

RHS Values Champions:

Top 5 Attendance:

- 7F - 97.14%
- 7S - 96.77%
- 7B - 95.24%
- 8C - 95.07%
- 8W - 94.76%

(attendance calculated until 29/03/2024)

AHoY Shout Out - Year 10:

I would like to give a shout out to **Faria, 10C**. She has had such a brilliant start to the summer term. She has stayed focused on her academic goals and taken steps to improve her attendance. Well done!

Ms Lucas - Head of Year 10

Subject Shout Out - HPQ:

A huge well done to our four fabulous HPQ students this year: **Edward, Katie, Amelia and Leylah**. All of you brought your passion and heart to your projects and it was a joy to watch your final presentations last week. You all did brilliantly!

Ms Ohana - Assistant Headteacher and HPQ Supervisor



A message from Mr Davies:

Although the Easter holiday may seem like a distant memory, I know that the students who attended the residential trips that took place will have made life-long memories. The staff who led both the Year 9 Battlefields trip and the Year 8 football trip to the Netherlands were impressed with the conduct and enthusiasm of the students and I would like to thank the staff who ran the trips and the students for their behaviour and positivity.

The start of the summer term has been incredibly challenging for Year 11 students in particular. I spoke to Year 11 students this morning in their last assembly before their written examinations start and wholeheartedly agree with Mr Sills, Head of Year 11, who spoke of how proud staff are of the resilience they have shown as a year group. Yesterday saw the last assembly before Year 13 exams start in earnest and I know Dr Hill, Senior Deputy Headteacher; Mr Peacock, Head of Sixth Form; and Mr Elsby, Head of Year 13; spoke about how well-prepared students are for their forthcoming examinations and how impressive they have been in their preparation for these important exams. I know the exam period can also be stressful for families and I would like to thank parents and guardians for your continued support.

Yesterday evening saw Year 10 parents' evening and there was an incredibly positive feel to the evening. It was lovely to speak to parents of Year 10 students, and I was pleased to hear from parents who wanted to share their thanks to the staff for the amazing job they do. Next week is Year 7 parents' evening and there are details of the adjustments to the day below.

Year 9 Battlefields Trip

On Thursday 28th March, 50 Year 9 students departed from the school to begin the annual RHS Battlefields Trip. This residential trip to France and Belgium explores historical sites linked to the First World War and aims to provide our students with chances to immerse themselves in the historical landscape, which they have been studying in school.

The students were expertly guided by former RHS Deputy Headteacher, David Rich, who took students to a multitude of important historical sites. Students were able to walk in the footsteps of soldiers who fought in the Battle of the Somme and the several battles, which took place around the Belgian town of Ypres.

Notable highlights included a moving morning at the Sunken Lane battlefield, visiting Tyne Cot cemetery, and visiting the site of the Christmas Truce in 1914, where soldiers famously stopped fighting to exchange gifts and play a game of football - a scene our students recreated on the very same site. Following this, there was a visit to Compiegne, where the Armistice was signed in 1918.

Students enjoyed several nights in our very own Chateau, where one evening they had the opportunity to try the French delicacy escargot - snails! There was also plenty of time for students to relax and spend time with friends: there was a trip to a theme park; shopping for Belgian chocolate in Ypres; and on a pit-stop at the beach at Calais.

Our Year 9 students did the school proud and were a delight to take on the trip. Harley, Year 9, said: "I really enjoyed the whole trip, especially the Christmas Truce memorial. Mr Rich was so knowledgeable and taught me loads."

Bianca, Year 9, commented that she "loved spending time with her friends in a different country and studying a subject I am really passionate about. I particularly enjoyed visiting the cemeteries."

Thank you to all of the students for their excellent behaviour throughout the trip and we look forward to organising the trip again next year.



First Class Robotics!

From Monday 16th April to Friday 19th April 2024 students in Years 7 to 9 took part in exciting and challenging robotics workshops. Hyett Education, a respected industry robotics facilitator, came to deliver the two-hour-long sessions. Each year group is at a different stage of their robotics journey. This was Year 7's first introduction to interacting with robotics; Year 8 are now halfway through the process and Year 9 found themselves completing the final and most challenging workshops.

All the students were, as ever, exceptionally well-behaved and produced some fantastic robot designs. Students coded robots to do a huge variety of things from following predetermined paths to solving problems. The facilitator was engaging, enthusiastic and very impressed with what our students produced, their behaviour, and the manner in which they set about the challenge.

National Mental Health Awareness Week - Monday 13th - Friday 17th May 2024

At Ruislip High School we understand how important it is for us to prioritise our mental fitness as well as our physical fitness and this year National Mental Health Awareness Week takes place the week beginning Monday 13th 2024. During this week, tutorials and assemblies will focus on this year's theme of "Movement: moving more for our mental health"

In addition, PE lessons will also focus on the relationship between mental and physical health

If you have any further questions regarding any of the above activities, parents/guardians should contact Ms Coltman, Deputy Headteacher/Designated Safeguard Lead via the main school office.



Sixth Form Mental Health Talks



On Wednesday 17th April, 2024, Year 12 and 13 students received the second of two special assemblies focused on supporting their mental health and wellbeing, as they approach their exams and think about their post-18 decisions. These assemblies were led by specialist mental health presenter James Peterson, the founder of mental health organisation, Breaking Free.

Students learnt about the choices they can make each day and in the future to support their mental health across the two morning sessions. Topics ranged from the need to get sunlight and quality sleep to aid mental health and to how our mental wellbeing should always be at the forefront of our life choices such as university, relationships and employment. This vital information will help our Sixth Formers to not only look after their wellbeing during the summer examination period, but to lead mentally healthy and fulfilling lives well into the future.

We would like to thank James for taking the time to come in to speak to our students and to our Year 12s and 13s who embraced what he had to say so well.

Year 10 GCSE Drama Trip



On Tuesday 16th April, 2024, the Year 10 GCSE Drama Class went to the Kiln Theatre to see "The Ballad of Hattie and James". After the now-traditional pre-Kiln Nando's, the students settled down in the stalls. It was an intense and emotional epic that promoted a fantastic range of conversations on the train home.

"The Ballad of Hattie and James" is about the entwined and painful lives of two musical prodigies and a tragedy that both drives them apart and binds them together inexorably. Part of the GCSE Drama course involves writing an extended evaluation of a piece of live theatre, and Year 10 are using this production to learn how to evaluate a performance. It was a great evening and the class are already working hard in their study of the play. Trips to the theatre are a regular and immensely enjoyable part of the GCSE Drama course.

Leylah, Year 10, said: "It was an emotional, heartwarming experience and we all gained so much from going to watch it."

Kalel, Year 10, added: "It was an electric atmosphere and an experience I won't soon forget."

Year 12: Brilliant Club

Ruislip High Sixth Form is celebrating the success of 14 Year 12 students who have completed their final assignments for the Brilliant Club Young Scholars Programme.

Through this programme, our students have had the opportunity to work with a PhD tutor and engage in university-style learning experiences about the insight the earth's magnetic fields provide to the field of Oceanography, titled "Magnets in Lava: The History of the Earth".

Students attended small group seminars with James Hepworth from the University of Plymouth over the course of two months, before writing a 2500 word university-style assignment. Successfully submitting their final assignments is a considerable achievement for these students: the project is marked to university-level academic standards and, for many, is the longest piece of writing they will have completed to date, whilst being in a subject area that was completely new for the majority of the cohort. These students will stand out from the crowd when applying to competitive apprenticeships and universities as a result of their participation.

Our students have shown great enthusiasm for the programme and have consistently demonstrated high levels of engagement and academic achievement. They have gained valuable skills, such as critical thinking, research, and academic writing, that will serve them well in their future studies. All have made progress from their baseline assignment and have been praised by their tutor for their approach and work ethic. The whole Sixth Form team are incredibly proud of their achievements

A particular congratulations goes to the following students who all achieved the highest grade of a 1st on their assignments: Alexia, Nathan, Priya, Nisham, Zahra and Bianca.

Thank you to all the students for their hard work, the Brilliant Club for facilitating the scheme and James Hepworth from the University of Plymouth for supporting the students throughout their tutorials.

The participants on the programme will attend a virtual graduation ceremony later this half term.



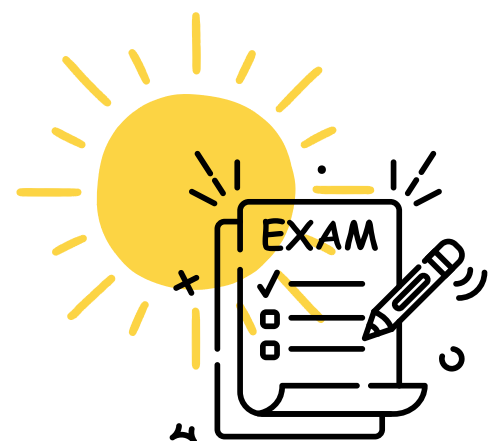
Exam Season - Alternative Summer Curriculum

Today (Friday 3rd May, 2024) the first official written examination took place at RHS - signalling the start of our busy written examination season.

To ensure our Year 11 students are prepared for their exams fully, we will be running an alternative summer curriculum for all students in the year group. This schedule ensures that students have access to their subject teachers ahead of each exam taking place, to help build their confidence before each test. It is expected that students will attend all revision sessions made available to them for the exams they are sitting.

In addition, Year 10 students will also receive additional Citizenship revision sessions prior to their GCSE Citizenship exams.

Mr Hankin, Assistant Headteacher, will be writing to parents of students in Years 10 and 11 with full details.



PE NEWS

Year 8 Trip to PSV Eindhoven - The Netherlands

During the Easter holidays, 29 of our Year 8 students had the chance to travel to PSV Eindhoven to enjoy a four day football trip. The students were given an opportunity of a lifetime: experiencing the training regime of a professional footballer at The PSV training ground; playing two fixtures against local teams and getting a behind-the-scenes tour of The PSV stadium. Alongside this, students also had time to shop in the centre of Eindhoven, enjoying an exciting day at a theme park and taking on each other in a very competitive game of bowling!



As a group, our RHS students formed a 7-a-side girls team and two 11-a-side boys teams, one experienced and one a newly-formed team for the trip. On the first night of matches, the girls were victorious winning 5-3. This was followed by our experienced boys team drawing 4-4 in a great battle and, unfortunately, our newly formed team ending their first game in defeat.

On our last night we had our second fixtures against another local team. There was another great performance from the girls team, this time just missing out on the win drawing 4-4.



The fixture looked a little different for our boys team as they combined as one team due to the local opposition not having enough players to have two teams. From the first whistle you couldn't take your eyes off the game. Both teams battled hard; creating chances and putting in 100% effort throughout the game.

The boys put in a great shift, winning challenges across the pitch. However, with 30 minutes of the game left, our team was behind. Then, turning it around with 20 minutes to go, James B scored, followed by an equaliser from Dragos T making it 5-5. With 5 minutes to go Charlie C scored a great goal putting the RHS boys teams ahead - celebrating with a team bundle!

Students experienced two training sessions from experienced PSV coaches playing on the academy training pitch. Both sessions were at a high level of intensity focusing on the technical ability of the students, shooting techniques and 2v2/3v3's followed by a game against each other. The students also got a behind-the-scenes tour of The PSV stadium seeing sights, such as the pitch, the changing room and a look at their museum full of trophies.

Thank you to all of the staff who accompanied the trip and thank you to the students for representing the school positively throughout the residential.



Deaf Awareness Week - Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th May 2024

The Trust will be marking Deaf Awareness Week between Tuesday 7th and Friday 10th May 2024. The week is being marked nationally, with support from high-profile organisations such as the National Deaf Children's Society.

Alongside information and strategies to support those who are hard of hearing or deaf, the content that will be shared to mark this week will include an acknowledgement of British Sign Language (BSL), which is the preferred language of over 87,000 Deaf people in the UK.

BSL is a rich, visual-gestural language with a distinctive grammar using handshapes, facial expressions, gestures and body language to convey meaning. It helps to build a sense of community and belonging for Deaf people and highlights Deaf culture, identity, community and history, reflecting unique characteristics found amongst the population of Deaf people.

By marking Deaf Awareness Week, the Trust aims to send a powerful message of support to those who are d/Deaf and/or hard of hearing; by dedicating time and resources to raising awareness of different needs and celebrating language and culture, there is a demonstration of commitment to creating an environment where everyone feels valued and included. This will include students across the Trust taking part in a BSL tutorial, which covers the BSL alphabet, numbers and question words.

Note: The term 'Deaf' (containing an upper-case D) refers to a cultural identity within the deaf community, while 'deaf' (containing a lower-case D) refers to the medical condition of hearing loss. The distinction is important because it reflects different aspects of a person's experience, as well as their cultural and linguistic identity.



Above & Beyond: Try Something New Month

This week, Ms Ohana led assemblies on the importance of cultivating personal interests and hobbies as being a lifelong investment in yourself.

One of the ways in which students at Ruislip High School can discover their interests or build on their skills is by joining one of the 54 Above & Beyond Clubs on offer this term.

To promote the importance of hobbies, the Above & Beyond team are running our first 'Try Something New Month' throughout May. This is designed to encourage students to participate in an Above & Beyond club they have not yet previously tried. If students attend the club for four consecutive weeks, they will be entered in a 'Try Something New' raffle and be in with the chance of winning a fabulous prize, which will help them continue their new hobby at home.

Year 7 parents' evening and early finish - 8th May 2024

Year 7 parents' evening will take place on Wednesday 8th May 2024. The evening will run from 2pm-7.30pm and will take place on site; Ms Loizou, Head of Year 7, has written to parents of Year 7 students with the full details.



RHS Students Shine!

Alastair, 7F: Junior London Marathon Runner

A huge well done to Alastair, in Year 7, who recently completed the Junior London Marathon. He was selected to represent Hillingdon after completing the 5K trial in 23 minutes! We are sure you will join with us in agreeing what a brilliant achievement taking part in the Junior London Marathon is!



Rhys, 11F: Sports Journalist Extraordinaire

We were delighted to hear that Rhys, in Year 11, completed a successful work experience placement with the Fulham Football Club Communications department.

During his week in the department, Rhys engaged with a range of experiences, including reviewing and critiquing the match day programme; reviewing the Player Appearances schedule; working on the club's social media and interviewing Adrion Pajaziti - a video that appeared on the club's website and social media!

The Communications Director at the club commented on how impressed she was with Rhys throughout the week.



STEM with Wings

On Thursday 2nd May, all students in Year 8 had a virtual careers talk from the RAF. The session was interactive and asked students to create an invention inspired by nature. One student gave a brilliant example: velcro inspired by plant burrs.

Within the session the students also met an RAF engineer and learnt about her job and the skills she needed to be successful in the role. The students were very enthusiastic and came up with some excellent designs. The session ended with a question and answer session with the engineer and our students asked some interesting questions. Thank you to RAF Northolt for organising the event.



Notices:

Key Dates:

Saturday 4th May 2024
Duke of Edinburgh pre-assessed Silver expedition departs

Monday 6th May 2024
Bank Holiday

Wednesday 8th May 2024
Early finish for parents' evening Year 10 1.25pm/KS3 1.35pm

Wednesday 8th May 2024
2:30pm - 7:00pm
Year 7 Parents' Evening

Monday 13th May 2024
Start of Mental Health Awareness Week

Letters Home

Update to Parents -
26/04/24
[Click here](#)

Sixth Form - End of Term Update
[Click here](#)

Year 7 Parents' Evening
[Click here](#)

Out of school opportunities (not linked to the school):

Public Services Careers Day -
05/04/2024
[Click here](#)