

Ridgeway News





SHARING THE DETAIL AND THE BIGGER PICTURE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Headteacher's Message

We have had a fantastic final few weeks at Ridgeway Academy with a multitude of events and trips. Residentials to Barcelona, Madrid and Tanzania went/are going extremely well. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver expedition to the Peak District has also gone well. Events like this take an incredible amount of organisation and I would like to thank Mr Chappell, Ms Lewin, Mr Amstutz, Mr Sutton and all the staff involved in putting these events together.



Year 10 students have been out on work experience with various different companies all across the county and beyond. Again, I'd like to thank Mrs Merrigan and the staff teams for all their time and effort in coordinating work experience for over 150 students.

The Sixth Form team also held their induction day and students experienced taster lessons in several of the huge range of different courses that we run at Ridgeway and across the consortium. It was an extremely worthwhile event and it was great to see so many of our Year 11 students back in school, as well as the external applicants from schools all across Hertfordshire.

Ridgeway Academy was delighted to host the final of the Welwyn Hatfield Young Chef of the Year, developed by Hertfordshire based The Food Teacher and sponsored by WGC Rotary Club. Congratulations to the winner Lily from Homerswood and to all the finalists.

Like most schools in the country at the end of the summer term, we have staff moving to new positions for a variety of reasons; promotion (including to Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher), relocation and

sadly some leaving education. Last week we welcomed our new staff for induction passionate experts in their subject who are committed to Ridgeway Academy and the Alban Academies Trust.



Congratulations to Linda Lynch who has served with the catering team over an outstanding 30 years of service.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Governors and myself to thank all of the staff for their hard work and dedication this year.

You will see in this edition the PE department ran District Athletics. It would be impossible for me to list all of this year's impressive fixture results in this newsletter. Last week we hosted the Year 6 into Year 7 Induction evening and Transition Day. It was wonderful to meet the parents/carers and students, many of whom will attend our Summer School next week.

Prize Giving events were well received, an opportunity to celebrate hard work and sustained effort and we thank the award winner's families who were able to attend. I wish you and your families a wonderful summer break.

Mrs S Mitcherson Headteacher

September Return

We have a staggered return on Monday 4th September as follows:

Year 7:	8:30am
Years 12 & 13:	10:00am
Years 8, 9, 10 & 11:	10:50am



Issue 101 Fortnightly July 2023 Week 2

End of Summer Term Awards - Outstanding Effort and Progress

Headteacher Awards

Year 7	Jack Cronin
	Lois Friend
Year 8	Frankie Harris
	Lily Fagan
Year 9	Thomas Casserley
	Dejoie Joseph
Year 10	David James
	Kaci Lack
6th Form	Charlie Chamberlain
	Abigail Jakes

Respect, Responsibility, Relationships Awards

Respect	
Year 7	Kaysie Davies
Year 8	Tilly Johnson
Year 9	Katelyn Lockyear
Year 10	Rhys Stratton
6th Form	Alex Amaricai

Responsibility

Year 7	Harrison Neville
Year 8	Archie Hoad
Year 9	Olivia Ghumania
Year 10	Honey Andrews
6th Form	Lucas Downer
Relationships	

Year 7 Lois Friend Year 8 Cameron Nicolson Year 9 Ashley Chapman Year 10 Max McParland 6th Form Zara Chimalilo

Year 7 Awards

Form 7A	James Seeley
	Didi Elue
Form 7H	George Sadler
	Sophia Groom
Form 7L	George McAndrew Miller
	Ranulya Kotalawela
Form 7M	Jesse Kirsop
	Chloe Monk
Form 7P	Jack Cronin
	Jasmine Bamgboye
Form 7T	Kenan Kaya
	Eleanor McDonald
HOY	Mason Grant
	Niamh Taylor
Year 8 Av	wards
	Clara Haworth-Maggs
	Harley King
Form 8H	Poppy Handley
	Rhys Kirby
Form 8	Felicity Atkins

	Rhys Kirby
Form 8L	Felicity Atkins
	Hsian Aguirre
Form 8M	Kaitlyn Taggart
	Arron Ziobakas
Form 8P	Priya Flack
	Taylor James

Form 8T	Olivia Turner	
HOY	Vladimir Rotar Emily Hardy 8T Luke Emms 8L	
Year 9 Av	vards	
Form 9A	Sophie Savage Kobie Nevill	
Form 9H	Gracie-Jayne London Oscar Rowe	
Form 9L	Ella Goudge Patrick Caulfield	
Form 9M	Maddie Hamm	
Form 9P	Harry Woodhouse Olivia Ghumania	
Form 9T	Reece Cooper Matylda Lech	
HOY	Joshua Blackburn Phoebe Ware 9L Oscar Smith 9T	
	Oscar Smith 91	
Year 10 Awards		
Form 10A	Maisie Hames	
_	James Chapman	
Form 10H	l Niamh Barnes	

Kyle Ncube

Albie Johnson

Jack McMillan

Daniel Eplett

JoJo Laci 10H Freddie Holmes 10H

Reuben Thompson

Form 10L Libby Owen

Form 10M Lucy Oldridge

Form 10T Leona Caulfield

Form 10P Lucia Allen

Subjects

Art

HOY

Year 7	Ellie O'Connor
Year 8	Amelia Hembury
Year 9	Jasmine Robinson
Year 10	Lucy Oldridge

Biology

Year 7	Dougie Baker-Fiveash
Year 8	Ellen Aitken
Year 9	Marley Glenville
Year 10	Caleb Olusegun

Business

Year 10	Rhys Stratton
6th Form	Billy Smith

Chemistry

Finn Cockram
Arron Ziobakas
Kya Finch
Daniel Stackman

Year 7 James Seeley Year 8 Anhua Fernandez Year 9 Lauren Hill Year 10 Ethan Hutcheson Criminology 6th Form James Horsley Dance Year 10 Ella Graves **Design & Technology** Elizabeth McMillan Year 7 Year 8 Eloise Flowers Year 9 Maia Keaveney Year 10 **Eve Collins** Drama Year 7 Lewis Farenden Year 8 Louie Corbit Olivia Ghumania Year 9 Year 10 Brooke Pyett 6th Form Ray Caulfield English Year 7 Elliot Phillips Year 8 Alex Holton Joshua Blackburn Year 9 Year 10 Cody Mainer 6th Form Kamila Kurbanova Enterprise Year 10 Katie Dawson **Film Studies**

Computer Science

6th Form Grace Fox

Geography

Eva Harrison
Amelia Hembury
Elise Stride
Will Paton

Health & Social Care

Year 10	Keira Galvin
6th Form	Erin McLean

History

Year 7	Lois Friend
Year 8	Anhua Fernandez
Year 9	Shae Cassidy
Year 10	Lucy Oldridge
6th Form	Carolina Matos

Hospitality and Catering

Year 10	Charlie	Sadler

Maths

Year 7	Cameron Burt
Year 8	Liam French
Year 9	Lukas Buchanan

Year 10	Annie Dykes	PE Girls		Physics	
		Year 7	Niamh Taylor	Year 7	Elliot Phillips
Media		Year 8	Daisy Wakefield	Year 8	Jamie Tomlinson
Year 10	Ava-Mae Burlingham	Year 9	Sophie Healy	Year 9	Thomas Casserley
Year 11	Matthew Hornsey	Year 10	Annie Dykes	Year 10	Cody Mainer
				Year 10	Alfie Jarvis
MFL - Fre	ench	PE Boys			
Year 7	George McAndrew Miller	Year 7	Frank Rozanek	Politics	
Year 8	Joziah-Ray Mbangu	Year 8	Kacei Griffith	6th Form	Abbie Casserley
Year 9	Freya Harris	Year 9	Marley Glenville		
Year 10	Freddie Holmes	Year 10	Liam Du Plessis	Sociolog	y
				Year 10	Annie Dykes
Music		Philosop	hy & Ethics	6th Form	Abigail Jakes
Year 7	Timur Kurbanov	Year 7	Jack Ferris		
Year 8	Kristina Lewinton	Year 8	Felicity Atkins		
Year 9	Marley Glenville	Year 9	Maddison Mcparland		
Year 10	Jonnell Mbangu	Year 10	Harrison Taylor		
		Year 11	Alyssa Gallo		
L					

Changes to Mobile Device Policy

I can confirm that from September 2023 our <u>Mobile</u> <u>device policy</u> will change to include the following points:

- Students are strongly advised not to bring any mobile devices into school, the school cannot take responsibility for any lost or stolen devices.
- Where a student needs to bring a device to school, this will be locked in a form time locker (locked by their tutor) during morning registration and returned at the end of the day during afternoon registration.
- Students with medical exceptions will continue to be able to keep their phones with them during the day. Medical evidence will be required.
- In the case of lateness to school or a planned appointment, students will hand their phones to student services, they will be locked in a locker until the student signs out.

We have taken the decision to change our mobile device policy to safeguard all our students from incidents of misuse of social media and sharing of images during school time.

The <u>loom assembly</u> used to share changes to students can be found on our website for your information.

Thank you in advance for your support in protecting our young people from the misuse of devices.

Miss J Smith Deputy Headteacher

Parking

If you are collecting your child by vehicle at the end of the school day, please park respectfully and be mindful of local residents who may need to access their driveways when parking in the layby opposite the school.

Please do not park on the hazard yellow lines or on the grass verges.

Where possible please arrange to meet your child a short walk from the school.

We thank you for your co-operation on this matter.



Miss M Harrigan School Operations Manager



the Alban Academies Trust website

STREATERIES

Aspens

Breakfast

Drinks

Still Water 500ml	£1.00
Sparkling Water 500ml	£1.00
Aqua Roma still 5000ml	£1.00
Radnor Sparkling 330ml	£1.00
Radnor Fruit Cartons	£0.70
Cuplet Shot 85ml	£0.60
Still Water Tetra 250ml	£0.75
Radnor Splash Tetra 250ml	£0.75
Viva Flavoured Milk 200ml	£1.00
8oz Iced Blue Mountain Drink	£1.20
Blue Mountain Vending Drink	£0.90
Any Coffee	£1.35
Hot Chocolate	£1.35

Meal Deal £2.60

Main Meal, Hot Pasta Pot Jacket Potato 1 Filling or Just Sandwich plus Dessert, Homebake or Bottle of Water

Deli Kitchen Cold

Den Riterien cola	
Just Sandwiches Classic Sandwiches Deli Sandwiches Deli Baguettes Deli Wrap 9oz Pasta Pot 7oz Fruit Pots 5oz Jelly Pots 7oz Jelly Pots 7oz Dessert Pots Fruit Pieces Cookies Traybakes Tulip Muffins	£2.00 £2.00 £2.30 £2.60 £2.20 £1.10 £0.85 £1.00 £1.45 £0.70 £0.95 £1.00 £1.20
Deli Kitchen Hot	
Pizza Slice Hot Pasta Pot 16oz Theos Wraps Sausage Roll Vegan Roll Popcorn Pots Chicken Nuggets (3) Chicken Popcorn (6) BBQ Chicken Burger Theos Battered Chicken Burger Belgian waffle Theo wings (2) Half Cheese Panini Cheese Panini Double Wedge Cajun Cheesy Double Wedge Chips Croissant Pain au Raisin Pain au Chocolate Hot Dessert	£1.40 £2.00 £2.20 £1.55 £1.55 £1.55 £1.55 £2.50 £2.50 £1.05 £1.50 £1.30 £1.20 £1.20 £1.20 £1.30 £1.30 £1.30 £1.30 £1.30

Streateries Main Meal £2.20 Main Course, Carb & Side or Salad

District Athletics

Friday 30th June saw the annual District Athletics competition at Ridlins Athletics Track. For the first time it saw all twelve local schools competing in various athletics events. Ridgeway Academy competed well with mixed results. The stand out performances being from Kacei G in the 200m and the triple jump, Frank R in the long jump and the Year 7 girls relay team who set a new school record of 58.9s.







Mr J Chappell PE Subject Leader



School Vacancies

The school is currently recruiting for the following roles:

- Assistant Head of Year (non teaching)
- Teaching Assistants
- Learning Supervisor

For more information visit: https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/vacancies/

Mrs K Biss Human Resources Officer

Celebrating Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at Ridgeway

At Ridgeway we are committed to developing a culture where equality, diversity and inclusion are celebrated.

Every Tuesday lunchtime, students can meet in F4, to discuss how we can promote Diversity within our school. We will be asking students and staff to contribute ideas and celebrate the work we do. Students and staff are welcome to come along and support each other.

Tuesday lunchtime, F4

Mrs K Richardson Student Wellbeing Manager



Head of Year News

Year 7 - Mr K Amstutz

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt congratulations and deep admiration for all that you have achieved this year. Your dedication, hard work, and unwavering determination have truly paid off, and I couldn't be prouder of you all. You have surpassed expectations, conquered challenges, and reached remarkable milestones.

Your achievements this year are a testament to your commitment to excellence and your ability to overcome obstacles. I have witnessed you grow, learn, and evolve, and it has been truly inspiring. You have proven that with passion, perseverance, and a positive mindset, anything is possible.

As you enjoy your upcoming holidays, I want to wish you the very best. May your journey be filled with joy, adventure, and wonderful memories. Take this time to relax, rejuvenate, and celebrate all that you have accomplished.

Be safe and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

Year 8 - Miss G Picone

I can hardly believe that I am writing the final newsletter of Year 8. It has been an absolute pleasure for me to step into the role of Head of Year, and I am thrilled to embark on the journey of Year 9 alongside you and your children.

Firstly, I would like to reiterate the incredible achievement of Year 8 students in receiving 61% of the positive house points awarded this academic year. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to their hard work and resilience. They have consistently demonstrated dedication and commitment, and they ALL should be proud of their achievements.

Secondly, I thoroughly enjoyed leading the awards and celebration assemblies, witnessing the students celebrate their accomplishments alongside their peers and families. It was heart-warming to see their hard work acknowledged and the joy they experienced in sharing their successes.

Lastly, I want to highlight the enthusiasm and energy displayed by the students during their first Sports Day at Ridgeway. It was a pleasure to observe the strong relationships they have built with their form tutors and peers. The teamwork and sense of responsibility they exhibited while representing their houses was truly remarkable.

Sidenote: I was particularly delighted to hear from Mr. Albon about the outstanding performance of two Year 8 boys, Jack Cooper and Sam Slatter. During the Year 9 football trials. Their skills and dedication on the pitch were commendable.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude for all the hard work and effort put forth by both students and their families throughout this year. Your support has been invaluable in nurturing their growth and success. As we look ahead to Year 9, where students will be making important decisions regarding their GCSE options, I encourage you to continue providing them with guidance and encouragement.

For now, I hope that everyone enjoys a restful and enjoyable summer, filled with fun and relaxation. Thank you once again for your unwavering support.

Year 9 - Miss S Standage

Well done to the Year 9s involved in School of Rock this week. The students directed and designed their own production of this fantastic show and led the rehearsals and coordinated the whole project. Fantastic leadership from Shae Cassidy, Daniel Hornsey and Olivia Ghumania.

Well done to Parks for winning the form leadership award. This was awarded to Parks as they had the most points for attendance, house points and best behaviour totals. You will celebrate next term with Mr Nelson.

It has been an absolute pleasure being your Head of Year over the past 18 months and I am sad to say goodbye. I am so incredibly proud of you all as you have progressed over this year. All of you have accrued house points, made improvements in your subjects and are maturing into lovely young people. I have seen this first hand and staff have told me this too. They have seen so many examples of good behaviour and a great attitude to learning in your lessons, and that makes me so proud.

Year 9s have gone above and beyond in lots of ways: Sports events, competitions, trips and shows. You are such a talented group of young people and I hope you carry on developing these skills, take the opportunities available to you and continue to grow and develop.

I would like this opportunity to thank your form tutors for all their hard work, time and effort with you this year. You have all been very lucky to have such caring tutors that go above and beyond for you on a daily basis.

Thank you Year 9, you have been fabulous. Have a lovely summer and take care of yourselves.

Sixth Form - Mrs N Picariello

Well done to the Year 12 students who went to Thorpe Park on Friday for your Year 12 Reward Trip we hope you enjoyed yourself, despite the weather!

Our Year 12 Students have now finished for the summer, apart from their work experience, which has started this week. We hope you have a great time and have an enjoyable summer break.

ATTENDANCE WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Do you know what your attendance was last school week?

Do you know your overall attendance for the year?

Do you know how many school days you have missed this year?

Do you know how many late marks you have this school year?

Make sure you know of this information, you can ask your form tutor for this, and work hard to improve it each week!

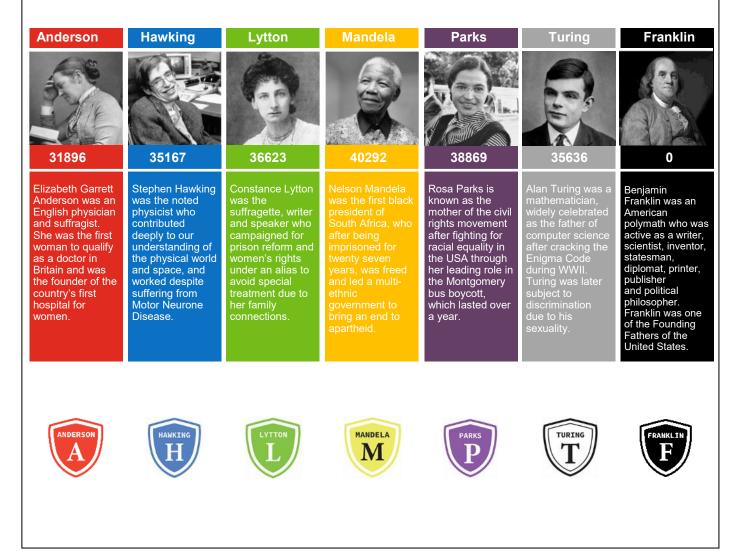


Alban

House Points

We finish off this Academic Year with MANDELA as the overall house winners.

As our school continues to grow in size so do our number of Houses. For the 2023-24 Academic Year we will be introducing Franklin to our House system.



Wel/Hat Mental Health Support Team Whole School Approach (WSA) Summer Agenda

Over the summer, the Wel/Hat MHST will be collaborating with Hertsmere MHST in running several workshops for Parents/Staff. We have set two times/days per workshop with 30 spaces in each to try and reach as many people as possible.

A Parent Workshop for Managing your Child's Transition into Secondary School

A workshop on managing your child's transition into Secondary School. A link for this session will be sent out a few days prior to the session.

- 27/07/2023 10:00am Start
 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-workshop-for-managing-your-childs-transition-into-secondary-school-tickets-666751540807
- 27/07/2023 19:00pm Start https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-workshopfor-managing-your-childs-transition-intosecondary-school-tickets-666773767287

A Parent Workshop for Managing your Child's Worries/Anxiety

A workshop on managing and understand your child's worries and anxiety. A link for this session will be sent out a few days prior to the session.

- O3/08/2023 10:00am Start
 <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-parent-</u>
 workshop-for-managing-your-childs worriesanxiety-tickets-666708060757?
 <u>aff=oddtdtcreator</u>
- 03/08/2023 19:00pm Start
 <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-parent-workshop-for-managing-your-childs-worriesanxiety-tickets-666718231177?aff=oddtdtcreator</u>

A Parent Workshop for Managing your Child's Low Mood

A workshop on managing and understand your child's low mood. A link for this session will be sent out a few days prior to the session.

- 10/08/2023 10:00am Start
 <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-parent-</u>
 workshop-for-managing-your-childs-low-moodtickets-666729926157
- 10/08/2023 19:00pm Start
 <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-parent-</u>
 workshop-for-managing-your-childs-low-moodtickets-666736686377

A Parent Workshop for Managing Adolescent Behaviour

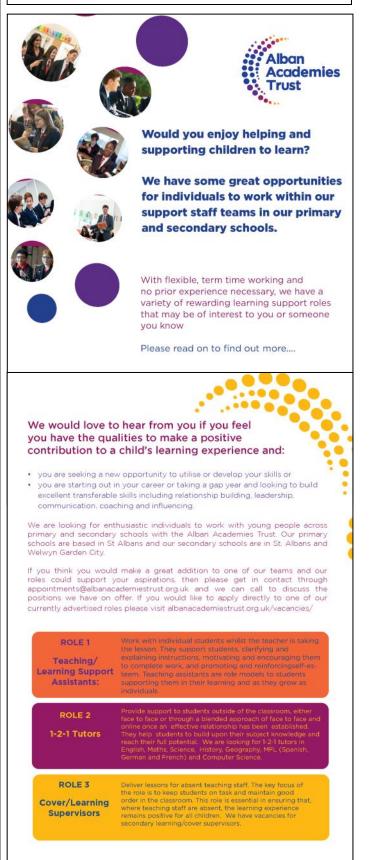
A workshop on managing and understand your child's behaviour. A link for this session will be sent out a few days prior to the session.

O4/08/2023 – 10:00am Start
 <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/managing-adolescent-behaviour-workshop-tickets-663485622357</u>

11/08/2023 – 10:00am Start https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-parentworkshop-for-managing-adolescent-behaviourtickets-664534158557

Please don't hesitate to email

hpft.mhstwelwynhatfield@nhs.net for any enquiries you may have.



Sports Centre News

Lucy Hunt School of Dance

We are delighted to be hosting one of our regular bookings, Lucy Hunt School of Dance for a special summer camp! For full details and to book please see the poster below.



Barracudas

We are delighted to welcome Barracudas once more during the Summer Holidays for 5 weeks!

Barracudas Activity Day Camps, the UK's favourite school holiday provider for children aged 4½ to 14 years, will be open at our school this summer holiday. 80+ exciting activities including arts and crafts, sports,



teambuilding and much more! We also have specialist activities including archery and motorsports at summer!

Ofsted registered and with an excellent Trustpilot rating, you can have peace of mind they're in safe hands at Barracudas.

Visit <u>https://www.barracudas.co.uk/</u> or call 01480 467567.

Parents can get £20 off a full week or £4 off a day by applying this code in the promotions box: **HSCP23**

Pay and Play

Please keep an eye on our social media as we will announce on there when we are opening for 11-18 Pay and Play on the 3G pitch over the summer holidays.

New Staff

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed 4 new members of Sports Centre staff: Jessica, Holly, James and Will, they will be starting in August. If you see them around be sure to say hello!

Garden City Runners

On Wednesday 12th July, we were delighted to host the annual Garden City Runners 'mob' match, with over 500 runners completing 10k around WGC before finishing at Ridgeway Academy for food, drink and presentations. It was a fabulous evening and an event we are very proud to host each year.







irst Steps



Funded mental health workshops, advice and support for Parents and Carers in Hertfordshire



Nessie is funded by Hertfordshire County Council to support parents/carers of children and young people with emotional and mental health issues. The aim of this work is to help parents/carers develop a positive and more confident approach to supporting their young person, whilst offering a chance to gain peer support; useful strategies and practical tools.

What we offer:

- Free online and face-to-face workshops on a range of mental healths that affect children and young people
- Parent Support line Tel: 07932 651319 (open Thursdays 9 am - 12 pm or by appointment)
- Private moderated Facebook support groups:
- <u>NESSie Parent/Carer Support Group</u>
- 1-1 support and advice sessions
- Peer support groups: A confidential group, where parents will have an opportunity to share their experiences, support each other through challenges, and identify coping strategies.

For more information, please CLICK HERE



07932 651319

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@nessieinedcic

https://nessieined.com/

Helping children and young people thrive NESSie IN ED CIC. Company registered in England & Wales number: 11719406

@NESSieinED

Mental Health Support

Advice for supporting your child's mental health. Tips and video's can be found here on many topical subjects:

https://thismayhelp.me/



Child's mental health



Self-harm

This MayHelp⁹

How to help some who self-harms All advice films

NHS

Downloadable advice

About this advice



School avoidance



Teenagers safety

This MayHelp[®] How to establish trust and boundaries with a teenager

Supporting anxiety

Eating disorders



Better sleep



Medication decisions

This May Help

How to make decisions about mental health

medication



Drugs & alcohol



De-escalate anger



Teenage years



NHS

School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-24

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Friday 1st SeptemberInset DayMonday 4th SeptemberStart of Term (students)Thursday 14th SeptemberOpen EveningMonday 23rd to Friday 27th OctoberHalf TermThursday 28st SeptemberExtended Learning DayThursday 7th NovemberFriday 24th NovemberFriday 24th NovemberOccasional DayWednesday 20th DecemberLast Day of Term

SPRING TERM 2024

Friday 5th January to Thursday 28th March **Training Day:** Thursday 4th January **Extended Learning Day:** Thursday 25th January **Training Days:** Thursday 15th and Friday 16th February **Half Term:** Monday 19th to Friday 23rd February **Extended Learning Day:** Wednesday 12th March

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15th April to Friday 19th July Bank and Public Holiday: Monday 6th May Half Term: Monday 6th - Friday 31st May Enrichment Week: Monday 1st to Friday 5th July Shadow Inset Day (school closed): Monday 22nd July Shadow Inset Day (school closed): Tuesday 23rd July

