



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

HEAD BOY: AARON, HEAD GIRL: CHARLOTTE

Deputy Head Boy: Balazs, Deputy Head Girls: Nell and Paige

Senior Prefects: Anna-Marie and Daniel

Dear Families,

As another academic year draws to a close, this final edition of the newsletter showcases the vast number of activities and events that our students have taken part in this term.

They have enjoyed a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom and we will continue to enhance our extra-curricular offer in the coming academic year. We have also embedded our values of respect and resilience at every opportunity and our students are learning the importance of these in their quest to secure the best results in all aspects of school life.

It has been a very rewarding year and I would like to thank the incredible staff team at RPHS for the endless enthusiasm they show in providing these opportunities for our students, the students themselves for being wonderful ambassadors for the school and families for your continued support and encouragement.

Following the end of the public examinations and our own internal end of year exams, we have been even busier than usual these past couple of weeks with Enrichment Days, Year 10 and Year 12 students undertaking their work experience placements, reward trips to Thorpe Park or Chessington World of Adventures, Academic Review Day and Sports Day to name but a few. At the time of writing, we are preparing for our end of term assembly and we are all looking forward to seeing which of our four Houses will win the House Cup; well done to everyone who participated in a house event this year. The whole school assembly is also the perfect time to celebrate achievement, progress and participation, and our congratulations go to the numerous winners this year. I would also like to personally commend the students who were nominated for my award; I could not choose between them and decided that all three nominees should win a Headteacher Award; very well done to Jamie, Aaron and Tyrese.

We have continued to focus our energies on ensuring teaching and learning is our key priority at the school. Teaching high quality lessons every day is the most important aspect of our work and the quality of teaching has been carefully monitored throughout the year. We have welcomed colleagues from the Local Authority and other schools in addition to our Ofsted inspection team that were here in January. We were delighted with the comments made by the Ofsted team who noted that teachers have 'high expectations for pupils' levels of attentiveness and the quality of their work', 'demonstrating confident subject knowledge and enthusiasm for their subjects'.

The GCSE subject content is now far more demanding and we have revisited our curriculum in the lower years to ensure we are preparing students fully for their chosen courses; the review of the curriculum will continue into next year. Our marking and feedback policy is now fully embedded and we have noticed a huge difference in the quality of marking in addition to the improved presentation of work. We are also very pleased to have launched Show my Homework this half term and we will be providing further information for families at our Information Evenings next term.

It has been another excellent year for partnerships and we are very proud of those that have continued to thrive. Our students, and those from some of our feeder primaries, continue to benefit from our partnerships with BECSLink and some students have received a Tim Henman Scholarship following the launch last academic year. This has enabled students to pursue an interest or attend an extra-curricular trip that they may not have been able to without this additional support. A number of our Year 7 students will be officially recognised as Adidas Ambassadors following the launch of the Adidas Academy and we look forward to their graduation in the Autumn Term. We will also be entering into our third year in partnership with Fulham Football Club and will have 40 students following the Education Programme in our

Sixth Form, in addition to lower school students who are part of the Fulham Academy. We have also enjoyed our continued relationship with Wimbledon Hockey Club; the new AstroTurf hockey pitch is now fully operational and we look forward to the official launch next term.

There continues to be plenty in the news about the financial and recruitment challenges facing schools. However, we have had a good field for all advertised posts and we are fully staffed for September, with substantive teachers bringing a range of experience to our teaching body. Whilst our finances continue to be tight, we work very hard to ensure our income always has a positive impact on our students. As in previous years, I would like to thank those families who have contributed financially this year; this has made a huge difference to us and we are exceptionally grateful to you.

We are continuing to work hard towards being accredited with two awards; the Well Being Award and the National Careers Award, in addition to a three day inspection to achieve the National Autistic Society Award and I will update families on our progress next term. We will also continue to work on improving communication as I know that this continues to be a source of frustration at times; your feedback is always most welcome and very much appreciated.

As we say farewell to those staff that are either relocating around the country, travelling or moving on to promoted posts and teaching opportunities elsewhere, my thanks go to colleagues for all they have done for RPHS and we wish them well in their future roles. We wish our Key Support Workers and Learning Support Assistants our best wishes as they start their PGCEs in September and my thanks go to Ms Slater and Ms Haque who were here on long term supply this year. Good luck to Mr Muhammad, Mr Worrell, and Ms Holledge as they take up new posts. Our congratulations also go to Ms Mannan and Ms Peliza on their promotions; we wish them well in their new roles. Good luck to Mr Beck, Mr Pryce and Ms Vosper, who will spend the year travelling, and we wish Ms Cesteros and Mr Barnes our best wishes as they prepare to take up posts abroad. We also send our best wishes to Mr Goffe who has relocated to Norfolk and will be welcoming baby Goffe any day now! I would also like to thank Mr Duus for his many years of service (in addition to his years here as a student!) who has taken the decision to leave teaching and train to be a celebrant; we wish him every success as he embarks on this exciting new venture. All of these colleagues will be greatly missed; they have all inspired and supported our students, some for many years, and we wish them every success in the future.

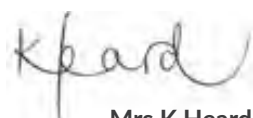
I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Ross, our Chair of Governors, who will become Vice Chair next year. Mr Ross has been a wonderful advocate for the school, providing an appropriate level of challenge and support to myself and the Senior Leadership Team. We look forward to our new chair, Mr Benjamin, taking up his post in September.

As we look forward to the year ahead, we will again be welcoming over 200 Year 7 students from over 60 feeder schools in September; we are expecting the cohort to be even larger than last year and we have enjoyed welcoming them and their families to the various transition events this term.

Finally, as I conclude my fourth year at RPHS, I would like to pay tribute to the dedication of the teaching staff who have worked tirelessly right up until the end of term. I would also like to thank the support staff who work so hard with the day to day running of the school and the Governing Body for their involvement and support. Without the support of such a committed and enthusiastic team, RPHS would not continue to thrive as it does.

As always, there is so much to celebrate in this edition of our newsletter and all families should feel proud of all that has been achieved this year.

Thank you for your support over the academic year; I have also really appreciated your feedback on how we can improve further and we will continue to build on the positives next year. I hope that you all have a restful and enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you next academic year.

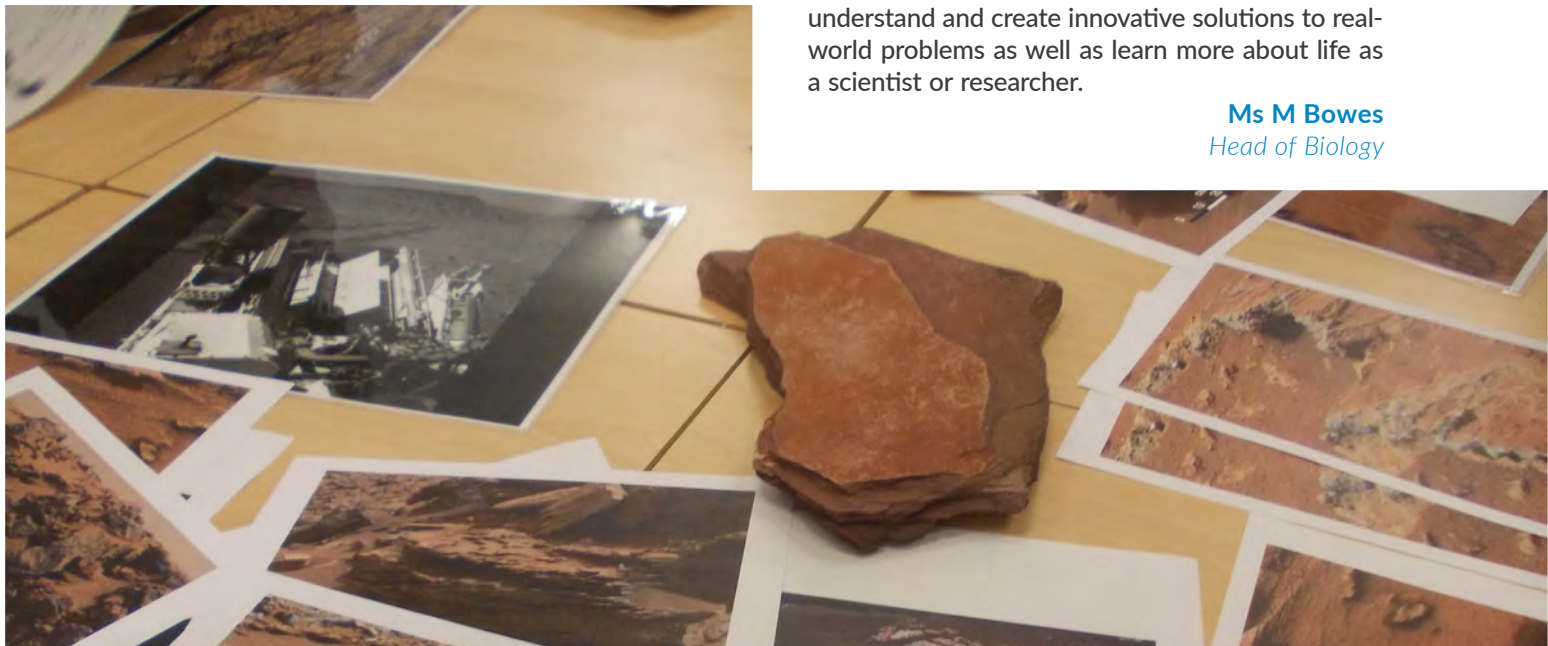

Mrs K Heard
Headteacher

EARTH SCIENCES AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE



Seven students from Year 9 attended an Earth Sciences workshop with Imperial College London. Working in groups with students from across the Borough, students were tasked with interpreting seismic imaging and data, to predict where to drill for oil and fresh water. Phoebe was in the winning team and 'really enjoyed the practical elements', with Ryan's team a close runner up. The students also took part in workshops with researchers from Imperial College that ranged from the geology of Mars and predicting volcanic eruptions to the use of programming to monitor the impacts of climate change on river landscapes. The students had an excellent day and were able to apply their knowledge from Science, Maths and Geography to understand and create innovative solutions to real-world problems as well as learn more about life as a scientist or researcher.

Ms M Bowes
Head of Biology





SPORTING UPDATES

**2019 Merton Borough Girls Cricket Champions**

Well done to Raynes Park High School Year 9/10 Girls Cricket Team who were crowned '2019 Merton Borough Girls Cricket Champions' on Thursday 20th June 2019. The girls comfortably beat Ricards Lodge High School and Ursuline High School, and were deserving winners on the day. Congratulations to you all!

Silver Medallists

The Year 7 & 8 Raynes Park High School Girls Cricket Team also had great success in the Merton Borough Girls Cricket Tournament, finishing in 2nd place and winning Silver medals. Well done!

Ms L Butler
Head of Girls PE

Year 7 & 8 Boys Cricket

On Monday 8th July the Year 7 & 8 boys Cricket Team headed to Rutlish School to participate in the summer softball competition. Unfortunately due to illness the boys went in to the competition a player short. The opening game saw them come up against eventual finalists Harris Merton. The game was close with Harris winning with only eight balls to spare. In their second game the boys took a convincing win over newcomers Harris Wimbledon with stand out bowling performances from Ayush and Koh, as well as some solid batting from Zeph, Alessio and Jack. The next game saw the boys run eventual winners Rutlish B incredibly close as the boys fell just ten runs short of their target.

The boys ended up finishing in 4th place. They represented the school incredibly well, showing great work ethic and sportsmanship. They will no doubt be back bigger and stronger next year!

Mr J Sanderson
Head of Boys PE

Year 7 & 8 Girls Borough Rounders Tournament

Well done to Raynes Park High School Year 7 & 8 Girls Rounders Team who participated in the 'Merton Girls Borough Rounders Tournament' on Thursday 27th June 2019.

Raynes Park High School drew 4-4 against Ricards A Team, beat Ricards B Team 2-1, beat Ricards C Team 6-4 and beat Harris Academy Morden 7-2.

We were joint top of the leader board at the end of the tournament! After analysing the number of 'outs' and number of 'total rounders scored', Raynes Park High School walked away with Silver medals! Congratulations to you all!

Key Stage 3 Girls Doubles Tennis Team

Well done to the Raynes Park High School Key Stage 3 Girls Doubles Tennis Team who came 3rd overall in the '2019 Merton Schools Tennis Tournament.' All students played brilliantly against tough competition, well done!

Year 9 & 10 Rounders Tournament

The Year 9 & 10 girls represented Raynes Park High School in a rounders tournament on 6th June 2019. The girls got off to a slow start with sloppy performances in the field but managed to recover in their subsequent matches to qualify for the third/fourth playoff game. The girls carried forward their momentum in to the game and managed to win, taking third place overall. Well done!

Ms L Butler
Head of Girls PE

Pro-Am

Raynes Park High School students got to perform as ball boys/girls for the third year in a row at the Tim Henman Foundation Pro-Am event on 26th June 2019. The students were exemplary and supported tennis stars such as Andy Murray, recent Queens winner Feliciano Lopez and Leyton Hewitt to name but a few. The purpose of the event was to raise money towards the foundation to support causes such as our scholars programme. Recent scholar recipient, Summer Shott, was also there to support the event. Well done to Sean, Tom, Abbie, Paige, Martin and Rickardo for their slick BBG performances.

Mr J Wheel
PE Teacher





ACCESS CENTRE SUMMER TERM EVENTS



The Access Centre students have had an incredibly busy time this term with various trips for Enrichment Week and Sports Day including a trip organised by the Rotary Club (a Merton based Charity).

During this time the students benefit from new experiences and develop necessary social skills outside of the classroom.

Chessington World of Adventures

On Wednesday 12th June, students and staff from the Access Centre visited Chessington World of Adventures hosted by the Rotary Club of Merton. The day was spent having fun, enjoying the various rides and visiting the animals in the zoo. A fantastic time was had by all.

London Aquarium

On Wednesday 10th July, the Access students had a fantastic time visiting the London Aquarium, learning facts about the wonderful world, under the sea.

Matthew tried the *I'm A Celebrity: Get Me Out Of Here!* face your fears challenge, which was covered in cockroaches, Rosalind stroked a starfish and Callum was mesmerised by the jellyfish.

White Spider

On Thursday 11th July, the students who participate in Alternative PE were taken to practice rock climbing at the White Spider climbing centre in Tolworth. The students all participated and worked in teams supporting each other to make it to the top.

Sailing – Sports Day

As part of the Access Centre Alternative PE programme the students were invited to Wimbledon Park for a sailing session on the lake. The weather was kind and the wind did its job!

Mainstream Sports Day

Monique, Year 8, came 1st in the 100m race

Nicholas, Year 8, came 1st in the Discus; he also came 3rd in the 800m race.

Joshua, Year 8, participated in the 1500m race and javelin.

Access Centre Leavers

On Thursday 13th June the Access Centre said a final goodbye to our four Year 11 students, Matthew, Rosalind, Callum and Taylor and one Year 13 student, Kumeran, who are leaving Raynes Park High School to further their education at college and university. The courses they are going to be studying include Engineering at Kingston College, Media at Wandsworth College, Life Skills at South Thames, A-Levels at St Francis Xavier Sixth Form and Civil Engineering at Kingston University. We will miss them and wish them all the best for the future.

Ms S Kuti
Access Centre Manager





SPORTS DAY

Sports Day 2019 was another day where records tumbled, some of which have stood for over ten years! Once again, the students of Raynes Park High School demonstrated their dominance in jump and sprint events with some stunning performances on a par with national standards.

The Year 8 boys demonstrated why they have dominated borough athletics over the past couple of years, with the majority of records falling in that year group. Special mentions go to Amere and Ashton who shared five of the records between them! The sun was shining and spirits were high amongst the four houses. An agonising 14 points split first and second with the overall championship being retained by Halliwells. Congratulations to the Yellows! We already look forward to what next year brings!

Mr C Wilson-Boyle
Director of Sport

THE RESULTS

Field Results

- 1st Miltons
- 2nd Halliwells
- 3rd Gibbs
- 4th Newsoms

Track Results

- 1st Gibbs
- 2nd Halliwells
- 3rd Miltons
- 4th Newsoms

Overall Results

- 1st Halliwells
- 2nd Miltons
- 3rd Gibbs
- 4th Newsoms





HOUSE PLAYS



This year Raynes Park High School students took part in the House Play competition with Year 10 students writing and directing a play based on Greek Mythology. The students worked incredibly hard on these plays and came up with some fantastic ideas, from Hades coming into the land of the living, to 'David Attenborough' narrating the trials of Hercules. It was a fantastic evening, celebrating the incredible talent of our students, congratulations to everyone involved.

HOUSE PLAYS: THE RESULTS

Best Lead Actor
Jack Brown, Miltons

Best Lead Actress
Madison Sheppard, Newsoms

Best Supporting Actor
Marc Duffy, Gibbs

Best Supporting Actress
Lucy Large and Jessica Duffy, Gibbs

Best Newcomer
Skye Young, Halliwells

Best Comedy Performer
Ed Dolman, Newsoms

Best Double Act
Cerys Skinner and Alice Hill, Halliwells

Best Villain
Sydney Presland, Miltons

Best Narrator
Jack Jenkins, Miltons

Best Production Team
Halliwells

Best Technical
Newsoms

Best Script
Miltons

Runner up House Play Award
Newsoms

House Play Award 2019
Miltons



HOUSE PLAYS



HOUSE PLAYS





BALL BOYS AND GIRLS



Five of Raynes Park High School's finest were lucky enough to be selected for this years Wimbledon Tennis Championships. After months of gruelling training and seeing hundreds of other potential candidates drop by the wayside, the Year 10 pupils were able to prove their worth and were thankful to be invited to ball person for the 2019 tournament.

Aaron, Milo, Olivia, Ollie and Natalia showed both determination and class to get through to the event and have been praised for their performances on court. From outside courts to show courts they displayed the skills needed for the majority to be asked to stay for the entire fortnight.

All their hard work culminated in a trio being asked to stand in the guard of honour for the Ladies Final! Well done Girls and Boys you did Raynes Park proud!

Mr J Wheel
PE Teacher



YEAR 7 BUSHCRAFT CAMP TRIP

On Monday 8th July we went on a Bushcraft camp trip. When we arrived we talked about what we would be doing each day and our daily routine. The first activity that we did was making a fire and it was really fun building it, but quite hot. We had to use many different materials such as sticks, cotton wool, Vaseline and more. We played a number of outdoor games with the Bushcraft staff. We had the opportunity to cook our own burgers on a rack and we had lots of toppings to choose from. We also built our own shelter that we could sleep in!

Year 7 Student



YEAR 10 CAREERS INDUSTRY INSIGHT DAY



IMG STUDIOS



YEAR 10 CAREERS INDUSTRY INSIGHT DAY



WIMBLEDON THEATRE





HOTEL DU VIN CANNIZZARO HOUSE

The hotel is French and located in an upper-class area being described as an 'old styled' hotel, in terms of the decoration. The name of the hotel is 'Hotel du Vin' which translates into 'the hotel of wine'. The food is based around incorporating classical French and English food and naming their fifty rooms after French champagnes and wines. The front view of the hotel looked appealing to the eye as there was a front yard which consisted of having a mini garden and private parking. The front door of the hotel was decorated with a tennis theme, due to the upcoming Wimbledon event, and as soon as we went in we came to encounter the main living area.

The atmosphere in the living area is welcoming and warm. There is an old-styled fireplace, a number of sofas and, in our opinion, the most important item is a huge, sparkling chandelier which hangs in the middle of the room. Even though there are these old features, there is still a

modern twist to it as it includes a bar which leads to a modernised dining room. The dining room has a table located in the middle and leads in to a sophisticated glass orangery with views of Cannizzaro Park. Our tour guide then took us to the event room where meetings, celebrations and speeches take place. She explained to us about the team of people at the hotel who manage the events taking place and all about their different roles. She explained that to be part of hotel industry there was no need to have specific qualifications as it was your hard work that would determine your position in the hierarchy.

After this, our guide introduced the head chef to us and he took us to the kitchen. The kitchen was extremely clean and as soon as we walked in we encountered the sous chefs cooking meals and other staff washing dishes. The chef explained to us the different staff needed in a kitchen and how teamwork was the most

important principle needed. He also explained that in the kitchen your hard work determined your position on the hierarchy and that it took 15 years for him to become a head chef. He answered our questions in full detail and told us the most remarkable people he has cooked for, including James Bond! We enjoyed this insight into what happens in one of the most pressurised places in the hotel.

Shortly after, we went to meet the event organiser, Kate, who explained her role to us, which was to supervise whether the visual of events is up to standards amongst other things. She told us that they average six events per week and that her job is really busy. Later, we got taken to see the remarkable rooms in the hotel.

In our opinion, the trip was really beneficial for understanding more about working in this type of industry and we really enjoyed it.

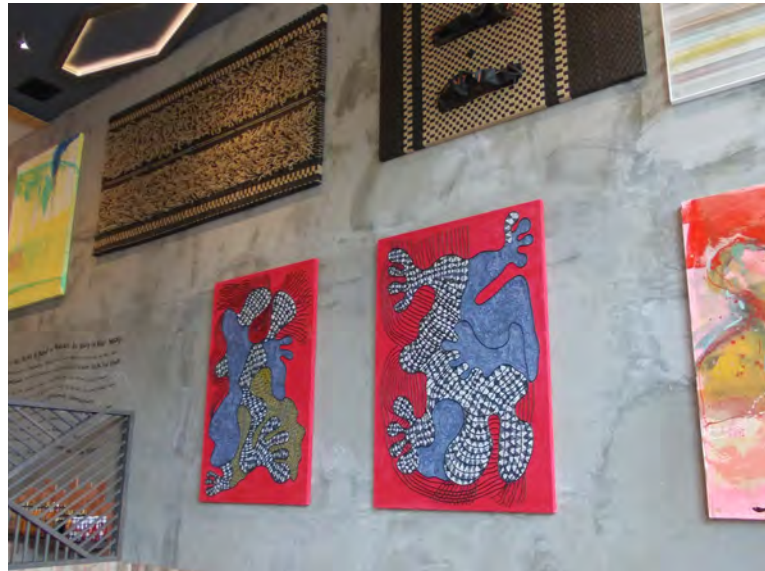
Klaudia, Luisa and Petra
Year 10 Students



KINGSTON UNIVERSITY



YEAR 10 CAREERS INDUSTRY INSIGHT DAY



NANDOS



YEAR 10 CAREERS INDUSTRY INSIGHT DAY



NEWS ASSOCIATES





RHS WISLEY



ADIDAS COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT



As part of their Adidas Community Action Project, three Year 7 tutor groups joined forces to collect food for the local food bank in Wimbledon. The students joined Ms Efford and Ms Pocentek in delivering the large quantity of food to the bank! The students got to weigh the food and speak to the volunteers about how the system works.

Mr C Wilson-Boyle
Director of Sport



WALK FOR MILO

The end of the Summer Term is always one of mixed emotions for Year 11. The excitement of having completed the GCSE exams and starting the holidays early is coupled with nervous anticipation for the results day in August. However, GCSE results day 2019 will be a little more poignant than most.

While students tentatively open their results, the conspicuous absence of Milo Little being there to tear open his envelope (with a huge grin on his face, naturally) will be felt by all present.



Since receiving the devastating news in September, Milo and his family have been in all our thoughts throughout the year. In December the Milo Little award was created with Milo being the first official recipient. Every year this award (and beautiful trophy) will be awarded to the student who shows the positive attributes most associated with Milo. These include kindness, humility, respect and resilience.

In order to both celebrate what would have been Milo's birthday on 13th June and to raise money for the Young Lives v Cancer charity CLIC Sargent, a 'Walk for Milo' was organised on Saturday 8th June 2019. This involved a number of staff, students and members of Milo's family taking part in a sponsored 5km walk (or run!) in Bushy Park.

All gathered at an unseasonably cold and wet Bushy Park early on that Saturday morning sporting our 'Walk for Milo' t-shirts. To add to our motivation, Dame Kelly Holmes was present and gave us all some vocal support. We were also given a loud 'shout-out' from the organisers at the start of the event. Mr King and Mr Wilson-Boyle were the early pacesetters and after a short while

were barely dots in the distance. Unable to hide our envy at their level of fitness, the majority of us took comfort in the fact that this was originally named as a walk and not a run!

When all had passed the finish line, final times were unimportant. The real purpose of the day had been fulfilled. Time was taken to talk about how Milo would have loved so many people being there for him on a day like this, and the best news is that nearly £2000 had been raised for CLIC Sargent.



We humbly ask that on results day 2019, whether celebrating or commiserating, we all take a few moments to remember that this too, is also Milo's results day.

A huge 'thank you' to Mr Smith, Ms Marino and Ms Wilson-Boyle for all they did in organising this event; it would not have been possible without all your hard work.

Mr P Duus
Head of Year 11

ENRICHMENT WEEK



ENRICHMENT WEEK



IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

YEAR 7 – LONDON ZOO



ENRICHMENT WEEK



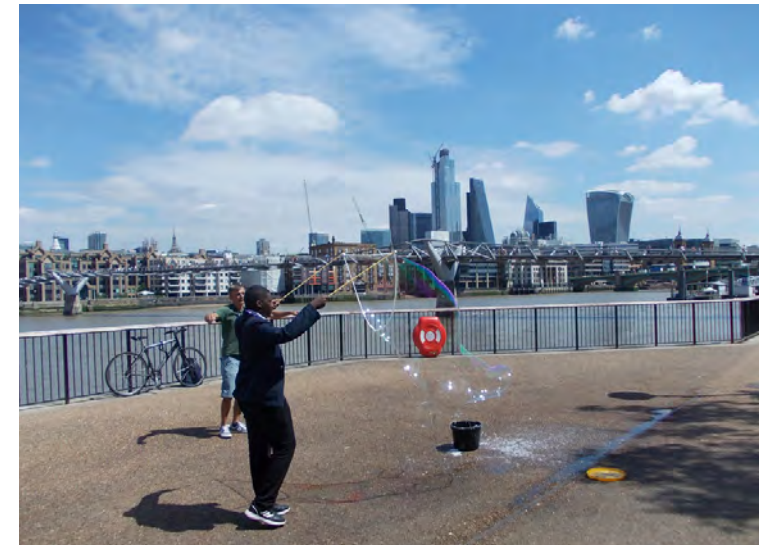
ENRICHMENT WEEK



YEAR 8 – BOX HILL



YEAR 9 – ST PAUL'S AND TATE MODERN





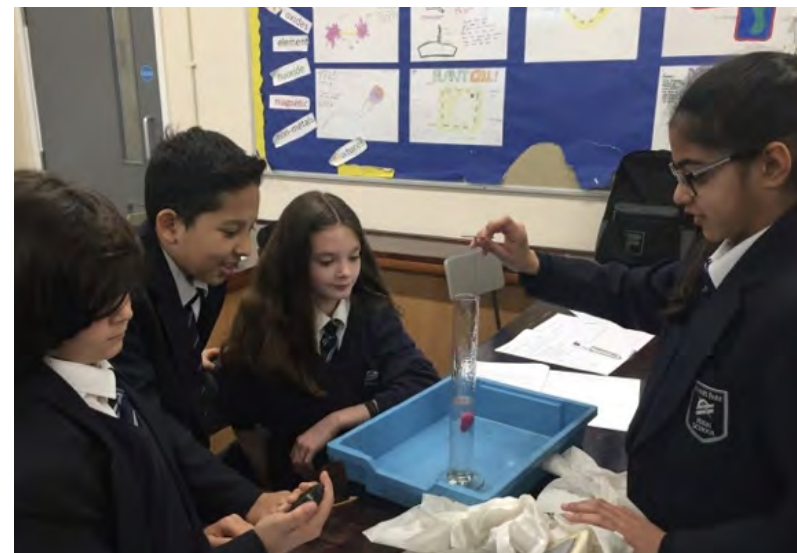
STEM WEEK

SCIENCE

STEM week 2019, saw KS3 students within science planning for a 'Mission to Mars'. The students carried out a variety of practical activities that allowed them to research the impact of aerodynamics on space craft design, the requirements for a heat shield to protect astronauts and the conditions that would be needed on Mars to grow food. Students were required to work in teams to complete scientific testing, carry out mathematical calculations as well as relate their work to the design elements of a space shuttle. The project culminated in an individual task to plan their own trip to Mars, with prizes awarded for the best work.

Students took up the challenge with enthusiasm; 'I love STEM. It was very interesting and I would do it again in a heartbeat', 'I really enjoyed STEM week and loved learning about getting to Mars. My favourite part was learning about aerodynamics and doing the practical for that with the plasticine shapes' and 'It was fun learning about the STEM project. It was actually more interesting to find out more knowledge on how space travel works. Maths played a big role in my presentation to work out different calculations to answer the big question. This has been my best topic so far.'

Ms A Mannan
Assistant Headteacher



MATHS

How quickly can you get Chippy the Robot back to base station? This was the challenge given to Year 7 and 8 students in their Maths lessons for STEM week. The focus of our STEM week in Maths this year was travel. Students had to decide the quickest route possible to safely return Chippy the Robot to base. The problem helped to reinforce measurement and compass directions, providing the ideal opportunity for students to work in groups to discuss and investigate different approaches to solving the problem. Students were able to experience the real life application of the maths that they are learning in their lessons through this challenge.

A group of students also tackled an independent task in their own time figuring out how far they could travel in one hour. Students were both practical and creative in how they addressed this task. The use of bus and train time tables as well as estimating the time it would take to do a journey by car factoring in average speed, speed limit and even London traffic was really impressive! The range of imaginative answers and methods was a real credit to our students, they considered almost every mode of travel including a Hawker Harrier Jump Jet! Congratulation to Brooke in Year 7 who has definitely found the quickest way to get to Gatwick Airport and to Steward who calculated that if he won the lottery and bought a jump jet he could get to Germany.

Mr J Tombs
Head of Mathematics

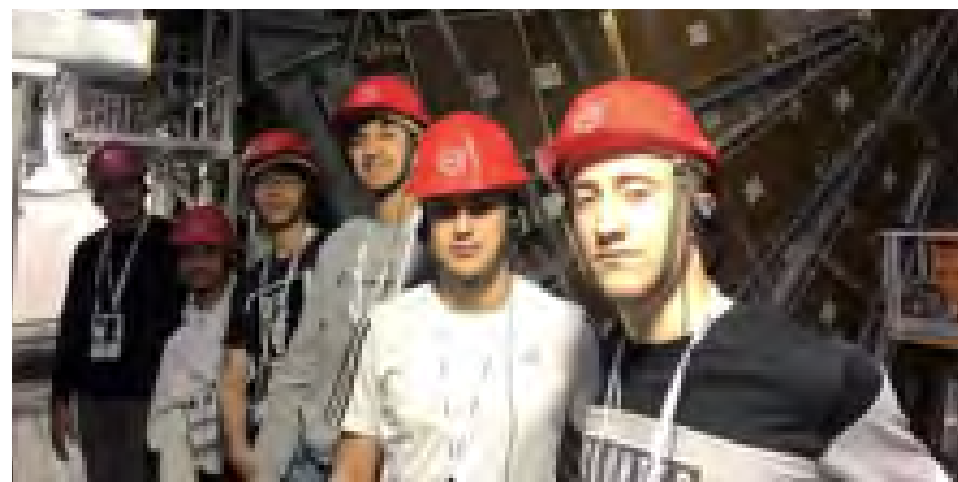


YEAR 12 PHYSICS STUDY VISIT TO CERN, GENEVA

In June, seven Year 12 physicists travelled to Geneva to visit CERN, the world's largest Particle Physics Laboratory with its centrepiece being the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). Using the LHC, a 27km circumference particle accelerator and series of detectors situated 100m underground, particles are made to collide together at close to the speed of light, giving physicists clues about the fundamental laws of nature, the origin of the universe and its evolution. As well as visiting CERN testing facilities and control centres in both Switzerland and France, the students were treated to a VIP underground visit to the ATLAS detector. At 25m in diameter, 46m in length, over 7,000 tonnes in mass and with around 3,000km of cabling, ATLAS is one of the main detectors of the

LHC taking more than 11 million pictures a second of the particle collisions. It wasn't only Physics though, as the visit also allowed the students to enjoy a traditional Swiss meal in a Geneva auberge, and to explore and experience the city of Geneva and its culture. Reflecting on their experiences, the students remarked that the visit 'informed us in detail about the phenomenal studies and ground-breaking discoveries that have given us many of the luxuries we have today, such as the internet' and allowed them to 'discover the world as well as a deeper understanding of ourselves, and our place within it.'

Mr R Jones
Head of Physics



The Raynes Park High School Trust is a charity specifically founded to support the work of the school, especially in areas that are not funded through public resources. It has been in existence for 21 years and played an important role in raising funding for the school's Memorial Sports Ground, just across the road and the railway from the school.

The Trust is funded through donations by parents, former pupils and through grants from other charitable and public organisations such as the National Lottery. It is overseen by ten trustees who include the Headteacher, governors, former governors and former pupils. The Trust is registered with and accountable to the Charities Commission.

Recently the Trust has been involved in providing funding for essential Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme equipment.

New Projects

Currently the Trust is investigating the funding of new staging for the school hall, the development of an eco garden and to provide picnic tables for the school grounds. Clearly we need money to enable us to support these exciting school projects!

You Can Help!

Parents and friends of Raynes Park High School can help to raise funds that can be distributed to the school via the trust through making donations to the School Fund, by making their online purchases through the easyfundraising website (at no cost to themselves!) and through individual bequests. There is a link to the easyfundraising on the school's website.

Grants help to enrich the experience of students whilst at the school and to develop skills and personal qualities needed to make a success of their adult lives.

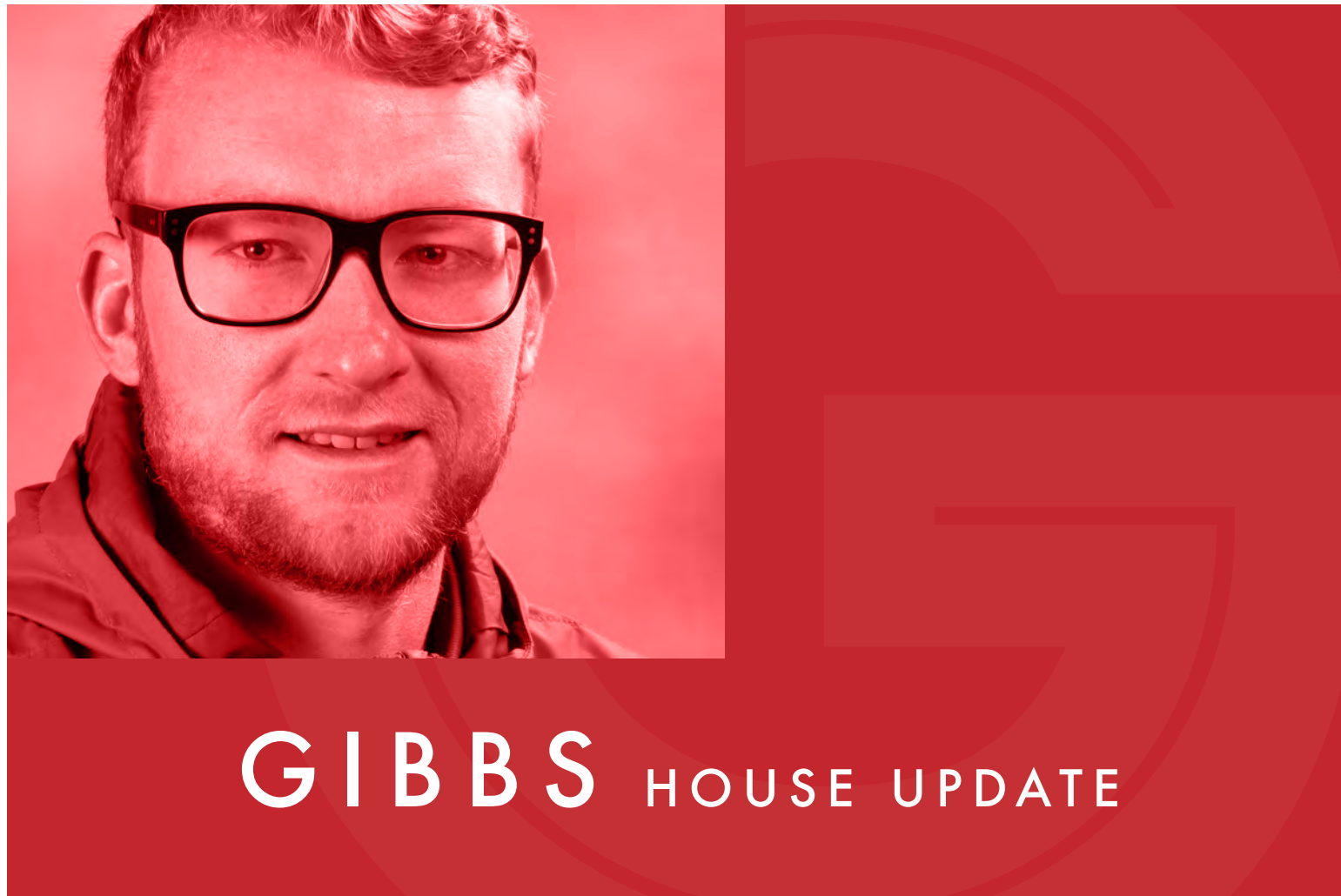
Mr N Jordan
Chair, Raynes Park High School

BRITISH PHYSICS OLYMPIAD (BPhO) YEAR 10 CHALLENGE



In May, 11 Year 10 GCSE Physics students participated in the BPhO Year 10 Challenge, a national competition co-ordinated by the University of Oxford. The competition, which this year involved nearly 11,000 participants from 205 schools, is designed to engage and challenge students by offering them a range of problems to solve. Although most of the questions are based around the current GCSE curriculum, students are able to gain more marks if they have a general knowledge in Physics as well as taking a keen interest in practical work in lessons. The Year 10 students who participated are shown on the left, proudly displaying their certificates.

Mr R Jones
Head of Physics



What a year! With summer right here, it is time to reflect on what has been a very successful year for Gibbs. I'd like to start by saying a big THANK YOU! to every student who has taken part in House events so far this year; ranging from those who have suggested ideas for our Charity Week to the Year 10s who wrote and directed the fantastic House Plays.

This year we have had; TT Rock Stars, House Plays, House Football and Dodgeball, the Charity Week events and a number of cake sales. Each and every member of Gibbs who attended these events put in 100% effort for the House, which has led to us coming away with good results from all events. This has meant that as we draw the year to a close, Gibbs has come close to winning the House Cup for a second year in a row. We couldn't have competed with our event results alone. It is also down to each of you who day-in-day-out come to school with a positive attitude and demonstrate; respect, resilience and are able to attain the results they should. It is the contribution of your house points and of those that have consistently high attendance that has helped us challenge for top spot of the House leaderboard.

I'd like to wish all Gibbs students a very happy summer break. Rest, relax and recharge those batteries so that we can hit the ground running in September and solidify our position as the number #1 House in the school.

Enjoy and stay safe!

Mr J Wheel

Head of Gibbs



I think it is fair to say that this year we have absolutely smashed last year's performance into the atmosphere! From finishing bottom of the table in the House Cup 2017/2018, Newsoms became the first House in history to win a 'clean sweep' of House Awards at the Easter Assembly. I want to say a huge well done to every single one of the history makers that are the Newsoms House Students.

We have packed so much into this year; TT Rock Stars, House Plays, Charity Week and House Sports to name a few. So many of you have got involved in these events and have helped to make it a special year. The dedication and resilience shown by you all has been inspiring and I know that you will take this momentum forward into next year.

This year we have truly shown what it is to be a member of the Raynes Park High School Community. We have shown respect by accumulating the most House Points, we have shown resilience by having the highest attendance and finally, we have shown results by winning the Academic Progress and Attainment Cup two times this year. The list of superlatives I could use to describe this year is endless but I will use one; Powerful. Our effort and performance this year has truly set the benchmark for future years and I could not be prouder.

To each and every one of you in Newsoms, have a restful and enjoyable summer. Have fun and come back in September ready to crush the 2019/2020 Academic Year. I will leave you with one final thought.

'Getting to the top is easy. Staying there is the hard part.'

Mr L Jones

Head of Newsoms



With summer upon us, it is time to reflect on what has been a very successful and productive year for Miltons.

Firstly, I'd to start by saying a big thank you to my House Leaders for all their hard work and dedication to the role. Also, to every student who has taken part in House events so far this year, ranging from those who have suggested ideas for our charity week, to the Year 10s who wrote and directed a fantastic House Play, where Miltons won several awards, including best play!

With Charity Week events and several cake sales, we managed to raise £348 for Cancer Research UK, which is fantastic. Each and every member of Miltons who attended these events put in 100% effort for the House and for our chosen charity and I thank you all for this. It is also down to each of you who day-in-day-out come to school with a positive attitude and demonstrate respect, resilience and are able to attain the results they should.

Having undertaken several challenges myself including the Fan Dance, which is a 24 km load bearing test march across the Brecon Beacons, I would like to think that I have led by example as your Housemaster in demonstrating: resilience, strength, courage, determination, focus and not giving up. These are all attributes that you should apply to your studies and moving forward in life.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone in Miltons a very happy summer break, with plenty of rest, relaxation and fun, so we can hit the ground running in September!

Be safe!

Mr B Smith

Head of Miltons



It has been an absolute rollercoaster of a year and I have loved my first year as Head of House with Halliwells. Although we did struggle to win any of the prizes at the end of the Year, I've been blown away by the determination and effort that everyone in the House has put in over the year and think that they should all be extremely proud of themselves. Even though there isn't a prize for it, I take a lot of pride in the fact that Halliwells have consistently had the lowest amount of BMs for the entire year!

We had an absolutely wonderful charity week and along with my wonderful house leaders, came up with some fantastic fundraising ideas including the giant tub of sweets, longest football goal and the insanely popular Krispy Kreme donuts. We raised over £250 for Mind, the mental health awareness charity, and I hope all the good work can continue next year. We also had great success at Sports Day and put on an amazing House Play. Well done to everyone involved with their additional activities.

I have been so impressed by the students in Halliwells this year. They have consistently demonstrated their commitment to the core values of respect, resilience and results both in and out of the classroom. Students in Halliwells are always the first to greet me and other teachers around the school in the mornings. Keep up this wonderful energy.

To every one of you in Halliwells, thank you for all the effort you have put in this year and have a restful and enjoyable summer.

Mr C Beck

Head of Halliwells



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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.

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NEWS FROM THE Governors

Governors' main focus this term has been as ever on school improvement. Our successful Ofsted inspection in January was the stimulus for our reviewing the School Improvement Plan with the Headteacher. Our aim now is to get the school to Outstanding by the time of the next Ofsted inspection in three to four years time. We have a great impetus for the necessary changes now, and we will be following these through, offering challenge and support to the Headteacher and her team.

We had our usual cycle of meetings during the term, and in addition we had two Strategic Visits – the first focussing on the new-look House system, Student Voice and staff wellbeing, and the second on Year 9, where we looked at the progress they had made since we last focussed on them a year ago. The school's performance on all these topics has been very good and we were reassured by what we heard from the Senior Leadership Team, from other teachers and from the students themselves.

We also set our three-year budget. At a time when many schools are struggling financially, it is good to report that Raynes Park High School is managing well. There are areas where we would like to spend more and cannot, but prudent planning and expenditure

means that we are not having to cut back radically as some schools are currently being forced to do.

I have also been involved in continuing discussions with Merton Council about access to their Apprenticeship Levy budget, which, as recorded in last term's News from the Governors, is something into which we pay but from which we have not, up to now, got much benefit. I am pleased to say our pressure is beginning to pay off, and it should be possible for some of our staff Continuing Professional Development to be paid for out of Levy funds, reducing pressure on the school budget.

Raynes Park High School is in a good place. Our record is improving year on year and the local community is responding – we will have a record Year 7 intake in September and we have even had a waiting list. The changes that are happening in and around school are all having a positive effect for our students, and that is the ultimate test for what any school does.



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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Do you have a story you'd like to share in our next newsletter?

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