

WELCOME BACK!



I would like to take this opportunity to wish the whole Ruislip High School community a Happy New Year. As the [autumn newsletter](#) clearly outlined, we achieved a great deal in the first term of the academic year and there is much to look forward to in the term ahead. It was a delight to welcome the students back into school on Wednesday and students have been impressive in how they have continued to demonstrate excellent attitudes to learning and behaviour.

We are going to trial this year producing a fortnightly parent bulletin which I am writing in today, which is then followed by a more formal letter from me on an alternate week basis. As I have said many times, I believe education is a partnership between home and school and we are constantly looking at improving our home-school communication. If you have any thoughts or comments on our approach please do not hesitate to contact the school on office@ruislihigh.org.uk for the attention of Ms Ohana, Assistant Headteacher.

Mr Davies
Headteacher

This term we are also welcoming two new Heads of Year to our Pastoral Team: Mr Joseph as Head of Year 8 and Mr Sills as Head of Year 11. Each of them has been kind enough to take some time to introduce themselves.



Mr Joseph - Head of Year 8

What subject do you teach and why do you enjoy teaching it?

Teaching is very rewarding to me and during my career I have taught two very different subjects in Computer Science, PE as well as performed Head of Year duties. Computer Science is really fascinating as I enjoy programming and following the exciting emergence of artificial intelligence. PE is also a strong passion of mine as a former professional and international basketball player. I also coached the England 3x3 basketball team last summer at the commonwealth games in

Birmingham where we won the first ever gold medal in the history of english basketball.

Why are you excited about coming to work at Ruislip High School?

Ruislip High School is an exciting new challenge that I am really looking forward to. I was so impressed with the behaviour and attitude of the students on my visit last

year. The school has a lovely atmosphere and the staff are all friendly and supportive. I am looking forward to getting to know the year group, starting an extra-curricular basketball club and supporting the students' progress in school.

Do you have a New Years' Resolution for 2023 and if yes, what is it?

One of my hobbies is road cycling on the weekend. I want to be consistent this year and be more motivated to go out every weekend.

Mr Sills - Head of Year 11

What subject do you teach and why do you enjoy teaching it?

Beyond being Head of Year 11, I am a History teacher. I love teaching History because I get to tell the most fascinating stories about people's lives, who lived many years ago. Studying the past can teach important lessons about where humans have made mistakes before, and help us to understand more about the world in which we live. Analysing the past gives students vital skills in developing arguments, researching evidence and grappling with moral dilemmas - having an understanding of History essentially makes you a better person!



Why are you excited about coming to work at Ruislip High School?

I moved from Devon to London over the Christmas break and started at Ruislip High School this week. I am really looking forward to getting to know all the students, but in particular supporting Year 11 in the final months ahead of their all important GCSE exams. Ruislip High School has already shown me what a fantastic community it is, the staff have been so helpful and welcoming and the students an absolute joy to teach.

Do you have a New Years' Resolution for 2023 and if yes, what is it?

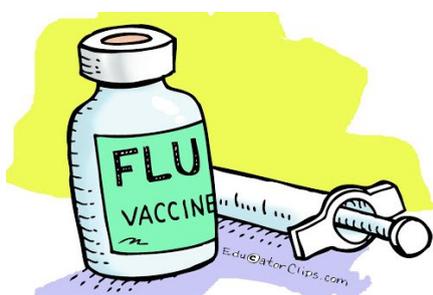
I always fail to keep any New Year's resolutions - but I would like to squeeze more yoga in if I can!

FLU VACCINATION CAMPAIGN 2023

We have been notified that the Government has decided to offer the nasal flu vaccination to years 7, 8 and 9 to protect teenagers against Influenza and provide herd immunity for the community. The vaccination is planned to be delivered from January 2023 if enough vaccine stock is available. This may also include year 10 and 11 if there is enough vaccine stock to cover these years.

At this time we have not been advised of the likely timings the vaccinations will be available.

The Hillingdon Immunisation team will be offering an automated consenting process this year and a link will be sent out to provide consent once we have been advised of planned dates for the vaccine to be delivered.



A LEVEL DRAMA TRIP

"I haven't seen anything like it before. It was the best thing I've ever seen. I actually cannot wait to go on more theatre trips. It was so beneficial for my course."
Mariam, Year 12



Image above: Mr Randall and the A Level Drama students outside the Kiln Theatre

On Thursday 5th January, our Year 12 and Year 13 A Level Drama students headed to the Kiln Theatre, in Kilburn, to enjoy an evening performance of 'The Wife of Willesden'.

After a sold-out run in 2021, *The Wife of Willesden* celebrates the human knack for telling elaborate tales, especially about our own lives. Written by the critically acclaimed, multi-award winning, best-selling author Zadie Smith, the play is an adaptation of Chaucer's *The Wife of Bath*, updating it and relocating it to 21st Century North West London.

Mr Randall, who has taken over as Curriculum Leader for Drama from Mr Alexander, is keen to ensure that drama students at Ruislip High School all have plenty of opportunities to attend the theatre whilst at the school. He said: "I have a huge passion for the theatre and I am very excited that our A Level students have had the chance to begin the new term with a trip to see *The Wife of Willesden*. Not only because the play was fantastic, but also so the students are able to see their subject within a real world context."

Simmeicia, Year 12, who attended the trip said: "Amazing, awesome, slyful, and completely encapsulating. Pure entertainment!"

ABOVE & BEYOND: SPRING TERM

A brief reminder that all of our Above & Beyond clubs begin next week, from Monday 9th January, 2023.

Once again, demand for clubs has been high, with a number of clubs full for the term. However, there are still a few clubs with places. If you would like your child to attend a club, please contact our A&B Coordinators, Mr Tibbey and Ms Bonny via the school office. A copy of the booklet for the term is attached below in the 'School Updates' section.



Key Dates:

Date:	Event
Thursday 12th January	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 17th January	Start of Year 13 PPE week
Wednesday 18th January	Year 11 GCSE Drama Trip to the theatre
Tuesday 24th January - 3:00pm-7:00pm	Ski Trip to Hemel Hempstead
Wednesday 1st February - 6:00pm-7:00pm	Berlin Trip - Parents' Information Evening
Wednesday 1st February	Start of LGBTQ+ awareness month
Monday 6th February	Start of Safer Internet Week



ADVANCED NOTICE: BUS STRIKES

We have been made aware that a number of bus strikes are coming up, which will affect routes to school. **The route affected will be route E7.** The action will be on the following dates: **Tuesday 10 January, Thursday 12 January, Monday 16 January, Thursday 19 January, Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 January.** Please can we ask that students affected by the strikes make alternative arrangements for their travel on these days or leave earlier to arrive on time for school.

School Updates:

Safeguarding updates:

Helplines: [click here](#)

Parent Factsheet - WhatsApp: [click here](#)

UK Safer Internet Centre - Coerced online sexual abuse information: [click here](#)

Is This Ok? Support Website: [click here](#)

Letters Home:

Update to parents - 16.12.2022: [click here](#)

Hemel Hempstead Ski Trip: [click here](#)

Above & Beyond Spring Booklet: [click here](#)

Update to Years 10-13 parents about qualifications in 2023: [click here](#)

Year 10 Parents Evening: [click here](#)

Group A Streptococcus Notice: [click here](#)

Out of School Opportunities (not linked to the school):

Hillingdon Winter Wellness Directory: [click here](#)

H4All website: [click here](#)

Deansfield Primary School - Casual Cleaner Vacancy: [Advert](#) and [Job Spec](#)