

THE SPUR

ISSUE 7 AUTUMN TERM 2025

📍 Raynes Park High School and Sixth Form

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Choirs steal the show

Our singers lit up the awards ceremony this term.

Turn to page 5 for more

Time of celebration

Our Headteacher reflects on the term

AT THE end of this long Autumn Term, I would like to thank the students for their hard work and celebrate their successes. It continues to give me great pleasure to share so many good news stories with families.

We have entered fully into the spirit of the festive season with students enjoying a traditional lunch, raising money for Save the Children by wearing Christmas jumpers, enjoying the Sixth Form Christmas Fair and ending the term with a brilliant Performing Arts Evening.

It is always wonderful to reflect on and celebrate our students' achievements, and we were delighted with the attendance at the three awards evenings we held at the school recently.

Recognising effort and achievement is always a joy, as was our end-of-term assembly celebrating the successes of our four Houses, seeing Year 11 receive their mock exam results in a special assembly and holding rewards events.

Students enjoyed the panto at Wimbledon Theatre, an ice-skating trip to Hampton Court palace and a cinema afternoon here in school.

It is also a highlight for me to present Headteacher Awards to those individuals who go above and beyond, although it remains my privilege, as it has done for the past 10 years, to walk through the school and see our students smartly dressed in their uniform, engaged in their lessons and displaying such a positive attitude to learning.

They are truly brilliant ambassadors for RPHS and make me smile each and every day.

This term saw us fund raise for Jeans for Genes Day and Macmillan Coffee Morning while also celebrating National Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month and Movember with a number of events taking place in school to raise awareness within our school community. Thank you to those staff and students who have made all of these events possible and to you, our families, for your support.

We were also delighted to welcome our largest cohort for a number of years into Year 12 with 115 students joining us in September.

Despite a national decline in the number of students moving to high school from Year 6, we welcomed over 150 students into Year 7.

Both year groups have made a fantastic start and we were really pleased that so many families could join us for the Sixth Form Information evening at the start of term and the Year 7 Progress Evening last week.

Raynes Park High School continues to be a thriving community and I would like to thank the staff and governors for their dedication and commitment, as well as parents and carers for your continued support.

We have already achieved so much this term and it is now time for a well-deserved break.

On behalf of the staff, Governors and everyone associated with RPHS, I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and my best wishes for 2026.



Miss KJ Taylor,
Headteacher

Celebrating 90 years

FORMER students gathered for a special dinner at the school to mark our 90th anniversary.

Ron Ribolla, who was a student at the school between 1958 and 1965, is the chairman of the Former Pupils Society.

The society have helped to pay for a stage at the school and have been involved in a number of fundraising activities.

He said: "It is marvellous that we can all get together from time to time and reflect on our old school days. The school have been very helpful this year in letting us host the annual lunch at the school, giving the former pupils the chance to explore the school.

"Of course, lots of has changed and it's a very modern school now, but the old hall remains largely the same. There was over 100 of us who gathered for the annual dinner. It was a joyous occasion with everyone singing the



Food and speeches at the dinner

school song very loudly. In the song it speaks about how our school days are a living part of

us and that is certainly true for us here at Raynes Park High School."

School honours the fallen on Remembrance Day

YOU could have heard a pin drop as the school fell silent to honour the fallen on Remembrance Day.

The two-minutes silence followed readings by students and a special assembly for Year 7.

There was also a roll call with 20 Year 7 students representing the 20 soldiers from Raynes Park High School who died in WW2.

Year 12 Enea read out the Wilfred Owen

poem Dulce et Decorum Est. He said: "It is an incredibly moving poem. It was written by an author that I have studied and I know his poems, which made it all the more poignant.

"It was a true honour to play a role in marking Remembrance Day. It really made me think about the nature of war and how it still impacts us today.

"The message I took away is that we can

never have a war on this scale again."

Head of Humanities, Mr Sawdon, said: "It is really important for our students to learn about our history because they are the ones who will be shaping our futures.

"Remembrance Day asks them to think about what kind of world they want for their futures and how we can work towards a more peaceful world."

Poetry sisters wow judges in competition

SISTERS have beaten more than 25,000 young writers from around the world to be highly commended in an international poetry competition.

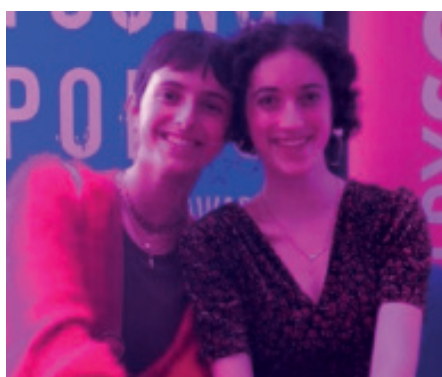
Raynes Park High School students Clara and Juliet both made the top 100 shortlist at the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award.

The siblings were selected despite facing fierce competition from 28,344 poems submitted from 135 countries.

Some of the entries came from young people as far afield as Botswana, Fiji, Vietnam, and Venezuela.

Clara's poem was an exploration of the experience of being at a party and falling in love, while Juliet's poem was about appreciating the magical beauty in everything.

Their poems will also be published in a printed winners' anthology next spring,



Clara and Juliet

which will be distributed across an array of schools and libraries.

The pair were honoured at an awards ceremony at the British Library in London.

Clara said: "It was amazing to be selected

out of tens of thousands of poems. For my sister to have been selected as well makes it even more special.

"My poem is the metaphorical exploration of being at a party and falling in love and how fleeting those moments are.

"It is nice to be recognised in such a prestigious competition, it is vindication that my poems are of a good standard."

Juliet said "My poem is about a fish in a box and how you can see the magical beauty in everything. It has really encouraged me because this is the third time I have been shortlisted in this competition.

"It makes me think that maybe I could do more with this perhaps as a career."

This was the third time Juliet had been highly commended while it was Clara's first time in the top 100.

Creatures close up

Students get hands-on during trip to ZooLab

YEAR 7 and 8 students got up close and personal with a range of rainforest animals as part of Humanities Week.

They handled snakes, tarantulas and other wildlife while learning about their habitat during a visit from ZooLab, which arranges animal encounters.

Year 8 student Harrison said: "It was great because you didn't know what animal was coming out next.

"It was quite scary to handle them but we soon became calm with them.

"We have learnt about these animals in



One of the ZooLab creatures that was handled by RPHS students

class, but nothing can compare to actually seeing them in real life. We learnt all about them which was interesting."

Year 8 student Liam said: "It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to get close to these animals in real life.

"You won't get that opportunity in the wild.

Simon, from Year 8, said: "They are fascinating animals. We learnt that the female tarantula will kill and eat the male so there is more food for her and the baby."

Other activities for Humanities Week included a staff versus students University Challenge-style quiz. There was also a Black History Month quiz.



RPHS teachers grew moustaches for charity Movember to raise awareness of men's health issues

It's good to talk about men's mental health

OUR Head of Sixth Form Mr Wheel is hoping his Movember moustache will help kick-start a conversation around men's mental health.

He was among 10 teachers at the school who were all sporting extra hair above their top lip to raise money for the charity.

So far, the school has raised more

than £200 for the charity after hosting a series of events.

They include a sixth form versus staff football match where students had to auction for their positions in the team.

The school has also hosted assemblies on men's health issues and men's mental health.

Mr Wheel said: "It is really important that

we break the stigma about men talking about how they feel.

"We want to make it common for men to have a conversation and talk more openly about things.

"Movember is a fun way to raise money for a really important charity, but it's all an entry point to start talking."

Year 7 bond during residential trip

YEAR 7 students took part in a range of team-building activities to help get to know each other on a three-day residential trip in September.

These included bush survival skills such as building a fire and an obstacle course where they had to help teammates.

Year 7 student Leo, who joined us from Burlington Primary, said: "The residential trip has really helped me to settle in to school. I only

knew three or four people when I came here but I have made lots of friends since the trip.

"It makes you feel more confident and happy when you feel like you know people and the school is your home."

Year 7 student Jasmine, who joined from Hillcross Primary, said: "The trip was really fun. We got to play lots of exciting games and activities. It helped me get to know more people and make new friends."



Students make a fire during the trip



Students looked into the Olympic Park's impact on surrounding areas

Lessons of stadium

Olympic Park visit reveals 2012 Games legacy

A TRIP to the Olympic Park in Newham offered fertile ground for learning about geography.

GCSE students talked to local residents about redevelopment and gentrification following the London 2012 Olympic Games during their trip to Stratford.

They travelled east to conducted an environ-

mental survey looking at quality of life in the areas regenerated following the Olympics.

Year 11 student Camelia said: "We found that the further you got away from the Olympic stadium, the worse the quality of life was for the people living there."

Ella, also from Year 11, said: "That led to

lower quality of life and standards of living. The conclusion was that life had got better for people near the stadiums but not for those further away." Simon said: "We discovered that some people didn't welcome regeneration in their area because it meant they would be priced out of their homes."

Sports personality Anna is grateful for support

Our sports personality of the year Anna has thanked teachers for "believing in me".

The Year 11 student was given the accolade at our annual Sports Awards after helping to coach the Key Stage 3 netball team.

At the ceremony, students were given awards for participation, showing respect

and resilience.

There was also the Mike Glee, a special award in recognition of success in athletics.

Anna said: "It was very cool to receive the award. Nice to know that the teachers recognise the efforts you make to help other students.

"I really enjoy coaching the younger students' netball team. I also play in the older age group team and I found coaching helps me improve as a player.

"I want to thank the teachers for believing in me and helping me improve as both an athlete and a person."

The Rose pros give top tips on playing Shakespeare

YEAR 8 actors got top tips from the professionals ahead of their whole-school performance of Shakespeare.

They took part in a workshop on Hamlet with Shakespeare for Schools held at the Rose Theatre in Kingston. They will perform the play in March.

In the workshop they were taught how to project their voices and the origins of the play.

Year 8 student Victoria said: "I really enjoyed the workshop. We have been studying the play to perform it, but I didn't know anything about it until now. It will help with the rehearsals and the performance."

Fellow student Nikki said: "The best bit was when they helped us train our voice so it can be heard when we are performing. Projecting your voice is a good skill to have whether you're acting or public speaking."



Year 8 actors visited the Rose

Red Shoes inspires

Dancers' next steps clearer thanks to show

OUR dancers had the chance to see the professionals up close during a trip to the Red Shoes ballet.

The dance club travelled into central London to see the show based on the Academy Award winning film inspired by the classic Hans Christian Andersen tale.

The ballet tells the story of Victoria's red shoes and her ambition to become the world's greatest dancer.

Year 8 student Lilly said: "You don't really know how much you can learn from professional dancers until you have seen how amazing they are in person."

"It was an inspiring trip because I could see how moves were done in real life and hopefully copy them."

Year 8 student Maxwell added: "It was just such a brilliant show."

"It was the entertainment of it all that I really enjoyed. It will support me in my progression as a dancer."



Students drew inspiration from seeing professionals perform the Red Shoes

Choral singers hit the right notes at awards ceremony

OUR choral singers left the stage with applause ringing in their ears at our annual awards ceremony.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students in Harmonies and the Year 10 and 11 students in Vox stole the show at the prize-giving event. Year 8 student

Ella-Scarlett said: "It was really fun to sing in front of such a big crowd, it really got my adrenaline going, but in a good way."

STEM Week challenge tests totem pole building skills

PRIMARY school students put their engineering skills to the test by trying to build a totem pole as part of STEM Week.

The Totem Pole Challenge saw students at Burlington Junior School develop their

understanding of structures.

The challenge was run by Raynes Park High School Community Team.

Director of Community Partnerships, Mr Oldridge, said: "The students approached

the task with fantastic enthusiasm and focus, showing great determination and teamwork throughout. It was brilliant to see them applying STEM skills in a practical and engaging way."

Prize for mum poem

Milly's lines on Legend mother to be published



Students Milly and Juliette were highly commended for their poems at the Wimbledon BookFest

A POEM about a legendary mum was enough to take the prize at the Wimbledon BookFest.

Year 9 student Milly was highly commended for the poem inspired by this year's theme of Legend.

The poem will be published in the Wimbledon BookFest Anthology of Stories

and Poems. The winners were invited to a ceremony where they received a goody bag of books and a copy of the anthology.

Milly said: "When I saw the theme was Legends I had to make the poem about my mum. She has helped me so much.

"When I found out I had won I was over

the moon. It was a really nice feeling to be recognised for my poetry."

Fellow student Juliette was also highly commended for her poem.

She said: "My poem was written about the legend of Medusa. It's a really interesting topic to write about. It inspired me."

Martial artist just misses out on world champs

STUDENT Olena narrowly missed out on a world championship in jiu-jitsu after taking part in a tournament in Abu Dhabi.

She won three matches on her way to the final of the U16s 57kg category, but came second in a closely fought battle.

Olena trains five times a week and has been practising the sport for six years. She took up jiu-jitsu after a recommendation from a friend.

The Year 11 student said: "I was a bit disappointed to lose at the time but looking

back now I feel happy that I did so well.

"It was a great experience travelling abroad and taking part in an international tournament. I love to train and be around the gym. I have made lots of friends in jiu-jitsu."

Impact recognised



There was music and talks, as well as a quiz about black figures

THE school marked Black History Month with a range of activities taking place across subject departments.

There was a whole school assembly which featured a saxophone solo and a talk on the impact of UK black historical figures.

There was also a quiz about Black figures and international cuisine from Black cultures in the canteen.

Year 13 student Afua said: "It was really interactive."

"We didn't just listen to teachers talking about Black history but we also got involved with the quizzes and the canteen."

"It's so important that we recognise and celebrate the impact black people have had on the culture and society in this country."

"This type of event helps us to be and feel seen and heard and that our culture matters."

"The theme this year was Standing in Power and Pride and I think what the school did really reflected that."



Some of the international cuisine

Trip transports students into world of Lion King

STUDENTS took their learning beyond the classroom on a theatre trip to watch the Lion King.

They travelled to the Lyceum Theatre in central London to watch the live staging of the famous animated film.

It follows the story of Simba as he journeys from wide-eyed cub to his destined role as King of the Pridelands.

Year 10 student Joseph said: "It was such a powerful show, it transported us into the world of the Lion King. It felt like you were in the show."

"Now we have seen it we can write about it for our drama coursework. It is also great to see the performers in a real-life production."

Year 10 student Isla said: The costumes were amazing and like the characters were real. There was loads of singing and dancing, which was so fun."



The Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre

Students visit Selfridges

A peek behind the scenes at the famous store

STUDENTS from our Fulham FC Premier League Inspires Programme took part in a careers day with iconic West End department store Selfridges.

They got a unique behind the scenes look at one of the world's most famous stores during its busiest shopping season.

They took part in a Mini Christmas World of Work Tour in partnership with The King's Trust.

The students got a look behind the famous Christmas window displays, learning about de-

sign and visual storytelling. They also learned about sustainability and circular fashion within modern retail as part of the 'RESELFRIDGES' programme.

This was followed by a visit to the Christmas Shop, where they learned how major brand partnerships – such as this year's Disney collaboration – are brought to life.

Student Theo said: "It was really fun, as it was a good experience to consider careers for the future."

Fellow student Bianca said: "It was very

informative; it was amazing to see the windows and get to learn about the different people and careers that are involved in the making of them."

Director of Community Partnerships, Mr Oldridge, said: "The trip was not only an enjoyable celebration but also an invaluable opportunity for students to develop confidence and raise aspirations.

"They also got to see first-hand the range of careers available within a large and influential organisation."

Baking rivals pay homage to historic housemasters



The Houses with the cookies they created for the inter-house baking competition

THE school hosted an inter-house bake-off as competition between our Houses heated up this term.

Chefs from Halliwell, Gibbs, Newsoms and Milton – the names of our first ever housemasters in the 1930s – created tasty cookies.

There was also a whole school assembly on the House System and a range of curriculum-based competitive quizzes.

Students receive Headteacher recognition

Ceremony praises students

THE winner of this year's Headteacher Award at our annual prize-giving ceremony is no longer going "under the radar".

Headteacher Miss Taylor told the audience at KS4/5 Awards Night that student Chloe might not get the recognition she deserves.

Well, not anymore, after the Year 10 student received a loud ovation when collecting the prestigious Headteacher Award at the ceremony in December.

Chloe said: "I suppose I do go under the radar a little bit because I am not looking for the attention, I just like to get on with my work and try my best."

"Getting the ovation was nice and the recognition from the school and the headteacher. I feel happy that I got the award."

Year 9 student James Rowse had an exceptional year. He attended school every day and finished Year 9 with the highest number of achievement points in Key Stage 3. His manner and attitude around the school are an example for all students and he has continued this into Year 10.

The Alex Knapp award for displaying musical ability went to student Taliyah. The WH Auden award for English went to Year 13 student Clara.



James and Chloe were rewarded at this year's Headteacher Award ceremony

Politician quizzed by students

STUDENTS were given the chance to quiz a local politician as the school marked Parliament Week.

Merton Council councillor Usaama Kaweesa fielded questions on a range of topics, including the voting age and climate change.

He ran a workshop on council finances where students were given a budget to split between the

different services.

Year 12 student Kimora said: "I enjoyed getting an insight to how the political system works locally here in Merton."

"It was interesting when he talked about the experiences that led him to being a politician. His visit has inspired me to become more actively involved in local issues. Young people need to have a voice on issues that impact them."

IN BRIEF

CRAVEN COTTAGE CELEBRATION

STUDENTS from the Fulham FC Premier League Inspires Programme rounded off a fantastic term with a special Christmas Celebration Event at Craven Cottage.

Students Theo, Bianca, James and Sky were given special mention for their dedication and positive impact this term at a special recognition ceremony.

They also took part in a workshop, festive activities and interactive challenges as they looked ahead to projects in the new year.

Student Josh said: "I really enjoyed the activities, it was great fun being able to work as a team."

PRIMARIES TAKE PART

THE school welcomed students from local primaries to take part in science and art workshops.

Youngsters from Joseph Hood Primary School and Hatfield Primary School spent an engaging day at Raynes Park High School.

During the sublime science sessions there was exciting experiments and interactive demonstrations, bringing learning to life.

In the art classes, pupils worked with clay, learning how to create their own pinch pots.

FUN FOCUS ON TUDOR PERIOD

STUDENTS at Aragon Primary School took part in fun activities themed on the Tudor period as part of Humanities Week.

There was treasure hunt activity searching for clues and key information about the life of Catherine of Aragon.

They also learned about the creation of the Church of England following Henry VIII's divorce from Catherine and the break away from the Catholic Church.

GETTING A HEADSTART

STUDENTS have been practicing their handstands as part of gymnastics club.



STUDENTS have tasted victory and defeat, tried new sports and learned the importance of teamwork. We round up the term's PE highlights

DANIEL TRIES BADMINTON: Students have the chance to try three new sports every half term. This term, Year 10 student Daniel tried badminton for the first time. He said: "It wasn't a sport that I thought about trying before but because you get three options every half term, I thought I'd give it a try."

Ava picked tennis, handball and hockey. She said: "I have really enjoyed taking part in new sports. You never know when it's going to turn into something you can really pursue."

FOOTBALL TRAINING: Our Year 7, 8 and 9

football team have been playing matches and training this term.

They have played three games and train at the school every Wednesday.

Year 9 student Daisy said: "It's really fun because you get to play matches against other schools. It's also a chance to get to know students in other years and make friends."

FOURTH FOR NETBALLERS: Our netball team came a respectable fourth at a local schools competition. They played seven matches in the eight-team tournament held this term. Student Ava said: "It was a really fun competition to play in. We did quite well finishing mid-table."

FIVE WINS IN A ROW: The Year 10 football team are on course to repeat last season's

title-winning heroics after winning five games in a row. They won the Merton League last season and are now leading the chasing pack after a series of victories.

This included a comfortable victory over Rutlish to secure another three league points.

Despite challenging weather conditions, the team delivered an excellent performance, controlling the game from start to finish.

To cap it all off, they scored a sensational last-minute winner in the county cup, defeating local rivals Richmond Park Academy 4-3.

Central-midfielder Daniel said: "Winning in the last minute was absolutely brilliant. It was a really close game.

"We got a penalty very late in the game. When we scored the fans were going mad and we all celebrated together on the pitch."



Sports leaders helped out at Merton Primary School Indoor athletics

BRAVE DISPLAY: OUR goalkeeper Carmen made a string of fine first half saves to keep Year 8 and 9 RPHS girls in the game.

She kept the game at deadlock until the last five minutes but finally succumb to three late goals, losing 3-0.

VICTORIOUS START: A TERRIFIC team effort saw our Year 7 and 8 girls team start their league campaign with a victory.

Two goals from Ruby secured victory a 2-1 over Chessington in the season opener..

CUP PROGRESSION: OUR Year 10 and 11 football team progressed to the second round of the county cup after the opposition failed to field a team.



Mo bagged a brace for RPHS

MO THE MERRIER: A BRILLIANT brace from Mo and a well-taken header from Daniel secured a 3-1 victory for RPHS in their league fixture against Hollyfield.

Despite dominating possession, the team went into the break at 1-1 but came out firing in the second half.

TOO STRONG: YEAR 9 football team played with determination and commitment, but were unable to defeat a strong Rutlish side.

LAST-GASP THRILLER: RAYNES Park High School secured a place in the third round of the London Cup thanks to a thrilling last-minute winner against Southborough from Theo. The teams had played out a 5-5 draw in the league earlier in the season.



January try-outs for Centre Court

OUR students are dreaming of Centre Court after making it past the first round of trials to become ball boys and girls at Wimbledon.

They have completed the first six modules online and passed a physical test to take their place among the try-outs in January.

The list was whittled down to 11 from 30 entrants, and now our hopefuls are aiming to join the action next summer.

Year 9 student Josie said: "I am really happy. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of an event watched by millions all over the world.

"It would be amazing just to get there but to be on Centre Court when there's a major match on would be an absolute dream."

Leaders at community events

OUR sports leaders have been representing the school at community events this term.

They refereed and coached the boys and girls Football in Education Merton championships.

They also led a team-building day at a local primary school where they helped youngsters develop teamwork and problem-solving skills.

After training with Merton Sports

Partnership, they also helped to run the borough hockey championships.

Director of Community Partnerships, Mr Oldridge, said: "Throughout this term they have showcased their leadership skills and maturity in supporting several primary events.

"They have been exemplary role models, not only for the students in our school, but also for their younger peers in primary schools."

RPHS commended for effort



Our Year 8 and 9 Girls football team lost a hard-fought match

STUDENT Ruby scored a lovely goal despite our Year 8 and 9 girls football team losing to Oaks Park Academy.

Raynes Park dominated the first half with lots of possession, creating several chances until eventually Ruby scored to level the tie at 1-1 at the break.

Early second-half goals from the opposition swung the game in their favour and despite our hard graft and efforts, we just could not get back in the tie.

By the final whistle, it was congratulations to Oaks Park who deserved the victory and a place in the second round.



RPHS Year 8 Netball team won against local rivals Ursaline A & B team

Bitesize insight

Careers crew helps students



The BBC Bitesize Careers Crew took part in an inspiring day of workshops

THE school welcomed the BBC Bitesize Careers crew for a dynamic and inspiring day of workshops and career insights.

The team accompanied by Radio 1Xtra presenter Fee Mak, delivered four tailored workshops to students across year groups.

The workshops were designed to spark curiosity and ambition around future career paths.

Pupils heard from three guest speakers who shared their personal journeys and

professional experiences.

Assistant Headteacher, Mr McCurdy, said: "It is very important to know what qualification can lead to what type of career or profession.

"The BBC bitesize team showed that the pathways to these types of careers are not as complicated as you might imagine.

"They were great at giving students knowledge of what the current career landscape is and how they can successfully navigate it."

How you can help the Trust

THE Trust has recently paid for compost and seeds for the school garden. We have also decided to contribute £500 to the project to provide an all-weather sports pitch.

This is still a work in progress depending on planning permissions. It looks like a very good project.

How you can help the Trust:

- If you work for a company that likes to donate to charity as part of its social responsibility, please think of Raynes Park Charitable Trust.
- Please donate using the Enthuse link on the section about the Trust on the website (go to About us, Charitable Trust).

Another way to help is to sign up for easy fundraising. We really want to do more fundraising activities. In a new development, a support group of parents is being set up to



Chair Margaret Tulloch

work on perhaps one fundraising activity for the Trust.

You may have supported a PTA at a primary school. It is not a huge commitment like a PTA, but we think it will be a really good way of raising both the profile of the Trust in the school and some funds.

If you are interested, please contact me on CharitableTrust@raynespark.merton.sch.uk.

Hoping to hear from you.

Margaret Tulloch, Chair

Council discusses fundraising options

OUR student council met the Charitable Trust this term to discuss fundraising activities. The charity subcommittee of the revamped student leadership team held discussions with our charitable arm.

The student council is now made up of four subcommittees: charity, ethnicity, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and estates.

The committees meet different members of the senior leadership team to see how we can improve in these areas. This term the council have been looking at the impact of our diversity survey, FLAIR, which looks at racial equality in the school. Other events organised by the council include Jeans for Genes day and Wear Red to give Racism the Red Card.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

GCSE & A LEVEL RESULTS

GOVERNORS would like to congratulate all students on their excellent GCSE and A Level results and to thank teachers and staff for their hard work and commitment in supporting them. These are outstanding outcomes, and we wish all students every success in the year ahead.

NEW CO-CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

AT THE last Full Governing Body meeting, it was agreed that Sean Cunniffe be elected as Co-Chair alongside myself for the foreseeable future. Sean has an extensive background in the public sector, primarily within local government, and we look forward to drawing on his knowledge and experience of financial management, public sector challenges, and educational governance in his role as Co-Chair of the Governing Body.

Driven by strong values and a passion for education, Sean is keen to contribute his skills and expertise to support Raynes Park High School and to help ensure the best possible outcomes for all students and staff, both now and in the future.

STRATEGIC VISIT

GOVERNORS undertook a strategic visit to the school in October. Senior leaders delivered presentations within their respective areas, Governors visited multiple classrooms to observe lessons in progress, met with students as part of a focus group, and reported back to the Senior Leadership Team.

Thank you to everyone involved for making us so welcome, for organising the visit, and for engaging so positively throughout the day.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and a very happy New Year.

