

Summer Term 2022-23 | Issue 17 **23.06.2023**

UN-BEE-LIEVABLE ARRIVAL AT RHS

"We are thrilled to introduce bees to our EcoHub. It is another step on our school's journey to helping support wildlife thrive in the local community."

Mr Gould



Image above: RHS's Bee Club help our new arrivals settle in

Last week an exciting moment took place at RHS: we welcomed our newest members - the bees! Flying into our EcoHub, the bees initially joined us in a Nuc hive, which is half the size of a regular hive. This was left on top of the new hive, so that the bees got used to their new environment.

The following morning The Bee Club, led by Miss Stone-Weyl, bee-suited up and moved the bees over to their new hive. The club took the frames out of the Nuc hive examining them one by one for bee larvae, food stores and most importantly the queen. Students had to make sure she was moved into the new hive or the bees would swarm and leave to go to look for her. To make the queen easy to identify, she had been marked with a little yellow dot. The bees were then left for a week to settle, before being checked in on by the bee club on Tuesday 20th June. We are happy to report they are looking happy, healthy and have successfully found their hive's front door!

It has been a hard spring for the bees this year as mites carrying a deadly virus spread and infected numerous hives. So at RHS we are absolutely delighted to still have been able to start our beekeeping season this year - and to report that we already have between 15,000-20,000 bees residing in our hive.

CURRICULUM UPDATE: MUSIC



Images: The RHS Band and Choir get ready to perform

"I am so proud of all of my music students - both in lessons and those who are members of music clubs. They are all so enthusiastic and dedicated. I expect nothing but great things!"
Miss Nastou

The RHS Music department is a busy place, where lots of learning (and fun) takes place on a weekly basis. From the topics of Reggae and Blues music, to band and choir rehearsals preparing for the Summer Arts Festival, there's something for every musical taste!

Currently, our Year 7s are learning about Gamelan music from Indonesia. Instruments such as the gong, the saron and peking are explored through listening tasks leading to practical activities, with all students on xylophones performing various parts and forming their very own gamelan ensemble.

Our Year 8s on the other hand, are learning all about the blues. The 12-bar blues has never been played better than when it is taking place in D308 - with phenomenal performances that include the use of the blues scale through improvisation. A special mention to Eleni and Mariam in 8C for taking their improv skills to the next level and performing their extended piece in front of the class!

In Year 9, students are getting ready to be assessed on reggae music. Each form has created five bands, in which students have taken either the role of a singer, keyboardist, ukulele or percussion player. They have been rehearsing 'Three Little Birds' by the singing legend, Bob Marley, and are preparing to perform to the class as part of their practical assessment. Everyone is looking forward to showing off the results of their hard work.

Meanwhile, in GCSE Music, students are focusing on coursework for the last term of the academic year. Each week, they are working on their compositions in our specialist Mac suite, using music tech softwares. With a little luck and a lot of hard work, we might have the next John Williams up in the D3 corridor!

Lastly, as the Summer Arts Festival is approaching on the 28th of June, the rehearsals and preparation for the evening are well underway. Band, choir and soloists are rehearsing weekly on a broad range of repertoire to mark the end of the academic year.

Miss Nastou and all the wonderful RHS musicians are very excited to put on a show followed by the Drama department performing the incredible play of Macbeth. This is an evening not to be missed! Details below about how to book tickets.

SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL

Next week, Ruislip High School will be hosting a Summer Arts Festival on Wednesday 28th June, 2023 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm. The evening will be an opportunity for our school community to celebrate the work of the Art, Music and Drama departments and will showcase the efforts of our very talented students in these subject areas.

The first half of the evening from 4:35pm-5:55pm will consist of an art exhibition, musical performances and dramatic scenes held in different venues across the school. Guests for the evening will have the choice of attending either art, music or drama for a thirty minute slot, before moving on to watch a different arts area.

In the second half of the evening, from 6:00pm-7:30pm the drama and music departments will join together for the school's summer production of William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. This condensed version of the classic tragedy is set in a coastal town in the Scottish Highlands and promises to be an atmospheric performance, which we are certain will be enjoyed by all.

Tickets for the festival are free, however we are asking anyone who would like to attend for a voluntary donation of £5 per ticket, which will go towards our school charity, Harlington Hospice (previously known as Michael Sobell Hospice). Tickets can be booked via Google Form [here](#) and we ask that donations are made directly on our JustGiving page here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rhsmichaelsobell2023>

RAG WEEK 2023



Images: Year 9 students enjoy 'Sponge a Teacher' all in the name of charity as part of this week's RAG Week.

From Monday 19th June, our Sixth Form students have been leading the school in our annual Raising and Giving Week (RAG Week). This week, which features a packed schedule of activities, is designed to encourage students in engaging with raising money for the school's charity, Harlington Hospice, in addition to having fun and growing together as a school community.

There have been daily bake sales, penalty shoot outs and a treasure hunt for Year 7 students. One of the most popular activities took place on Thursday lunchtimes - the chance to sponge a teacher - with a range of brave staff stepping up and volunteering to allow students to throw wet sponges at them. Needless to say, there were some very enthusiastic students, who were all too keen to sign-up in the name of charity...(we are sure that was 100% their sole motivation for signing-up!).

The week was very successful, with at the time of writing, the students raising £620 for charity. The final amount raised will be communicated next week. Thank you to everyone who has supported the fundraising efforts of the week!



Ruislip High School's

Summer Arts Festival

Led by the Art, Drama and Music Departments

Wednesday 28 June, 2023
4:30PM - 7:30PM

Art
Exhibitions

Live musical performances
from the RHS Choir, Band
and Soloists

KS3 Drama
Performances

followed by the school's summer production...

Machbeth

Tickets are free - but we will be asking for a suggested donation of £5 per ticket, which will be donated to the school's charity Harlington Hospice.

KEY DATES:

Date:	Event
w/b Monday 26th June	Year 12 PPE week
Wednesday 28th June - 4:30pm-7:30pm	Summer Arts Evening
Thursday 29th June 7pm-11pm	Year 11 Prom
Thursday 29th June 7:30pm-11pm	Year 13 Prom
Friday 30th June	Start of the DofE Silver assessed weekend
w/b Monday 3rd July	Activities Week

SCHOOL UPDATES:

Safeguarding updates:

Helplines: [click here](#)

National Online Safety - Parent resources: [click here](#)

Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership - Parent resources: [click here](#)

Vaping - Parent Advice and Information: [click here](#)

Letters home:

Update to Parents - 16/06/2023: [click here](#)

Parent Voice Group Meeting Minutes: [click here](#)

Year 7 Paris Trip - Final Information letter: [click here](#)

GCSE History Trip letter: [click here](#)

Summer Arts Festival letter: [click here](#)

South Africa Trip 2024 letter: [click here](#)

Year 12 University of Surrey Trip letter: [click here](#)

Proposed Residential Trips 2023-24: [click here](#)

Out of school opportunities (not linked to the school):

Fostering in Hillingdon information: [click here](#) and [click here](#)

Warm Welcome Centres: [click here](#)

Support for parents and children waiting for an ASD diagnosis: [click here](#)

Hillingdon Summer Activity Programme: [click here](#)

Hillingdon Special Education Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and

Support Service Drop-ins: [click here](#)

Parenting Teenagers Workshop: [click here](#)