

Message from Mrs Farenden



This newsletter comes at the end of our spring term and my extremely proud news of becoming the permanent Headteacher at Knightsfield. It is a pleasure to be given this wonderful opportunity and I look forward to leading the school into an exciting future.

As always, it has been an extremely busy but excellent few weeks in which we embraced the musical theme this term and enjoyed an inspiring visit from Deaf Rave who headed a wonderful afternoon of workshops highlighting how deaf people can enjoy music through sound and vibrations. Then our exciting theatre performance just before half term, transported us all back to the 1980's, it was brilliant to see so many of our students shine with confidence and to see a lot of our lovely families there! We also enjoyed a visit from the High Sherriff of Hertfordshire who presented our fantastic swimming team with their runners up silver medals for participating in the National Deaf Swimming Competition in January at the London Aquatic Centre.

Our Forest School continues to go from strength to strength and as the spring weather has arrived, the students are able to witness nature at it's finest which has been truly lovely to see. Students have participated in creative activities and have enjoyed understanding more about the sustainability of the natural world. The impact of being outside and learning new skills continues to have a noticeable effect on our students and they have enjoyed making some wonderful memories together.

The beautiful spring weather extended into our annual PGL week in which students had the opportunity to experience and challenge themselves in the wealth of activities on offer. It was fantastic to see everyone having so much fun and thoroughly enjoying their digital detox!

This just leaves me to thank you for all your continued support for Knightsfield and to wish you and your family a wonderful Easter and a relaxing spring break.

'THE FLASHBACK CLUB' THEATRE PERFORMANCE

What a wonderful time the students experienced during our Theatre Week in February when all things 80's were the theme! Students and staff had fun throughout the week creating 1980's craft with cassette tapes and Space Invaders and listening to music from the era. Students excelled in their performances on the night, showing confidence and enjoyment through their characters and interactions with the audience and each other. We are very proud of every single one of them!



DEAF RAVE

On Thursday 30th January, we were lucky enough to welcome Troi Lee into school and his fantastic Deaf Rave workshop! 🎵

Students enjoyed listening to music and wearing vibration vests to also feel the music and beat and had the opportunity to be a DJ during each workshop, working turntables and adjusting beat, base and rhythm!

We were honoured to have Troi come in and share his experiences with our students including his journey as a deaf person growing up in Hackney and being the first deaf DJ to play at Glastonbury!

Students had such a brilliant time and some of the comments overheard were:
'I've never felt like this in my life!'
'Best start to the day'
'It was epic!'



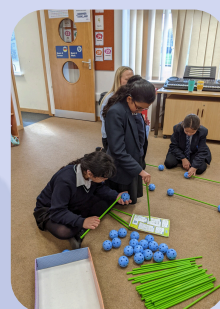
ELSA CAREERS DAY

On Wednesday 26th March we welcomed ELSA Next Generation into school to run their ELSA "Get Work Ready" day.

Students enjoyed a fantastic day of fun whilst learning new skills and experiences which included understanding how the Computacentre use environmentally friendly ideas to promote sustainable IT systems, construction with Bowmer & Kirkland and tower building with Kori Construction. The day continued with poetry workshops with Shout and Whisper, Communication skills with Stevenage FC, careers within the NHS and some marshmallow fun with teamwork building from Missive and Equans!

Students rounded the day off with some mock interviews from employers such as BT, Equans, Premier Foods, GSK, Tesco and STEM.

A fantastic day was had by all of our students whilst gaining an invaluable insight into careers and the world of work. Thank you to Mr Beech for organising the day and a big thank you to all of our visiting companies for sharing their excellent skills and resources.



PGL

In early March, staff and students from year 5 to year 9 enjoyed a fantastic week of fun at Caythorpe Manor during their annual PGL trip. It was wonderful to see so many students challenging themselves and participating in a variety of different activities. The weather was beautiful and contributed to everyone thoroughly enjoying their week together and discovering new interests in the natural world.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 22nd April – start of term

Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 6th May – School closed – occasional day

Monday 12th May – Arsenal Football Club Deaf Awareness visit

Tuesday 20th May – Yr9 visit to London Central Mosque

Thursday 5th June – Year 7(1) visit to Neasden Mandir

Monday 9th – Friday 13th June – Y10 Work Experience

Tuesday 10th June – Year 7 Sports Experience Day

Monday 16th June – Yr11 Thorpe Park

Tuesday 17th June – Southern Deaf Football Championships

Thursday 19th June – Year 7(2) visit to Neasden Mandir

Thursday 3rd July – Additional Transition Day

Thursday 10th July – Transition Day

Wednesday 16th July – Bletchley Park whole school trip

Friday 18th July – End of Term – 12:30 finish

From everyone at Knightsfield, have a lovely Spring break!

