

2nd May 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

It was a pleasure to welcome students back for the start of the summer term last Tuesday. I was particularly impressed with how smart the students looked and how they have approached the return to learning in a calm and purposeful way. I would also like to thank parents/guardians for their support this week in supporting school staff in maintaining our exceptionally high standards despite energy-sapping unseasonable temperatures that we have experienced throughout the week. With temperatures expected to return to normal next week, we will return to our full uniform but I have been exceptionally impressed with how the students have conducted themselves in the heat.

Public examinations

The summer term is one that is dominated by public examinations for our Year 11 and Year 13 students and I would like to highlight how impressive students in both year groups have been in their attitudes. I would also like to acknowledge that the lead-up to examinations can be a challenging time for parents/guardians in terms of how best to support their children as they prepare for this period. Should you require any support or guidance regarding this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school using the office@ruisliphigh.org.uk email address.

Arbor App

I would also like to share with parents an important update regarding our new school information system. The school has successfully transitioned to our new MIS, Arbor. Over Easter, Mr Noble, Deputy Headteacher, sent an email inviting parents/guardians to access the Arbor parent portal. The parent portal will allow parents to see attendance, report absences, and view student behaviour. The school will add more functionality to the parent portal later this term and next academic year. However, from next week, the school will utilise Arbor's in-app message service, to notify parents/guardians of school information, similar to how you received ClassCharts notifications previously. Please could all parents/guardians install the Arbor app to their mobile devices. A step-by-step guide on how to install the app can be found ([here](#)). Prior to using the Arbor app on a mobile phone, parents/guardians must first log into Ruislip High School's Arbor parent portal ([here](#)) and select 'first time logging in'. I would encourage all parents/guardians to download the Arbor app as soon as possible to ensure they receive important school updates and can access the available features.

Punctuality

Although I have been impressed with how the majority of students have approached the start to the new term, I am concerned regarding the number of students who are arriving late to school. We emphasise at the school that we are also preparing students for life after Ruislip High School, and as such, it is essential to stress how important punctuality is for the world of college, university, and work. In order to reduce the number of students arriving late and also ensure fewer students are missing out on vital tutorials and lessons, from Tuesday 6th May 2025, we will start running on-the-day detentions for students who arrive late to school. During the detention, they will be given an opportunity to catch up on any aspects of the learning they missed by arriving late. Any student who arrives late to school by under 15 minutes will sit a 30-minute detention, between 16 and 30 minutes will be a

45-minute detention, and over 30 minutes will result in an hour's detention on the same day. This process will run up until the end of this half term, Friday 23rd May 2025, when it will be reviewed. I would be grateful if parents/guardians could continue to encourage students to get up promptly in the mornings and leave for school on time. Your support in ensuring punctuality is greatly appreciated. I do also recognise that from time to time a situation outside of a student's control may arise and we will of course be open to considering these factors before issuing any sanction.

Mental Health Awareness Week

The week beginning 12th May marks Mental Health Awareness Week. As a school, we believe that mental health is just as important as physical health and we are dedicated to creating a supportive environment where every student feels safe, valued, and heard. During the week, assemblies will focus on helping students develop healthy ways to cope with academic pressures, while tutorial sessions will centre around the theme of belonging, encouraging students to reflect on how they can contribute to and benefit from our school community.

Jack Petchey ceremony

Yesterday evening, eight of our students were honoured with medallions by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Colleen Sullivan, at the Jack Petchey awards ceremony, supported by proud families and school representatives. These inspiring students, each allocating £300 to benefit their learning and Ruislip High School, are a true asset to our community. Notably, two students even attended parents' evening before rushing to the event! My sincere thanks go to Ms Mackow, Jack Petchey co-ordinator, for her excellent leadership of the Jack Petchey programme at Ruislip High School, making these opportunities possible for our students. Year 10 students were also commended for their recent participation in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. We will soon be opening nominations for the next six Jack Petchey winners to recognise more inspiring achievements within our student body.

Community event

SCS Railways will be hosting a public event at Ickenham Village Hall on 15th May 2025 (further details are available [here](#)). This event will cover various topics, including an update on the progress of the High Speed Two (HS2) project.

Parent Voice meeting (in person) 6pm - 7pm on Tuesday 6th May 2025

I would like to take this opportunity to invite parents/guardians to the Parent Voice meeting on Tuesday 6th May 2025. The Parent Voice group meets once a half term and is an opportunity for parents/guardians to voice opinions regarding various aspects of school life. We have found a hybrid model has worked well in recent years with a combination of online and in person meetings throughout the year. This meeting is scheduled to be in person and if you would like to attend the meeting, please confirm your attendance by 9am on Tuesday 6th May 2025 via the school office: office@ruisliphigh.org.uk, marking the email for the attention of Ms Beasley. I would like to confirm that I will Chair the meeting and will also have a representative of the senior team with me.

Finally, I would like to wish the whole Ruislip High School community a restful weekend and do hope you manage to enjoy what remains of the warm weather.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher