

# Ruislip High School NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

**The Vanguard Learning Trust's first Environmental Sustainability Week was held at the end of February**



The students, parents and staff at Ruislip High all played a major part. The aim was for our whole community to rethink everyday habits and to do our best to reduce our carbon footprints.

The week was kicked off in fine style with the opening ceremony and pledge by the headteachers of the trust. A torch was carried between the schools by runners to mark the beginning of the week. Mr

Davies, assisted by our local MP, cheered the runners on as they set off to pass the torch to the next school. There were many events throughout the week. Firstly, Year 5 and Year 8 students from all schools in the trust took part in a national competition run at the EcoHub to design a sustainable school for the future. Next, some of our older students began the seeding of the wild flower meadow at our newly refurbished pond to encourage native wildlife.

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# HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



As another exceptionally busy term draws to a close I have been reflecting on everything our community has achieved since Christmas and how the school continues to go from strength to strength. As Headteacher, I often have the privilege of showing visitors around the school and I am always struck at how the feedback is always so similar. No matter whether the visitors are parents, Vanguard Learning Trust colleagues, dignitaries or outside agencies, everyone comments on the calm and purposeful atmosphere that resonates around the school, and praises how polite and courteous our students are. I believe this is testament to the genuine partnership that exists between students, parents and school staff. This spirit of working together creates a culture where there is genuinely no ceiling to the ambition that we have for the young people in our care and I am very proud to lead such an organisation.

As well as the continued focus on teaching and learning that is, and always will be, our core business, this term has seen a whole host of themed weeks take place. Safer internet week, sustainability week, science week and languages week have all taken place over the term. I believe these reflect the ambition we show at the school and our determination to ensure that, not only do we live our values every day but, at key times it is also important to emphasise certain important topics and ideals. This week has seen a host of external visitors speak at the school as part of our annual 'safeguarding week' and I am grateful for the powerful messages regarding staying safe that have been delivered to our students.

This newsletter is full of the outstanding achievements of Ruislip High School students this term but I wanted to draw attention to the team of young diplomats who attended the Model United Nations General Assembly (MUNGA) in New York this month. Not only were they outstanding ambassadors for our school but they were also one of only 15 delegations out of over 600 to achieve an award in recognition for the research they had put in prior to the conference. This is an incredibly impressive achievement, showing that students at RHS really do 'reach for the sky'.

Perhaps the highlight of the term for me was the Year 7 & 8 Spring Festival. I do think, as a result of the pandemic and not being able to welcome visitors into the school, it has made these types of events even more special than they were before. We are, and always have been, a school both in, and for, our community and it was a genuine delight to welcome our parent community into the school.

# HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



It was also noticeable the amount of effort the students and staff had put into their London themed stalls, while the musical performances delivered at the evening were some of the best I have ever heard in my twenty plus years in education.

Finally, I do hope you enjoy reading this newsletter that contains a snapshot of what our community has achieved this term. Whether it be academic, sporting or creative success, our students continue to thrive, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and staff for making Ruislip High School a genuinely great and safe place for our whole community.

*Gareth Davies*

**Headteacher**

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## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

All of our Year 9 students worked hard on the Young Green Briton Challenge to develop their ideas for sustainable companies and apps. The top seven groups are going forward to the Dragon's Den where they will pitch for £100 to get their ideas off the ground, with the eventual winners going to the National Final held at the House of Lords.

On Friday 3rd March, 60 of our students were involved in a community litter pick, in association with the Hillingdon Litter Picking Association. Organised by the Friends of Ruislip High School, the event was a brilliant opportunity for our students to give back to the local community and contribute to the Trust's Environmental Sustainability Week.

Students managed to collect 25 bags of rubbish in just under 30 minutes, showing what a big impact we can all have on the environment in such a short space of time. All who attended the event commented on how fun it was to get involved.



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

The biggest event however, was the 'How Low Can We Go' Challenge. The students and staff at Ruislip High fully embraced the challenge to rethink their daily routines and habits and make sustainable changes. It was a huge success and the changes the community made during the week has saved an estimated 350 trees. If we can keep up these new sustainable habits over the year, we will save nearly 18,000 trees - no mean feat!



# ADAPTIVE SKI TRIP



On Thursday 23rd March, 2023, our Learning Support Faculty ran an adaptive ski trip to The Snow Centre at Hemel Hempstead. To ensure that a range of students from across the Vanguard Learning Trust were able to benefit from the experience, the RHS group was also joined by students and staff from Ryefield Primary School and Field End Primary School.

We were delighted that we were able to offer the trip again to our students; the adaptive ski trip used to be an annual event at Ruislip High School and this is the first time since the pandemic we have been able to run the trip again.

To ensure the students were able to enjoy the experience fully, the school received support from professional skiers from Disability SnowSport UK. Some of the students used adapted sit skis for a thrilling ride down the 160m high slope, whilst the other students had a skiing lesson with instructors on the training slope. All of the students gradually gained the confidence to ski on their own. This was an amazing achievement for them all and they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Thomas, Year 8, said: *"I really enjoyed the Ski Trip - it was very exciting! It was fun helping other students too, with putting on their ski equipment."*

Archie, Year 8, also told us: *"This was my first time skiing. I was really nervous, but once I was on the snow it was amazing."*

Finally, Mrs Cooney, who helped to lead the trip, summarised: "It was incredible to see the progress that all the students achieved, even after just one lesson. It was a privilege to come to the Snow Centre and offer this opportunity to both Ruislip High School students, and students from other schools in the trust."

Thank you to all of the staff from the Learning Support Faculty who helped the day run smoothly and to staff from across the trust for supporting the event.





# MFL NEWS



On 6th-10th March Ruislip High School held its third annual Languages Week. This year it has been a jam packed week full of wonderful events and activities. Students across all Key Stages will have had some lessons with a Languages Week element such as learning about the evolution of the English language in English, football vocabulary in Spanish in PE and translating lab rules from French, Spanish and Latin into English for Science to name but a few.

On Monday 6th March the fifteen newly appointed Year 10 Languages Ambassadors delivered their first assembly to the whole of Year 7 about the importance of learning languages. They also spoke to them about the most recent Barcelona trip but also the upcoming residential trips to Barcelona and Paris in 2024. On Monday afternoon, a theatre company came to the school to perform a play completely in French called *La Maison Hantée* (The Haunted House) to 300 students of French from Years 7 to 10. Two of our students were fortunate enough to get cameo roles in the performance.

On Tuesday 7th March 110 Year 9 students attended the Languages Breakfast which started before school and ran into Period 1. The breakfast was hosted by the fantastic Year 10 Language Ambassadors who all take at least one language for GCSE. Students were able to sample a range of French and Spanish breakfast foods. The French breakfast selection included croissants, pains au chocolat, madeleines, crêpes, orange juice and hot chocolate. Churros with chocolate sauce, potato omelette, serrano ham, chorizo



as well as toasted bread with tomato were on offer for the Spanish selection. Students got into the spirit of things by dressing up with berets and Spanish hats whilst tucking into their food and listening to live music performed by two Language Ambassadors, one on the guitar and the other on the cajón. A code breaking exercise was also created for the breakfast where students had to use their language and number skills to decode the words spread around the hall, unscramble them in order to make a sentence in French or Spanish and then translate it

# MFL NEWS (CONTINUED)

into English. From all the correct entries four were selected at random and those students won a £10 Amazon voucher each.

On Wednesday 8th March, Year 9 students were fortunate to have an assembly by a multi-lingual, inspirational speaker called Paul Hughes. He spoke to the students about his dyslexia and ADHD and how he found his school years particularly challenging. He failed his A-levels but was determined to make a success of his life. He joined the military where he learnt to speak Russian, Arabic and Pashto. He served on operations that concentrated on the Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan; including a high profile secondment to the United Nations Special Commission in Baghdad as a Weapons Inspector and Interpreter. The former Royal Air Force crewman is now the Managing Director of his own Forensic Research Company but also a Hunter on the Channel 4 programme Hunted and Celebrity Hunted. As well as speaking to countless schools up and down the country about his life he is also helping League One team Lincoln City to get into the premiership as a Director of Performance. Paul regaled the students with his many stories but perhaps his most inspiring one was when he was kidnapped but was able to negotiate his release as he spoke the same language as his kidnappers: a language which he had learnt whilst working for the RAF.

On Wednesday after school the MFL Department held its second Languages Week film event after school. Disney's latest movie Strange World was screened in the hall in Spanish with English subtitles. On Thursday 9th March after school the same movie was screened in French with English subtitles. Over 200 students attended the screenings and they were also treated to free popcorn.

## **Student quotes:**

*"Languages Week has been extraordinary. This has been beneficial towards making our decisions for GCSE. I have to say that this has been the best week at school ever!"* Efrem 9F

*"My favourite part about Languages Week was the assembly on Monday morning with the Language Ambassadors. I think they did a great job and I can't wait to see them next year."* Dragos 7F

*"I have really enjoyed Languages Week, definitely my favourite time of the year. Over this week, I have learnt so many interesting things. Overall, I have been motivated to learn a new language and realised the importance and opportunities it can lead to."* Teigan 9F



# YEAR 11 NEWS

As Year 11's final full term at Ruislip High School draws to a close, it is important to reflect on the incredible hard work and dedication this brilliant group of young people have put into all aspects of school life. They have shown real perseverance and commitment to their studies, whether it be finalising and submitting coursework, preparing for and completing vocational exams, or revising for the all-important summer examination season.

It was a joy to see the school buzzing on a cold winter's evening as we welcomed parents and carers to Year 11 Parents Evening in January. This was one of the first face-to-face events at the school since the pandemic, and we were thrilled to have almost 100% attendance on the night. The evening provided a vital opportunity for teachers to give direct feedback to students after their recent PPEs (pre-public examinations). Many students left feeling re-energised and were spurred on by an impressive set of PPE results. For other students, it highlighted areas they need to focus on in these final weeks and months ahead. I was really pleased to have had the opportunity to meet so many parents and carers and to hear many positive and productive conversations taking place.

Year 11 students are not only pushing themselves academically, but many students contribute on a daily basis to our wider school community. Our wonderful prefect team are important role models to younger students at the school, and I know that Year 11s make a vital contribution to student voice through the school parliament meetings.

As we turn our attention to the summer term, it goes without saying that the highlight of this academic year is the upcoming Year 11 Prom. This year's prom will take place on the revised date of Thursday 29th June at the beautiful Denham Grove Hotel in Uxbridge. We have a prom committee with representatives from each tutor group who are meeting regularly to discuss a prom theme, decorations and choosing some awards for the evening. We are so looking forward to seeing the students enjoying themselves as this well deserved celebration of all their success and achievements over the past five years. We are also quietly working away on this year's Yearbook - more information on this in the summer term.

On a final note, I would like to thank Year 11 for being so warm and welcoming to me when I joined RHS and took over from Mr Alexander in January.

# YEAR 11 NEWS

slightly daunting taking over as a Head of Year mid-year, but this year group's conscientious attitude and generous and kind nature towards staff and each other, has made the transition as smooth as possible. It has been a privilege to get to know you all, and your families, and to be able to support you in this important time in your school career. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break, which of course will be supplemented with plenty of revision!

**Mr Sills**

Head of Year 11



# MODEL UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY



On Tuesday 14th March, 2023, some of our Year 12 and Year 13 students took a trip to the United States, in order to take part in the prestigious Model United Nations General Assembly in New York City. For five days, students had to take on the role of diplomats representing our assigned country, Pakistan, in debates on a wide variety of topics - everything from child labour in tourism to the environmental impact of UN peacekeeping missions.

The work the students undertake on the trip, begins at school, with a wide range of research and preparation required of the delegates attending. Our students took this aspect of the trip incredibly seriously. Their hard work paid off; at the closing ceremony Ruislip High School was awarded a Merit Award for Research and Preparation. This is the first year the school has won an award at MUNGA and the joy was clear to see in Ms Horton's reaction. Alisha, Year 12, told us: *"They actually mispronounced the school name at first, so none of us realised we had won. But then we saw Ms Horton jumping up and down and cheering - we soon realised it was our school name that had been read out. It was the best moment, we were all so excited!"*

Beyond taking part in the Model United Nations, the students had plenty of time to go sightseeing too. Memorable trips included a sightseeing bus tour through the whole of downtown Manhattan, a trip to the headquarters of the United Nations, walking through Central Park and Times Square and viewing the iconic New York skyline from the top of the Rockefeller Center. Perhaps most poignantly though, we also took the chance to visit the site of the 9/11 Memorial and museum.

All of the students thoroughly enjoyed their time in the city that never sleeps. Rohan, Year 12, said *"I loved the opportunity to make friends with other students from across the world, and debate real topics that the UN deals with on a regular basis. It was also a great chance to talk to students from Year 13 - now we've come back, it has made us stronger as a sixth form community."*



# MODEL UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY (CONTINUED)

Thank you very much to Mr Amos and Ms Horton for enabling this exciting trip to take place. The experience has given our students lifelong memories and an achievement of which they can all be proud. Regardless of which student we spoke to who attended the trip, they all shared the same piece of feedback: *"It was the best week of my life!"*





# YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 have enjoyed an eventful spring term. Now that they have settled into life at Ruislip High, they are able to enjoy all of the opportunities given to them both in and out of the classroom.

Languages week was a huge success where students were able to explore French and Spanish beyond their lessons. Students who study French were invited to watch a play about a haunted house delivered by a French theatre company. Students were able to enjoy the play in another language and had the opportunity to speak to the actors after the show. Year 7 were also invited to watch a movie after school to develop their language skills further and to experience another form of media.

Above and Beyond has been a core part of the experience of almost all Year 7 students this term. With a wide range of clubs and activities being offered, Year 7 really are spoilt for choice. Students have been taking part in a range of sports, animal handling and swimming lessons to name a few. It is important that all students seek opportunities to broaden their horizons beyond the classroom; Year 7 are encouraged to sign up to new clubs in the summer term.

To put their brain power to the test, the Year 7 Spelling Bee will be taking place on 22nd March. Students are excited to take part and to cheer on their tutor group representatives.

The Spring Festival is also making a return for Year 7 and 8. Students and their tutors have been busily preparing their stalls during tutor time to provide students and their families with an exciting evening of fun, laughter and challenges.

The summer term is fast approaching and Year 7 students are very excited about the upcoming activities week which will include Sports Day and our residential trip to Paris as well as the summer reward trip which I know students are working hard towards.

**Ms Loizou**

Head of Year 7

# HISTORY NEWS

## Berlin Trip February 2023

During February half term 40 Year 10 and 11 GCSE history students travelled to Berlin. They were accompanied by Mr Maud, Mr Warrington, Ms Horton, Ms Bonny and Mr Tibbey. The trip supports the students' study of two of their GCSE units – Weimar and Nazi Germany 1919-1939 and Superpower Relations 1941-1991. During the four day trip the students visited Sachsenhausen Museum and Memorial, the Berlin Jewish Museum, the Reichstag, the Topography of Terror, the Berlin Wall, the German Resistance Museum, the Stasi Museum and Checkpoint Charlie.

Edward T in Year 10 wrote *"The Berlin trip was a very informative and fun trip. We saw a lot of the city while we were there and it was an amazing experience to see how a city such as Berlin worked. The train system specifically was very different to the UK one, with the main station we used looking like it was from ten years in the future. The city is very interesting in that regard, with sections of it dating back to the Pre-Weimar era, while other sections of it are completely modernised, such as the mesmerisingly huge and advanced Mall of Berlin. The trip also taught me lots about both the Weimar and Cold War units of history. Our visit to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp was particularly unforgettable, and the Berlin Jewish Museum had multiple incredibly powerful art installations, with the architecture of the building being thought out and very meaningful. My favourite part of the trip was the topography of terror because it was very interesting and told me a lot about my studies in a very creative and engaging way."*



## KS3 History

At Ruislip High School we are passionate about teaching our students how to think and write like historians. The students are given their historical writing books at the beginning of Year 7 and complete all of their KS3 assessed work in these books.

# HISTORY NEWS (CONTINUED)

This term, Year 7 have been learning about how the Normans changed England and they have completed an assessed piece of work which explains how the Normans used castles to control England. Year 7 have also been making decisions about King John and the impact of his rule. Our Year 8 historians have been looking at why there are different interpretations of Oliver Cromwell and they have been developing their source analysis skills by considering how useful an image of the slave ship Brookes is to historians. Year 9 have been developing their understanding of cause and consequence by explaining the cause of WWI. Year 9's most recent assessment has required them to compare historians' opinions on the reasons for appeasement in the 1930s.

## **Year 10 and Year 12**

The history department continues to be impressed with how hard our Year 10 and 12 students are working on developing their skills and understanding of their GCSE and A level units. We wish them good luck with their upcoming PPEs.

## **Good luck to Year 11 and 13**

We have greatly enjoyed teaching our Year 11 and Year 13 historians. Our students are showing the focus and determination needed to be successful in their final exams. They are producing excellent revision notes and are regularly practising exam questions. Mr Warrington, Mr Maud, Ms Horton, Mr Tibbey and Mr Sills would like to wish them good luck with their summer exams.





# ECOHUB NEWS

Over the half term the EcoHub has been busy updating its pond! Being eco-friendly and encouraging a large biodiversity is important to us. In order to keep the original wildlife safe we made sure to carefully lift all the animals and plants out and into water containers at a safe distance from the work. Our new pond includes a beach area with a slope and rock pools to entice frogs and keep our already thriving rare newts very happy. We can't wait for the next pond dipping biology lessons to get our students involved as well as KS2 school visits!

We have also been busy planting up our herb bed. Students completing the ASDAN award found their green fingers and planted rosemary, rocket and thyme herbs. As well as planting the wildflower meadow and beginning our EcoHub seedlings to be planted in the big planters when they reach maturity.





# ANDORRA SKI TRIP



During February half term 2023 a group of our Year 9-13 students got the amazing opportunity to spend six days skiing in sunny Andorra. Our trip actually started a little earlier than this, with our students testing out their ski gear on the slopes of the Snow Dome in Hemel Hempstead, learning how to set up their skis and snow ploughing ready for the trip ahead.

After an early start on day one, the students started their journey to the seventeenth smallest country in the world to hit the slopes on the European continent. After a short flight and a coach ride, we finally got to the mountains and started to see the snow that we had all been waiting for.

In our group we had a variety of skiing experience, some who had never skied before and some who had been a few times but everyone was ready and raring to go. Ms Farrell was especially excited to try skiing for the first time, as were many of our students!

Day two started strong with everyone being put into groups to hit the ground running and putting into practice what we had learnt in Hemel.

Over the six days of skiing our students showed their resilience by overcoming the challenges along the way and persevering, through tiredness, towards the end of the trip after four hours of skiing every day. Every single student by the end of the trip was able to go on either green, blue, red or even black slopes! The progress and growth in confidence was clear to our staff and our instructors and all of our students should be very proud of what they achieved.

Not only did the students enjoy the sunny slopes but also had time to explore the local area during games night, bowling and movie night.

Trip leader, Mr Hankin, Assistant Headteacher, said *"We were very proud to see our students' behaviour and their support for each other on the slopes with fantastic feedback on their perseverance from the ski instructors"*.

Miss Hill said *"It was so amazing to see how much progress our students made during the week, as well seeing new friendships being made"*.

# ANDORRA SKI TRIP (CONTINUED)

Miss Farrell said *"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity that our students will never forget"*.

## What did the students say?

Richam K, Year 9: *"It was really enjoyable once you got the hang of it and now I wish we could have stayed longer"*.

A massive thank you to all the staff who helped run this trip and those who gave up their half term to facilitate such an amazing experience for our students.



# YEAR 9 NEWS

It is hard to believe we are only one term away from the Summer holiday and the end of Key Stage 3 for our wonderful Year 9 students. It is also fantastic to look back on the great things that Year 9s have done and achieved this term. Here are a few things to keep in mind and celebrate!

## **Options Evening**

It was amazing to hear the fabulous feedback from so many teachers during Options Evening.. You obviously have had a great first term and it is really important that you now capitalise for the remainder of the year. Even if it seems quite far away now, Year 10 is actually right around the corner for you and you need to make sure that you keep your grey cells busy!

I would also like to thank parents for coming and for supporting the school in our effort to provide the best possible education to the young people in our care. I am extremely grateful as a Head of Year to be working with parents like you, actively engaged in their children's education and personal development. Thank you.

Year 9 students will hear about their options towards the end of June and we will do our best to accommodate students' choices.

If you have any questions about options, make sure to contact me or Ms Horton via the school office.

## **Languages Week**

I am delighted to say that this year's Language Week was the most successful to date in terms of student participation! We had such a great time at the language breakfast despite the fire alarm interlude! Congratulations to the winners of the code breaking and translation challenge that took place during the breakfast.

I would also like to congratulate the winning teams of the Language Quiz happening in your French or Spanish lessons. The questions were extremely challenging and you all tried your best. Well done!

## **Sustainability Week and Young Green Briton Challenge**

The Young Green Briton Challenge is an initiative of the Green Britain Foundation, established by Dale Vince, founder of Ecotricity. The charity focuses on Dale's vision for a Green Britain, tackling the three areas of life that make up 80% of everybody's personal carbon footprint: Energy, Transport and Food, as well as the need to make room for nature.

The Challenge supports students aged 11-14 to learn and apply design, innovation, business and other transferable skills, empowering young people to explore local sustainability issues and design entrepreneurial solutions or campaigns to address the problems they identify.

Students will have the chance to receive seed funding and mentorship to support the development of their ideas. With background lessons delivered in joint enterprise by the Geography, Science and Technology department, the school's commitment already stretches across school and into the community. We hope the Challenge will supercharge a new generation of positive social action in communities across the UK. Schools are at the heart of their communities and have the potential to be catalysts for positive change in the face of social and environmental crises and I am very happy and proud of Year 9 students for being up for the challenge.

### **Duke of Edinburgh - in house training**

It was lovely to spend Sunday morning with 63 Year 9 students while they were starting to learn the key skills they will need during their two Bronze expeditions. Students worked on their map skills with our Mountain Leaders team and we took bets on who will get lost in May!

After break, students learnt how to put together their tents and how to pack their bags expertly.

They ended the day by learning how to use the cooking equipment and how to look after it during the expeditions. We are looking forward to seeing the 5\* dishes year 9 will cook back at the campsite in May!

Well done to the 64 students who are embarking on the great adventure that is Duke of Edinburgh. Mrs Hunter, our DofE coordinator is also very impressed by how proactive students have been at completing their physical, volunteering and skills parts of the award. Well done Year 9s!

### **Battlefields Trip**

At the time of writing, there are only two weeks to go before our departure for the Battlefields and we are getting very excited!

The trip to the Battlefields has always been one of my favourite times of the year, but it will be even more special this year, taking my own year group.



# YEAR 9 NEWS (CONTINUED)

We have an action-packed itinerary and I am sure we will have a wonderful time learning about WW1. We are also very fortunate to have the best possible guide for our trip: Mr David Rich, former Ruislip High's Deputy Headteacher. I have been on this trip countless times, but I always learn something new thanks to Mr Rich's mastery!

I wish you all a fabulous, well-deserved holiday and I will see you happy and rested on Monday 17th of April!

**Miss Lucas**

Head of Year 9

# YEAR 10 NEWS

As the spring term rapidly comes to an end after another busy term, it is a pleasure to see the progression that Year 10 have made over the course of the academic year so far. I feel as their Head of Year they have really progressed well since September when the cohort started their GCSE course and I feel as I write this article that with hard work and revision they will be in a good position to do well in their Pre Public Exams which start next week.

It has also been a delight to see so many names sign up to the Silver Duke of Edinburgh award, which starts this coming Saturday and I look forward to coming on the weekends away as the weather gets better as summer approaches.

A huge congratulations to the Languages Ambassadors from the Modern Foreign Languages department for their vital help and support to the smooth running of Languages Week which was a great success.

Finally a huge congratulations to the Year 10 rugby team that took part in a recent tournament. Mr Rutter said the team was a credit to Ruislip High School and played well throughout the tournament.

**Mr Cahill**

Head of Year 8

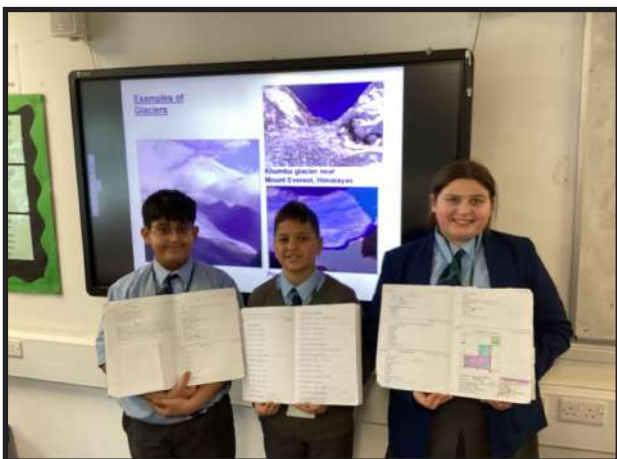
# GEOGRAPHY NEWS

## Year 7 Geography

Year 7 students have completed an assessment on Map Skills and the British Isles. This tested their ability to use Ordnance Survey maps and skills such as giving a distance, direction and grid reference. Students can revisit these skills at home and play some fun games via this website: [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/)

Year 7 students then moved on to the topic Cold Environments, where they learnt about glaciers, Mount Everest and the continent of Antarctica. They studied the incredible 1911-12 race to the South Pole, and also designed their own flags for Antarctica (because it does not have an official flag!).

Here are some photos of 7F students proudly showing their Cold Environments work:



## Year 8 Geography

The main assessment for Year 8s this term has been on the geography of Japan. They have studied its history and unique culture, and examined why it has become such an economically successful country despite a shortage of flat land and natural resources. Year 8 then moved on to study the world's changing population, including the news that world population passed 8 billion in November 2022. The students have also learnt that India's population has overtaken China's in 2023.

Year 8s also looked back on China's one-child policy from 1979-2016, and were surprised to learn that China now has a falling population. Following this, Year 8 students have been learning about the geography of energy resources, in particular studying the story of the USA's Hoover Dam.

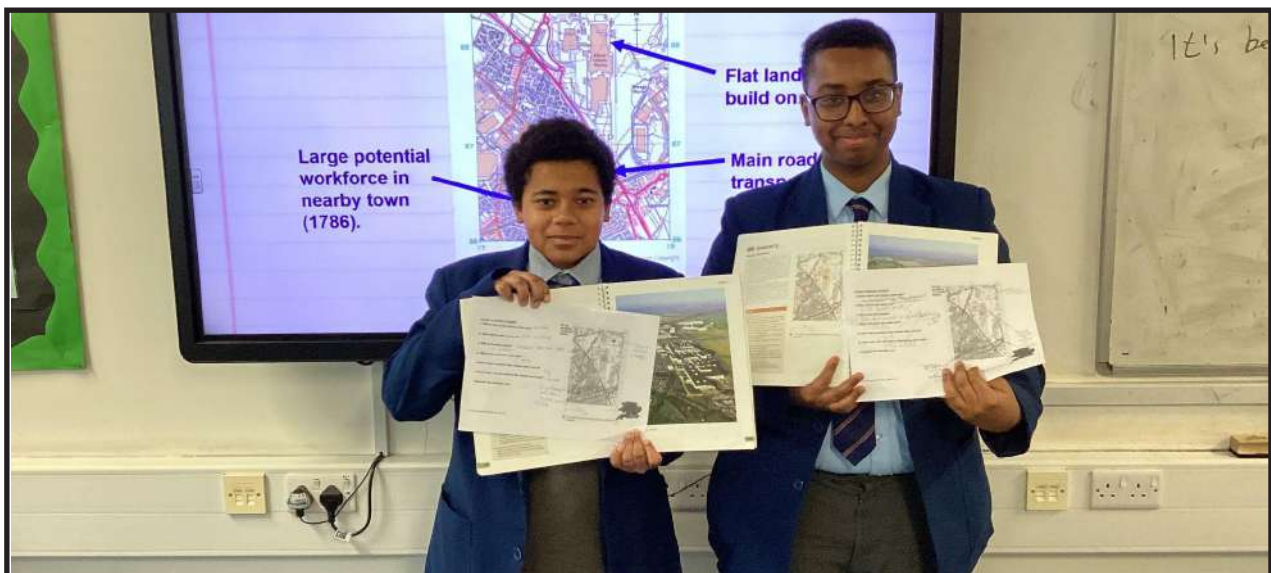
# GEOGRAPHY NEWS (CONTINUED)

## Year 9 Geography

Firstly, Year 9 completed their study of South America by investigating the reasons behind deforestation in the Amazon region. They particularly enjoyed learning about how the Brazilian government rainforest police squad, Ibama, tries to tackle illegal deforestation. Year 9s also looked at the impact of tree felling on indigenous tribal groups.

The students then moved on to study 'Globalisation and Earning a Living', which included an investigation into the environmental impacts of fast fashion. This was followed by 'Superpower Geography' where students considered which countries are the most important in the world.

Here are some photos of 9B students proudly displaying their Globalisation work:



## GCSE Geography

Students in Year 11 have demonstrated the Ruislip High value of perseverance to reach the end of the GCSE course and start the revision phase with enthusiasm. Year 11s are using the department's 'Megabook' revision guides. These are also on the online Google Classrooms, along with several past exam papers. Meanwhile, students in Year 10 are looking forward to a field trip to Hengistbury Head on the south coast in July 2023.

## A-level Geography

Year 13 students have been working towards completing the A-level course with topics such as 'Water and Carbon Cycles' and 'Global Systems and Global Governance'. The department wishes the students well for their public exams ahead.



# GEOGRAPHY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 12 students have made pleasing progress on 'Coastal Systems and Landscapes' and 'Resource Security'. The department is looking forward to taking Year 12 students on a 4-day residential field trip to the Norfolk coast in June 2023.

## Where can Geography take me?

In all geography classrooms studies can remind themselves of how the subject relates to a wide variety of careers. Many students stop to read the department's 'Where can geography take me?' display. Several well-known people have studied the subject before moving on to successful careers. See how many of these people you can recognise in the photo!



# YEAR 12 NEWS

This term has seen a number of fantastic opportunities and achievements for the Year 12s. During the half term break, a number of our cohort were lucky enough to go on the school Ski Trip to Andorra. I am a firm believer that by taking part in extra curricular activities, students will further themselves and will go on to achieve great things. In addition to skiing, our students have also started taking part in their Duke of Edinburgh Gold activities and have embarked upon the first steps of a fantastic qualification that they will keep for the rest of their lives.

Students have also taken up more academic opportunities and a number of Year 12 students have started work on their EPQ qualification. This will enable students to gain better offers at University and I am really proud of these students for going the extra mile.

In Year 12, students have multiple additional opportunities offered to them all the time, from apprenticeships and work experience through to lectures after school. One student in Year 12 recently was accepted into the ACS Beyond and his review is below:

*"The experience was truly eye-opening to the wonders of science and in particular, engineering. The programme made me think and use the knowledge stored deep in my brain to come to not just solutions, but improvements and modifications to those solutions, which is how an engineer must think. For example, the class started off with me and my group having to build a tower, inspired by skyscrapers such as the Burj Khalifa, using nothing but 10 pieces of paper - not even any resources to keep the paper stable. Furthermore, we had to ensure the tower was stable enough for a 100g weight to balance on it for a minimum of 10 seconds. Me and my group were failing miserably at even building the tower at first - let alone making it stable enough for a 100g weight - but then I thought back to what I had learnt in GCSE Geography: countries such as Japan use strong steel cylinder bases down the middle of their skyscrapers, to prevent them collapsing in an earthquake as it makes them more stable. I used and applied this knowledge to our paper tower by rolling papers into cylinders and putting them down the middle of our tower, and we then managed to build a 1-metre tower that balanced the 100g weight on it for over 30 minutes. For the rest of the day, we built our own wheels out of soda cans for the Bloodhound jet cars we are supposed to make, and we had to make our wheels the most aerodynamic and efficient so that our car would travel a certain distance the fastest. While I unfortunately did not make the fastest Bloodhound*

# YEAR 12 NEWS (CONTINUED)

*car in the end, the experience of failure taught me how to improve my design for next time. The ACS Beyond experience did not just teach me engineering lessons - it taught me life lessons on how to improve and educate yourself."*

At Ruislip High School we show students where the doors are in the 6th form and encourage students to open them for themselves. I am so proud every time I hear about one of our students going above and beyond what is expected in order to further their life chances. As we enter the summer term, I look forward to more students grabbing the opportunities that being at Ruislip High presents.

**Mr Elsby**

Head of Year 12

## DRAMA NEWS

The Drama department has spent a lot of this term getting back out into the wider world to watch some theatre. As well as that we've been tackling new topics and getting ready for four separate practical exams happening shortly after Easter.

Years 12 and 13 went to go and see 'The Wife of Willesden' at the Kiln Theatre in Kilburn, which was a raucous and sparkling adaptation of Chaucer's 'The Wife of Bath'.





# DRAMA NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 11 drank in the beautiful visual experience of 'Hakawatis' at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, which was lit entirely by candles and engaged the students with visceral and wild stories centred around what it means to be a woman. Year 10 are gearing up for a trip to the Globe in the Summer. Year 9 were lucky enough to catch 'The Woman in Black' before it closed in the West End, and enjoyed a terrifying evening at the theatre, before a long and animated discussion about whether or not it is a Brechtian play on the train home.



Rehearsals have begun for both the sketches and scenes for the Summer Arts Festival, and the new adaptation of Macbeth. Miss Nastou has written original music for Macbeth, and tickets for the Summer Arts Festival will be available soon. You can see scenes, sketches, songs, big band performances and Shakespeare on Wednesday 21st June in the new theatre.

Year 7 have enjoyed learning about the history of theatre and have started their journey into A Midsummer Night's Dream, while Year 8 have sprung from the tragedy of Antigone to the hilarity of Commedia Dell'Arte.

# DRAMA NEWS (CONTINUED)

Years 10 and 12 have been devising, ready for their respective Component 2 exams, and have created some of the best devised work the department has seen. Year 12's piece about the history and running of the NHS is a genuine theatrical challenge to our understanding of, and relationship with, free healthcare. Years 11 and 13 continue working on their scripted pieces, awaiting the arrival of the exam board. Year 9 have looked at some very complex Brechtian concepts, and are beginning to work on naturalism before completing their own first devising process.

Ruislip High students have approached Drama with their customary humour and enthusiasm, and we're looking forward to seeing the fruits of these efforts in the summer.

Max, 10A: *"I really enjoy Drama lessons because they're fun, exciting, engaging and we learn lots."*

Amelia 10A *"Drama really brings out my creative side and makes me think about different aspects of life."*

## PE NEWS

### Sustainability Week - Baton Torch Run

On Monday 27th a number of Ruislip High School students were selected to be torch runners for the opening ceremony of sustainability week. Miss McGuigan and the students ran along the Hillingdon Trail to Ryefield Primary School covering 2.5 miles in 25 minutes. The students were lucky enough to have Boris Johnson join us for the first 100m!

#### Year 7

Alfie W (7C), Oscar W (7F),  
Xenia G (7D) and Lily C (7F)

#### Year 8

Charlie R (8D) and Kallum J (8F)



# PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

## Netball

As the netball season comes to an end a huge well done to the Year 7, 8 and 9 students who have turned up every week since September. The students have been lucky enough to have Alexia S (11C) who has been taking an active lead in supporting the running of netball clubs each week as well as umpiring games against other schools. Alexia umpires with such confidence she almost certainly puts some teachers in the Borough to shame.

### Year 7 Team

Chloe S, Alana M, Holly P, Scarlett F, Erin M, Aafiyah C, Mya C, Bethany S, Lily C (7F), Leeyah P (7F), Anna D (7B), Ruby C (7S), Lucia P (7W), Holly P-C (7F), Natalia D (7A), Ella G (7A), Scarlette F (7A), Bobbi R (7C)

### Year 8 Team

Ava W (8B), Ava D (8D), Eleni M (8C), Freya M(8F), Maisie T (8C)

### Year 9 Team

Eliana R (9B), Freya D (9C), Kiera B (9D), Gabrielle S (9B) Elena L(9C), Eve Allen (9D), Alina L (9B) and Hannah C (9S)



## Middlesex School Cross-country Championships

Congratulations to the following students who took part in the Middlesex School Cross-country Championships at Harrow School on 26th January, 2023. A huge well done to Kallum Jenkins who was very close to being selected for English Schools. Considering that Kallum doesn't do any cross-country/athletics training this makes it even more impressive.



## Year 7 girls

Xenia G (7D) 55th

## Year 7 boys

Oscar W (7F) 41st, Alfie W (7C) 42nd, Hussein I (7B) 62nd

## Year 8/9 boys

Kallum J (8F) 15th, Alfie S (9D) 29th, Charlie R (8D) 40th

## Year 10 boys/11 boys

Alex L (10W) 60th

## Rugby

The Year 9 boys had their first taste of rugby sevens action over at Vyners High School. The boys won their first game 3 tries to 2, courtesy of Jaydon D (9D) scoring all three tries with his powerful running. In the second game they came up short vs Rosedale losing 2 tries to 1. Jaydon D (9D) again scored a try. A great experience all round and the boys are looking forward to the next one. The squad included, Jake H (9F) - Captain, Jaydon D (9D), Kael H G (9C), James M (9C), Daniel M (9S), Artur V (9A), Haedar A (9A), Joe B (9S), Mohamed T (9B).

## Basketball

The sixth form basketball team played in their first matches of the year against Oakwood and Haydon on Wednesday 18th January. Please pass on any congratulations to all, as everyone involved was fantastic, and shows that RHS are building a strong foundation for basketball players. RHS drew 14-14 with a strong Oakwood side, and beat Haydon 19-11. The pupils involved were Aryan W (C62), Konstantinos G (C62), Jarrar S (C67), Hashim M (C66). Two year 11's Barmal P (11B) and Erion M (11B). Even more impressive were two Year 10's Rafferty S (10D) and Theo X (10A) also played significant roles in helping the team secure such positive performances. Well done!



## Football

### Year 8 Girls

This half term the Year 8 girls have competed in a number of different competitions. They have finished 3rd out of 10 schools in the 7-side borough tournament. The girls also have reached the county cup quarter final where they unfortunately have been knocked out. Most recently the girls have been entered into the English Schools Football Association cup where they will play their second round game next week.

Names: Holly M (8S), Nany T (8s), Ciara W (8C), Amy D (8W), Freya M (8F), Darcy M (8B), Emily F (8F), Jessica G-L (8S), Eva E (8S), Nicolatae L (8C) Jodie C (8D), Megan (8D), Ellie S-M (8B), Deeya J (8S) Danni K (8F) Chloe F (8B)

### Year 7 Boys

The Year 7 boys have made a great start to RHS football this year. This half term they have been crowned champions of the 7-aside borough tournament where they competed against 10 local schools. In the Year 7 competitive league they are doing fantastic and have so far won 3 games and lost 1. They have three games remaining this season which will hopefully secure them 1st or 2nd place overall.

Names: Tomas B (7B), Daniel L (7F), Oscar W (7F), Ashaz S (7B), Dragos T (7F), Ibrahim H (7F), Alfie W (7C), Ethan K (7D ), James B (7B) Charlie K (7A), Charlie C (7D), Dishaan D K (7C)

### Year 8 Boys

The Year 8 boys returned to league action with a 2-0 win over Queensmead. In a tightly contested game, goals either side of half time from Charlie S (8B) and an own goal after good work from Harley B (8C), Ruislip deservedly claimed all three points. They have a number of games in the coming weeks and will be looking to build on what has been a very positive start to the season.

Squad: Kai M (8W), Oliver S (8D), Alfie D (8S), Caden C (8A), Matthew H (8D), Harley B (8C), Jamie H (8F), Charlie S (8B), Kallum J (8F), Zach H (8D), Ronnie O (8D), Jack K (8C), Oliver J (8C) and Charlie R (8D).

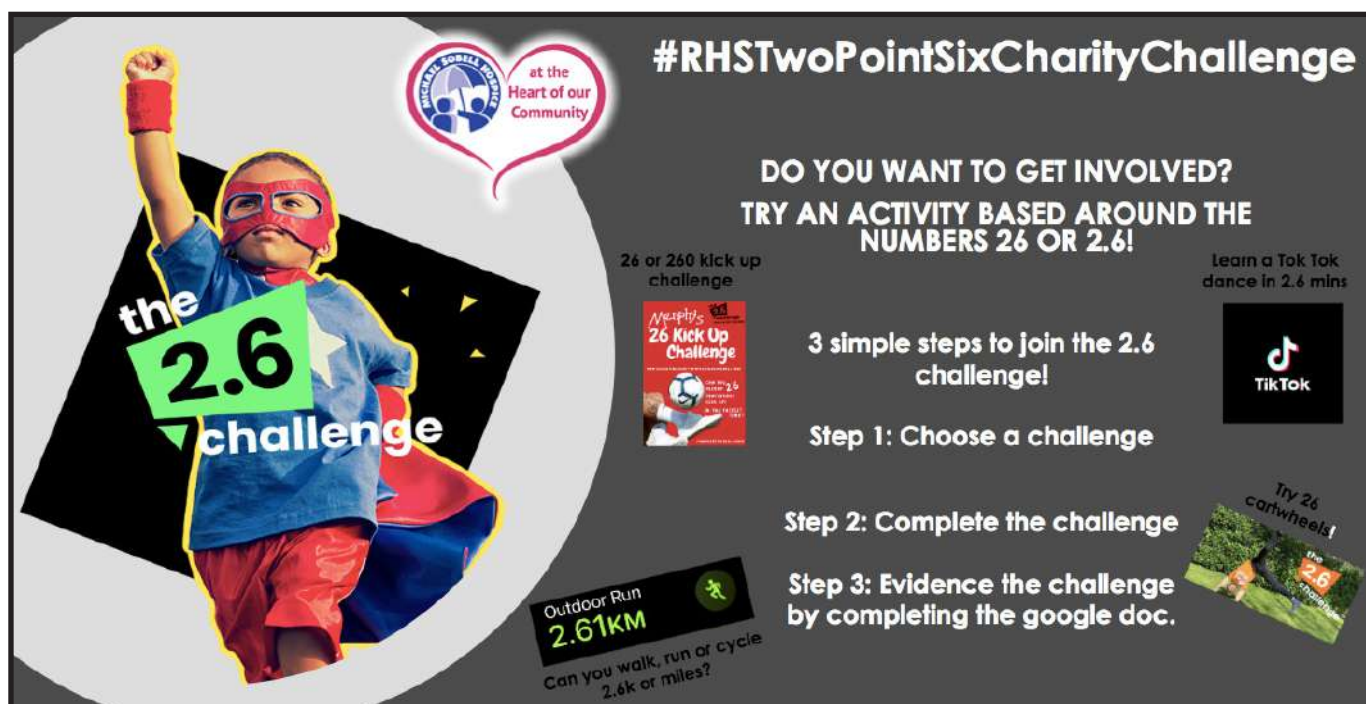
# PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

## PE Summer Challenge

This year the RHS PE department will be running a summer charity challenge. This challenge will be a chance not only to stay physically fit and active but also raise money for our school's local charity The Michael Sobell Hospice.

We will be re-launching / re-model the 2.6 challenge from a few years ago, where we raised over £1000 for our local charity.

More information will be coming soon onto google classroom. Please see posters below.



**#RHSTwoPointSixCharityChallenge**

at the Heart of our Community

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?  
TRY AN ACTIVITY BASED AROUND THE NUMBERS 26 OR 2.6!

26 or 260 kick up challenge

Learn a Tok Tok dance in 2.6 mins

3 simple steps to join the 2.6 challenge!

Step 1: Choose a challenge

Step 2: Complete the challenge

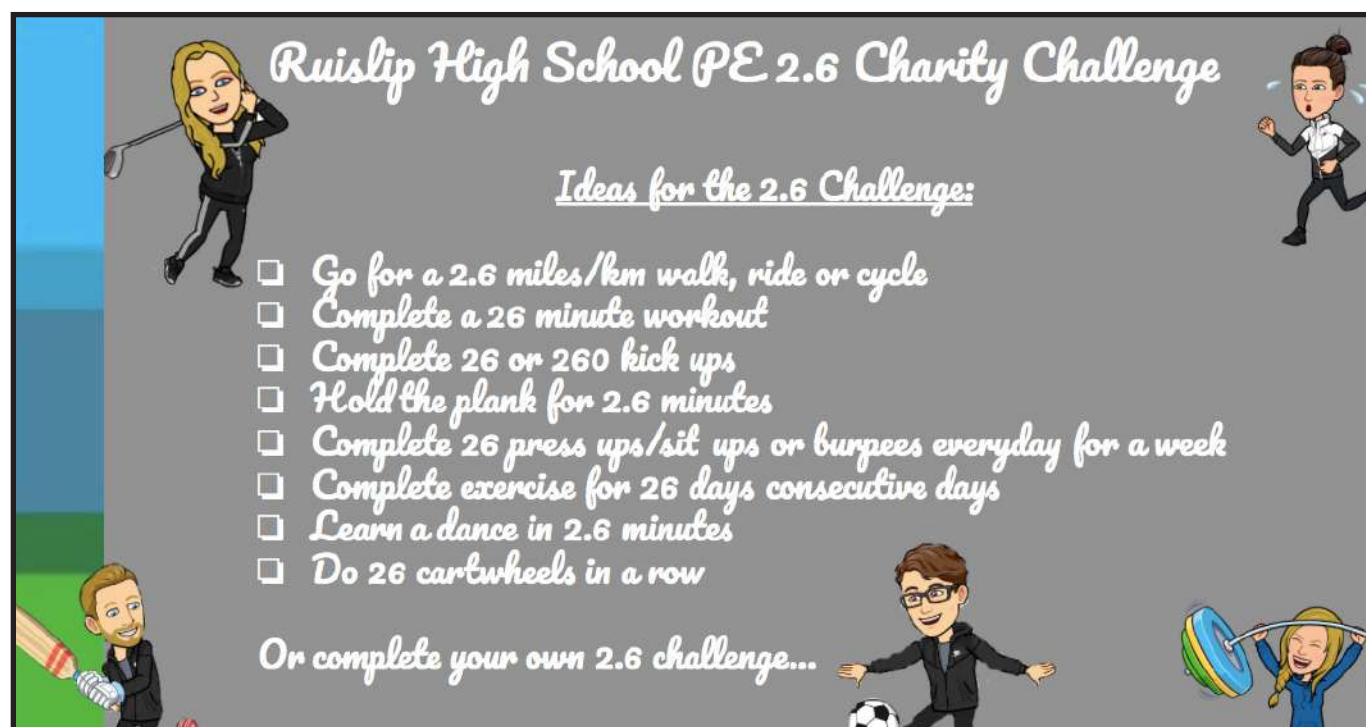
Step 3: Evidence the challenge by completing the google doc.

the 2.6 challenge

Outdoor Run 2.61KM  
Can you walk, run or cycle 2.6k or miles?

Try 26 cartwheels!

TikTok



**Ruislip High School PE 2.6 Charity Challenge**

Ideas for the 2.6 Challenge:

- Go for a 2.6 miles/km walk, ride or cycle
- Complete a 26 minute workout
- Complete 26 or 260 kick ups
- Hold the plank for 2.6 minutes
- Complete 26 press ups/sit ups or burpees everyday for a week
- Complete exercise for 26 days consecutive days
- Learn a dance in 2.6 minutes
- Do 26 cartwheels in a row

Or complete your own 2.6 challenge...



# YEAR 8 NEWS

Looking back at my start at RHS, it has truly been a blessing to meet so many great students and get to know the year group. I know that some of the resolutions made by us all may have already fallen by the wayside but your child's dedication and commitment to their learning has been impressive in many areas. I was delighted by the Year 8 students' effort to better themselves and improve in all aspects of their school life. Year 8 students have also made sure they have been an integral part of our Above and Beyond clubs.

The Year 8 study club has been a huge success with students regularly attending throughout the term. The club takes place every Tuesday and Thursday after school and it's a great place where students can obtain support and expert advice from subject teachers. Many students have benefited from this productive environment away from distractions, enabling them to comfortably complete work ahead of any deadlines.

This term started a new initiative called the Reward Wheel Achievement in which one student from each form receives an award for having the most positive reward wheels over a two-week period. It has been a popular award with a variety of students winning. The most recent award winners are Sienna C, Masato F, Faraan T, Sebastian C, Sinead L, Nicole G and Tasbeeha A.

Year 8 Parents' Evening also took place this term. It was a very informative evening for our students which took place online on Thursday 9th February. Parents and students received feedback on what has been going well and what steps they need to take to improve as we head towards Year 9. We would like to thank all the parents and guardians who attended; it was evident from the fantastic attendance that parents are invested in their child's education and development. It is also evidently clear that a strong partnership between home and the school is an important factor to making substantial progress for students.

On Friday 3rd February, 84 Year 8 students who were eligible for the Winter Reward Trip attended a special screening of 'Matilda' at Cineworld, South Ruislip. The students snacked on popcorn and put their feet up for a well-deserved break in recognition of all their excellent behaviour during the winter term. This year's Summer Reward Trip is an exciting trip to Thorpe Park and we are all looking forward to it!

**Mr Joseph**

Head of Year 8

# SCIENCE NEWS

## Super springtime science

The spring term has been a productive one in science with our students working hard in their normal science classes and in wider outreach events.

Science week runs from the 10th-19th March and is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year students at RHS have had a variety of activities mainly through their science and maths lessons and we named it STEAM week to emphasise the importance of all the subjects to future careers. This year the theme was 'connections'. With the focus being on connections all RHS students had a talk from an amazon employee to learn more about the work Amazon does and the wide range of career opportunities they have.

Year 7 partook in either a blood spatter investigation or a lesson where they had to use chromatography to solve a crime. Both of these lessons are linked to STEM careers related to forensics. In addition to this, they had the opportunity to complete an engineering challenge to make a marble run with prizes for the team which created the run closest to 5 seconds!



# SCIENCE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 8 students had the opportunity to either complete a parachute or bridge building challenge.



Year 9 are especially lucky as they are taking part in the Young Green Briton challenge and are working in groups to solve a current environmental issue. In lessons they have been considering how to work best in teams and completed some preparatory theory work and on Friday 17th March they will create a dragons den style pitch with outside organisers.

Year 10 engaged with a new website 'People like us' and learnt about a range of STEM careers.

In addition to this, our KS3 classes have visited our ecohub for workshops to explore either flower reproduction or to look at issues surrounding food production. We have also been lucky enough to host a local primary school to further enhance our connections with them.



# ENGLISH NEWS

Over Spring term, Year 8s at Ruislip High have been studying the genre of dystopia. This unit has seen students delve into a range of extracts and short stories from across the dystopian genre. This has ranged from classics like *Lord of the Flies*; more modern dystopias like the *Hunger Games*; and short stories like *The Lottery*. This has provided the perfect introduction for one of literature's most popular and revered dystopias: George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, which we study in detail.



Year 8 students have examined what dystopias and allegories are, as well as how and why writers create them. This unit looked at developing students' reading skills but also their overall understanding of genre and how settings of stories can often become characterised by the writer, becoming a fundamental aspect to the plot.

There hasn't been a clear favourite out of the stories but the strongest contenders are *War of the Clowns*, *Lord of the Flies* and of course *Animal Farm* with ongoing requests to sing the *Beasts of England* anthem.

Students have made a tremendous amount of progress across the unit with one student beaming "My EBI [even better if] is now my WWW [what went well]" showcasing how areas of weakness have now become strengths.

Great job Year 8!

# LRC NEWS

## World book Day 2023

This year's World Book Day unfortunately fell on a strike day, but that didn't stop Ruislip High from celebrating: we just postponed the date to Friday, so more students could get to mark the day.



Starting off with a Tutor Activity 'The Masked Reader', in which the tutor groups had to guess who the staff were behind the mask, staff who kindly took part were filmed reading either the Gruffalo for Key Stage 3 or the Gruffalo's Child for key stage 4. The films were played during tutor time, and as predicted the students and Tutors seemed to love it and had fun guessing who it was behind the digital faces.

## Fun and Games

During break time and lunch time students who regularly visit the LRC were invited to an exclusive 'Golden Ticket Event' to celebrate World Book Day and were able to take part in fun quizzes.

During break time it was 'Guess the staff facts': students had to match the correct staff with the correct facts about them and they found it very funny, especially as one fact from one Teacher was 'I wish I were a Jedi'

At lunch this time students took part in a 'book related quiz', answering quiz questions on books, book characters and authors, some easy and some a bit trickier, which students seem to enjoy. Students took a goodie bag of treats away with them, which all seemed to love !!



# LRC NEWS (CONTINUED)

## Eye's Down Looking

After school the LRC turned into a Bingo Hall and the 'Golden Ticket' holders took part in a special Book Bingo and there were an array of sweet treats awarded to students whose lines were completed first and a special prize for the first completed full house. All students who attended were given a sweetie cone of treats and a Green card, which awards 5 points to the corresponding tutor groups. As imagined the students seemed to really enjoy the events, especially the treats at the end !!

## Silent Reading Corner



With an increasing number of students from all years now visiting the LRC during break and lunch to sit and quietly read, the LRC have now created a 'silent reading corner' with comfy sofas and cushions, so students can relax and find a bit of escapism between lessons. The feedback from students so far is very positive and everyone seems to love the new set up.

## Mobile Book Trolley

Each month the LRC updates the mobile book trolley to fit in with that particular month's theme. Last month was 'LGBTQ+' and the trolley featured lots of books, all relating to LGBTQ+ which are usually found in the LRC. It also coincided with the History department promoting the same theme and to give the same message to students to 'Be Proud of who You Are' !!!

## Students Reporting for Duty

Fortunately a few of the LRC workers are also part of the club which produces the 'The Ruislip Eye' student Newspaper and the LRC regularly features in the Newspaper, promoting reading across the whole school, including updated photos of the mobile book trolley.





# LRC NEWS (CONTINUED)

## **Book Donations as part of the Sustainability Project**

Following on from the success of Ruislip High's Sustainability week, promoting recycling across the whole school, the LRC have set up donation boxes for all year groups and staff, so students and staff are able to donate unwanted books.

For each book donated, a book token is issued, allowing the donor to be able to collect a book of choice from the donated book collection.

A project which will also involve tutor groups visiting the LRC, in an initiative to try and promote reading, recycling old books and saving money at the same time.

A big thank you to so many Parents and Guardians who have already kindly donated books to the LRC.

In order to promote reading and have books available for all to read, the LRC are always happy to receive any unwanted book donations. This arrangement chimes well with the Sustainability project, so please leave any unwanted books with reception, for the attention of Mrs Austen/ LRC. The school would be very grateful, as would the students and staff !!

## **Thank you**

A big thank you to all the students who regularly help in the LRC, as part of the Student LRC team, not forgetting all the volunteers from the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme who also help. It is very much appreciated.

'Happy Reading'

**Mrs Austen**

LRC Manager

# YEAR 13 NEWS

It is astonishing to think that we are already five terms into the Year 13s' Sixth Form journeys, and I am pleased to note that this term has been one of their strongest yet. Throughout, there has been a real ramping up of revision effort from the students, as the January PPEs have highlighted both their strengths and where they need to improve, and as they have been receiving the added motivation of conditional university offers. I know that the students have really appreciated the support they have received from their subject teachers and learning mentors following the PPEs, and the sense of purpose heading into the final term is clear. It was also great to see so many parents and guardians at the Year 13 parents' evening on Thursday 9th March, which I hope provided useful clarity on what the students need to do between now and their A-Levels starting in May.

Beyond their subjects, this term has been one of superb success for the Year 13s in their post-18 applications. Over 90 students have applied for university, and to date 99% of those students have received at least one university offer, with several students receiving offers from all five universities that they applied to. This is testament to the huge amounts of work students have been doing (many of them since the start of Year 12) to read around their subjects and prepare for an application. We were fortunate in February to hear from two former Ruislip High Students (Jonathan Goss and Aaron Connell), who spoke about their experiences transitioning into university life, and gave a number of invaluable tips to our students.

Several students have also been busy applying for prestigious apprenticeships, with many already being invited to assessment centres and interview days. We had the pleasure of listening to Rishley Permalloo, who finished Year 13 at Ruislip High in 2022, about his experiences applying for and starting an apprenticeship at Simmons & Simmons Law firm. Rishley provided the students with excellent advice about apprenticeship applications and about how best to prepare for the summer exams ahead. Support with apprenticeship and job applications for students will not stop once the exam season starts, and students will be reminded that they can get support with applications throughout the summer term from me or our learning mentors, Ms Kwan and Ms Bonny.

It has also been great to see the Year 13s throwing themselves into life outside the classroom this term. A larger number of students than ever before have been involved in student voice through the Year Team Council and Student Parliament, where they have

# YEAR 13 NEWS (CONTINUED)

been instrumental in providing useful feedback on teaching styles and systems within the school. There has been notable success for the basketball team against local schools, and several students have represented the school at the Model United Nations conference in New York. I would also like to say a particular thanks to the outgoing Student Leadership Team, who finish their one year term at the end of the Spring Term. They have been outstanding leaders and role models throughout, and their support at big school events, and of younger students around the school day-to-day, has been much appreciated and will be much missed.

What remains is for me to say that all of our support systems for students will remain in place throughout the lead up to, and during, the exam period next term, which begins in mid/late May. Parents and students should know that they can contact me at any time for support or advice, or with queries, and that the whole Sixth Form team is always here to listen to students and do their very best to help.

Looking forward, I will be excited to welcome students (and any parents/guardians who would like to attend) to the Year 13 leavers' assembly at 11am on Thursday 29th June. The Year 13 Prom will then follow that evening for those who have purchased tickets.

I remain incredibly grateful and proud to be the Head of Year of this incredible and resilient year group, and would like to wish you all a pleasant and restful break.

**Mr B Peacock**

Head of Year 13



# SIXTH FORM GUEST SPEAKERS

A visit from the chair of Comic Relief was one of the highlights in this term's programme of guest speakers. This is a regular event for Year 12 students in the Sixth Form. Eric Salama visited during the week of Red Nose Day which was on Friday 17th March. Eric spoke about his career in public policy in organisations such as Kantar Public. He explained in detail what it's like to help organise Comic Relief as a major fundraising event. Eric also showed students the new design of red nose available to buy, which is mostly made from paper.

Eric said, *"Employers value enthusiasm, passion, desire, ambition and curiosity. In my career we have recruited for attitude, then trained for skill. You don't need to be unpleasant to be successful. How you treat people makes a difference. Don't be a drain, instead try to be a radiator! And always treat people the way you would like to be treated."*

Ruislip High's Sixth Form has had a guest speaker programme since 2016, and takes place fortnightly. Other guest speakers this term have included Amrit Walia, a Home Office presenting officer, Jeff Markham from the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young, and Daya Mangat from the Kooth mental health website. Guest speakers are organised by Mr Alison (Director of Humanities). If you have a suggestion for a suitable speaker based around one of the '3Cs' of careers, current affairs and culture, please email Mr Alison via [office@ruisliphigh.com](mailto:office@ruisliphigh.com)



**Eric Salama, chair of Comic Relief, speaking to Year 12 students and specially invited student leaders from Years 9 and 10**

# MUSIC NEWS

Ruislip High School's Music Department has once again been very busy this academic year! Our musicians have enjoyed an array of experiences ranging from orchestra trips to musical performances.



In December 2022, our GCSE Music class had the amazing opportunity to visit the Royal Festival Hall in London and listen to the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Orchestra performed to an audience of 10,000 students at the prestigious Southbank Centre. The repertoire included the GCSE set works that students will be examined on as part of their GCSE.

For some of our students, this was the first time they had encountered the thrill of a live orchestra, and it was an unforgettable experience!

Our school band and choir have also made incredible progress over the past few months with the quality of their sound improving week by week.

The next opportunity for our students to shine is the Year 7 and 8 Spring Festival on the 22nd of March. Tutors and students have been working hard to get an exciting range of stalls ready for the evening. The music department has prepared a range of fun repertoire for the evening including band, choir and solo performers.

Furthermore, as we are approaching the summer term, the preparations for our next Summer Arts Festival are well underway. This year, the music and drama departments will collaborate to produce a wonderful collection of performances, including the play Macbeth.

Original music has been written by Miss Nastou and lyrics by Mr Randall, who has already been working hard with the drama students on rehearsals for the play.

This will certainly be an evening not to be missed and we look forward to welcoming all of our school community to this production!

# THE CREATIVE CORNER

We cannot believe it is the end of the spring term already! This term have been filled with lots of challenges and events that have kept all of us very busy! In KS4 year 11 & 13 have now started their exam projects and year 10 & 12 have done an amazing job in their Art PPEs. KS3 have been looking at completing; clay work, political and social art, freezer paper stencil, facial feature drawings, texture printmaking to mention only a few!

## Tate modern trip

This year we are very pleased to share that we had a fantastic trip to the Tate Modern to help support our year 11 & 13 students with their exam projet. The students had the fantastic opportunity to see 1000s of pieces of artwork that date from the 1500s to the present day of varying different styles, medias and themes. The students thoroughly enjoyed exploring the gallery and have lots of new inspiration for their exam in the summer term.



## Sustainability week - WRAP challenge

During sustainability week this year our year 7 Students took part in our WRAP (Watford Recycling Arts Project) challenge. WRAP is a fantastic charity that specialises in the recycling and repurposing of ethically sourced commercial waste for creative enterprise. Students were challenged to create a textured artwork inspired by the marine life textures we have been looking at in lesson using only materials sources form WRAP. As you can see below you students had a great time and created some amazing work that will be going up in our EcoHub.





# RHS Gallery

Here is a selection of work from the Art, Craft and Design department:



Art





Textiles





Graphics



# KEY DATES

- **Monday 17th April 2023: Summer term begins**
- **Friday 21st April 2023: Year 12 science trip**
- **Saturday 29th April - Monday 1st May 2023: Duke of Edinburgh - Silver pre-assessed expedition**
- **Monday 1st May 2023: May Day - Bank holiday**
- **Monday 8th May 2023: King's Coronation - Bank holiday**
- **Thursday 11th May 2023: Year 9 STEM trip**
- **Monday 15th May - Friday 19th May 2023: Mental Health Awareness week**
- **Saturday 20th May - Sunday 21st May 2023: Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze pre-assessed expedition**
- **Wednesday 24th May 2023: Year 12 Reading University trip**
- **Friday 26th May 2023: Last day of half term**

For the full term dates for 2022-23, visit the website, [www.ruisliphigh.com](http://www.ruisliphigh.com)



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