



## REFLECTING ON THE PAST YEAR

*A message from Mrs Heard, Headteacher*

Dear Families,

Welcome to the final edition of our newsletter for this academic year. I want to take this opportunity to reflect on key events of the year and draw your attention to some of the plans for the future.

### CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The year has been another one of enormous upheaval in the political world and some of the policy changes of the past few years have now become practice in the classroom. Following the removal of levels and changes to GCSE grading, we have worked hard to create assessments that are suitably challenging and give progress indicators that are helpful to both students and their families.

For the past two years we have been delivering the new GCSE curriculum for English and Maths, and this extended to the majority of other subjects this year. This has taken considerable preparation and I truly appreciate the additional work that our staff have undertaken to prepare our students for these courses. It has also meant a change to grading and students doing GCSE courses will have their work graded from 9 – 1 rather than the previous A\* - G. This will bring challenges, particularly this summer, as the grading is slightly different to the old system, but we have worked tirelessly to ensure the students achieve the 'strong' pass at GCSE.

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# *In this issue...*



and much more...

At Key Stage 3 we are also developing our curriculum to reflect the learning that our children receive at primary school and to prepare them for the new, more rigorous, GCSE courses. We have focussed strongly on literacy development in Years 7 – 10 and each student has read for 20 minutes every day at the start of tutor time. This has been a very successful initiative that has been commended by our School Improvement Partner, and has created a purposeful approach to the challenge of encouraging reading. In addition, the Accelerated Reader programme has had tangible benefits to students' reading ability and we will be continuing with this initiative next year. Please encourage your child, regardless of their age, to read over the summer holiday as the demand on students' reading ability at GCSE level is considerable.

## WIDER SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

This year our students have enjoyed a huge number of extra-curricular activities outside the classroom. The relaunched Enrichment programme has been a great success with students enjoying an increasingly wide range of clubs after school. Students in Key Stage 3 have also benefitted from having a Creative afternoon where they have been able to select to study a creative subject of their choice and work on projects throughout the year. Our recent performance of Blood Brothers was stunning and the students involved performed brilliantly, aided by a terrific backstage crew and supported and coached by a wonderful team of teachers. We have also showcased the students GCSE and A-Level work at the recent Art Exhibition and this week, we have seen the varied talents of students across the school at the DT Show.

We have welcomed visitors from Denmark and also hosted Chinese students who shared a week of school experience. Our visitors were buddied with students from our school who were excellent ambassadors for RPHS. The whole school community were very welcoming and the feedback from the visitors was excellent.

We have also taken students on academic, cultural and sporting visits to places of interest in the UK and abroad; to Iceland, France and Barcelona and the students have benefitted enormously from their experiences.

Our recent Enrichment Week provided a wonderful opportunity for the students to enjoy some fun and creative activities to end the year on a high. Following a successful Sports Day last week, there were a variety of trips and activities for students

to take part in and on Friday, in recognition of their hard work and effort, some students in Years 7-10 went on a very well-deserved reward trip which proved very popular.

### **SPORT AND PARTICIPATION AT RPHS**

This year has seen Mr Wilson-Boyle take up the post of Director of Sport and we have worked closely together to realise my ambition for sport and participation at Raynes Park High School. Having introduced a new PE kit in September, there has been a renewed interest in sport at the school and our teams have been representing RPHS at numerous events and competitions. Please use the link on our website to the new Sports page to read about our successes this year. We also successfully relaunched the Duke of Edinburgh Award and our first cohort for a number of years completed the Bronze Award in June. My thanks go to Mr Hayes for taking a lead on DofE and to the Year 10 students for their commitment to achieving this award.

In addition, we are delighted that Fulham Football Club will be running their acclaimed Education programme at RPHS and we will be welcoming 25 students to our 6th Form in September. We are also pleased to relaunch our provision for Basketball and will be working with the Goldhawks next academic year.

I am also proud to continue developing the relationship with BECSLink, an organisation committed to the social mobility of young people. There are currently 49 organisations involved and we are the first state school to be a BECSLink centre. This will place us and our provision for both our students and feeder primaries at the heart of the local community. Having recently been asked to take part in a Pro-Am event (see overleaf) there will be an official launch next academic year and the first event is a Pi-Top and Sublime Science Day in the Autumn Term in association with BECSLink and The Tim Henman Foundation. We will of course ensure parents are kept updated on this initiative next year.

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

My thanks go to staff, parents and governors who have kindly given of their time to run our PTA this year. You may well have met these colleagues at one of our school events where the PTA has been providing the refreshments, or possibly at the Christmas Fair, an event that has become a firm fixture in our school calendar. I am so grateful to them for their inspired ideas and continued support of the school.

In addition, I'd like to thank those of you who have been able to attend the Parent Forums this year. We know that the session on Literacy and Numeracy was particularly well-attended and we will be holding further forums next year, the first of which will be on school governance where you will be able to meet with members of our Governing Body, including the Chair, Mr Ross. We will also continue to hold parent surgeries where you are welcome to come in and meet with either myself or a member of my Senior Leadership Team to discuss any issues or concerns you may have.

### **STAFF CHANGES**

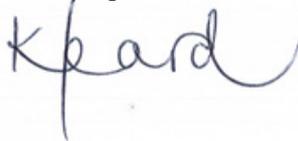
As ever at this time of the year we bid farewell to some of our teachers. We wish Ms Jones and Ms Stevens our very best wishes for their retirement and Mr Bracken, Ms Dickson, Mr Laidler and Mr Prado good luck in their new schools. Our congratulations also go to Mr Harrison, Ms Mistry and Mr Mba on their promoted roles and we wish them well in their new schools. We will also be saying goodbye to some support staff; Ms Dillon, Ms McLean, Ms Rawlings and Ms Tilbury who leave us to start new positions and also to our long-term supply colleagues, Ms Douglas and Ms Modie-Nwaefulu. 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.

As I conclude my second year at RPHS, I would like to again 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.

There is so much to celebrate in this edition of our newsletter and I hope you enjoy reading about the numerous activities and events; all families should feel proud of all that has been achieved this year.

Finally, thank you for your support over the academic year; it is much appreciated. I hope that you all have an enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you next academic year.

Kind regards,



Mrs K Heard  
Headteacher



# TIM HENMAN FOUNDATION

*Students act as ball persons for professional Tennis players at a Charity Pro-Am tournament*

RPHS students met a host of professional tennis players this term, including Sir Andy Murray and Tim Henman OBE. The students were selected as ball girls and boys for the 3rd Pro-Am Doubles Tournament. Other professional players at the event included Grigor Dimitrov, Feliciano Lopez, Tommy Haas, Kyle Edmund, Jamie Murray OBE, Sebastian Grosjean, James Ward and Nick Kyrgios. Two groups, 'Murray Mound' vs. 'Henman Hill' competed within the group for a place in the Final. The winners of each group then competed for the Tim Henman Foundation Pro-Am Trophy. There was then an Award Ceremony and celebration dinner.

"Seeing Raynes Park students as the ball persons at the tournament was simply brilliant," said Mrs K. Heard. "I was so proud to be your Headteacher and you are an asset to your school. It was a delight to see you make the most of this incredible opportunity."

"Can we massively thank all the ballboys and girls, and Mr Hayes for all you did to get them there," said Kathryn at the Tim Henman Foundation. Very many thanks to the Tim Henman Foundation for asking our students to take part in this fantastic event.







## ‘DIANA AWARD’ WIN

*Mia is recognised with prestigious award for her volunteering efforts in Merton*

To celebrate Princess Diana’s Birthday this 20th Anniversary year, The Diana Award released their Roll of Honour for 2017. The names of over 750 outstanding young people, from across the UK and the world, were announced. These exceptional young people embody Princess Diana’s qualities of kindness, compassion and service.

Raynes Park High School is proud to announce that one of its own students, and a very young volunteer, just won the Award.

Mia Ciano is not an ordinary 13 year old. She is one of the youngest volunteers in Merton and trained as a Peer Mentor as soon as she graduated from Shine Saturday School in 2016. She is a true Shine ambassador and spends six hours a week offering younger children academic support and guidance. Mia also volunteers on a number of Community Events as a steward and has supported the Shine project in a number of publicity campaigns by giving speeches and promoting the work that they do.

Mia loves the opportunity to give back, spending over 300 hours of volunteering per year and offering study support to over 120 of the most disadvantaged pupils in Mitcham Town. As part of her award, Mia will visit Althorp this Summer.

Mr Mba, Assistant Headteacher said “As a teacher, this makes me so proud to see. Mia’s dedication and selflessness can’t be taught - all we can do is try to nurture it. It is fantastic to see Raynes Park young people making a change in the community. Well done Mia.”

Kristina Burton, Shine Merton Project Manager said “We are very proud of Mia’s achievements! I hope that her Award will inspire many young people to follow her steps and help out in the community.” The Diana Award was set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and her belief that young people have the power to change the world for the better. It is committed to fostering, inspiring and developing positive change in the lives of young people through practical social action.

# FAREWELL FROM MR MBA

*Friends, Raynes Parkians,  
Countrymen, lend me your ears,*

It has been an absolute honour and privilege for me these last four years to be able to serve the community that served me so well. As a student, my mother raised my brother, sister and I on her own as a single parent and she was relentless in her belief that we could be successful, which is why she sent me to Raynes Park High School. It was a life changing decision for me because it changed the trajectory of my life. I have so many fond memories of school. I had teachers who elicited the potential they saw in me, friends who helped me be the best version of me, as well as a wider community laced with history and tradition to uphold. I am the thankful recipient of people who worked hard to help me realise my potential in full.

So when the opportunity to come back to RPHS arose, I jumped at the opportunity. I wanted to help young people see the potential that lay within themselves and it has been my genuine pleasure to be part of Raynes Park's journey as a school leader. I am thankful for the many Mediamaniacs who have passed through our doors. I am grateful for having seen so many of our students leave us to go on to university, apprenticeships or employment, making a positive contribution to society. It is with a thankful heart I leave RPHS, knowing that the school will continue onwards and upwards.

However, the collective greatness and success of Raynes Park is dependent on the individuals that make up the school community. The Senior Leadership Team, the teachers, the parents, the governors, but most importantly the students. There's an old African proverb that says it takes a village to raise a

child. If you are reading this, you are charged with a responsibility to help our school continue to be great – the primary way you will do that is to be the best version of you, every day. You don't need a Challenge Week to be your best. You don't need a certificate or a reward or a trip to be your best. You don't need permission or an invitation to be your best. You just need to accept the truth that you have the potential for greatness. One writer said:

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

It has been my distinct honour to serve at Raynes Park, no longer as a student, but as a teacher helping the next generation of young people change the trajectories of their lives. My heart is heavy with happy memories, wonderful friendships, great experiences and relentless optimism for the future of everyone connected to Raynes Park High School. To end, I would like quote a learned friend, whose simple counsel has often been so insightful about this great adventure we call life:

“How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.” - Winnie the Pooh

Thank you for helping me be the best version of me. Stay classy, Raynes Park.

Love you lots like Jelly Tots,

*C Mba*

Mr Mba  
Assistant Headteacher



“I WILL ALWAYS DEFEND  
MY BROTHER.”



*Raynes Park High School production  
of 'Blood Brothers' is a hit!*

Students of all year groups were involved in RPHS's school production of 'Blood Brothers', a thought-provoking, funny yet tragic play by Willy Russell. The Wednesday dress rehearsal was attended by local Year 5s who gave some incredibly useful feedback before the full performance for parents on the Thursday. "I don't think I can tell you anything to make it better because I thought it was just really fantastic!" said one student from West Wimbledon Primary School. "There were some very creepy and atmospheric parts but it was also very funny and it made me laugh when Mickey was naughty."

Ms Holledge, Head of Drama, would like to say a big thank you to RPHS parents for their continued support of the Drama department here at Raynes Park High School and to all the staff who kindly helped the night run smoothly.

"Most importantly, I would like to thank all of the students who were involved in this year's school production." Says Ms Holledge "It was fantastic working with such a creative, talented and committed cast and team."



# BRITISH MUSEUM

Ms Hood and Mr Prado took a group of A-Level English Literature students to The British Museum to see an exhibition called 'The American Dream: Pop to the Present'. During this particularly dynamic and turbulent time in US politics, the exhibition presented "the Museum's outstanding collection of modern and contemporary American prints for the first time."



## 'TAKE TEN' PROJECT

A small group of students were lucky enough to take part in the Take Ten project run by Wimbledon BookFest. Last year our students produced a short documentary for the project and we were thrilled to be asked to take part again. The final video will be posted on the '1000 Londoners' website, and will be one piece of a huge project to tell the story of London and what 'defines being a Londoner'.

Students took part in a 3-day workshop in order to plan, prepare, film and edit the short documentary. Stay tuned on our Twitter page where we will be sharing the final video!



# NEWS FROM THE *Governors*



It has been all go for the Governors this term.

We maintained a strong focus on academic progress, particularly for our GCSE and A-level

students. There is no doubt the Government's new measurement systems are complex and are giving all schools problems. But we are confident that our dedicated staff and students will deliver good results for RPHS at all levels.

We have spent some time considering the school budget for this and the following two years. The school has done well to live within its means, and will benefit from the New Funding Formula proposed by the Government. But additional pressures keep mounting and we will continue to monitor the position closely.

We conducted a very successful Strategic Visit in June, covering the Access Centre and SEND provision. We were reassured by what we saw, and we are keen to develop plans for the future.

We have been delighted at the way the new Sports Strategy has developed. In particular, our links next year with Fulham FC will enhance the school's prestige and provide a great base for developing our football. BECSLink is also beginning to yield some useful dividends, and our growing relationship with The Wimbledon Club has become a significant part of our

plans.

Our Parent Governors have been very active in support of the PTA and have been ever-present at parents' evenings and other school events, helping to raise funds for the school. Next term, Governors will be appearing at a Parents Forum in order to explain what we do and encouraging parents to consider becoming Parent Governors.

In addition to our usual work, we conducted our biennial Self-Evaluation Review to ensure we are functioning as well as possible. We also instituted a new training policy and held a skills audit to ensure we have among our members access to all the skills that a modern Governing Body requires.

On the membership front, we gave full Governor status to our two Associate Members, Ben Bennett and Professor Graham Orpwood, and both have played a full part in our work. Sadly at the end of this term we shall say goodbye to two other Governors. Rebecca Costain has served for five years, and for three of these she has been Vice-Chair. She has done a tremendous amount of work for the school, most recently in support of the re-launched PTA. Christian Mba, our Staff Governor, has been an inspirational leader at RPHS and we have greatly valued his professional input over the last year. Both Rebecca and Christian go with our thanks and very best wishes.

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

**MICHAEL ROSS**  
**CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

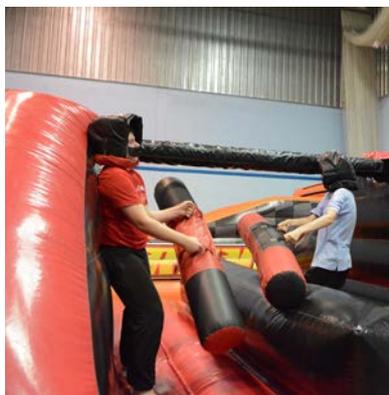


## COPPERFIELDS AWARD

Mike Ross, Chair of our School Governors, attended the school library recently to award Sophie Morriss and Salome Khurtsilava with book tokens from Copperfield's Bookshop in Wimbledon in recognition of their passion for reading and book collecting. Both girls are dedicated readers and are amassing collections of rare books, including first editions. They are excellent users of our school library and an amazing example to the whole school for their love of reading.

# ALTERNATIVE SPORTS DAY

Alternative Sports Day runs every year simultaneously with the mainstream Sports Day. This alternative is in place for the Access Centre and SEND students who would find it difficult to participate in mainstream events. The students had an amazing time on the five inflatable activities and hardly sat down from morning until afternoon. If they were not crawling and climbing through the inflatable obstacle course, they were in gladiatorial combat with inflatable weapons or pushing themselves to the limit on the bungee run. They then enjoyed hot dogs and burgers at lunchtime before returning to the Sports Hall to carry on with the exciting activities.





# PARA ATHLETICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

RPHS students who have shown dedication and enthusiasm towards sport throughout the year were selected for a rewards trip to the Olympic Stadium this term to see the Para Athletics World Championships. The Championships features over 200 medal events and our students had the chance to watch many athletes including Isaac Jean-Paul who smashed the World Record for the high jump 3 times in the evening session. A fantastic day was had by all, with many thanks to Mr Jones for attending the trip and Mr Wilson-Boyle for organising the visit.



# VANESSA KISUULE VISITS RPHS

*Performance poet runs “amazing” workshop with students as part of MyRaynesPark Festival*



As part of MyRaynesPark Festival we hosted a poetry workshop with award-winning poet Vanessa Kisuule. Vanessa is a performance poet, whose work has been featured on the BBC and at events around the world. Twenty of our Year 10 students worked with Vanessa on the subject of refugees. Our students produced their own poetry on the theme of what 'home' means to us, including personal reflections on what it would be like if home is not the happy place that we all want it to be. Students considered feelings of displacement, and what it would be like if you suddenly had to leave your home and move to an unfamiliar country. We considered what the necessities are for a secure, stable, happy life. Cheree said afterwards that “it was an amazing experience” and that “Vanessa was so interesting”. Vanessa commented that “The group were a joy to work with - I was heartened by their emotional maturity and how much respect and compassion they offered each other. They all engaged with enthusiasm and produced some really honest and heartfelt work.”

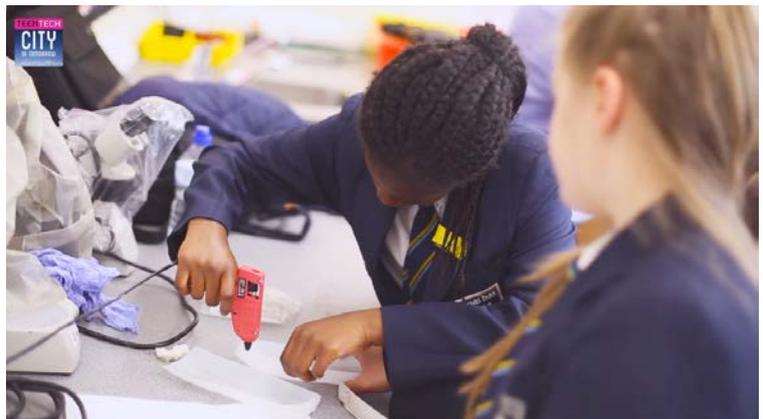
# CITY OF THE FUTURE

A group of our Year 7 D&T students had a trip to Roehampton University to work in conjunction with the Teentech Project and their CEO Maggie Philbin. Raynes Park High School has been lucky enough to take part in a number of worthwhile TeenTech events and competitions which focus on showing young people the wealth of opportunities in the science, technology and engineering industries, regardless of gender or social background.

The 'City of Tomorrow' programme at Roehampton University highlights career pathways in construction, engineering and technology as well as promoting citizenship and teamwork. They worked in small groups with local Year 6 students to design and create prototypes of 'buildings of the future'. There were some very innovative designs and their hard work was rewarded as they won in 5 out of 10 categories! We had a great day out and have been invited back to the finals of the competition in January.

Ms Murray, Head of D&T said "The TeenTech project was inspirational for students as they had to freedom to create completely unique prototypes of buildings of the future. This gave them an opportunity to use their planning, designing and making skills which they will build on in their future lessons in Design and Technology. There were also civil engineers helping out with the project who were able to talk to the students about how their could use these skills in their careers in the future."







# GREEN FOR GRENFELL

Raynes Park High School was one of many UK schools which raised money for the Grenfell campaign on the 23rd June. Students were keen to show their support, and schools all over the country wore green to show solidarity and collect money for those affected by the tragedy. Thanks to donations from students, parents and staff, the day raised £723, which will go directly to the Grenfell campaign. Many thanks to Izzy in Year 9 who's brownie sales over break and lunchtime easily tipped us over the £700 mark!



# ‘RAYNES RISE’ REFURBISHED

For a long time students may have just accepted the pale yellow structure in the Year 7 recreation area and thought no more of it. However, a recent makeover courtesy of Mr David Giles, former Headteacher (1966-1974) has made the ‘Raynes Rise’ a talking point once again.

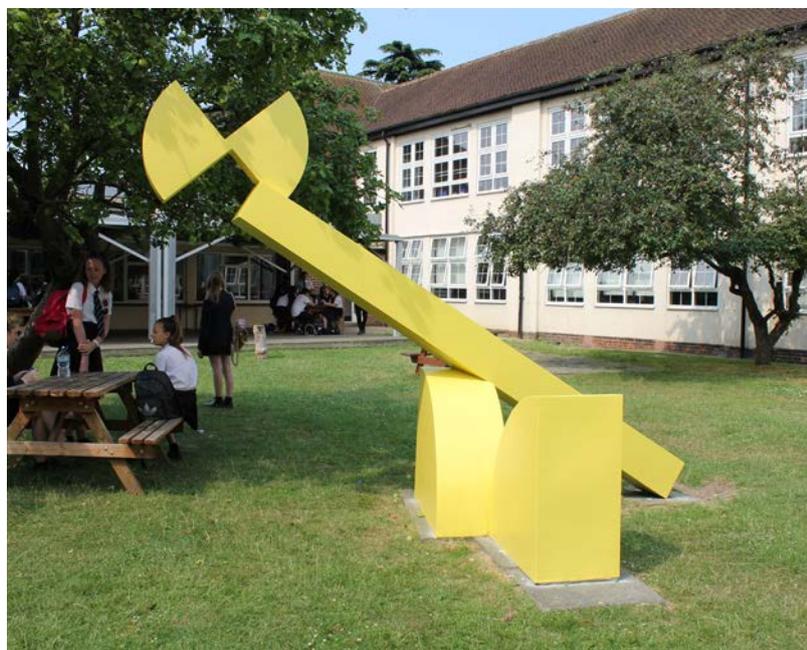
It was in 1969 when the school became a Comprehensive following its existence as a Grammar school that Professor Milton, the Deputy Warden of Coleraine University in Northern Ireland, sent the school a cheque. Professor Milton had been one of the original housemasters back in 1935 and Miltons house still exists today. He suggested that the money should mark the change in the school’s existence.

After a lot of discussion it was decided to see whether the school could afford a sculpture. The Arts Council were approached and agreed to pay half the cost. Through contacts, the newly renamed Raynes Park High School was put in touch with the Royal College of Art and the opportunity of creating something was given to Graham Gilchrist.

He produced ‘Raynes Rise’. It was so modern, 50 years ago, that many people scorned its shape and colour; the local press were not impressed either. This style of architecture was common at the time and many examples exist of this type of work. Graham Gilchrist was one of the senior graduate students at the college and his abstract sculptures can now be found as far afield as The Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, in Australia.

“The sculpture marks an important milestone in the school’s history,” says current Headteacher, Mrs Heard. “We are delighted to see it successfully restored to its former glory and Raynes Park High School is most grateful to Mr Giles for making that happen.”

The sculpture has now been entrusted to those who use the Year 7 playground to look after with care, and it would be appreciated if it wasn’t sat on or scratched. Year 7 can be happy that they have in their area a sculpture of real artistic value. We must extend our deepest thanks to Mr Giles for organising and funding the ‘Raynes Rise’ restoration.







# CHESSINGTON TRIP

This term, SEND and Access Centre students had the chance to go to Chessington for a Rewards trip. Here is what some students had to say about their visit;

“I went to Chessington World of Adventures with the SEND Base and Access Centre. Miss Kuti led the trip and we were placed in groups with the key support workers. We went by Merton bus. When we arrived at Chessington, the first ride I went on was the Vampire ride. Before the ride, I felt petrified as it was only my third time going on the ride and I was afraid because I was worried about getting hurt. Eventually, we all went on the Vampire and I got into my seat as bravely as I could. I shared the ride with Kourtney, Ritchie and Summer. As the ride went, it was filled with thrills and made my mouth smile because I wasn't scared any more. I felt jolly as a cheeky monkey.

Throughout the day we went on the rest of the rides we liked. Most of us then spent money on food we could munch on. We enjoyed the rides we wanted to go on, but to receive this treat as a SEND/Access Student you need to have good behaviour (Achievement Points) and only a low number of BMs. It also requires

you to not be on report. Chessington day was filled with entertainment, fun and excitement!”

Callum in Year 9 says; “When I went to Chessington I went in the Horror House. In the Horror House you need to put 3-D glasses on which is better to see the effects. I went to the Gruffalo ride, which has replaced the Bubbleworks. The Gruffalo water ride was great but slow. I then went to Dragon Falls, where something surprising happened. When we got to the last steep hill, as we went down, my hat fell! The last thing we did was the Tomb Blaster ride. I found it hard to shoot at the targets and got a score of 950. I had lots of fun.”

Michael says; “I went to Chessington, it was fun. I went on three rides. One was The Dragon's Fury which was scary but I got used to it. Next I went to the Scorpion Express, it was a great ride and I got soaked by the scorpion. After that I went on the Gruffalo ride. It was fun and it was a slow ride.”

A big thanks goes to the staff in the Access Centre and SEND Base who organised what sounds like an exciting trip!



# SPORTS DAY

This year's sports day was another fantastic success. Students spent a sunny day competing in a vast array of track and field events all day at our Sports Ground. Students pulled out all the stops and all-time Raynes Park High School records were broken in the Long Jump, Discus, Girls 200m and Boys Relay. Congratulations





Stoil, Emilia, Aalitag and the Newsoms Relay team for smashing those records!

The points have been totted up and we are pleased to announce that Gibbs took the Sports Day Cup, with Miltons closely taking second place. Thank you to Mr Wilson-Boyle and the PE Department for organising this event and to all staff members for helping during the day.

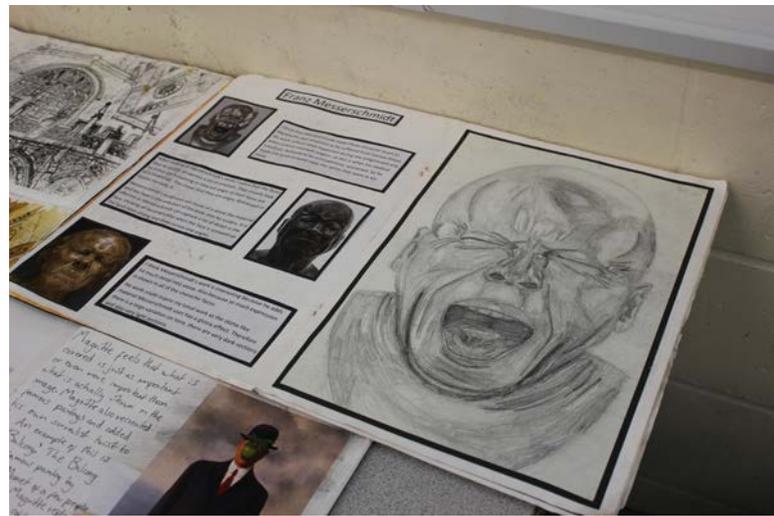




# ART EXHIBITION

The annual GCSE and A-Level summer art exhibition showcased the very best of artistic talents of our students. Not only were we able to view their final pieces, but also had the opportunity to view the many stages of thoughtful experimentation through their sketch books. Staff and students were blown away by the breadth of ability on display from Raynes Park High School's resident artists, sculptors and photographers.

Many thanks to all students for producing such brilliant work over the year and to the members of staff who curated it into an exciting and varied art show.



# KINGS COLLEGE NUTRITION STUDY

Raynes Park High School is taking part in an exciting study with Kings College. Their partnership programme has benefited our students in so many ways, including a trip to see Peter Pan at the National Theatre and a fantastic series of hands-on Science lessons delivered at Kings College. This study involved workshops, focus groups and observations looking to explore Youth Health. The overall aim is to develop a mobile app or web-based resource to improve adolescents' nutrition. The students' input on what they consider to be important and what they think will work best will feed into the creation of the app, creating a platform which is specific, user-friendly and culturally appropriate to young people. Many thanks to Professor Harding, Dr O'Keefe and Ms Elia for running these interesting workshops and for taking our students' feedback into account when developing the app.





# SCHOOL DEFIBRILLATORS UNVEILED IN MEMORY OF MS DEXTER

All year, students and staff have been involved in various fundraising events in aid of the School Defibrillator Fund. Thanks to events such as 'I'm A Teacher, Get Me Out Of Here!' and the Superhero Selfie day, the school has been able to purchase defibrillators in memory of Ms Dexter. This purchase was decided on by students and could, some day, save someone's life.

Ms Dexter's family, Ms Dexter's tutor group and RPHS staff had lunch together at the school and unveiled a plaque reading "The money for the school's defibrillators has been raised in memory of Ms Dexter. Thank you for your dedication to our students. July 2017." After lunch, visitors, staff and students released balloons with messages written on them. We hope that students and staff are proud to have worked together to make this happen, and many thanks to Ms Holland for organising this event and to you for all your fundraising efforts.



# GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK



The last day of term for our Year 11 students was an emotional one for both staff and students. Although we will be welcoming back many students to our Sixth Form, this term saw the end of an era for a wonderful year group. Mr Myton, Deputy Headteacher said "We have been constantly impressed with the hard work you have demonstrated throughout the exam season, and so many of you have gone above and beyond when it comes to your dedication to your revision. We hope that this incredible hard work and dedication is rewarded and we look forward to seeing lots of you back on results day."



# D&T SHOW: *In Pictures*





# ENRICHMENT WEEK

This year's Enrichment week saw students take part in over 20 activities over three days. The trips happened in school, around the UK and abroad, and were brilliantly well-received by students who all benefited from the opportunity to try new things and challenge themselves. The variety of activities can be seen in photographs of these activities over the next eight pages. Students took part in activities ranging from a visit to the London Aquarium (*right page, left column*) to a Jack The Ripper Tour which inspired their paintings and stories (*right page, right column*).

The Access & SEND students enjoyed a variety of trips during the Enrichment week: going to the beach; playing Crazy Golf; eating fish and chips and ice cream; sailing at Wimbledon Park and visiting Deen City Farm. To complete the week the students made cakes, popcorn, burgers and hotdogs which were enjoyed whilst watching a film. Student feedback was that "It was the best week ever". Michael in Year 8 says that "Enrichment week was fun. I went to the beach and I had fish and chips. I went to Pizza Express and I made my own pizza, it was fantastic." Di Mario in Year 7 also enjoyed the activities, saying "I enjoyed 'Game in the Day', I think this was the best activity"





Enrichment Week:  
**BARCELONA**  
**TRIP**





Enrichment Week:

# 'I LOVE LONDON'





Enrichment Week:

# THEME PARKS REWARD TRIP

# V&A MUSEUM



# FAIRTHORNE MANOR

# IMAX TRIP



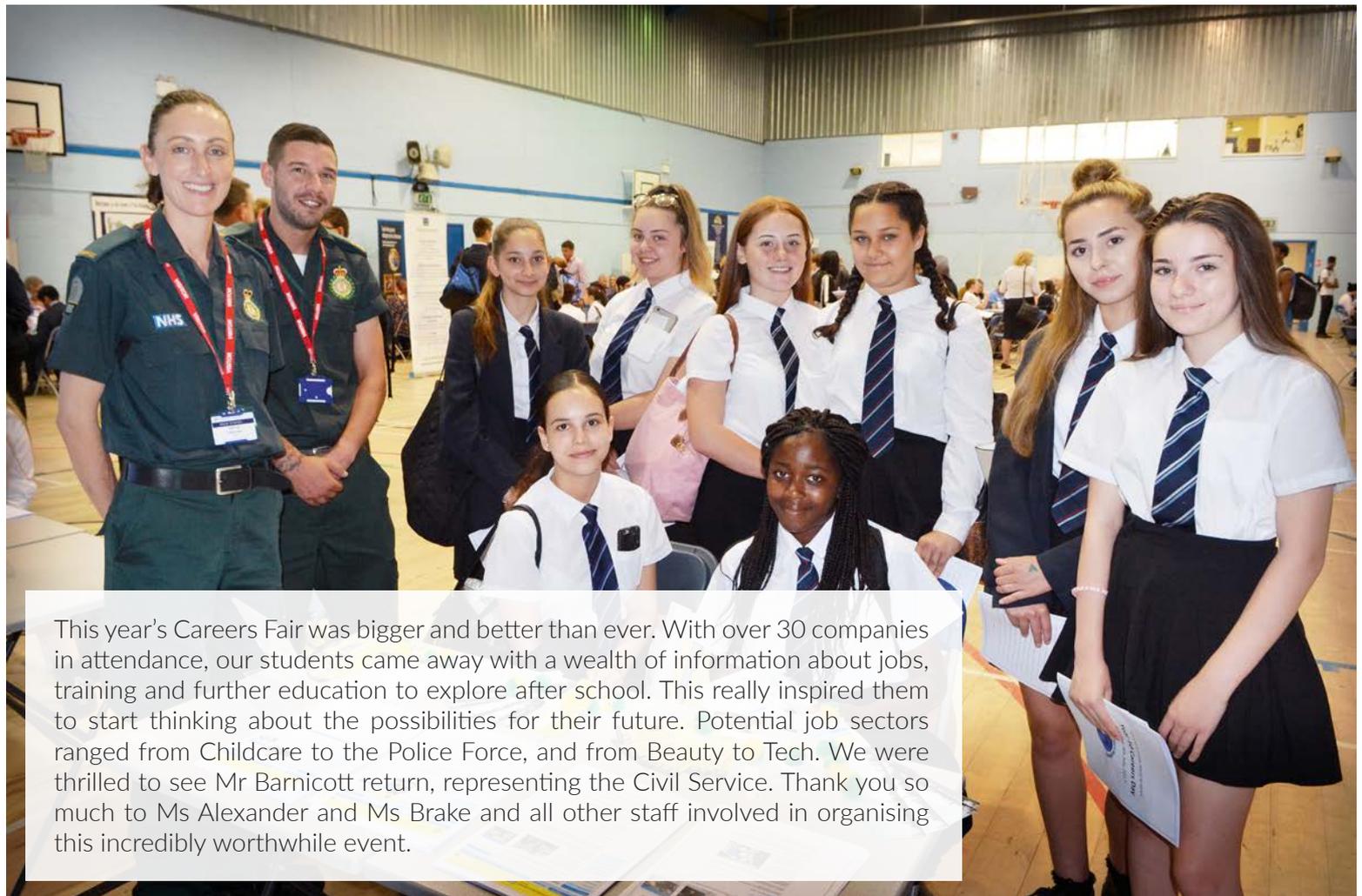
*Enrichment Week:*  
**WALK EAT  
TALK EAT**



Enrichment Week:  
**PIZZA  
MAKING**



# CAREERS FAIR



This year's Careers Fair was bigger and better than ever. With over 30 companies in attendance, our students came away with a wealth of information about jobs, training and further education to explore after school. This really inspired them to start thinking about the possibilities for their future. Potential job sectors ranged from Childcare to the Police Force, and from Beauty to Tech. We were thrilled to see Mr Barnicott return, representing the Civil Service. Thank you so much to Ms Alexander and Ms Brake and all other staff involved in organising this incredibly worthwhile event.



# UKMT RESULTS!

This term, forty of our most able Mathematicians from Years 7 and 8 sat the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. The JMC is a lively, intriguing multiple choice question paper which is designed to encourage and develop an interest in problem solving. Our students did fantastically achieving 11 bronze, 5 silver and 1 gold certificate overall. In Year 8 Alaa Abdelhalim achieved a gold certificate and the highest score in the school and Jiaxuan Li, Jonny Gage, Kingsley Karunarathne and Eva Uzunova all did well enough to be awarded silver certificates. In Year 7 Nathan Hayter scored the highest in his year and achieved a silver certificate. Well done to all who took part this year.





# GREAT BIG DANCE OFF

This year's 'Make It Rayne' troupe performed together for the final time at the Great Big Dance Off National Final. We are so pleased to see them finish on a high. Out of the top 34 schools in the country, 'Make it Rayne' took home 4th place - an incredible achievement! We have watched you work tirelessly and win so many awards over your years at RPHS and shall really miss seeing your exciting, slick and ambitious performances!

We had to share a great photograph snapped by Ms Murray this term. What a difference 2 years makes! The three 'faces of Raynes Park' from 2015 are still looking smart - but note the dramatic change in height!



After winning a BAFTA for her work with a BBC project on disabilities, Summer collected her award and brought it in for her classmates to see. She is potentially going to start working on a documentary project with the same production company soon and will keep us updated!



Sixth Formers were taken to a UCAS Fair this term to give them insight into life after college, to explore and gather information on the wide range of post-18 opportunities available, all in one setting. As well as getting in front of admissions and staff specialists from hundreds of unis, students learnt more about the alternative options to uni, including apprenticeships, internships, gap years and volunteering opportunities.

Not only are RPHS students avid readers, but they have shown that they are keen writers too. Five Year 10s have worked together to publish their own novel. They sold signed copies of their novel in the school library at lunchtime for only £5. We look forward to reading Emily, Keira, Sophia, Fletcher and Katarina's next literary masterpiece!



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