

Ruislip High School NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018

RUISLIP HIGH SCHOOL'S ARMISTICE CENTENARY COMMEMORATION EVENTS

11th November 2018 represented one hundred years since the final guns fell silent on the Western Front and World War I finally came to an end. It was described at the time as: '*the war to end all wars*'; sadly this has not been the case. This term Ruislip High School students have joined the nation in remembrance of, and reflection on, the sacrifice made by soldiers on all sides of the war.

(story continued on page 3)



CONTENTS

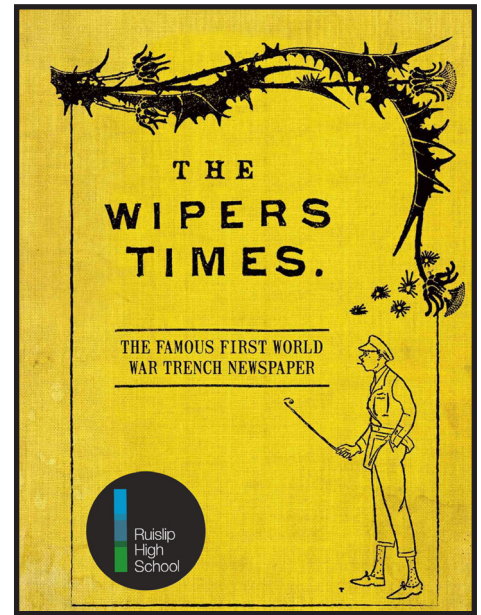
Armistice centenary commemoration events continued	Page 3
News from the Headteacher	Page 4
Let's Think Science Games	Page 5
Science news	Page 6
Latin news	Page 7
Sixth Form news	Page 8,9 and 10
Theme Day	Page 11
Year 10 news	Page 12
Year 8 news	Page 13
Year 7 news	Page 14
Year 9 news	Page 15
Cultural Studies news	Page 16
Competition winners	Page 17
LRC news	Page 18 and 19
Music news	Page 20
Year 11 news	Page 21
English news	Page 22 and 23
PE news	Page 24, 25 and 26
Presentation Evening	Page 27
Geography news	Page 28 and 29
Spring term dates	Page 30

Continued from front page...

Theme Day

There is a separate article on theme day included in this newsletter. Commemorating World War I was a central theme of the day, as was producing a Ruislip High School version of *The Wipers Times*; it was a publication originally produced by British soldiers during World War I when they discovered a printing press while fighting at the Battle of Ypres. As the British soldiers pronounced Ypres as Wipers, the *Wipers Times* was born. As part of theme day, every tutor group from Ruislip High School completed a page of our very own *Wipers Times* that, just like the original, included annotations and poetry about the war.

As part of theme day, every student also produced a commemorative poppy inscribed with a personal message. These messages, and the poppies that hold them, have been used to form a powerful display created by Ms Hill that can be seen in the atrium of the school.



The ones they left behind



The Centenary Battlefields tour programme funded by the government gives the opportunity for two students and a teacher from every state funded secondary in England to visit the battlefields of the Western Front; on their return the students are expected to share their experiences and understanding of war. David Rich, the school's former Deputy Headteacher, has a central role in putting together the programme and is actually responsible for the legacy element of the tours.

Lucy in Year 13, deputy head student, was one of the students who attended the Battlefields tour and was so moved after visiting the trenches and cemeteries where the fallen are buried, that she decided to

write, direct, produce and perform in a play entitled: *'The ones they left behind'*. The play is a powerful narrative about the human cost of World War I from a female perspective. The strong performances from all of the actors involved was a testament to the hours of practice that they had devoted to rehearsing and performing the play. A number of dignitaries attended the performances and the deputy mayor, Cllr David Yarrow (also one of the local councillors who founded the school), was so impressed with how the school had dealt with the topic of remembrance that he recommended the school invites local veterans from World War II to view the atrium poppy display.

Lucy would be the first to thank Ms Horton for her support throughout the project. Ms Horton was one of the teachers who took part in the Centenary Battlefields expedition and also performed as part of the production.

The government has been committed to providing students and teachers with a framework for deeper learning about the conflict and has, therefore, funded the Battlefields Centenary tours. At the beginning of my career as a history teacher, there were still men alive who had fought in the trenches on the Western Front. The passage of time means that this is no longer the case and it is down to schools to ensure the fallen are not forgotten. Lucy's efforts have undoubtedly played a part in creating an enduring educational legacy and a fitting remembrance tribute from Ruislip High School to mark the centenary of the end of World War I.

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

As staff, we have been reflecting this term on Ruislip High School's core purpose.



We believe a fundamental tenet of our school's ethos is our motto: *from grass roots, to reaching for the sky*. Our logo represents our motto and symbolises the importance of having high aspiration, the *reaching for the sky*, that is achieved from a start point, *the grass roots*. The second stanza of our school's pledge, *We stand at grass roots, We reach for the sky, We strive to progress, Hard work makes success*, emphasises the importance of hard work. My first ever assembly at the school in September 2011 focused on hard work equals success where I shared with students my experience of running the London marathon in 2009 after being a teenager who believed she couldn't run long distances. I certainly learned through running mile after mile, week after week, that this was made possible through the willingness and dedication to achieve my goal.

At Ruislip High, we avoid references to talent as we believe that success is achieved through hard work and the **inspiration** of the work of others; by having the **self-discipline** and **perseverance** to work hard and knowing you may need to fail in order to succeed; that our achievements are only valid if they have been attained through **integrity**; that **learning** is a life-long journey; and that we achieve great things as a community when we **respect** each other and come together in **unity**.

At our annual Presentation Evening, our student leaders in Year 11 and 13, spoke to the audience about their school experiences in particular how Ruislip High School has helped to shape them into young adults ready to face the future. I was particularly struck by deputy head student, Hannah's, metaphor of a tree as she spoke about her journey:



'From grass roots to reaching for the sky: after six and a bit years, the words are ingrained in my mind and reflecting on my time here, they also ring true. When hearing our motto, I have always pictured a tree. A small seed planted on our first day in year seven and by the time we leave, a strong tree with many branches reaching to the clouds.'

I was genuinely moved by Year 11 senior prefect, Amy's, speech as she thanked staff for their support and belief in her and ended her speech with the following:

'The late nights marking and staying behind and pushing me to do things I never thought I could achieve like standing here right now are things I will be eternally grateful for. So once again thank you. Thank you for teaching us how to be ambitious, how to reach for the stars and travel even further. Thank you for everything you've done for us Ruislip High. I promise we'll make you proud.'

I am in my 26th year of teaching and the one constant I have had throughout this time is that I feel rewarded on a daily basis by the students in terms of contributing to their development, aspirations, opportunities and achievements. I remain so proud to work in a school where our students do reach for the sky and recognise the strong partnership that exists between themselves and their teachers, as well as all the staff at the school, in order for them to fulfil their potential.

LET'S THINK SCIENCE GAMES

As part of the first five Let's Think Science lessons, students focus on the advanced reasoning of the control, and exclusion, of variables. The students are given the challenge to create a game for Year 6 primary school students to help them understand variables and their respective values.

The current Year 7 students have worked extremely hard on their games and have had the opportunity to play them in a lesson where they scored each other's games. The results for the seven form groups are:

7A

First: Samina and Nisham
Second: Harry
Third: Zoi

7C

First place: Alexia and Kiara
Second: Jessica and Amalie
Third: Aashman

7B

First place: Joe
Second place: Emma
Third place: Maika and Anastasia

7F

First place: Annabelle
Second place: Rabia
Third place: Georgia

7S

First: Ethan
Second: Riya
Third: Gracie and Ruby

7W

First: Steven
Second: Mia and Hiruni
Third: Justin

Next term the students, from each form who have come first, second or third will have the opportunity to take their game to Ruislip Gardens to allow the Year 6 students to play the games and judge the overall winner. The overall winner will be announced in the next edition of the newsletter.



SCIENCE NEWS

Science Club!

KS3 Science Club has been working on some exciting projects this term.

Biology, Chemistry or Physics? You may not have a favourite but Science club students have an ever-growing desire to learn more. From building a popsicle chain to dissecting not just hearts, but whole rats, students are given the chance to try something they do not usually do in lessons.

With the leadership of our Year 9 students, and the help of our Year 10 volunteer, Ria (10A), Year 7 and 8 students have recently been engaged in attempting to build an artificial model of a heart (which was a success!) and a model of the circulatory system.

Science club is full of opportunities for students to grow and expand their wider knowledge!

"Science club shows how learning can be really fun" Ethan, 7S

"Science club is a lot more practical and hands on than our usual science lessons." Lucy & Karina, 8C

"We do lots of experiments that we do not usually do in lesson." Owen, 7B

The Periodic Table - CHAmPIONS

This autumn term has seen an impressive feat completed by none other than the over-excitable and passionate class that is 8S. They have been putting their determination to the test and have risen to the occasion of being asked to remember the first 20-30 elements of the Periodic table...in order. At the start of each lesson, they have been able to recite it on cue, without fail. Not only have they been able to sing it as a song in lessons, but several members of staff have been quoted saying how impressed they are with their efforts.

"Watching 8S perform the Periodic Table song was truly a memorable experience. Never have I seen a group of students so dedicated to singing the word 'magnesium'." – Miss Horton.

"They have become so passionate about singing the Periodic table song that there is a rumour going around that it has become infectious and other classes in science are starting to learn it too. I suppose enthusiasm really is infectious!"

"Well done 8S, we are all very impressed with your self-discipline and determination, keep up the fantastic work!" - Mr Lentini

P.S. A reward wheel from Mr Lentini if you can make a bigger word than CHAmPIONS using the periodic table of elements' chemical symbols and bring it to him.

House Insulation Project

Year 9 are currently studying energy transfers of heat in their Physics lessons. To understand the topic further, they were tasked with planning, designing and building a model house using everyday recyclable materials, which later they had to insulate. The main aim of the task was to be original and create a house that could keep thermal energy trapped inside for a certain amount of time. All students spent a lot of time outside of lessons thinking about, and researching, how to insulate a house. Many students have been so creative that they tried to duplicate their house models like real insulated houses. For example, they have been using polystyrene packing balls and shaving foam to replicate foam filled cavity walls, and transparent plastic sheets with plasticine to mimic double glazed windows. All students have shown great enthusiasm for the project so far and cannot wait to test out which insulated house was the best.



LATIN NEWS

Year 10

Last September, fifteen students started a wonderful journey through time by choosing Latin as a GCSE option.

This is a real challenge for the students as they have two years to cover both language, literature and civilisation curriculae (Latin students would tell you that this word is a nominative plural case of the second declension!).

The engagement and determination of these fifteen students are really phenomenal. For two years, they will follow the adventures of Quintus, a young Pompeian, in his journey through the Roman Empire after the destruction of his home town.

In the space of three months, our Latinists have covered the first book, learning about life in Pompeii and translating Latin texts into English. After the tragic eruption of Mount Vesuvius, and the death of some of our favourite characters, students are now going to travel with Quintus to Egypt and discover the wonderful traditions of a culture trying to survive, and mix with, the Roman invader.

Student voices

"Latin combines learning a language and also learning about a civilisation. Even if we only have two years to cover all the content, I believe I am always learning more. The way I am being taught give me independence and I feel I can develop my own way of learning."
Mikael, 10B.

"In all honesty, I was a bit sceptical about picking Latin but, fortunately, Miss Lucas convinced me and now I am glad I am doing it! I get to learn about history, literature and of course the language. It is very interesting and it really helps me with my other subjects, like French. It has only been two and a half months and the whole class has gone from not knowing a word of Latin to being able to translate long, complex passages of Latin quickly and confidently. I am very happy to be studying Latin and I am glad I picked it!"
Isha, 10B.

Year 11

The clock is ticking for our Year 11 group and the first set of Latin PPEs made students realise that effort always pays off. We were very impressed by the quality of work produced by many students across all papers. Well done!

But, if we could only mention one student, it would have to be Vicky (11A), who, through very hard work, reached a Grade 9 over the three papers. Here is what Vicky has to say about her Latin PPEs and revision techniques:

"I have revised a lot for the three exams. I use flashcards to revise vocabulary and verb endings; I also use the Cambridge website. For literature and civilisation, I go through our revision booklets over and over again."

"I thought the literature paper was hard but I felt confident about my knowledge of the poems and writers. I felt very confident for the language paper but I think the civilisation paper was the hardest, because of the structure of the exam and the essay questions."

"I was very happy when I saw my results and I am now hoping to get a Grade 9 in the actual exam! I want to do English Literature for A-level and Latin is helping me a lot with the language but also with the analysis of poems. It also encourages me to put modern history into perspective, which helps a lot too."

Miss Lucas

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Sixth Form lead the 2018 RHS Macmillan coffee morning

The Sixth Formers took part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 28th September, a national charity event that raises money in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Both Year 12 and Year 13 students got busy baking a whole range of delicious sweet treats, from Lucy's (C63) fabulous salted caramel cupcakes, Natalie's (C63) classic iced fairy cakes, to Saraneyaa's (C63) decadent chocolate cake, there was plenty to choose from - much to the delight of students and staff!



The Sixth Formers worked hard to ensure everyone got a chance to take part in the coffee morning, by sharing the cakes with staff and setting up a stall in the atrium during lunchtimes for the lower school students.

Mrs Ohana, Head of Year 12, said: *"This is the first Sixth Form led event of this academic year and as usual our Sixth Form students have demonstrated they are willing to volunteer in order to help others. I am immensely proud of them and I am looking forward to seeing what else they achieve through their volunteering commitments this year."*

A huge thank you to all of the students and staff who donated towards this worthwhile cause.

Sixth Formers take part in "Lessons from Auschwitz" project

Three Ruislip High Sixth Form students visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau former concentration camp in Poland on Thursday 18th October.

Verity and Olivia (Year 13), and Aoibhin (Year 12), were taking part in the "Lessons from Auschwitz" project organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, with support from history teacher, Ms Horton. All over the world, Auschwitz has become a symbol of terror, genocide, and the Holocaust.

The project has several phases. On Sunday 14th October, the students visited a hotel in London's Canary Wharf for an introductory half-day seminar. Participants examined pre-war Jewish life and heard from a Holocaust survivor.

The one-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, took place on Thursday 18th October. It was a long day for the students with a 6:30am flight from Stansted Airport to Krakow, and a return flight at 8:30pm. The Ruislip High students had a local guide as they visited the site. Then, on Tuesday 30th October, the students took part in a follow-up seminar back in London, exploring the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust.

Verity, Aoibhin and Olivia will now become school ambassadors for the "Lessons from Auschwitz" project and will produce a presentation for other students at Ruislip High to read. Verity said, *"It was an eye-opening experience and it put the Holocaust events into perspective. It made the events we study in History seem real. The sheer size of Auschwitz-Birkenau really shocked me, seeing the awful conditions people lived in before so many of them died. Those responsible tried to stop the rest of the world seeing the gas chambers and finding out what happened."*

Sixth Formers taste life at University

Year 12 Sixth Form students from Ruislip High took part in a University experience day on Friday 19th October. Half of the year group visited Royal Holloway, University of London, while the other half travelled to the University of Reading. Both groups experienced a lecture theatre talk about University life and had a full tour of the campus including seeing the students' union and halls of residence.

Matt Voller, a student ambassador from the University of Reading, said, *"The Ruislip High students represented their school brilliantly and asked lots of interesting questions. As always we hope there will be some applications from your school."*



A Ruislip High Year 12 student said, *"We heard about all the different courses available and how University students learn. At their lectures we were surprised to hear that the students were allowed to make notes on their phones or tablet computers. We also had some tips on student finance and were quite impressed by the halls of residence which were really modern. The campus too was lovely with lots of open spaces."*

Sixth Form Christmas Community Event

The Sixth Form Christmas Community Event took place in the atrium and Greens café area on Wednesday 12th December. Local community groups and senior citizens from the Ruislip area were invited to watch an extra performance of Ruislip High's pantomime, 'Peter Pan and the Lost Boys'. This was followed by the guests being served festive food by Sixth Formers.

Roger Dunlop from Ruislip Manor Methodist Church said, *"On behalf of the party from Ruislip Manor Methodist Church, I'm writing to say what a lovely time we had yesterday. It was a real pleasure to visit the school, to be so well looked after, and to experience the Christmas production. That was great fun - so delightful to see staff and students sharing together in the unique play. We are hoping you will be kind enough to invite us again next year!"*



Headteacher, Dr Lecky, said *"The atmosphere in Greens after the performance reflected how much our guests had enjoyed the production. Our sixth form students and performers were a credit to the school as they served and spoke to our local elderly residents. I would like to thank our wonderful Sixth Form team for organising the event."*

Lucy's play reflects on World War I Legacy

Please see below for some cast photos from 'The Ones They Left Behind', a play written and directed by Lucy (C63) in Year 13. Lucy performed the role of Mrs Raphael in her play alongside a cast of other students from across the school. There were two performances in the Cllr Mills Main Hall on Wednesday 28th November and Thursday 29th November.

'The Ones They Left Behind' reflected on the legacy of World War I and the Armistice Centenary Commemoration. It was inspired by a trip to the battlefields that Lucy participated in during February 2018, and was a moving way to remember those who sacrificed so much for us. The play featured several music interludes with the piano playing of Cerys (10W) in Year 10.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

The performances were a part of a nationwide project called 'Legacy 110', an award-winning initiative which encourages students to deliver a community-based First World War project to mark the centenary of this terrible conflict. So far 'Legacy 110' has reached over 4 million people, and this production was Ruislip High School's contribution. Tickets were free of charge and donations raised at the production were donated to the ABF Soldiers Charity which aims to support the rehabilitation of service personnel and their families into the community.



Lucy said, "This experience has opened my eyes to the incredible bravery of individuals involved in World War I. My cast have been amazing and really supportive of the project. They have really inspired me to make this play the best we could make it."

Teacher of History and Head of Year 13, Ms Horton, who also played the role of Mrs McParlain, said, "Lucy's dedication, talent and perseverance have been outstanding to watch. Being involved in this play had been one of the proudest moments for me in my teaching career. Well done to Lucy, and all the cast and backstage helpers."

Headteacher Dr Lecky said, "I was so impressed with Lucy's production in terms of her maturity to write, direct and produce such a powerful narrative about the human cost of World War I from a female perspective. The students' performances, both individually and collectively, were strong and they showed that the hours of practice had paid off in the quality of the play."

Peter Pan and the Lost Boys a 'spectacular' hit

The Sixth Form Christmas Production, 'Peter Pan and the Lost Boys', took place in the Cllr Mills main hall on Tuesday 11th December and Thursday 13th December at 6pm.



The production was an all-singing, all-dancing, modernised version of the J.M. Barrie classic, adapted by Mrs Ohana and directed by Mr Alexander and Ms Hart.

Mr Alexander said, "The show saw Peter Pan and his 'band' of lost boys take on Captain Hook

and his pirates for the hotly anticipated Christmas Number 1 single. What an absolute pleasure it was to see the hard work that the staff and students had put into this musical spectacular. The time and dedication each and every member of the cast had put in to the show was clearly evident. Many people here are calling it the best performance yet from Ruislip High School."

The production featured student actors and singers from the Sixth Form and Years 8 to 10, as well as a number of staff, including singing roles for Mr Maud and Mr Elsby. The students in the cast were Maia, Y13 C61, Lucy, Y13 C61, Maya, Y13 C66, Adam, Y13 C64, Vince, 8B, Libby, 8S, Catherine, 9B, Luke, 9B, Cody, 9F, Amy, 9F, Lottie, 9F, Georgia, 9F, Gabriella-Rose, 9F, Aaron, 9B, Adon, 9B, Becky, 9B, Lucy, 9D, Olivia, 9D, Emily, 8F, Hannah, 10W, Rachel, 10W, Sarita, 10D, Amelia, 10D.

Headteacher, Dr Lecky, said "I am so proud of all the staff and students who embarked on this adventure in July and as a team created such a wonderful performance."

STUDENTS CONSIDER 'SELF-DISCIPLINE' AT THEME DAY 2018

The school's annual Theme Day took place on Friday 19th October. This key event in the school's calendar gives students the chance to have a fun, engaging and thought-provoking experience different from the usual timetable. The students had six 50-minute activity periods instead of the usual five one-hour lessons.

The school theme this year is 'self-discipline'. Much of the day centred on students learning about the centenary of Armistice Day on 11th November, 1918, marking the end of World War I hostilities.

Tutor group activities included making commemorative poppies which formed an impressive display in the atrium. Students also contributed to a whole-school 'Wipers Times' publication about life in the trenches, and tried to crack a code used to recruit war spies.

As part of Theme Day, the school aims to secure an inspirational speaker. This year the school welcomed James Aidoo who spoke to the whole school over three packed sessions in the main hall. James was an underachieving student from a single-parent household in North London. His journey as a student involved rock-bottom failure in his mock exams that served as a catalyst for a turning point in his mindset, academic achievement and future outlook. He discovered his purpose in life and things have shifted ever since as he has started his own successful business. James' assemblies powerfully showed students the importance of self-discipline in achieving goals.

Theme Day also included an inter-form activity and a physical activity. For the physical activity, Year 7 students took part in a World War I-themed Christmas truce. Year 8 students learnt how to dance the Charleston. Year 9 students tried World War I-themed cooking and Year 10 and 11 students took part in a boot camp experience. Theme Day remains an important part of life at Ruislip High, and the school hopes that students really enjoyed it!



YEAR 10 NEWS

I am so pleased to share with parents and guardians that the first term of the 2018/19 academic year has been an overwhelming success for the students in Year 10.

This term students have started their GCSE options and have flourished. The attitude being shown by the students is exemplary, resulting in many teachers seeking me out to praise the year group for their attitude and work ethic. Embarking on GCSEs isn't an easy time for young people and so the achievements by Year 10 are even more impressive.

The Year 10 football team has gone from strength to strength this year with a number of victories so far this season and an impressive cup run to boot! Parents and guardians have been turning out to watch the students, and their performances have been getting better and better. In other sports, Melina Noslen has also managed to qualify for the national squad in Judo. We look forward to seeing how the students progress in 2019.



In the arts, Year 10 have also impressed this year. Cerys Fitzpatrick played piano for a performance that was written and directed by a Year 13 student for the centenary of the First World War. In addition to this, a number of Year 10 students took part in the school's annual pantomime performance. It is such a pleasure working with these incredibly talented students and they keep going from strength to strength.

Year 10's attendance has increased and is approaching the 97% target that we are striving towards. Students and parents are hopefully aware of just how important attendance is for the outcome of their GCSEs. I look forward to seeing a continued increase in attendance over the rest of the academic year.

In 2019, Year 10 have their parents evening which is an opportunity for you, as parents and guardians, to find out how your child is getting on and what they can do to ensure they leave Ruislip High School with the best qualifications possible. We look forward to welcoming you all into school in the new year and also sharing further successes of the year group.

See you soon, and have a happy Christmas and New Year,

Mr Elsby
Head of Year 10

YEAR 8 NEWS

What another great start to the year for our Year 8s! Since returning in September, they have demonstrated a fantastic sense of unity and have been amazing role models to our new Year 7s. In lessons, they are still incredibly focused, engaged and creative and are making the Year 8 team very proud.

Well done to all of you. Keep it up next term!

Here are just some of the things our year group should be very proud of.

Theme Day: Self-Discipline

On 19th October, Year 8 students joined the other year groups to celebrate one of the most important Ruislip values: self-discipline.

Theme Day coincided with Remembrance Day, so we took the opportunity to reflect on what the life of a WWI soldier might have been like. Year 8 students took part in a range of activities, including writing poetry and articles in the Ruislip Wipers Times, creating origami poppies with students' letters to soldiers. Year 8 students also explored the fun of the post-war 'Roaring 20s' during a Charleston workshop.

The day culminated in the enactment of a conscientious objector's trial. It was fantastic to see our students getting passionate about human rights, freedom of speech, self-determination and patriotism. All students were engaged and fought well with words, but a special mention goes to 8B, 8F and 8W who won the debates with flying colours!

It was a wonderful day and we simply cannot wait for next year.



Getting busy for the Year 7 and 8 Festival

To follow up from Theme Day, Year 8 students have been starting to work on their stalls for our second edition of the Festival of Culture. Each form in Year 7 and Year 8 have chosen a country to represent on the evening and will organise activities and sell food or objects related to the country of their choice. Sick of the rainy weather? Travel to Italy with 8C or Australia with 8W. Feeling like exotic, spicy food? Then take a detour by Mexico with 8S. And if you long for maple syrup and donuts, 8B and 8F will provide them for you!

Our students are working really hard to make this event a great celebration of our cultural differences, so please come and join the party on 12th February!

Youth Travel Ambassador

Ruislip High will be working with Transport for London within the frame of the Youth Travel Ambassador Programme. The aim of the programme is to create a safe and healthy Travel Plan for schools. It encourages more walking and cycling to school, sharing key road safety messages,

promoting responsible behaviour on the transport network and giving young people the skills and confidence to travel safely and independently.

Year 8s were invited to take part in this initiative and eight hard-working and dedicated students were selected to join the YTA programme.

They will have to design a project to help make the commute to and from school safer and more enjoyable for students and their families, but also for members of the public. They will then be invited to attend a Dragons' Den-style pitching event where they will present their ideas to a panel of transport experts, schools and colleges from their surrounding area. The panel will offer advice, support and funding to enable the teams to make their ideas a reality.

Well done and thanks go to Jessica, 8A, Manhoor and Ruby, 8B, Alaynah, 8C, Serena, 8F, Aziz and Daisy, 8S and Libby, 8W. They are going the extra mile this year in their display of unity to help the community be a safer and healthier place. They will also try their best to upgrade the School Travel Plan from Bronze to Silver, and why not Gold!

Sports news

All of the teams have been working very hard since the beginning of the school year and, as hard work always pays off, they have been very successful.

Well done and thank you to everyone for wearing and defending the colours of Ruislip High School with so much pride and respect.

Another mention goes to Eleanor, 8S and Kiera, 8B, who are now aiming at representing Great Britain in Gymnastics. Well done to both of them for all their effort and achievements both in and outside of school. It is an honour to count them among our students in Year 8!

Miss Lucas and the Year 8 Team

YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 have made a fantastic start at Ruislip High School. It is a joy to see them learning new things and being true members of Ruislip High School.

Layla, form, Nathan, form, and Aimee, form, have shown that they have truly embodied our ethos and values. They were the proud recipients of the Headteacher's award this term. They received this award for 'having impeccable manners', 'showing respect to staff and students' and 'supporting other members of the year group when they succeed'. These three students have had a meeting with Dr Lecky to receive this award and they are all feeling very proud.

Year 7 have had the opportunity to show off their oracy skills in some very heated Theme Day debates about a conscientious objector and whether he should face punishment for refusing to fight in a war. Students led the debates with well constructed and intelligent arguments. It was amazing to see the students' confidence shining through as they spoke.



Year 7 have a lot to look forward to in the new year. In February, they will be taking part in the Festival of Culture creating their own stalls and taking part in the various physical activities during the evening.

Over 75% of students in the year group have also signed up for the Year 7 residential trip to Paris in July. This is set to be an exciting trip where students will gain independence in a foreign country, test out their French skills and, of course, have a day out at Disneyland, Paris.

Miss Loizou
Head of Year 7

YEAR 9 NEWS

What an amazing start to Year 9 our students have made. Students should be immensely proud of the progress they have made and also the successful start to their first GCSE subject in citizenship. The attitude data for the year group has been a huge success with 90% of students receiving A1 and A2 grades for their attitude in lessons in the Winter Term.

Well done to all of you. Keep it up next term!

Here are just some of the things our year group should be very proud of.

Theme Day: Self-Discipline

On 19th October, Year 9 students joined the other year groups to celebrate one of the most important Ruislip High School values: self-discipline.

Students were sent back in time to the World War 1 era. Year 9 got a sense of the experiences of soldiers from the trenches and even got the opportunity to make some biscuits that were commonly made and eaten in the trenches.

The day culminated in the trial of Robert Lown who refused to go to war, with Mr Askin playing the part of the judge. It was fantastic to see our students getting passionate about human rights, freedom of choice and self-discipline. All students were engaged and fought well with words, but a special mention goes to Sumeet, 9F, who clearly has all the attributes of a future successful lawyer.



Sports news

It has been a very successful term for the Year 9 sports stars. The Year 9 boys' football team is currently unbeaten in the league and are sweeping aside the opposition. They are playing an incredibly high standard of football and the goals are flowing with two 5-0 victories and a 4-2 win. The stand-out players so far have been Billy, 9W, Luca, 9D and Pharrell, 9S. If the boys can keep this form up then staff are confident of some silverware this year.

Staff would also like to congratulate Akos and Anna, 9S, for their participation and great performance at the Borough of Hillingdon Cross Country Tournament. Anna ran 8.57 coming second and Akos ran an 10.09 coming seventh.

The attendance at Above and Beyond Sporting clubs has been excellent, particularly the basketball, badminton and girls' futsal clubs. The Year 9 team would like to thank the sixth form students who have helped out with these clubs and helped them become a massive success with our Year 9 students.

Peter Pan Pantomime

Staff would like to congratulate our very talented Year 9 students who were chosen to take part in this year's wonderful 'Peter Pan' Pantomime.

Catherine, 9B, Luke, 9B, Cody, 9F, Amy, 9F, Lottie, 9F, Georgia, 9F, Gabriella-Rose, 9F, Adon, 9D, Aaron, 9D, Becky, 9D, Lucy, 9D and Olivia, 9D, have been working extremely hard to help produce the show and entertain the audience. They have also been praised for their fantastic work ethic and natural ability.

Year 9 Ambassadors

The Year 9 Ambassadors have been playing a vital role in the school this term. They have been instrumental in conducting school tours for various visitors to Ruislip High School. They are heavily involved in providing feedback on various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school such as the new behaviour policy and period 1 checks. The biggest achievement to date has been their environmental push where all fourteen Ambassadors created a presentation which was delivered by Yasmin, 9W, and Skyla, 9C, to the school's Senior Leadership Team. As a result of this presentation, additional recycling bins will be placed around school and a school wormery will be established. We will provide a termly update on how the project is progressing so watch this space.

Exciting Times Ahead

The Year 9 team is extremely excited about the spring term when there will be various opportunities for our Year 9 students. The Year 9 trip to the World War I Battlefields in France and Belgium will take place during the spring half term. Students have already started the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and will continue their progress with this. A large number of Year 9 students will also attend the school's annual Winter Reward Trip at the beginning of February. But the most exciting event that will take place during the spring term for Year 9 is undoubtedly the Year 9 Options Evening. The team looks forward to welcoming students and parents/guardians to Ruislip High to speak to subject teachers and learn about all the amazing opportunities available to GCSE students here. The Year 9 team is hoping to achieve a 100% turnout for the evening on Thursday 14th March so please add this to your diaries.

The Year 9 team hope you all have an enjoyable, restful and deserved winter break.

Mr Askin
Head of Year 9

CULTURAL STUDIES NEWS

Since September, both Year 9 and 10 have started GCSE Citizenship, with the exam being taken in June 2020. Both groups have embraced the challenge of either an additional GCSE in the case of Year 10, or their first GCSE course for Year 9. Below are some of their comments:

Louie 10D: *"Talking about Brexit, finding out what is happening and finding out about everyone's opinion".*

Chloe, 10D: *"Quite open subject, allowed to express your opinion, whole lessons on debating"*

Nikolas, 9F: *"I have really enjoyed starting the GCSE course in Citizenship, as it feels like I'm finally able to make my own choices, and I enjoy learning about the political world around me, as I think it'll be very helpful when I grow up. It also teaches me about the problems in the world, and it inspires me to make the world a better place for the people who aren't as fortunate."*

Georgia, 9F: *"I have enjoyed Citizenship a lot this year because it is interesting and I learn a lot from it. Especially when we do the weekly quizzes. I enjoyed them because they are good and help me to remember a lot. In addition, it helps me to understand what is happening around me, for example with Brexit and wars."*

COMPETITION WINNERS

Christmas Card Competition

Chiyana (9S) was the deserving winner of the 2018 Christmas card competition with her entry using oil painting techniques.

Photography Competition

Amelia (7S) won the school's Photography Competition submitting three photos, entitled 'Hillingdon'. Amelia's triptych of photographs was framed and presented to The Right Honourable Boris Johnson MP at the school's annual Presentation Evening.

Congratulations Chiyana and Amelia!



PANATHLON AND JACK PETCHEY

On 16th November, former Ruislip High student, James Hillier received the Jack Petchey Outstanding Achievement award – Panathlon's top annual honour for competitors in London and Essex. He attended the prize giving ceremony at John Lewis in Stratford along with other students from other schools, who had participated in The Panathlon Competition. All the students had been nominated by their school for showing outstanding commitment to sport. The award was presented by Liz Johnson, a Paralympic Gold medal winner and Gemma Juna, the operations director for the Jack Petchey Foundation

James has been taking part in the Panathlon with Ruislip High for the past three years as part of The Hillingdon Team and his enthusiasm has no bounds. He is now at Uxbridge College and staff miss him being part of team Ruislip High.



James said *"I'm so, so happy! I really enjoy supporting my team mates and making up word searches, sweepstakes and games for them to play when we go to the Panathlon."*

LRC NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS

With Christmas approaching it is a great time to reflect on another busy and exciting year in the LRC. Due to its perfect location in the central part of the school, the LRC is booked by many teachers for lessons and events, maximising the use of the large space, laptops and projector and, of course, the hundreds of resources to hand.

There have been lots of fantastic events, including some new ones, this year.

World book day - costume parade and after school quiz: This is always a favourite for the Year 7 students. It is a day when students can attend school dressed as their favourite character from a book or film, comic or superhero. Fortunately, Ruislip High School is never short of students or enthusiastic staff who are keen to get involved in the action! This day is also a favourite with the older students, who love seeing the younger students and staff in costume.

Chess tournament: The LRC hosted this tournament which involved students from all year groups.

Maths 24 game: This took place in the LRC hosted by the maths department. Several surrounding schools took part, hoping to win the top spot.

End of term student quiz: This involved many teams of students pitching against each other to win some amazing prizes.

Scholastic book fair: As in previous years the LRC has run some very successful scholastic book fairs. This is a great opportunity for students and staff to purchase new books, stationery and resources, with some being at discounted prices. Fortunately, as there have been some very successful fairs, Ruislip High School has been rewarded with permission to sell new books and resources at half the retail price.



Our recent half price book and stationery fair generated sales of **£345.00**, which means more free books for the LRC.

Accelerated Reading Success: The Accelerated Reader scheme has been very successful this term. The group of students who attend the Accelerated Reader scheme in the LRC participate in supported reading and are then quizzed on the book they have read. In the last assessment all of the students from Accelerated Reading showed an increased reading age.



Above and Beyond after-school homework club: The LRC's after-school homework club continues to be extremely popular with many students from all year groups attending.

Students who regularly attend can take advantage of the extra time and remain in the LRC after school to complete homework. The LRC has computers and laptops available for students to use, as well as teaching assistants to support them.

The LRC homework club is open every evening after school, as follows: Monday to Thursday 3:00pm – 4:15pm and Friday 2:35pm – 4:00pm.

'Game, Set and Match': As well as the hundreds of books and magazines in the LRC, there are also a large number of board games available for students to play during break and lunch time. This is extremely popular with all year groups, with many students interacting with each other in healthy competition.

The LRC 'Bits and Bobs stationery shop': Following the success of the stationery shop originally set up by the Year 10 Business Studies group, the LRC continues to run the 'Bits and Bobs' shop in the LRC.

The shop sells a range of good quality stationery items at cheap prices, including Period 1

check packs, which include: exam pencil case, pencil, four-colour pen, glue stick, eraser, 30cm ruler and a whiteboard pen. The packs cost £4.00 for a large filled pencil case and £3.50 for a small filled pencil case.

Items for sale:

Pencils 15p
Erasers 20p
Pens 20p
Four-colour pens £1.00
Glue sticks 50p

Rulers 20p/50p
Clear pencil cases £1.00 (small)/£1.50 (large)
Highlighters 50p
Whiteboard markers 50p

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 School. A number of the students across the 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 their hard work:

Year 7: Amber (7S), Gracie (7S), Benjamin (7W)

Year 8: Lily (8A)

Year 9: Luke (9B), Kyle (9B), Ellis (9B), Matthew (9B), Rebecca (9B)

Year 10: Sophie (10S), Emily (10S), Hodman (10D), Chanel (10F)

Also, a big thank you to all the staff who help in the LRC. Thank you to the following people for their continued loyalty, hard work and commitment: Mrs Kotak, Mr O'Neill, Mrs Hudson, Mrs Crowther, Mrs Dowsett, and to Miss Flynn and Miss Lake who cover the LRC in my absence.

Christmas Joke: What do you call Santa Claus when he stops moving? 'Santa Pause'.

The LRC wishes you all a fantastic Christmas and new year and we look forward to another busy school year in 2019.

Mrs Austen
LRC Manager

YEAR 11 BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Year 11 students took part in a series of role plays, which involved acting in the role of a health professional working with a vulnerable service user. Students needed to demonstrate the care values which include confidentiality, showing respect, having a person-centred approach and communication skills.

The students' role plays were filmed and they then had to respond to feedback to produce a report for their coursework. Year 11 were mature and well prepared. There was also some fabulous acting!

This task coincided with careers week and students were able to demonstrate their understanding of the skills and qualifications required to work in the caring professions. Many of our Year 11 Health & Social Care students are planning to work in caring professions such as medicine, nursing, midwifery and teaching.

MUSIC NEWS

Mrs Coltman and Mr Stent have been astonished by the quality of the musicians at RHS this term. From the performances in lessons to the public performances at Presentation Evening and the Christmas Carol Concert. The Year 7 choir is always a highlight of the autumn term and this year was no exception. A dazzling and heart-warming performance of 'Million Dreams' from the film The Greatest Showman was performed by a specially selected Year 7 choir, and some extremely talented young people delivered solos to the distinguished guests.



The music department continues to provide students with the opportunity to develop further their understanding of topics and sharpen their musicality through a range of extension challenges for each topic. At the beginning of the year, all students in Key Stage 3 are given a double-sided card which details a 'Silver' and 'Gold' challenge for each topic. Students can then complete these challenges in addition to their homework. As always, we have had an impressive number of students engaging with the programme and the top performers in Year 7 and 8 are listed below.

Name and form	Silver Challenges Completed	Gold Challenges Completed	Name and form	Silver Challenges Completed	Gold Challenges Completed
Emma, 7B	3	4	Asha, 8S	6	4
Klea, 7B	3	1	Eleanor, 8S	5	2
Anastasia, 7B	3	1	Libby, 8S	4	1
Adam, 7F	3	1	Isabelle, 8S	4	1
Liam, 7B	2	1	Libby	3	1
Carys, 7F	2	1	Grace	2	1
Jasmine, 7B	2	1			
Jessica, 7C	2	1			

On Wednesday 19th December, a select group of Year 7 students performed at the All Saints Church in Hillingdon as part of a multi-school carol concert. They sang 'Carol of the Bells' which made all in attendance feel the Christmas spirit.

Mrs Coltman and Mr Stent look forward to the Year 7 and 8 Festival in the spring term as there are bound to be some impressive musical performances from our talented students.

YEAR 11 NEWS

What a busy term it has been for Year 11!

It has been inspirational to see the mature approach so many of our students have shown towards their studies in the build up to what will be a very important year for them. It has to be said that so many of the cohort really have stepped up to the challenge of their GCSE exams, showing determination and grit throughout! The challenge of workload has most definitely increased, but with this, so has the inquisitive nature of Year 11 in their quest for success. Whilst there have been many stand-out achievements, events and activities taking place this term, here are a few of the highlights:

Theme Day

Ruislip High School hosted another successful Theme Day this term with a focus on the theme of self-discipline. It was evident from the start how passionate Year 11 were during their well-planned public speaking tasks where they voiced their views with maturity and conviction. The eventual winners, 11C, were exceptional in their ability to articulate their arguments. A special mention must also go to Christina (11C) and Robert (11D) who were the stand out speakers for Year 11.

Guest Speaker - James Aidoo

A large number of the Year 11 cohort had the pleasure of taking part in academic and skills-based workshop sessions with motivational speaker, James Aidoo. The sessions dealt with many aspects of student life, from exam pressures right through to life aspirations and forward planning. Due to the positive impact of this initiative, Ruislip High School hopes to invite James back again in the new year to work with the remainder of the cohort.

Presentation Evening

Ruislip High School's annual Presentation Evening was yet another hit. Students from all year groups were celebrating success and Year 11 was no exception! A huge congratulations must go to our Senior Prefects, Adam (11C), Suakshi (11B), Amy (11C) and Thiviya (11W), who did the year group and the school proud with their motivating and inspirational speeches that captivated an audience, including a very engaged Boris Johnson.



Preparing for GCSE exams

With the GCSE exams fast approaching, it has been so pleasing to see the committed personalities that so many of the Year 11 cohort are beginning to show. Many students are already attending revision sessions that are being run by members of staff. It has been noted on several occasions just how many students are taking the time after school to take advantage of these invaluable sessions.

Special Mentions

A special mention must go to the Year 11 boys' football team who have made a strong start to their campaign this year, having won both their games in their two cup competitions. James (11S), Warsame (11F) and Aaron (11F) have displayed some stand out performances so far this season. With the league campaign expected to start in early 2019 for Year 11, it will be interesting to see how this talented bunch of players can sign off on their Ruislip High School careers.

Mr Alexander
Head of Year 11

ENGLISH NEWS

"Speak Out!" Challenge – Friday 21st September

On Friday 21st September twenty-six students from Year 10 took part in the Jack Petchey "Speak Out!" challenge. The "Speak Out!" challenge is known as the world's biggest youth speaking event. It's a one-day experience where students develop public speaking skills and deliver a speech on something they are passionate about in front of their peers. The students had a fantastic day and were able to use the skills they had learnt at the end of the session.

The standard of the students' final speeches was so high that four winners (Emily 10F, Hannah 10W, Josh 10F and Jasminder 10B) were picked to compete against each other in assembly to represent Ruislip High School in the regional competition on 5th December at Oak Wood School. Jasminder was selected to represent Ruislip High School.

Cheltenham Literary Festival trip

Ruislip High students enjoyed a literary experience on Wednesday 10th October. Thirty-three students from across Year 7 and Year 8 visited the Cheltenham Literary Festival.

The event's website says, *"For ten days every Autumn, Cheltenham is transformed into a literary lover's dream as we welcome over 600 of the world's finest writers, actors, politicians, poets and leading opinion formers to help us celebrate the joy of the written word."*



Students were accompanied by Ms Marsh and Mr Jose. Organiser Ms Marsh said, *"We had a truly fantastic day at the Literary Festival on Wednesday, and managed to pack in four activities during the time we were there. Students had the opportunity to: watch a debate between five representatives of local schools, debating which was the most monstrous book; complete a Beano challenge trail and win a copy of the comic; listen to author, Mitch Johnson, speaking about his novel 'Kick' in a very interactive and engaging way, watch a fifteen minute alternative performance of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein to mark the 200th anniversary of the novel. We also managed a quick stop off at the Waterstones children's book tent where there was a number of authors signing copies of their novels."*

Sarah, 8S, said: *"My favourite part was watching other students debate which was the most monstrous book as it shared perspective and definitely persuaded me to read one of the books listed."*

Benjamin, 7W, said: *"The most enjoyable experience I had today was the entertaining story of 'Kick' by Mitch Johnson. I found myself very immersed in the book, making me think about the different crises happening in the different areas of the planet. I found myself wanting to read the inspirational book more than anything."*

Ava, 7C, said: *"I enjoyed the performance before lunch."*

Liam, 8S, said: *"I enjoyed the workshop about the book 'Kick' because I learnt things I didn't know!"*

A-Level trip to The British Library

All A-Level English students from both English Literature and English Language classes in Year 12 and 13 took part in a workshop at The British Library on Monday 24th September.

The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and the largest national library in the world by number of items catalogued. Students were accompanied by Ms Marsh, Ms Woolcock and Ms Keenan.



While some students attended an 'Exploring English' session on the development of the English language over time, others studied original texts on display in the Treasures Gallery, which included the works of Oscar Wilde, Shakespeare, The Beatles and the Magna Carta. Through lively discussions, creative activities and source-based learning, our students were encouraged to develop an understanding of the diversity of the English language and investigate the impact of power, technology and standardisation on language production.

Organiser Ms Marsh said, *"The students had a fantastic day and both A Level Literature and Language students were able to take something from the day back to school to inform their learning."*

TRAVEL AND TOURISM NEWS

The new Year 12 travel & tourism class has enjoyed settling into the course, and students have produced numerous impressive pieces of coursework towards the completion of their first unit. The department has been particularly impressed with the dedication and care that Nicole (C61) has put into her work.

The Year 13 class has been busy making proposals for travel & tourism businesses. Particularly impressive have been Becky's (C66) hot air balloon business, Ellie's (Year 13) Bed & Breakfast business and Harry's (C64) superb idea of leading cycle tours around London, where each customer is on a bike. The Year 13 students have been enjoying presenting their excellent business proposals in class.

A number of Year 13 students have applied for travel & tourism-related courses at university. One said:

"Travel & tourism is a coursework subject, which means that we are able to apply a variety of skills which we can use practically in the future. It also incorporates different subjects and cultures, which makes it interesting to learn".

The department looks forward to seeing its students continue to impress with their coursework in 2019!

PE NEWS

Cross-country Harrow Championships - Wednesday 17th October

An excellent effort was made by all the athletes that represented Ruislip High School. Everyone ran well, pacing throughout and proving to be competitive against the other schools.

Year 7

Cassie (7S) 9:11, 6th
William (7C) 8.27, 6th
Mason (7W) 9.00, 17th

Year 9

Anna (9S) 8.57, 2nd
Chloe (9W) 9.30, 6th
Akos (9S) 10.09, 7th

Year 8

Eleanor (8S) 10.41, 9th

Year 10

Luke (10D) 8.25, 1st
Amit (10C) 9.14, 4th
Toby (10A) 10.02, 15th



Badminton KS3 tournament

On Wednesday 28th November, Key Stage 3 students took part in the borough badminton tournament at Harlington School. Then, on Wednesday 5th December, the Key Stage 4 students competed. They all played outstandingly.



Girls' rugby team

Ruislip High School's girls' rugby initiative has already allowed our Key Stage 3 girls to experience the thrill of the game, and improve their fitness and physical literacy. The broad programme consists of rugby being taught by qualified coaches on a weekly basis.

The students listed below were selected from these classes to compete in a rugby tournament at Ruislip Rugby Club against Ealing Fields, Uxbridge High School and William Perkins, on Friday 30th November.



Students played exceptionally well making tackles on players that, only a few weeks ago, they may not have attempted. With outstanding runs and tries from Skylar, 9C, Chloe, 9W, Keira, 9W, and Isabelle, 9A. The girls won their first ever match against Ealing Fields and narrowly missed out on a win against Uxbridge High School and William Perkins.

Netball Results

Year 7 - Queensmead 14-8 win

This was the first game of the year and the player of the match was Cassie, 7S, for scoring 10 of the 14 goals.

Year 8

Year 8 played games against the following schools:
Bishopshalt 3-0 loss (Lady of the match, Amalie, 8B)
Douay Martyrs 5-3 Loss (Lady of the match, Libby, 8S)
Vyners 4-1 loss
Swakeleys 10-4 loss

Year 9 - Queensmead 14-13

This was the first game of the year and the player of the match was Yasmin, 9W. It was a tight, hard-fought game. The girls worked hard to win by scoring the final goal in the last few seconds.

Year 10/11 - Vyners 14-6 loss.

Football

Year 7

It has been a good start to the season for the Year 7 football team. They have been working hard during the early training sessions and are improving each week in their matches. Luke 7F, has been a constant threat scoring goals every game, whilst Benjamin 7C has been the most improved player since the start of the season, dictating in midfield.

Year 7 results

District League

Drew 2-2 with Uxbridge High School
Won 5-1 against Vyners School
Lost 4-3 against Queensmead School
Won 6-0 against Bishopshalt School
Lost 6-1 against Bishop Ramsey

Middlesex Cup

Lost 4-3 against JFS School

ESFA Cup

Won 6-1 against Harefield Academy
Lost 4-3 against St Joseph College

Year 8

The Year 8 team has made a strong start to the year, sitting top of its district league at Christmas and still in the Middlesex Cup competition. Students were unlucky to be knocked out of the National cup, but have taken that lesson in moving forward. We hope for a bright 2019!

Year 8 results

District League

Won 4-3 against Uxbridge High School
Won 1-0 against Queensmead School
Won TBA against Bishopshalt School

Middlesex Cup

Won 3-2 against Isleworth and Syon
Won 3-1 against Preston Manor
Won 5- 3 against Queensmead

ESFA Cup

Lost 4-3 against St Clement Danes School

Year 9

It has proved to be a fantastic season so far for Year 9. They had a tough season in Year 8 and have now shown their ability to work as a team and win games.

Year 9 results

District League

Won 6-1 against Vyners School
Won 4-1 against Queensmead School

PE NEWS

Won 5-0 against Bishopshalt School

Middlesex Cup

St Gregory Catholic College - to be played

ESFA Cup

Lost 4-3 against Fulham College

Year 10

It has been a good start to the season for the Year 10 team. Students have shown their ability to move the ball through the thirds with Hekmat, 10C, being a constant threat as the striker. They have come up against some tough opposition in the cups but have proved their worth.

Year 10 results

District League

Won 7-3 against Vyners School

Won 3-0 against Bishopshalt

Middlesex Cup

Won 3-2 against Chiswick School

Won 3-1 against Twyford Church of England School

Drawn Bishop Ramsey - to be played on December 18th

ESFA Cup

Lost 2-1 against Platanos College



Year 11

The Year 11 team have had an excellent start to the season. Students have a solid team and, when concentrated, play some quick counter-attacking football. James (11S) has been the most consistent player in the team, providing protection for the back four and setting up attacks.

Year 11 Results

District League

Students will be playing in the district league after Christmas against Barnhill, Oakwood and Harlington.

Middlesex Cup

Won 4-2 against JFS School

Drawn against Chiswick in the next round

ESFA Cup

Won 2-1 against Richard Challoner

PRESENTATION EVENING 2018

The guest speaker at Ruislip High's Presentation Evening 2018 on Thursday 15th November was The Right Honourable Boris Johnson MP.

Mr Johnson delivered his speech in front of a packed audience of students, parents/guardians and staff in a specially decorated sports hall.

The annual Presentation Evening is a flagship event in the school's calendar and features student performances alongside a plethora of awards.

The event included a review of the past school year by Headteacher, Dr Lecky. Cllr Eddie Lavery, Chair of the Governing Body, gave the opening remarks and also introduced Boris Johnson.

Mr Johnson said *"I am lost in admiration for all the winners here tonight. Well done to you all. However, I'd also like to speak out to all the 'non-winners'. In my own life, sometimes it's been the spur of failure that's given me the energy to keep trying new things. When I was at school, I was bad at many things. I was so bad at the piano that my teacher even started a campaign among my school friends to get me to give up! Only if you risk getting things wrong then you can get things right."*

Mr Johnson also highlighted the leading position of the UK economy and how employment levels in the country are strong. He spoke proudly of the economic opportunities for young people growing up in west London, and pointed out that many products exported around the world are designed or produced in west London. Such products included bus stops for Las Vegas!

Student performances included a vocal solo of 'Summertime', originally recorded by My Chemical Romance, by Hannah in Year 13. The Year 7 choir of thirty students performed 'A Million Dreams' by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul.

As well as awards for effort and achievement across all subject areas, the school also presented fifteen special Bestowed Prizes. These included the Yarrow Cup for Citizenship (awarded to Hannah in Year 12); the Karan Sagoo Award for Student of the Year (awarded to Nicole in Year 12); and the Madcap Books Prize for Creative Writing (awarded to Portia in Year 9).

The Bestowed Prizes also featured a new award, the Nadira Morris Prize for Scientific Endeavour, handed to Marcelo in Year 12. Mrs Morris is a former Assistant Headteacher at Ruislip High, highly regarded for her ability to explain complex scientific concepts. Mrs Morris attended the event to present this award. Closing remarks were given by Gareth Davies, Head of School.



GEOGRAPHY NEWS

This term the department has displayed some photographs from the two residential field trips that took place towards the end of the summer term. Below are two display photographs which show the Sixth Form field trip to Norfolk and the GCSE field trip to Swanage.



The department is very proud of its new classroom names, as part of a whole-school initiative to name every classroom after an inspirational person. The geography classrooms are named after American aviation pioneer, Amelia Earhart, ocean map-maker, Marie Tharp, former president of the Royal Geographical Society, Michael Palin and Everest climber Sherpa, Tenzing Norgay.

Year 7

The final Year 7 topic of this term has been map skills and the British Isles. The students' treasure maps show they have developed several map skills including using direction and scale. The map skills topic will be assessed in the Year 7 exam in February 2019. Kareem, 7A, said, "It was really interested to make my own map and I made sure it had a clear scale and the instructions had several grid references." Year 7 students have made an impressive start. This term they have also studied atlas skills and the UK's longest river, the Severn.

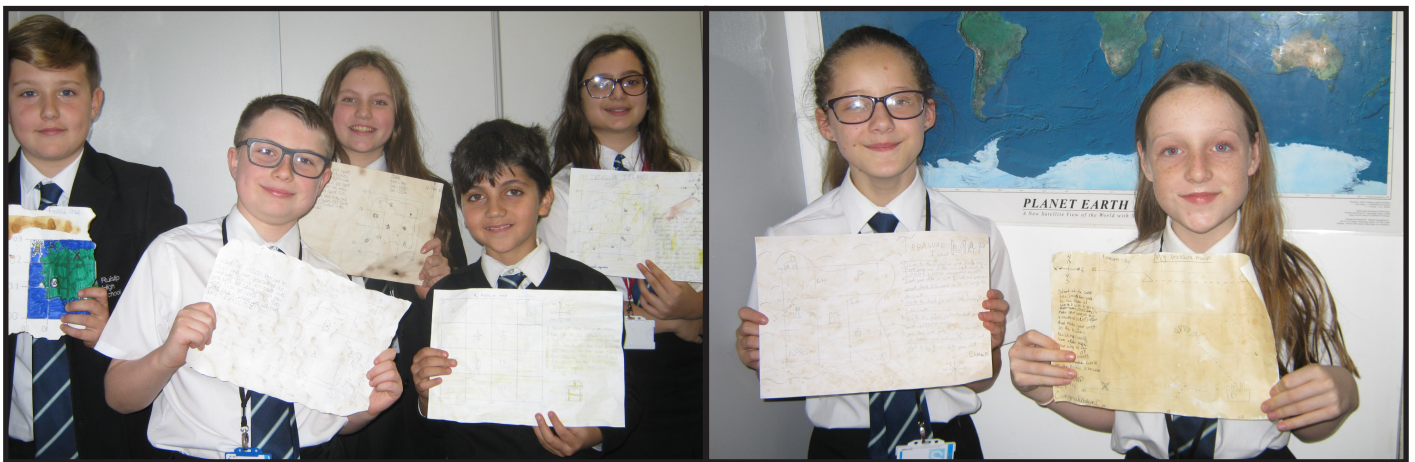


Photo caption: Year 7 students showing their own treasure maps.

Year 8

In the first half term, students studied the Earth's tectonic plate movements and the effects of ongoing volcanic eruptions on the Caribbean island of Montserrat. In the second half term, Year 8 students learned about the causes and effects of earthquakes in the USA. They then studied the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, and how efforts have been made to ensure people living in coastal locations are forewarned should an event of this magnitude ever happen again.

Year 9

Year 9 students started the term learning why countries are in different states of development.

Students then carried out a detailed assessment on why shanty towns exist around Cape Town in South Africa, and how these can be improved over time.

Year 9 students then learned about South America and Brazil. Alfie, form, said, "We learnt the meaning of Brazil's flag, including that the yellow rhombus symbolises the country's natural resources." Natalia, 9C, said, "We learnt the social history of Brazil, and how the population is made up of people from different backgrounds around the world." Connie, 9C, said, "I was interested that Brazil was colonised by Portugal in 1500. That's why they speak Portuguese there today."



Photo caption: Year 9 students showing their work about South America and Brazil.

Year 10

A large number of students have started GCSE Geography in Year 10 (125 students). The five classes are focussing on the three topics of the Unit 1 exam 'Living with the Physical Environment' (the Challenge of Natural Hazards, the Living World and Physical Landscapes in the UK). Students should start revising now for their Year 10 exam using their PLCs (personal learning checklists).

Year 10 students will then move on to the three topics of Unit 2 'Challenges in the Human Environment'. For Unit 3 'Geographical Investigations', students will carry out fieldwork on the residential field trip to Swanage in July 2019.

Year 11

The four Year 11 GCSE Geography classes spent the first few weeks of this term writing up their fieldwork enquires following their field trip to Swanage in July 2018. They have learnt many new data presentation and analysis techniques. Year 11 students have three exams to prepare for in summer 2019:

- Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment. Tue May 21, 2019, pm. 1hr 30mins.
- Unit 2: Challenges in the Human Environment. Wed June 5, 2019, pm. 1hr 30mins.
- Unit 3: Geographical Applications. Thur June 13, 2019, am. 1hr 15mins.

Updated 'Megabook' revision guides, written by the department, will be handed out at Year 11 parents' evening on 10th January 2019. They will also be shared electronically via Show My Homework.

Year 12

The new Year 12 A-level class is studying the Hazards unit with Mr Peacock and the Resource Security unit with Mr Alison. The end of unit assessments will take place in January 2019. Students will then study Changing Places and Coastal Systems and Landscapes, as well as statistical skills, before the four-day residential field trip to Norfolk in June 2019.

Year 13

Year 13 students have been making strong progress towards their two A-level exams:

- Unit 1: Physical Geography. Wed May 22, 2019, pm. 2hrs 30mins.
- Unit 2: Human Geography. Thur June 6, 2019, pm. 2hrs 30mins.

Mr Alison
Associate Assistant Headteacher (Humanities).

SPRING TERM DATES

Monday 7th January - Friday 5th April, 2019

- **Monday 7th January, 2019: INSET day**
- **Tuesday 8th January, 2019: First day of term**
- **Thursday 10th January, 2019: Year 11 Parents' Evening, 4:30pm – 7:00pm**
- **Wednesday 13th February, 2019: Year 12 Parents' Evening, 4:30pm – 7:00pm**
- **Friday 15th February, 2019: Half term ends**
- **Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February, 2019: Half term**
- **Monday 25th February, 2019: Half term begins**
- **Thursday 28th February, 2019: Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4:30pm – 7:00pm**
- **Thursday 14th March, 2019: Year 9 Options/Parents' Evening, 4:30pm – 7:00pm**
- **Friday 5th April, 2019: Term ends (12:00pm)**
- **Monday 8th to Tuesday 23rd April, 2019: Easter holidays**

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



Ruislip
High
School

**Ruislip High School, Sidmouth Drive,
Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0BY**

Tel: 01895 464064/Fax: 01895 675331

