

8th September 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

I would like to welcome all of our school community back to a new school year. I hope that all of our families had a good summer and it has been a delight to welcome students this week. I would particularly like to welcome our new Year 7 students and families and those joining us in the Sixth Form for the first time. I would also like to congratulate again our students who received examination results last month. As I shared with students during assembly this week, students at Ruislip High School again attained excellent grades and I am sure their achievements inspire and encourage our current students. Please click [here](#) for more information about the results.

We were also delighted to welcome over 150 new Year 7 students last week as part of our summer school, and the students enjoyed taking part in lessons and activities to support their transition to secondary school. We also had significant work on the building over the summer, including repainting of the walls and doors of the building for the first time since it was opened in 2006. As I am sure parents/guardians appreciate, this was a formidable task and I am grateful to the premises team for overseeing this work.

Warm weather

I would have preferred to start the academic year in the way we intend to continue, with the usual high standards of uniform. However, given the high temperatures this week, it was clear that we had to make adjustments and I am grateful to students for wearing the adjusted uniform as instructed and to parents and guardians for the continued support. As the weather looks set to remain very warm on Monday, we will continue with the summer uniform on Monday 11th September 2023 and students should wear the usual uniform (ie. blazers and ties) from Tuesday 12th September 2023.

School staff have done as much as possible to keep the building cool this week, including ventilating the building during the cooler hours of the day where possible. I would like to remind parents/guardians that students should have a water bottle which can be refilled during social times and that, should students choose to spend social time outside, they should bring and use sunscreen.

Communication

I believe that education is most successful when there is partnership between school, students and parents and regular communication is a vital part of this. Each week parents/guardians will either receive the parent bulletin or the update from me on a rolling programme. Please do take the time to read these updates and bulletins as they provide useful information and outline key events. I would also like to remind parents/guardians to check ClassCharts which is our method of communication and to report all absences on ClassCharts. Please click [here](#) for a guide to ClassCharts for parents and [here](#) for a guide on reporting absences.

There are a number of in-person events throughout the year including parents' evenings, and there will be reminders of these key dates. However, please do not wait for such an event to raise any concerns you may have. We are committed to ensuring that our students are supported and staff are always here to deal with concerns. Should parents/guardians have a query, the usual first point of contact should be your child's tutor or class teacher and staff can be contacted via office@ruisliphigh.org.uk. Staff aim to respond as soon as possible but I would ask

parents/guardians to remember that teachers are likely to be teaching during the school day and may have meetings after school. Please call the school on the main number if there is an urgent issue.

At Ruislip High School we do also have a social media presence and you may wish to follow Ruislip High School on our social media accounts, we can be found on Instagram: @ruislip_high_official and Twitter/X: @RuislipHigh.

I appreciate that many parents join social media groups to share information or seek advice. I would urge parents/guardians to contact the school directly with any specific concerns or questions. We always welcome parental feedback and invite parents/guardians to be part of our Parent Voice and/or Friends of Ruislip High groups. More information will be shared regarding both groups next week.

Finally, I would like to wish all members of the school community a peaceful weekend. I hope you can enjoy the sunshine and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher