

KNIGHTSFIELD NEWSLETTER

A Message from Mrs Thrower

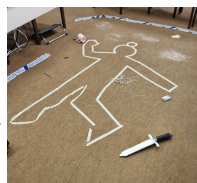


Well we have made it to the end of another busy term and in fact year. We have spent the last year working on our new school vision because it is always good to take stock, as the pandemic has taught us. We have had many changes over the last two years including the ever increasing numbers on roll. This time last year we went to the regional schools commissioner to ask to increase our places and year groups. We have now exceeded that number and have enjoyed having a group of year 5 pupils this year. So, looking to the future our language programme is being retitled A, B, C. Achieve, Believe, Communicate and this takes the place of Listening to Learn. Our pupils definitely need to listen to learn but they also need strong support on how to communicate effectively. We are all excited for this whole school rebrand which you will notice as soon as you drive up to the school and see the new signage. The new logo comes into play too!!! Have a great summer break and I look forward to seeing you all sometime over the next academic year.



Knightsfest 2022

Despite a forecast of possible rain, the weather held out and Knightsfest was enjoyed by pupils, parents, trustees, local primary pupils and other guests. The activities on offer included orienteering, the NDCS roadshow, Knightsfield Crazy Golf and a workout with one of our House Leaders, deaf Olympic marathon runner, Melanie Clarke. There was even a crime to be solved in the English classroom!



Students sold items made as part of their Enterprise Challenge, described later in this newsletter. T-shirts decorated by pupils made a great display! There were fantastic performances from the school staff choir and the Saxonets (Mrs Thrower and Mrs Sounni).

Activities Week

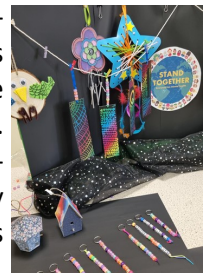
Undaunted by the recent excessively hot weather, staff have worked hard over the last few days to ensure all planned end of term events could go ahead, with just one or two slight changes to accommodate the heat.

On Friday Mr Poole lead pupils and staff on a walk through the local woods and down to Digswell Lake. Along the way there were various activity stops. Pupils enjoyed making shelters, participated in a pasta hunt

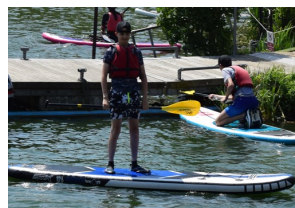


and had a picnic. There was even time for a yoga session at the lake. Pupils worked in their House groups on some of the activities and were encouraged to reflect on their team working skills on their return to Knightsfield.

This was good preparation for Monday, Enterprise Day, when pupils worked on a challenge in the same groups (in air-conditioned rooms!). Each team was given a box of different craft materials from which they were challenged to create products appropriate for selling at Knightfest.



As well as producing products teams had to create a brand and design a logo to be used on posters.



On Wednesday, it was a trip to Stanborough Lakes for a day of canoeing and paddleboarding. Some pupils were apprehensive about taking part. However, with the support of each other and staff they soon overcame their fears and all agreed that, on the hottest day the UK has ever seen, falling into the water was a great way to cool down!

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back for the start of the new school year

Years 6, 7 & 12 on Friday 2nd September

Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 on Monday 5th September

Keep an eye open for our new ABC Logo which will come into full use from the start of the new academic year



Careers Update

CV Writing Workshop with the Job Centre

On Wed 8th June, we welcomed the Job Centre into school to work with our KS4 students. They led an interactive session about writing CVs. They learnt how to construct a CV in the correct order. They were taught about the different sections of a CV and what should ideally go in each one. Students were asked to think about their predicted grades, as these could be used whilst they are waiting for their real results. They were asked how their hobbies could be embellished to provide a conversation point in an interview. They were also asked to provide any skills they have and any awards they have achieved in and outside school. Most importantly they were told what not to include. The feedback from the students was very positive, so hopefully, this will help them in preparing for their next steps.

Hertfordshire Sports Village Careers Talk

On Tue 17th May, Jack Woods from Hertfordshire Sports Village came into school to talk to our Sports Studies students about his role as a Manager at Hertfordshire Sports Village. He talked a lot about his role at the Sports Village but also to the students about the expectations he would have of future employees, or students on work experience. He described the activities and events employees engage in and described the benefits of working there. He also answered questions from the students about roles in the sporting industry.

HSBC Gaming Workshops

Pupils all enjoyed having the opportunity to participate in sessions run by HSBC, aimed at using gaming as a way of getting them to think about how and why they are spending their money. They were then encouraged to explore whether there was a need to buy certain items and if they were value for money. The pupils also used the gaming concept to discuss online safety in terms of not sharing their personal information with people they do not know and how to ensure the safety of their friends when gaming. The pupils actively participated in the discussions and left the workshop thinking about their own spending habits and how they could be changed!

Jubilee Competition



Pupils were challenged to make something, whatever they liked, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Most people submitted pictures and all are displayed at school, for everyone to enjoy. The entries were all of a high standard and the KS3 and KS4 winning pictures are shown.



The Great MFL & Food Tech Bake Off



Pupils were set the challenge of designing a cake, tart or biscuit with a country or language theme. Two pupils from each house were chosen to prepare their designs. The pupils worked hard and the finished items looked amazing, but it was important that the winning en-

try tasted as good as it looked so all were tried by the judges. The standard of entries was high but in the end it was Finlay's summer-fruits creation, based on the Union Jack, which was chosen as the winner.



House Maths Challenge

Some of the skills that pupils develop as they learn maths is noticing and using patterns. These skills were essential for the recent maths challenge which involved cracking a series of codes. The more codes deciphered and the quicker pupils worked, the more stars they earned for their house. Mrs Hann then did some maths to work out the average number of stars earned by each pupil for their houses! The competition was close but Haddock were the eventual winners, with Isabel doing particularly well, cracking all three codes.

Sports Experience Day



On Tuesday 14th June we took our KS2 and KS3 students to a Sports Experience day in Redbourn. Knightsfield School had been invited to the event amongst a number of Special Schools in Hertfordshire and we took part in a number of different workshops throughout the day. These included, football, boxing, athletics, dance, space hopper-football, penalty shoot-outs and much, much more. The sun was shining for us and we took full advantage of the free candy floss and popcorn stands. At lunch time, we ate our packed lunches next to the farm and also went on a train ride around the perimeter of the school. We even met Frank Bruno, Sir Trevor Brooking and Peter Shilton! Many thanks to Mike Jackson MBE who organised the event for the Disabled Sports Foundation.

