

Ruislip High School NEWSLETTER

Summer 2023

ACTIVITIES WEEK 2023

This exciting and ambitious week, takes students' learning beyond the classroom and provides them with the opportunity to gain a wide range of enriching experiences in different settings.



The week began, on Monday 3rd July, with all students participating in a Careers Day, which saw students think about their futures by exploring a range of careers they may not have considered, to hearing from industry professionals. Students also evaluated their current skill set and thought about what careers might match their skills.

On Tuesday 4th July, the majority of the school headed to Hillingdon Athletics Track for Sports Day. This was an exciting day and the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves, in an atmosphere of true school spirit. Students arrived at the track raring to go! A competitive, yet supportive, spirit was in the air, as tutor groups proudly displayed their tutor group banners and cheered on one another in each event.

It was wonderful to see a wide range of students from each tutor group participating in a wide variety of track and field events, to earn their tutor group points. From discus to the relay, there was an event for everyone to try.

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HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



I write this article at the end of another action-packed term at Ruislip High School. Our students have yet again shone in various academic and extracurricular activities and this newsletter is filled with so much achievement from the remarkable young people who make the school the vibrant community it is.

The week of 3rd July 2023 saw the school host its second activities week since the pandemic, and despite the interruptions caused by two days of industrial action it was another ambitious affair. As you can see on the front of the newsletter our Year 10 students scaled the heights of the O2 while all students took part in a range of in and out of school activities. The highlight of the week for me was our Sports Day which, although slightly shortened due to the inclement weather, was an outstanding community event and it was a delight to observe students and parents cheering on the competitors throughout the day.

I often try to celebrate the achievements of our student community and I have been particularly impressed this term by the sporting achievements of our students. I have mentioned swimming and sprinting success in my recent parent updates and I believe the hardwork and dedication that it takes to compete at high-level sport is very much in tune with the message of hard work equalling success that we talk of so often with regard to academic success at the school.

I cannot write a newsletter article this term without mentioning our newest members of the Ruislip High School, our RHS bees! I was delighted to welcome our first hive to the school shortly after Easter and it seems they have settled in well and our partners at the Pinner and Ruislip Beekeeping Association are very happy with how the bees have adjusted to their new environment. As mentioned in the article contained in this newsletter, the bees have arrived as a direct result of a student-led initiative and, as well as being an example of the school helping biodiversity thrive in the local community, it is a great example of the power of student voice at the school.

Although the term has been dominated by extra curricular success and achievement, it is important to remember teaching and learning will always be our core business and I wanted to emphasise how impressively our examination year groups approached the summer exams.

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



For the second year running we have three students with offers from Oxford or Cambridge University and a significant number of university and apprenticeship offers. Our A Level and GCSE results days will take place on the 17th and 24th August 2023 respectively and I have no doubt that they will be celebratory days at the school.

Finally, I would like to sign off for the academic year by thanking parents and staff for ensuring that Ruislip High School continues to go from strength to strength. We are a school at the heart of our community and, as I have witnessed in our celebration assemblies this week, our students take great pride in being Ruislip High School students. I wish you all a restful summer and have no doubt that the 2023-2024 academic year will see yet more outstanding achievements in academic, creative and sporting fields from our incredible students.

Gareth Davies

Headteacher



Continued from front page...

ACTIVITIES WEEK 2023

The events were supported by the Year 10 students, who did a fantastic job of helping the PE team with keeping scores and coaching students with how to participate in field events. Oliver and Lewis, Year 10, were especially fantastic supporting Ms Farrell with shot put - ensuring every student knew the correct form and way to complete the event.

The day was finished off with the staff races where the female 100m was won by Ms Penny and the male 100m was snapped up by Mr Grant. As impressive as their respective wins were, the final victories announced were the winning tutor groups. The winners were as follows:

7B	8F	9D	10C
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Across Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Year 7, 8 and 9 students all got a chance to take part in a fabulous Enterprise Day, organised by Ms Carstens. During the day, students worked in groups on a mini enterprise project, which saw them research, plan and present their ideas for a brand new trainer design and marketing campaign. Students from each tutor group took part, first within their forms, then the winning group from each form got the chance to present their pitch to our panel of judges in front of their year group! Students brought their A game and there were an array of interesting, entertaining and sustainable designs presented. Move over Sir Alan Sugar!

Next, on Thursday 6th July, it was a big day for trips at the school, with 150 of our Year 7 students heading out for the residential to Disneyland Paris departing, alongside the Year 8 Places of Worship trip and the Year 10s who had a choice of trips on the day between: Up the O2, Woburn Safari Park and Regent's Open Air Theatre. Everyone had a fantastic time, with Tawhed, Year 10, who bravely climbed the O2 commenting: *"I can't believe that I got the chance to climb the O2. This is definitely a school memory I will not forget."*

Also, Cassie, Year 10, who went to watch Robin Hood at the theatre, told us: *"This trip was so fun. The theatre in Regent's Park was really cool and the play was wicked. I had a great day!"*

Finally, on Friday, the Year 9 students headed to RAF Hendon to learn about diversity in the RAF during World War II. Trip leader, Ms Horton said: *"It is always a privilege to teach an element of my subject (History) beyond the classroom. I really hope the students have valued their time exploring the museum and enjoyed the thoughtful workshop they have attended today."*

ACTIVITIES WEEK 2023



Ms Ohana, Assistant Headteacher, who leads the week, said: "Running Activities Week for almost 1,000 students is a challenging venture! Ensuring that students have enriching and worthwhile experiences, whilst learning and remaining happy and safe is what it is all about. It is a joy to watch students achieve in ways they don't expect to or gain a new skill or perspective they did not have at the start of the week. It is one of the best things about working in education - I'm already looking forward to next year."



BEEKEEPING



The bees have finally arrived at RHS. It's been quite a journey from its inception in July 2021 when five Year 9 (now in Year 11) students proposed the idea as part of a Dragons' Den pitch during a Vanguard Learning Trust wide competition. The students, Ava-Pearl H, Emila M, Giselle M, Aylar K and Alexia S wanted to introduce beekeeping to the school as part of the development of the school's new Ecohub. Following the endorsement from the Dragons the students completed a fact finding visit to a beekeeping school, the American Community School in Cobham, Surrey. Although the visit was on a cold and frosty November morning, it did not dampen the students' desire to start beekeeping at RHS.

Before the bees could come to RHS, the area earmarked for the Ecohub had to be developed and a secure area made for the apiary where the beehives would be positioned. With the expert guidance and enduring support from the Pinner and Ruislip Beekeeping Association (PRBKA), the apiary was set up and three members of staff have been trained as beekeepers in readiness for the arrival of the bees.

Finally, at the beginning of June 2023, the bees arrived. The bees were delivered in a nuc hive, which is half the size of a regular hive and is designed for safe and easy transportation. This was left on top of the new hive for a day so that the bees got used to their new environment before moving to their new home. The following day the RHS beekeepers, under the watchful eye of the local PRBKA experts, moved the bees over to their new hive. The beekeepers took the frames out of the nuc hive, examining them one by one for bee larvae, food stores and most importantly the queen. The beekeepers had to make sure the queen was moved into the new hive or the bees would swarm and leave the hive to go to look for her. To make the queen easy to identify, she had been marked with a little yellow dot. It's estimated that there were 15,000 to 20,000 bees transferred to the new hive which is approximately half of a full hive. The bees were then left for a week to settle, before being checked on by the beekeepers as part of their weekly inspection. We are happy to report they are looking healthy and have successfully found their hive's front door, flying in and out to search for nectar in the local area.

BEEKEEPING (CONTINUED)

The RHS bees have settled into their new home well and appear to be thriving. The colony has almost doubled in size in just a few weeks and an additional layer has been added to the hive to accommodate their increase in size. The bees are also beginning to generate honey and we look forward to seeing them continue to flourish throughout the summer and to provide our students with the opportunity to learn about the wonderful work of bees.

Mr Gould, who has been supporting the project in the Ecohub, told us: *"We are thrilled to introduce bees to our Ecohub. It is another step on our school's journey to helping support wildlife thrive in the local community."*



YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 have almost completed their first full year at Ruislip High School. When they joined in the autumn term, I described them as tourists getting to know the new place they are exploring. Now they are the experts and have settled well into life at Ruislip High and I am so proud of all of their achievements this year.

Our residential trip to France was launched again this year for the first time since the pandemic.

147 students along with staff travelled to France early on Thursday morning. We arrived in the evening at our amazing accommodation and settled into our rooms. The first night definitely had the atmosphere of a big sleep over despite the long journey.

The excitement continued the following morning when we went to Disneyland Paris. Students were eager to get on the rides with their friends and a lot of merchandise was purchased alongside lots of ice cream as the sun was shining all day! Christopher 7A said, *"DisneyLand was great. I loved the parade, all of the characters came over to say hello"*.



On Saturday, we saw more of France when we travelled to Versailles. Humaid said, *"It was really fun and educational when we went to the Palace of Versailles and saw how French royalty lived"*. Students were able to explore the famous Hall of Mirrors and get a glimpse of the extensive gardens.

YEAR 7 NEWS (CONTINUED)

Despite delays getting home, students remained in high spirits and it was rumoured that there was a party happening on Coach A in the holding carpark. We all arrived home late but safely and I am sure the students have made memories for life.



As well as the Year 7 residential, Activities Week was full of opportunities for the year group. Students took part in Sports Day - Congratulations to the winners, 7B! Students also took part in an Animal Welfare Day in the Eco Hub and an exciting Enterprise Day.

Many of our Year 7 students are eligible for the summer reward trip to Thorpe Park. These students who have shown exemplary behaviour will be able to have a day of fun at the theme park and I know that lots of students will be working hard to ensure their attendance on the trip next year too.

Ms Loizou

Head of Year 7

ENTERPRISE DAY

RHS ENTERPRISE DAY



ACTIVITIES WEEK

JULY 2023

Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students participated in Enterprise Day during Activities Week. Students had an interactive day where they worked in groups doing enterprise activities.

'This day was very creative and full of new experiences! It has given me the idea of what it would feel like to design and sell a product.'

Ara K 8C

'It felt amazing to work with my friends to design our own shoes and it was fun competing with other groups!'

Ollie H 8C

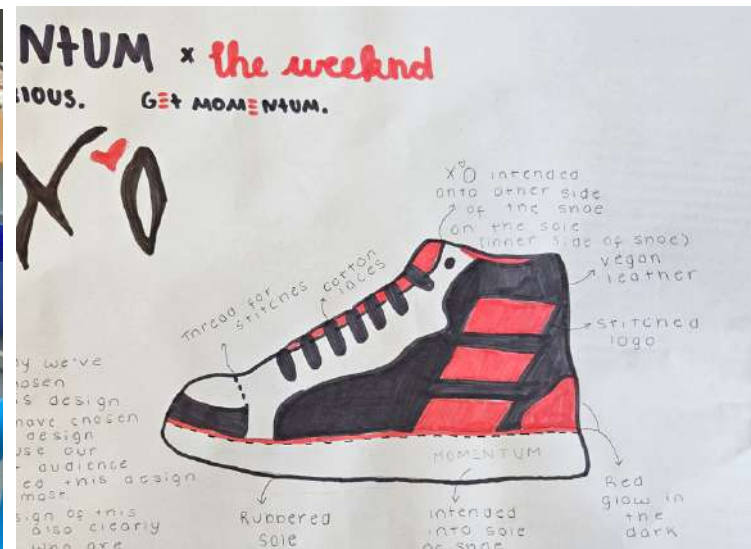
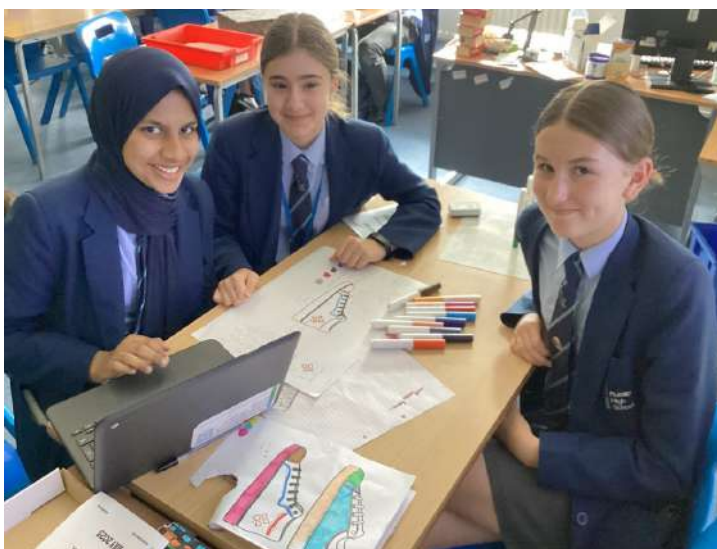
Students had to do primary and secondary research and then had to use this information and design a new trendy pair of trainers. Students also had to calculate the finances for the trainers. Students competed in tutor groups where the best groups were chosen and then those groups had to present to the judges. The quality of the presentations was extremely high and students should be very proud of themselves.

'It was really fun because we got to create our own designs and act like we were actually making the shoe. It was also very informative as we had to work out finances as well.'

Ruby S 9D

Well done to all the groups who won in each year group!

Mrs Carstens



ECO HUB NEWS

Vet Club bandaging

Every Wednesday in the spring term, Vet Club welcomes students. Students learnt a variety of topics within the vet community. They learnt when to bandage, how to bandage and why we bandage. They also learnt about the clash of exotic animals meeting our ecosystem.

Young Green Briton Challenge: Year 9 Students Take on the Carbon Crisis!

Since March of last year, the Year 9 students of our esteemed institution have embarked on an extraordinary journey known as the Young Green Briton Challenge. This initiative aimed to instil sustainability values among our young minds and empower them to address the pressing issue of carbon emissions.

The challenge commenced with engaging sustainability lessons, enlightening our students about the importance of adopting eco-friendly practices. Subsequently, a design sprint was organised, during which our budding entrepreneurs dedicated an entire day to crafting innovative business plans aimed at combating the carbon crisis. Following their work, on the "drop down" day, the top five groups were selected from the year to present in the Dragon's Den. They pitched their sustainable business ideas to a panel of esteemed local entrepreneurs.

We are proud to announce that two exceptional teams, Operation Sustainable and Cloud Green, emerged as the front-runners. Each team was awarded £250 of seed funding to kick-start their sustainable businesses.

However, only one team could secure their place as the finalists. Operation Sustainable, with their denim repurposing scheme, triumphed and earned their spot at the awards ceremony at the House of Lords. They set up a stall at this distinguished venue, passionately pitching their ingenious idea to transform old jeans into fashionable patchwork denim clothes. With a focus on accepting donations and selling these upcycled garments for profit, Operation Sustainable aims to make a positive impact on both the environment and our local community.

To enhance their reach and create awareness, Operation Sustainable diligently created a website (see [here](#)) where they showcase and sell their merchandise. As they progress towards the final stages of their business plan, they are now preparing to organise free sewing workshops. These workshops will not only equip community members with sewing skills but also serve as a platform for the team to assemble a dedicated group of volunteers who share their vision.

ECO HUB NEWS (CONTINUED)

The panel of judges at the House of Lords included prominent figures such as Chris Packham, renowned for his dedication to wildlife conservation. Our talented students were fortunate enough to meet Mr. Packham in person, along with the esteemed Lord Bird and Lord Randall. Such an incredible opportunity allowed them to gain valuable insights from these influential personalities.

We extend our warmest congratulations to Operation Sustainable for their remarkable achievements thus far and encourage them to continue their journey. The dedication and passion demonstrated by our Year 9 students in the Young Green Briton Challenge serve as an inspiration to all, reminding us that small actions can make a significant difference in our collective fight against climate change.

Let us support Operation Sustainable and their noble cause as they pave the way for a greener and more sustainable future!



ECO HUB NEWS (CONTINUED)



"I am ecstatic because I have been given an opportunity to work on something I am passionate about with my friends."

Laylah

BIEA club

Climate change – a recognised global emergency. As the increasingly catastrophic weather hits countries around the world, the droughts, floods, and fires indicate that the environment is changing. The young people of today will live in the changed world of tomorrow.

The world and humans, need to adapt our ways of life so that the future is sustainable. The BIEA 2023 Youth STEAM Competition gives young people, the adults of tomorrow, an opportunity to cast their minds into the future, and use creative foresight to help come up with ideas to ensure that humans of the future can live in harmony with the planet.

Carbon neutral buildings

How can we develop low energy and sustainable buildings for our cities? All countries are predicted to have changed environments in the future. How do we keep our homes safe and comfortable? For example, the UK is predicted to have much wetter winters and much hotter (+35oC) summers.

What can we do to our homes now to protect them from the future climate events? If you choose this strand, you will need to find out what kind of environmental impact current city buildings have, and how they are affected by current climate events. You will be designing modern, carbon neutral homes or offices, using sustainable building materials to reduce the impact human life has on the local environment. How will your building improve the wellbeing of people who live in them?

YEAR 8 NEWS

It has been great to look back on my first year working with Year 8 students and to think about all their achievements and progress on many levels.

Inspiration is a Ruislip High School value that we do not speak enough about within the year group, and we have many talented and inspiring young people. They are young people who have shown imagination and independence to excel within the school environment. From talented musicians, attending a variety of clubs, achieving awards our year group is an integral part of the extra-curricular activities.

Students have worked hard this academic year; they have set high expectations and consistently found new ways to make progress. As a result of this the year group are in great shape going into Year 9. With the Year 9 Ambassadors being selected in the final week of term, I am confident that these ambassadors next year will be a fantastic addition, and I look forward to working with them to help further improve the educational potential and school environment for the students.

The Reward Wheel Achievement initiative has been very popular amongst the year group. One student from each form receives an award for having the most positive reward wheels over a two-week period. Presenting this award has been gratifying with a vast variety of students winning the award.

As the summer term and Year 8 comes towards an end, the following year marks the start of an important journey, as our year group will select their GCSE subjects next year. I am proud of the growth and development that the year group have demonstrated and look forward to supporting them all in the next chapter of the academic journey.

I wish everyone a lovely summer holiday, I encourage you to read, stay active and come back revitalised and ready to learn in September!

Mr Joseph

Head of Year 8

DRAMA NEWS

The Summer term has been a hugely successful and exhausting term for the Drama community at Ruislip High! The story of this term has truly been that hard work makes success.

Our GCSE and A Level students have sat their written exams after having finished their practical assessments. The practical assessments were flawless, and the hard work after school and in every available opportunity paid off. The audiences that we had, both internal and external, were full of praise for the students and rightly so.

At Key Stage 3, Year 9 have been hard at work devising and writing their own plays which will be performed in the last few weeks of term.

Miss Garner's Key Stage 3 Drama Club produced some memorable, hilarious and impressive scenes for Arts Evening. The performers were tireless in running through each scene twice during the evening and full of excitement at the end of the night. It is testament to Miss Garner that such quality was produced by such young students, and everyone involved should be incredibly proud of themselves.

The Drama department also contributed an abridged adaptation of Macbeth as the final part of Arts Evening. We really wanted to create something original and exciting, and to give the audience a new and fresh perspective on Macbeth - which we set in a coastal part of Scotland, rather than the traditional highlands-and-tartan approach. The cast was the hardest working Mr Randall has seen at Ruislip High. Mr Randall says: *"I feel really lucky to have worked with this group of students. To watch them develop their characters and commit to working at such a high level was a real gift. They were all phenomenal and I can't wait to get stuck into our next project and attempt even more challenges."*

Max, Year 10: *"We had our ups and downs, wanted to laugh and cry but we did it! I'm so sad it's over. Well done everyone!"*

Teighan, Year 9: *"I have grown my confidence so much thanks to all these wonderful people!"*

Amelia, Year 10: *"Macbeth was so much fun. We've made so many memories, I couldn't be more grateful."*

Amira, Year 9: *"We all fell in love with Drama."*

EQUALITY WEEK

The week beginning 19th June was celebrated as schools across the Vanguard Learning Trust took part in our yearly trust-wide Equality and Diversity week. This week focused on celebrating the diverse cultures, backgrounds and identities of our school communities.

At Ruislip High School, students took part in a range of activities and talks relevant to the week.

Year 7 students took part in a Gamelan Music workshop run by the music department at Ruislip High. Gamelan, the term for a traditional musical ensemble in Indonesia, typically refers to a percussion orchestra composed predominantly of tuned gongs of various types and metal-keyed instruments. Students enjoyed learning new skills and were very keen participants.

Year 8 students took part in an Indian classical dance workshop run by the SBDC dance company. The workshop began by teaching all students basic skills and built up to groups learning a complete dance routine by the end of the session. The students had lots of fun learning this new skill and took part in the workshop enthusiastically. Connor, Year 8, told us: *"The dance workshop was amazing! I was a bit shy at first, but then once I got involved it was fun."*

Meanwhile, Year 9 students had the chance to take part in a cultural cooking workshop, learning how to make a couscous salad. During the sessions, the students gained new chopping skills - by the end they could give Jamie Oliver a run for his money! Luke, Year 9, commented: *"I have never had couscous in my life before, so thank you for introducing me to it. I really liked it and would be keen to have it at home again."*

On Friday 23rd June, the Year 12 students got to attend a Q&A with Raheem Payne-Mir. Raheem came to talk to the students about his experiences growing up in North West London as a member of the LGBTQ+ community and the importance of intersectionality when considering equality. The students thoroughly enjoyed his lively talk - and were very excited to hear about his current job touring with artist Becky Hill.

Finally, one of the most exciting moments of the week took place on Wednesday 21st June, where Ruislip High School celebrated its first ever 'Cultural Day' with the Sixth Form. On this day, staff and sixth form students dressed up in their cultural clothes and explained stories behind their clothes to their peers. There was a lovely atmosphere throughout the day, with students wearing clothing representing their cultural heritage with pride and all showing respect to one another and taking an interest in everyone's culture.

EQUALITY WEEK (CONTINUED)

Jiya, Year 12, said: "I am proud to celebrate the diversity in our school. Being able to wear my cultural clothes in school has been fantastic - this should happen every year!"



On another note Ruislip High school has proudly achieved the Equally Safe certificate awarded by the Department of Education. This was a year-long project participated in by over 250 schools to audit and improve on systems to identify, tackle and put robust systems in place for, identity-based bullying. Ruislip High School has been named as one of the top 5% schools in the country already having robust systems in place, and this project made them even better.



Certificate of Completion

This is to certify that

Ruislip High School

has successfully completed

EqualiTeach's Equally Safe Anti-Bullying Programme 2022-2023

23/03/2023
Date



Signature

YEAR 9 NEWS



As Year 9 students are getting ready to enter the next stage of their education, I could not be more confident that they all have the maturity, organisation and resilience needed to succeed. Throughout the year, they have proved that they are willing to learn more and work hard, no matter what happens.

We know it has not been easy every day for most of them, but they somehow always found a way to pick themselves up and carry on. This requires a tremendous amount of strength and we are not sure we would have been able to exhibit so much fortitude and resilience when we were in Year 9.

There is so much going on and so much to be proud of that I will selfishly talk about our three favourite events this term.

The Battlefield Trip - February Half-Term

The trip to the Battlefields has always been one of my favourite times of the year, but it was made even more special this year by taking my own year group. Needless to say we had a wonderful time learning and spending time together! The respect and deference shown by students during the trip made all of us really proud, and the patience and kindness they had for each other reminded me that all of them are on their way to become extraordinary people. When we attended the Menin Gate ceremony, our students were by far the best behaved and most respectful. I would like to thank Gemma (9D) and Dillon (9W) for representing Ruislip High during the ceremony by placing a wreath on the Wall of Remembrance. It was very moving to see how proud they were and what the gesture meant to both of them. After the ceremony, Dillon said he felt he had achieved something great and I am sure this moment will forever stay with him.



YEAR 9 NEWS (CONTINUED)

On a different note, all were also brave enough to try snails, which is a first! We had a bit less emotionally intense time at the theme park!

Well done and thank you Year 9s; I am really looking forward to our next trip together (Bring on Paris 2024!)

Duke Of Edinburgh

The two Duke of Edinburgh weekends were extremely successful, despite the heat and the outburst of hayfever! Over the two days, students have walked 21 kilometres on both the assessed and pre-assessed expeditions. Students have learnt to read maps and use compasses to find their way or try to! Some groups got lost on the first day but rectified their map reading on the next day to make sure they would pass their Bronze level.

Back at the campsite, students put their tents up, cooked their dinner and had a well-deserved relaxing time as we were truly blessed with the weather.

Duke of Edinburgh is not only about walking; it is a truly character affirming experience.

"The compass didn't work so we got lost (hum hum) but we had such a great time and Jonathan, the Mountain Leader, was so nice and fun! We are 100% doing it next year!"
Team 1

"I enjoyed working in the LRC for my volunteering and it was nice to be able to use my football training for my physical skills. I think I will do it next year!" Team 7

"I thought it was really fun, getting lost was actually the best part because we had such a laugh! I started to make a funny vlog to be remembered. I am so glad I learnt how to cook and to do gardening for my volunteering!" Dillon 9W

"I really enjoyed it, especially eating so much food! It was so much fun to camp with our friends! I find it really hard but I was very proud of myself when I finished!" Angelina, 9W.



YEAR 9 NEWS (CONTINUED)

Sports Day

I won't write at length about Sports Day as you can read all you need to know in the PE newsletter but I just wanted to stress how wonderful the day was. Strangely, this was Year 9 students' first Sports Day with Ruislip High and probably the last for students taking Geography GCSE next year (they will be on a field trip rather than Sports Day). It is great that Year 9 students made it a memorable day, filled with fun and fairplay! Well done to all students who took part in events and contributed to the team effort. A lot of resilience was shown and everyone agreed that Y9s were the most supportive and motivational students on the track!

Congratulations to 9F for winning the Tug of War competition and to 9D who got to the top of the Year 9 table! What a great team performance!



Ms Lucas

Head of Year 7

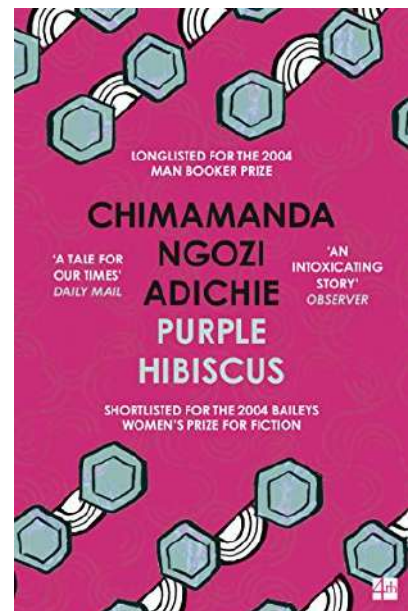
ENGLISH NEWS

Well done Year 11 and 13 on completing your exams. Students were enthusiastic right till the run up to their exams and made the most of the revision sessions available to them. Good luck to all our leavers!

Year 10 did a fantastic job of writing and delivering their speeches for their Spoken Language Endorsement as part of their English Language GCSE. It was fantastic to see so many of our Year 10s speak so passionately and maturely about topics that were important to them. Sixty students were also nominated by their English teachers to take part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge where there were phenomenal, personal, and eloquent displays of public speaking.

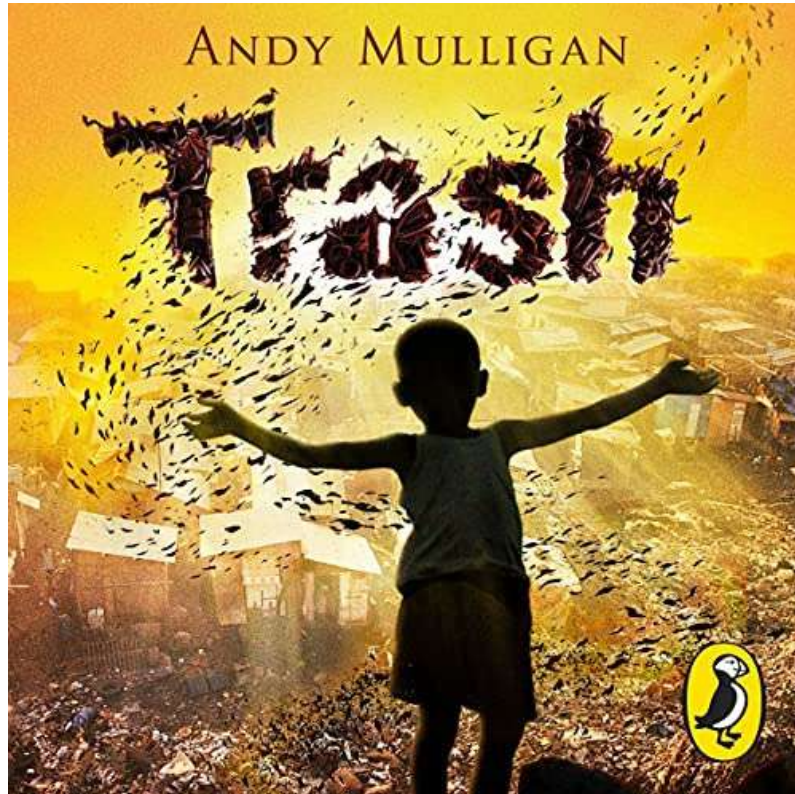
Year 9 have just completed their unit on Purple Hibiscus which is a book grappling with tough family dynamics set in Nigeria during the 1960s. It is a very challenging text and we were so impressed to see how our Year 9s rose to it and engaged with the social and literary debates within it.

Year 8 have just completed Romeo and Juliet which involved watching a staged production, getting to grips with and analysing Shakespearean language and debating on who was to blame for all the tragedy - the poor Friar Laurence came off very harshly with many of our students. They have now moved on to Uncomfortable Truth Poetry where students look at the tough topics in life and how they are expressed in the poetic form.



ENGLISH NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 7 did an amazing job with their analysis of the mystery novel *Trash* which is set in Brazil, looking at how characters and narrative are presented and have now moved on to the media literacy unit where they explore what social media is really telling us and looking at the layers behind the language and images that have been presented to us.



All in all, the English department is thrilled with what has been a wonderful, dynamic and challenging year and can't wait to see how the students will thrive in the next academic year to come.

YEAR 10 NEWS

As we reach the end of the academic year it marks a productive and successful year for Year 10 as the cohort reach the halfway point in most of their GCSE courses. With their continued hard work and application over the course of the next 12 months I am sure the students can achieve their full potential when they complete their exams and receive their results next August.

However, most students in Year 10 will receive their first GCSE this summer when they receive the results for Citizenship. Taking a GCSE a year early is an impressive achievement and has been noted by the Citizenship department and school how well the students applied themselves towards their exams with regards to revision and exam practice. Fingers crossed for their results in August, that it will be a result that they are proud of and gives them confidence going forward to Year 11.

It is also pleasing to see so many students take part in extracurricular activities this year including Duke of Edinburgh, with over 20 students undertaking their Silver award this year. I was lucky enough to go on the mock assessment in May and it was fantastic to see so many people successfully complete it.

As Head of Year I have also heard so many positive stories coming from the Music department regarding how many talented musicians the Year has and I am looking forward to the Celebration Assembly and seeing so many of the students perform to the year group.

I was also proud to hear such positive feedback and how the students were a credit to the school following two very successful workshops that took place this summer term so far. Both workshops were two day workshops and involved over 70 students from across the year group. The first was a Jack Petchey workshop developing the students' public speaking skills in preparation for their English assessment. Both facilitators commented on the maturity and high level of skills demonstrated by the students; they were very impressed.

The other workshop was on progressive masculinity. This workshop covered issues relevant to teenage boys in society today. The leader was impressed by the level of maturity shown and engagement in the topics shown by the students.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express how much I have enjoyed being Head of Year 10 this year. I wish every one of the students success and luck going forward to Year 11 which will be a really critical year in their school life. Mr Sills, the new Head of Year, is taking over a great year.

Mr Cahill

Head of Year 10

GEOGRAPHY NEWS

The Geography Department has continued its tradition of organising coastal field trips in the summer term. The UK coastline is under pressure from increasing rates of erosion in several locations, and sea level rise due to climate change. Students have found it interesting to investigate coastal change and management at GCSE and A Level.

GCSE Geography

Just to the west of Bournemouth lies the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Hengistbury Head. All five GCSE Geography classes in Year 10 enjoyed a visit during Activities Week in July.

Students had two enquiry questions to help prepare for GCSE Paper 3 which they will sit in the summer of 2024. These were: 1: Does Hengistbury Head have effective coastal management? 2: Does Mudeford Spit attract tourism?

The 'Long Groyne' at Hengistbury Head is currently being upgraded. As well as collecting primary data on site, students have been researching the engineering plan using this website: <https://twobays.net/project/hengistbury-head-long-groyne-works/>

Year 10 students also investigated coastal tourism at Mudeford Spit, where beach huts have been sold for more than £400,000. Here is one of the research articles students have used: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-dorset-63243467



GEOGRAPHY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 10 students have already completed four of the eight GCSE topics (The Challenge of Natural Hazards, Living World, Physical Landscapes in the UK, and Urban Issues and Challenges). With pre-public exams ahead in the autumn term, students can start revising early using the quizzes, 'Megabook' revision guides and past papers on their Google Classroom. Meanwhile, the department wishes the best of luck to all the Year 11s expecting their GCSE results. The effort in revision lessons was very good!

A-level Geography

In June, the department visited the Norfolk coastline for a four-day residential field trip. This was to support students to collect data for their NEA (non-exam assessment) coursework project. This was the department's 13th residential trip to this part of the country.



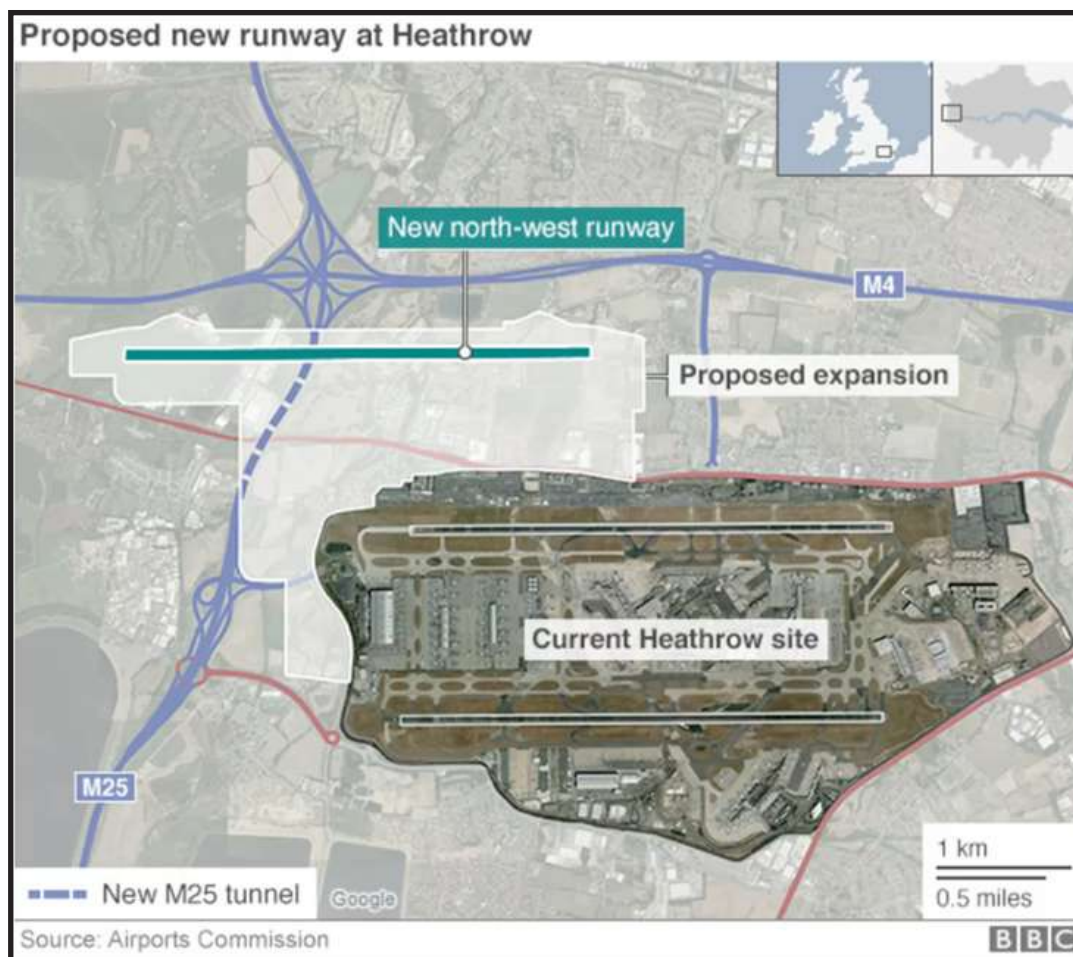
The Year 12 students have so far studied four of the six A-level topics: Hazards; Coastal Systems and Landscapes; Changing Places; and Resource Security. In Year 13 students will complete their coursework projects then study the final two units: Water and Carbon Cycles, and Global Systems and Global Governance.

GEOGRAPHY NEWS (CONTINUED)

The revision effort from Year 13 students was impressive, and the department heard many positive comments from students after both of their 2.5-hour exams (Physical Geography and Human Geography). Good luck for results day!

Key Stage 3 Geography

Students in Years 7-9 have continued to impress, and the department is delighted to expect more than 130 students starting GCSE Geography in September. Year 9 students have in particular enjoyed a new topic in the summer term, investigating the geography of transport conflicts. For example, they have considered whether Heathrow Airport should add a third runway, and the plan for a new cruise ship port on the island of Grand Cayman.



A highlight for Year 8 this term has been to carry out a fieldwork weather survey on the school site. This involved using digital anemometers to measure wind speed, and an 'oktas' chart to determine cloud cover. Meanwhile, in the 'Settlement' topic Year 7s have used historic Ordnance Survey maps to study the growth of Ruislip linked to the expansion of the London Underground. They saw historical map evidence to show that the route of the West End Road is more than 200 years old!

YEAR 11 NEWS

After years of hard work in preparation for this summer's GCSE exams, Year 11 have reached the end of their secondary school journey at Ruislip High School. I have been so impressed with the students' commitment, determination and perseverance during a pretty gruelling exam season. With each Year 11 student having sat around twenty exam papers over the course of the last six weeks, I know how pleased they are to be free from revision and are now reaping the reward of an extended, and well deserved, summer holiday.

In the lead up to these final exams, a high number of our students attended many revision and coursework catch-up sessions put on after school by teachers, with some attending sessions during the half term holiday. Each student worked tirelessly this year and I know that teachers throughout the school are looking forward to seeing lots of smiling faces on GCSE results day in August.

The summer term has also been punctuated by a range of celebratory events, culminating in the Prom which took place at the end of June. The students looked brilliant in their finest suits and most glamorous dresses, and we had a fantastic evening celebrating with them at the Denham Grove Hotel. There are some great pictures from the Year 11 Prom later in this newsletter.

Earlier in June, students had their final leavers' assembly with 'good luck' messages from staff who have supported them over the past five years. Following the assembly, students enjoyed ice creams and shirt-signing to mark the end of their exams.

It has been a real pleasure to support this cohort in their final year at secondary school. As has been mentioned on several occasions, they do have the reputation of being 'the best' year group in the school and I know they will all go on to do extraordinary things in the future - whatever path they choose. We look forward to seeing the majority of students back in September as they start sixth form with us, and for those who are going on to Apprenticeships and local Colleges, we wish the very best of luck.

The class of 2023 have been a real credit to Ruislip High School and to themselves. I would like to wish them all a very restful and enjoyable summer, and thank their parents/carers for their support along the way.

Mr Sills

Head of Year 11

SOCIAL SCIENCES NEWS

Year 12 Sociology

Throughout this academic year, sociology students have been studying the principles behind the conducting of sociological research. They have developed extensive analysis and evaluation skills that have enabled them to critically evaluate sociological research conducted by established sociologists. They even progressed to conducting their own research, creating literature reviews, analysing data, summarising findings and presenting these to the rest of the class. Examples of the research include the link between gender and the criminal justice system and in addition the effect of material factors on educational outcomes.

Visit from the headteacher - Mr Davies

Students have been studying the topic of Education and, specifically, been looking at how schools are funded and how policies and procedures are implemented on a day to day basis at Ruislip High School.

Mr Davies attended a Q&A session and answered questions from Year 12. It was really informative and students learnt a lot. We will be inviting Mr Davies back to talk further about educational policy.

Year 12 Psychology

This term, a team of Year 12 psychology students participated in Royal Holloway's 2023 National Psychology Competition. This competition required students to record a video presentation and create a poster on the question, 'How can psychology help us to understand the information epidemic?'. Students were also required to answer questions on their presentation at an event at Royal Holloway. Martina S, Holly P and Nahidur R took part in this competition. They each made outstanding contributions to this project through their research into the competition question, their production and editing of the video entry and their verbal responses when questioned at the event. Their outstanding performance and dedication in this project demonstrated their desire to extend their psychological understanding beyond the classroom by stretching and challenging themselves throughout the planning, preparation and delivery of the project

Year 12 Health and Social Care

Year 12 HSC students are taking part in the research being carried out by the Health Nation contributing to the Covid Inquiry. Here is some information about this research project: <https://navigator.health.org.uk/theme/health-nation-strategy-health-england-white-paper>

The pandemic and the nation's health

Since the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been exploring its implications for the nation's health and health inequalities. The measures taken to control the spread of the virus have had huge implications for people's health in both direct and indirect ways. We also know that some groups are being affected much more than others – factors such as age, ethnicity, gender and socioeconomic circumstance all contribute to how people are impacted. Our work looks at the pandemic in its broadest context and considers the socioeconomic impacts it has had – as well as the health inequalities that have been laid bare – during these past months.

Students will be involved during the Autumn Term and will be using this experience to write their Unit 10 Coursework on Health inequalities.

Parliament and the Supreme Court

On the 3rd May 2023, students from our Year 12 Politics cohort went on a trip to central London to visit Parliament and the Supreme Court. Whilst at Parliament, students had the chance to tour the magnificent Palace of Westminster and to sit in the House of Lords during one of its sittings. Afterwards, students soaked up the atmosphere in Parliament Square, with a huge number of contrasting protests occurring during the build up to the Coronation. Later in the day, students had the chance to visit the Supreme Court and to sit in one of the cases taking place. Mr Amos said *"It is always a pleasure to take a new group of politics students to Parliament and our students thoroughly enjoyed the day; we look forward to going back next year!"*

PE NEWS

Athletics

Senior Borough Athletics 2023

Ruislip High fielded 30 pupils from Years 9 and 10, all competing are listed below. All students were a credit to the school both in competition and in appearance amongst other schools in the borough.

Alex L (10W) got Ruislip off to a flying start winning the 800m in a straight final. Alex dictated the tempo early and stuck to his own plan, allowing others to press ahead without them getting too far ahead. Within the second lap Alex put his foot down and controlled the race from there, finishing comfortably ahead at 2 minutes 23 seconds.

Anna B (10B) competed in the 300m race, she finished second comfortably in her first heat and then prevailed victoriously in the final with a time of 46.84. Congratulations Anna on a fantastic final!

The Year 9s competing in their first senior event also started strong with Zoe M (9B) competing and winning gold in the Javelin. She threw at a distance of 22.85m, well done!

Jake H (9F) running in the daunting 85m hurdles made light work of the competition showing his composure at each hurdle and winning gold by a time of 12.84.

Teighan G (9F) competed in the 200m and won gold in the high jump event. Her jump of 1.40m was a clear winner to the runner up at 1.36m.

Jaydon DB (9D) who competed in the 200m, won gold in the long jump with a best jump of 4.82m. He certainly enjoyed his victory.

Sam W (10F) , a returning gold winner in the discus last year, settled for silver this time, missing out on gold by 1 metre with a throw of 21.12m. A fantastic effort from a reliable pupil who gives 100% in everything he tries!



PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Joe K (10C) ran in the 1500m. He is usually dominating on the football pitch, but here, he controlled 99% of the race. It was a superb effort and in his attempt to secure the gold, he stretched ahead in the final lap to create a gap, but in the last 150m, a sprint finish started in which he agonisingly lost out by 3 tenths of a second. His recorded time was 4 minutes 41.54 seconds. A great effort and he would come back later in the day for more.

Zayn A (10W) Ruislip's star sprinter, made light work of his first heat winning comfortably, and then dominated the final with a time of 11.09 seconds. If you ever get an opportunity to watch Zayn sprint, you should do so as it is an impressive sight.

All pupils performed to the best of their ability, showing resilience but also representing the school to the highest standards a pupil can show at any event. But the day was capped off by a fantastic performance from the Year 10 boys' relay team: Joe K, Alex L, Rafferty S and Zayn A, winning gold and hopefully cementing a memory of working together as a group to win.



Please share your congratulations to the pupils in firstly, representing the school and also placing where they did; they will value it greatly.

Team list-Year 9

Jaydon D/B (9D), Alfie S (9D), Jake H (9F), Adam D (9S), Arun B (9S), Yousuf A (9S), Max B (9B), Finley B (9C), Alfie H (9A), Kalina B (9A), Teighan G (9F), Chelsea-Rose K (9C), Eliana R (9B), Eve A (9D), Maya R (9W), Zoe M (9B), Elena L (9C)

Year 10

Zayn A (10W), Micah W (10A), Jeremiah M (10S), Alex L (10W), Joe K (10C), Rafferty S (10D), Sam W (10F), Oliver B (10C), Alice P (10S), Anna B(10B), Sara U (10W), Neriah C (10S)

Junior Borough Athletics

Ruislip High fielded another incredibly strong team for the recent Junior Borough Athletics competition, held at the Hillingdon Leisure Complex. Students from Years 7 and 8 provided lots of exciting moments on the day and took home a rather large collection of medals!

Our first success of the day came on the track in the Year 7 boys' 1500m race. Hussein I (7B) cruised to victory in a race he controlled from start to finish. In sweltering conditions Hussein was able to maintain a blistering pace leaving his competitors a long way behind. Hussein would later add a silver medal to his collection by finishing second in the high jump. There was more success in Year 7 as Charlie C (7D) dominated the shot putt competition. Charlie was able to throw a full 2 metres further than his nearest challenger. His throw was so impressive that it would have also secured a medal in the Year 8 competition as well! Erin D-M (7D) also claimed a bronze medal in the javelin.

One of the most exciting events of the day is the 100m sprint race, and this was the case once again in the Year 7 girls' competition. Xenia G (7D) was able to secure a silver medal in an incredibly strong field. The top 3 places were separated by fractions of a second which certainly added to the drama.

The Year 8 team provided the majority of the medals on the day with a number of impressive performances. Ava W (8B) claimed silver in the 800m with an excellent run, denied gold by just a few inches. Ava was thrilled with her performance as she normally runs the 400m for her athletics club. Charlie R (8D) would add a bronze medal in the boys 800m in another extremely close race. Charlie R (8D) would add a second silver medal to his haul with a strong showing in the long jump. More medals would follow in the field as Matthew H (8D) took home the bronze medal in the high jump. This would not be the last of Matthew's medals though! In an incredible performance in both the heats and the final itself, Matthew stormed to victory in the 200m.

In the penultimate event of the day, Veer B (8F) also secured a gold medal in the 100m race. After being narrowly beaten in the heats, Veer showed fantastic resilience and put in a near perfect performance in the final.

PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Another extremely exciting race! The final medal of the day was claimed by the Year 8 boys' relay team. Kallum J (8F), Matthew H (8D), Charlie R (8D) and Veer B (8F) were well placed throughout the race after a strong first leg from Kallum J. The boys just left themselves with just too much to do in the final leg and had to settle with the silver medal. We now look forward to a number of the students representing Hillingdon at the upcoming Middlesex Athletics Competition. Well done to all involved.



Middlesex Schools Selection

Congratulations to the below students who have qualified for Middlesex Schools Athletics Championships after their recent success at Hillingdon Schools Athletics Championships. This event took place at Lee Valley on Saturday 10th June.

Elena L (9C)- Hammer, Zoe M (9B)- Javelin , Tieghan G (9F)- High Jump, Anna B (B)- 300m, Cassie S (11S)-300m, Jayden DB (9D)- Long jump and 200m, Jake H (9F)-80m Hurdles, Joe Kirby (10C)- 1500m, Alex L(10W)- 800m, Sam W(10F)-Discus, Zayn A (W)- 100m.

English School's Selection 2023

Congratulations to Zayn A (10W) who has qualified for the English Schools Track and Field Championships which is being held at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham on Friday 30th June and Saturday 1st July 2023.

PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Zayn qualified through winning Middlesex Schools on Saturday 10th June with a time of 11.00. He currently has a personal best time of 10.99 which ranks him 17th in the country.



Cricket Year 7

The year 7 team were in good form and full of surprises in their first ever cricket fixture. A narrow loss to Vyners in the opening game saw an opportunity for reflexion. Having seen what we had done and where others could step in, captain Ayan C (7A) ran the changes in field and bowling attack. With a surprise inclusion of Oscar W (7F) who got a hatrick of wickets and continued to be a threat in the bowling attack alongside Ayan, Jamie S-M (7F) and Charlie C (7D). There were positive performances throughout the side, especially in fielding where everyone made a contribution. But special mentions must go to Jamie S-M (7A) who was terrific as an opening batsman alongside Ayan (7A) and a surprise turn from James B (7B) who was terrific at wicket keeper, not letting anything go past him, even if it hurt! Players representing the team are as follows:

Ayan C (7A), Jamie S-M (7F), Dishan D K (7C), Charlie C (7D), Oscar W (7F), Ibrahim H (7F) Dragos T (7F), Felix M (7S) M, Cormac B (7S), Hussein I (7B), Ashaz S (7B) and James B (7B)

PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 8

The year 8 team showed resilience and determination to battle through a tough day of cricket against some really good sides. A narrow loss against Vyners was followed by a tough match against a very strong Haydon side. The final game came down to the wire in a nail biting draw vs Queensmead. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their day in the sun and were well captained by Alfie D (8S) who opened the batting in each game to a high standard. Players representing the team are as follows:

Alfie D (8S), Harley B (8C), Kai M (8W), Louie S (8W), Jamie H (8F), Lorcan M (8W), Kallum J (8F), Faraan T (8C), Ronin D (8A), Dathusan T (8C), Caden C (8A), Ted E (8W)

Rounders match vs Vyners

On Monday 22nd May the year 7 and year 8 team played their first rounders match of the year against Vyners school. Both teams have been practising over the last few weeks at Rounders club, which showed in the games.

Year 8

The year 8 rounders team started off with a fantastic win in their first game. Students showed excellent skills and put into practice things they have learnt from games in the previous year. Score: Vyners scored - 5 rounders Ruislip scored - 9 rounders

Player of the match - Harley B (8C) Players in the game: Aaron L (8F), Archie N (8S), Shaan P (8D), Kai M (8W), Harley B (8C), Eva E (8S), Deeya J (8S), Amy D (8W), Nancy T (8S), Freya M (8F) Holly M (8S)



PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Year 7

Year 7 completed their first ever rounders match since being at RHS. They were excellent but unfortunately just missed out winning the game. Score: Ruislip - 10 rounders Vyners - 13 rounders.

Players in the game: Erin D-M (7B), Kaia, Anna D (7B) Bethany S (7B) , Chloe S (7S) , Jacob L (7B), Pedro (7D), Sam H (7C), Jamie M-S (7F) Eric R (7C)



Panathlon

On Monday 12th June 12 students from across the school went to Brunel University to take part in the Hillingdon Panathlon competition. In the competition we entered two teams, a year 7 team and a mixed year 9 and 10 team. They were both competing against 6 other schools in the competition from different Mainstream and SEN schools in the area.

Students took part in 8 different events throughout the day, spending 7 minutes at each event. The events included Poly bat, Curling, Long Jump, 10 Pin bowling, Boccia Blast, Tennis, Bean Bag throwing, and Harlem Hoops.

The students that represented Ruislip High School in this event were a credit to school showing resilience throughout the day when finding some events more difficult than others.

All students from Ruislip High School received a medal and certificate for their hard work and excellent skills shown in the competition.

PE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Well done to all students involved:

Gurveer G (7A), Christopher M (7A), Salman M (7A), Tyler B (7D), Humaid O (7D) Ben H (7F), Rhys P (10W), Ollie M (10W), Rehan K (10B), Husayn D (10B), Niamh C (9W), Paige M (9F)



Wembley Reward Trip - 2023

On Sunday 14th May 2023 a number of Ruislip High School students were taken on a PE reward trip to watch Manchester United Women Vs Chelsea Ladies FC in the Women's FA Cup final. These students were selected as a result of having shown their dedication and commitment through attending girls' football clubs throughout the academic year.

The trip was a great success with students thoroughly enjoying the day. Behaviour of the pupils was fantastic and they showed great levels of enthusiasm whilst watching the game.

There was a record breaking number of people attending a women's game with over 77,000 people. At the end of 90 minutes Chelsea was leading 1-0. Chelsea won the FA Cup women's final for a second year in a row.

The PE department hope the students had a fantastic day and next year are looking forward to having the opportunity to reward more students for their attendance at PE clubs and fixtures.

Thank you to Miss Farrell, Miss McGuigan and Miss Penny for giving up their time on a Sunday to supervise the students on the reward trip.

YEAR 12 NEWS

I write this as we approach the end of the first year of Sixth Form and I am reflecting on what a massive year it has been for our students.

After a successful transition from KS4 into KS5, students have had a variety of different opportunities presented to them that they have grabbed with both hands. Students have started going to look around universities in preparation for next year; some have embarked upon the challenge of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award; some have gained positions in the Student Leadership Team; others have taken on the challenge of the EPQ and everyone has been making steps toward their futures when they leave Ruislip High School in a year's time.

Students have started on their UCAS forms and University applications already this year, earlier than ever before. We want all students to have this completed as much as possible before the start of Year 13, leaving as much time as possible to focus on their revision and their qualifications.

Year 13 will be a struggle, students will have to work the hardest that they have ever done in their academic lives. Despite this, I am happy to tell you that they have worked so hard this year that next year will be much easier as a consequence.

In order to support your child in Year 13, please encourage them to complete work experience and extracurricular activities related to their post-18 studies over the holidays. They should also read around any subjects they may wish to pursue post-18. In addition to this, you can also help by getting your child to come to school every day. Tutorials will be in the morning next academic year and they are compulsory for Year 13 students. You need to support the school and your child by getting them into school and all of their tutorials and lessons. There is a clear link between attendance and attainment and this is something that we ask parents to support us with.

The final thing I will ask is that next year you support your child. They might be struggling with different pressures and it's important that we listen to their struggles. If you think they need support from school, please let us know.

Congratulations to everyone in Year 12; I look forward to seeing you in Year 13! Have a good and productive summer!

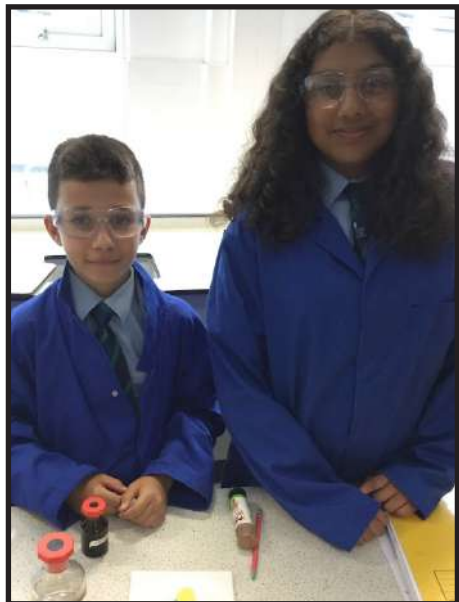
Mr Elsby

Head of Year 12

SCIENCE NEWS

Spectacular summer science

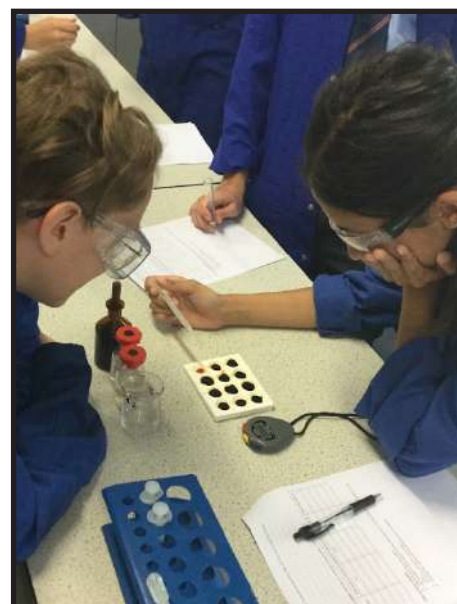
This summer has been hot but that hasn't stopped the science department from completing a wide variety of practical work.



Above are some examples of students completing a range of experiments looking at acids and alkalis. Students tested a number of household substances to find out if they are acids, alkali or neutral. Our young people also had the opportunity to have a go at 'neutralisation circles' and you can see in the picture to the right where the neutralisation has occurred (see the green section). In later lessons students will create a salt from an acid and alkali.

In Year 9 students have been learning about the digestive system in biology and have completed both the food tests and enzyme required practicals. The students below are adding a mixture of starch, amylase and pH buffer to iodine solution to see if it contains starch. If the mixture contains starch, the iodine goes a blue-black colour and this indicates that digestion has yet to be completed. Once the solution stays the iodine colour of orange then this indicates the enzyme amylase has digested all the starch.

Year 10 students in Physics have completed a range of experiments related to light including the one shown to the right where they are investigating refraction. The students were comparing refraction in perspex and glass.



HISTORY NEWS

Key Stage 3 Reflections

As our students neared the end of the academic year, we asked them to reflect on what they had learned this year. In Year 7, Elise said, *"The favourite thing I've learned about was the Romans because it was really interesting to learn about their myths and achievements."* Looking ahead Elise is looking forward to learning about *"Henry VIII because he is quite famous for his absurd six wives."*

Meanwhile in Year 8, Mariam said *"I have really liked learning about the Black Tudors book by Miranda Kauffmann and the transatlantic slave trade. Black history hasn't been taught as much so I really enjoyed learning about the experiences of the past."* Lola, also in Year 8 remarked, *"I think I have enjoyed learning about the Tudors and the Reformation the most. I had studied it before but it was interesting to learn about it in more detail."*

When asked what Mariam is looking forward to in Year 9 she said, *"I am looking forward to learning about World War Two next year because I like studying different perspectives and how people tried to act to keep themselves safe."* Lola gave a similar response, *"I think I will enjoy learning about the world wars because it will involve global perspectives on history and I like to learn about the experiences of people."*

In Year 9, we are pleased that many students have opted to continue to study history at GCSE. Amy said she was excited to study Anglo-Saxon and Norman England since *"It was during lockdown when we first studied it in Year 7 - so I am looking forward to learning about it in more detail in Year 11."*

Key Stage 4 and 5

Year 10 have made excellent progress in their first year of GCSE. So far they have completed the content on Weimar and Nazi Germany, studied the Cold War, and are now nearly half way through their thematic study 'Migration through Time.' We are pleased that in the Autumn term students will be enriching their learning with a visit to Spitalfields and Notting Hill. There, they will learn about the experience of Huguenot and Caribbean migrants respectively.

The Year 12s have also made good progress in their studies this year. They have recently completed the first draft of their coursework on the Civil Rights movement in America. Leo said he had found *"Russian history interesting as I have enjoyed seeing how leaders like Lenin reacted to the challenges that they faced."* He also added, *"Communism is a key part*

HISTORY NEWS (CONTINUED)

of my Politics A Level next year so I am looking forward to linking the courses together as well as being able to see how Communism has evolved over time."

The History Department said farewell to Year 11 and 13 over the last few weeks. We would all like to congratulate our students for working so hard over the last two years. We look forward to hearing about the next steps for our A Level students and to see Year 11 students return in the Sixth Form.

Trip to RAF Northolt

On the 28th June, RAF Northolt hosted twelve Year 8 students. We focused on the role the site had during the Battle of Britain. Students were asked to research the Hawker Hurricane and to present their findings next to the replica on the base. In the afternoon, a workshop was led by the history department where students studied the reasons why Britain was able to fend off a potential German invasion. Cassius said, *"There was a lot of information about how the Polish fighters helped win the Battle of Britain and I was glad to be given extra information about the Second World War that not everyone would have the chance to get."* Local history is a key aspect of the history curriculum at Ruislip High School. The department was pleased to run a trip that enriches students' understanding of the history of their local area.



LRC NEWS

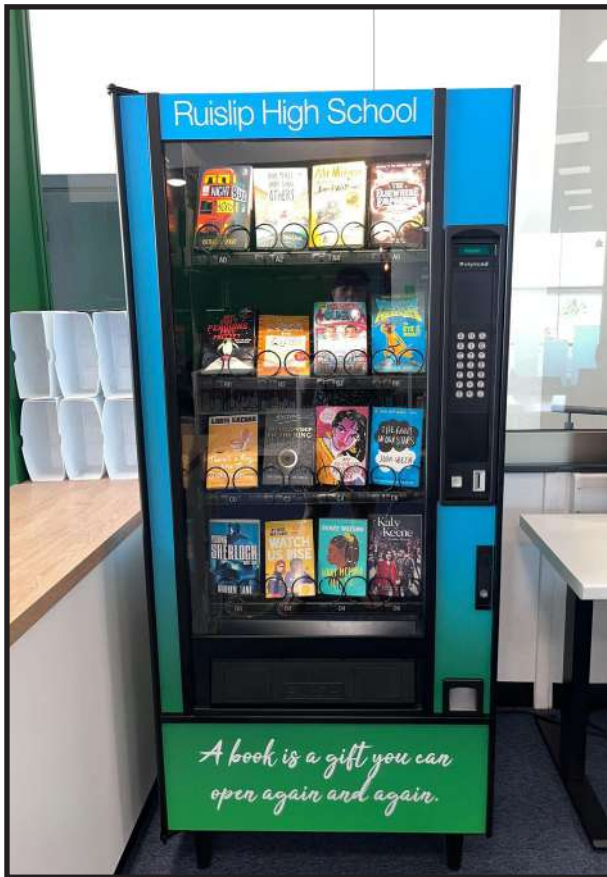
The LRC, also referred to as 'The hub of the school' has had another exciting year, with lots of different events taking place. It's still an extremely busy area used by many students and staff, on a day to day basis, where everyone can take advantage of the large quiet space and resources available.

The LRC becomes High Tech

Something exciting has happened to the LRC, which has certainly drawn a crowd. A bespoke book dispensing machine, made exclusively for Ruislip High has been installed, which includes the school colours and motto 'From grass roots, to reaching for the sky' which reflects the students' educational journey.

The vending machine will be used to stock new books and students will have several opportunities to win the special gold coins, which can be inserted into the machine, enabling the students' to select a book of choice to keep.

There will be a selection of books suitable for all year groups and these will continually change throughout the year.



Keeping up with the times

As the LRC is increasingly growing in numbers of students wishing to silently read during break and lunch, the demand for new titles has increased accordingly. In order to keep up with the times and current trends, a large part of the LRC budget was spent on buying new books for students, including many titles which have just come out this year. This has proved very popular amongst the readers of the school and has encouraged more students to visit the LRC.



Above and Beyond LRC Clubs

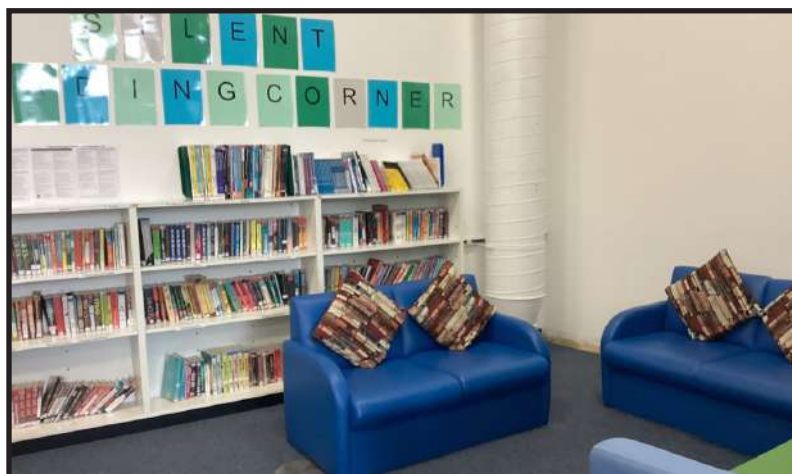
The LRC is one of the most used areas of the school during the school day, where lots of

LRC NEWS (CONTINUED)

students from all year groups make full use of the quiet area to silently read or complete homework. In addition, as part of the school's Above and Beyond programme, it is also used to host various clubs after school.

The 'LRC Booktok' club is extremely popular and regularly attended by students across the year groups, all eager to discuss the latest books being read and what the most popular reads are and to review previous books.

Equally as popular is the 'LRC Games club', which has soared in numbers over the last few months, allowing students to relax and unwind and play games with peers at the end of a busy school week. Due to its popularity, the clubs will continue to run in the new academic year.



Silent Reading Corner

One of the favourite sections of the LRC amongst students is the silent reading corner, created for students who wish to relax on a comfy sofa, sinking back into cushions and silently read, enjoying a bit of escapism between lessons. It is particularly nice that one of the sofas was purchased for the LRC from a student winning the Jack Petchey award and

donating it to one of the most loved parts of the school, which was very much appreciated.

Students Reporting For Duty

The LRC is very lucky as a few of the LRC workers also attend the club which produces the 'Ruislip Eye', the ever popular school newspaper in which the LRC is regularly featured, helping to promote reading amongst the students across all the year groups.

Notice to Parents/Guardians

In order to promote reading and have books available for all to read, the LRC is always happy to receive any book donations. Please leave any unwanted books with reception, for the attention of Mrs Austen/ LRC. The school would be very grateful, as would the students and staff !! Also a plea for any unwanted Board Games, which would also be appreciated and added to the collection for the after school games club. Thank you to so many who have already donated, it is very much appreciated.

LRC NEWS (CONTINUED)

Thank you

A massive heartfelt thank you to all the students who regularly help out in the LRC, as part of the Student LRC team, not forgetting all the volunteers from the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme who also help. It is very much appreciated and long may it continue!

'Happy Reading' as always, and enjoy the summer break

Mrs Austen
LRC Manager

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science achievements of 2022-23

The Computer Science department has been busier than ever this year with students participating in national competitions, achieving useful certifications and running our fun Lego Spikes (Robotics club).

Cyberfirst Girls Competition 2023-24 CyberFirst is designed to identify and nurture a diverse range of talented young people into a cyber security career. The CyberFirst Girls Competition aims to support girls interested in a career in cyber security. This year's participants: Iza B, Abigail C and Sophia R participated for the first time and had a great experience in solving complex cryptographic problems. Sophia and Iza said 'We had a great sense of achievement when we could solve the puzzles and add points for our team'.

Next year's competition will run from 20th-29th November 2023: more updates to follow in September.

In addition to this, parents/guardians can sign up for the free Cybersecurity courses here, which run during the summer holidays.

UK Bebras challenge and Oxford University Computing Challenge

This year was the first time that Ruislip High School students from across all key stages participated in the UK Bebras challenge. An astounding number of students from all year groups achieved Distinctions and Merits.

COMPUTER SCIENCE (CONT)

This was also the qualifier round for the next level for the Oxford University Computing Challenge (OUCC). 24 students from across year groups were placed in the top 10% in the country, achieved Gold certifications and were invited for Round 1 of the OUCC challenge. OUCC is one of the toughest challenges organised by the computer science department at Oxford University which tests the computational thinking skills of students appropriate to their age group. These students will be able to participate in the Oxford challenge again next year without the need to requalify.

Although our students did not make it through to round 2, they did really well in the first round:

Elise H - Distinction

Jade C - Merit

Robert B - Merit

Iza B - Merit

Next year's challenge will take place between 6th - 17th November 2023. More information to follow in September.

Year 9 IDEA program

All Year 9 students have been working towards earning Bronze certificates in the IDEA program. The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, known as iDEA, is an international award-winning programme that helps students develop digital, enterprise and employability skills for free.

Through a series of online challenges, they can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry-recognised awards that help them stand out from the crowd. In addition, these certificates are also recognised towards Duke of Edinburgh skills awards and UCAS tariff points. Some students have worked exceptionally well to achieve Silver certifications and are working towards Gold. This is a brilliant achievement which shows their commitment and love for learning. Well done to: Richman K, Kishan P and Alex D.

YEAR 13 NEWS

It always astonishes me how quickly two years pass, but we are now at the point where we say goodbye to our superb Class of 2023, for many of them following seven years at Ruislip High. I have always felt closely connected to this year group, as many of them started here at the same time as I did, in 2016. I have enjoyed every moment of working with Year 13. They have matured into personable, hardworking and immensely talented young adults, who should be proud of everything they have achieved over the last two years. The purpose and motivation of the students has remained consistently strong, culminating in a diligent revision effort for the final A-Level exams in May and June. The way that the year group has coped with being the first cohort since the COVID-19 pandemic to sit completely normal A-Level exams has made me extremely proud to be their Head of Year.

Regarding post-18 options, it has been very pleasing to see that all students who applied for university have received at least one offer, with several students receiving offers from all five of the universities that they applied for. This is testament to the effort that students have been putting into the groundwork and evidence for their applications since the start of Year 12. Several students who have applied for apprenticeships and other employment have also received offers.

It seems a long time ago that the Year 13 students were starting Year 12, when we were still in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic. Scanning back over the past two years, my memory takes me to the university trips, open evenings, presentation evening and community Christmas event, as well as a range of subject trips for the Geography, Politics, Business and Drama students to name just a few. Throughout, this year group have been role models to the rest of the school, and they will be sorely missed.

At the time of writing, we are just approaching the students' leavers' assembly and Prom. I have no doubt that they will be fitting occasions to mark these students' time here.

It has been a pleasure to work with this wonderful year group over the past two years, and I would also like to thank you as parents and guardians for your support. I am looking forward to congratulating the students on their achievements at results day on Thursday 17th August, and wish them every success in the future.

Mr Peacock

Head of Year 13

SIXTH FORM GUEST SPEAKERS

A key feature of the Sixth Form experience at Ruislip High is hearing from external speakers once a fortnight. Each talk is based around one of the '3Cs' of careers, current affairs and culture. In the summer term this programme has continued, with one of the highlights being a talk from former Crimewatch presenter Nick Ross.

On Thursday 23rd May 2023, Nick Ross delivered a very interesting talk live via Zoom. Nick explained how Crimewatch became an influential programme from the early 1980s onwards. He also outlined his work on road safety, which was highly relevant to the Year 12 audience, many of whom are learning to drive or have recently passed their driving test.

In the summer term, students have also enjoyed a talk from Matt Segal who runs Frederick's restaurant in Islington. Matt spoke about the challenges of running a business in London and about how students can pursue a career in hospitality. Another highlight was a talk from aid worker Robert Peacock, who spoke about delivering aid to Ukraine.

Over the rest of this year, other well-received guests have included Eric Salama, Chair of Comic Relief; Daya Mangat from the Kooth mental health website; Amrit Walia, a Home Office Presenting Officer; Shaan Knan from GIRES (Gender Identity Research and Education Society); and Stephen Welton, CEO of Business Growth Fund.

Should parents/guardians have any suggestions or contacts for future guest speakers, please email organiser Mr Alison (Director of Humanities) via office@ruisliphigh.org.uk.



Nick Ross

MFL NEWS

This academic year, our Year 7-9 French and Spanish students have been working on their culture capital projects and as a result they have completed some fantastic work.

These projects were completed in October, December and March and covered a range of topics, some featured below:

Year 7 - Day of the Dead, Christmas traditions and Palm Sunday, 'White-night' in France

Year 8 - Spanish Heritage Day, Day of the Innocents, New Year's Eve and Good Friday, V-Day and Labour Day

Year 9 - The festival of Pilar, The Three Kings and Maundy Thursday, Easter Bells and April Fools in France

As you can see from our student feedback, they really enjoyed completing these projects which gave them the opportunity to be creative and to expand their cultural knowledge. Students were encouraged to research traditions in both France and Spain as well as in French and Spanish speaking countries. This year, the students got very creative and some of them even used their time to create beautiful models which are on display in our classrooms.

Ollie H - 8C

"In my opinion, cultural projects are great as they give you something to do over the holidays. They also make sure you don't forget about the language during the breaks! Lastly, they can be fun and they can be a chance to show off your knowledge!"

Etna - 7C

"The cultural projects were really fun throughout the year and my favourite one was the Easter project. It was interesting to learn about how Spanish people celebrate Easter and what they eat and do. I learnt so many mind-blowing facts!"

Melaak - 7C

"The cultural project about Easter was so interesting because I found out loads of jam-packed surprising facts like they can eat meat and they burn the palm leaves for the next year's Ash Wednesday celebration. I enjoyed finding out the facts and colouring in my pages."

MFL NEWS (CONTINUED)

Ellie F - 7S

"5/5! I love the cultural projects because of the following reasons:

- I have lots of time to complete them and can put in more work and detail*
- They are fun to research as I learn new facts about Spain/Spanish speaking countries and their cultures*
- It is fun and it's something to do inside on a rainy day (we have lots of them!)*
- It challenges me by making me research and learn more about Spain/Spanish speaking countries"*

Bianca- 8C

"I enjoy the cultural projects very much as they are fun to do and are informative. Since Year 7, the projects have become more and more fun giving us the opportunity to get even more creative everytime. I'm definitely taking Spanish GCSE!"

Amelia - 8C

"I really like making the Spanish cultural projects as I get to research my own information about Spain and South America's culture. I think while learning, it is important to learn the culture as well as to understand the country better. I also like the Culture projects as it is a good way to express my creativity."

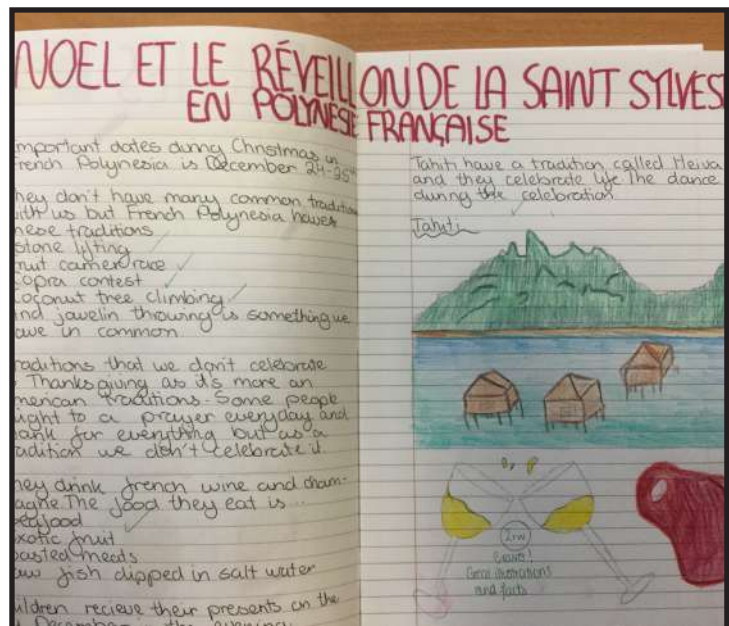
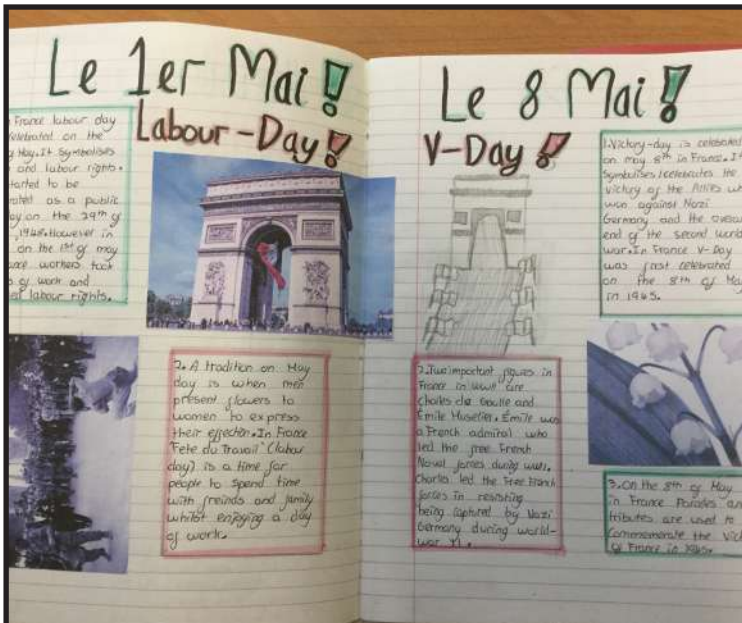
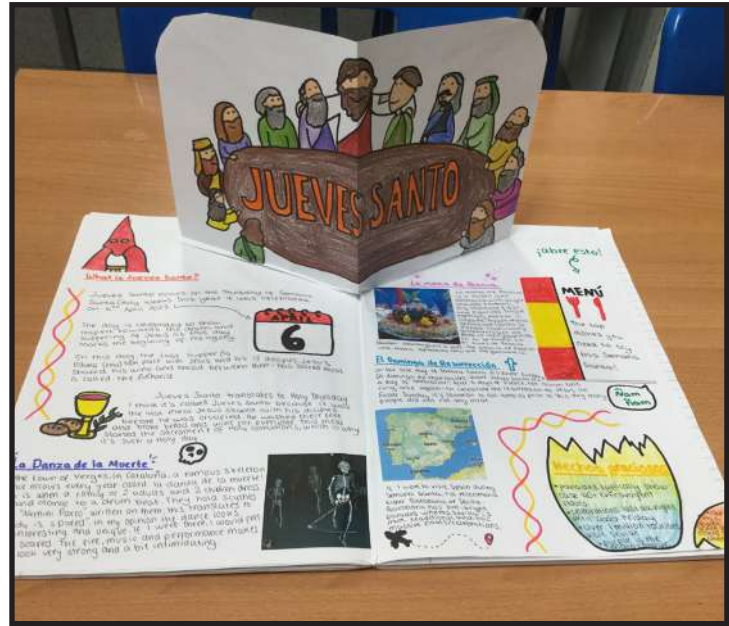
Gabriele -9B

"I have found the cultural projects really interesting. I loved researching new information and learning about new aspects of French culture."

Eliana - 9B

"It was really fun and useful to learn about the culture of many different French-speaking countries. It was also very creative!"

MFL NEWS (CONTINUED)



MATHS NEWS

King's Maths School GCSE Easter Programme

Some year 11 students took part in an optional King's Maths School Easter Programme during the Easter Holiday between 3rd to 6th April 2023 under the guidance provided by Ms. Jani.

It was an Easter masterclass programme for Year 11 students who are aiming for the highest grades in GCSE Maths.

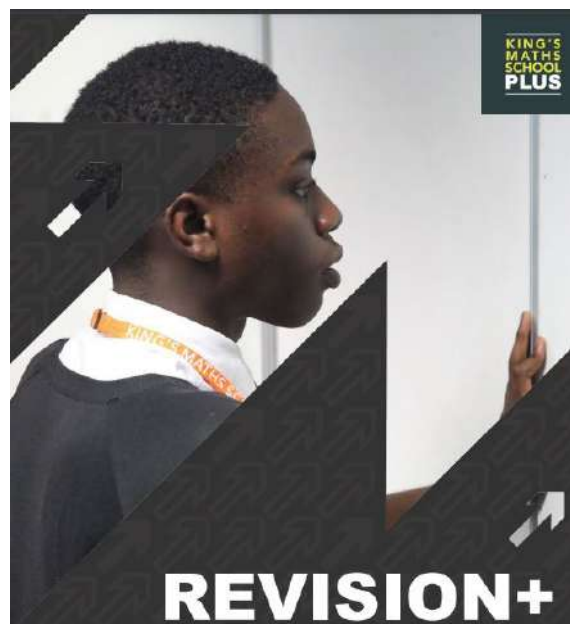
It is a carefully designed programme of sessions to improve students' mathematical and scientific knowledge and skills. It was led by experienced teachers; the sessions were fun, intensive and demanding. The aim of the sessions was to make students feel more confident of achieving a very high grade in their GCSEs, and secure the knowledge and skills they need.

The resources were highly engaging and interactive and students were thoroughly challenged. They were also provided with the certificate of attendance at one of the prestigious Universities. We are looking forward to attending these programmes next year as it not only boosts students' grades but also motivates them for A level Maths and their future career!

Three of our year 9 students: Alvin, Neel and Dorian took part in Mathematics Masterclasses run by Royal Institution at Imperial College this term. It was a series of hands-on, interactive, extracurricular workshops designed to encourage, inspire and engage young people in the art and practice of mathematics. Topics covered a huge range of mathematical ideas, including diverse applications such as art, cryptography, programming, modelling and knot theory. The Mathematics Masterclasses were run on six Saturdays by Imperial College, allowing our students to experience a higher education environment. Sessions lasted about 2.5 hours and were led by different speakers who were extremely enthusiastic and knowledgeable in their chosen areas.

Game 24

On Monday 13th March 2023, Ms Jani hosted the annual 24 Game competition at Ruislip High School. Year 7 students from different schools in Hillingdon Borough took part in this challenge. This year the students of following schools took part:



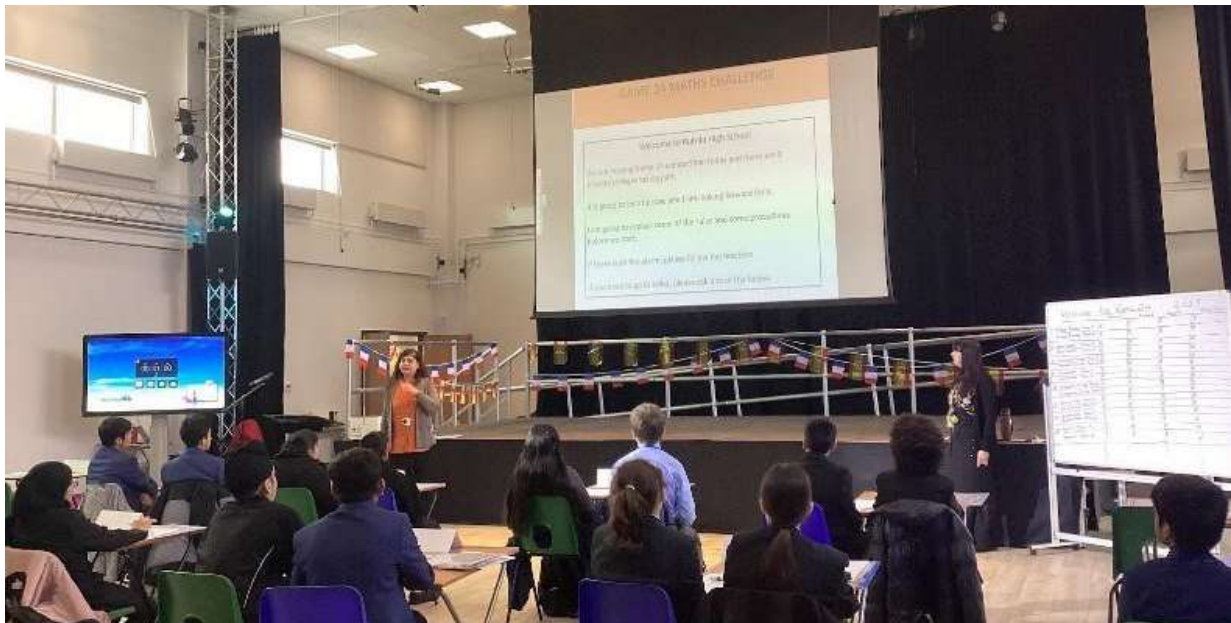
MATHS NEWS (CONTINUED)

Ruislip High School, Queensmead School, Guru Nanak Sikh Academy, Northwood School, Rosedale College and Hewens College. There were two teams from each school.

The event was supported by Mrs Austen as well as a number of Year 12 Math students and the Year 11 Trust Ambassadors.

The environment of the event was so competitive and the students were well engaged. Ruislip High School came in fourth place.

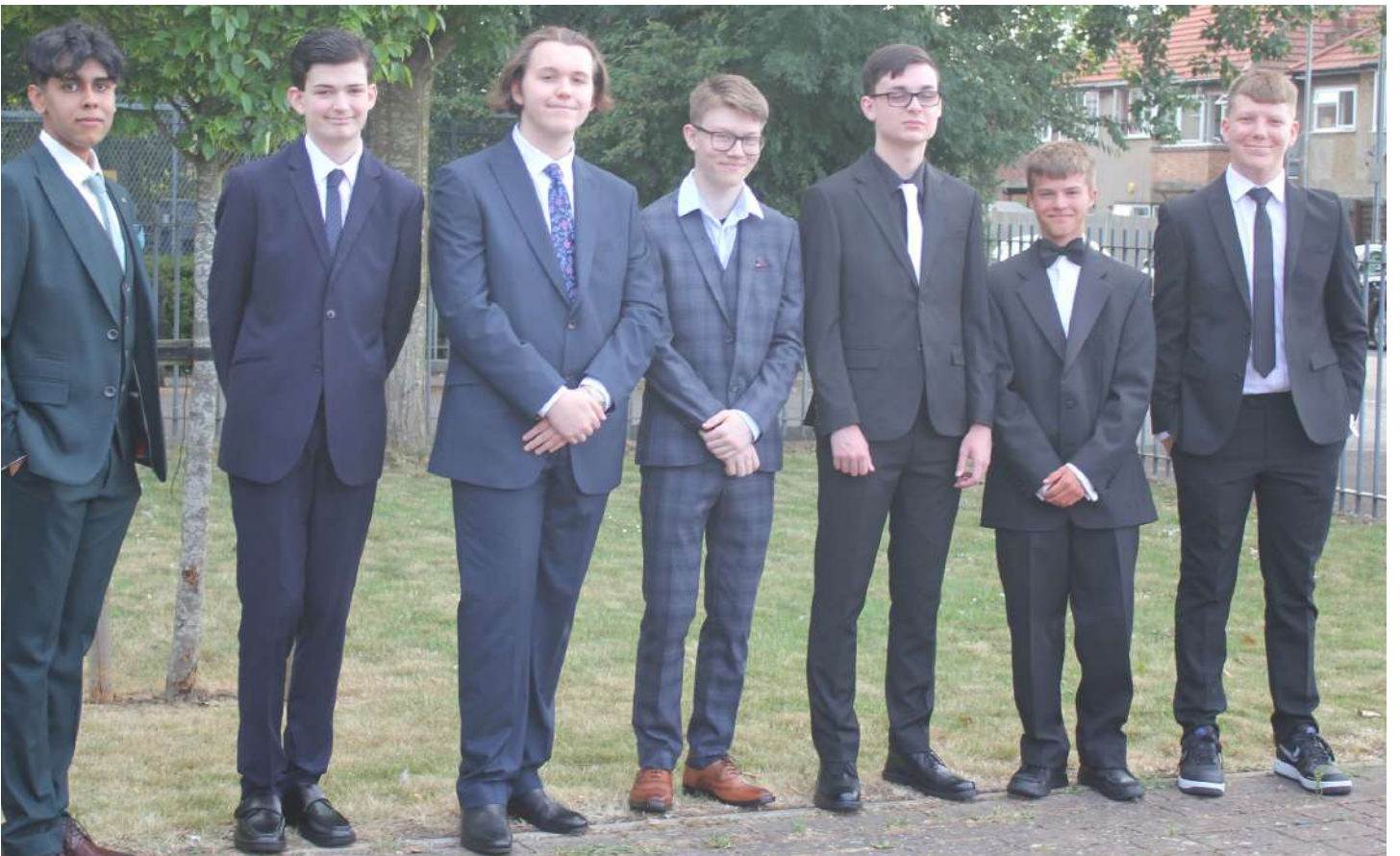
The event was a huge success and we look forward to hosting this event again next year.



YEAR 11 PROM PHOTOS



YEAR 11 PROM PHOTOS



YEAR 13 PROM PHOTOS



YEAR 13 PROM PHOTOS



THE CREATIVE CORNER

Arts evening

During this years arts evening we introduced some collaborative garment work as a part of our workshops.

Guests were invited to help use old plastic wallets that were no longer functional alongside scraps of fabric, threads and paper collected throughout the year to create this amazing dress! Fusion discs were created, with the help of our sensational volunteers, and then applied to create a scale-like skirt and then twisted to create rose-like shapes to make an asymmetric strap. The outcome is not only beautiful but also saved lots of waste going to landfill!



Year 6 induction day



As part of induction day this year our department were lucky enough to have some lessons with the Year 6 students starting with us next year. Using laser-cut images of buildings from around Ruislip and being inspired by Hundertwasser and Gaudi they have helped create a bold and eye-catching display that we we will be putting up around school - keep your eye out for your work!

Ruislip High school photography competition

We have launched our Photography competition for this year with the theme being:

CARING

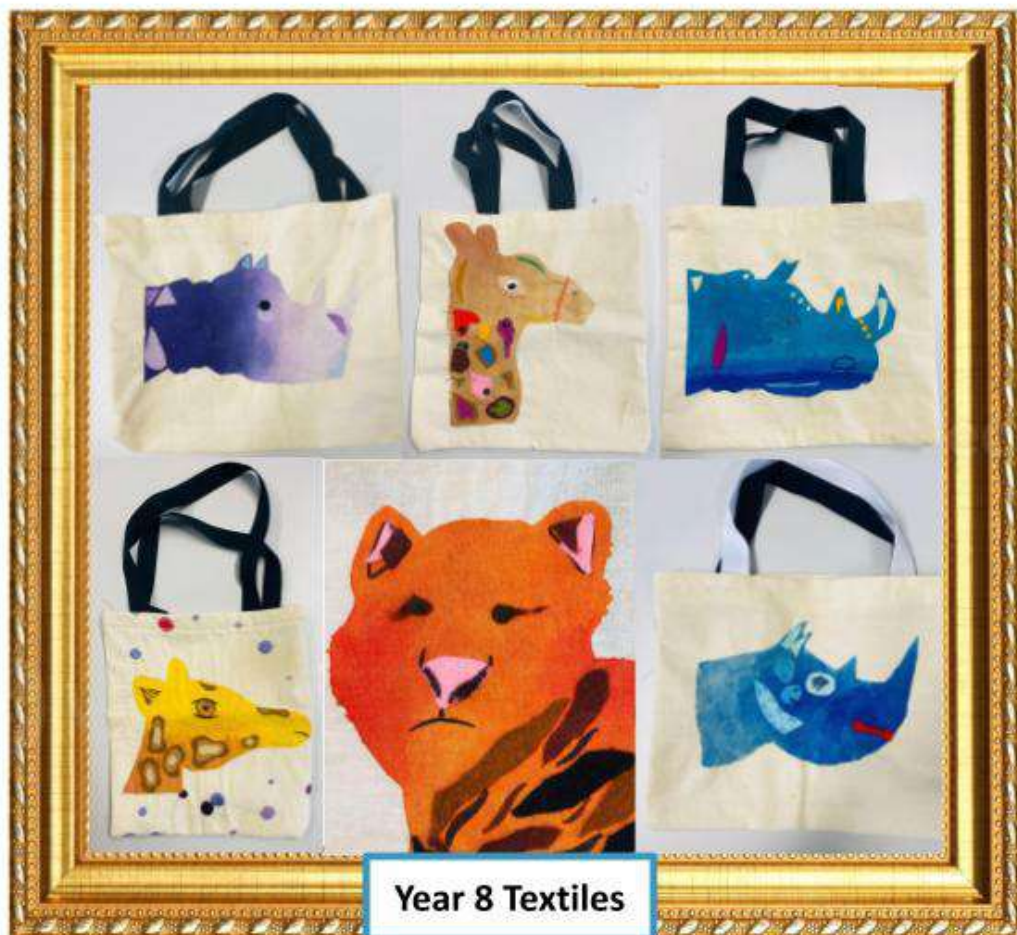
This theme allows students to reflect on what and/or who we do care about and how to capture that in a single image. The link to this theme can be visual or personal, so it can be interpreted in multiple ways. Students must submit their work on google classroom with a short explanation as to how it shows the theme of caring.

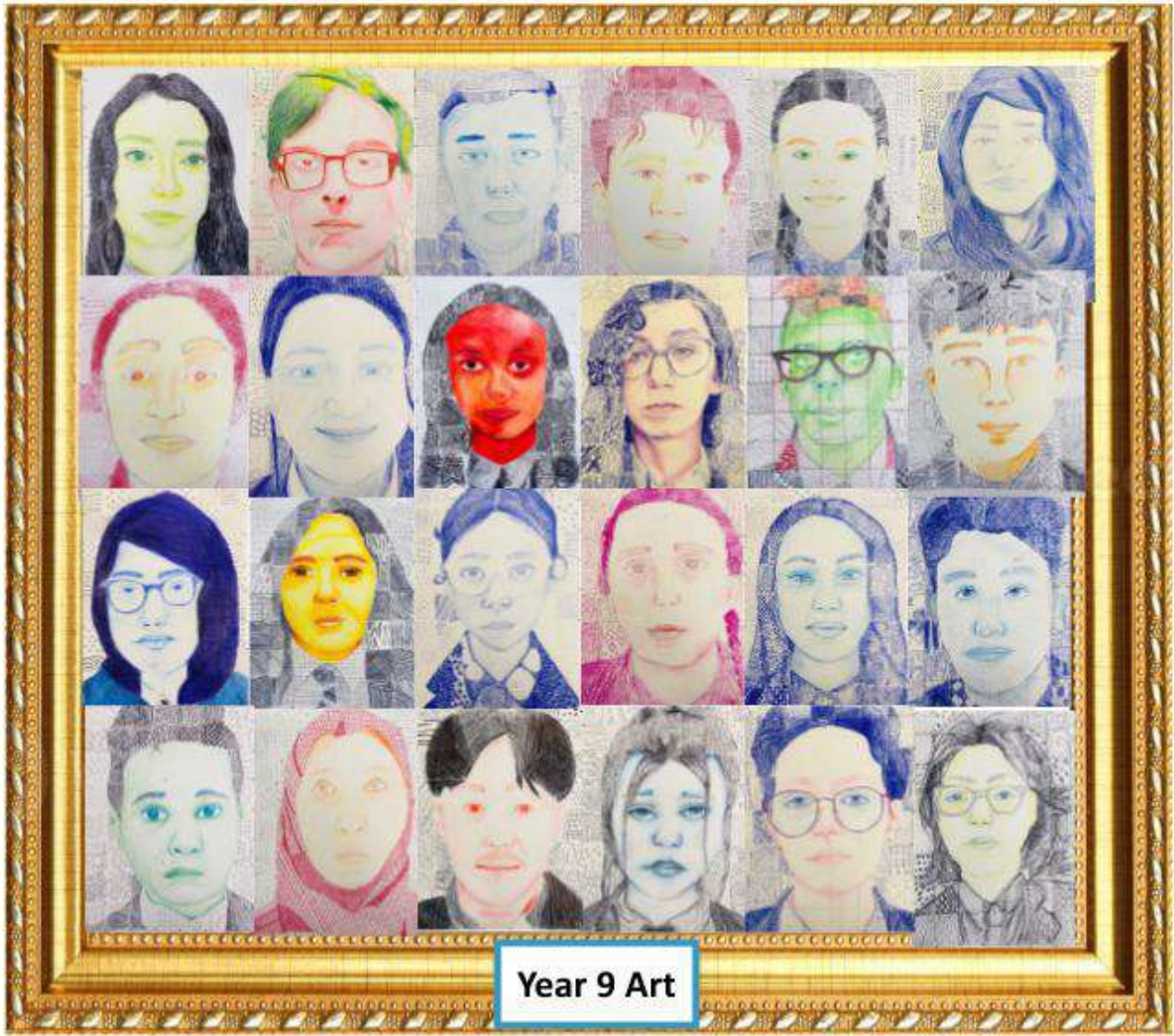
The winning photographs will be printed, framed and projected onto the screens all around the school. The winning photograph will be also presented to our guest speaker on presentation evening. Deadline: 25th September 2023.

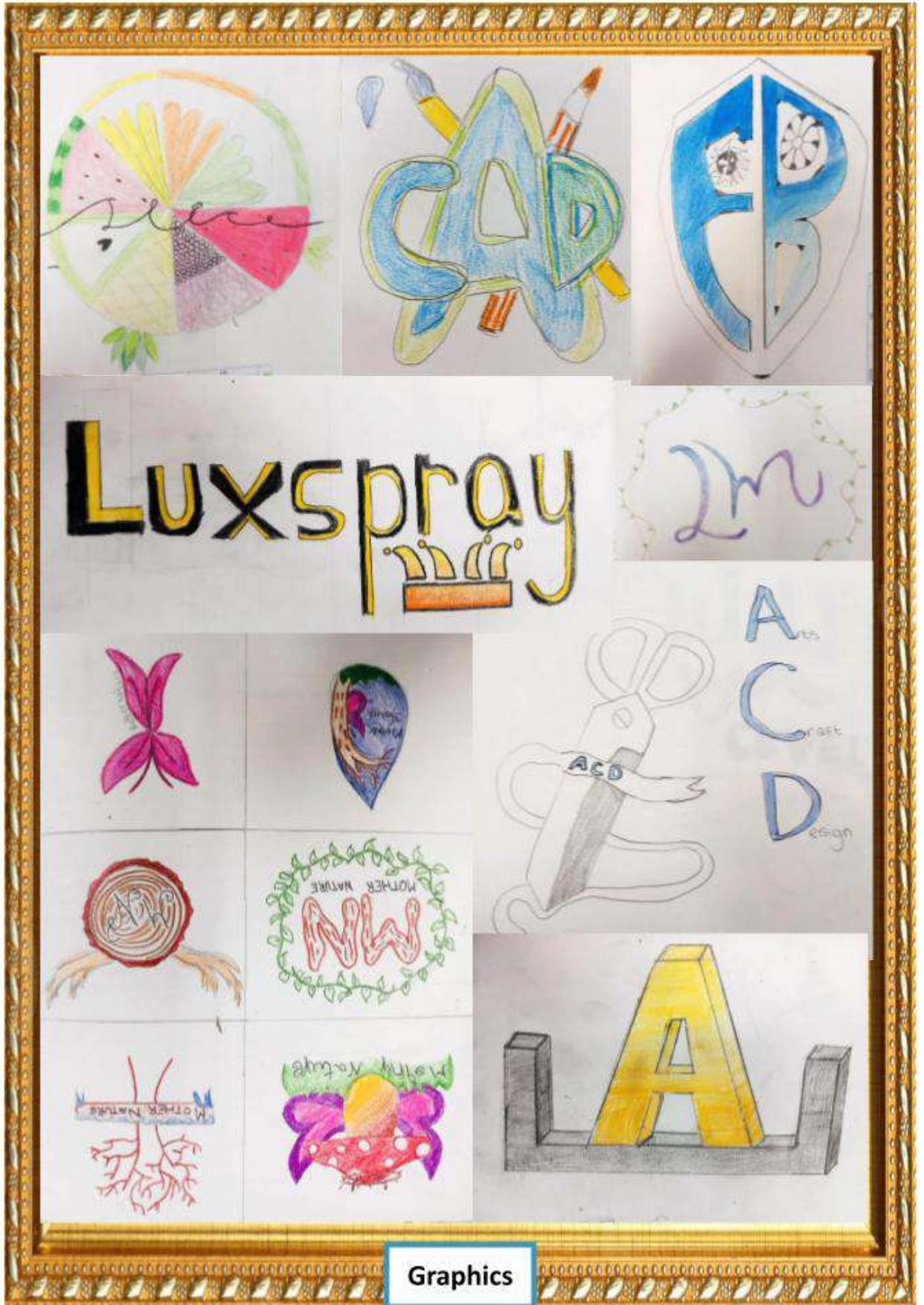
RHS Gallery

Here is a selection of work from the Art, Craft and Design department:









Graphics

KEY DATES

- **Tuesday 5th September 2023: Start of term for all year groups**
- **Thursday 14th September 2023: School photos for Year 7, 10, 11 & 12**
- **Thursday 14th September 2023: Success in the Sixth Form evening - 5pm-7pm**
- **Monday 18th September 2023: Success in Year 13 evening - 5pm-7pm**
- **Thursday 28th September 2023: Year 6 open evening - 4:30pm-7:30pm**
- **Friday 29th September 2023: Late start 11:25am**
- **Tuesday 4th October 2023 - Wednesday 5th October 2023: Year 11 history trip**
- **Monday 9th October 2023 - Friday 13th October 2023: Safeguarding week**
- **Wednesday 18th October 2023: Year 12 universities trip**
- **Thursday 19th October 2023: Year 9 parents' evening**
- **Monday 23rd October 2023 - Friday 27th October 2023: Half term**
- **Monday 23rd October 2023 - Wednesday 25th October 2023: Year 13 drama trip to Stratford-upon-Avon**

For the full term dates for 2023-24, visit the website, www.ruisliphigh.com



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