



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first term of the new academic year has whizzed by. We have welcomed two new students who have both settled well and are embracing life at Kite Ridge. We have been able to take most students out on trips in the community which have been successful whilst providing the opportunity to learn essential skills for life beyond Kite Ridge.

The run up to Christmas has been busy with all the usual school festivities taking place. All students decorated Christmas hoops which are displayed in the hall, they have baked and decorated some festive treats and have enjoyed decorating the tree.

The whole school enjoyed Christmas lunch together last week. Special thanks go to Ian, our chef, who cooked us a wonderful meal. We also had our Christmas party where everyone enjoyed playing games and getting in the festive mood!

Thank you to those that have sent in gifts, cards and yummy treats for us to enjoy; we are all very grateful.

School life

We have had a busy first term back this year working on our new curriculum. We are embedding the Equals Informal Curriculum for students who have a main focus on their life and functional skills moving forward to adulthood. This has been successful so far and involves a change in the way we deliver the sessions, and concentrating heavily on communication and problem-solving skills. For those working on the more formal curriculum, they have been focusing on their reading, phonics, writing and maths skills following the recommended outcomes.

All students have been engaging in the topic of food and farming through a variety of activities.

Staff news

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our Lead Practitioner, Therapy and Behaviour, Saad. This is a new position in our school and we are excited for Saad to come in and really get to know our students. Saad comes to us with a wealth of experience which will really help to shape and embed the therapy and behaviour elements of our curriculum. He will work closely with our two Senior Practitioners, Katie (Behaviour) and Debbie (Therapy).

Sarah left us in October to take up a position in another Special School in Buckinghamshire. We wish Sarah well and hope that her experiences at Kite Ridge will stand her in good stead for the challenges of her new role.

Dates for your diary

School closes to students for the Christmas break on Thursday 19th December. We will welcome students back to school on Monday 6th January 2025.

A reminder that term dates can be found on our website; these are also available for 2025-26.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

With very best wishes,

Steven Sneesby

Headteacher