



# Newsletter Term 6

Issue: 31

July 2025

## Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents & Carers,

As Term 6 draws to a close, we have been reflecting on what has been a joyful, enriching, and transformative academic year. Our pupils have engaged in a wide range of learning opportunities, experiences, and activities – and we are so proud of everything they've achieved.

This term marked the end of exam season, with our Stratus pupils completing their BTEC Cookery, IT Digital Skills, and GCSE exams. We are incredibly proud of the effort, resilience, and maturity they have shown throughout. As they prepare for the next stage in their educational journeys, we wish them all the very best. You've got this!

To celebrate their efforts, we held a Reward Afternoon in June, complete with a surprise visit from Nice Ices ice cream van. Pupils were delighted to choose their own ice cream – a fun and tasty way to celebrate and practise real-life communication skills.

Our Year 10 pupils have also completed their mock exams this term. We are incredibly proud of their effort and attitude. As always, we continue to remind our young people that exams don't define them – their character, courage, and wellbeing are what matter most. Their best is always good enough.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed their hands-on Mechanics sessions at MidKent College, where they learned how to remove tyres, fix punctures, and balance wheels. It was brilliant to see them so engaged and proud of their achievements in learning valuable life skills.

We were also honoured to welcome Peter, a Distinguished Historian, who delivered a fascinating and engaging talk on a range of historical topics. Our students asked thoughtful questions and were captivated by his insights – thank you, Peter!

Throughout Term 6, we have marked several significant days, including World Environment Day, the D-Day Anniversary, World Oceans Day, Father's Day, Windrush Day, and Nelson Mandela Day. Our pupils approached each theme with curiosity and empathy, demonstrating a genuine care for the world around them.

As many of you are aware, I will be beginning my maternity leave today. I'm incredibly excited to welcome my second (and final!) baby and so grateful for the support and kindness from our school community during my pregnancy.

While I will miss every single one of our wonderful pupils, I have full confidence in our amazing team. Danielle Atterbury (Deputy Headteacher) and Natalie Bucklen (School Business Manager) will be overseeing the school during my absence. Together with our brilliant staff, they will ensure that the vision, values, and daily life of Blue Skies continues without interruption.

I'll return for 'Keeping in Touch' days later in the year and plan to fully return in January 2026. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

It's been a short but action-packed term filled with sunshine, outdoor learning, and joyful memories. I'd like to thank every parent, carer, and family member for your continued support. I hope you all have a safe, restful, and happy summer holiday.

Carrie Myhill - Headteacher, Blue Skies School

### Diary Dates

Term 1 start of the academic year  
2025/2026 - 04/09/25

### Birthday Wishes

29/07 - Jo  
07/08 - Hayley  
Happy Birthday to you!

### Notices

Congratulations to Stratus class for  
completing all your GCSE exams.  
Well done.

### Stratus class leavers:

Jak, Joseph, Rossi and Muhaymin  
We wish you all the success in the future.  
You will be greatly missed.

### Notices - Staff update

After a decade of dedicated service to Blue Skies School, Vivienne has made the decision to resign from her position. We extend our sincere gratitude for her unwavering commitment and the positive impact she has made on our community throughout the years. We wish Vivienne every success as she embraces a more relaxed pace of life and new opportunities ahead. Vivienne's contribution will be fondly remembered, and we thank her for all she has brought to Blue Skies.

We are also saying goodbye to TA Katie who is leaving Blue Skies School and will be very much missed. Thank you for all of your support, dedication and warmth during your time. Katie will be missed by the staff and the students. We wish Katie every success in her new role.

### Designated Safeguarding Team

Jo Higgins - Proprietor DSL

Carrie Myhill - Lead DSL

Danielle Atterbury - Deputy DSL

Samantha McRae - Deputy DSL

NSPCC: 0800 800 5000

safeguarding@blueskiesschool.co.uk

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# Highlights Reel - Term 6 - 2024/2025

## MidKent College Carouse - Motor Mechanics

*Students learned how to remove tyres, fix a puncture and balance a wheel. It was great to see them so engaged and putting in fantastic effort as they picked up these invaluable life skills.  
Well done to all involved.*





# Highlights Reel - Term 6 - 2024/2025

## Butlins Community Day Trip - Thursday 26/06/2025

*Our students had an amazing time on a day trip to Butlin's. From swimming to fun fair rides to arcades and laser tag, the day was packed with excitement. One of the highlights was enjoying a lovely meal together where students put their life skills into action by budgeting for their meals, placing their own orders and asking for receipts. These are all important life skills we've been building during our life skills lessons at school, and it was fantastic to see them used in a real-world setting.*



## Activity Week 2025

*The activity week took place from Wednesday, 16th July, through to Tuesday, 22nd July. During the activity week, activities were planned to ensure the students would have an enjoyable and memorable experience.*

### **On Wednesday, 16th July – Rare Breeds Centre**

*Students had the opportunity to meet and interact with a variety of traditional rare breed animals, including cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, and poultry. The centre featured an exotic butterfly tunnel, discovery garden, woodland walks, play areas, a maze, and pig racing.*

### **On Thursday, 17th July – Wingham Wildlife Park**

*A day at the zoo where students were able to see animals such as giraffes, penguins, monkeys, lions, and tigers. There were animal walkways for up-close encounters, an outdoor museum, play area, and sensory gardens.*

### **On Friday, 18th July – Climbing and Inflatable Fun**

*In the morning, students visited Clip and Climb in Maidstone to try different climbing walls and participated in adventurous activities under full instructor supervision. In the afternoon, they went to Jump In Fun in Rochester to enjoy inflatable assault courses and burn off some energy.*

### **On Monday, 21st July – Movie and Ninja Warrior**

*Students enjoyed watching a movie at school in the morning followed by a trip to Ninja Warrior in the afternoon.*

**On Tuesday, 22nd July – End-of-Year Celebration:** *A team games session in the park, followed by a school BBQ and Celebration Assembly, where we were recognising our students' incredible achievements and saying goodbye to our leavers.*