



# THE TUTOR TIMES

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Student Council elections across Year 7-Year 11.
- Appointment of Post-16 Head Students and Student Ambassadors.
- World Mental Health Day and Black History month.
- All students read and reflected on the President Kennedy Community Promise.

## COMMUNITY

Our focus for the first half-term at President Kennedy School has been leadership and the community. We have looked at how students can be leaders individually, but also how their behaviour and actions can benefit the school community as a whole.

We have also explored topical themes like World Mental Health Day on the 10th October and Black History Month for October. Students have discussed the importance of these topics within our own community and across the wider world.



## MEET THE WRITERS!

Hi! We're Erin, Harveen, Alisha, and Medya. We're part of the communication team at President Kennedy School and we have written the first edition of the 2023-24 Tutor Times. We hope you enjoy reading what we have been learning about in tutor time.



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The strand we have been focusing on this term is student leadership and service. Across all year groups, we have been looking at what qualities a good leader possesses and how we can demonstrate those qualities during school-life and out in the wider world. There have also been opportunities for students across the school to sign up to leadership roles.



# KEY STAGE 3

In Key Stage 3 students have been reflecting on their last year at school. They have considered the things they really enjoyed and did well at, and what they want to improve on in the upcoming year.

## YEAR 7

In their first few weeks in The Bridge, Year 7 have been introduced to student leadership and how they can demonstrate this during their time at President Kennedy School. Year 7 have made a fantastic start to their student leadership. They have chosen seventy four ambassadors to lead in different roles including student council, charity, wellbeing, and the environment. These students have demonstrated the skills needed to be successful leaders.

For Black History Month - October 2023, students have had the opportunity to research someone famous or interview someone in their lives who has acted as a role model to them. Students have created a display in The Bridge with these research projects that showcase influential black people and the impact they have had on their lives.

For World Mental Health Day, Year 7 looked at emotions. They have been discussing what emotions are and learning strategies to help them cope with their emotions in different situations.

*"I LOVE LEARNING ABOUT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BEING A LEADER"*

**Paris-Rose Alford, Year 7**



### ***How to get involved as a parent/carer:***

Ask your child to present the information they have researched on Black History Month to you. Ask them questions about why they picked this individual to help build their oracy skills!

For more information please visit: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>



# KEY STAGE 3

In Year 8, students have spent time looking at the President Kennedy School community promise. They have looked at what each of the promises mean and how they can ensure that everyone at the school adheres to them. They discussed the importance of these promises for building a community at the school. For World Mental Health Day students had an assembly on good habits to improve their mental health, including diet and bedtime routines. Students used what they learned to discuss strategies for helping people within the community who might be struggling with difficult experiences.

**YEAR 8**

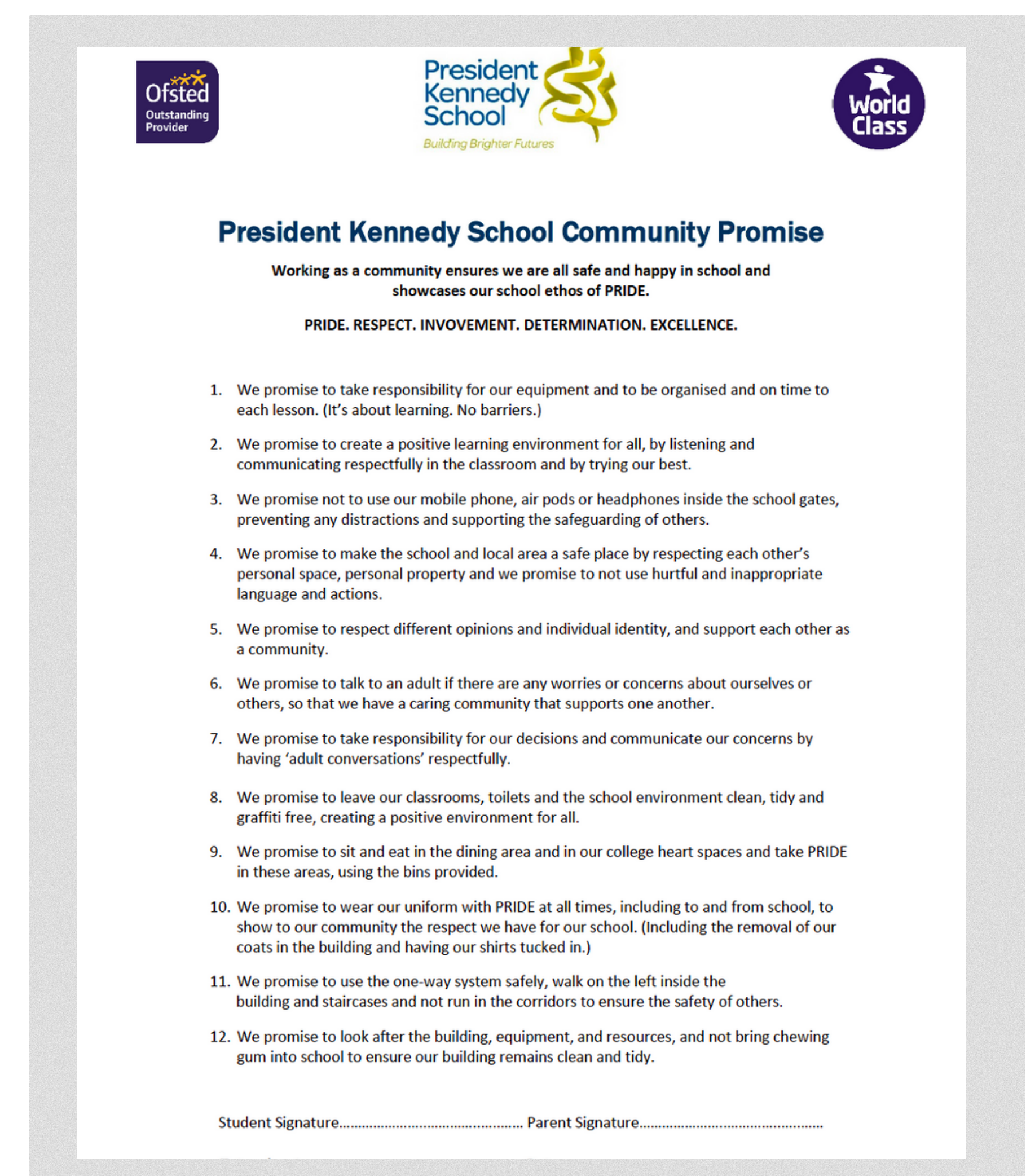
*"TUTOR TIME HAS HELPED ME LEARN HOW YOU CAN USE YOUR TIME TO HELP OTHERS"*

**Poppy Talbot, Year 8**

## ***How to get involved as a parent/carer:***

For more information please visit:

<https://www.kooth.com/>



**YEAR 9**

In Year 9 students have also been looking at the community promise and why this is important across the school. Students have shown some fantastic examples of leadership skills during their student council elections. There were some outstanding speeches delivered.



*"MY FAVOURITE THING IN TUTOR TIME HAS BEEN APPLYING FOR STUDENT COUNCIL. WHAT WE LEARN IN TUTOR TIME HELPS US TO IMPROVE OUR CONFIDENCE AND MATURITY."*

**Deborah Fofie, Year 9**



# KEY STAGE 4

## YEAR 10

Students have spent time in Year 10 discussing relationships and boundaries. They spoke about what they are willing to accept in a relationship and how to recognise unhealthy signs. They have spent a lot of time talking about adult conversations and how to articulate your boundaries in relationships. Students looked at different scenarios and identified toxic qualities in relationships. They then went through strategies to have adult conversations.

When Year 10 did their student council elections, every student was asked to write a personal statement outlining their skills and qualities, even if they were not applying to be part of student council. This gave every student the opportunity to have a go at writing a professional application and receive feedback on this.

*"MY FAVOURITE THING WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT IN TUTOR TIME HAS BEEN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS. IT HAS HELPED ME REALISE HOW TO HELP OTHERS EVEN WHEN WE ARE NOT IN THEIR SHOES."*

**Yathurshanaa Ravikanthan, Year 10**

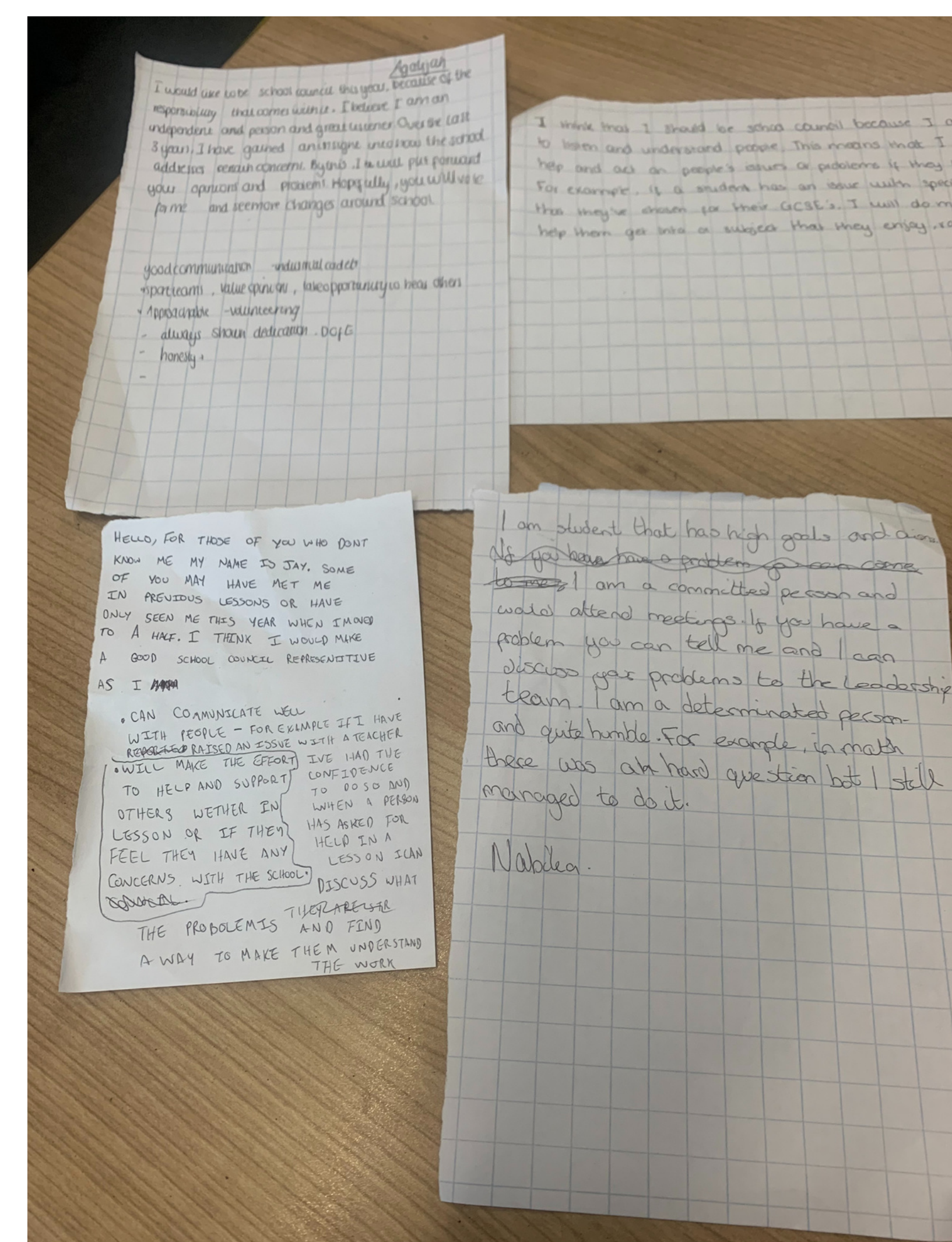
## YEAR 11

With their first set of synoptics exams of Year 11, students have been learning about and reviewing revision strategies during tutor time. They have learnt about spaced practice, how to write flash cards and retrieval practice. To help students with their retrieval Year 11 tutor groups have been competing in a weekly retrieval competition on their core subjects like English, Maths, Science, History and Geography.

### ***How to get involved as a parent/carer:***

Speak to your child about which revision strategy they are using for each of their subjects. Help them to reflect on their results and if they can use more effective revision strategies.

*"MY FAVOURITE THING WE HAVE LEARNED IS REVISION. IT IS HELPFUL TO LEARN DIFFERENT STRATEGIES, ENABLING ME TO TRY DIFFERENT THINGS AND FIND WHAT WORKS FOR YOU."*



**Year 11**



# KEY STAGE 5

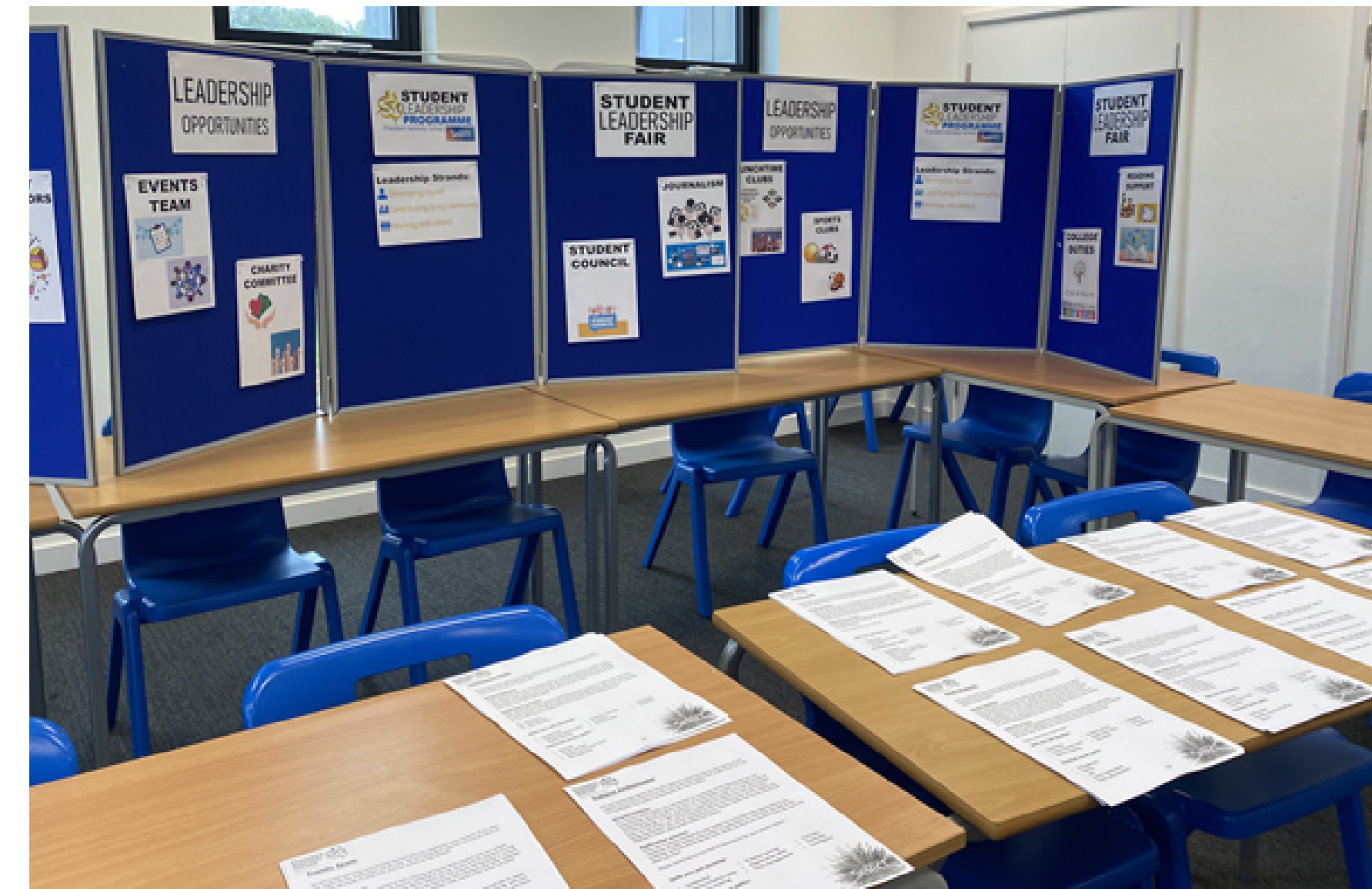


In tutor time this half-term Post-16 have reflected on how they demonstrated leadership in their learning last year, either in Year 11 or Year 12. Post-16 students also do lots to keep up with current affairs including topical debates and current affairs quizzes.

## Topical debates we've had this half-term:

- Why has concrete suddenly become headline news?
- Is the government ban on XL Bully dog an infringement on personal freedoms?
- Is stress a normal part of everyday life?

## YEAR 12



On 20th September we held a student leadership fair in Post-16. Students were invited to visit the fair and read about all the leadership opportunities available and talk to teachers about how to apply to the roles. There was a fantastic turn out and many students went on to write outstanding professional applications and receive a leadership role.

We also received a significant number of applications for the role of head student. We have appointed six head students: Sissy Tully, Aryan Mangat, Isla Cooksey, Jack Kinder, Jack Lyons and Harman Aujla (pictured below).



To prepare them for the leadership roles, Year 12 took part in safeguarding training. This helped to teach them how to lead students in the younger year groups. The training was similar to what is delivered in a professional environment and has helped to prepare students for their steps post-18, e.g. in the workplace.

*"MY FAVOURITE THING WE DO IN TUTOR TIME ARE THE DEBATES BECAUSE IT IS A GOOD CHANCE TO SHARE IDEAS ON WORLD ISSUES. I HAVE FOUND OPPORTUNITIES TO DO STUDENT LEADERSHIP HELPFUL BECAUSE IT HELPS TO DEVELOP IMPORTANT LIFE SKILLS."*

**Yasmin Powell, Year 12**



# KEY STAGE 5

In Year 13 students have spent a time considering how the student leadership they have completed so far might benefit them in future applications and careers.

They have started using the evidence their leadership roles have given them to write about the skills they have learned in their personal statements and on our CVs.

**YEAR 13**

Students in Year 13 have also spent some time reviewing their super-curriculars. They are things that help to broaden and deepen a student's subject knowledge by learning things outside of their A-Level or BTEC course. Year 13 have been reflecting on their super-curriculars and how they can use them in their applications.

## ***How to get involved as a parent/carer:***

Speak to your child about what their super-curriculars are. Where did they find them? What are they about? What is their opinion on what they have read?



All Post-16 students have access this A-Level Magazine platform where they can find super-curricular articles.

# FINANCE FRIDAY

Every other weekend students spend Friday tutor periods learning about financial literacy.

Year 12:

- Budgeting - expenses and how to manage funds.
- Student finance - what is a student loan and what are the benefits?

Year 13:

- Inflation - what is it? Why does it happen? How does it affect you?
- Wages and salaries - what is the difference? Zero-hour contracts and the minimum wage.