

# Newsletter for Families

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of the spring term, we had all hoped that our academies would not have been so affected by COVID absences but sadly this has not been the case. In fact, recent staff absence levels have been over 10% which has been incredibly challenging for our Head Teachers to manage but they have all done a great job. We have managed to keep all of our schools open, with the exception of three short, temporary year group closures. This was a difficult decision to make but was necessary to ensure that all children were safe with appropriate staffing levels. Thank you for your support with this.

Despite the ongoing COVID challenges, we are pleased to announce that Folly Hill Infant School joined the Kite Academy Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and we are delighted to welcome the staff, governors, children and families of Folly Hill to the Kite community. The Folly Hill children joined representatives of all our academies at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy for our traditional kite flying celebration - they all had great fun together, despite the snow! This week the government published the education white paper which lays great emphasis on schools being part of strong multi-academy trusts (MATs); with the addition of Folly Hill to our family of academies, we look forward to this next chapter of the Trust's story together.

We are really pleased to have completed all of the preparation work to begin using the swimming pool at The Ferns - a big "thank you" to our Estates Team for all the work on this exciting project. We are planning to start swimming lessons for the older children at The Ferns after Easter and, as the pool gets acclimatised, more children across the Trust will be able to use the pool for lessons. We are partnering with Fins Swimming Club for this venture and are grateful for all of their advice.

Our academies in Surrey are breaking up for Easter on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April and The Ferns, who are following Hampshire holidays, will finish on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April. We wish you all a lovely break and let's hope that the sun shines!!

Best Wishes,

*Christine Dickinson*

CEO

Aspiration

Integrity

Respect



Our Multi Academy Trust (MAT) was formed in October 2015 with a shared aim of providing the very best for all of our children, families and staff. As part of a MAT, our academies continue to be publicly funded schools but operate independently within a framework designed to promote innovation, raise standards and increase levels of achievement for all children. MATs have greater autonomy and capacity for innovation than traditional state schools while retaining the responsibility to deliver excellence in standards of education, to collaborate with other schools and to support the wider community - these are responsibilities that we embrace and drive our focus on improvement and inclusivity.



Our Trust is built around our shared vision - to be a first class, inclusive, collaborative and forward-thinking family of local academies - and our 'AIR' values of *Aspiration*, *Integrity* & *Respect*. Collaboration at every level, across the Trust, is a vital element in our continuing success. Having opportunities to share the breadth of knowledge and experience of our staff across the Trust ensures we are able to provide high quality, vibrant and inspiring learning journeys for our children to enjoy. Through Trust-wide activities such as maths, science, and technology competitions, musical concerts and sporting events, our children are able to enjoy being part of a larger community. We look forward to re-starting these events after the restrictions of the last two years - starting with our traditional kite flying event to celebrate Folly Hill joining the Trust.

*Aspiration*

*Integrity*

*Respect*



*Together we inspire a lifelong love of learning, which enables all our children to achieve more than they ever believed possible*

# Our AIR Values

The Kite  
Academy  
Trust  
Flying high  
together

## Aspiration

Aim high and be the best that you can be;  
have the courage and determination to make  
anything possible

*Be perseverant, resilient, tenacious,  
open-minded and confident*

## Integrity

Listen to your conscience;  
do the right thing for the right reason;  
be honest and trustworthy even when no one is looking

*Be a role model, an advocate for what is  
right, and a good citizen with  
strong moral principles*

## Respect

Embrace individuality and diversity;  
value the rights, feelings and wishes of others.

*Be kind, polite, empathetic, tolerant  
and responsible*

Aspiration

Integrity

Respect



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The Kite Family Hub team have finalised the timetable for the summer term and look forward to welcoming Kite families to events. The timetable will be shared by your child's academy and is also available on our website:

[www.thekiteacademytrust.org/our-services/the-kite-family-hub-kfh/kfh-documents-and-flyers/](http://www.thekiteacademytrust.org/our-services/the-kite-family-hub-kfh/kfh-documents-and-flyers/)

If you do not already, please do like and follow our Facebook page to keep up-to-date with news from the Kite Family Hub team: [www.facebook.com/KiteFamilyHub](http://www.facebook.com/KiteFamilyHub)

## First Aid Courses

### FREE First Aid Courses for Kite Families

We are pleased to be able to offer a free 3-hour basic first aid course to Kite families (adults over 18 years) during the Summer 2022 term. Topics covered:

- CPR children and adults
- Choking
- Bleeds
- Burns
- Anaphylaxis
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

**Date:** Wednesday 18th May 2022

**Venue:** Hale Nursery & Primary Academy, Upper Hale Road, Farnham, GU9 0LR

**Time:** 6.30 - 9.30pm

**Booking link:** <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/304921437227>

**Date:** Thursday 19th May 2022

**Venue:** Mytchett Primary & Nursery Academy, Hamesmoor Road, Mytchett, GU16 6JB

**Time:** 6.30 - 9.30pm

**Booking link:** <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/304930223507>

Please note: the course cost is being subsidised by the Kite Academy Trust and places are limited. If you have booked a place and you are no longer able to attend, please do cancel your booking to allow others to attend and to help avoid incurring costs for non-attendance.

**The Kite Family Hub is located next to Mytchett Primary & Nursery Academy, Hamesmoor Road, Mytchett, GU16 6JB**

# Come & Ask Sessions

Our FSW team will continue to hold Come and Ask sessions fortnightly during the summer term.

One-hour appointment slots are available every other Thursday morning between 9:00am and 1:30pm. All appointments are booked via Eventbrite using the link: [KFH Come & Ask - Summer 2022](#)

Dates for sessions are:

- Thursday 21st April 2022
- Thursday 5th May 2022
- Thursday 19th May 2022
- Thursday 9th June 2022
- Thursday 23rd June 2022
- Thursday 7th July 2022
- Thursday 14th July 2022

If you would like to attend a Come and Ask session but are unable to do so on a Thursday morning, please contact [fsw@kite.academy](mailto:fsw@kite.academy).

# Stay & Play Sessions

Please come and join us for a cuppa and meet other local parents and carers, while exploring books, toys and messy play with your under 5s.

The session will end with a group rhyme time and story. All sessions are held at the Kite Family Hub and run from 9:00am – 10:30am.

Dates for sessions are:

- Tuesday 26th April 2022
- Tuesday 24th May 2022
- Tuesday 14th June 2022
- Tuesday 12th July 2022

Booking link: [KFH Stay & Play - Summer 2022](#)

# The Nurturing Programme

Being a parent is one of the most rewarding things in the world. Yet at times, it can also be stressful and challenging.

The Nurturing Programme is a 10-week parenting programme that looks at family life in a thoughtful and fun way. It also helps support positive behaviour in children and goes much further than that by looking at the emotional needs behind our children's behaviour.

The Nurturing Programme benefits both children and parents by:

- Improving mental well-being
- Improving the child's behaviour
- Improving family relationships
- Building self-esteem
- Developing communication and social skills
- Teaching positive ways to resolve conflict
- Encouraging parents to take time for themselves
- Improves the child's long term educational and work prospects

This parenting course is delivered by the Kite Family Hub team and is available to all Kite Academy Trust parents and carers. Please note—places are limited.

**Starts:** Tuesday 3rd May 2022 for 10 weeks (term time only)

May 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, June 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, July 5th & 12th

**Venue:** delivered face-to-face at the Kite Family Hub, (next to) Mytchett Primary & Nursery Academy, Hamesmoor Road, Mytchett, GU16 6JB

**Timing:** 7.00 - 9.00pm

**Booking link:** [Kite Family Links Nurturing Programme - Summer Term - Face-to-face course Tickets, Tue 3 May 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

The Kite Family Hub is located next to Mytchett Primary & Nursery Academy, Hamesmoor Road, Mytchett, GU16 6JB

Aspiration

Integrity

Respect



# Supporting Ukraine



At Wyke, we supported the Ukraine Society UK by having a collection. We collected nappies, toiletries, baby formula and medicines. These goods were collected and taken by truck back into Ukraine to support those still in the country.

At Holly Lodge, the annual Easter run was held in support of the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. The children ran 5km - 8 laps - around the field and raised an incredible £1750 to help provide food, water, shelter and medical assistance for those who have fled their homes to escape the conflict in Ukraine. Special thanks the staff from the Central Team who helped on the day and even ran with the children.



At Cross Farm, the children took part in a 'Do Something for Charity' week which focused on Ukraine and supporting families in need. Reception held a cake sale and raised £69.05. Year 1 discussed the local collections and how children could donate things to be taken to Poland to help families. Year 2 held a fruit kebab sale and raised £117.07

We are very proud of Jack and Millie at Mytchett who wanted to do something to help the people of Ukraine and so they organised their own cake sale! They have raised over £1,300!

Our sincere thanks also to the community who came along and bought their delicious cakes.



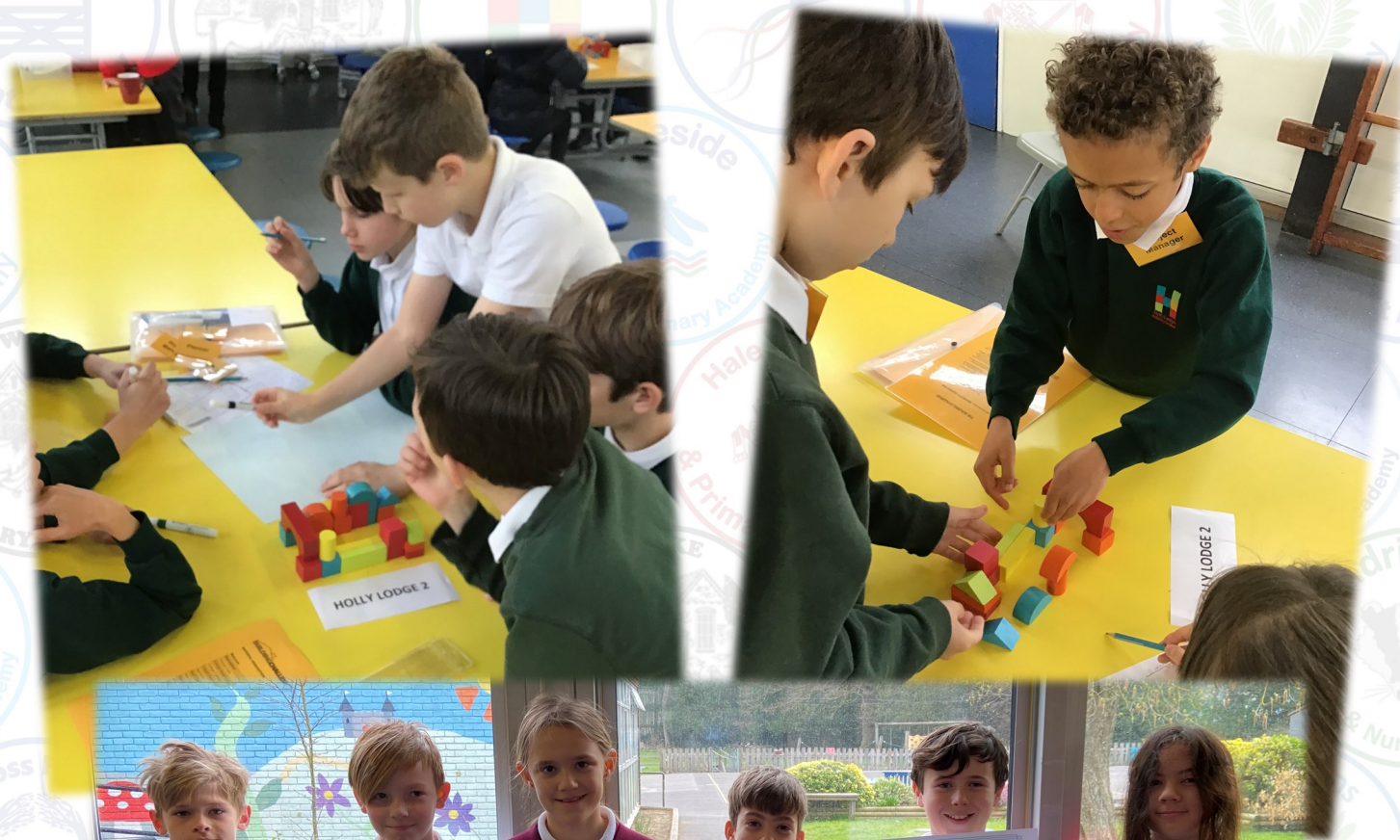
The government have updated their guidance for people moving to the UK from Ukraine. The most up-to-date information can be found at [www.gov.uk/guidance/move-to-the-uk-if-youre-from-ukraine](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/move-to-the-uk-if-youre-from-ukraine)



Together we inspire a lifelong love of learning, which enables all our children to achieve more than they ever believed possible

# Learning Together

On Tuesday 29th March, Year 6 teams from all the Kite academies together at Holly Lodge for a science, technology, engineering and mathematics, (STEM) challenge. The children spent the morning completing problem solving activities and had a great time working together. The Year 6 team from Mytchett were the overall winners—well done Team Mytchett!







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At The Grove, children in Year 4 had a fantastic trip to Ufton Court this term. They learnt military manoeuvres, how to light fires and some archery skills. They explored Roman artefacts and created swords using willow. The children loved sharing rooms with their friends and certainly made the most of their time there! At The Grove we celebrate our immersive curriculum and the Ufton residential is one of our favourites!



At Holly Lodge, we held a Saturday Sewing Bee where our HLSA, parents and staff worked to sew some story sacks for the Reception and Year 1 children to promote Reading for Pleasure. Children, parents and staff also joined us for a Ground Force day to prepare our school allotment for planting. It has been great to recommence these community activities following the pandemic.

Our Eco-Warriors decided they would like to work on a sustainable travel plan and have been hard at work auditing the local facilities both inside and around the academy. They have worked on a project plan from companies that submitted quotes and they have chosen a new bike shelter and bike and scooter racks. They were able to win a grant for the project of £2000 and with some help from the HLSA are looking forward to the installation of the new facilities.

The children have been attending a number of sporting events and always do us proud. Congratulations to the Panathlon team who came first in the Surrey Panathlon Challenge. They earned extra points for resilience.



At Cross Farm, as part of our Marvellous Mondays, children have been outside looking for signs of Spring. The children found buds on trees, shoots from plants and daffodils, and discussed how our weather and the length of daylight is increasing. The children completed art work as well as looking at the science knowledge. The children enjoyed a week of celebrating reading and writing, starting with our World Book Day celebrations. Children were invited to dress up as an animal from a book and, throughout the week, enjoyed parents and family members coming in to share books. We even had mystery readers who shared books through Tapestry for children to enjoy.



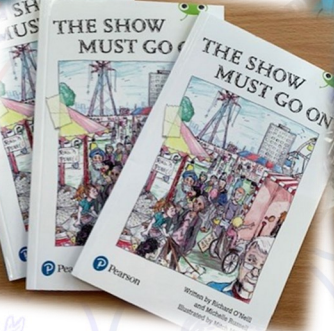
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
 The moon is bright in night.  
 The forest is gigantic.  
 The showers are colossal and  
 glistening. There are thin  
 shaped trees with dissidents  
 and long trees. There are glittery  
 stars. The trees have long  
 twigs on the sticks. There is  
 mysterious forest with gigantic  
 leaves and glowing showers  
 with



At Wyke, Year 4 took part in bikeability and did a great job to all get their level 1 badge.

We celebrated Mother's Day with a Mother's Day gift sale organised by the PTA where the children got to choose a gift for their mum.

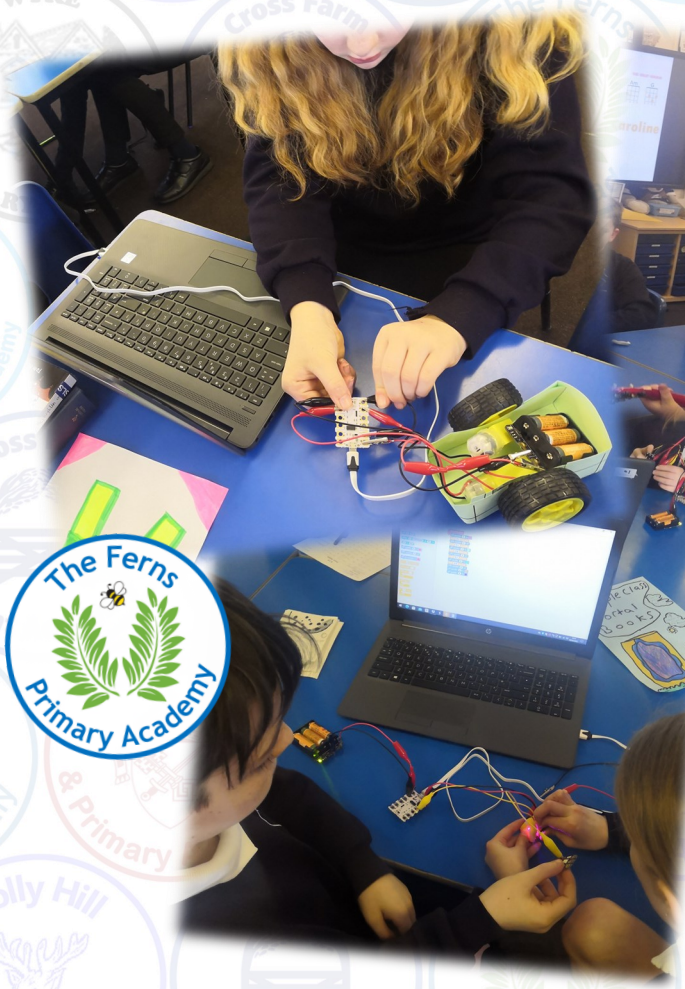
We have had a visit from Berenice, a member of the Showman Community. She came to talk to us about the Showman's way of life and tell us all about owning a fairground ride. We held a competition to design a new fair ride and the winner won a hamper and free tickets to the Fair in Aldershot. Some of the parents in school have donated copies of a book that was written during the first lockdown by the Showman community called "The Show Must Go On"



At Lakeside, this term's theme in Little Ducklings Nursery has 'Jungle Fever', based around several core stories. The children have been on jungle adventures in the woods, built their own dens, used musical instruments to make their own animal sounds and junk modelling to make their own animal props. The children have enjoyed using their imagination to develop their own jungle adventures on our mini stage!

Year 2 started off the term with their first school trip to Windsor Castle! We learnt so many facts and bought this back to school to help us continue our learning. The Queen was in the castle at the time of our visit and lots of us hoped we would meet her - unfortunately we didn't but we meant some of her guards instead!

In Forest School, Year 6 combined their rope and knot tying skills with their learning from RE to create scenes from the Easter story.



At The Ferns, the children were visited by teachers from Fernhill Secondary School who gave a ukulele music lesson to Year 5.

All the children in Key Stage 2 have enjoyed learning how to use Crumble - a programmable controller kit. Even the teachers got involved, taking part in specialist training to learn all about the kit and using equipment loaned from the National Centre for Computing Excellence.

At Sandringham, we have celebrated being able to bring the whole school community together again and offer a wide range of enrichment experiences for all of the children and families. We have enjoyed a belated whole school pirate pantomime which had been booked for last year and were amazed by a visit from the beautiful owls from First Class Falconry. We have been delighted to welcome parents back into school for parents lunches, class assemblies and an incredible play 'There's a sunflower in my supper', performed by Year 1. This was based around the importance of sustaining the environment for wildlife. For our 'Let's get physical day' parents joined children and staff for fun filled activities including yoga, badminton and flamenco dancing. We have ended this half term with a 'We are special' day where we celebrated the ways in which we are all unique and wrote poetry together using the word 'special'. It has been a gloriously busy term and it is wonderful to be enjoying wider community events again.



At Hale, the children were very proud to host the traditional kite flying celebration to welcome Folly Hill to the Kite Academy Trust. Children from each academy in the Trust came together to have fun flying kites... in the snow!



It's not just the children  
who enjoyed dressing up!

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

3 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS

Take a look at some of our staff!



# Easter Holiday Clubs

Holiday Activity Clubs are being held at some of our academies over the Easter holidays which children from all of our academies are welcome to attend. If you are interested, please book directly with the providers as below:

The Ferns: [Casa Club](#) Lakeside: [Casa Club](#)  
Holly Lodge: [SCL](#) The Grove: [The Club](#)  
Sandringham: [Multi Sports](#)

## Term Dates

### Kite Academy Trust Term Dates and Holidays 2021-2022

*Summer Term* - Tuesday 19th April (Monday 25th at The Ferns) - Thursday 21st July 2022

(Half Term- Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2022)

### Kite Academy Trust Term Dates and Holidays 2022-2023

*Autumn Term* - Monday 5th September - Friday 16th December 2022

(Half Term - Monday 24th - Friday 28th October 2022)

*Spring Term* - Tuesday 3rd January - Friday 31st March 2023

Half Term - Monday 13th - Friday 17th February 2023)

*Summer Term* - Monday 17th April - Friday 21st July 2023

(Half Term- Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June 2023)

*Please check with your academy for additional local INSET days*

Aspiration

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Respect



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Due to Government Funding in the Adult Education Budget, AIM Group have several Free online Level 2 CACHE/TQUK/NCFE accredited courses available to help better understand some key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing. Below are some of the most popular courses we offer:

- Understanding Autism (learn how individuals process sensory information, understand characteristics, understand conditions, learn how speech, language and communication differ in people with Autism)
- Understanding Children and Young Peoples Mental Health (Understand factors which may affect Young Peoples mental health, the impact that they have and how to support them with these issues)
- Understanding Behaviour That Challenges (supporting positive behaviour, effective communication & how to manage challenging behaviour)
- Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties (understand characteristics of ADHD, ADD, Dyslexia & Dyscalculia, importance of early diagnosis, assessment methods available to diagnose learning difficulties)

The qualifications are completed within an 6-week period, with duration dependent on each learner's ability as to how many hours it takes. There are no exams, essays or end-point assessments however these are NOT 'short courses' that will take just a few hours to complete. As these are equivalent to a GCSE Grade C, comprehensive written answers are required for some questions. Numerous courses may be completed, just one at a time.

The courses are completely free, but the learning provider reserves the right to charge a drop out fee in the event that someone enrolls, but then makes no attempt to complete the course without a valid reason. That said, the college will grant extensions if the learner has a genuine reason as to why they feel they won't be able to complete it within the 6 weeks.

#### Eligibility criteria:

- Aged 19 or over on or before 31st August 2021
- Have lived in the UK/EU for 3+ years
- Not already on a Government funded course (apprenticeship for example)

If you are interested in undertaking one of these free online courses, please click [here](#).

Please note: AIM Group is one of a number of providers offering free training through the Adult Education Budget. The Kite Academy Trust and its academies are not affiliated with AIM Group in any way and are not endorsing the training offered, rather sharing information that may be useful for families.

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