

17th December 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Sixth Form End of Term update

As the end of term nears, I am impressed by what the Sixth Form students have achieved in such a short space of time. In Year 12, the students have adapted well to the additional independence required of A-Level study and have, over time, worked out a study pattern that fits them well. I was delighted to see the November tracking reports, which showed that a great number of Year 12 students have already impressed their teachers with outstanding effort.

Alongside their academic work, Year 13 have been hard at work on their post-18 applications. The upcoming UCAS deadline has been a focus for the majority of students, and it is really pleasing that so many are seeing offers of places already. This is testament to the fantastic wider reading, work experience and other super-curricular work that the students have been putting in since early on in Year 12. The final UCAS deadline for applications to be approved and sent off by the school is 6pm on Wednesday 29th January, so it is imperative that students who wish to apply for university send their application well in advance of this date. Students will have heard back from universities by the end of March, and will then have to select a "firm" and "insurance" choice from their offers. This, along with the student finance process, will be explained in the spring term.

Several Year 13 students are now turning their attention to apprenticeship applications, and we are confident that this year's cohort of Year 13s will continue the trend of their predecessors securing some prestigious apprenticeships. I strongly encourage any Year 13s interested in apprenticeships to ensure they use the search and advice tools sent to them on Google Classroom, and that they speak to Ms Bonny for support with their applications.

All Year 12 students have spent time this term focusing on what we call "post-18 evidence", which involves wider reading, online courses and work experience in a subject or vocation that interests them. Being able to write about this experience in a university or apprenticeship application is a great way for students to prove they are interested in a particular field. Many students have already started thinking about organising work experience, and have undertaken a wide range of impressive reading beyond the A-Level curriculum.

Outside academia, it has been wonderful to see so many students contributing to the wider life of the school, with over 100 Sixth Formers overall helping out at Year 6 and Sixth Form Open Evenings. Year 12 were also fantastic ambassadors for the school on their trips to the Universities of Reading and Hertfordshire in October and, at the time of writing, we are approaching the Community Christmas Event. This is where we invite local members of the community into school for a festive tea, put on by the students. I have no doubt that they will be fantastic hosts and will demonstrate their enthusiasm for helping others.

We have been fortunate to be visited by a number of guest speakers this term. At the beginning of this half term, Year 12 were visited by David Dein (founder of the Premier League). Students were also fortunate to hear from speakers at S.A.M.E. academy, who visited at the end of November to speak about safe driving, and from alumnus Jordan Marajh, who spoke about his experiences at university.

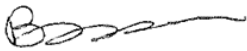
Throughout the busy term, the students have embodied the positive, inclusive and can-do attitude we have in the Sixth Form at Ruislip High School. I have no doubt that the students will continue to work hard and will make a success of the Spring Term. As a Sixth Form team, we will always be here to support them and listen to them every step of the way. My door (and those of the Heads of Year) is always open for students to come and speak what is on their minds.

Some key dates for the months ahead include:

- Year 13 Pre-Public Examinations - Monday 13th - Friday 17th January inclusive
- Year 12 January assessment week - W/B 20th January
- Final UCAS deadline - 6pm on Wednesday 29th January
- Year 13 Pre-Public Examinations results day - Thursday 6th February
- Year 12 Parents' evening - Thursday 13th February
- Year 12 post-18 information evening - Thursday 13th March
- Year 12 Pre-Public Examinations - W/B 2nd June
- Year 12 Work Experience week - W/B 9th June
- Year 13 Leavers' Assembly and Leavers' Ball - Thursday 26th June
- A-Level results day - Thursday 14th August

Thank you as always for your support.

Yours sincerely



Mr B Peacock
Head of Sixth Form