

Ruislip High School NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024

KING LEAR



On Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December, 2024, the RHS Drama Department once again delighted audiences with a phenomenal performance of Shakespeare's King Lear. Featuring students from Year 10-13, the Winter production was a stunning testament to our students' dedication and creative talent.

The entire cast were spectacular, with the students' love for performing shining through. In particular, James, Year 11, in the role of King Lear, delivered an emotionally charged portrayal that commanded the stage. In addition, Julian showed how hard work can pay off, through his thoughtful performance of Edgar. Other notable performers were Isabel, Year 11, who played Goneril; Jess, Year 11, in the role of Kent; and Max, Year 12, as one of the play's antagonists, Edmund. For all of these students - and many of the members of the cast - their performances were particularly impressive as they balanced a tough rehearsal schedule with preparing for their GCSEs and A Levels.

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HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



As we break up at the end of another 'phenomenal' term at the school, I wanted to take a moment to express my deep gratitude to the whole Ruislip High School community for their support and partnership as we collectively strive to make RHS 'a great and safe place' for all stakeholders.

What a term it has been! I write this article having just attended the second night of our drama department's production of King Lear. I can honestly say that I was

transfixed throughout the performance and so impressed by the quality of the students' acting and delivery throughout the play. I spoke briefly at the end of the evening to highlight how impressed I had been with the ambition shown by all involved. I was particularly impressed that students not only performed but also managed backstage operations, sound, and lighting with incredible professionalism.

The performance of King Lear wasn't the only high-calibre evening we have hosted this term and I, along with the audience present, were also thoroughly entertained last week at our annual winter concert. The quality of the student performances was again exceptional, and I end the term feeling genuine pride at leading a school where students display such skill and confidence, this is testament to their hard work and the dedication and commitment of the RHS staff.

It has been a very busy end of term even by Ruislip High standards. December has seen Year 8 go to Paris and Year 11 spend the day in central London. I have heard nothing but positive feedback from both trips and am particularly impressed with how the Year 8 students dealt with the adverse weather conditions that affected both channel crossings. As Miss Farrell told me, it takes more than the weather to dampen the spirits of Year 8 at Ruislip High and I would also like to thank all of those parents/guardians who took the time to write such lovely messages to the staff involved, it meant a great deal.

The term has also been exceptionally busy academically and the 'Geography news' article is particularly interesting regarding how we support and prepare students for academic success here at the school. The Department for Education published their annual performance tables earlier this month and I was delighted that Ruislip High School's progress 8 score for the 2024 Year 11 cohort was 0.62. This is equivalent to students from the school achieving, on average, almost $\frac{2}{3}$ of a grade above the national average in each of their subjects. Our A-level results also placed us firmly in the top 25% of all schools nationally and are testament to the outstanding, inclusive education we provide at the school.

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

(CONTINUED)

I wanted to reflect at this time of year that, although Christmas is a time of peace and love, unfortunately, for some members of our community, Christmas can be a challenging time. I believe it is important to acknowledge this at a time of year where the overriding media message is one of celebration. I know we are an exceptionally cohesive community and my message to all of us is that it is ok to ask for help and share with others our thoughts and concerns. To this end, it has been particularly inspiring to see just how much our community has collected over the last couple of weeks for our local foodbank. My thoughts also turn at this time of year to those people living in areas of conflict around the world and my desire is that our world leaders follow the mantra shown in our community in that there is more that unites our diverse community than divides us.

Finally, as we come to the end of another calendar year at the school, I would like to wish everyone in the community a restful holiday period. I would particularly like to thank parents and guardians who have been so supportive this term and I have no doubt that Ruislip High School will continue to go from strength-to-strength in 2025. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

FRONT COVER

(CONTINUED)

The backstage crew, led by Stage Manager, Ava-Pearl, Year 13, ensured the show ran smoothly, and the set, lighting, and sound – all designed by students – were truly impressive. The striking set and dynamic lighting perfectly complemented the drama unfolding onstage, enhancing the mood and atmosphere of this timeless tragedy.



Nicole, Year 10, who played Oswald, told us: "I have loved every minute of being involved in King Lear and getting to know lots of new faces. I do GCSE Drama and it has been wonderful spending so much time with like minded people, who love the technical elements of drama as much as I do. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to improve my own Drama skills in such a fun and rewarding way."

Meanwhile, Mr Randall, Curriculum Leader for Drama, said of the cast and crew: "I am proud of the bravery, dedication and professionalism of our students. It was like being back in the world of professional theatre and yet ten times more fun, because everyone was working as a team every day. We've been rehearsing for at least four hours a week since September, but that doesn't scratch the surface of the effort that the students have put into the play. They should be so proud of themselves."

Congratulations to all of the cast on a fantastic set of shows - we cannot wait to see what the next production has in store for us.

Cast:

Year 10: Charlie, Harley, Jamie, Max, Nicole, Sophia

Year 11: Amy, Isabel, James, Jess, Julian, Laylah, Megan

Year 12: Christian, Katie, Max

Year 13: Alexia, Giselle

Backstage:

Year 10: Abigail

Year 11: Dorian

Year 12: Amber, Amelia

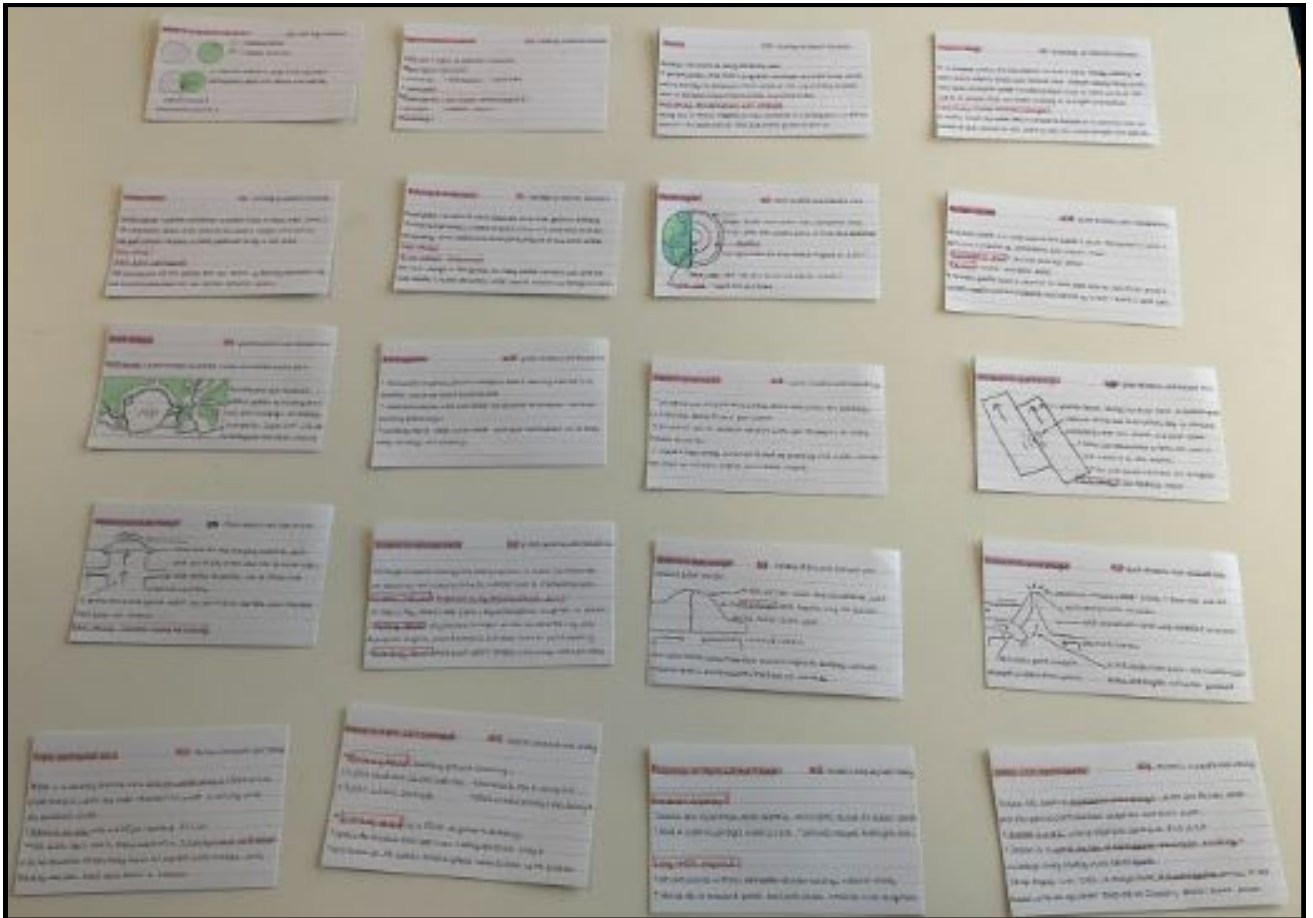
Year 13: Aimee, Ava-Pearl

GEOGRAPHY NEWS

(CONTINUED)

GCSE

The department is always keen to help students revise for assessments. Crucially, the advice is to always revise in an active way, being able to show evidence of the revision you have done! The photo shows a great example of revision flash cards made by Monica in Year 10 before her first GCSE assessment.

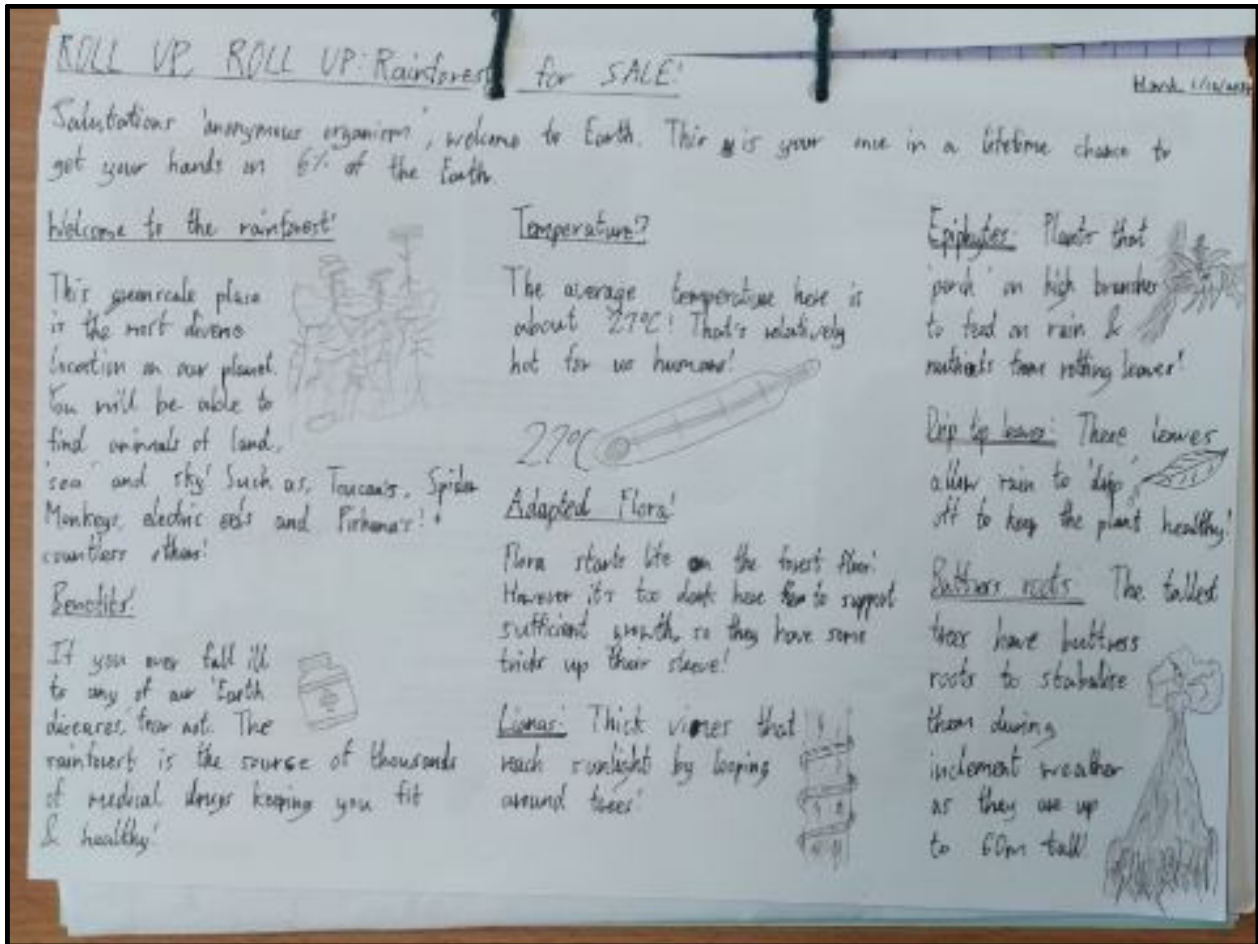


Revision flash cards: Produced by Monica in Year 10.

The five classes in Year 10 GCSE Geography have made an impressive start, completing the first topic 'The Challenge of Natural Hazards' then moving on to the second topic 'Living World'. As part of this, the photo shows some excellent work on the physical characteristics of rainforests produced by Ray in Year 10.

GEOGRAPHY NEWS

(CONTINUED)



Rainforest features: By Ray in Year 10.

Year 11 students are anticipating the pre-public exam results day in January 2025. Students can keep revising for summer 2025 online at any time using the topic revision quizzes on Google Classroom. Here students will also find the detailed revision 'Megabooks', exam question model answers and numerous past exam papers.

Year 9

Year 9 topics have included International Development, the Americas and Brazil. The Americas topic has involved students learning about the changing name of North America's highest mountain, with website reports such as this:

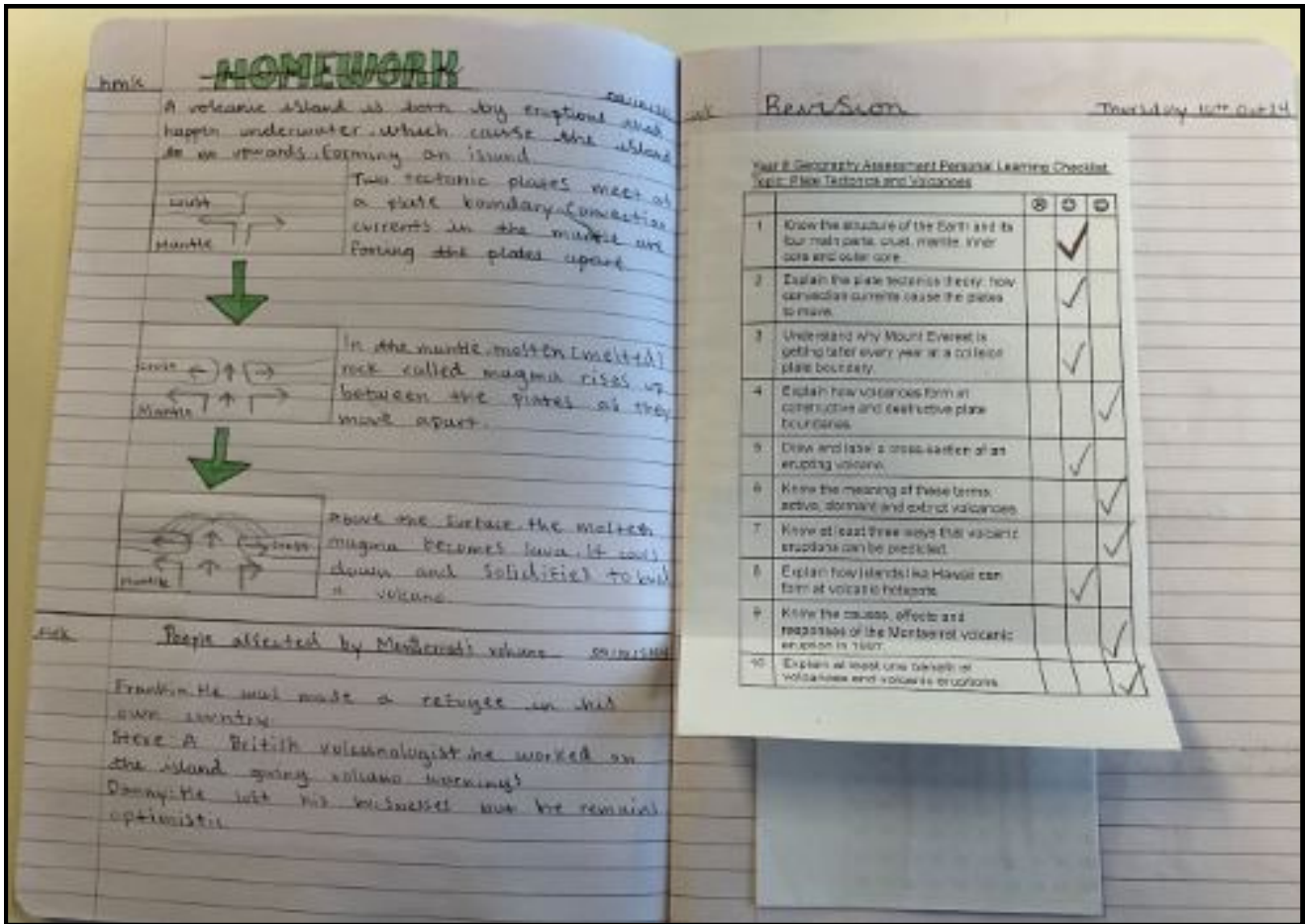
<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/denali>

Year 8

In Year 8, one of the autumn term topics has been to investigate the long-term issues caused by the active volcano in Montserrat in the Caribbean, and also why Iceland experiences volcanic and earthquake activity. The photo shows some excellent work and a revision checklist completed by Sofia in Year 8.

GEOGRAPHY NEWS

(CONTINUED)



Excellent homework and revision: By Sofia in Year 8.

Year 7

In their first term, Year 7 students have studied Atlas Skills; Water, Rivers and Flooding; then the final topic of the term has been Map Skills and the British Isles. All Year 7 students have also enjoyed some fieldwork in the outside EcoHub classroom. This involved an infiltration experiment, with the aim of understanding flood risk on different kinds of land surface.



EcoHub: Ruislip High's outdoor classroom

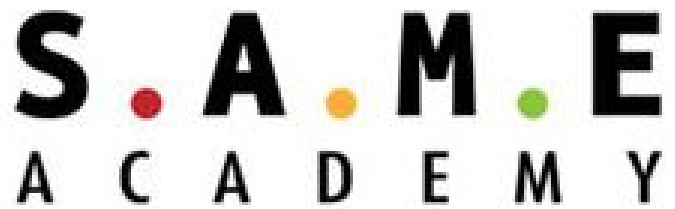


Fieldwork equipment: Infiltration tubes to help understand flood risk

SIXTH FORM GUEST SPEAKER NEWS

This term, our Sixth Form was fortunate to host a series of inspiring guest speakers. These industry experts and thought leaders shared their invaluable insights, motivating our students and broadening their horizons.

We welcomed Wale Yusuf, a Road Safety Officer at SAME Safe Drive, who delivered a powerful presentation on road safety. Wale's firsthand experiences and knowledge highlighted the dangers of distracted driving, speeding, and drink-driving. His message resonated with students, emphasizing the importance of responsible behavior on the roads.



We also had the opportunity to hear from David Dein, the founder of the Premier League. He shared his journey to success, emphasising the importance of perseverance and self-discipline. His talk on business development inspired many students to pursue their passions and overcome challenges.

Lauren, Year 12, said: 'I think the speakers we have listened to so far have been really interesting - and all really different. I know this is an opportunity other schools don't offer their students, so I'm grateful to hear from such a range of people.'

We are grateful to all our guest speakers for their time and dedication. Their contributions have enriched our Sixth Form community and will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on our students. We look forward to continuing our guest speaker program next term, with more exciting speakers and topics to come.

The speaker programme is organised by Ms Forde (Sixth Form Learning Mentor). If you have a suggestion for a suitable guest speaker based around one of the '3Cs' of careers, current affairs and culture, please email Ms Forde via office@ruisliphigh.com

YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 have certainly made their mark on Ruislip High since joining back in September. There were the usual nerves when students came in on their first day: thinking about getting lost, what the teachers would be like and how to find their next lesson. It is clear to see that this cohort are confident, resilient and good natured. They are no longer tourists in the corridors but fully immersed in the school community.

As Year 7 have settled in, they have taken advantage of the opportunities available to them. Many students in the year group have signed up to various clubs including Animal Club, Study Club, Football and The Ruislip Eye. It is wonderful to see our students taking advantage of the Above and Beyond programme, allowing them to have awesome experiences beyond the classroom.

In the classroom, Year 7 are shining. I have seen students making fruit salad in Food Technology; learning about how the Romans encouraged their soldiers to fight with bravery, as well as observing students coding in Computing. Students have demonstrated a real love of learning and are getting stuck into the curriculum with enthusiasm. Although the difference in work can be challenging when moving into high school, Year 7 are taking it in their stride and are doing well.

Year 7 are also making their mark through various whole school opportunities. Each tutor group have elected their School Parliament members as well as their Head and Deputy Head Parliament members to represent the year group voice when speaking to senior leaders. There have also been Year Team Council members elected to represent each tutor group to discuss learning with senior leaders. There have also been volunteers for our safeguarding, internet safety and languages focus groups. All of these students carry great responsibility as they represent their peers. It is clear that all students involved are taking their responsibilities seriously. They are enthusiastic, charismatic and confident - taking on their roles with pride.

With such a fantastic start to the year, it is exciting to see how this year group will continue to thrive, develop and shine.

Ms Loizou
Head of Year 7

ENGLISH NEWS

An Inspector Calls

We are members of one body”, reads a well-known quote from An Inspector Calls, and Year 11 certainly were as they all gathered together on 11th November to watch Central Youth Theatre deliver an incredible workshop on this exam text.



Opening with a description of the key ideas in any text: themes, structure and form, Holly, the lead actor, used a football metaphor (especially appreciated by the audience's Liverpool fans) to help clarify these concepts. Once they understood the basics, the actors proceeded to act out individual scenes, and teach the students to understand them in interactive, workshop-style sessions. Key quotes were analysed, and character development explained, but the team also drew attention to more theatrical choices, harder to demonstrate in the classroom. These included props, entrances and exits, and costume choices, such as Sheila's ornate, expensive scarf symbolising her materialism, and Eric's jacket that he wore in different styles from the beginning to the end of the play, representing his progression as a character.

Year 11 listened attentively throughout the whole workshop, enjoyed the performance and found it very useful as exam revision for their upcoming PPEs. If only going to the theatre always counted as revision!

ENGLISH NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Othello: stage props and Traveller's Tales lecture by Chloé Houston

On 25th November 2024, the Year 13 English class was given the opportunity to listen to a fascinating lecture given by Chloé Houston on how stage props are used in *Othello*, alongside the idea of Othello as "other" within his own narrative. Houston explored ideas concerning Othello's Traveller's Tales and how he is both an insider and an outsider as "The Moor of Venice". Yet the focus of Houston's lecture was in regard to the handkerchief and the connotations and significance driven by it.

Houston began discussing the given information about the handkerchief, what Shakespeare wants the audience to know, for example, we know that Othello says it is a gift from his mother and we also know that the strawberry embroidery is emblematic of blood. However, Houston then started to expand on its significance, initially looking into their history as a material item. She discussed how the handkerchief was an important part of material culture during the Renaissance period and how it was a very personal item, seldom shared with others. Handkerchiefs were also symbolic of beauty, cleanliness, good breeding and fine taste alongside being representative of a woman's domestic labour. After looking into the history of the handkerchief, Houston begins to explore its movement on stage and how the story of the handkerchief associates Othello with another world, a romantic, fanciful world, furthering his "otherness". Houston concluded her talk when discussing the actual meanings behind the handkerchief and how it can hold many meanings, possibly contradictory to each other. Houston then opened the floor to discussion and allowed us to ask her further questions in detail regarding the subject matter of her lecture and the play as a whole.

It was an incredible opportunity to hear from a specialist and study stage props in such detail, as Houston opened our minds to concepts and connotations we had never even considered before. The entire talk was informative, creative and extremely insightful, presented in a professional yet enjoyable manner. The entire class is extremely grateful for Houston's lecture and the time she gave us and we thank her greatly for sharing her knowledge with us all.



"LEND METHY
HANDKERCHIEF":
STAGE PROPS AND
TRAVELLERS' TALES IN *OTHELLO*

DR CHLOÉ HOUSTON,
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE,
UNIVERSITY OF READING

YEAR 8 NEWS

As the new Head of Year 8, I am delighted to share with you the incredible journey our students have embarked on so far this academic year. It has been a term filled with hard work, dedication, and a sense of achievement, and I could not be more proud of how Year 8 has embraced all the challenges and opportunities that have come their way.

A Trip to Remember: Residential to Paris

One of the standout events of the term was undoubtedly the 3-day residential trip to Paris. This unforgettable experience gave our students the chance to immerse themselves in a rich cultural environment while also enjoying some well-deserved fun. Highlights included a boat tour along the River Seine, giving students the chance to see some of the iconic landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower as well as Notre Dame Cathedral. Of course, no trip to Paris would be complete without a visit to Disneyland Paris, where our students had a magical time experiencing the rides, parades, and attractions. It was a joy to see Year 8 students interacting with one another in such a positive way during the trip. They demonstrated great maturity, responsibility, and teamwork, making the experience truly special for all involved.

Winter Musical : Talent on Display

Our students also shone brightly in the Winter Concert, which truly highlighted the incredible musical talent within Year 8. The concert featured performances from students in Band Club, where they played a range of instruments with impressive skill and confidence. The Choir also delivered beautiful renditions of seasonal songs, showcasing the teamwork and dedication that goes into every rehearsal.

A special mention must go to an individual solo singing performance, which left the audience in awe. The courage and poise demonstrated by this student were remarkable, and the performance was a true highlight of the evening. It's clear that Year 8 has a wealth of musical talent, and the concert was a perfect showcase of their hard work and commitment.

Beyond the classroom: Achieving Excellence

This term, Year 8 students have also shown their commitment to excellence through participation in the Above and Beyond Programme. This initiative is designed to encourage students to challenge themselves and strive for even greater success, both academically and personally. I am proud to report that a significant number of Year 8 students have embraced this programme, pushing themselves in new and exciting directions.

In addition to their academic pursuits, Year 8 students have also excelled in competitive sporting events. From athletics to team sports, our students have shown

YEAR 8 NEWS

(CONTINUED)

resilience, teamwork, and a competitive spirit in various competitions throughout the term. Their commitment to training, improving, and representing the school with pride has been truly inspiring.

Thank You and Best Wishes

As we move into the second term, I have no doubt that Year 8 will continue to shine. They have already shown they are capable of great things, and I look forward to supporting them as they tackle new challenges and celebrate further successes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and guardians for your continued support in helping make Year 8's first term such a success. Together, we are creating an environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday season. Here's to an even more exciting second term!

Miss Farrell
Head of Year 8

PE NEWS

Netball

Ruislip High School netball teams have started the season strong with the Year 10 netball team having an impressive 11-2 win over Uxbridge High, where Ava W (10B) and Ava D (10D) were the lead goal scorers. The Year 8 team also shone after having the perfect start, winning at home to Queensmead School 25-4, where Lois C (8D) and Ellie D (8F) were the lead goal scorers. All students performed incredibly well and were impeccable with how they represented the school. The full team list for each year group is below:



The Year 7 team has also started strong in their first game against Rosedale where they won 10-0. The girls had the opportunity to play in a number of positions, some of which were not their first choice, which demonstrates the talent of this team. We'd like to give a special mention to Isabella and Caitlin for their wonderful goals. Pelin B (7B), Isabella L (7D), Caitlin B (7A), Chaaya M (7F), Coralie A (7D), Avani S-G (7A), Freya B (7A), Francesca A (7A).

PE NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Netball - Jack Petchey Foundation

On behalf of the netball team and PE department we would like to send a thank you to Bethany S (9B) who was one of the recipients of the Jack Petchey Foundation award for her outstanding efforts and contributions to the school. Bethany has used her grant to supply each netball team with brand new uniforms and game balls as they undergo the new season.

Girls Football

This week some of the Year 9 and Year 10 girls have represented Ruislip High School in two football fixtures.

The first game was in the third round of the English School Football Association cup, where the girls played Orleans Park School. The girls battled hard throughout the game and were victorious winning 3-1.

Goal Scores: Xenia G, Bethany S (9B)

In the second game of the week the Year 9 and 10 girls played their first u16s league game against Vyners. The girls put in an amazing performance, dominating the game with a convincing 7-1 win. Everyone who played in the game played a crucial role in the goals scored.

Goal Scores: Michaela H, Jodie C, Bethany S, Kaia W, Danni K.



PE NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Boccia Competition

This week some of our students took part in a Boccia competition at Pield Heath. Boccia has roots in ancient Greece and Egypt and is thought to be one of the first games played by mankind. The sport was originally designed for people with Cerebral Palsy but is now played by people with a wide range of disabilities.

The game is played from a seated position: players propel balls to land as close as possible to a white marker ball, known as the Jack. Two sides compete as individuals, pairs or as a team of three over a set number of ends (4 for individuals and pairs, and 6 for teams).

At the Pield Heath competition, the students from RHS played seven different games, all of which were really competitive. Students won four games, lost two and drew one, resulting in 4th place overall.

Well done to all students involved!



Basketball



Whilst basketball gets up and running in the new year, the current crop of Year 9s took part in an organised tournament amongst the schools, with one Year 8 also playing a key role within the team.

Ruislip played two group games beating Oakwood 24-8 and Vyners 28-4. They then went on to beat Guru Nanak school in the semi final 28-20. The final vs Haydon was a tight affair, but once Ruislip found their rhythm they grabbed hold of the game from their opponents, winning 16-8, thus winning the trophy. Jamie SM (9F) scored 22 points in total, with 6 in the final. Dragos T (9F) captain and Hussein I (9), both keen and influential basketball players scored 22 and 14 points respectively. Everyone made an impressive contribution and a big nod to Daniel W (8), who from playing a year below, chipped in with 6 points and started the final. A massive well done to all!

Dragos T (9F) - Captain, Jamie SM (9F), Hussein I (9A), Oscar W (9F), Eric R (9C),
Charlie C (9D), Sebastian D (9F), Daniel W (8S)

PE NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Cross country

Ruislip High was able to field a strong team again for the Borough cross country competition. A full list of participants are below. Notable performances from Antony C (7W) who finished 6th overall in the Year 7 boys' race, cementing a place for the borough team. In the Year 7 girls' race, Anna R (7S) came in at an impressive 9th out of a field of 60!

In the Year 8 and 9 boys' combined race Vinne MB (8B) came 4th overall, but was the top Year 8 boy runner overall, a fantastic achievement! Freddie Wright (8F) also came in as overall 7th to confirm his spot on the borough team.

In the Year 8/9 girls, Charna-Jo B (9A) claimed 3rd in the race, gaining a medal and position on the borough team, again, an excellent achievement. Lastly in the boys' Year 10 race Charlie R (10D) came 3rd and Kallum J (10F) came 5th, both producing excellent personal displays and both making the cut for the borough team. A huge well done to all runners this year in tough ground conditions.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Anna R (7S) Emma M (7S) Caitlin B (7A) Audrey K (7B) Isabella L (7D) Antony C (7W) Dani A (7F) Marwan G (7A) Kade M (7D) Conor W (7C)	Sophia L (8W) Lili S (8W) Hannah H (8S) Lois C (8D) Scarlett A (8B) Finley MW (8F) Vinnie MB (8B) Freddie W (8F) Daniel W (8S)	Charna-Jo B (9A) Bethany S (9B) Ashaz S (9B) Hussein I (9A) Oscar W (9F)	Charlie R (10D) Kallum J (10F)

Year 7 boys football

In the early start of this year, Ruislip have been blessed with a new crop of talented and committed players. So far they have played one game against Queensmead and won 9-0, with games coming up before the end of term, and in what seems like a crucial match vs Bishop Ramsay, it could be an interesting finish to the season.

Won - 9-0 Vs Queensmead

A big squad for the first Year 7 fixture resulted in many players getting roughly 20 minutes each; this was important to give everyone a chance. Ruislip put in a dominant display from start to finish with Amari P leading by example with a player of the match performance. Antony C also led the line as captain and scored a hat-trick for his efforts.

PE NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Joseph B also scored a hat-trick, Eduardo A grabbed himself two with some fine finishing and Leo also got himself on the scoresheet. There were plenty of strong performances across the pitch and it has certainly given the PE department something to think about, and with more pupils playing well in training, it can get very competitive in the weeks to come.

Aiden S (7C), Harry J (7W), Alfie L (7D), Jordan B (7S), Ollie K (7S), Ollie H (7S), Freddie H (7B), James E (7F), Eduardo A (7B), Antony C (7W), Leo E (7S), Joseph B (7W), Ben H (7D), Colby H (7W), Conor W (7C), Amari P (7A)

Year 8 boys football

The Year 8s have had a decent start to the year, losing narrowly in the national cup game vs Queens school. The Year 8s then took on Haydon and won 4-2, with RHS scoring 4 in the first half. A postponed fixture vs Uxbridge will be rescheduled, with many other games due to take place after the holiday period.

Josh G (8W), Ethan H (8S), Luis J (8S), Finley MW (8F), Alastair B (8F), Coby M (8C), Evan B (8C), Daniel H (8F), Vinny MB (8B), Luca H (8W), Sidney B (8F), Tommy M (8D), Keanu M (8W), Alex H (8F), Logan T (8C), Ellis F (8C)

Year 9 boys Football

The Year 9s have had a tough start of games this year to begin their football season. After last year's success, we entered them into the ESFA National Schools Cup for the first time. They were drawn against Haberdashers away in the first round. Haberdashers started the game very strongly with some pacey forwards causing difficulties for the team and quickly went into a 4-0 lead. However the team showed great character in reducing the lead to 1 goal as an Oscar W double and a great strike from Charlie C pulled the score back to 4-3. As we pushed for an equaliser Haberdashers broke away and scored a fifth to make the final score 5-3. It was great to see the resilience from the students and they now know the level they need to get to to be successful as a team in the national cup.

The Year 9s have had two other games this year. However, despite some excellent effort and football at times, they are still awaiting their first win this year. It has been great to see the students working hard in training and in lessons to improve individually and as a team. Well done boys. Yr 9 Football Team:

Ibrahim H (9F), Oscar W (9F), Daniel L (9F), Charlie K (9A), Charlie C (9D), Conor F (9F), Ashaz S (9B), Dragos T (9F), Tomas B (9B), Ethan K (9D), James B (9B), Dishan DK (9C), Sam H (9D), Georgi G (9F), Jack CH (9C), Dexter G (9S), Jamie MS (9F)

PE NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Year 10 boys football

The Year 10 boys have also made a strong start to their season with a win over a very competitive Queensmead side winning 2-1. Harrison SJP scored both goals. But the performance lead by captain Charlie S has really spurred on the Year 10s to want more. With Year 9 pupil Oscar W also playing a key role within the team and plenty of games to come after the holiday period, we look forward to seeing where this team will finish at the end of the year.

Callum M (10B), Charlie S (10B), Matthew H (10D), Harrison S (10F),
Ronnie O (10D), Jamie H (10F), Alfie D (10S), Oliver S (10D), Kai M (10W), Kallum J (10F),
Caden C (10A), Jack K (10C), Louie S (10W), Oscar W (9F), Sonny BM (10C)

Year 11 boys football

In their last year playing together, the Year 11 team entered an automatic knockout competition in which if they lost, then they were out. Thankfully our Year 11s are not done playing together as they beat Harlington 8-1. From an outside perspective, it was nice to see the group enjoy their football and each other's company, with some obvious stand-out performances on the day from Dexter O up top and Arun B at the back. We shall await the draw for who we get next after the holiday break.

Kalel HG (11C), Joe B (11S), Adam D (11S), Arun B (11S), Maximillian B (11B),
Rian JW (11B), Charlie O (11S), Finley B (11C), Alfie S (11D), Emilis V (11S), Jaydon DB (11C),
Adrian M (11F), Lewis S (11W), Dexter O (11W), Ralph T (11D), Abdul A (11C)

YEAR 9 NEWS

It has been a busy and productive first term for Year 9. The academic year started with Year 9 Parents Evening and it was pleasing to see such a high turnout in what is a very important year for the students. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and guardians, as well as students, that in February Year 9 Options Evening will take place on Thursday 27th February between 4.30pm and 7pm. This is a vital event as it will inform you and your child to make the best decisions for their GCSEs.

It has also been pleasing to see so many Year 9 students taking part in extracurricular activities including representing the school in football, netball and cross country, as well performing in the winter festival last week and the King Lear performance this week. Furthermore, Year 9 Celebration Assembly takes place tomorrow as I write this, and as I prepare for it it's satisfying to see so many different students winning awards not just in the curriculum subjects but also in competitions outside of the classroom.

As their Head of Year, but also as a member of the Citizenship Department, it has been noted by the department as a whole how successful a start Year 9 have made to their GCSE course in the subject. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy Christmas and New Year, as well as a restful one because it will be another busy term in the spring, starting with the Lion King trip in January.

Mr Cahill

Head of Year 9

YEAR 10 NEWS

As we reach the end of the autumn term, it's a pleasure to reflect on the achievements and progress our Year 10 students have made. The beginning of Key Stage 4 is a significant step, and I'm immensely proud of how well they have embraced the challenges of their GCSE courses with determination and maturity.

Our focus this term has been on setting high standards in all subjects. Year 10 students have shown fantastic engagement, particularly in core subjects, with many demonstrating genuine enthusiasm in new elective areas. Teachers have observed strong participation in lessons, which is building a solid foundation for success as they work through the curriculum. I encourage students to use the holiday period for a little revision, ensuring key concepts remain fresh, but to also take time to recharge.

Attendance and punctuality are essential for making the most of this pivotal year. I'd like to commend the students who have maintained strong attendance and come prepared each day, setting an excellent example for their peers. Please remember that catching up on missed work can be challenging, so I urge all students to prioritise their attendance

YEAR 10 NEWS

in the spring term.

Transitioning into Year 10 can be demanding, and our pastoral team has been on hand to provide support where needed. We encourage students to reach out if they're feeling overwhelmed. As we head into the holiday season, we remind everyone of the importance of balance—staying connected with family, friends, and their interests outside of schoolwork.

One of the highlights of this term was the Year 10 trip to Barcelona, which provided a wonderful opportunity for students to immerse themselves in Spanish culture and history. From exploring the architectural wonders of Gaudí to practising their Spanish language skills in real-life settings, the trip was both educational and inspiring. The students' curiosity and respectful behaviour were praised, and they represented Ruislip High School beautifully.

In October, we celebrated Black History Month with a range of activities across the school, and Year 10 students engaged enthusiastically. The month offered a chance to reflect on the contributions and histories of Black individuals and communities, both locally and globally. It was fantastic to see Year 10 participate in discussions, presentations, and creative projects that highlighted the significance of diversity, inclusion, and respect.

For those studying GCSE Drama, the theatre trip this term was a true standout. Students had the opportunity to experience a live performance, gaining first hand insight into the elements of theatre production that they've been studying. Watching the actors perform and understanding how themes are conveyed on stage has enriched their learning and deepened their appreciation for drama. The trip was a powerful supplement to classroom learning and will serve as a valuable reference point in their upcoming assessments.

The spring term will bring more exciting opportunities, including additional trips and workshops designed to support our students as they advance through their GCSE courses. I encourage students to take some time over the break to reflect on their progress, recharge, and set fresh goals for the coming term.

Thank you, parents and guardians, for your support and encouragement. Together, we're helping Year 10 to make this year one of growth, achievement, and memorable experiences.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year.

Mr Joseph
Head of Year 10

MATHS NEWS

UKMT Senior MATHS Challenge 2024 - 2025

Ruislip High School students showcased their mathematical brilliance at the annual Senior Maths Challenge, held on Tuesday, 1st October 2024. The challenge, organized by the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT), is a prestigious competition designed to test problem-solving and logical reasoning skills among A-level and advanced GCSE students across the nation.

This year, a record number of Ruislip High participants took part, with 80 of our senior students from Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 stepping up to tackle the challenge's notoriously complex problems. The competition consists of a series of thought-provoking questions that demand creative approaches, rewarding precision and out-of-the-box thinking.

The UKMT Maths Clubs, run weekly by Ms. Jani, are designed to inspire and challenge students through a variety of problem-solving activities and advanced mathematical concepts. From sharpening logical reasoning skills to exploring the intricacies of number theory and geometry, the clubs provide an engaging and supportive environment for students to grow their mathematical confidence and ability. These clubs, which have become a cornerstone of the school's mathematics enrichment program, played a crucial role in nurturing the talent and skills of our aspiring mathematicians.

The results were nothing short of outstanding. Alvin received a Gold certificate, whilst Dorrian, Rahul, Sophia, Samy, Ethan, Kimaya and Maxim received Silver certificates. Many of our students also earned Bronze certificates, a testament to their hard work, dedication, and mathematical prowess. Ruislip High School is celebrating a historic milestone as Alvin Choy was invited to participate in the British Mathematical Olympiad (BMO) for the first time in the school's history! This prestigious invitation follows their outstanding performance in the Annual Senior Maths Challenge where their exceptional score placed them among the top 1% of participants nationwide.

Ms. Jani, Maths Across the curriculum coordinator at Ruislip High School, praised the students' achievements: *"The Senior Maths Challenge is a rigorous test of skill, and our students consistently impress us with their determination and talent. We're incredibly proud of their accomplishments and look forward to seeing them take on even greater challenges in the future."*

Ruislip High School celebrates this incredible achievement and extends heartfelt congratulations to all participants for their exceptional effort and success. Their performance underscores the school's commitment to fostering excellence in STEM subjects and cultivating a love for lifelong learning. We look forward to even more impressive results in the years to come!

MATHS NEWS

(CONTINUED)

And at the end, there is a question from Junior Maths UKMT challenge 2024 for parents to try:

In the multiplication sum shown, y represents the same digit each time.

What is the value of y ?

A 0 B 1 C 4 D 5 E 6

$$\begin{array}{r} y y \\ x y y \\ \hline 1 y 7 7 y \\ \hline \end{array}$$

VLT Maths Challenge

On Wednesday, 9th October 2024, Ruislip High School was thrilled to host the eagerly anticipated VLT Maths Challenge. The event brought together talented students from both secondary and primary schools across the Vanguard Learning Trust, showcasing not only their mathematical abilities but also their dedication and teamwork.

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome schools from across the Trust for this exciting competition. The atmosphere was electric, with students brimming with enthusiasm and determination. Each team demonstrated remarkable commitment, pushing themselves to tackle challenging problems and collaborate effectively with their teammates.

The competition was fierce, but Ruislip High School's very own Ruislip A team emerged victorious, securing 1st place with a brilliant display of skill and teamwork. Hot on their heels, last year's champions, Hermitage A, delivered an impressive performance to take 2nd place. Meanwhile, the Oak Farm B team rounded out the top three, earning a well-deserved 3rd place with their strategic problem-solving and perseverance.

A particularly special moment was welcoming Dr Lecky, Chief Executive Officer of the Vanguard Learning Trust, who delivered inspiring closing remarks. Dr Lecky's words highlighted the importance of collaboration, critical thinking, and resilience – qualities that were exemplified by all the students during the challenge.

The event wouldn't have been the success it was without the hard work and dedication of all the students who participated. Their passion for mathematics shone through as they tackled each round, supporting one another and embodying the spirit of teamwork across all schools.

A huge thank you goes out to the staff of the schools that participated and brought their brilliant teams along. The VLT Maths Challenge continues to be a celebration of collaboration, perseverance, and the joy of learning—a testament to the vibrant community that makes the Trust so special. We look forward to the VLT Maths Challenge 2025!

MATHS NEWS

(CONTINUED)



YEAR 11 NEWS

The winter term has been an extremely busy and rewarding term for Year 11. I am very proud of the maturity, resilience and hard work the students have shown over the past few months and was glad that they were able to celebrate the end of their PPE's (pre-public examinations) with an exciting day trip to the London Eye and River Cruise on the penultimate day of term. The students' behaviour on this trip was exemplary and it was a wonderful way for them to relax after many weeks preparing for exams and coursework across the curriculum.



At the end of last academic year many of our students put themselves forward to be part of the student prefect team. We were very impressed with the quality of applications and it was extremely difficult to decide on the 15 successful prefects in the team. Mr Davies and I interviewed a handful of students to be Senior Prefects and all the students were truly exceptional. I would like to congratulate our Head Prefects for 2024-2025: Ellie M and Layla D who will work alongside Deputy Head Prefects, Kian M and Ruby S. The prefects have already been supporting whole school events and have shown prospective students and staff around on tours of the building.

It was wonderful to see so many Year 11's collect subject and bestowed prizes at the annual RHS Presentation Evening in November. A special mention must go to Kian who won the school's poetry competition and gave a recital on the evening. You can read this lovely poem on the following page of this newsletter.

YEAR 11 NEWS

Throughout this term, students have also begun planning their post-16 options, with a very well attended Sixth Form Open Evening in November, and a talk from Uxbridge College towards the end of term. Many of our students have been proactive and have already put in applications to stay on at our hugely successful Sixth Form, or for various college courses and apprenticeships.

A number of Year 11's have represented the school on stage and I would like to congratulate the talented actors in the recent performances of King Lear and at the music concert in December.

The next important milestone for Year 11 is the all-important Parents/Guardians Evening which is taking place at school on Thursday 23rd January 2025. The online booking system is open and we expect all students and their guardians to attend, not only to collect their PPE results, but also to have conversations with subject teachers ahead of their summer GCSE examinations.

I would like to wish the students and their families a restful Christmas break and look forward to seeing Year 11 fully recharged in January.

Mr L Sills
Head of Year 11

YEAR 11 POEM

'One Time to Glisten' **by Kian Murphy**

And once again I wake up, ready for school,
The dim grey mornings and the uncomfy blue stools.

Despite this I'm not sad, nor am I happy either,
The second I sit down, I switch on the demeanour.

Happy faces visible, ready to learn,

All ambition like coals to burn.

Put your head down, get ready to work,

But school is more than just corridors to lurk.

It's a place of belonging, a family home,

Certainly not an experience to be gone through alone.

So say hi to that girl, or make him feel seen,

Because you don't know what they've been through, or where they have been.

Put in the effort, and try to revise,

I know that it's hard, I won't try to disguise.

The work you put in now will make it worth in the end,
So any problems you have, make sure that they mend.

We have two hands to help, and two ears to listen,

But only one time in school, so make sure it glistens.

MFL NEWS

Forty three students, made up of Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Spanish students, visited Barcelona during the October half-term for four days. The group stayed in Salou, a beach-side resort about an hour from Barcelona. On the first day students spent the afternoon in Tarragona, a picturesque town thirty minutes away from Salou. There they viewed a Roman Amphitheatre and spent time in the old town in small groups. In the evening students had dinner in a typical Spanish Tapas restaurant to sample some of Spain's culinary delights.

On the second day, the students visited El Poble Espanyol which is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Barcelona. Students discovered the architectural diversity of Spain by walking around 117 full-scale replicas of Spanish famous buildings. In the afternoon, students took a cable car up to Montjuic castle, where students ate their picnics and got to take in the most amazing panoramic views over Barcelona. Later on that day, they were given time to explore the famous Las Ramblas followed by a awe inspiring visit to view Antoni Gaudi's famous Basilica The Sagrada Familia from the outside before returning to the hotel.

Although a rainstorm prevented beach time at the beach following dinner, the day ended with the students having fun in the games room.



Unfortunately on the third day of the trip, the group had to adapt their plans due to a severe weather warning. Despite this, the students adapted brilliantly and had a fantastic morning whether they partook in bilingual bingo led by Ms Bisland and Mr Sills with students winning cash prizes for one line, two lines and a full house victories. The end of the bingo session was rounded off with a dance to the Macarena. In the afternoon, students spent their time at PortAventura theme park where they got very soggy indeed in the rain topped off by water rides. This was followed by time to explore the hotel, use of the swimming pool and a post evening stroll to the beach for some retail therapy or football on the beach.

MFL NEWS

(CONTINUED)



The final day of the trip brought more rain, but it did not dampen the students' spirits. They spent time in the town of Salou collecting specific information about the area all in Spanish for an Apprentice-style challenge. The students worked in teams and completed the task with much enthusiasm and the top three teams were rewarded generously. Finally, the last afternoon was spent visiting the FC Barcelona Immersive Museum as the stadium is currently under construction. This was a fantastic way to round off such a jam-packed and memorable trip.

Lola, Year 10, said: "I had such a great time and the whole trip was so fun. I made lots of new friends and all the places we went to were amazing. I will never forget this trip - I'm not sure any other trip could top it!"

Hannah, Year 11, said: "It was a trip of a lifetime where we surprisingly made friends with other Year 10 and 11 students. We have all made so many funny memories and that was my highlight of my time at Ruislip High School. My personal favourites were all the water rides at the theme park and taking photos all around Barcelona.

Romario, Year 11, said "The spanish trip was 10/10! It was truly amazing. I made so many memories and friends and would do anything to go back. Definitely, the best trip I've been on!"

A massive thank you to the wonderful 43 students and five members of staff who gave up their half term for this truly unforgettable trip which students will be talking about for many years to come.



YEAR 12 NEWS

It is a real pleasure to write this end-of-term update as Year 12 have settled into Sixth Form life so successfully. I have been very impressed with the diligence of the students. They are really taking ownership of their work and academic progress, and this maturity is pleasing to see. It is highlighted by the fact that so many Year 12 students are already combining their academic studies with progress towards researching and preparing for their post-18 application. Year 12 students' attendance has been fantastic and this shows how dedicated they are to achieve their dreams and goals.

It has also been pleasing to see Year 12 involving themselves in the wider life of the school. All students have been participating in one of our eight Sixth Form Above and Beyond clubs on Friday Week B mornings, and a number of students have auditioned for the school's Christmas production, which I am sure will be as well-crafted and entertaining as previous editions. Many Year 12 students have got involved with the "We are Leaders" programme, whereby a Year 12 student visits a Year 7, 8 or 9 tutor group once per week to support the students with their learning and study habits. Needless to say, the students' efforts have received glowing reviews from the Year 7-9 form tutors. It has also been wonderful to see almost half of the year group sign up to do an Extended Project Qualification, which will boost the students' academic research skills.

On Tuesday 22nd October, all Year 12 students went on a trip to a university! Half of the year group visited the University of Reading, and the other half visited Hertfordshire University. Students received talks on how to apply to university, and heard from student ambassadors about what university life is like. They also had the chance to go on tours around the campus of each university. Both trips were extremely valuable, with many students commenting on how they feel that they have a far better understanding of university, what it entails and how to apply. The conduct of students was exemplary on both trips, and they were a pleasure to run.

As I look forward to the Spring Term, I see a plethora of academic, super-curricular, volunteering, mentoring and enrichment opportunities for Year 12 students. In particular, students will have the opportunity to apply to be on the 2025-2026 Student Leadership Team, which will be a great opportunity for them to boost their confidence and leadership skills, and to give back to the school. I am excited by the enthusiasm with which students have already undertaken to conduct further research into their chosen fields in order to strengthen a future post-18 application, and look forward to furthering these discussions with them in the Spring Term.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support of the school and the students, and wish you a restful break. I am so proud to be a new Head of Year and go through the journey with the Year 12 students and see them flourish to achieve their full potential.

Miss P Vora
Head of Year 12

LRC NEWS

With Christmas fast approaching and almost at the end of another year, it is the perfect time to reflect on the amazing use of the LRC.

There have been lots of fantastic events, some new and some pre-existing in the LRC this year:

World Book Day

In the spring we celebrated World Book Day and because last year was so successful, the LRC put together another Masked Reader competition between the tutor groups. Different members of staff were filmed reading from Roald Dahl's revolting rhymes, a selection of stories with a twist. The staff members' voices were digitally disguised thereby hiding their true identity. This challenge went down a storm with students and staff, who all had fun guessing who the characters were.



By popular demand the LRC also repeated the 'Guess the Book Emoji Challenge' during break and lunch, an event especially for Golden ticket holders, who regularly use the LRC. The challenge was to guess the books, films, nursery rhymes and songs, just from looking at the emojis. Those students who joined in were each given a goodie bag of sweets and the lucky winner got to select and keep a book from the Book Vending machine in the LRC.

Talking Books

To round off World Book day, after school the BookTok club got to enjoy a selection of sweet treats and popcorn, whilst discussing the books. The day was a huge success, even more so as it got the whole school talking about books and promoting reading, which is what World Book Day is all about !!!

Time to Relax and Unwind

The LRC is still a popular place for students wanting a quiet area to sit, unwind and read a book, and enjoy a bit of escapism during a busy school day. The recent purchase of bean bags in the school colours (sky blue, green and dark blue) representing the School's motto, "from grass roots, to reaching for the sky" has been a great success and has created a more relaxing environment for students wishing to read and a perfect addition to the Silent Reading Corner sofas and soft seating.



LRC NEWS

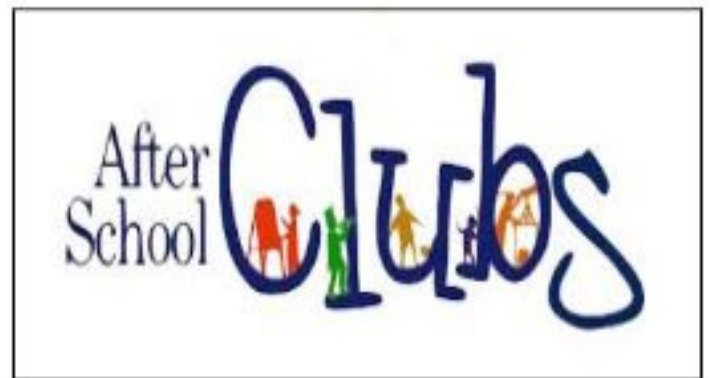
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'Stationery Heaven'

The LRC stationery shop is as busy as always! Students can redeem reward wheel points in exchange for stationery items, a fantastic way of getting new stationery without spending a penny and the best thing is it stops warnings being given. Students can purchase stationery during break, lunch and after school in the LRC.

The LRC's after-school clubs are still going strong, with many students from all year groups attending. Students who regularly attend can take advantage of the extra time and remain in the LRC after school to complete homework, read or revise. The LRC has computers and Chromebooks available to use.



The School Timetable: 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Tuesday and Wednesday: Silent reading/ Homework/ Revision Club

Thursday: BookTok Club

Friday: Games Club

A HUMONGOUS THANK YOU !!

A massive thank you to all the LRC Student helpers who volunteer during social times in the LRC; the help is invaluable and greatly appreciated. Included in this massive thank you are all the volunteers from the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme who also help, as well as the Sixth Form Ambassadors who volunteer in the LRC each week.



Also a big thank you to so many Parents/Guardians that have donated books to the LRC during the year, which have been gratefully received by the students and is very much appreciated.

Christmas Joke

'What do you call a reindeer who wears earmuffs?'

Anything you want! They can't hear you!

'Happy Christmas', enjoy the seasonal break and as always
'Happy Reading'

Mrs Austen LRC Manager



YEAR 13 NEWS

It has been an exciting term for the Year 13 students who have been working in earnest toward their Post 18 plans! Most students have now sent off their applications to Universities, with many amazing offers already having been received by the students and also some great apprenticeship applications have been made too. As the year continues, we expect to see more of the above and students securing themselves opportunities to succeed in the future, beyond Ruislip High School.

In terms of extra-curricular activities, students have continued to throw themselves into life at RHS and I was proud that the Sixth Form was represented so well in the recent production of King Lear. I am proud of the diverse range of opportunities that our school offers and even more proud of those students who reach out and grab these opportunities. This is enhanced with the students in Sixth Form taking up new and exciting Above and Beyond clubs on Friday mornings and developing skills that they'll be able to use for years to come.

Whilst the winter break offers an opportunity for some well deserved rest, it also is important that Year 13s use this time for some study and planning. After the Christmas break, it is a very short run in till the A Level and BTEC exams take place and it's important that students are prepared for this and are not rushing or cramming their revision. They should continue with their PlanMyWeek and it's more than fair for you, as a parent and carer, to ask to see these and to offer help and support.

I wish everyone a very happy holiday, some time to recover after a long term, and I look forward to seeing you all in January, ready to go for another term!

Mr Elsby
Head of Year 13

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY EVENT

Wednesday 11th December, 2024, saw our Sixth Form host their annual Christmas Community Event and, as always, it was a huge success!

Students from Year 12 and Year 13 helped to decorate our restaurant area and welcomed the local community for an evening of festive music, good company and delicious Christmas food. Students were able to swap stories with some of our more senior guests and the community spirit was wonderful to experience. Students later took the guests up to experience the wonderful Winter Concert, led by our Music Department.

Whilst our guests enjoyed the concert, the clean-up crew of students got to work tidying the canteen area, to ensure it was ready to be used as normal the next day. The students' care and appreciation for the school was really evident and they showed real pride in presenting RHS to our wider community.

Mr Elsby, Head of Year 13, said: "One of the biggest pleasures of working in the Sixth Form is seeing how our students have matured into young adults, ready to venture into the wider world. Events such as this really demonstrate how ready they are to do this - I am so proud of all of them for taking part!"

Well done to the Sixth Form team for leading the event, and to all of the students who supported the event. We are already looking forward to next year's event.



WINTER CONCERT

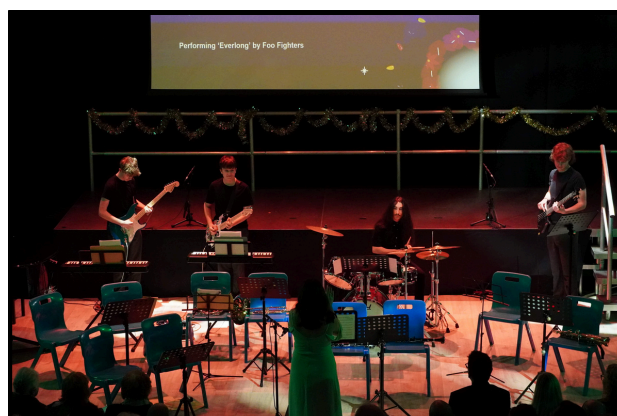
On Wednesday 11th December, 2024, members of the RHS community, including staff, students and parents, were treated to an evening of music at our annual Winter Concert.

Led by Ms Nastou, Curriculum Leader for Music, the Winter Concert featured a range of musical performances, spanning different genres. From piano solos, to our RHS Band performing some festive classics, it really was a true showcase of how hard our students have worked and what fantastic young musicians they have become. The evening was hosted by students James and Olivia, whose warm and confident presentation set the tone for a memorable evening.

The school choir performed several beautiful pieces, with a delightful surprise—Mr. Maud joined in for one song, 'Lean on Me'. The GCSE Advanced Choir then captivated the audience with a moving rendition of 'Viva La Vida' by Coldplay, highlighting their vocal skill.

The concert featured some incredible solo performances. Trissha, Year 12, wowed the crowd with a stirring piano rendition of a piece from Pirates of the Caribbean, while Edward and Rahul delivered an exquisite performance of Rachmaninoff's arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty Waltz. Ray, a talented clarinetist, also performed a beautiful interpretation of Gymnopedie No. 1 by Erik Satie. Finally, Ziana and Eli, stunned with a fantastic duet of 'Final Duet', with Ziana playing the flute and Eli accompanying on piano.

From the harmonious choir to the impressive solos, every performance was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the students.



ART, CRAFT & DESIGN NEWS

THE CREATIVE CORNER

Winter card competition

We had so many sensational entries this festive season which made Mr Davies' and Mr Noble's decision especially hard this year! I have shared just some of them in our RHS gallery as there are just too many to mention. The entries this year were so good that Mr Davies has decided to pick a top 3 designs as our winter card winners this year!



Tommy M



Emma P



Karuna R

A massive congratulations to Tommy, Emma & Karuna for their sensational entries that capture the festive season with a sprinkle of Ruislip High magic!



Textiles Club

Textiles Club has focused on developing students' sewing skills to create a garment this term. Students have been dying their own fabric to create their personalised kimonos! From understanding how to use pattern pieces to extending their understanding on seam & hems, they have worked very hard to create these stylish jackets. During spring 2025 we will have Art Club back up and running so sign up now on SOCS before we run out of space!

ACD raffle

During the months of November, March and June, students can win multiple raffle tickets throughout the month by showing their perseverance and determination during lessons and effort in their HWK. At the end of the month, 3 students are selected at random to win some creative prizes! November's winner are:

Irzam 7D Thomas 8B Kelsey 9B
Seth 7B Isla 8C Hussein 9A
Patrik 7C Alyssa 8A April 9F



This is a fantastic opportunity not only to be rewarded for your continued hard work but also get some free art supplies! Start getting ready to impress your teachers in March!

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN NEWS



Sustainability week in Art, Craft and Design

As part of the Trust-wide sustainability week the ACD department have collaborated with the Sixth form students to create this rhino display made by our textiles students using fabric that would have been put into landfill, to bring awareness about the plight that rhinos are facing.

Our amazing students have been working hard to raise money to support the Mankwe Wildlife Reserve through various activities.

RHS Gallery

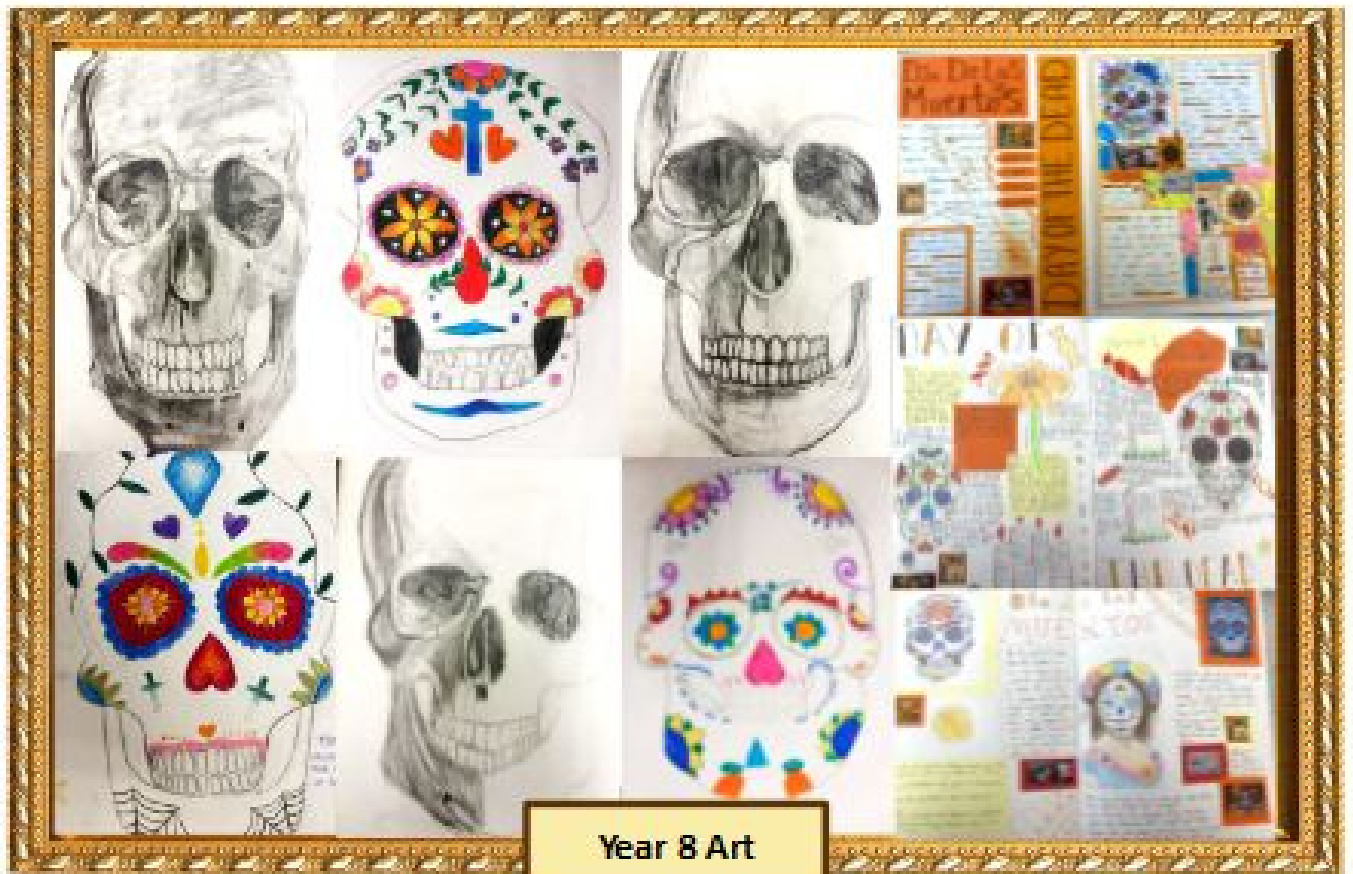
Here is a selection of work from the Art, Craft and Design department:



Year 7 Textiles



Year 7 Art



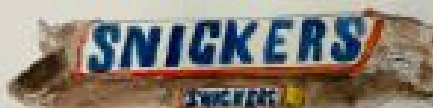
Year 8 Art



Year 8 Textiles



Year 9 Textiles



Year 9 Art

KEY DATES

- **Monday 6th January 2025: INSET day**
- **Tuesday 7th January 2025: Spring term begins**
- **Tuesday 7th January 2025: Year 12/13 theatre trip**
- **Friday 10th January 2025 – Friday 17th January 2025: Year 13 PPEs**
- **Wednesday 15th January 2025: Year 9 West End matinee trip**
- **Monday 20th January 2025: Year 11 history/drama theatre trip**
- **Tuesday 21st January 2025: Year 11 history/drama theatre trip**
- **Wednesday 22nd January 2025: VLT spelling bee**
- **Thursday 23rd January 2025: Year 11 parents' evening**
- **Tuesday 28th January 2025: Parent voice meeting**
- **Wednesday 29th January 2025: UCAS deadline**
- **Wednesday 29th January 2025: Year 9 West End matinee trip**
- **Wednesday 29th January 2025: GCSE music recital**
- **Monday 3rd February 2025 – Friday 28th February 2025: LGBTQ+ history month**
- **Monday 3rd February 2025 – Thursday 6th February 2025: GCSE music exams**
- **Thursday 6th February 2025: Year 13 PPE results day**
- **Monday 10th February 2025 – Friday 14th February 2025: Safer internet week**
- **Monday 10th February 2025: Year 11/13 art trip**
- **Wednesday 12th February 2025: Year 12 Access project trip**
- **Thursday 13th February 2025: Year 12 parents' evening**
- **Friday 14th February 2025: Berlin trip leaves**
- **Friday 14th February 2025: Half term ends**
- **Monday 17th February 2025: Berlin trip returns**
- **Monday 24th February 2025: Half term begins**
- **Thursday 27th February 2025: Year 9 options evening**
- **Monday 3rd March 2025 – Friday 7th March 2025: Equality week**
- **Wednesday 5th March 2025: Year 13 history trip**
- **Tuesday 11th March 2025: Parent voice meeting (remote)**
- **Thursday 13th March 2025: Year 7 English Museum of Stories trip**
- **Thursday 13th March 2025: Year 12 Post-18 information evening**
- **Thursday 20th March 2025: Year 7 parents' evening**
- **Wednesday 26th March 2025: VLT Year 7 science challenge**
- **Wednesday 2nd/Thursday 3rd April 2025: Year 10 speak out challenge**
- **Thursday 3rd April 2025: Year 8 parents' evening**
- **Friday 4th April 2025: Year 9 Battlefields trip leaves**
- **Friday 4th April 2025: Terms ends**
- **Monday 7th April 2025: Year 9 Battlefields trip returns**