

RHS Values Champions:

Top 5 Attendance:

- 7F - 99.17%
- 7W - 99.17%
- C66 - 98.80%
- 8F - 98.79%
- C67 - 98.43%

(attendance calculated until 07/10/2024)

HoY Shout Out - Year 9:

I would like to say a big thank you and give a well done to all of the **Year 9 Ambassadors** for being excellent tour guides for prospective parents this week. Your positivity shone and you were all excellent role models to the school community. Thank you!

Mr Cahill - Head of Year 9

Subject Shout Out - Drama:

A shout out to **the entire Year 10 GCSE Drama Class** who have all started the GCSE course brilliantly. You have shown endless amounts of enthusiasm and worked hard in every lesson. Keep it up!

Mr Randall - Curriculum Leader for Drama



A message from Mr Davies:

It has been another exceptionally busy week at the school, and one that has really showcased what an inclusive community we are. I was delighted to welcome students and teachers from our Trust partner schools to RHS on Wednesday to take part in our annual maths challenge. It was great to witness the positive atmosphere in the hall as the students enjoyed some good-natured, friendly competition. Of course, the event is all about bringing the Trust schools together, but it is nice to share with parents/guardians that RHS came out victorious, and we are now the proud holders of the Vanguard Learning Trust maths challenge trophy.

I am also delighted that we are running a number of events throughout October to celebrate Black History Month. I had the privilege of listening to one of Mr Joseph's assemblies this week, in which he shared his personal history with students; it was a truly fascinating talk. Year 11 historians have also been on trips across London this week to support their understanding of the GCSE history migration unit. As a history teacher, I am delighted to see the department bringing history to life and using the rich history of our capital city to do so.

On a less positive note, I will write in more detail in my update next week, but I did want to ask parents/guardians for their support in upholding the school's exceptionally high standards of behaviour and all-round conduct. I am determined that Ruislip High School is a great and safe place for all stakeholders and I am proud to lead a school where the vast majority of students uphold our values on a daily basis.

I hope you enjoy reading yet another action packed bulletin and would like to wish the whole community a restful weekend break.

Year 11 GCSE History Trips



This week, on Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th of October, 2024, the Year 11 Historians went on a trip to visit historical sites, linked to their GCSE history migration unit. This was the second year the RHS History Department has run this trip, giving students a real world context for what they are learning in lessons.

The day was split into two halves, with students benefiting from a guided tour by an expert guide in Spitalfields, which included highlights such as Brick Lane and Spitalfields Market, where the story of migration begins in the 16th century. Students visited one of the original Beigel Shops which opened in 1855, and the first Bengali supermarket on Brick Lane.

After this, the rest of the day was spent in Notting Hill. This portion of the day gave students a chance to explore key areas, which highlighted the impact of Caribbean migration after 1948, such as the site of the Mangrove Restaurant and Basing Street Studios, where Bob Marley recorded many of his hits. Students also had free time to enjoy lunch out in central London, and many commented on how exciting it was to walk the streets of places we have been studying.

The days were both a huge success, with students sharing their positive praise for the days.

Ava, Year 11, said, "It was great to see the history that we study in real life."

Whilst, Archie, Year 11, said, "My favourite part of the day was walking down Portobello Road and seeing the market."

Thank you to all of the staff who supported the running of the trips across the two days.

RHS Host The VLT Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 9th October, 2024, students from across the Vanguard Learning Trust gathered at Ruislip High School for an exciting Maths Challenge event. Teams from several schools competed in a variety of mathematics-based activities, testing their problem-solving skills and quick thinking as they raced against the clock.

Led by Mr. Joshi, and supported by the dedicated Year 11 prefects and members of the RHS Sixth Form, the event offered students a fantastic opportunity to showcase their mathematical talents in a fun, competitive environment. The challenges ranged from logic puzzles to quick-fire mental arithmetic, with students working collaboratively to solve problems.

In the end it was our students from Year 7, representing Ruislip High School, who were victorious in winning the Trust Maths Challenge Cup. However, we would like to say a huge well done to all of the participants at the event.

Once the challenge was over, Dr Lecky, the CEO of the Vanguard Learning Trust, spoke to the students about how proud she was to see them coming together to enjoy their love of Maths.

Mr Joshi said: "All of the students showed determination throughout the event and everyone should be proud of how they conducted themselves across the challenges. It was wonderful to see students engaging in Maths beyond the classroom."

The event fostered teamwork and a love of maths among participants. It was wonderful to see students from the different VLT schools get involved in a worthwhile and fun afternoon.



HoY Update: Year 12 - Ms Vora

I am very pleased as Head of Year 12 to let you know that Year 12 continues to be one of the best attending year groups in the school. Their brilliant start to life in the Sixth Form and their commitment to their studies is truly commendable and we are incredibly proud of their dedication.

I would also like to remind you about the upcoming university trips on 22nd October, 2024. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to gain valuable insight into university life and explore future pathways.

Additionally, students have begun working on their 'Post-18 Evidence Journals', a key tool to help them reflect on their achievements, experiences, and goals. This will play a crucial role in helping them prepare to write their personal statements in summer. In tutorials, the Year 12s follow our extended programme of 'plan my week', TED talks, PSHE and 1:1 meetings to discuss targets with their form tutors.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to helping your child succeed in this important stage of their education.

Black History Month Update Year 8 - STEM with Wings

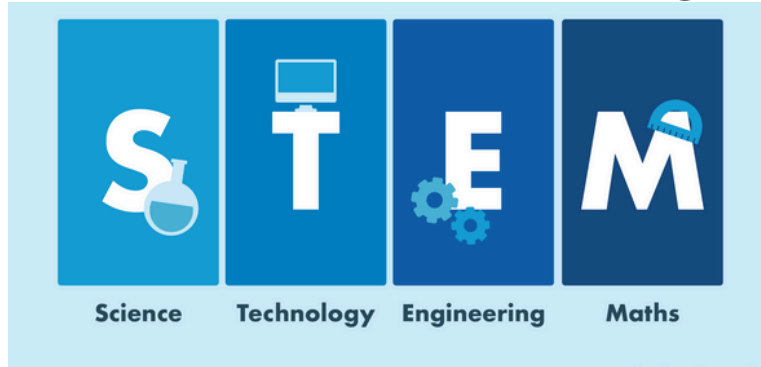


As the school continues to celebrate Black History Month in October, students have had a range of opportunities, linked to the theme 'Reclaiming Narratives'.

Firstly, all year groups from Year 7 to 11, were fortunate enough to enjoy an assembly delivered by our own Mr Joseph, Head of Year 10. Mr Joseph shared his story and his pride in his culture with our students, including hearing about highlights from his incredible career in basketball. Students went away feeling inspired to pursue their passions, whatever they might be.

Year 9 and Year 10 were also lucky to hear from a fantastic guest speaker: Jahmal Howlett-Mundle. This was Jahmal's second visit to the school, where he shared his experiences as a semi-professional footballer - and the importance of being true to your own identity. During his time playing for Sheppey United football club, Jahmal came out to his teammates as bisexual and since then has become an advocate for the LGBTQIA community. The students listened to Jahmal talk with maturity and after the assemblies several students approached him to ask him insightful questions.

Next week, the BHM programme will continue in tutor time.



On Thursday 10th October, 2024, Year 8 students took part in an exciting STEM with Wings event hosted at the school. Led by visiting experts and supported by the RHS Science Faculty, the event provided hands-on learning that connected classroom concepts to real-world applications. The STEM with Wings event also gave students a chance to explore careers in STEM and showed them how high their potential can soar.

This year's theme was cleaning up space, with guest speakers Dr Lucinda King and Professor Craig Underwood. The guest speakers introduced the topic and asked the students to design a piece of technology which could help to clean up space. The students were asked to label their design using accurate terminology.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity, with many of them feeling inspired to explore the topic further beyond the session. Thank you very much to Dr King and Professor Underwood for supporting the event.

VLT News: Environmental Sustainability Week 2024

The week beginning Monday 11th November, 2024, will see the return of the VLT's Environmental Sustainability Week.

Throughout our environmental sustainability week, there will be a number of Trust-led activities that members of our Trust-wide community can participate in.

Events such as the 'How Low Can We Go?' Challenge and all students hearing from this year's keynote speaker, Jeremy Williams from 'Let's Go Zero', will be sure to inspire students to think more carefully about their own daily habits and how we can all contribute to building a more sustainable future.

For full information about the activities planned across the week please [click here](#).



Vanguard Learning Trust

**Environmental sustainability week
Trust-led activities**

Monday 11th to Friday 15th November 2024

Throughout our environmental sustainability week, there will be a number of Trust-led activities that members of our Trust-wide community can participate in. This update provides initial information about these activities, which will hopefully encourage our Trust-wide community to make this another successful week.

How low can we go? challenge

Throughout the week, the Trust's community will have the opportunity again to take part in a range of daily and weekly challenges to reduce individuals', schools' and families' carbon footprints. The challenges will focus on the five Rs: recycle, reuse, repurpose/repair, reduce and rethink. There will be a competition within schools based on the average scores per student and staff member combined. The challenges will be shared with the community during the week beginning Monday 4th November 2024 to allow individuals and schools time to prepare. A Google form has been set up so that every member of the community in our Trust can record their contributions by completing a separate form each day. The challenges will be quantified in terms of the estimated reduction in carbon footprint for each activity and there will be prizes for the students/schools/families with the largest reduction in their carbon footprint. There will be live updates so that the statistics can be shared with the community in real time.

Keynote speaker

Jeremy Williams from Let's Go Zero is recording a presentation for the Trust on the work of the charity as well as focusing on the three objectives for our Trust-wide week. There will be a short form for members of the community to complete to evaluate the impact of his talk as well as a quiz on its content.

Opening ceremony activity

There will be an opening ceremony activity taking place at the beginning of the week which all schools in the Trust take part in. It will involve each school having drone footage filmed of students spelling out letters to create an overall word that is related to environmental sustainability.



Year 11 - Maths Revision

We are excited to share a fantastic opportunity for Year 11 students to access free, weekly maths revision sessions, which will help them prepare for their upcoming assessments and exams. Website: <https://www.hannahkettlemaths.co.uk/half-past-papers>

How it works:

- Half past papers are available on the website above
- Each paper should take roughly 45 minutes
- Available for both higher and foundation
- Video solutions are available on the YouTube page [here](#)
- Video solutions as per the schedule on the website are released weekly

As you may know, working through exam questions is one of the most effective ways to revise for GCSE Mathematics. We encourage Year 11 students to take full advantage of this free resource as they prepare for class assessments, Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs), and their final exams in the summer of 2025.

The RHS Drama Department presents: King Lear

We are delighted to announce that this term's KS4 Winter Production will be taking place on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December, 2024.

This year, the students will be performing Shakespeare's King Lear, which Mr Randall, Head of Drama, promises will be a mix of EastEnders, All's Quiet on the Western Front and Game of Thrones. With many of the cast fresh off their successful run in Edinburgh Fringe Festival, we are certain the performances are not to be missed!

To get your FREE tickets, either scan the QR code to the right or [click here](#).



PE News:

Versatility Tournament

Well done to the Year 11 students who took part in this year's Hillingdon Schools Versatility Tournament, which took place at St Helens School on Wednesday 9th October, 2024.

The school tournament consists of students pulling a bib out of a bag at the start of each game, which means that students may have to play in a netball position they are less familiar with.

This was the first year RHS has entered two teams, which demonstrates the commitment by all of the girls involved.

The players all took part with determination and displayed resilience throughout their games. Both teams placed third in their respective pools, which was a good result, as this was the first

The students in the team: Eliana R (11B), Zoe M (11B), Ruby S (11D), Grace Y (11F), Jemima H (11A), Mia H (11B), Gabriella W (11A), Kiya D (11S), Hannah C (11S), Keira B (11D), Eve A (11D), Clementine D (11A), Kalina B (11A), Elena L (11C), and Freya D (11C).

Well done to all of the students who got involved; you represented RHS with pride and showed off our fantastic community spirit throughout the tournament.



RHS Girls' Football Team Success

A huge congratulations to the RHS Girls' Football Team, who recently secured a victory against St Andrew the Apostle School.

The team displayed excellent team spirit, collaborating brilliantly on the pitch during their away game this week in Barnet. Xenia, Year 9, scored an impressive four goals, ensuring the team won.

Ms Farrell, who supported the girls during the match, said: "The Girls' Football team just keeps going from strength to strength. I am so proud of the confidence and skill they play with - keep it up!"



Year 9 District Cup Match: RHS vs Vyners



On Thursday 10th October, 2024, our Year 9 football team faced Vyners in an exciting District Cup match.

Oscar W scored a fantastic goal early on, putting us ahead 1-0. Our goalkeeper made a remarkable save, maintaining our lead until a deflected equaliser from Vyners, just before halftime brought the score to 1-1.

The equaliser seemed to ignite Vyners' determination, and they went on to score two late goals, ending the match at 3-1. Despite the loss, we are proud of our players for their hard work and dedication. Well done to the entire squad!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These trolls often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful trash talk and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

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Notices:

Key Dates:

Tuesday 15th October 2024
ACS STEAM Trip

Wednesday 16th October
2024 at 5pm

Years 11-13 Theatre Trip

Tuesday 22nd October 2024
Year 12 University Trip

Tuesday 22nd October 2024
at 6pm

Year 11 Preparing for Success
Evening

Thursday 24th October 2024
4:30pm-6:30pm

Year 7 Tutor Evening

Thursday 24th October 2024
Barcelona Trip Departs

Friday 25th October 2024
End of Half Term

Letters Home

Update to Parents -
04/10/24

[Click here](#)

Year 7 Tutor Evening Letter
[Click here](#)

Year 9 Parents' Evening
Letter
[Click here](#)

Year 13 Parents' Evening
Letter
[Click here](#)

Other Opportunities
(not linked to the
school)

Tree Planting in Uxbridge
[Click here](#)

Learn Hillingdon Wider
Family Workshops
[Click here](#)

FRIENDS of Ruislip High School

The Friends of Ruislip High School will be hosting a pre-loved uniform sale in the near future. However, our second-hand uniform stock is running low.

If you have any Ruislip High School uniform, which is still in a good, clean condition and you wish to donate it, please drop it off at our school office.

Thank you in advance for your support. All money raised from future uniform sales goes towards the 'Friends' Fund', which supports a range of student and school community projects.

SCHOOL UNIFORM DONATIONS NEEDED!

for our secondhand uniform sale

Please drop at the school office

WE NEED:

Blazers, ties, shirts,
trousers, skirts, jumpers,
all branded PE items,
football boots,
PE trainers

FRIENDS of Ruislip High School

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