



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what a busy half term it has been here at Kite Ridge! The return of KiteFest after a two-year break was a significant event in our school community and, I am pleased to say, a huge success. It fills me with pride to be able to say that all Kite Ridge students managed to access the festival marquee - this is a huge achievement for many of them and testimony to the great work of our Learning Mentors. It was great to see many of you there, thank you for supporting us and I do hope you enjoyed the fantastic atmosphere.

The extreme temperatures at the beginning of this week forced our school to close, along with numerous other schools in Buckinghamshire. As you know, closing our school is always a last resort but our risk assessments deemed that it was just not safe (for students or staff) to operate in these conditions. I will be seeking funding to enable us to have some kind of shade provided in the playground and some form of air conditioning inside the building to equip us to deal with hot weather in the future.

To celebrate the end of term today we had a whole school picnic style lunch. This was a lovely way to end the term and an opportunity to say a collective goodbye to those that are off to pastures new. One student is leaving us to embark on their adult journey and we wish them all the best for the future – we hope our Kite Ridge values will stand them in good stead.

### **School life**

We have been carrying on with our basic number skills and measure in maths, looking at comparing and measuring length. In English we have continued with the reading and spelling and have introduced the Clicker programme which is proving successful. We have also incorporated drama sessions involving either practical activities, or experiencing online theatre and drama performances, which all students have enjoyed.

All the students chose their own areas of interest for topic this term and carried out research, watched videos, created art or made a presentation about it.

We have managed to make use of the good weather and have some of our lessons outside including music, Street Dance, drama and OT.

### **Staff news**

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mike. Mike has been a Learning Mentor here at Kite Ridge for five years and his contribution to the school has been immense. Mike has worked successfully with all students at Kite Ridge and enabled them to grow in confidence both personally and academically. We wish Mike luck with his future endeavors.

Brandon joined us at the beginning of this year. He very quickly immersed himself in Kite Ridge life and became an invaluable member of our Learning Mentor team. Sadly, Brandon is leaving us to complete teacher training but we know he will be a brilliant teacher and we wish him all the best.

Carly B joined us in June as a Learning Mentor. She has already built some positive relationships with students whilst completing her initial training. We know Carly will be a huge asset to our school community.

**Dates for your diary**

School closes today, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July, for the summer break. Students return to school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at the normal time of 10am.

Term dates are available on our website, but please do contact our school office if you would like these to be sent to you separately.

Academic Reports will be sent to you individually today so please look out for them in your child's bag.

I wish you all a happy and relaxing summer.

Best wishes,

*Steven Sneesby*

Headteacher