

Message from Mrs Farenden



This newsletter comes at the end of our summer term and of course the school year which has been wonderful with some lovely achievements throughout Knightsfield.

As always, it has been an extremely busy but excellent term. Our Year 10 students enjoyed their week of work experience in June in a variety of settings and did a fantastic job representing Knightsfield superbly. We were thrilled with the feedback they received and they should rightly be very proud of themselves and their achievements.

There have been numerous trips throughout most year groups with students enjoying learning more about holy places of worship. Notably, Year 7 visited the Hindu Mandir in Neasden and Year 9 Visited the Regents Park Mosque in London. Our lovely year 11 students enjoyed their traditional leavers trip to Thorpe Park and our most recent whole school trip to Bletchley Park just this week has been both informative and fun! It has been fantastic to see our students enjoying experiences outside of Knightsfield.

Our Activities Week also provided our students with a final opportunity this term to raise funds for our Charity of the Year, The Essex and Herts Air Ambulance with their sponsored walk through the forest on Tuesday. Thank you for all your donations to this wonderful cause, we will be continuing to support this worthwhile charity through the next academic year.

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



Activities Week & Bletchley Park

On **Monday 14th July** we took the whole school to Welwyn woods as part of our Activities Week fun for a day of den building, teamwork and ice creams! We were very lucky to enjoy wonderful sunshine but avoid the heatwave which amounted to perfect walking conditions! Students had a lovely day being out in the fresh air and appreciating nature and wildlife just like our very own Forest School!

As part of the whole school trip to Bletchley Park in July, all year groups participated in World War Two activities in school on **Tuesday** to prepare for the adventures to come! There were code breaking escape rooms, orienteering tasks to uncover spies and cooking around the fire in Forest School! Students had a wonderful day of learning and fun which complimented their trip and understanding of that important time in history brilliantly!

On **Wednesday** the entire school visited Bletchley Park where British codebreakers once worked in top-secret to crack enemy codes during World War Two! During our visit, our students had the opportunity to learn about the fantastic secret mission that took place there for six years with an incredible nine thousand recruits who all gave the excuse of 'boring office work' when questioned about what happens there!

Students were given the opportunity to practice our code-cracking skills and experience a real-life Enigma machine that had a mind-blowing number of combinations, over a- sextillion, that's 21 zeros!

We even had a successful mission of our own, to find the memorial brick of one of our student's family members who had worked at Bletchley Park!

'I found the name of my Great Grandma on a brick at Bletchley Park. She worked there during World War 2. I felt excited, proud, emotional and connected to my Great Grandma!'

Thursday was the Festival of Reading where we enjoyed a day full of reading and book related activities, including the Great Reading Race, and even a visit from a wonderful parent author who kindly led some excellent reading workshops with our Year 9 and 10 students!

Knightsfield School Trip Highlights

Sports Experience Day

Knightsfield's Year 7 students joined an incredible sports experience at St Luke's School! Children with disabilities from special schools had the chance to dive into over **thirty different sporting activities** – from football and cricket to boxercise, derby racing, golf, and even bouncy castles!

PGL Caythorpe Manor

Pupils had a fantastic week at PGL in the glorious sunshine, where they worked hard at conquering their fears and participating in new activities. Over the week, pupils took part in a variety of activities including disc golf, canoeing, zip wires and survival skills and fire lighting. We are extremely proud of all our pupils for taking on each new challenge and rising to the occasion... nothing stops them!!

RAF Hendon Museum

Year 9 had a great day at RAF Hendon seeing the planes used during WW1 and WW2 which they will be learning about as part of their History lessons. They were all really enthusiastic seeing the different planes close up and finding out about how they were used in different battles. It was a fun experience for all!



Knightsfield School Careers

Y10s had work experience for the week of 9th June. This was the first time Knightsfield students had done this since pre-COVID and was a really successful week including placements in horse stables, Computatcentre and a local charity shop. Thank you to the local businesses who enabled this to happen.



Y9s also visited the University of Hertfordshire for their SEND Pathfinder day. It was a fun day which included a variety of workshops in different areas of the campus and gave students a good initial insight to some aspects of university life.

Knightsfield Forest School



We have had a very successful first year of Forest School and pupils are benefitting from the different ways in which it can support their social, emotional and communication skills as well as their appreciation of the outdoors and nature. In a recent survey completed by pupils in years 5 - 9, the most frequent words they wrote to describe their experience of Forest School were that it is 'fun' and it makes them feel 'happy and calm'.

All years finished the year with our first 'Forest School games' - a mixture of individual, team and group events to develop team building, communication skills and fine and gross motor skills, and cooking baked apples and marshmallows over campfires. During Activities Week years 8 - 10 even had a go at making calzone from scratch, cooking it over the fire and eating it with their friends...it was a big hit!



Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 2nd September - Year 5, 6, 7 and 12 start
 Tuesday 2nd September - School Photos Year 5 - 7
Wednesday 3rd September - all pupils to attend
 Friday 12th September - School Photos Year 8 - 11
Thursday 23rd October - School Closed INSET 1
 Friday 24th October - School Closed INSET 2
Thursday 27th November - Academic Review Day
 Friday 28th November - School Closed - Occasional Day
Friday 19th December - End of Term

From everyone at Knightsfield, have a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing you all in September!