

12th December 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing today as we approach the end of what has been a long term and one where students have shown how much they embody our values, particularly perseverance and inspiration. Each and every day, our school community works incredibly hard to ensure students achieve their potential and the past few weeks have seen students in Years 10 and 11 undertake their pre-public examinations, while students in Year 13 have been preparing for their PPEs, which take place at the start of the new term. Staff have been impressed with the diligence students have shown towards assessments and with the excellent behaviour and attitudes to learning they have displayed.

I was also fortunate enough to attend last night's winter concert at the school, which showcased the incredible musical skills of our students. Our students performed a range of pieces from a wide variety of genres, and really demonstrated the strength of expressive arts in the school. I would like to thank Ms Nastou, Curriculum Leader for Music, as well as the performers and the parents and members of the community who attended and supported the event. Earlier in the evening, we also hosted our annual Sixth Form community event, which saw our Sixth Form students host a buffet and bingo for senior citizens from our local community. It was a delight to talk to these visitors, and I felt very proud all evening as we demonstrated once more that we truly are a school both in, and for, the community.

Christmas card competition

I felt very festive as I judged this year's Christmas card competition, particularly as the standard of entries was so impressive. I am pleased to share that the Christmas card winners this year are Arya (9F), Hamza(9F) and Tommy M (9D). Please click [here](#) to see the winning entries.

School procedures in the event of an unexpected closure

I am conscious that although the weather is currently unseasonably mild, we are approaching the time of year when inclement weather can bring our country to a standstill. I am also aware that certain other incidents and events can occur from time to time and although mercifully rare, I believe it is important that we have contingencies in place. In the event that the school needs to close unexpectedly for any reason, parents/guardians will be informed of any such decision via the Arbor app by 7:30am on the day of the closure. This information will also be published on the school's website. In making this decision, I will access all relevant information and consider likely health and safety issues. The school will always endeavour to move to a remote provision as quickly as possible and we will keep parents updated as we deal with any situation.

Catering

After February half-term, there will be a small increase in school meal prices. These changes follow a Trust-wide review of the catering budget, which has been impacted by rising food and staffing costs following a two-year price freeze. Trustees have approved a modest tariff increase and an updated daily spend cap of £6.50 to help maintain a high-quality and sustainable catering service. The update to the daily spend limit will be implemented from January 2026, ahead of the increases that will come into effect after the half term. The overall impact on average spend is expected to be low, and the Trust will continue to monitor pricing and meal uptake closely.

Attendance

As we approach the end of the Autumn term, I want to remind families how important it is for children to attend school every day. National research has shown that pupils who attend school regularly achieve much better results than those who miss lessons. Students in Year 11 who miss just 10 days of school in the year of their public exams have their chances of achieving a grade 5 in maths and English halved. Good attendance starts at home with simple, strong routines such as limiting screen time, going to bed on time, getting enough sleep and having a calm start to the morning. When children arrive on time and ready to learn, they are more confident and make better progress. Every day in school really does make a difference, and we appreciate your support in helping your child attend school every day.

Uniform

Many of our parents and members of the wider community often comment on how smart and presentable our students appear in their uniform. This is something we value greatly. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and guardians of the importance of your continued support in upholding the school's standards, as agreed at the start of your child's journey at RHS through the Home-School Agreement.

One of our uniform rules states that students may wear only one small gold or silver stud in each earlobe. With the Christmas break approaching, we ask that you support the school by ensuring that no additional piercings are undertaken, as students will be asked to remove any non-compliant piercings when they return in January.

I would also like to highlight our expectations regarding make-up. Make-up is not permitted at RHS. This includes foundation, mascara, false eyelashes, eyebrow tinting, lipstick, false nails and any other cosmetic products. Students arriving at school wearing make-up will be asked to remove it before entering lessons. Please click [here](#) for a full breakdown of our uniform policy.

Christmas lunch arrangements - Wednesday 17th December 2025

I am delighted to confirm that the school Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 17th December 2025. Our catering team will once again be offering a festive meal of turkey and all the trimmings. There will also be a vegan Wellington option. The cost of the meal (main plus pudding) for students is £2.93.

A Christmas Carol

Next week sees our school's annual drama performance take place, details of which can be found [here](#). I understand there are still some tickets available for Tuesday evening but both performances are proving to be very popular. As a prelude to Wednesday's performance, the draw for the Friends' of Ruislip High School's Christmas Raffle will be taking place. Details of how to purchase tickets can be found [here](#).

Hillingdon Children's Services update

I have been asked by Hillingdon Children's Services to make parents aware of a parent consultation group letter that can be found [here](#). The Family First Partnership Programme (FFP) carries out some invaluable work supporting and working with local families.

Finally, as the Parent Bulletin will be published next week, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the school community a restful festive period when it arrives and I look forward to welcoming back our students on the first day of the new term: Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher

Key dates for next half term

- Monday 5th January 2026: INSET day
- Tuesday 6th January 2026: Term begins
- Thursday 8th January 2026: Year 9 theatre trip
- Friday 9th January - Friday 16th January 2026: Year 13 PPEs
- Tuesday 13th January 2026: Friends of Ruislip High School meeting - 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Wednesday 21st January 2026: VLT Spelling Bee - 1pm - 3pm
- Thursday 22nd January 2026: Year 11 parents' evening
- Tuesday 27th January 2026: Parent Voice meeting (in person) - 6pm - 7pm
- Wednesday 28th January 2026: Year 11 music recital - 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Thursday 29th January 2026: Year 9 theatre trip
- Thursday 29th January 2026: Year 11 GCSE poetry live trip
- Monday 2nd February - Friday 27th February 2026: LGBTQ+ history month
- Monday 2nd February - Friday 6th February 2026: Thank you week
- Monday 2nd February - Friday 6th February 2026: Year 11 music exams
- Tuesday 3rd February 2026: Year 11 theatre trip - 4:30pm - 11pm
- Tuesday 3rd February 2026: Friends of Ruislip High School meeting - 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Thursday 5th February 2026: Year 12 parents' evening - 4:30pm - 7pm
- Friday 6th February 2026: Year 11 & 13 trip to Tate Modern
- Monday 9th February - Friday 13th February 2026: Languages week
- Monday 9th February 2026: Year 11/12 Reach pathway trip to St Anne's, Oxford
- Tuesday 10th February 2026: Safer internet day
- Tuesday 10th February 2026: Year 9 teenage booster vaccinations
- Friday 13th February 2026: Half term ends