



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half of the Spring term has flown by! Students settled back into their school routine after Christmas and have all achieved really well. Unfortunately, our staffing levels have continued to be extremely low and this has meant school has been closed to some students on some days. Please be assured that keeping students off school is always a last resort and something we only do if absolutely necessary. We carefully risk assess each day at school and, sadly, we sometimes have to make the difficult decision to close for some students. I am extremely grateful to you all for your patience, support and understanding during these difficult times. We are hopeful that the recruitment of some new members of staff will ease this situation.

School life

The students have all settled back in well after Christmas, and we have started the new Phonics scheme in earnest. We have a new reading scheme around this and a much greater choice of books and supporting materials. It is all going well and the books are much more appealing to the students and cover a variety of fiction and non-fiction formats. We have been looking at the properties of shape in maths which has included a lot of practical activities as well as written. We will continue with this next half term, but looking more at measuring, angles and area where appropriate.

We have managed a few more community visits this half term, where staffing levels have allowed, and we hope to continue with this as the weather improves.

Staff news

We have recruited a new Teacher who will start with us after half term. Mrs Neudecker joins us with a wealth of teaching experience from a variety of mainstream and special settings. We are very excited to have Mrs Neudecker on board and know she will be a huge asset.

Bianka will join us as a new Learning Mentor after half term. Students responded very well to Bianka when she visited and she is looking forward to joining our school.

Dates for your diary

School closes for students today, Friday 9th February. and reopens at the usual time on Monday 19th February.

Our Easter break is 29th March – 14th April.

I am giving you advance notice that school will be closed on Thursday 2nd May 2024 as the building is being used as a polling station.

I wish you all a restful half term week.

With very best wishes,

Steven Sneesby

Headteacher

