



Issue 84
Fortnightly
September 2022
Week 2

Ridgeway Academy

Headteacher's Message

Welcome to our first edition of Ridgeway News of the academic year 2022/23. I hope you enjoy reading the articles with your family. Last night we held our annual Open Evening for Year 5/6 families, always a highlight of the school year and an opportunity to showcase our school. I would like to thank all students who supported the evening, either guiding families or supporting the exciting activities in subject areas. They were a credit to the school and we received many compliments from our visitors. Each student will be awarded 5 House points which will contribute to their House totals. Special mention and well done to the students who participated in the Headteacher presentation; Leo Rason in Year 11 for displaying his talent with a musical performance, Year 7's Faith Chen and Paige Redhead and Year 13 Head Students Megan Singleton and Matthew Hill for their speeches to the young people.

Thank you to Mrs Piccariello and team for organising a successful Year 7 Summer School. Students benefitted from meeting teachers and support staff, making new friends and getting to know the school environment. Welcome to all our new parents/carers across the school, **it's a great community and we are always here to support you. Your first point of contact is your child's Form Tutor**, so any queries please get in touch with them in the first instance. Staff contact details are available on our website under About Us – Our Team.

It has been wonderful visiting lessons and seeing students enjoying their learning, working hard and taking pride in their work. Do ask your child about what they have been studying in subjects, this recall

helps the long term learning and memory which is a feature of our Great Learning Framework, which will feature in the next edition.

Welcome to the following new staff at Ridgeway:

- Daniyal Ahmad (Asst SL Maths)
- Monica Battish (TA)
- Tom Blaxill (ITT Trainee)
- Chloe Crellin (Learning Supervisor)
- Clare Gill (Volunteer Counsellor)
- Chenise Hunt (ECT Science)
- Pia Kurtsiefer (TA)
- Jane Norris (Librarian)
- Stephanie Pereira (Volunteer Counsellor)
- Cardavan Serinash (ECT History/English)
- Kerry Steers (Social Sciences)
- Sabrina Walsh (ITT Trainee)
- Alice Atkins (ITT Trainee)
- Francesca Bingley (Volunteer Counsellor)
- Tiffany Cox (Pastoral Manager)
- David Edmonds (Head of Performing Arts)
- Georgia Harris (ECT Art/DT)
- Ibrahim Khan (Science)
- Ryan Nelson (Head of Year)
- Artemis Panayioti (Asst SL Science)
- Suzanne Pressman (ECT Music/Business Studies)
- Nikki Spenceley (ECT Drama)
- Daniel Tansley (Head of Year)
- Jamie West (Asst Site Manager)

Headteacher's Message

Our site and IT teams have continued making further improvements to the school over the Summer break including installing the remaining interactive Prowise screens in all classrooms, new sustainable LED lighting, upgrade of the all weather pitch to 3G and the expansion of Sixth Form facilities. Attimore playground was resurfaced and we now have 30 new outdoor benches providing students with further outdoor social space.

We have so much to look forward to this term with our Jubilee Tree dedication, Student Leadership Team elections, extensive extra-curricular offer, personal development, charity events and our whole school performance. Let's see if we can exceed the 900 enrichment events which were held last year at Ridgeway Academy. Thank you again for your support, and I look forward to meeting many of you over the academic year whether it be at the school gate, our school events or even bringing your younger children to view the school for starting next year!

Mrs Sarah Mitcherson
Headteacher



Open Evening Pictures



Theme of the Week

Zero Waste: The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.



Head Student News

The Pathway to Bath Programme that I attended during the summer holidays was a very exciting and new experience for me. It was made up of two parts, the first being a written 1000-word assignment relating to your subject with help from tutors and student mentors from the University. It was by far the most challenging part of the programme however it taught me some valuable skills such as time management, academic referencing and writing a proper University style essay. Also, it felt extremely rewarding to receive an A* for my assignment, granting me a reduced offer for applying to the University.

The second part was a 3-day residential at the University of Bath. This gave me a very good insight into what the student life looks like at Bath, as I attended a lecture, experienced a seminar with the politics tutors from the University, spent a few nights in the student accommodations and got a tour around the beautiful city of Bath itself.

Kamil Maczan

Over the summer I had the opportunity to attend the University of Newcastle's Summer School Program. Throughout the week I had the opportunity to explore two subjects of my choice in which I chose History and Ancient History and Classics learning more about how the subjects are taught at a University standard and the different modules in which the University has to offer.

On top of learning about the academic side of University we had a variety of activities in which we took part in such as the city hunt around Newcastle and even having a wrap party at St James's Park on the final night.

This program enabled me to have a feel of what University would be like through staying in University accommodation, have a greater insight of the opportunities and subjects available as well as being able to explore Newcastle as a City.

Megan Singleton

Duke of Edinburgh - Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 21st September

Bronze DofE Launch

Thursday 22nd September

Silver DofE Launch

Friday 23rd September

Gold DofE Launch



Mr R Sutton

Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

School Vacancies

The school is currently recruiting for the following roles:

Teaching Assistant

Closing date: 9:00am Monday 19th September

Subject Leader for Computing & ICT

Closing date: 9:00am Wednesday 28th September

For more information visit:

<https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/vacancies/>

Mrs K Biss

Human Resources Officer

Site Upgrades

Our Site team have had a very busy summer tidying, painting and carrying out refurbishment works ready for the start of the school term. We have upgraded all of the chairs and desks in classrooms across the school, as well as adding 30 new outdoor benches to provide more social spaces for students to enjoy during their break and lunch. An additional 22 interactive Prowise boards have been installed which help model and scaffold answers and provide the teachers the opportunity to give instantaneous feedback. We are also extremely pleased to announce the completion of the upgrade to our all weather pitch to a 3G pitch.

New Caterers Aspens

We start the new academic year with new caterers. Aspens catering offer *Streateries* which has been well received and we hope your child/ren have been enjoying visiting the canteen. Please see below for additional information from Aspens regarding their food offering, along with a sample tariff

[About Aspen](#)

[Streateries Tarrif](#)

Mrs M Ring

Business Manager

House Points

This term we introduce our two new houses Parks and Turing.



Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was an English physician and suffragist. She was the first woman to qualify as a doctor in Britain and was the founder of the country's first hospital for women.
Stephen

Hawking was the noted physicist who contributed deeply to our understanding of the physical world and space, and worked despite suffering from Motor Neurone Disease.

Constance Lytton was the suffragette, writer and speaker who campaigned for prison reform and women's rights under an alias to avoid special treatment due to her family connections.

Nelson Mandela was the first black president of South Africa, who after being imprisoned for twenty seven years, was freed and led a multi-ethnic government to bring an end to apartheid.

Rosa Parks is known as the mother of the civil rights movement after fighting for racial equality in the USA through her leading role in the Montgomery bus boycott, which lasted over a year.

Alan Turing was a mathematician, widely celebrated as the father of computer science after cracking the Enigma Code during WWII. Turing was later subject to discrimination due to his sexuality.



Pupil Success

Rhianna Russell Year 12

We are very proud of our Sixth Form pupil Rhianna who placed the following in her recent Bowls games:

- Quarter finalist in the Ladies Triples
- Last 16 in the Ladies Pairs
- Last 32 in the Ladies Fours
- Won the Ladies 2 Bowl Singles to become National Champion.



Headteacher Commendations

Riley Carroll	Jayden Smith
Harvey Adkins	Joe Rayment
	Katie Begbie
Student of the Week	Logan Web
Aimee Anderson	Luca Barley
Aland Ibrahim	Mia Gorman Leavey
Alyssa Stalley	Miller Arm
Annie dykes	Oscar Smith
Callum Cubis	Rhys Linton
Elise Stride	Libby Tanner
Hannah Markham	
Jayden Clarke	

Behaviour - Half Termly Focus

Standards

Usually referred to as a level of quality or attainment. This half term we need to raise standards for all.

Uniform

- Wear shoes not trainers!
- Tuck your shirt in!
- Don't roll your skirt up!
- No facial piercings
- No false eyelashes/nails

Mobile phones

- Not to be used in school
- Your phone will be confiscated if you are seen using it for any reason

Attendance

- Be in school every day
- Arrive on time to school
- Arrive on time to lessons

Equipment

- Bring the correct equipment for learning
- Pencil case, calculator, pens, pencils, PE Kit, books
- Be ready to learn!

Conduct

- Be polite to ALL members of staff
- Use the bins provided
- Don't use inappropriate language
- Follow rules
- Use the opportunity to self-regulate

The RidgeWAY

- **Respect** the school rules, each other and our community
- Take **Responsibility** for your learning, conduct and attitude
- Develop **Relationships** that enable you to lead a happy, safe and healthy life

Head of Year

Year 7

The start of Secondary School is always challenging. I am so proud of all the Year 7s. They have persevered with lovely smiles. Things are beginning to settle down as we get into the academic year. Our Sports Clubs are starting to run and that includes lunchtime football on our new all-weather pitch. Students have been coming down and having great fun. Staff had nothing but compliments on their attitude towards their learning and participation in class. Well done!

Some Year 7s have had the confidence to volunteer to be guides for open evening. I look forward to seeing them take our new prospective parents on tours of the school.

Mrs M Tinker

Year 11

First impressions count for a lot and as their new Head of Year, I have been hugely impressed by the work rate and focus I have seen in lessons. Year 11 have made an outstanding start to what is a pivotal time in their education at Ridgeway. There will be more information coming soon regarding intervention and support offered for Year 11 during the Autumn term.

Special mention must go to Harvey Adkins who last week helped save a lady's life on his walk to school, and has been awarded a Headteacher's commendation for this act.

Mr D Tansley

Extra Curricular



You can view all the extra curricular activities we run on SOCS by following this link or from the link on the Intranet.

<https://www.socscms.com/SOCS>

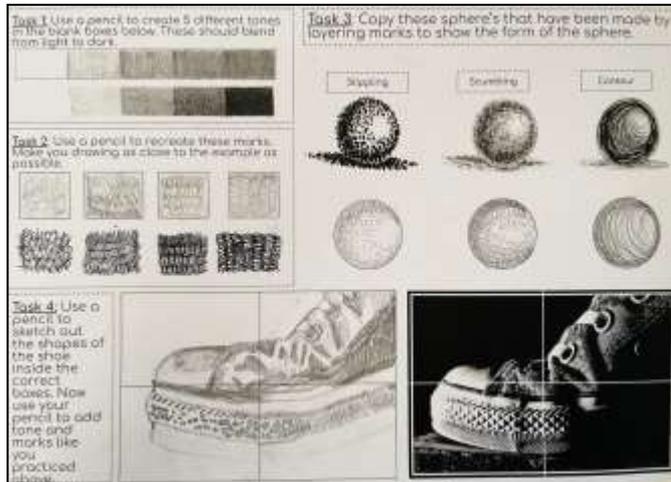


Subject Focus

ART AND DESIGN

Year 7, 8 & 9

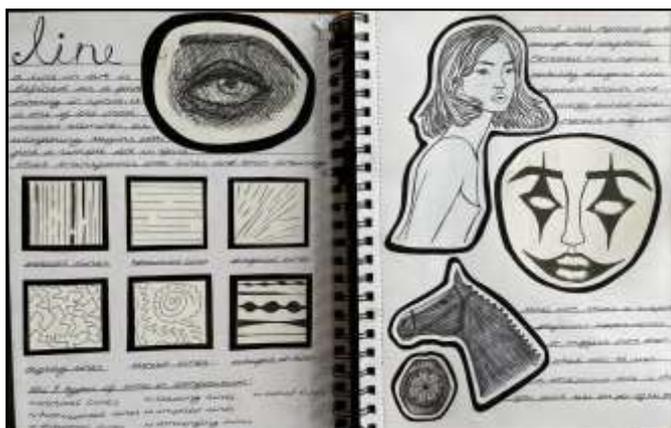
All of our wonderful art students have made a flying start to the new academic year by working hard on their baseline assessments. They have been demonstrating their drawing skill using pencil to show their understanding of tone, mark making and the gridding method.



Dora Year 9

Year 10

Welcome to all our new GCSE students this academic year. We feel very honoured to have so many of our Ridgeways students taking our subject and bringing such talent to our classrooms. Their investigations have started by learning about the formal elements of art and their sketchbooks are already looking amazing!



Isobel Year 10



Jojo Y10

Year 11

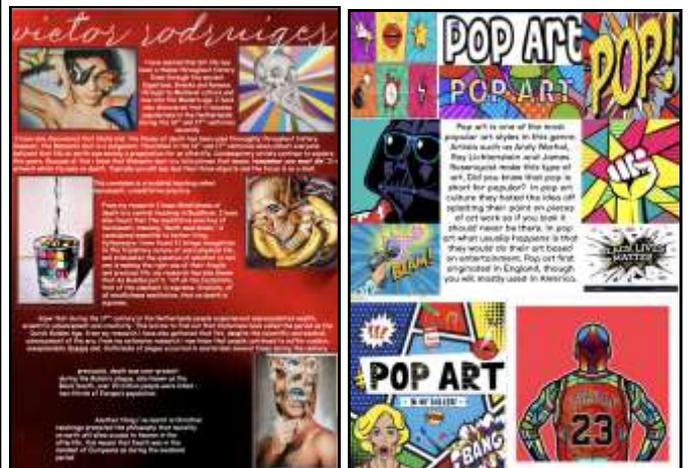
Year 11 are on the final term of their coursework unit and have made a fantastic start to their personalised projects. They have been using their analytical skills to understand artist concepts in relation to their own ideas.



Aimee Y11

Photography

We are pleased to announce that we are now offering photography at KS3 as part of our art/tech carousel. Our students will get the opportunity to use our state of the art DSLR cameras, studio equipment and photoshop throughout their projects. They are already showing such great promise during their research tasks.



Jade Y9

Laurie Y7

Mrs K Parsons
Subject Leader for Art

We are a school
delivering
personal
development
excellence.



Sports Centre News

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council in partnership with A-Z Basketball

We are pleased to be hosting Basketball sessions this term for 8-16 year olds which are completely free of charge. Please see poster for full information and how to book.



Learn and develop your skills on this six week project, through drills & fun games. Delivered by A-Z Basketball. No experience required.

A-Z BASKETBALL

 Ridgeway Academy Gymnasium

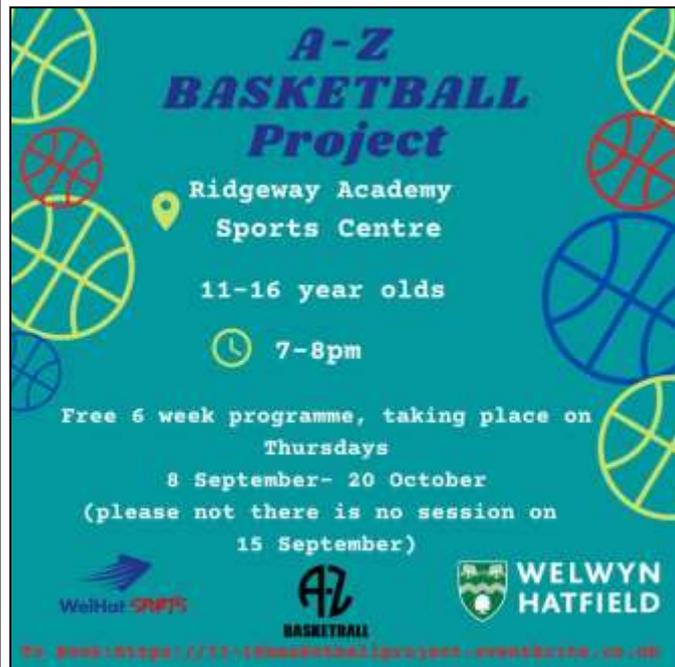
 17:30-18:30pm

 6 September - 11 October 2022

→ For 8-10 year olds

To book a free space for the 6 week program
<https://8-10basketball.eventbrite.co.uk>



A-Z BASKETBALL Project

 Ridgeway Academy Sports Centre

11-16 year olds

 7-8pm

Free 6 week programme, taking place on Thursdays
8 September- 20 October
(please note there is no session on 15 September)

For more information visit <https://8-10basketball.eventbrite.co.uk>

All-Weather Pitch

We are delighted to announce that the 3G pitch restoration has now been completed and we have started to welcome our community users back onto the pitch. A big thank you to ETC Sports for their hard work over the summer, I am sure you agree it is a first class facility that we are proud of as a school.



Social Media

You may have seen on Social Media that we were donating some goals, we are pleased to announce that they have gone to Hitchin Boys School, Therapeutic Hooves, Panshanger FC Youth and Our Lady Catholic Primary School in WGC.

Mr R Goodship
Sports Centre Manager





PE DEPARTMENT AUTUMN TERM CLUB LIST

	Lunch Clubs	Location LUNCH TIME	After School Clubs	Time/Requirements Location
Monday	Badminton Football Year 9 & 10	SH - APR AWP - MP & SS	Intervention KS4 Netball Year 7 Football Basketball Year 8	B15 - KAM & APR & JC Tennis Courts - SV AWP - MPR & RG Sports hall - DB
Tuesday	Basketball Year 9-10-11 Football Year 7 & 8	SH - SV + KAM AWP - MTI & RNE	Year 10 Football Staff Meetings	AWP -RA All staff
Wednesday	Girls Basketball Football Year 11	SH - APR AWP - DT	Basketball Year 9 & 10 Year 8 Football	Sports Hall - KAM AWP - RNE
Thursday	Basketball Years 7 & 8 (11 Team Players) Football Year 9 & 10	SH - JC AWP - SS & MP	Netball KS3 Basketball Year 7	Tennis Courts - APR & MTI Sports Hall - JC
Friday	Team Basketball ALL years Football Years 7 & 8	SH -KAM & MPR AWP - MTI & RNE		

SALA YOGA

Yoga for teens / tweenies FREE TRIAL CLASS

perfect

Cool

DATE : 13TH SEPT
TIME : 17.15- 18.00
PLACE: DANCE STUDIO
RIDGWAY ACADEMY

MINDFUL MOVES FOR YEAR 7 +

Booking: Thippi 07833 030344
WWW.SALAYOGA.CO.UK

Welwyn Hatfield SING Autism Project
At Focolare Centre

69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG
Join us every Wednesday, 5.30-7.30pm
September to December 2022

The Services for Young People Welwyn Hatfield SING Autism Project enables young people with autism to have supportive discussions with youth workers and other young people. As part of our enjoyable and engaging programme, we discuss relationships, health, emotional wellbeing and developing skills for independent living.

Area Team Manager: Mark Hughes
Youth Work Practice Manager: Russell Cairns

www.servicesforyoungpeople.org
Tel: 01992 586230 Text: 07850 065173
Email: SYP.WelwynHatfield@Hertfordshire.gov.uk
Follow us on Twitter @WelHATeam

School Term and Holiday Dates 2022-2023

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Friday 2nd September to Wednesday 21st December

Half term: Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October

Inset Day 1 (school closed to students): Thursday 1st September

Open Evening (school closed half day to students): Thursday 15th September

SPRING TERM 2023

Friday 6th January to Friday 31st March

Half Term: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February

Inset day 1: (school closed to students) Thursday 5th January

Inset day 2: (school closed to students) Thursday 9th February

Inset day 3: (school closed to students) Friday 10th February

SUMMER TERM 2023

Monday 17th April to Wednesday 19th July

Half Term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

Shadow Inset Day 1: (school closed to students) Thursday 20th July

Shadow Inset Day 2: (school closed to students) Friday 21st July



Dates for Your Diary

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Thursday 15 th September	Open Evening (school closes 12:15 to students)
Friday 16 th September	10:30am start from Open Evening
Monday 19 th September	Bank Holiday for the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II
Tuesday 20 th to Friday 23 rd and Monday 26 th September	Open Mornings
Wednesday 21 st September	Bronze DofE Launch
Thursday 22 nd September	Silver DofE Launch
Friday 23 rd September	Gold DofE Launch
Monday 24 th to Friday 28 th October	Half Term
Friday 18 th November	Year 12 Progress Checks to Parents
w/c Monday 14 th and 21 st November	Pre-Public Exam Week
Friday 25 th November	Occasional Day
Tuesday 20 th December	End of Term Assembly
Wednesday 21 st December	Charity Day Last day of Term