

29th November 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

I recognise that this week was a shorter week than usual for students as staff benefited from two days of INSET. I am grateful for the support of parents and guardians regarding these two days, as they really do provide an invaluable training opportunity for our staff and support our constant focus on ensuring Ruislip High School provides outstanding, inclusive education to the young people in our care.

### **Presentation Evening**

Our annual presentation evening took place last Thursday 21st November 2024, and it was a wonderful occasion. The evening celebrated student success and once again, it was a delight to recognise the achievements of our students and community. This year's theme was unity, and I was delighted that one of our alumni, Jordan Marajh, who is now a leading academic, gave an inspiring message to our current generation of students. My message was to remind ourselves that there is more that unites us than divides us and that there is a real community ethos at the school that also leads to a sense of belonging. I am grateful to the students, parents/guardians, staff, and distinguished guests who joined us. As ever, the real highlight of the evening was our students. The school choir sang beautifully, the musicians were impressively accomplished, and our student leaders were exceptional. Our Head Student, Alexia, and our Deputy Head Students, Anastasia and Luke, spoke confidently and eloquently about their journeys and shared their advice with younger students, reminding us to be kind, compassionate, and that hard work does lead to success.

### **Forthcoming pre-public examinations (PPEs)**

PPEs begin for students in Year 11 on Monday 2nd December 2024 and students in Year 10 will also sit their PPE in Citizenship on Tuesday 2nd December 2024, with Year 13 students sitting PPEs next term. I know students are working hard to prepare for the PPEs and here at the school we aim to treat them as seriously as the real examinations to come. I would like to remind parents and guardians that the PPEs serve to support students with practising the routine of public examinations and to identify the key areas teachers and students need to focus on before next summer. Should your child have any concerns, please encourage them to speak to a member of staff and parents/guardians should email [office@ruisliphigh.org.uk](mailto:office@ruisliphigh.org.uk) for further advice.

### **Attendance initiative**

We are running an attendance initiative to promote strong attendance right up until the end of term. As students and parents/guardians will be aware, we continue with teaching and learning right until the end of the term, so it's vitally important that students attend until the last day to ensure they have every chance of attaining their full potential. We will be running the '12 days of Christmas' attendance initiative. Essentially, the way it works is that students will receive a digital raffle ticket for every day that they attend school for the final 12 days of the term. For example, if a student attends every day for the 12 days they are entered into the raffle 12 times, giving them a better chance of winning. On the final day of term, Friday 20th December, a raffle will take place with one student from each year group winning a Christmas hamper for themselves and their family. The Christmas hampers are being made and funded by the Friends of Ruislip High School.

## Foodbank

With the help of the Friends of Ruislip High School, the school will be collecting food and other items in form groups for the local Hillingdon food banks. The Hillingdon food banks support over 1,000 households a month in Hillingdon - 42 a day. They are currently trying to gather items that will allow them to build Christmas hampers for families in need of support. Please [click here](#) for a list of the items we are trying to collect.

## 'Friends' Bingo evening'

I wanted to say a big thank you to the Friends of Ruislip High School, who hosted a genuinely lovely Bingo evening on Wednesday. I often talk of Ruislip High School being a school in and for our community, and this was an event that really did show this to be the case. It was great to see parents and staff come together and I would like to thank everyone who supported the event.

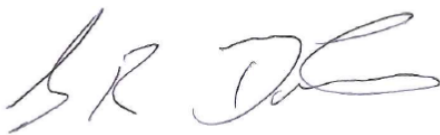
## Upcoming performances at Ruislip High School

As I mentioned above, our presentation evening was marked by outstanding student performances. We were treated to a taster of what was to come in upcoming performances at the school. On Wednesday 11th December Ruislip High School will be hosting our winter concert, while on Tuesday and Wednesday 17th and 18th December we will be hosting our school production of King Lear. I know the students have worked exceptionally hard in preparation for both events and if parents/guardians are able to support both events, it would be much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to share our latest VLT staff vacancies with parents which can be found [here](#). We are a family of schools committed to providing outstanding, inclusive education and if the right position exists for you, please do not hesitate to apply to join us.

I would like to wish the whole Ruislip High School community a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies  
Headteacher