



Red Kite Special Academy Newsletter

Friday 22nd May 2026

Dear Families,

It's been a purposeful, joyous and busy term 5. As we approach our final term teachers are busy writing end of year reports and we are planning transition.

Thank you to

Richard Plants in Desborough and Kian's mum who donated plants for our KS4 and 5 pupils for their gardening option.

A note from Tim, our Music Therapy Student

My time at Red Kite has been completely wonderful. The students I have had the privilege to work with have taught me so much. The staff have been welcoming and kind, making me feel a part of the team immediately. The relationship that Red Kite has with creative therapies is refreshing and exciting; their desire for as many students as possible to have access to all means of support for their wellbeing is a delight. Thank you to Karen, the leadership team, and all the staff I had the pleasure of working with for making my training such an enjoyable experience. I have learnt so much and have gained invaluable skills and wisdom from my placement here which I will carry forward with me for the rest of my career.

Celebrating Difference Day

We held our 2nd **Red Kite Celebrating Difference Day** on Thursday 23rd April where we celebrated all the different special needs our pupils have with a Rainbow of Colours. We had a visiting Artist Marvin from Lemonpop Workshops who worked with all classes to produce three pieces of Artwork using a rainbow of colours, one for Meadows, one for Woods and one for The Lookout. We will be displaying the finished pieces around school.

We loved our visit from **Sensational Day Provision**. Their performance for the pupils was amazing and they had everyone joining in with singing and dancing. It was such a joyous experience for everyone. It was great to see a provision that some of our pupils might go on to be part of when they leave Red Kite.

Careers Week

Our Careers Week this time focused on careers within the administration sector. This year, we welcomed members of the Red Kite Admin Team—Emma, Louise, Denise, and Lydia—as well as Adrianno and Errol from Corby Job Centre. Pupils had a valuable opportunity to learn about a range of roles within administration.

Denise and Lydia led an engaging session on working in a school reception, where they introduced pupils to everyday office items such as laptops, calendars, and catalogues. Louise and Emma delivered interactive sessions focused on interviews, giving pupils the chance to take part in enjoyable and meaningful role-play activities.

Purposeful Reflective Genuine Aspirational Joyous

Adrianno and Errol enriched the experience by bringing in office equipment from the past and comparing it with modern tools used in today's workplace, helping pupils understand how the sector has evolved.

KS4 and KS5 pupils also had hands-on opportunities to use a variety of office equipment, including laptops, printers, scanners, shredders, and telephones, allowing them to practise key administrative skills.

As part of their learning about postal services, all groups wrote letters and visited local post boxes, exploring the journey of a letter from sender to recipient.

Overall, all sessions were highly practical, engaging, and well received by everyone.

Ania - Careers Lead

Free School Meals

We have recently shared with you via Class Dojo information about changes the Government is making for families who may be eligible for FSM/PP at the start of the New School Year, September 2026.

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 school year, all children whose families receive Universal Credit, and who attend maintained schools, academies, or free schools, will be able to get a free school meal.

Families who want to check if they are eligible, and apply for September 2026 under the new guidance, can do so from **1st July 2026**.

If your child goes to a school in **North Northamptonshire**, please apply using the Parent Portal:

<https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/parent-portal>

If you require any further information or help please pop into the school office.

Butlins

As I write this newsletter our Year 9 pupils are having a joyous time at Butlins in Skegness. A huge thank you to our staff who enabled this trip to happen and to our parents for trusting us with their young people. We look forward to hearing all about it and seeing all the photos.

Congratulations to

Meg (Bears Class), who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy this week. We send Meg and her family our warmest wishes.

Wishing you all a lovely May half term break

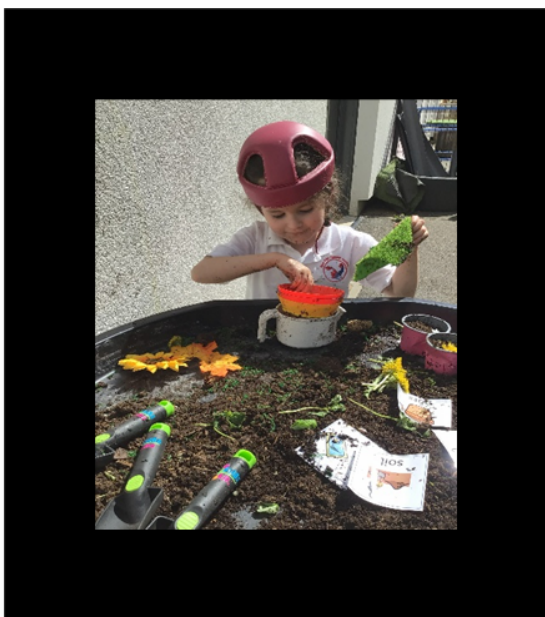
Best wishes

Karen

Karen Smith

Headteacher

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