

11th November 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Students returned after the half-term break this week and have shown both exemplary behaviour and excellent attitudes to learning, which have been commented on by the number of visitors I have had the privilege of touring around the school. It is particularly pleasing when visitors from other schools and academic institutions comment on the calm and purposeful environment that exists in the school, and I wanted to thank parents/guardians for working in partnership with school staff in achieving the strong and committed attitude to learning that exists here at Ruislip High.

### **Sixth Form Open Evening - Wednesday 13th November 2024**

Our Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on Wednesday 13th November 2024 from 5pm-7.30pm and we look forward to welcoming our Year 11 students, accompanied by parents/guardians, to the event. There will be talks from Mr Peacock, Head of Sixth Form and me, at 5.15pm and 6.15pm, and information about each of the A-level and Level 3 BTEC subjects we offer, as well as information about the support available in the Sixth Form. Please click [here](#) for more information about the evening. Formal applications to the Sixth Form will open on the evening, and your child will be able to complete their application on a chromebook as they leave, or in the days that follow. If you have not yet confirmed your attendance at the evening, please could you do so by clicking [here](#). Should parents/guardians have any questions about Sixth Form Open Evening, please contact Mr Peacock via the main school office.

### **Presentation Evening - Thursday 21st November 2024**

Next Thursday 21st November 2024, is our annual presentation evening, which is a highlight of the year as we celebrate the achievements of our students. The theme for this year's presentation evening is 'Unity,' and I am delighted to be inviting back to the school one of our alumni, Jordan Marajh, as our guest speaker. This year we have faced unprecedented demand for tickets and I am grateful to all invitees who have confirmed their attendance. If for any reason you have confirmed attendance and are now unable to attend the event, please could I ask you to let the school know through the [office@ruisliphigh.org.uk](mailto:office@ruisliphigh.org.uk) email address in order for the tickets to be reallocated.

I was delighted to read a very positive article in the Hillingdon Herald over half term that detailed the school's involvement in this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival. I have written previously about what an amazing opportunity this event was, and I understand the students were an absolute credit to themselves, their families, and the school. I attach the latest article [here](#) and would again like to thank Mr Randall, Head of Drama, for his determination to provide this opportunity for our students.

### **Remembrance Day**

Today saw the entire school community pause for two minutes to pay our respects to the armed forces community, emergency services, and families, and those affected by conflict and acts of terrorism.

### **Vanguard Learning Trust Sustainability Week**

This week is the Vanguard Learning Trust's (VLT) second ever sustainability week. There will be a wide range of activities taking place across the five VLT schools and in the local community throughout the week that aims to increase our understanding of environmental sustainability and promote sustainable behaviour. School activities will largely be led by our sixth form students who feel passionately about this issue, and I look forward to sharing more information regarding what was achieved over the week in future updates.

### Uniform, coats and outdoor wear

Visitors to the school often comment on how smart and well presented our students are. I am always keen to stress our high uniform expectations here at the school and that it is important that students wear their uniform with pride. I have, however, had some less positive feedback regarding how a minority of students are wearing their uniform to and from school. If I could ask for parental support in ensuring students leave for school looking smart and ready to represent Ruislip High School in the local community. I have also had some very concerning reports of students cycling to school with their bike helmets on their handlebars and not on their heads. School staff will be vigilant for any examples of this occurring, but I also wanted to make parents/guardians aware.

As the weather is now turning colder and more changeable, I would also like to remind parents/guardians to ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Students are allowed to wear coats but must remove these once they are inside the building and store them in lockers. Coats can be worn outside during break and lunch time but cannot be carried around the building.

### November INSET days Thursday 28th & Friday 29th November 2024

I wanted to remind parents/guardians that the school will be closed to all students on Thursday 28th November and Friday 29th November 2024. I would like to thank parents and guardians for your understanding and support before what I know will be two excellent days of professional development. I also wanted to draw attention to our community Bingo night that we will be hosting on the Wednesday evening before the INSET days.

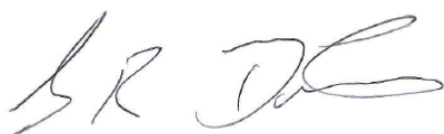
Parents/guardians can book a place and purchase raffle tickets via ParentPay. The timing for this event can be found [here](#), and I know the Friends of Ruislip High School have an excellent evening in store for those of us who attend.

### Ruislip Manor Chamber of Commerce

On Saturday 16th November 2024, the Ruislip Manor Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 29th annual Ruislip Manor Christmas Funday and light switch-on. Ruislip High School has always been a school both in, and for, the community, and as such I am delighted to share this [flyer](#) to promote this local community event.

Finally, I wanted to draw attention to the current VLT staff vacancies that are available across our Trust. I include a link [here](#) and will from now on ensure this link is included as part of the fortnightly parent bulletin. I would add that any Ruislip High School vacancy information is always shared on our website.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies  
Headteacher