring has taken place this year in English, Maths, Science and French in a mixture of Saturday face-to-face classes and after-school online tutoring. Over 100 pupils in Years 7-9 have taken part which has been fully funded through the School Led Tutoring scheme and the school. Watch out for this great opportunity continuing next year as well

as an extension to our already comprehensive extra-curricular programme.

This year saw the first external examinations back in school since 2019. The Year 11s faced them with great resilience and really stepped up to the pressure. Their hard work both in school and at home to overcome the impact of the Covid lockdown will pay off and we are expecting some excellent results in August. It was fantastic see Year 11s celebrating all the way with an emotional school Leaver's Assembly send-off and a glamorous Prom at the Edgbaston Park Hotel.

Putting in those extra special days and activities that enrich the curriculum and bond the school community together, getting back to our pre-Covid normal has been so important to us. A highlight included 180 pupils spending two nights at the Acorns Adventure Centre in the Brecon Beacons for a full-on outdoor learning experience. Another welcome return to the calendar was Year 8 Diversity Day. The day was jam packed with art, performance poetry and music workshops. The poetry was a continuation of the TuneUp Project where pupils in Years 7-10 worked with a professional poet and Art Ambassadors from King Edward VI High School for the Culture in Common Festival for The Commonwealth Games. Watch out for our pupils reading their poetry on screens around the city during the Games.

Hopefully you will have spotted The Jingle Truck in The Birmingham Mail and on Central News recently. This was led by Mrs Allen for the Commonwealth Connections Project linking six local schools together with a school in Pakistan. It made an appearance at school last week and accompanied by Mrs Vizor and the Year 7 and 9 Changemakers in a baton relay around all six schools. There are exciting plans for the Pakistan Team to see the truck and for an appearance at the Games itself.



Last Thursday and Friday night nearly 300 people were thoroughly entertained and uplifted with a rousing production of Sister Act Junior. A

mixture of Yr7s -10 had worked tirelessly for weeks to put a brilliant musical performance. They did themselves, their families and us proud.

Have a lovely and safe summer break, and next year, we will do it all over again!

**Ms Hall**  
**Deputy Headteacher**



**SISTER ACT JR.**

Governors

**M**s Sam Ryder has recently stepped down from her role as the Chair of the Local Governing Board. Sam has been a Governor for 9



years and has been an outstanding Chair. Sam worked tirelessly with Mr Jones to persuade the Local Authority to

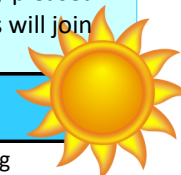
build a new School for our community and had the strategic insight to recognise the advantages of joining the King Edwards Foundation. She also provided a tremendous amount of support to the School's leadership team as they managed the School through the pandemic. Sam will be missed and we express our grateful thanks to her

for her leadership and support.

The Governors have appointed Mrs Lesley Brookes to be the new Chair. Lesley has been a Governor at KEVI NSG for five years and has chaired the Finance Committee in recent years. The Governing Board are also very pleased to advise that Mr Glenn Jones will join as a Parent Governor.

**King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls**

Northfield, Birmingham B31 4BP Tel: 0121 464 8346 Email: [enquiry@nsg.kevibham.org](mailto:enquiry@nsg.kevibham.org) Website: [nsg.kevibham.org](http://nsg.kevibham.org)





# Acorn adventure



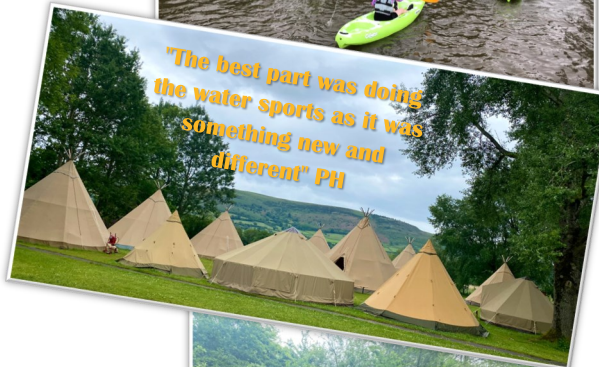
At the beginning of June, we took 69 Year 7 pupils, 47 year 8 pupils and 57 year 9 pupils, on a two night residential trip to Acorn Adventure in the Brecon Beacons, Wales. Both staff and pupils had a brilliant time and we have some great memories from the time we all shared together.

Here is what Hollyanne Year 8 had to say about the experience:

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June some of us went on a residential trip to Acorn Adventure in Wales. When we were there we did a variety of different activities. We did axe throwing, I really enjoyed this. Another activity was the night line—I wasn't the biggest fan of this one as it made me feel dizzy. We then did caving, I liked this one as it meant we could just explore in tunnels. Another activity was a hill walk, I liked the walk as we got to see Wales from a different point of view and when we were on the walk we were above a rainbow. On the first night we did a quiz, we were supposed to have a campfire but because of the weather we ended up doing a quiz. On the next night we did the Acorns Olympics, I liked this as it meant I was out of my comfort zone. We did a variety of different races, some were weirder than others. Overall, I really liked this experience as I am sure many others did, I would definitely go on another residential with the school.

The residential trip is a very rewarding experience for everyone and we look forward to taking the next group of new Year 7s to Acorn Adventure next summer!

**Mrs Miller (Trip Organiser)**



## Lord Bhattacharyya Engineering Education Programme

K EVI Northfield have continued to develop pupil experiences and understanding of Engineering during the second year of this five-year programme.

You may recall from earlier in the year that some Year 9 groups participated in an autonomous vehicle challenge, run by the Smallpeice Trust.

Pupils in Year 8 also worked towards a CREST award during Science lessons to mark Science week and those completing the task will soon be receiving a certificate for their award.

We recently received a 3D printer via the grant for this programme. Year 8 pupils have initially been viewing the printer as it creates our first models (with a boat being the first item off the print bed).



Technology will now be able to

expand projects to include the ability to carry out 3D printing, and enable pupils to better understand its applications and links to industry and future careers.

Speaker kits have also been purchased which will now allow all pupils to build working speakers as part of their curriculum, which we hope will encourage an interest in Engineering of sound equipment (and beyond)!

We look forward to developing engineering further over the next three years. There are a range of excellent careers which we encourage pupils to consider for the future. Any pupil with a strong interest in following this path is encouraged to see Mr Jackson so he can pass on any opportunities arising from the programme.

### Mission Sustainability 2022

Well done to Rosie and Safa in Year 8 who have been shortlisted as finalists in the Enzen Mission: Sustainability competition this year. They join two other pupils from another school in the Mission 2 category shortlist, where they'll receive either first, second, third or a Highly Commended place.



# Commonwealth Games

The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games are almost upon us, and our school has been lucky enough to be involved with an exciting sports and art project called Commonwealth Connections.



pupils from other schools) to create painted panels and decorations for a very unique artwork - the Birmingham Jingle Bus! This is our response to the incredibly beautiful vehicles

This has been a joint project from the British Council and the Birmingham Organising Committee

known as 'Jingle Trucks' that can be seen in Pakistan.

For the sports project, 10 changemakers were selected in school to drive participation and awareness of the games. They had an athlete mentor, Scottish gymnast, Steve Frew, to mentor and inspire the pupils and the changemakers attended events to learn more about the Commonwealth and try some of the activities. The girls worked really hard to plan our Commonwealth themed sports day this year and also took part in a local Queens Baton relay. They have fulfilled their aim to get pupils engaged and excited for the games through their love and passion for sport, well done girls.



for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, twinning 60 schools in the West Midlands with



counterparts from the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. We have worked with five other local schools, including TGPS, Bellfield Juniors and Woodcock Hill Primary and have linked up to partner schools in Pakistan.



Artist Sue Guthrie worked with all of our Year 8 (as well as



## Encounter with Employers - speed dating

Year 8 were offered the chance for an experience with employers with St Modwen. St Modwen have become very valuable partners in our careers provision. They set up a "speed dating" session in Herbert's Yard, Longbridge and organised volunteers from the company to talk to pupils about their career and what they do on a day-to-day basis. Pupils

were enthused about a career in Human Resources and really enjoyed interacting with new people.

During May our school also took part in a joint project with St Modwen who ran a digital brief where Year 10 Graphics pupils designed a new community to live in. Pupils learnt about careers in this industry and designed buildings and their surroundings for their new community.

Well done to Tia, Lucy, Hannah and Maria who's team won this project brief and took home a prize donated by St Modwen.

A big thank you to St Modwen for their time and hospitality.



ST.MODWEN

# SISTER ACT JR.

**'I laughed, I cried, I felt the guilt of original sin'....**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July we performed our first musical in over two years – Sister Act Jr. A group of nuns are unexpectedly joined by Deloris aka. Sister Mary Clarence who is hiding from a group of thugs who want to kill her. Officer Eddie Souther feels the convent is the 'Perfect Place' for her to hide out.....until they spot her in the newspaper! The nuns surround their new sister with love and friendship, saving her from her murderous ex-boyfriend. The cast were absolutely fantastic! They played their characters brilliantly and their comedic acting was excellent.

Through the musical the pupils involved have found new friendships, new confidence and have had such fun being part of an ensemble cast. They have given up so much time and worked incredibly hard to stage the show in a relatively short space of time. They have been the most incredible cast to work with and they are a group of pupils with huge heart and talent. Well done to every single pupil who was involved – I truly hope you will remember it for years to come as I know I certainly will!

**Mrs Wilding - Head of Music**





# Race for Life...

## Race for Life

Over 80 members of our school community signed up to take part in the Birmingham Pretty Muddy 5k on Saturday the 16th of July in Cofton Park. Pupils and staff, past and present joined together to race in memory of our dear colleague Cecelia Prescod, who we sadly lost to cancer this year. We proudly wore our t-shirts with Cecelia's calm mantra on our backs to inspire us, 'One step at a time'.

The weather was kind however we are sure they had more mud than in previous years! The smiles never left our pupils faces as they seemed to get muddier than ever, navigating various obstacles, water guns and buckets of muddy water being thrown in their direction!! A real team spirit meant everyone helped and supported each other to cross the finish line and each

gave them that extra motivation to reach the end. It makes us very proud to see our pupils come together in such a positive way against something which we know affects so many people in our school community and beyond. Every pupil who took part was a winner on the day and they all received a medal for their efforts.

All our students have AMAZED us with their fundraising efforts across both race for Life events!! The money is still coming in (current total £5600.00) but we are hopeful that this will be a record breaking year for our Race for Life events. Thank you to everyone who supported pupils in collecting this sponsorship money. You can still sponsor us by visiting our fundraising page. <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/kevi-northfield-school-for-girls>



## As Cecelia would say 'One step at a time'



and every participant should be really proud of their achievement. Each and every team member was wholly deserving of their medal at the finish line, well done everyone!! Thank you to the many family and friends of our school community who came along on the day to support us. For our year 7 pupils who were too young to enter the muddy 5K, we held a school Race for Life event. Pupils rose to the challenge of the long run and worked together, supporting and encouraging each other to cross the finish line. Students thought hard about who they would race for and for many this cause



Through the summer term we have started a new club in Computing where pupils have been using Minecraft and looking at coding. The club has been

attended initially by Year 7 and Year 10, but will open up to other year groups from September. The pupils have also had the opportunity to try a 'virtual reality rollercoaster' and experience the feeling of being completely immersed in the experience by using a VR headset. The sign up sheet goes on the door in Room 12 first thing on Monday morning. Be quick to book your place!





# TuneUp 'Culture in Common'

## TuneUp 'Culture in Common' Project: King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls get poetic for the Birmingham 2022 Festival

This summer, when the eyes of the world will be on Birmingham for the Commonwealth Games, the second city is also celebrating culture and the arts through the Birmingham 2022 Festival. Our pupils have had the exciting and enriching opportunity to take part through a KEVI Foundation project: TuneUp's 'Culture in Common'.

'Culture in Common' celebrates the diverse and rich cultures of our second city by giving pupils experiences of the arts. All of our pupils participated in a short workshop in their English lessons, thinking about the question... "What is culture?" At KEVI NSG, we have been one of six partner schools for 'Culture in Common'. This meant that volunteers (mostly Year 10s) participated in a brilliant workshop with professional performance poet, Jasmine Gardosi.

Jasmine asked the pupils to use a poetic structure to explore their own culture and identity, culminating in the

collaborative creation of a brand new poem for the Birmingham 2022 Festival. The title of the poem? *The Build of a Brummie*.

Pupils also had a chance to perform their original poems, developing their performance skills and confidence. They learnt first-hand from Jasmine about how to forge a career as a freelance artist and writer.

More recently, our volunteer pupils have been recorded performing the poem by Ms. Proops (TuneUp festival director from KEHS). Most excitingly, the footage of our pupils' poetry performance will be the key part in a final film, due to be screened around Birmingham during the Commonwealth Games in late July and August.

If you go to any of the Commonwealth Games sites – in the city centre (Victoria Square and Smithfield) or neighbourhood



'fan sites' – you will be able to see and hear King Edward VI

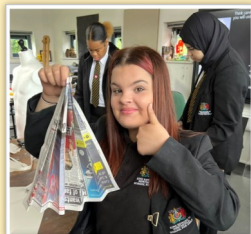
Northfield School for Girls pupils performing '*The Build of a Brummie*'. Please do your best to go along and support; all pupils involved have been wonderfully creative, enthusiastic and done our school proud. They don't give medals for poetry, but if they did, ours would all be gold medallists!

For further information, visit: <https://www.tuneup.life/culture-in-common> and <https://www.birmingham2022.com/festival/sites>



Year 10 visited Cadbury College and Halesowen College for taster experiences in July.

Both experiences were very different - Cadbury College gave all students an experience of a STEM subject, a Humanities subject and a creative subject. Pupils had a great time, even considering they were evacuated for a burst water main! At Halesowen, pupils were able to pick the subjects they wanted to follow for the day. They had a huge variety, from forensics to animal care, and hair and beauty to sciences. Pupils were able to get a sense of what each college offers and can start thinking what might be the best option for themselves.







**D**ear Parents and Carers,  
With the end of the school year quickly upon us, we know that you are making plans for your child's summer activities. While the summer months are a welcome opportunity for fun and relaxation, the break from school activities often causes students to experience a lag in learning returning to school in the fall. This lag in learning is often referred to as the "Summer Slide" which can result in students losing two to three months of reading proficiency. In an effort to lesson this effect, please encourage your child to read as much as possible over the summer break – this can be anything from fiction, to magazines, to audiobooks, to making

use of the my On trial (see details below) - anything that your child reads over the summer will contribute to continued academic success in September. Summer provides a wonderful opportunity for pupils and families to enjoy great books together! If you would like any recommendations for books you could borrow from your local public library, or purchase online or in your local bookshop, please do not hesitate to contact me at [c.dunnaker@nsg.kevibham.org](mailto:c.dunnaker@nsg.kevibham.org) I hope you have a great summer and enjoy reading as you go. Remember you can take a book along when you go to the plane, park or beach and enjoy relaxing while reading!

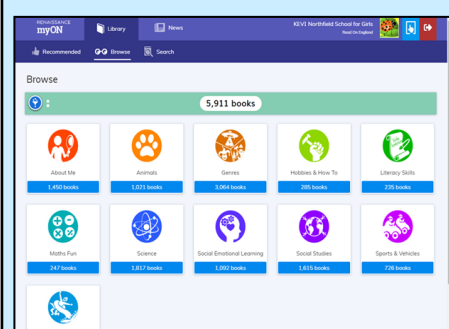
## Library Update

**I**n response to the National Literacy Trust survey that most KS3 students completed in the spring term, the library is having a move around over the summer to ensure that you are able to find all the books you love to read. From September, the books in the library will be organised by genre, which means that whether your favourite type of book is Fantasy, or Comedy, or Horror, you will be able to find all the same types of books together on the shelves!

## Top 5 Books in Summer Term



**M**rs Dunnaker would like to thank every single Student Librarian who has donated their time to help out in the library this year during break and lunch. Your assistance is very much appreciated, and the library would not be able to run without you. We will be recruiting more Student Librarians in September; please keep an eye out if you wish to apply to become part of the team.



## myON- the online library

Access to 6000 books online this summer!

Go to: [www.myon.co.uk/](http://www.myon.co.uk/)

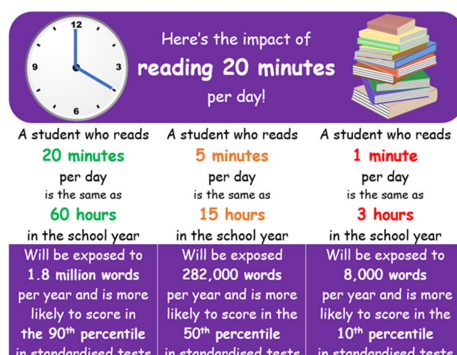
School Name: Read On England

Username: KEVI Northfield

Password: KEVINorthfield123

Click on the Sign In button, select a book, and start reading!

(Please note that both username and password are case sensitive)

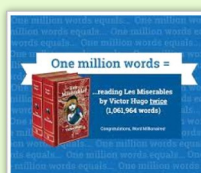


## AR Word Millionaires

**T**he following students have managed to read over 1 million words this academic year!

Laya B - 2,682,178; Amelie R - 2,375,639; Tamika W - 2,326,691; Mia R - 2,299,387; T'annah G - 2,246,013; Megan P - 1,740,570; Zahrah A - 1,723,738; Stephanie M - 1,623,738; Lavayah B - 1,596,071; Heidi M - 1,581,003; Lillia J - 1,578,005; Emma S - 1,503,178; Alyssa D - 1,497,433; Madison P - 1,389,991; Kyra D

- 1,384,116; Mozhan M - 1,381,890; Emily T - 1,378,660; Thianna K - 1,314,348; Marwa A - 1,218,312; Connie M - 1,206,867; Bryony M - 1,133,223; Ashayla H - 1,124,682; Lia F - 1,116,934; Aleema S - 1,083,868; Mia N - 1,068,410; Maisy S - 1,032,051; Keira K - 1,029,974; Isabella H - 1,001,205 words.



**A** huge congratulations to the following students, who have met every target set on Accelerated Reader this year: Laya B, Rose B, Mia R, Amelie R, T'annah G, Niah S, Stephanie M, Kyra D, Mozhan M, Mia N, Megan P, Bryony M, Aleema S, Tiah R, Da-Janee W, Ashayla H, Hani A, Thianna K, Tamika W.



We had an amazing day at Drayton Manor! We earned our tickets by either being one of the first to collect 50 stamps on our 'Stay Active' pass (you get these if you go to an afterschool sports club) or for being pulled out of the sports raffle (one raffle ticket for every 5 stamps).



We enjoyed our time at Drayton Manor as we went on so many rides and had so much fun! We went on rides such as the Accelerator,

Shockway, Loki, Thor and much more.

It felt like such an achievement to earn our own tickets and get to spend time away from school.

**Poppy-Mae—Year 7**



## PRIMARY SCHOOL LIAISON

This year, we have welcomed 9 local primary schools to King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls to come and join us for a variety of activities and have also gone out and visited schools that were unable to come to us. It has been fantastic to see pupils from Turves Green Primary, Wychall, West Heath, Albert Bradbeer, Fairway, Meadows, Cofton, Bells Farms, Colmers, Bellfield and Cotteridge Primaries. Girls from the Year 5 classes from these schools came in and took part in various activities including Medieval workshops, Dance, Technology, Cookery, Art and Science. It was a great opportunity for these primary school children to experience life at KEVI NSG and it was a pleasure to have them visit our school!

Year 9 Peer Buddies have helped look after the children whilst they have

been with us and done a fantastic job. Thank you and well done to: Niamh, Olivia, Ashayla, Abigail, Lily, Zahrah, Rhiannon, Poppy, Molly, Chloe, Lithuya, Jessica, Mata, Aimee, Amy, Hannah, Saja, Kea, Grace, Maeghan.

We also welcomed our new Year 7 intake for Induction Day on Wednesday 6th July. It was lovely to meet the new Year 7s, they were immaculately behaved and Miss Haywood is looking forward to being their Year Head in September! The girls seemed to enjoy the day too with Lily-Mae from West Heath Primary School saying:

"I am really excited to start a new chapter after today".

**Mrs Reeves (Assistant Headteacher)**

## NEW HEAD AND DEPUTY HEAD GIRLS

**Faith - Deputy Head Girl** - I feel so privileged to have been appointed Deputy Head Girl. I cannot wait to represent my school and to help inspire other students. I am looking forward to my final year at the school with excitement! I believe I can help encourage other students to enjoy school life and to aim for the best possible outcomes. I also know that I will try my very best to make the right decisions and be the best representative that I can be, alongside Lucy and Ruby. Thank you so much to all of the staff for giving me this fantastic opportunity. I cannot wait to begin!



**Ruby - Deputy Head Girl** - On June 29<sup>th</sup>, when I entered Mrs McAuley's office, I never expected to be opening up a letter telling me that I was the new Deputy Head Girl! I was delighted, overwhelmed and felt extremely privileged. I cannot wait to represent the school and help support my peers. I aim to give back to the school community by being a good role model and by making a positive contribution to the development of the school as a whole.

**Lucy - Head Girl** - Since being appointed as Head Girl, I have felt very privileged and thankful. I am excited to use my new role to encourage and inspire all of my fellow friends, classmates, peers and teachers. As Head Girl, I am looking forward to representing my wonderful school during the next academic year and my final year at the school. I will fulfil this role to the very best of my ability and make my school proud!

**Congratulations to Lucy, Faith & Ruby**

## Technical Programmes



On 5<sup>th</sup> May, 35 Year 10s went to visit South and City College, Bournville Campus to find out about T Levels. Pupils heard about what T Levels are and what T Levels are offered at South and City College.

*What does T Level mean?*

**Technical programmes**

Pupils then had an opportunity to have a taster session in a subject of their choice, including Digital Media, Science, Health and Business. Pupils came away with a greater understanding of T Levels and enjoyed their day.

T Levels are **two-year technical programmes**, designed with employers, to give young people the skills that industries need. The 'T' stands for Technical and from 2020, T Levels will give 16 to 19-year olds a technical alternative to A levels. One T Level is equivalent to 3 A levels.



## All dressed up and somewhere to go!

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June, the Year 11 Prom was held at Edgbaston Park Hotel and Conference Centre. There were 120 pupils in attendance and 30 staff members. The venue was beautiful and the decorations supplied by 'A Floral Affair' were gorgeous. The pupils arrived in their various transport options, some in taxi's and some in Limo's and fast cars. However they arrived, they made a dramatic entrance with their elegant and beautiful dresses and smart suits. It was lovely to see so many pupils in attendance with an array of colourful dresses and some matching ties, all ready to enjoy what was a fantastic night. Throughout the evening, pupils feasted on delightful food, enjoyed a mocktail and the fun of the photobooth, ate sweet cones and enjoyed dancing the night away. The DJ was fantastic and ensured to play all of the pupil's requests! At the end of the night, pupils were happy and content and many thanked the staff for the night and the support they had provided over the past 5 years. What a memorable night and a fantastic year group. We wish them all the best in their results and future endeavours.

**Mrs Simcox - Head of Year 11**



## STAFF/NEWS

At the end of the term we have some hellos and goodbyes to say at KEVI Northfield.

We would like to welcome **Katie Harding** - Teacher of Music ; **Rachel Norris** - Teacher of English; **Freya Whiteley** - Teacher of PE; **Marie Morton** - SENDCO; **Hajar Mohand** - Teacher of MFL - French and **Ashleigh Harrison** - Teacher of Science  
**Jeanette Weir** - Governance Officer

We sadly said goodbye to **Alys Wilding** - Head of Music; **Gill Langham** - Teacher of English; **Helen Miller** - Teacher of PE; **Yvonne Wheeler** - Head of French; **Celia Walley** - Teacher of Music; **Wendy Telfer** - Exams Officer and **Karen Southall** - Pastoral Support Manager. We wish them all the very best for the future.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hey! My name is Takunda, I'm in Year 10 and I'm proud to introduce myself as the president of the School Council. Being given this opportunity is a great honour and I'm very excited to see how much we as council can help the school develop in the near future. You may find talking directly to teachers/tutors quite nerve wracking, especially if you're a new student, a year seven or just shy in general, so us as School Council are here to help! If a problem comes your way or you have a feeling of wanting change, come to speak to me or the other members. You can differentiate us by watching out for a light blue badge on our blazers, and you all have a council representative in your form group. I hope to hear from you all

on the things that matter to you and am excited to be able to influence what we can do about these things in school on your behalf. Thank you.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter and Instagram to keep up to date with all the exciting events happening in school.

