

Dear Families, welcome back after the Christmas break – it seems a long time ago already! We've had some difficulties this half term, particularly with staff absence, but thanks to your support we've managed to remain relatively disruption-free and keep the school running as best we can. Special thanks to the 3 class groups who had to miss a couple of days – we hated doing this, but hope it didn't cause too much distress or disruption.

We've a few changes in the coming half term – we've obtained High Hills building, so additional students will be moving up to our St Margaret's Way site, which will provide excellent resources for the students there. This will also mean some additional moves on the main site / KTS3 – all to better accommodate the needs of the children. We'll keep you informed as we go.

Have a good half term break, see you on the 28th.

Brian



KTS1 & KTS2



In lower school the pupils have had a wonderful time, learning about our topic of 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers'. The pupils have done some lovely work and each class has had their own take on the topic. Some classes have been to Newham Grange Farm to see the animals and they even had the chance to feed some of them. They had a lovely time. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from Kirkleatham Owl Centre, who brought in lots of animals for the children to meet. The pupils had a wonderful time, although some of us were a bit unsure of the tarantula!

As part of National Storytelling Week, the groups have focused on the story 'The Gruffalo'. Red class have been enjoying their Makaton sessions, which have focused on the story and they have loved listening and watching the song-version of it, starring Julia Donaldson! Lilac class had a wonderful time at their Gruffalo messy play party. They explored 'Owl Ice Cream', 'Mouse Food' and Gruffalo themed rice. In Green Class, they have been on some nature walks, made some fabulous messy art and even cooked up some delicious Gruffalo Crumble in our Deep Dark Woods Café!

Some classes have learned about Chinese New Year and in White class they loved trying some Chinese food and exploring food within their messy play session too.

Orange Class have had some cycling lessons this half term and have been learning how to ride bikes safely. They have all done really well!

KT3 & KTS +

U1, U2 and U3 have spent this half-term studying varying climates and different animals from around the world. Students have enjoyed learning about the equator and how this effects climates around the world. Students were amazed by the sub-zero temperatures recorded in Antarctica and some of the blistering temperatures found nearest to the equator. Students have also spent time learning about the different animals that survive in these extreme climates, some students have also completed art projects around the different wildlife studied and sampled food from different climate zones.

In U6 we have been learning all about a variety of animals from around the globe in our topic 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers'. We've explored the different continents and celebrated Chinese New Year! We continue to work hard on our independent living skills this half term and we are so excited for our move up to KTS+.

Students at KTS+ have enjoyed a visit from Rita Richardson and firefighters from Cleveland Fire Brigade. Students learnt about fire safety in the home and the community. Some students also enjoyed a visit to Redcar Fire Station to look around the station and learn about the different jobs that the firefighters do.

Students in U7, U8 and U9 have been busy moving their classrooms from the KTS+ building to the building at the back of the school previously known as High Hills. Everyone is excited about the move and we will invite parents to have a look around the new classrooms next half term.



Notices

Next PD Day will be Friday 18th March. We break for Easter on Friday 8th April.

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

In order to adhere to DBS regulations, can all parents please ensure they report to the main reception when visiting school for any reason?

KTS Academy is committed to the safeguarding of its pupils.
For your information the Designated Safeguarding Lead for our school is Brian Richardson, or, in Brian's absence, Sarah Gunn. The school Governor for Safeguarding is Maggie Hadland.