

Ruislip High School NEWSLETTER

Summer 2017

LONGFORD TRUST TALK: SUPPORTER OF THE CHARITY, MICHAEL PALIN, VISITS RUISLIP HIGH



The school was delighted to welcome Michael Palin on Friday 12th May, well known for his work as a comedian, actor, writer and television presenter.

Michael is a supporter of the Longford Trust, which is a charity that supports ex-offenders, who are referred to as Longford scholars, to rebuild their lives through education. Michael was accompanied by other staff from the charity, including one of its founders Peter Stanford and a Longford scholar. The group gave a thought-provoking presentation to Year 10, 12 and 13 students and Year 9 ambassadors (page 3).

Students heard that the Longford Trust awards about twenty scholarships a year to ex-offenders to help them go to university. Peter said: 'We help people get on with their lives through the power of education.' Students also heard from Selina, who has been supported by the charity. She explained how she had been in prison for two years for a fraud offence but now is studying health care at university.

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Afterwards, Michael took part in a Q&A session with A-level Geography students from Ruislip High and other neighbouring schools, including Vyners, Bishopshalt and Queensmead. In the smaller venue of the drama studio, he enthusiastically answered questions on topics including his travels in Brazil and the Himalayas, as well as meeting the Dalai Lama. He said to much amusement: *'Having spent so much time travelling I've got really good at it. I now know how many loo rolls to take!'* Michael explained he didn't start travelling extensively until he was aged about 45. *'It's never too late to start!'* he said.

The students really enjoyed hearing from such a high-profile visitor. Michael also posed outside the Geography Department alongside a famous quote from his days as president of the Royal Geographical Society (page 1).



'Very welcoming school. The students were well behaved and listened attentively. I hope they will take what they heard on board and change their perceptions of ex-offenders.'

Selina, Longford scholar

'It was a great pleasure to listen to someone's experience in prison and how difficult it actually is to start a fresh, new life without anybody judging you.'

Nicole, 10C

'I was inspired about how Selena has never given up.' **Charlotte, 10D**

'I thought it was eye opening and my opinion on people in prison and ex-convicts has changed.' **Mark, 10B**

'It was very interesting to hear what Michael said about his life experiences travelling to 98 countries. He gave great tips and life lessons.' **Heather, Year 12**

'Michael Palin was an absolute inspiration, having loved geography for so long. Seeing someone who has visited 98 countries, a British cultural icon, was wonderful. His answers to the questions were informative and makes me want to travel.' **Matthew, Year 13**

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

The Ruislip High School Pledge

The green is the grass,
The blue is the sky,
We wear it like a medal,
We wear it on our tie,

We stand at grass roots,
We reach for the sky,
We strive to progress:
Hard work makes success,

The green on the ground,
The blue that's up high,
It stands for our school,
We are Ruislip High!

I will remember this academic year, 2016-2017, fondly because of several key developments and celebrations.

The tenth year anniversary was extremely special in the autumn term; it was wonderful to see a number of ex-staff, students, parents and governors attend the event which launched our new Ruislip High School pledge.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with our new Year 7 students on induction day on 4th July 2017 as they tried to learn it as part of their challenge of the day. I hope a tradition has been established this year of students learning the pledge; it represents our logo, which recognises high aspiration and the journey our students and families embark on when they join Ruislip High.

The school expansion in September 2019 is a major development which will improve many aspects of the school. I am delighted with the plans and believe a new sixth form centre at the 'heart' of the school will ensure our sixth formers are highly visible and take a leading role in the day-to-day life of Ruislip High.

Finally, I believe the newly established student leadership structures of the Sixth Form prefects, Year 11 prefects and Year 9 ambassadors will strengthen the school community next academic year along with the year team councils which have thrived this year.

I continue to be extremely proud to work at Ruislip High School and look forward to September 2017 as we embark on the twelfth year of our school's journey.



ADAPTIVE SKI TRIP

On 28th June, the Learning Support Faculty took seven students to The Snow Centre at Hemel Hempstead for a skiing lesson. James, Year 11, James, Year 10 and Kavindu, Year 8 used adapted sit skis for a thrilling ride down the 160m high slope. Samantha, Year 10, Reece, Year 8, Satya, Year 8 and Ethayn, Year 7 had a skiing lesson with an instructor and gradually gained the confidence to ski on their own. This was an amazing achievement for them all and they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Student quotes:

'It was epic.' **Kavindu**

'It was nice.' **Reece**

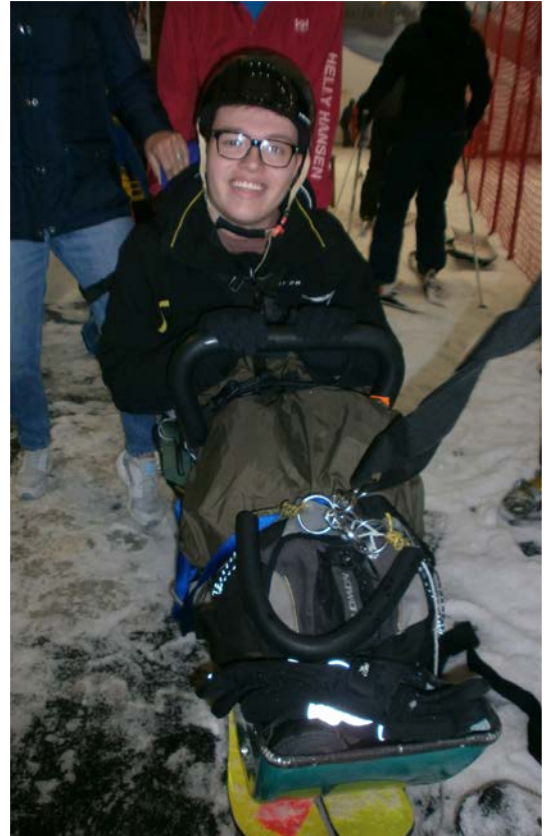
'A great trip and I would love to go again.' **James H**

'Awesome, 10 out of 10.' **Satya**

'I learnt how to ski. Despite falling over on the third go, I just got up and carried on. Thank you to all the TAs who organised it.' **Samantha**

'It was difficult but I enjoyed it.' **Ethayn**

'I am so glad I went.' **James P**



ENRICHMENT DAY

Students in Years 7-10 took part in a special programme of activities on Friday 26th May.

Year 7: Isle of Wight residential trip or London Zoo day visit

Year 8: Tower of London trip or Natural History Museum trip

Year 9: Holocaust Day (in school)

Year 10: Special English, Maths and Science GCSE day (in school)

The school hopes that all students really enjoyed themselves and learned from these activities different to the usual timetable.

Isle of Wight trip

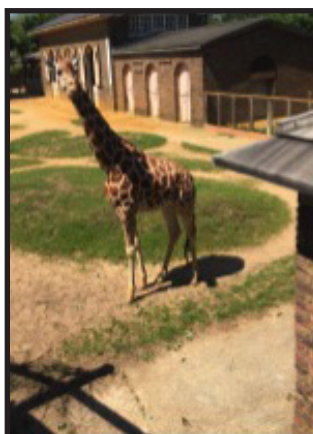
More than 130 students and 14 staff took part in the annual residential visit to the Isle of Wight from Friday 26th May to Sunday 28th May. On the Friday, students had a Humanities day visiting the island's famous chalk Needles before heading to the impressive Carisbrooke Castle. Students then had a fun weekend of outdoor activities at the PGL 'Little Canada' centre. Activities included dragon boating, aeroball, abseiling and climbing. Trip leader Mr Alison said: *'It was another great year of this long-standing trip. The students loved seeing the Needles and castle on the Friday in such glorious sunshine and calm weather. They all made new friends and got to try out lots of activities they may have not experienced before. All the students racing dragon boats together on the Saturday was a real highlight.'*



Year 7 Zoo Trip

On Friday 26th May, Year 7 visited London Zoo. They had a very exciting and enjoyable day exploring the zoo, observing different animals and taking part in educational activities regarding animal classification and behaviour. Students were praised by staff members at the zoo for their excellent group work skills. They were also able to hold a domesticated rodent in the session.

Madina, 7A, stated *'I had a brilliant time at the zoo, especially seeing the lions and giraffes close up.'*



Holocaust Day as part of Enrichment Day

On Enrichment Day, Friday 26th May, the Year 9 day was dedicated to learning about the Holocaust. The day started with activities in our forms that included learning the key events leading up to, and during, the Holocaust, listening to actual radio broadcasts from eyewitnesses who had seen the horrors of the camps and studying memorials to ensure we still remember the atrocities of that horrific period of history.

We were lucky enough to receive an emotional presentation by Holocaust survivor, Mr George Vulkan. Mr Vulkan talked about his personal experiences escaping the Nazi regime from Austria in 1938. He found himself slowly being excluded from society starting with being told he couldn't leave the classroom at break-time and having to sit at the back of the class away from the other children. This progressed to being excluded from school completely and being sent to a run down, Jewish only school along with being banned from public transport, barred from certain restaurants and having a large "J" stamped in his passport ensuring travel was virtually impossible. However, luckily, he managed to escape to France with his close family and later to Britain, where his father had to prove he could set up a business to provide for them all rather than be a burden on the state.



Listening to this personal account of his story and some details in particular, for example when a member of his family was asked to dig a hiding hole unaware of its true purpose of being their own grave, was very harrowing. I think that it left a big impact on everyone listening that day.

It is important never to forget what happened to all these people in order to make sure this kind of atrocity never happens again. Six million lives must not have been lost in vain.

Adam, 9C

YEAR TEAM COUNCIL MEETINGS

On Tuesday 23rd May, representatives from every tutor group in Years 7 to 10 met for their YTC meetings. Winta in 8C has written about the Year 8 meeting with Mr Elsby, Head of Year 8: 'In the YTC meeting we agreed on things that we needed to change and improve and for the school to be a better environment to learn in. The most important thing was how to improve the canteen area and how the school will soon have a new food supplier. Mr Elsby also talked about how the school will soon have an extension. The C and D blocks will be connected with a new wing so our school will get bigger. There will be more space for the Sixth Form.'



SIXTH FORM NEWS

New York City and Washington D.C. Sixth Form Trip

On Saturday 1st April, thirty-three Year 12 students set off on a whirlwind tour of New York City and Washington D.C.. Led by Ms Horton and Mrs Turner, the students got to enjoy a variety of sights and cultural experiences linked to some of their A-level subjects, such as: a Sociology and History themed visit to Ellis Island to learn about immigration in the past and present; a Psychology trip to the 9/11 Tribute Centre to find out about the effects the terrorist attack had on the first responders on the scene; a trip to NBC Studios to see where shows *Saturday Night Live* and *Jimmy Fallon* are recorded (linking to Media Studies); and tickets to see *Groundhog Day* the Musical on Broadway, which since the trip, has received an Olivier Award for Best New Musical in April 2017.



Another highlight of the trip was Mrs Turner's love of a good walk, which resulted in the students completing a four-hour walking tour (after all, the average New Yorker walks five miles a day) from Brooklyn Bridge to Central Park, all whilst Ms Horton and Mrs Turner entertained students with facts about the city, including some not-so-true facts, which students had to spot in exchange for a prize.

The trip came to a close on a gloriously sunny day in Washington D.C., where students walked along the National Mall and took in sights from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial.

Over the five days the students were excellent ambassadors for the school, showing enthusiasm and interest in all the activities. Sophie, who attended the trip, said: *'Our time on the trip went by too quickly. I loved the atmosphere in New York City and would love to go back one day, as there's just so much to see and do.'*

Meanwhile Mrs Turner said: *'We had an amazing time on the trip and I was really proud to see students making the best of all the opportunities they were given whilst we were out there. Their conduct and team spirit was evident each day and after walking an average of 15 kilometres a day, it was great to see them also maintain a sense of humour! I hope the trip has provided them with memories they will treasure for a lifetime.'*

Thank you very much to all the staff who supported the trip: Mr Alexander, Ms Horton, Mr Pritchard and Mrs Turner.

Leavers' Celebrations

On Friday 26th May, Ruislip High School Sixth Form said goodbye to Year 13, as they headed off to complete their A Level exams.

This year has been the first year the Sixth Form has had vertical tutor groups, with Year 12 and Year 13 mixed in each form. The Sixth Form team has been very proud to see how the Year 12 and Year 13 students have grown as a cohesive community over the academic year, with the Year 13 students coaching the Year 12 students on their studies. On Wednesday 24th May, the Sixth Form held their final vertical tutor time of the year, to give the Year 12

students a chance to say goodbye to their fellow tutees and as the sun was shining, they took the tutorial outside!

Both Mr Reynolds, Head of Sixth Form and Ms Horton, Head of Year 13 said their goodbyes, with both of them expressing how proud they had been of the students and what a pleasure it has been to work with them. Ms Horton said: *'My year group have always been committed to the school and to each other. I will really miss them.'*

Year 13 had a formal goodbye on Friday 26th May, at their Leavers' Assembly, hosted by Ms Horton. Students, their parents and staff headed to the Drama Studio to share fond memories of the students' time at Ruislip High School, followed by an afternoon tea in the Sixth Form Common Room.



Tara, Senior Deputy Head Girl 2015-16, told us: *'It has been a fun seven years; I cannot believe it is coming to an end. I will miss everyone and would like to thank all of the teachers who have helped me over the years.'* Another Year 13 student, John, added: *'I am leaving Ruislip High School with plenty of memories to cherish, I will miss the school's community spirit and am so grateful for all the opportunities I have been given whilst I have been here.'*

The Sixth Form team are very sad to see the Year 13 students leave, but wish them all the best for their final exams and their lives beyond Ruislip High School. The school is sure their futures will be bright!

Inter-form Debating

This year has seen the inaugural inter-form debating competition, which takes place in Wednesday tutor time. Forms go head-to-head in front of the entire Sixth Form and a panel of senior members of sixth form staff. The semifinal results were as follows:

Poseidon v. Apollo: *'This house believes that there should not be an International Men's Day.'* The winners were Apollo.

Prometheus v. Chronos: *'This house believes that there should be a sugar tax implemented in the UK.'* The winners were Chronos.



This led to an exciting final round between Chronos and Apollo: *'This house believes that equality of opportunity is meaningless without a government who is prepared to ensure equal outcomes for all citizens.'* The Apollo team was victorious and the students were crowned the debate champions for the year!

All rounds have contributed points to the overall house competition 'Ultimate Form'; the results of which will be announced at the end of the academic year.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

EPQ Day

On Tuesday 4th July, Year 12 took part in the first ever EPQ presentation day. The day was an opportunity for the thirty-six Year 12 students, who have been working on completing an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), to present their research and findings so far. Each student was given a thirty-minute slot to present their ideas and take questions from their Year 12 audience.

There was an exciting array of choice for the Year 12 students to choose between, with topics from all subject disciplines being covered on the day. For example: *'Britain: Better under Socialism?'* *'Can literature be used to prove philosophical concepts?'* *'To what extent could stem cell research be used to treat strokes?'* *'How close is science to creating a sentient AI and what are the implications of such an AI on the future of humanity?'*

Mrs Turner (Head of Year 12), Mr Reynolds (Head of Sixth Form), Ms Horton (Head of Year 13) and Ms McLoughlin (Head of EPQ) were all present on the day to watch the presentations, alongside the students. Mrs Turner commented: *'I have been working with the Year 12s on their presentations since January. It has been exciting to see them truly engage with their chosen topics and their presentations are the first step towards articulating their findings. The presentations show a lot of promise and I am sure they will lead to excellent final submissions.'*

Students who completed presentations will now work on their final EPQs over the summer holidays, ready to submit their final projects in November. The Extended Project Qualification grade is the equivalent to an AS level. They are highly regarded by universities, as they reflect students' independent learning and research skills; a reward well-worth the effort of completing a project!

Year 13 Leavers' Party 2017



On Saturday 8th July, Year 13 celebrated the end of their Ruislip High School journey at the Denham Grove hotel, joined by their teachers. They enjoyed a delicious buffet before dancing the night away and enjoying the beautiful weather in the outside garden area that they had exclusively to themselves. They all dressed up in style for the occasion and looked absolutely great.

A huge thank you needs to go to Rishi Pithwa, the outgoing Head of Events on the Student Leadership Team, for organising the entire evening himself with maturity and dedication (whilst taking his A Levels!). Thank you also to Tara Rendell, the sociable Deputy Head

Girl, who assisted Rishi ably; the students (and staff) who attended were most grateful for their efforts.

It was lovely to see the close friendships that the students have built throughout their journey at Ruislip High School; they will be dearly missed as a part of the school community.



MEGA PROCESSING!

Year 10 and Year 12 visited the Centre for Computing History in Cambridge on Monday 19th June. The group was greeted by a Central Processing Unit (CPU) the size of a room in the lobby of the centre, which was an amazing demonstration of how bits are set and change within a CPU. The clock speed could be slowed right down so that visitors can see the bits change for each instruction as it was fetched, decoded and executed by the CPU.

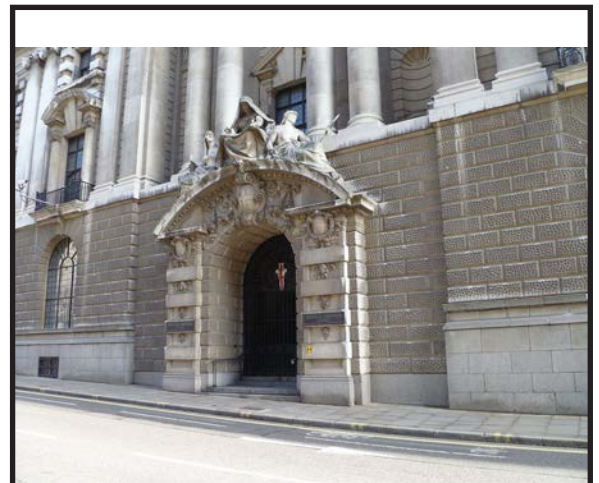
The rest of day comprised of a tour of the centre to see the timeline of computer history, a workshop on physical computing using Arduinos and thirty minutes in the GameZone to experience computer games from the last forty years. Students completed worksheets and studied computational devices from early human times through to the abacus and early computational devices right up to the modern day smartphones.



THE OLD BAILEY TRIP

By Taylor, Year 12

On 28th June, the Year 12 Sociology class went on a trip to the Old Bailey as part of their studies into Crime and Deviance. The group arrived at 2:30pm and had to go through a metal detector and then wait until there was a suitable time and space to go into one of the courtrooms. The whole class sat in on part of murder trial. The trial was about a murder which involved a man being attacked with a knife, allegedly following a petty row in a betting shop. The murder happened in December 2015 and the man had been on bail, and not in custody, awaiting a date for trial. The trial had already been going on for ten days and, on the day the Year 12 students went, they watched a witness describing what she had seen. She had to have an interpreter as English was not her first language and she gave evidence behind a curtain so the accused could not see her. The defendant expressed that he didn't think he was being treated fairly. At times he shouted out questions to the witnesses. After all the questions had been asked, they read out two statements from witnesses that did not attend court, but who had made statements. After it was finished and the jury left, the judge outlined the plan for the next day. When the judge was leaving, everyone had to stand.



YEAR 10 NEWS

The Year 10 students have had a particularly great half term, with many highlights!

Prefects

With over 50 students applying for the role of prefect, the selection process was finally narrowed down to 18 students and these students will represent the school in various prestigious activities. The selection process was extremely rigorous including: a formal application, interview and presentation to their peers. Each student deserves acknowledgement for this achievement.

Student prefects

Tariq, 10D	Jasmine, 10D	Amber, 10D
Natalie, 10B	Mark, 10B	Nathan, 10C
Abigail, 10D	Aimee, 10F	Niamh, 10B
Reem, 10B	Ula, 10C	Rushil, 10F
Max, 10A	Daniel, 10B	Chloe, 10A
Ellie, 10F	Ella, 10S	Saharla, 10W

Sacred Heart Sports Day

GCSE PE students showed exceptional maturity and organisation when assisting in the annual sports day for Sacred Heart Primary School. All the students were a credit to the school and displayed exemplar behaviour throughout. The Headteacher of Sacred Heart Primary School said:

'We were all extremely impressed by the student's level of professionalism, enthusiasm and their willingness to help throughout the day. From the start to the end, they encouraged our students and really gave the children an unforgettable experience. We have received endless compliments from staff and parents regarding your students and many commented on what role models they were today for our young children.'

The following students deserve a special mention for their work during the day:

Abigail Ballard	Nicole Leys	Harvey Dash
Olivia Gaffney	Niamh Reynolds	Tariq Arieff
Macey Taylor	Leah Mawson	George Deacon
Annalise Robinson	Lewis Haynes	Jamie Sampson
Naomi Hickey	Sherwin Gurm	

Year 10 Oxbridge workshop

Ten students from Ruislip High School participated in an Oxford and Cambridge workshop along with students from other schools in the Hillingdon Borough. The session was run by Jim Colley, an experienced Head of Sixth Form and Widening Participation Officer for the University of Oxford. The students were given a valuable insight regarding subject choices at A Level, advice on how to prepare effectively for interviews and what admissions tutors look for in personal statements. Students finished the session by researching what lectures and activities they could undertake to start improving their applications for the future. The workshop is part of a programme for students that continues into Year 11 and 12 at Ruislip High and will be followed up with a visit to Cambridge in September. This year the school was delighted that two out of three applications to Oxford or Cambridge led to offers of a place.

YEAR 12 POST-18 OPTIONS EVENT

Students in Year 12 considered their futures in a special event taking place at school from Wednesday 5th July to Thursday 6th July. The two days featured an introduction by Mr Reynolds, Deputy Headteacher in charge of the Sixth Form, and presentations from two visiting university representatives (Reading and Southampton). Students were given advice on what universities are looking for from applicants as well as how to write a stand-out personal statement. Students also learned about alternatives to university such as apprenticeship pathways using the website www.unifrog.org.

A Year 12 student commented: *'Most of us are thinking about applying to university so the days were really useful. We learned all about the UCAS process. The talks told us how to go about writing our personal statements in a unique way avoiding vague or obvious statements.'*

GARDENING CLUB

The Ruislip High School Gardening Club has been busy this term growing tomatoes, Aloe Vera plants, spring onions and Sweet peas ready to sell outside the Ruislip branch of Waitrose. Mrs Kotak was joined by Charlotte, 8A, and Constantina, 8F, and they raised an amazing £76.50, which will be re-invested in September. Mrs Kotak said: *'Charlotte and Constantina were excellent ambassadors for the school, encouraging customers to buy items from our stall.'*



A big thank you and congratulations to everyone involved.

Student quotes:

'I really enjoyed our trip to Waitrose. It was good to see people buying the plants that we grew and it was fun to sell them. Gardening Club is very fun because you can grow new plants and make new friends.' Charlotte, 8A

'Gardening Club has been a great opportunity to learn how to grow plants. I really enjoyed the club this year and our trip to Waitrose was fun.' Constantina, 8F

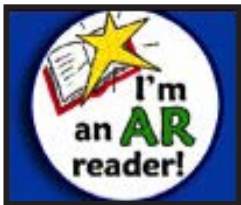


LRC NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS

The LRC has had another exciting and busy year.

Being based in a central part of the school, the LRC is the perfect location for lessons and events and teachers have definitely taken advantage of this with the vast space and resources available.

Over the year, the LRC along with other subjects, has hosted a number of different school events from chess tournaments to parent and student coffee mornings which included student talks and PowerPoint presentations, end of term quizzes, Maths 24 game which involved many of the local secondary schools and the main event which Ruislip High always looks forward to: 'World Book Day'. It is an event which is celebrated worldwide with a record number of schools taking part, whereby students across the world go to school dressed as their favourite book, comic or film character. Ruislip High had a record number of students and teachers who participated this year and it was amazing to see the creativity of some students and staff and the effort that must have gone into producing the finished costumes - an amazing achievement! A number of prizes were also awarded and the LRC looks forward to next year's World Book Day.



Accelerated Reader Success

Accelerated Reader is going from strength to strength under the direction of Mrs Austen; many students are benefitting from attending Accelerated Reader on a daily basis and the LRC now has over 3000 Accelerated Reader titles to choose from which the students can read and complete quizzes on - the results speak for themselves with lots of students scoring 100%.

Scholastic Book Fairs in the LRC

Following the huge success of previous book fairs, the LRC held two more book fairs this year selling a range of brand new books, stationery and posters, which were very successful. For each book sold the LRC was awarded a percentage of the selling price - a great way of raising extra money for the school to buy more books



There will be another book fair at Christmas.

Missing Books

Although a large amount of overdue books have been returned, there are still many past their return date despite numerous reminders. It would be very much appreciated if all parents/guardians would have a good look at home to see if there are any books belonging to the LRC, as the cost of replacing these books is extremely high. If books are found, they should be returned to the LRC and placed in the return box.



Above and Beyond after-school LRC Homework Club

The students continue to take advantage of this club and remain in the LRC after school to complete homework, especially as the LRC has computers and laptops available and teaching assistants (TAs) to support.

The LRC Homework Club is open every evening after school until 4:20pm

'Game, Set and Match'

The students continue to take advantage of the numerous board games available during break and lunchtimes in the LRC. This is extremely popular in all year groups with many students interacting with each other in healthy competition which was put to good use during

the chess tournament last month.

A Big Thank you: The LRC is such a busy environment and values all the help and commitment shown by some dedicated students at Ruislip High. Several students from different year groups give up their free time on a daily basis to help out in the LRC before school, during the school day and after school.

A big thank you to the following students for all the hard work and dedication shown:

Year 7: Luke E, Kyle M, Ellis W, Monica P and Molly G

Year 8: Hodman B, Emily C, Alfred C, Sophie F, Hollie F, Elliot G, Megan H, Danni H, Satya I, Evie M, Isabella L, Constantina L and Roxanne P

Year 9: Ellie C and Sofyah H

Year 10: Jack E, Aoibhin E and Saraneyaa G

Year 13: Iain E



Also a big thank you to all the LRC staff who help in the LRC: Mrs Kotak, Mrs Hudson, Mr O'Neill, Mrs Crowther, Mrs Dowsett and Mrs Evans.

The LRC wishes you all a great summer and looks forward to another busy school year in September.

Mrs Austen
LRC Manager

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY TRIP

On Wednesday 28th June, a group of Year 10 and 12 physicists were treated to a tour and lecture at the Royal Astronomical Society in Piccadilly hosted by Dr Sheila Kanani.

It was a wonderful afternoon and the students were in awe as they learned all about comets. They even got to make their own comet!

Student quotes:

'An inspiring, extraordinary and a phenomenal experience.'

'Amazing and really fascinating.'

'The day has encouraged me to learn more about astronomy.'

'I am so inspired to see other female physicists.'



MUSIC NEWS

Mrs Coltman and Mr Stent are very proud of all of the musicians that performed at the Summer Fair. The quality of the music was of the highest order and it was lovely to see the new and very impressive talent rising up from Year 7. The formation of the Year 9 band is something that Mr Stent is particularly excited about and hopes to see a large repertoire developing and perhaps a performance at the Celebration Assembly in July!

Huge congratulations to all of the following musicians for their amazing performance/s at the Summer Fair:

Hannah, 11S
Mike, 10C
Jessica, 7D
Becky, 7D
Aaron, 7D
Rachel, 8W
Luke, 7B
Sara, 10F
Cerys, 8W
Abbie, 10W
Saraneyaa, 10S

Molly, 7B
Zoe, 9W
Owen, 9W
Chloe, 8S
Zariel, 11S
Dylan, 9W
Aimee, 10F
Catherine, 7B
Jai, 8C
Laura, 10F
Amy, 9C

Ella, 10S
Elizabeth, 8C
Alexei, 7W
Daisy, 10F
Lucy, 7D
Angelina, 7B
Maya, 11B
Jennifer, 7C
Ellis, 7B



YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 students have had a great start to their time at Ruislip High. What with Sports Day, the Summer Fair, trips to Thorpe Park, the Isle of Wight and Kew Gardens and masses of competitions – not to mention all their lessons – Year 7 have really gone full throttle for the school year! The inter-form competition is going to be very fierce this year, especially if the energy that Mr Lentini and Mr Randall displayed when 7F and 7D were competing in the Tug of War is anything to go by.

Mr Stent says:

'Year 7 have faced a huge amount of change this term. All students have welcomed these changes with open arms and it is to their credit that they have shown an incredibly positive and forward-thinking attitude. I have enjoyed many successes with the year group and have particularly looked forward to Thursday afternoons where the Year 7 students form a line, all looking for praise and a piece of chocolate as they show me how fantastic their week has been!'

ACTIVITIES WEEK

The week beginning Monday 3rd July saw Ruislip High's annual activities week, with the usual timetable suspended for a number of fun events and trips to take place. Key events included the sponsored walk on Monday 3rd July and sports day on Wednesday 5th July at Hillingdon Athletics track. On the Tuesday, trips included Year 7 students visiting Kew Gardens, Year 8 students visiting Greenwich, Year 9 students visiting Whipsnade Zoo, and Year 10 students visiting Woburn Safari Park or taking part in the GCSE Geography residential to Swanage.

Sports Day

'Sports day was a great success once again this year; the atmosphere was electric and the students performed and behaved wonderfully throughout the day. A massive thank you to everyone involved on making it the best sports day yet.' **Mr Palmer**



Year 10 Geography Field Trip to Swanage

Almost 100 students in Year 10 took part in the annual GCSE Geography field trip to Swanage from Monday 3rd to Wednesday 5th July. Although the trip has been running for eight years, the students had a very different programme of activities to conduct for the new GCSE Unit 3 fieldwork exam, which replaces the old coursework project. The students had two key enquiry questions. Firstly, how does the coastal management of Studland Bay compare to Swanage Bay? And secondly, how successful is Swanage as a tourism destination? Students also visited the famous Durdle Door coastal arch and Lulworth Cove. Along with Old Harry Rocks near Swanage, the students therefore saw three of the most celebrated features of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site coastline.



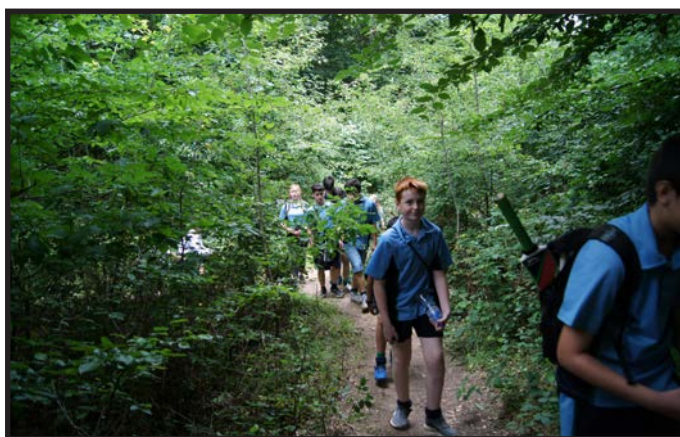
Woburn Safari Park

On Tuesday 4th July, Year 10 visited Woburn Safari Park. This was a hugely enjoyable day, where students were able to see an array of exotic animals from the comfort of their coach. The main highlight was the curious monkeys hijacking the coach, and then subsequently refusing to get off the roof! The students loved seeing the monkeys up close and asked if they could take the monkeys home to keep as pets as they were *'the cutest things ever!'* However, the Woburn Safari Park staff were not willing to part with the monkeys that easily. To finish the day, students were able to go into the indoor play area, where the more daring amongst them, went down the aptly named death slide. The students particularly enjoyed seeing Mr Hankin on the slide.

SPORTS DAY



SPONSORED WALK



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James Lewington
(Head Student)

✉ sixthform@ruisliphigh.com



TECHNOLOGY CLINIC

YEAR 11 PROM

The Year 11 Prom took place on Thursday 29th June at Brunel University's Hamilton Suite. Following a student vote, Head of Year 11, Ms Loizou, announced Stacy Zwierzyk-Teles as Prom Queen and Alex Spooner as Prom King.

There was a large crowd outside school from around 6:00pm as students arrived to take photos before heading off to the event, with some hiring luxury cars for the journey. They all looked amazing! It was also lovely to see so many parents and former students.



JACK PETCHEY AWARD

The annual Jack Petchey Achievement Award celebration event took place at the Beck Theatre in Hayes on Thursday 27th April.

Achievement award winners from Hillingdon schools were invited to the event. The event, as always, ran like clockwork which is a strict necessity given the number of schools and students present. Award winners step up to the stage to a background of upbeat music as the compere announces their names; this is accompanied by hand clapping, foot stamping and cheers from the audience – reminiscent of a television show!



Ruislip High award winners, Heather, 9F, Talal, 10C, Aaron, 11A, Lucy, 11A, Victoria, 8A, Lily, 7F and Sherwin, 10S, all attended accompanied by proud family members.

The Mayor of Hillingdon presented each student with a medal and then sat with the young people whilst a commemorative photograph was taken.

Entertainment was provided between each set of presentations and was of an exceptionally high standard. It was a most enjoyable evening and one that the winners will always remember.

SUMMER FAIR

Friday 16th June 2017 saw Ruislip High's sixth annual summer fair. The sun shone as the school prepared to celebrate forty years of change, with each year group creating a stall linked to a different decade. Year 7 had the 1970s and had stalls celebrating flower power, whilst Year 8 had the 1980s and stalls included a silent disco of 1980s music and a celebration of the classic film *Labyrinth*. Year 9 focused on the 1990s and had lots of focus on the sporting events of the decade, although a very popular moment was 9F's 'soak the teacher' stall when Head of Year 9 Mr Stent was repeatedly drenched by Year 9 students. Year 10's stalls celebrated the 1960s with a 'beat the goalie' competition to reflect the 1966 world cup and stalls celebrating famous films of the decade. Molly in 7B commented that she 'loved learning how people lived during the different decades'. The fair also included lots of rides, a barbecue, a DJ, ice cream van and raffle.

The winning stalls were 8D, 8B, 8F and 7S and the evening raised £1,000 for charity. The summer fair committee would like to thank all of the staff, students, governors and Friends of Ruislip High for their hard work in preparing for the summer fair and the final word must go to Luke in 7B who said: *'the fair united all of the forms as we had to plan our stall. It really showed unity which is the theme for 2016-17.'*



YEAR 11 NEWS

Time to say goodbye...

And officially start your summer break! A huge congratulations to Year 11 who have made it through to the end of Key Stage 4 and completed their GCSEs. All students in Year 11 have embodied the Ruislip High School values during this period. Their hard work is sure to equal success when they open their results in August.

Leavers' Assembly

It was such a joy to see so many students and families at the leavers' assembly this year. The event proved to be a happy occasion where students received rewards and were able to watch the annual leavers' video. Dr Lecky and Mr Davies expressed how impressed they have been with the cohort and how much they will be missed in the main school now that they are moving into Sixth Form.

Students took the opportunity to sign shirts. The atmosphere in the hall was cheerful as well as nostalgic as students shared memories and even a few tears as they thought about the new adventure that awaits them.

Prom 2017

On Thursday 29th June Year 11 showed that they are the most glamorous year group as they arrived to Prom. Supercars and limos were seen outside school in the early evening before students arrived in style at Brunel University.

Students partied the night away on the dance floor and enjoyed the weather on the balcony. Alex Spooner and Stacy Zwierzyk-Teles were voted as Prom King and Queen by their peers. They donned their crowns and were joined by other students as they had their dance. At the end of the evening the whole year group gathered on the dance floor to give their rendition of 'Wonderwall'. The students embraced each other and sang their hearts out to the final song. It was touching to see the close friendships and bonds that our students have and the respect that they have for each other when they all gather together.



A Message from Ms Loizou to Year 11

It truly has been a privilege to be your Head of Year. You have not only made me very proud but also the staff. You are a credit to your families. I am looking forward to seeing you all again on results day and I am sure we will be welcoming many of you into Sixth Form. I wish you all success for the future.

MFL NEWS

A TASTE OF (BANK) HOLIDAY

During the last two weeks of the summer term, MFL students got away from the pure linguistic aspects of French and Spanish as they started to work on a cultural project. Students had to research bank holidays and festivals in Spanish and French speaking countries and create a presentation for the rest of the class. It was a great opportunity for students to realise that French and Spanish are spoken by millions of people beyond Europe and that traditions and customs are extremely diverse across these linguistic communities.

Most students did not know that many countries in Africa have French as a first language or that South America was mainly Spanish speaking.

Students also learned about funny festivals around the world, like La Tomatina, celebrated in Buñol (East of Spain). At the end of August, for a day, festival-goers have a tomato fight on the city streets! They were also taught that French Canada was the first place to build a UFO landing platform in 1967!



A few words from the students:

'I enjoyed researching the different traditions. It gave me a better understanding of the culture.' Tara, 8W

'The presentations made me want to travel after having learnt about all these amazing festivals.' Ethan, 7B

'I believe that the San Fermin bull running festival is very interesting and fun to watch. The fact that it has been a tradition since 1330 is fascinating.' Alfred, 8W

'My favourite presentation was the one about Senegal. We learnt about different languages spoken in Senegal and got to learn a few words in Wolof!' Molly, 7B

YEAR 8 NEWS

It has been another fantastic year for the Year 8 students, culminating in the summer term with activities week and the reward trip.

Congratulations to all of the Year 8 students who made staff really proud and proved to be exceptional role models not only for the Year 7 students but for the school community as a whole.

The Year 8 team hope you all have a fabulous, well-deserved holiday and look forward to a new year full of challenges and success.

Summer Fair

The Year 8 team would like to thank all the families that attended to the fair and contributed to make it such a fantastic event. The quality of all the Year 8 stalls was a tribute to the students' hard work and commitment to make the school such a nice place to be for the community.

Well done to 8D and 8B who respectively won 1st and 2nd place for the best stalls. Great team work always pays off and staff hope you enjoyed your pizza treat on 17th July.

Student quotes:

'I enjoyed it very much, especially the Miami ride. The weather was great too and that made it a great day.' Amit, 8C

'I had a great time. The best moment was when we won the football tournament. I liked it because it was very well organised.' Haydn, 8C

'It was my first Summer Fair and I found it very enjoyable! It is also great that all the money we made went to charity.' James M, 8A



Activities week

This year saw another very successful 10k Sponsored Walk. The sun was out all day and it was very pleasant to walk in the shade of the beautiful trees surrounding the Lido. Year 8 students walked in very good spirit and made it in good time for the barbecue and ice-cream at the Willow Tree Centre.

'The walk was the best because we had a great time together at the barbecue!' **Rimky, 8A**

On Tuesday, the cohort made its way to the Greenwich Observatory and the Cutty Sark. Unfortunately, the London traffic tried to ruin the day but it takes more than a few cars to beat the Year 8 students determination to learn and have fun. The group all made it on time for the planned lunch with a view and half of the group visited the Greenwich Observatory while the other half went on board the Cutty Sark, a historic ship built in 1869.

On Wednesday, Year 8 students ended Activities Week in style during Sports Day. It was absolutely wonderful to watch all the Year 8 forms going above and beyond to win the competition. Well done to all of you who took part in events, especially to the long distance runners who really pushed themselves to get points for their form. Treacy from 8A really enjoyed the day: 'I loved sports day this year. It was really well organised and I took part in several events. I also won the discus competition!'

Double-congratulations to 8F who managed to win both the sporting event and the banner competition for the first time in the history of Sports Day! Well done 8F for all your hard work on the field and in your form room to create your magnificent banner; they taught us a good lesson on Unity!

Well done to 8A and 8C who came 2nd and 3rd. Roll on next year to defeat 8F!



Summer Reward Trip to Thorpe Park

Mr Elsby's favourite number this term has been 99, not only because he had a lot of ice-cream during Activities Week, but also because 99 students in Year 8 were eligible for the Reward Trip this term. This was the highest number across the year groups which shows the Year 8 students' respect of Ruislip values.

'It's been fantastic, full of excitement, joy and laughter.' **Archie, 8W**

'I loved the trip and I was happy because I was not as scared as last year on the rides!'
Jasminder, 8B

Expectations are high so well done for living up to them Year 8 and as Louise, 8S, said:
'Two years down, three to go!'



Have a great Summer Year 8s!

Miss Lucas
on behalf of the Year 8 Team

PE NEWS

The PE department enjoyed a very good term this summer. This year, the department hosted the Senior Borough Athletics Championship. Miss McGuigan did a fantastic job, taking the lead in liaising with other schools in the borough to organise a great day. In addition, Ruislip High School entered all available competitions for the term. These included: Year 7 - 9 boys' cricket leagues, the Middlesex Cup and Year 7 - 10 mixed rounders borough leagues and tournaments.

To ensure that there has been a full term of participation and competition for all, students have also had the opportunity to take part in the Junior Athletic Championship and the regular sports clubs that take place both before and after school.

Cricket

Year 7

The Year 7 cricket team have had an excellent start to their time at Ruislip High, showing great determination and team spirit. The boys finished the season winning half of their games, with the standout moment being a last over victory against Queensmead.

Year 7 cricket squad: Mahir, 7S, Alfie, 7C, Aaryan, 7C, Jarrar, 7C, George, 7C, Harry, 7S, Jai, 7D, Assem, 7B, Liam, 7D, Ben, 7D, George, 7D, Sonny, 7W, and Charley, 7D.

Year 8

This term the Year 8 cricket team has played a number of fixtures and shown improvement with each match. They are still chasing their first victory; however, their attitude and spirit has been excellent throughout. Fixtures have included Douay Martyrs School, Queensmead School, Guru Nanak Sikh Academy and The Harefield Academy.

Year 8 cricket squad: William, 8B, Bobby, 8S, Abdul, 8B, Daljeet, 8W, Devin, 8B, Harveer, 8B, Kieran, 8S, Louie, 8D, Amir, 8D, Kevin, 8D, and Shangeeth, 8S.

Year 9

The Year 9 cricket team have again done very well this year. The boys have been undefeated in their borough competition, winning fixtures against both Douay Martyrs and Bishop Ramsey schools; they have made it through to the Middlesex quarterfinals.

Year 9 cricket Squad: Daniel, 9S, Joe, 9F, Tom, 9F, Matt, 9F, Aaron, 9F, Siva, 9B, Aaron, 9S, Warsame, 9F, Owen, 9F, Ben, 9A, Jacob, 9F, Eoghan, 9C, Marcus, 9W, and Adam, 9C.

Athletics

Senior Borough Championship

The Senior Borough Championship took place on Wednesday 3rd May. It was a fantastic day and Ruislip High School had some outstanding individual performances throughout in various events. In addition, Ruislip High School won the overall team competition in the Year 9 boys' category. Congratulations to the whole team on so many brilliant achievements.

Teams:

Year 9 girls – Tamara, 9W, Amaris, 9S, Rosie, 9A, Kacey, 9A, Courtney, 9D, Ruby, 9D, and Mia, 9W

Year 9 boys – Myles, 9C, Brandonne, 9S, Jamie, 9F, Josh, 9S, Matthew, 9F, Warsame, 9F, and Daniel, 9S

Year 10 girls – Niamh, 10B, Pamela, 10A, Abigail, 10D, Nicole, 10B, Naomi, 10C, and Olivia, 10D

Year 10 boys – Tariq, 10D, George, 10A, Reece, 10D, and Sherwin, 10S



Middlesex Athletics Championships (senior)

The following students were also selected to represent Hillingdon at the Middlesex Athletics Championships which was held on Saturday 9th June.

George, 10A - 1500m
 Tariq, 10D - High Jump
 Myles, 9C - 100m
 Brandonne, 9S - 200m
 Jamie, 9F - 400m
 Abigail, 10D - 800m
 Rosie, 9A - 800m
 Courtney, 9D - Hurdles
 Kacey, 9A - Triple Jump

Junior Borough Championships

The Junior Borough Championships were held on Thursday 15th June. It was a really enjoyable day and the students represented the school incredibly well. The medallists were:

Aleeyah, 8F, with gold in the long jump and bronze in the 200m;
 Gene, 8F, with gold in the 300m;
 Anna, 7S, with gold in the 1500m and silver in the long jump;
 Luke, 8D, with bronze in the 1500m;
 Hekmat, 8C, with bronze in the 100m;
 The Year 8 boys' relay team won a bronze medal.

Teams:

Year 7: Olayinka, 7W, Nicolas, 7F, Daniel, 7F, Pharell, 7S, Akos, 7S, Ben, 7D, George, 7D, Alfie, 7S, Becky, 7D, Uel, 7C, Lottie, 7F, Anna, 7S, Amy, 7C, Jessica, 7D, Kiera, 7W, and Nancy, 7A

Year 8: Tom, 8B, Hekmat, 8C, Amir, 8D, Gene, 8F, Toby, 8A, Luke, 8D, Haydn, 8C, Josh, 8B, Louie, 8D, Isabella, 8F, Aleeyah, 8F, Charlotte, 8F, Maya, 8F, Zoe, 8F, and Danni, 8S.

Junior Middlesex Athletics Championships

Congratulations to Gene, 8F, Aleeyah, 8F and Anna, 7S. All three were selected to represent Hillingdon at the first ever Junior Middlesex Athletics Championships at Allianz Park Stadium on Monday 26th June.

Well done to Gene Elliott on being placed second in a very tight finish between Gene and a student from Enfield. This is a great achievement for Gene.



PE NEWS

Rounders

The rounders teams have had a good start so far this season. However, there are still games to be played before the end of the year. Recent results include:

Year 7

Team members: George, 7B, Kyle, 7B, Lottie, 7F, Cody, 10A, Skyla, 7C, AmY, 7C, Becky, 7D, Jessica, 7D, and Lucy, 7D.

Lost 11-2 to Bishop Ramsey.

Year 8

Team members: Helmy, 8C, Oliver, 8C, Hekmat, 8C, Callum, 8C, Jonnie, 8C, Amy, 8C, Isabella, 8F, Charlotte, 8F, Grace, 8S, and Chloe, 8S.

Lost 10-6 to Bishop Ramsey

Congratulations to Year 8 for placing third in Pool A of the Hillingdon tournament. Player of the Tournament goes to Helmy, 8C.

Year 10

Team members: Matt, 9F, (who plays a year group up), Niamh, 10B, Nicole, 10B, Lewis, 10S, Sherwin, 10S, Naomi, 10C, Tariq, 10D, Stephen, 10S, and Ella, 10S.

6-6 draw against Bishop Ramsey
10 ½-12 loss against Haydon

Sacred Heart Primary School Sports Day

Fourteen members of the Year 10 PE GCSE class helped to lead the Sacred Heart Primary School sports day on Wednesday 28th June. This was a really enjoyable day and the students were absolutely amazing in the way they helped run events on the day. Their encouragement and interaction with the Sacred Heart students was brilliant. Staff at Sacred Heart said, *'The Ruislip High School students were fantastic and the day could not have happened without them, thank you so much.'*

PE GCSE students: Abigail, 10D, Olivia, 10D, Macey, 10B, Annalise, 10B, Naomi, 10C, Nicole, 10B, Niamh, 10B, Leah, 10A, Lewis, 10S, Sherwin, 10S, Harvey, 10W, Tariq, 10D, George, 10A, and Jamie, 10D.



LUMINA

By James, Year 12

Lumina was a great week where we learned how to apply to Oxbridge and further our knowledge through subject tutorials and whole assemblies.

On the first two days we attended several seminars in which we learned about the extensive interview and application process. The geography and history tutorials helped me gain a real understanding of the subjects and what they entail at university.



Then on the third day we had a mock interview for twenty minutes which allowed us to practise our speaking skills. I enjoyed this academic conversation and as a result my confidence has improved vastly in an interview setting. In addition, we wrote our personal statements with the help of the Oxford and Cambridge university graduates who gave us a real insight of what to write.

On the fourth day we went to see the University of Cambridge and finally on the fifth day we visited the University of Oxford. Seeing these universities allowed us to view the bigger picture of the application process. This also proved a perfect occasion to enjoy the grand architecture and beautiful towns.

Overall, the Lumina project was a great week which deepened my understanding of applying for Oxbridge whilst improving my own interview skills and personal statement.



Cucina win catering contract

Since the beginning of this year the school has been in the process of selecting a new catering company for the school meals service. The new meals service will start from September 2017. From the many catering companies who responded to the tender, three companies were selected to attend the school for the final selection day at the end of April.

The selection day was very busy with each of the three companies presenting to a student, staff and governor panel, followed by a food tasting and then a final question and answer session. The thirteen member student panel was a mixture of year team council representatives, GCSE food technology students from Years 7 to 10, plus two sixth form representatives.



The students provided feedback to the staff and governor panel - showing a level of maturity and insightfulness from all year groups. The student feedback was a vital contribution to the final choice of catering company.

Student quotes:

'This was one of a kind. It shows unity, education, fun and of course food. I've learnt how RHS buys a catering company.' **Ramez, 7A**

'I really enjoyed today. The three companies all had great ideas for the school and lovely tasting food.' **Ella, 10S**

'I have learned about how we employ catering companies and all of the different factors that are involved.' **Mollie, 9S**

'I liked Company X because of the different varieties of food. I have learned the importance of student's voices and the impact they have on the school.' **Mohamed, 10F**

'I have learnt how hard it is to choose a new catering company and how competitive it is in the catering business.' **Mark, 10B**

'I have learnt about the marketing of a catering company and more about food quality and why it is important that everything is fresh.' **Alex, 9A**

'It was good to get a taste of what the other catering companies had in mind for developing school food and service in general.' **Aaron, Year 12**

'I have learnt about the different steps and thoughts needed for purchasing a new catering company and how much thought and consideration is needed for making an important decision.' **Riapreet, 8A**

'I've learnt about how to hire a food catering company and that a school can only serve two fried foods a week.' **Angelina, 7B**

'I have learnt about loads of types of foods and how food is made.' **Charlie, 8W**

'I have learnt how important it is to commission food companies.' **Elouisa, Year 12**

Dr Lecky, who was part of the selection panel, commented:

'I was very impressed with the students' maturity especially in terms of the questions they asked each provider. It was a very interesting day for all involved and I am confident the new company will provide an excellent choice of food for students and staff.'

The company selected was Cucina, which is a small catering company that provides the catering services to around fifty secondary schools, including our near neighbours of Haydon School and Harefield Academy.

Cucina's philosophy is to introduce their own Jamie Oliver into the school kitchen and turn healthy food service into reality by making school food fun, with great-tasting, freshly-cooked food for students and staff.

Their belief is to bring restaurant-quality food to educational organisations across the UK. The student, staff and governor panel were very impressed with Cucina and are looking forward to them providing their great food to the whole of the school's community from September for the next five years.



REWARD TRIP TO THORPE PARK

On Monday 10th July over 200 students took part in the summer reward trip to Thorpe Park. The criteria for taking part included students having three or fewer warning grid entries in their planner for behaviour or organisation since January.

Here are some quotes from students in 8B:

'Colossus was the best ride. The trip really encourages us to do our best at school and behave well.' Joe

'It was absolutely and extremely amazing. The best ride was Saw. I loved it!' Isha

'It was fun going round with my friends.' Will

'It was really fun to go on the rides with my friends. The best ride was X..' Jasminder

'It was a great way to spend the day and celebrate getting three or fewer warnings all year.' Biheshta

'It was my second time getting on the reward trip and it was just as fun as last year. Overall it was amazing but we had to queue for ages for the Ghost Train. I hope I get to go next year too. I could go 30 times and I wouldn't get tired of it. I'm going to try my best to get on the reward trip next year!' Gabi



GEOGRAPHY NEWS

It's been a very exciting term in the Geography department with two new field trips organised. The Geography staff (Mr Alison, Mr Peacock, Mr Askin and Ms Mulqueeney) are proud of all the Year 11 and Year 13 Geographers who have worked really hard revising for their exams. In particular, the department would like to congratulate Hattie Simmons, Year 13, for receiving an offer to read Geography at the University of Cambridge. Mr Peacock, who studied Geography at the University of Cambridge himself, was particularly helpful in giving Hattie advice on the admissions process.

A-level Geography

The new A-level Geography field trip took place from Friday 23rd June to Monday 26th June for Year 12 students. In support of the new A-level Geography fieldwork requirements, students undertook a study of coastal management all the way from Great Yarmouth to Cromer. Students stayed at Sheringham Youth Hostel and were accompanied by Mr Alison and Mr Peacock. Mr Alison said:

'The students worked really well as a team to collect their data, while also showing a high level of independence investigating their own inquiry questions. We drove over 500 miles in the minibus!'



Year 13 students have taken both their A2 exams: Unit 3 'Contested Planet' and Unit 4 'Geographical Research'. The department wishes its Year 13 students all the best for results day.

GCSE Geography Year 11

Earlier this term, Year 11 students took their two exams, Human Geography and Physical Geography. Both exams are worth 37.5% of the overall grade, with the coursework project making up the remaining 25%. The department expects overall GCSE Geography results to be proud of, when they are released in August.

GCSE Geography Year 10

Almost 100 students in Year 10 took part in the annual GCSE Geography field trip to Swanage from Monday 3rd to Wednesday 5th July. Although the trip has been running for eight years, the students had a very different programme of activities to conduct for the new GCSE Unit 3 fieldwork exam, which replaces the old coursework project. The students had two key enquiry questions. Firstly, how does the coastal management of Studland Bay compare to Swanage Bay? And secondly, how successful is Swanage as a tourism destination? Students also visited the famous Durdle Door coastal arch and Lulworth Cove. Along with Old Harry Rocks near Swanage, the students therefore saw three of the most celebrated features of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site coastline.



Year 9 Geography

In the summer term, Year 9 students have learnt about geographical conflicts, including the debate over which country should govern the Falkland Islands and the current controversy over a proposed third runway at Heathrow Airport. They have also studied the global tourism industry, for example learning about increasingly popular destinations such as Dubai and how this has caused environmental concerns and the need to desalinate sea water. The department is delighted that 136 students in Year 9 (five classes) have opted to continue on to study GCSE Geography in Year 10. The department aims to make sure some students achieve the new top grade 9!

Year 8 Geography

Year 8 started the summer term by looking at issues surrounding the world's rapidly growing population and how this affects our use of resources and energy. Year 8 then studied weather and climate, particularly the key global issue of climate change. Year 8 cohort's final topic of the term has been to study our continent of Europe in depth. The topic ended with students learning some famous stories from Europe's past such as the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in Italy that destroyed the Roman town of Pompeii. On Friday 26th May, Year 8 students visited the Volcanoes and Earthquakes gallery in the Natural History Museum where they learnt about Pompeii in more depth.

Year 7 Geography

Year 7 topics this term have included Settlement, where students have studied the growth of Ruislip and how this was linked to the expansion of the underground network. They have also enjoyed learning about coastal environments and ecosystems. One hundred and thirty Year 7 students observed some amazing coastal geography as part of the annual Isle of Wight residential from Friday 26th May to Sunday 28th May. Here is a photo of students enjoying a boat ride from Alum Bay to see the famous chalk Needles.



DRAMA NEWS

The Drama department has had another exciting term!

Curious Incident Trip

The GCSE and A Level Drama students started the term enthusiastically having been inspired by a trip to see Simon Stephens' *'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time'*. The atmosphere on the coach journey home was buzzing with creativity as students discussed their favourite parts of the performance from lighting and set design to the exceptional acting on display. There was also conversation about how the students would incorporate some of what they saw in the show to their own devised work for various exams. This highlights just how inspiring live theatre can be and something that the Drama department want to increase next year with more and more theatre trips available to students.

GCSE Unit 3 performances

The GCSE Drama students spent the first couple of weeks back after Easter working non-stop on their Unit 3 exam pieces. After hours of rehearsals, focused learning of lines and technical runs, the students were ready for the 3rd May and the arrival of their external examiner. The performances went well and were a testament to the hard work the students put in over the two years of their course and showed outstanding progress from the start of their GCSE journey in Year 10. Some stand out moments include: Russell, Chris, Liam and Callum prancing around the stage as very convincing women in their version of *Bouncers*; similarly Kianaat, Leah, Zariel and Angelina managed to swagger their way to the audience believing that they were a group of lads in their *Shakers*; and finally Grace, Hager and Ellie ended the day's exam with a gripping and energetic physical theatre performance that explored the treatment of those with mental illness, titled *Verity*. The Year 11 students worked incredibly hard on these performances and it is with a heavy heart that the Drama department say goodbye to this fantastic cohort! The department wishes them well in their future studies and hopes to see some of the students in A Level Drama lessons next year!

A Christmas Carol

Preparations for next year's Sixth Form led production got underway this term with auditions being held on Tuesday 27th June. The Drama department is thrilled to announce the show will be *A Christmas Carol* and have every confidence that the performance will follow in the success of last year's pantomime. The show will be led by the Sixth Form but will have parts for the wider school should they want to get involved. It is a fantastic opportunity for students in all year groups and staff hope to have a big turn out across key stages; it is a chance for students to make friends in other year groups whilst committing and working hard towards something everyone can be incredibly proud of. There will also be an opportunity later in the year for the whole school to get involved in another school production!

The Drama department is excited for the new year already with lots of plans for more trips, performances and creativity!

YEAR 9 NEWS

The Year 9 cohort has had another great half term with some spectacular achievements.

Ambassadors

The following students have been selected by their Head of Year to represent their year group. They went through a selection process to be chosen, including a formal application and interview, and deserve acknowledgement for this achievement:

Alex, 9A	Mollie, 9S
Suakshi, 9B	Amaris, 9S
Sivathanushan, 9B	Marwa, 9W
Amy, 9C	Miya, 9W
Spencer, 9C	Thiviyaa, 9W
Adam, 9C	Tamara, 9W

Early Entry

Two Year 9 students are to be congratulated for sitting public examinations in their mother tongues this year, at least two years ahead of their age group.

They are Philip, 9S, who sat an AS in Greek, and Tia, 9F, who sat a GCSE in Gujarati. This is a big achievement and the whole Year 9 tutor and pastoral team are very proud of them!

Charity

Nabiha, 9D, raised a sensational £120 for Charity Right, an international food programme providing regular meals to children and families in the most neglected parts of the world. She did this through a sponsored silence – an entire day, including during school hours, without speaking. This selfless act shows great consideration for others and reflects the Ruislip High value of inspiration.



Sport

The Year 9 boys' cricket team has won all of their games so far this year while the Year 9 teams made a great show at the Borough Athletics, with the boys' team taking first place and the girls' team coming in sixth.

All medal winners were:

100m	Myles, 9C	3rd	12.29
200m	Brandonne, 9S	3rd	25.96
400m	Jamie, 9F	1st	61.33
800m	Rosie, 9A	2nd	2.47
80m Hurdles	Warsame, 9F	2nd	14.03
75m Hurdles	Courtney, 9D	3rd	15.15
Javelin	Matthew, 9F	2nd	25.55
Discus	Warsame, 9F	1st	22.90
Discus	Kacey, 9A	2nd	20.04
Triple Jump	Miya, 9W	3rd	7.56
Relay	Year 9 boys	1st	52.19

SCIENCE NEWS

A lot has been going on in the Science department to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) beyond the classroom. Below is a summary of the main events that have taken place this year.

Year 8 Faraday Challenge

On Wednesday 17th May, ten students from Year 8 went to Vyners School to participate in the Faraday Challenge, a day focused around engineering for students. Schools were asked to engineer two functioning prototypes using their knowledge of coding and engineering.

Eight teams competed on the day, two of which were from Ruislip High School. The students put their best efforts to the test as they collaborated together to plan, create and build functioning prototypes. At the end of the day, once the time limit was up, Ruislip High School students seemed to be among the best, with noticeably fantastic behaviour throughout the day and exemplary planning and teamwork during the tasks. Only the winner was announced on the day and unfortunately it wasn't Ruislip High; however, the team who placed second was only a single point behind (students from Ruislip High believe it could have been them!). The students showed true school spirit and congratulated the winners before heading back to school with their heads held high. The school hopes to take part in this challenge again next year.

The students on the day included:

8A	Charlotte F Emma R	8D	Abigail K	8S	Emily C James S
8B	Kian P	8F	Damian M Jessie B	8W	Hannah F Evie G

Year 10 Science Ambassadors

In March, a group of Year 10 students went to a science workshop run by the Institute of Physics at King's College London. These students spent the day carrying out several experiments, from modelling the solar system to making mini rockets.

'It was so much fun doing experiments like using air pressure to increase the size of marshmallows - I also learnt physics can lead to lots of jobs and is more important than you think.' **Reem, 10B**

After this they were in mixed school groups where they worked on their presentation skills. This culminated in the students demonstrating their chosen experiment, and explaining the science behind it, to a room full of people.

'It was a really fun day. There was also a part where we had to present and at first I didn't want to but I managed it and this really helped with my confidence.' **Natalie, 10B**

All the students were brilliant science ambassadors and showed great enthusiasm throughout the day, many of them taking the lead in their groups. The students took a lot from the workshop and are now planning to demonstrate these experiments to younger students back at Ruislip High School during science club and also hold similar workshops by going into primary schools early next academic year.

To accompany this, these students have taken over from the current Year 11 cohort in a physics research project (RISE UK) which has been running at the school for the past few years. The Science department plan to develop the primary scientific research that they have previously carried out. Next year these students will be working in closer conjunction with the Institute for Research in Schools (IRIS), a rare opportunity for which Ruislip High School are grateful to have.

Diversity and Equality and Ruislip High

Continuing on from Ruislip High School's work with the Institute of Physics on gender balance in Physics and other STEM subjects, the school has taken part in the Institute's new pilot the Opening Doors Project which aims to look at improving gender balance across the whole school. As part of this the school has set up a student committee, the Inclusion and Diversity Group, which has representatives from most year groups throughout the school looking at how students and staff can improve all aspects of equality across the school. The students have started to carry out research on unconscious bias in staff and student's language to see how much of a problem it is in Ruislip High School. A small group of Year 9 students also helped Mr Campbell collect data on student interactions during lessons by observing the number of questioned answer by, directed to and shouted out by various students and logging the results by gender. The data is to be shared with students in an upcoming assembly. The school's work on equality is an ongoing project but it is nice to see that Ruislip High has so many students that are committed to improving their school environment to make all students feel welcomed and celebrated.

CHESS TOURNAMENT

Mrs Nurmohamed organised a chess tournament on Friday 19th May in the LRC. Seventeen eager and enthusiastic students took part and were divided into two groups: juniors (students in Year 7 and Year 8) and seniors (students in Years 9, 10 and 11).

The event really showcased the 'wow' factor of the competition as the spectators witnessed some of the school's greatest competition that aimed to raise the profile of traditional games. The event was very enjoyable and proved traditional games can be both challenging and exhilarating.

The junior team winners were:

1st place: Parham, 7D
2nd place: Elliot, 8S
3rd place: Ellis, 7B

The senior team winners were:

1st place: Sivathanushan, 9B
2nd place: Nathan, 11C
3rd place: Jothinila, 9B

A big thank you to Mrs Cooney, Mrs Kotak and Iain, Year 13 who were the judges.



AUTUMN TERM DATES

Tuesday 5th September - Tuesday 19th December, 2017

Term starts (Year 7 start and Year 12 enrolment only)

Tuesday 5th September

Term starts (Year 8-11 start and Year 13 enrolment only)

Wednesday 6th September

Half term

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October

Term ends

Tuesday 19th December

Staff training/INSET day

Monday 4th September

Staff training/INSET day

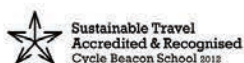
Wednesday 20th December

For the full term dates for 2017-18, visit the website, www.ruisliphigh.com



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