



FIRST GIVE SCHOOL FINAL

FIND OUT MORE ON PAGE 8

At the end of this spring term, we have the opportunity to celebrate the incredible achievements of our students and staff both in and out of school. I hope you enjoy reading about the many events the students have taken part in since January.

There is much to celebrate and I would like to thank the teaching staff, the support staff and the Governing Body for their hard work, on-going support and commitment to Raynes Park High School.

The term began on a positive note when we received our inspection result from Ofsted Her Majesty's Inspectorate, who praised the school for the way it has effectively driven forward improvements and raised standards since our last inspection in October 2015. We were graded as 'Good' in all categories and we were delighted that the report highlighted many key strengths at the school. Balancing student wellbeing and individual

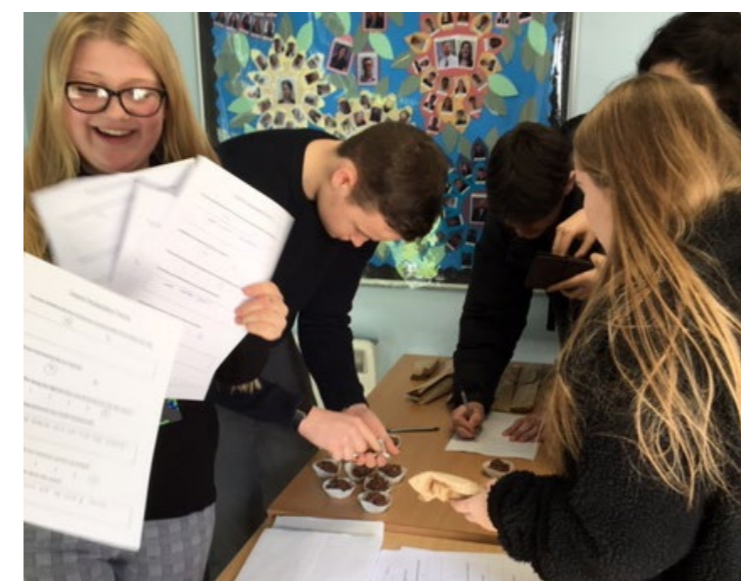


ENTERPRISE EVENTS



Year 12 Business Studies coursework required students to work as a team to prepare a Business event this term. Students had to submit a Business plan, canvas model, promotional materials, risk assessments and the necessary financial documentation involved with planning the event. The teams did just that as they operated their unique *Apprentice* style events around the School at the end of March, occasionally feeling the pressure of having cash tied up in stock and darting around the school building in an attempt to ensure they sold out before the bell! After a successful week, the students are now reflecting on the unforeseeable variables with event planning, including working under time constraints, the need for a robust stock control system and effective teamwork skills!

Ms R Sandhu
Head of Business Studies



needs against the high academic expectations that are placed on our students continues to be core to my values and my vision for the school. With that in mind, I was particularly pleased that the judgement for personal development, well-being and behaviour was overwhelmingly positive as the views expressed by students, staff and parents were taken into account when finalising the grade in this area.

We have been very pleased with the number of applications we have received for our 2019 – 2020 cohort and there is currently a waiting list for the school. We will be working closely with our feeder schools next term and welcoming the Year 6 students and their families to our transition events in May and July.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in continuing to help us improve standards at Raynes Park High School. Your feedback at Parents' Evenings has been particularly helpful and we are grateful to you for taking the time to chat to our staff and complete the questionnaire. We are particularly focused on making homework more accessible for both students and parents and we will be launching a new platform called 'Show My Homework'. Further details will follow from Mr Hogarth and Mr Duus next term.

With Easter being a time of fresh starts and new beginnings, we will start the Summer Term invigorated as we work towards the examination season. I would like to wish Year 11 and 13 students good luck for the Public Examinations that start in May. We have a comprehensive intervention programme running throughout the holiday; I am so very grateful to staff for running these sessions and I know the students will find these sessions very useful.

We finish the term with our whole School Assembly where we will be celebrating the achievements of year groups, Houses and individual students. We will also be saying farewell to Ms Blankson (Head of Computer Science) and Mr Millard (Science) and we wish them well as they take up new posts. I would also like to thank Ms Albers for her long term supply cover and Ms Binks for providing supply cover this term. Next term, we look forward to welcoming Mr Fitcher (Head of Sixth Form), Mr Robinson (Head of Music), Mr Jackson (Head of Computer Science), Mr Langford (Business Studies), Ms Bhandari (Dance), Ms Johnston (Science) and Ms Pugh (Social Sciences) to Raynes Park High School.

I wish you and your family an enjoyable Easter holiday and we look forward to working with you again next term

K Heard

Mrs K Heard
Headteacher

HOUSE RESULTS

Attendance League	House Points this Term	House Point Challenge	Academic Achievement League	Overall House Cup
1 st Newsoms	1 st Newsoms	1 st Miltons	1 st Newsoms	1 st Newsoms
2 nd Miltons	2 nd Gibbs	2 nd Newsoms	2 nd Miltons	2 nd Miltons
3 rd Gibbs	3 rd Miltons	3 rd Gibbs	3 rd Gibbs	3 rd Gibbs
4 th Halliwells	4 th Halliwells	4 th Halliwells	4 th Halliwells	4 th Halliwells

Jnr NBA

The Year 7 basketball squad have made a dominating start to the Jnr NBA thus far. The squad negotiated a tough group to qualify for the playoffs in style, winning six and drawing one of the seven games we played. The Raynes Park 'Houston Rockets' are currently dominating the basketball scene both across our division and in Merton, becoming borough champions, again, remaining undefeated throughout. The future looks bright for these young ballers!

SPORTING UPDATES

InTouch CrossFit

Raynes Park High School are delighted to announce this new and exciting partnership with InTouch CrossFit. The partnership introduces our students to strength and conditioning, including fundamental movement skills crucial to youth athletic development. The locality of this fantastic facility will enable our talented athletes to access high quality strength and conditioning to further enhance performance in sport. This partnership will only continue to grow with development of physical literacy and fundamental movement skills a key priority for Raynes Park High School.

InTouch
CrossFit



Girls Football

KS4 and KS5 girls of Raynes Park High School joined forces to beat Ursuline High School in a convincing 4-1 win. This was the first time the girls came together as an eleven and played some wonderful football. The purpose of the game was for GCSE and A-Level moderation and the girls had an amazing time. More fixtures to come for this group if they continue to play such a great brand of football!

Fulham FC Foundation

The boys served up a thriller at Motspur Park on Wednesday 27th March 2019 in the semi-final of the National Football League Cup. The boys took a well-earned lead against a physical West Ham side with a wonderful curling effort by Krystian in first half stoppage time. West Ham responded soon after the break with a neatly slotted finish. The boys battled back with some excellent passing patterns, leading to a well worked cross from Hubert on to the head of star man Ross. West Ham's physical dominance came through with two quick fire goals from set pieces to win the game 2-4. It was a game of Fulham flair versus West Ham physicality, with the latter coming to the fore on this occasion. The boys should be immensely proud of their performance and getting as far as they did. Looking forward already to the 2019/20 season!

Sports Hall Athletics

The Year 7 boys indoor athletics squad travelled to Ursuline High School for the annual borough competition. Having won the championship last year, we were keen to retain the title in a highly competitive borough. The boys did not disappoint, taking the crown once again and qualifying to represent the borough at the London Youth Games.

Last Eight in the Country

The U16's football squad suffered absolute heartache in the quarter finals of the National Cup in January. Playing a talented Ravenswood side, the boys were dominated in the first half, going in to the break 0-1 down. The boys gathered themselves at half time and started the second half with intent, pulling a goal back to make it 1-1. With extra time looming, Captain Cass had to come off with a leg injury. Despite the setback, the boys took an extra time lead, needing to hold out for an epic 2-1 win and semi-final spot. Agonisingly, Ravenswood snatched a dramatic equalizer with the last kick of extra time after RPHS failed to clear their lines. A penalty shootout loss meant the end of an exciting journey for these boys. To finish in the last eight in the country is something to be extremely proud of.

Mr C Wilson-Boyle
Director of Sport



YEARS 7 AND 8 CRICKET TOURNAMENT

GETTING INTO THE SWING OF THINGS

A group of Year 7 and 8 students attended the Merton indoor cricket festival at Rutlish School this term. It was the first cricket fixture of the season and all involved demonstrated some promise of even greater things to come in the Summer terms games against schools from Merton and Kingston.

During the indoor festival, Raynes Park High School students provided the spectators with some fantastic viewing of accurate bowling and some unbelievable one-hand catches. In the bowling attack Alessio and Koh in Year 8 and Saeed in Year 7 were the stars of the day taking regular wickets with consistently straight deliveries that put pressure on the opposing batsman. In the field, quick thinking and good hand-eye coordination helped the bowlers to catch out those batsmen looking to smash the ball to the back wall for

a 6. Good communication from the students led to several of their opponents being run-out throughout the day too. Also, a special mention for Zeph who was captain for Raynes Park on the day, where he set the field, maintained positivity and kept encouraging the team throughout.

However, the Man of the Tournament for Raynes Park was Alessio, who was consistent with the bat hitting multiple 6s. As well as getting several wickets with the ball, which included a very smart caught and bowled effort. The students demonstrated good energy and sportsmanship throughout the day and finished off the tournament in third place. Well done!

Mr J Wheel
Head of Gibbs

merton
School Sport Partnership





Year 9, in their Learning for Life lessons, have been working on the First Give project. The programme encourages an entire year group of students to identify social issues in their area and engage with local charities that address them. The students then have the opportunity to compete for £1,000 of grant money. Teams do this by advocating for their charity in a school competition – the First Give School Final. This involves presenting to peers and judges. Our students learned many skills during this programme such as:

- Igniting a spark of social conscience
- Developing key professional skills such as: teamwork; research; public speaking and leadership
- Building a culture of giving for future generations; growing the commitment of charities to engage with young people for the good of the sector as a whole

Our final took place on Monday 28th March with the winning team awarding £1000 to stem4, an amazing local charity that supports mental health awareness. Well done to all Year 9, especially to the finalists.

Ms S Audley
Associate Assistant Headteacher

MERTON YOUTH PARLIAMENT



On Tuesday 12th February, a group of students took part in a Merton Youth Parliament workshop with all other Merton schools. They discussed topical issues such as crime in the community, social issues such as homelessness, and suggestions for improving youth facilities within Merton. These students represented Raynes Park High School fantastically and put themselves forward to make a difference to the local community – well done!

Ms S Audley
Associate Assistant Headteacher



DRAMA UPDATES

King's College Partnership Production

Year 9 Raynes Park Students took part in the King's College Partnership Production on Friday 29th March. Students performed a section of *Macbeth* alongside seven other schools in the borough. Students were incredibly enthusiastic about the show, they loved the opportunity to work alongside the Sixth Form students from King's College School and thoroughly enjoyed performing the witches scene. Congratulations to all of our fantastic performers.

The Play That Goes Wrong

Year 11 students went to the West End to watch the hilarious comedy *The Play That Goes Wrong*. This play follows an amateur dramatic company who just cant seem to get it right, the students thoroughly enjoyed the trials and tribulations of the characters and the impressive use of slapstick comedy and high energy chaos.

Ms E Holledge
Head of Performing Arts



JACK PETCHEY'S 'SPEAK OUT' CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Daniel and Charlotte who competed in the Jack Petchey Speak Out regional final on Tuesday 19th March at Ursuline High School. Both students worked incredibly hard preparing their speeches and this was evident on the night; both spoke with confidence, conviction and passion. After what was a very close judging decision, Charlotte was awarded second place for her poignant speech on 'Gender Discrimination and the Taxation of Female Sanitary Products'. All agreed that her speech was powerful and delivered with style. Both students represented Raynes Park impeccably, and thoroughly deserve acclamation for their hard work and success. They did us proud.

Mr J Porter
English Teacher

Jack Petchey's
"SPEAK OUT"
Challenge!
with Speakers Trust

David Clifton
Communications
Manager A + E
Networks UK



David Clifton came in to speak to us about how he markets and manages events. As part of his job with the History Channel he is responsible for marketing their 'History of Football' event. Mr Clifton explained the problems he faces on a day-to-day basis and the solutions he creates. He gave us a great insight as to how we can measure success; this is something incredibly important for our coursework. Speaking to Mr Clifton after the presentation I asked him about his Journalism career and how he paved his way into the industry. He provided me with sound advice to assist me with my future career plans.

Thomas Large
Year 12 Business Studies Student



GUEST SPEAKERS IN BUSINESS

CEIAG AT RAYNES PARK SIXTH FORM

In the Autumn and Spring Terms of 2019 a large number of Year 12 Raynes Park students were lucky enough to enjoy, and learn from, talks given about a range of different professional careers.

In September 2018 Alan Colett, the former President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), gave an informative presentation about careers in Surveying. The students listened attentively as he revealed to them the vast amount of different careers that exist in this sphere of professional employment. Mr Colett was also very engaging and made students think about maybe pursuing careers via the Degree Apprenticeship route, as well as the University route.

In January the Sixth Form was visited by two legal experts: The barrister Mr Simon Colton QC and the solicitor Mr Ian Benjamin. Both gave fabulous talks and connected well with Year 12 students.

about their respective careers. One student, Luisa Restrepo, stated she never 'anticipated the sense of competition that existed and the level of hard work needed to gain a career to top legal firms'. Luisa also added that both lawyers demonstrated 'fantastic passion for the work they do'; passion that she hoped she could find in her own future career. Another student, Keira Hayles added the sessions were extremely helpful in helping her build 'a mental portfolio of future career options'.

Finally only last month the school was visited by Emma Whitehead, a talented young Accountant working for a top international accountancy firm, who delivered a powerful presentation on careers in accountancy.

Mr A McDonagh
Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Alan Colett
Former President
of Chartered
Surveyors (RICS)



Simon Colton QC
One Sussex Court

Year 12 Business students are currently in the process of planning and running an event at school and were assisted with the planning process by Guest Speaker David Clifton (Communications Manager for A + E Networks UK) who presented to the students details of how their client, the History Channel, have managed successful campaigns including an event at The Russia World Cup 'History of Football'. Mr Clifton kindly also discussed career paths with some students who are interested in a future in Sports Media.

Ms R Sandhu
Head of Business Studies

YOUTH TRAVEL AMBASSADORS



A group of students travelled to TfL HQ for the Youth Travel Ambassadors Presentations (YTA). They presented to the judging panel and along with three other schools secured £250 to improve road safety in the local area. Well done to Roseanna, Daniel, Freddie, Imogen, Mia, Mariam, Ariana, Isabella, Tilly, Ella, Carlota and Harriet for taking part.

Mr B Smith
Assistant Head of Year 9



CHALLENGE WEEK

Our students thoroughly enjoyed Challenge Week in March. Tutor activities were undertaken with gusto and students pitted themselves against each other to gain points for their houses; students relished the chance to use their higher thinking skills.

Assembly gave everyone an opportunity to think about 'challenge' as a form of adversity and why it was important to overcome 'challenge' to increase resilience. Students reflected on how they could relate this to the challenges they face in the classroom.

Key Stage 3 students embraced their 'challenge' cards, many filling out more than one as they took up the challenges set for them by their teachers. The corridors were filled with the tannoy sounds of their favourite teachers inspiring students to embrace such opportunities.

The students left Challenge Week more informed about how important 'challenge' is for academic success and with an increased confidence to 'challenge' themselves in their lessons throughout the coming term.

Ms G Crowe
Associate Assistant Headteacher

THE BRILLIANT CLUB



A group of Year 9 students had the chance to experience and explore the campus at The University of Sussex as well as take part in their first tutor session, which is an ongoing project, as well as interact with university students and take part in Q&A. An insightful, inspiring and engaging day out for the students, who all enjoyed themselves.

Well done to all the students who took part and thank you to Catherine (University Tutor) for arranging a fantastic day out at the University of Sussex, as part of 'The Brilliant Club'.

Mr B Smith and Mr P Duus
Assistant Head of Year 9 / Head of Year 11





GIBBS HOUSE UPDATE



To start with I would like to thank all the students in Gibbs House who have contributed in any way to the House points we have accumulated over the Spring term. We finished this term with 'House Point Challenge Week', where students went above and beyond in lessons and around school in a bid to earn as many House points for their Houses and themselves as possible. We have seen some extremely positive contributions to lessons and acts of kindness that have earned some Gibbs students extra House Points; hopefully this will continue in the new term.

Next, I would like to thank everyone, whether they are in our House or not, who contributed to the money we raised during our Gibbs Charity Week back in February. Once again, pupils demonstrated totally selfless acts, giving up time and effort, in order to help raise money for our chosen charity the Teenage Cancer Trust. Particular mentions and thanks go to; Tilly, Paige, Luisa and those who took part in the cycle-a-thon. We are well on our way to reaching our target!

Finally, I would like to wish all our students a restful Easter break and hope we can all return refreshed and ready to go for the final term before the summer. We still have the power and time to retain the title as number one House at Raynes Park High School; however, we must attend every lesson and day with a positive attitude and a relentless resilience.

Go Gibbs!

Mr J Wheel

Head of Gibbs



NEWSOMS HOUSE UPDATE

It has been another very successful term for Newsoms with a lot of students going above and beyond to achieve excellence. Off the back of a very long Autumn term where we won almost every award, and the overall House Cup, the pressure was on to maintain our hard work into the Spring term. We have certainly done so with Newsoms leading the way with Attendance every week since we started back in January. We have also accumulated a huge number of House Points which is a testament to every student within our House. We've also had a successful Charity Week where we have raised money for our charity WaterAid. I know that we will finish the year as strongly as we have started it and I look forward to raising the House Cup at the end of the academic year.

Go Newsoms!

Mr L Jones

Head of Newsoms





MILTONS HOUSE UPDATE



Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone who took part in our cake sale for Comic Relief, where we raised a huge £73.31 so well done everyone! This week, we held the House Point Challenge, where all the Houses competed for prizes. I know Miltons House have done a fantastic job at collecting House Points and at the time of writing am waiting to find out the final result. Currently as a House, we stand at 20,448 house points which is a huge number and, I hope by the end of the school year we will hit the 30,000 mark!

Monday 29th April to Friday 3rd May is our Charity Week and we will have lots of activities and fund raising events taking place for our chosen charity which is Cancer Research UK, so good luck to everyone who will be involved.

I am very proud to be Head of Miltons and all the participation and engagement I have seen. I have my fingers crossed that I be standing in the whole school assembly in July lifting the house cup for our house!

Keep rocking Miltons!!

Mr B Smith

Head of Miltons



HALLIWELLS HOUSE UPDATE

We have had an excellent year so far in Halliwells. As a house, we continue to focus on Attendance and House Points as our two main goals. We are continuing to build our total House Points and hope to hold up the trophy on the last day of school. Despite mixed results in these categories so far, Halliwells has managed to maintain the lowest amount of Behaviour Points across the Houses.

We had an extremely successful Charity Week back in January. We managed to raise over £240 for our House Charity Mind. Mind are a mental health charity raising awareness and offering support to the local community. We had a number of exciting activities throughout the week but the surprise favourite was the Krispy Kreme Donuts that continued to sell out every day of the week. Congratulations to Sulaymaan Yunus for correctly guessing the weight of the giant tub of sweets and Khavarn Williams for scoring the furthest goal. Thank you to all the helpers that made this week such a success.

It has been my absolute pleasure to be Head of Halliwells this year and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know my House and watching them progress in all areas of their school life. I am very excited to see everything Halliwells can do and look forward to celebrating a very successful year.

Go Halliwells!

Mr C Beck

Head of Halliwells



.....Do you shop online?

The school can get a donation when you do, for free!

Raynes Park High School Charitable Trust raises funds to support our students. The Trust has funded several projects including funding equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as small grants to individual students. The trustees are keen to do more and need funds to do so.

One way you can donate to the Trust without it costing you anything is to shop online via 'easyfundraising' which turns your everyday online shopping into free donations for the school. There are over 3600 retailers including many big names such as Amazon, M&S, Sainsburys, Morrisons, Tesco, John Lewis, Ebay and Argos and many specialist retailers.

So next time you want to do some online shopping please go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/raynesparkhs and click 'support this cause' then register for easyfundraising and find the retailer you want. Once you have chosen your retailer you will go to their website as normal to make your purchase. The retailers then make a small donation to the Trust. The size of the donation varies with the retailer – but every little helps!

It will cost you nothing but will help the school. You will get reminders once registered with easyfundraising.

Please give it a try!



Join



Shop



Raise



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www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/raynesparkhs

Support this cause

1

Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/raynesparkhs click 'support this cause' and register

2

Choose your retailer and shop as normal

3

Retailers will make a small donation to the Trust at no extra cost to you

NEWS FROM THE Governors

For Governors as for the whole school the major event of the term was our Ofsted inspection. It was excellent news that we came through with a very secure Good grading – in university degree terms, a promotion from a lower to an upper second. The specific section on governance gave the Governors a Good grading too, and I am grateful to those colleagues who were able to join me to meet the inspectors on the day.

Governors held their usual cycle of meetings at which we were able to hold the Headteacher and her Senior Leadership Team to account and to offer them challenge and support in reaching the targets which we have set them. The school is making good progress towards its academic targets and behaviour and attendance are improving too. We also held two Strategic Visits – one centred on sport and PE, where the school has made excellent progress over the last few years; and the other on our Year 8, where we learned how they had developed since we last saw them as new entrants to the school just over a year ago.

In early March, Governors hosted a Parents Forum to explain and discuss our work. An election for two Parent Governor vacancies is currently taking place, and we hope parents

will put their names forward so their voice can continue to be heard at our level.

We were also pleased to note the safety improvements to the 152 bus stop on the eastbound side of Bushey Road – this is heavily used by Raynes Park High School students going to and from school and has long been unsatisfactory. Governors have been pressing TfL for action for a considerable time and it is great that our campaign has at last been successful.

Lastly, I have been involved in discussions with the London Borough of Merton to unlock some of the very considerable sums of Apprenticeship Levy funds they hold for schools' use. The Government requires us to contribute £29,000 to the Levy this year, and we are determined that Raynes Park High School should at least get this back to use for our own colleagues. Striving for the best for our students and staff is one of the aims of the Governing Body at all times.




A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Michael Ross'.

Michael Ross
Chair of Governors

Find out more about the work of our School Governors here:
www.rphs.org.uk/31/governors

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