



Rushden Academy Newsletter

Aspire, Explore, Succeed

24/11/2023

Message From the Principal



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Team Rushden - United we stand, divided we fall

Dear Parent / Carer

Each and every week, the students remind me what a privilege it is to lead such an incredible school and this week has been no exception.

The Social Action Squad spent Wednesday afternoon talking and playing games with the elderly residents of a local care home. As always, the residents were extremely effusive about our students which always fills me with pride. The work this team is doing is really highlighting just how amazing our students are to the wider community which is genuinely heart warming.

Our Year 11 students completed their mock examinations for all subjects this week and it was great to see how well they all applied themselves. Once all the papers have been marked, we will be sharing the results with parents and carers along with information about what went well and which topics and skills they need to improve before the next mock examinations. We will also update the progress league table so your son or daughter can see how much progress they have made since the end of Year 10.

On the topic of reading, Mrs Raven and Mrs Quantrill hosted the Scholastic Book Fair which was an exciting event for many of our students. Promoting a love of reading is so important to us at Rushden Academy and this gave students the opportunity to look at a wide range of interesting and entertaining books which were all available to buy. I am a firm believer that when a student tells me they don't like reading it is because they just haven't found the right book yet and the book fair was a good opportunity to explore different genres.

Mr Billam led an assembly on the Team Rushden value of respect. He talked about what respect means to him and shared examples of people that he has the utmost respect for such as Martin Johnson and Matt Hampson. Students then watched some key moments of respect from the world of sport before finishing the assembly by reflecting on some powerful quotations on the theme of respect.

Continues on the next page...

Message From the Principal Continued...

Linked to the Team Rushden values and Mr Billam's assembly theme, it has been great to see so many students going above and beyond to earn their bronze and silver badges for the Rushden STARR award. After my assembly on resilience, I set all students the challenge of seeing how many could earn their resilient badge before the Easter holidays and a number of students have already come up to me to proudly show me their badges which is excellent. Many students have already earned their bronze ties which look brilliant around the school and many of them are already well on their way to earning their silver ties.

Finally, I just wanted to remind parents and carers that hooded tops are not permitted in school and with the weather getting colder, coats should be worn rather than students opting for hooded tops. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Have a long and restful weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Baines
Principal

This Week in Food Technology

Students have been learning the arts of weighing and measuring. Groups competed against each other to complete some basic (and some more challenging) tasks of weighing and measuring flour and water.

Head Judge Ms Conway was extra vigilant with her 20/20 vision to spot any errors of judgement at the official weights and measures station.

Coming up soon - we will be making pastry that will be turned into mince pies.



Online Safety Briefing

Helping children create a kinder world online

We can all remember a time when a wise grandparent, relative or respected community elder cautiously shared a variation on the theme “If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.” That same bit of wisdom can serve us all – children, young people and adults alike – in the digital space. As we expand from online gaming chats, social networks and virtual concerts to a full-fledged metaverse of online exchanges, kindness is an essential part of being responsible online just as it is essential offline.

Constructive criticism and well-meaning comments can be heartfelt and sincere, but the difference in the digital space is that we can’t judge someone’s facial expression or mood when they write the comment. And when we add ‘unkind’ comments into the equation, it is even more difficult for children and young people to know how to respond.

What can parents and carers do to help children and young people express kindness in online communities?

Remind your child or young person about the online disinhibition effect. Just because you think you are anonymous online, does not mean that you should say anything that pops into your head.

Remember that behind every avatar, chat name or email, there is a real person who may be having a bad day. And whether they say something unkind to you or they are the recipient of your unkind comment, being unkind online can cause harm in the real world.



You seriously have no idea what people are dealing with in their personal life. So just be nice, it's that simple.

Find your teaching moments in articles, television shows, movies, books or any other shared experience with your young person and remind them of that other respected saying from a wise elder: “Treat others as you want to be treated” online as well as offline.

- Dr Elizabeth Milovidov, JD - Law Professor and Digital Parenting Expert

Lost Property

Please remind your child to check in reception if they have lost anything. We have a selection of items that need to be claimed.

We also have some cake tins left over from the MacMillan Bake Off.

Any items left unclaimed for 6 weeks are donated to our internal uniform stores or local charity shops.

Antarctica Day

Antarctica Day is celebrated every year on December 1st. This year, we signed up to celebrate it with the UK Polar Network and students were invited to enter a competition to design a flag which was sent over to Antarctica and photographed by researchers. The winner was Libby T in Year 7.

Last week, we received a photo of Libby's flag in Antarctica and a certificate for taking part. The flag travelled to King Edward Point Research Station with the BAS medical team and Dr Anna Carter and was photographed with penguins. It was so lovely seeing a little piece of Rushden in Antarctica!

Well done to everyone who took part. We will celebrate again next year.

Miss Kinsman



PE Updates

Year 7 Leadership Conference

On Wednesday 15th November, 11 Year 7 children went with Mrs Finney to the Leadership Conference in Wellingborough to do some activities that would help us in the future. There we had to do tasks like first aid, inclusion (which is where you modify a game so that everyone can play it), communication skills, STEP (Space, Task, Equipment and People) and ideas for our future.

We met other people from different schools and interacted with them to complete different tasks.

They then had to work with their adult to figure out problems at our school and come up with resolutions for them.

We were very proud to represent our academy and hope that more children can have a chance to do this in the future.

- Written by Georgia Year 7



Scholastic Book Fair

The library is always a busy place to be - but with the arrival of the Scholastic Book Fair it has been even busier! The books will be available between Wednesday 22nd - Monday

27th November. Some of the titles that are available can be seen using this link:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/tt>

Your child can pay for anything they want to buy in a few ways. You can use the QR code below. When you scan it and follow the link you will be able to put an amount of money on the account, which we will be able to see. Your child can then come into the book fair and we can check their name and see how much they are allowed to spend.

You can also buy gift vouchers from the website, for set amounts, which you can send your child in with.

Alternatively, you can send your child in with cash as payment and we will accept this too.

It will be great to see a good up-take of students at the fair, enjoying and looking through the books, so please do promote it to your child.

Thank you,

Ms N Raven
Librarian



6th Form UCAS Update

This is the term when Year 13 students are beginning to plan their post 18 pathways and applying to university.

Each week we will give you an update on who has completed their application alongside any offers or interviews they have received.

Name	Date sent	First Choice	Course	Offer/interview?
Lucy	25.09.23	Imperial College, London	Medicine	
Cody	3.10.23	University of Lincoln	Law for Business	conditional offers
Jay	9.10.23	Nottingham Trent University	Primary Education	conditional offers
Ruby	12.10.23	Sheffield Hallam University	Fine Art	conditional offers
Andreea	16.10.23	De Montfort University, Leicester	Pharmacy	interview
Jakub	19.10.13	University of Bath	Maths & Physics	conditional offers
Laura	2.11.23	De Montfort University	Psychology	Conditional offers
Sam	6.11.23	University of Southampton	Biomedical engineering with integrated masters	Conditional offer
Tilly	8.11.23	De Montfort University, Leicester	Forensic science	Unconditional offer
Alicia	16.11.23	University of Bedfordshire	Early years education	
Josh	16.11.23	De Montfort University, Leicester	Pharmacy	
Jorja	16.11.23	De Montfort University, Leicester	Interior Design	

THE CRITERIA

REWARD TRIPS 2024

- **95% AND ABOVE ATTENDANCE
(MEDICAL/RELIGIOUS ETC ARE TAKEN INTO
ACCOUNT).**
- **300 TRPS OVERALL ONCE NNS HAVE BEEN TAKEN
OFF**
- **NO SUSPENSIONS (INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL).**
- **NO OUTSTANDING DETENTIONS AT THE POINT OF
CREATING FINAL LISTS.**
- **NO MORE THAN 2 REMOVES**

**THE CRITERIA PERIOD WILL RUN FROM OCTOBER HALF
TERM UNTIL EASTER AND WAS SHARED IN LAST TERM'S
REWARD ASSEMBLY.**



Calling Year 9 Students... Sign Up to DofE Now

Attention all Year 9 students! We're recruiting for #DofE – it's the perfect way to meet new people and try new things. Here is a video explaining a little bit about the programme.

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=yN7wTcxK408&list=PLJwqW7XmD1vkTFCjRVTZWka5OnaRND_vr&pp=iAQB

Information was shared in a special assembly on Friday, but for more information see Mr Smart in the Pastoral Hub #Classof2026



Squad Phoenix visited the Beeches Care Home this week, and spent the afternoon playing bingo and other games with the residents.



Members of Squad Special Forces helped move gravel to near the Pastoral Hub, creating the beginnings of what will be an outside seating area. Well done for your hard work! #TeamRusnden #SAS #RASAS #Ethos #GraceFoundation



Rushden Academy's Social Action Squad's (SAS) are always looking for opportunities to help within the community. If you know of anywhere we could help or support please let us know. We are looking for one off opportunities, short term commitments and long term projects.

To contact the Social Action Squad, email socialactionsquad@rushden-academy.net.



Christmas Enrichment Challenge

We have already received our first entries for the Christmas Enrichment Challenge, but there is still time to enter. Could you design a bauble for Rushden Academy's Christmas Tree?

Entries need to be handed in to the Pastoral Hub by end of the day on Friday 1st December.

Will your bauble hang on our tree? Will you win one of the TRP prizes?



**Christmas
Enrichment
Challenge**

It's time to put your creative hats on!
Design a bauble that can be hung up
on our christmas tree.

Prizes:

- 1st Place- 50 TRPs
- 2nd Place- 25 TRPs
- 3rd Place 10 TRPs

Bring to the pastoral HUB by
Friday 1st December

The poster features a cartoon reindeer with a red nose and antlers, holding a red gift box with a green ribbon. The background is decorated with Christmas lights, a pine branch, and snowflakes.



Performing Arts Update

Drama:

Year 9 have been working very hard on their first performances from the play *DNA* by Dennis Kelly. They have been focusing on getting technique and status into their performances whilst using naturalistic techniques to really understand their character and the scene. The performances we have seen this week have really highlighted how hard year 9 has been working.

Dance:

Year 9 dancers have been exploring the lifestyle of a professional dancer. They have been researching diet and nutrition, career pathways and safe practice including designing a warm up and delivering to their peers. The students will continue the term with focus on dance auditions and the process.

Music:

All years have been working very hard this week during the PR1 assessments. The year 7's have successfully performed their Djembe rhythms and it was lovely to see so many groups working as a team to showcase all they had learnt. Whilst our year 8's have created some brilliant soundscapes and backing tracks for movie clips from *Fast and Furious*, *Mission Impossible*, *Jaws* and *Star Wars*.

We Will Rock You:

This week, the cast have been working on perfecting Killer Queen and getting the complex choreography down. The number is really pushing the cast to show us their best and is highlighting how hard they have been working in and out of the rehearsal room.

The crew have been working hard on sourcing props and beginning to get set pieces together. The production team have been generating promotion ideas and trialling different types of social media post to maximise engagement.

Jack And The Beanstalk:

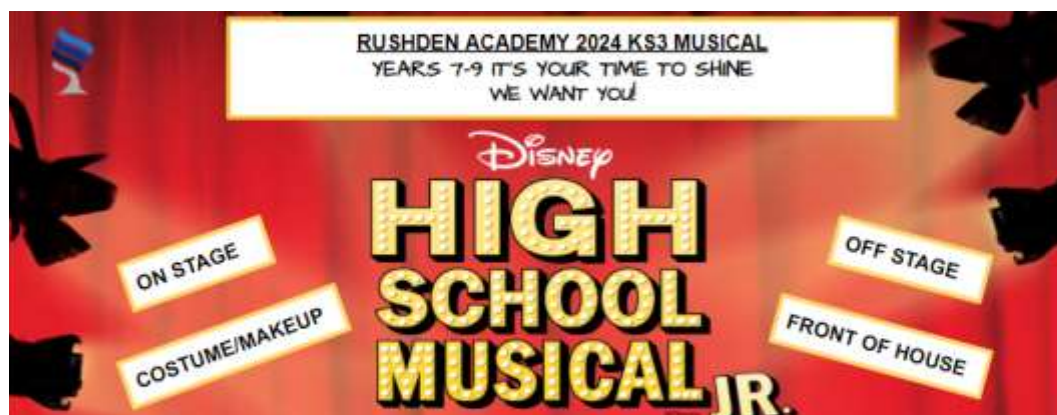
Panto is back (oh yes it is!) and rehearsals are in full swing. This year we see Jack struggle with the idea of selling the family cow for some magic beans and his discovery of a secret world at the top of a beanstalk. The cast have been working incredibly hard during and after school to make sure this panto lives up to its predecessors.

Tickets for the panto will go on sale very shortly, but be quick as we have only one evening performance this year and are sure to sell out fast.

For any students that are interested in taking up instrument lessons this term - please get in touch with Mrs Ede! We currently offer string, piano, guitar, drum and singing lessons but if you are interested in other instrument please let us know and we will try and source the provision!

j.ede@rushden-academy.net

Performing Arts Update



After School Clubs Timetable



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Netball (Year Groups will Train Separately)	Basketball (Year Groups will Play Separately)	Fitness Suite	Football (Year Groups will Train Separately)
<i>Please note, clubs are for boys and girls of all ages, everyone is welcome! Clubs are free and all you need to do is go to the changing rooms after school, get changed and get involved!</i>			

Library Extra-Curricular Activities

Monday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Board & Card Games	Student Library Assistants Meeting

Tuesday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Chess	Chess



Wednesday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Jigsaws	Rushden Academy Newspaper

Thursday

Lunch-Time	After-School
	
Tranquil Thursday - reading, homework, quiet voices	Role-Playing Games

Friday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Fill-it-in Friday - crosswords, word searches, colouring, sticky note art etc.	Closes at 3.15pm

NB: For any after-school activities you'll need to get a parental consent letter from the Library.

Rushden Academy

Library



Numeracy Problem of the Week

An athlete covers three consecutive miles by walking the first mile, running the second mile and cycling the third. He runs twice as fast as he walks, and he cycles one and a half times as fast as he runs. He takes ten minutes longer than he would do if he cycled the three miles.

How long does he take by walking, running and cycling?

Last Week's Solution: 2-odd, 5-divisible by 7, 7-greater than 100, 12-prime

Join the Google Classroom code **h2fcjll** to submit your answer

Literacy Challenge

This term we are focusing on prefixes that mean not, no or opposite. Last week we saw the prefix Un-. You can attach the negative prefix Un- to the beginning of a base word to change its meaning to “not,” “deprived of,” or “released from.” Dis-, which we have seen previously, is used in a very similar way.

Identify which of these base words are affixed with Un- and which are affixed with Dis-.

Orderly

Respect

Lawful

Tasteful

Friendly

Fair

Prove

Regard

Appealing

Aware

Obey

Limited

Literacy SUPER Challenge

Three of the words in the following list can be prefixed with both Un- and Dis- to give different meanings.

Can you work out which ones they are and give a definition?

Recognisable

Like

Connect

Interested

Honest

Ability

Order

Cover

Acceptable

January TENC BTEC Exam Timetable

Date	Subject	Unit	Groups	Length	Venue	Start Time
Tuesday 9th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Chemistry	Unit 1C	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 9th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Physics	Unit 1P	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 PA	Unit 1	all	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Health & Social Care	Unit 4	dbl/trp	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Sport	Unit 2	all	2.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Biology	Unit 1B	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 2A	all	2 hours	Ferrers	1.30 pm
Thursday 11th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 2B	all	3 hours	Ferrers	9.00 am
Thursday 11th January	Yr 12 CPLD	Unit 1	all	1.75 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 12 Sport	Unit 1	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 13 ICT	Unit 1	resits	2hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 12 Health & Social Care	Unit 1	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Monday 15th January	Yr 13 Health & Social Care	Unit 2	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 15th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 3	resits	2hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 15th January	Yr 12 & 13 Sport	Unit 22	dbl/trp	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 16th January	Year 13 ICT	Unit 2	all	3 hours	Ferrers	1.30 pm
Tuesday 16th January	Year 12 ICT	Unit 2	all	3 hours	Huxlow	1.30 pm
Thursday 18th January	Yr 13 Sport	Unit 19	trp	2.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 19th January	Yr 13 Applied Science	Unit 3	all	2.25 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 22nd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Chemistry	Unit 5C	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Tuesday 23rd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Physics	Unit 5P	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 23rd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Biology	Unit 5B	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm

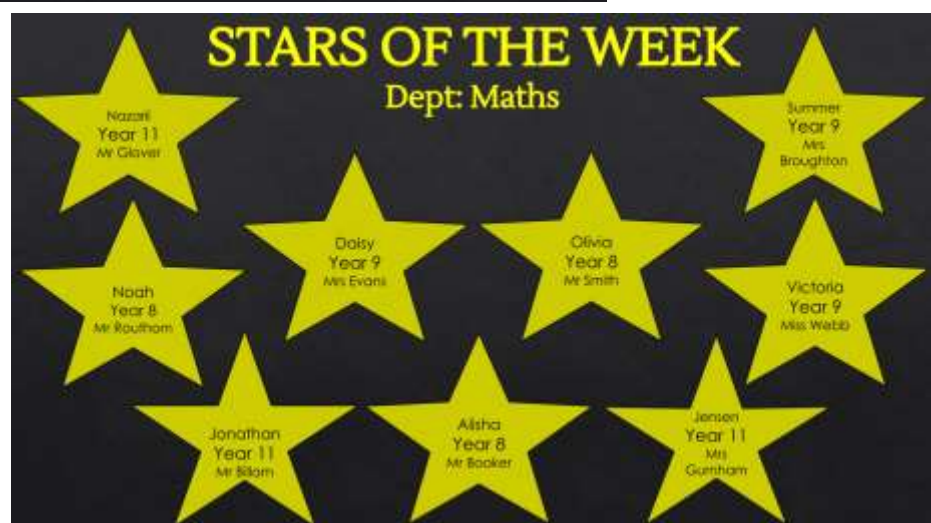
Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following students for achieving star of the week.



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How to Access Go4Schools

Go4Schools is the online system that Rushden Academy uses to track student attendance, student progress and student behaviour.

Students and parents can access this at home to keep up to date, by checking timetables and behaviour events. Student progress reports will be published through Go4Schools 3 times a year.

Please follow the instructions below to access Go4Schools.

Student access to Go4Schools

- ♦ Go to the Go4Schools student access page (on the top right of the Go4Schools home page)
- ♦ Type in your school email address in the first time user box (your computer login in followed by @Rushden-academy.net)

First-time User?

If you haven't logged on to GO 4 Students before, type your email address and click the "please send me a password" button.

Email address:

Please note, if you are having problems with your password please contact your school. For Data Protection reasons we are unable to divulge or set passwords for students ourselves.

Please send me a password

- ♦ This will send you an email link with your password
- ♦ Login with your new password

Parental access to Go4Schools

- ♦ Go to the Go4Schools parent access page
- ♦ Enter your email address (the one Rushden Academy contacts you on) in the first time user box
- ♦ This will send you an email link with your password
- ♦ Login with your new password

If you haven't received an email in 5 minutes, please double check you have your email typed in correctly and ask them to send the password again. If you have any problems accessing Go4Schools do not hesitate to contact the academy.

You also have access to the Go4Schools app that can be downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play.

Mr P Bocking
Assistant Principal

Are you looking for a career change? Are you interested in training to teach?

Rushden Academy has a proven track record in successfully supporting trainee teachers on programmes leading to QTS. Many of our staff, past and present, have been trained at the school and an even larger number have completed main placements and second placements here before securing teaching jobs elsewhere.



As a school with a strong and successful record for training new teachers to the profession, Rushden Academy works closely with School Centered Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) providers to provide fully supported and mentored school placements on a variety of routes.

If you are interested in a new career or are looking for more information about routes into teaching, then please contact Gail Brainwood, Assistant Principal on 01933 350391 or by email: g.brainwood@Rushden-academy.net

Are You Eligible for Free School Meals?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child may be eligible for free school meals.

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, with no element of Working Tax Credit, and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit - income dependant

You can check your eligibility and apply for free school meals through Northampton County Council by clicking [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH DROP-IN SERVICES FOR 11-18 YEAR OLDS IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

If you find yourself needing support, we're here to listen and help in your time of need. Book an appointment by calling the numbers or drop in during our opening times.



Monday 4pm - 8pm
the lowdown,
3 Kingswell Street,
Northampton, NN1 1PP
01604 654385

Tuesday 4pm - 8pm
Youth Works at Corby Mind,
18 Argyle St, Corby NN17 1RU
01536 518339

Wednesday 4pm - 8pm
Chat,
Souster Youth Building,
30 Midland Road, Thrapston,
NN14 4JU
01852 274422

Thursday 4pm - 8pm
Youth Works,
97 Rockingham Rd,
Kettering, NN16 9HX
01536 518339

Friday 4pm - 8pm
the lowdown,
3 Kingswell Street,
Northampton,
NN1 1PP
01604 654385

Saturday 10am - 3pm
Service Six,
15 Sassoon Mews,
Wellingborough,
NN8 3LT
01935 277530

1-1 SUPPORT AND ADVICE

ALSO AVAILABLE REMOTELY

1-1 PARENT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

Northamptonshire Healthcare

the lowdown

St Andrew's

YOUTH WORKS

Service Six

CHAT

#weareNHS

NHS
Northamptonshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

CAMHS LIVE
#MYMINDMATTERS

WE KNOW IT CAN BE HARD TO GET HELP.

CAMHS LIVE CAN BE ACCESSSED VIA YOUR PHONE, TABLET OR LAPTOP AND IS A WEB CHAT. IT IS HERE TO HELP YOU ACCESS THE **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES** YOU MIGHT NEED. SPEAK TO OUR ADVISORS ABOUT THE RIGHT OPTION FOR YOU.

LIVE AND ONLINE:
WWW.NHS.UK/LOC/CAMHS/LIVE





Camhs
Where Young Minds Matter

**MAKING A
DIFFERENCE
FOR YOU,
WITH YOU**

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