



Issue 107
Fortnightly
February 2024
Week 2

Ridgeway Academy

Headteacher's Message

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou

Kindness has been a key emphasis this term, in assemblies, tutorials and classrooms. It remains paramount to the success of our community and in the way we all wish to live together. We must not underestimate that living alongside and sharing the lives of others is more precious than anything else and must not be neglected.

School is a busy place and I would like to congratulate all the students who have worked hard in lessons, represented the school and participated in the numerous trips and visits this half term.

It is of course a particularly busy time for the Year 11 and 13s as their preparation and planning for the summer examinations continues in earnest. It will be important in the coming weeks that they leave no stone unturned. They must listen carefully to the advice they are given and act upon it, focussing particularly on areas of weakness and using the incredible support, both here and at home, they have at their disposal.

School is an amazing space to try new things and to not fear failure. We need to ensure that our children are open to new ideas, can take constructive criticism on board without it being personal and, most importantly, able to take responsibility for their actions and put their hand up when they get it wrong. They do and will get it wrong. We, parents, guardians, and staff, need to work in partnership to ensure they learn from their mistakes and understand we see their behaviour similarly. We will celebrate their achievements together and react quickly and clearly when they behave in a way that undermines our values. There is little doubt that when home and school are aligned nothing is insurmountable.

Mrs S Mitcherson
Headteacher



Become a Safe Space Volunteer Mentor

Would you like to become a Safe Space volunteer mentor for young people in Hertfordshire and support them to overcome challenges, achieve their goals and reach their potential? Safe Space provides mentoring for young people aged 11-19 (25 if they are care leavers or have a learning disability) who live or go to school/college in Hertfordshire. Mentors are given training before being matched with a young person who would benefit from 1:1 mentoring support to help them reach their potential. [See more opportunities by Safe Space.](#)

Role of the Mentor

As a volunteer mentor you would meet with your young person once a week for up to an hour, at a time and place in the community convenient to you both. Usually the mentoring relationship is for 6 months but can be longer or shorter depending on the need. Following an initial 2 day training programme and required checks, volunteer mentors are matched with young people based on personality and interests but also by location. As a volunteer mentor you would gain trust from the young person you are working with and provide valuable support in being able to help them work towards goals, overcome challenges, give advice or just provide a listening ear. You will be supported by a Mentoring Co-ordinator and ongoing training and support groups are provided.

Upcoming Training Dates:

Cohort 1

- Friday 24th February 10-4pm
- Monday 27th February 5-7pm
- Tuesday 28th February 5-7pm
- Saturday 4th March 9-12.30pm

Cohort 2

- Saturday 4th March 9-12.30pm
- Friday 11th March 10-4pm
- Saturday 12th March 10-12.30pm

If you are interested, please complete the form on the [website](#). Any questions should also be sent to mentoringmailbox@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

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!















Ridgeway Pupils with 100% Attendance - 25th January to 12th February 2024

7 Anderson	Daisy C	Isaac H	Samuel G	8 Mandela	Benjamin D
Martin B	Grace D	Ariel I-A	Eva H	India A	Jack F
Lewis B	Adam G	Kieron K	Johann L	Dougie B-F	Kaila-Kelly G
Tyler B	Callum H	Reilly-Kai L	Katie L	Olaf B	Alina I
Ethan B	Kaydence M	Tinashe M	Ellie O	Harvey C	Eleanor M
Jaeden C	Harvey M	Alfie N	Libby T	Lacey-Mae C	Caitlyn M
Aanya G	Mckenzie M	Aston-Kai T	Jasper T	Lexi G	Ella-May S
Autumn G	Mia R	Evie W	Hayden W	Mason G	Samuel S
Mason H	Max S		Mati W	Lois G	Niamh T
Archie H	Leo W	7 Parks		Paige L	Thomas T
Amelia H		Asia-Kai B	8 Hawking	Cassie M	Kiera W
Rayyan I	7 Lytton	K-Lea C	Mitchell C	Chloe M	
Lexie-Mai I	Ayden A	George C	Faith C	Elliot P	9 Anderson
Emil J	Theodore B	Olivia H	Connor F	Sienna S	Aimee A
Mason M	Jackson B	Linus H	Lois F	Alfie S	Roxanne C
Emma RC	Hayden C	Dantes J	Sophia G	Jake V	Jack C
Hamza S	Summer C	Zachary L	Gabrielle H	Ruby W	Tia D
Ella T	Tegan C	Summer M	Timur K	Lewis W	Angelo G
	Lucas D	Leah P	Noah M	Austin W	Clara H-M
7 Franklin	Bianca D	Alfie P	Lola M		Jasmine H
Melody B	Nancy F	James S	Harrison N	8 Parks	Harley K
Layland H	Riley F	Zachary T	George S	Zachary A	Bright K
Lily L	Charlie G	Nathan W	Grace S	Jasmine B	Joiah-Ray M
Jamie M	Olivia G	Leo W	George T	Jayden C	Cameron N
Raphael M	Owen H		James T	Jack C	Olga P
Angus M	Tyler J	7 Turing	Charlie T	Ryan H	Roisin R-M
Maisie N	Samuel K	Joshua A	Nathan Y	Rafael H	Precious T
Dylan P	Gabriela K	Lucus B		Lily H	Maxwell T
Mishti P	Charlotte S	Imogen D	8 Lytton	Savannah K	Poppy W
Theo P	Daisy T	Beloved E	Jayden B	George R	
Mia-Joy R	Louis T	Tommy H-M	Bobby B	Tom R	9 Hawking
Lucas S	Riley W	Connor L	Elizabeth D	Finn S	Lauren A
Roxy T		Nellie M	Bella F	Rhys S	Macie B
Zachary T	7 Mandela	Gino T	Lashaun K	Henry W	Dalila F
Alfie W	Gracie A-C		Daria M		Jessica F
	Alissia A	8 Anderson	Lilly R	8 Turing	Poppy H
7 Hawking	Harry C	Megan B	Kieran S	Nyla A	Archie H
Marley A	Harrison D	Toby B	Miley T	Gino A	Tilly J
Maisie C	Maia G	Anna C	Jaeden U	Willow B	Rhys K
Mia C	Henry H	Ellis E	Nicholas Z	Amanda B	George M
Cody C	Ruby H	Didi E		Lacey C	Ryley-James S

Amber W	Tyrese F	Hakeem B	Sophie G	Daniel S	11 Mandela
9 Lytton	Taylor J	Aydan B	Jasper G	Luke T	Aylin B
Hsian A	Alicja L	Harry E	Daniel H		Xander B
Amelia B	Niamh M	Kya F	Fabian J	11 Hawking	Callum C
Princess B	Mia M	Ademola G	Dejoie J	George A	Daegan D H
Oliver F	Isabella N-P	Maia K	Alfie P	Heather B	Ethan H
Frankie H	Dexter R	Gracie-Jayne L	Anna-Mae V N	Eve C	Alfie J
Jessica H	Amelia S	Jaden T	Ruby W	Katie D	Jonnell M
Amelia H	Alyssa S	10 Lytton	10 Turing	Theo D	Max M
George I	Lucas W	Katie C-L	Ellie A	Alfie D	Lucy O
Tegan O	9 Turing	Aiden G	Evie H	Tommy N	Ollie P
9 Mandela	Mia D	Marley G	Emily H	Isobel S	11 Parks
Ellen A	Iris D	Macey J	Callum H	Rhys S	Callum C
Isabella B	Ehis G	Jayden N	Heather M	Rebecca W	Ashton C
Daniel B	Kacei G	Stanley S	Joseph T	11 Lytton	Jay F
Mason C	Harry R	Carson W	Luke W	Max B	Kaci L
Lily F	Vladimir R	10 Mandela	Oliver W	Rose C	Brooke P
Lenny F	Scarlett R	Nathan B	Corby W	Ryan D-L	Freddie R
Eloise F	Jamie T	Ashley C	11 Anderson	Conor D	Charlie S
Eric G	Olivia T	Maddie H	Lilith A	Shay F	Hollie T
Kristina L	Sophia W	Sophie H	Max A	Ella G	11 Turing
James M	10 Anderson	Lexie H	Archie B	Keira G	Mila A
Michael O	Aimee F	Kyle P	Cameron C	Nathan H	Leona C
Jayna R	Krzysztof K	Bethany P	Suleiman D	Riley J	Grace G
Sam S	Kobie N	Harry W	Keira G	Lenny L	Jack J
Arron Z	Victor R	10 Parks	Leo G	Olivia M	Cameron J
9 Parks	Verity R	Thomas C	Katie H	Amy M	Morgan K
Verity B	Daniel S	Reece C	Eloise H	Alfie N	Rose
Evan D-T	10 Hawking	Francis C	David J	Libby O	Riley W
Scarlett F	Faye B	Rhea G	Ethan L	Ted W	
			Caleb O		

House Points

Anderson	Hawking	Lytton	Mandela	Parks	Turing
					
39518	37093	39200	44807	41679	46061
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.
					

Currently in the lead are Turing with 46061 points. Last updated 12.02.2024

Head of Year News

Year 7 - Mrs C Hunt

Congratulations to all the Year 7 students who have consistently demonstrated responsibility, respect and relationships (the 3 Rs) throughout the academic year. Your dedication to these values has not gone unnoticed. Your commitment to excellence sets a shining example for your peers and contributes positively to our school community. We're happy to announce that we will be hosting a reward event in March to celebrate and recognize the efforts of selected students who embody these principles. Keep up the fantastic work!

Year 8 - Mr K Amstutz

Congratulations to our Year 8 Boys for their outstanding performance in the district Basketball rally and to the Girls in their U14 county cup matches. We witnessed some impressive skills on display from both teams, showcasing the school's high standards of sportsmanship.

During my visits to their lessons, I'm delighted to see the Year 8 cohort fully engaged and working diligently across all subjects. They've been actively exploring the concept of Respect as part of Ridgeway, and it's excellent to observe their growing understanding reflected in their interactions with both peers and staff.

This half term has been incredibly dynamic, with a strong emphasis on maintaining uniform and equipment standards, alongside a dedicated effort to challenge themselves academically. It's inspiring to witness their commitment to pushing beyond their comfort zones.

Year 8 have consistently been awarded the most Merits in the school this term with fierce competition amongst forms.

Well done Year 8.

Year 9 - Miss G Picone

I am delighted to extend my congratulations to our Year 9 students for their outstanding maturity and positive attitude towards their studies this term. It has been truly inspiring to witness the growth in their focus and dedication as they embark on this crucial phase of their educational journey. Their commitment to learning is commendable and bodes well for their future success.

Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to personally congratulate the Year 9 Boys Football team on their impressive victory in the District Football 7-a-side tournament. Their hard work, teamwork, and perseverance have paid off, and they have represented our school with great pride and sportsmanship. Well done, Alan, Dominic, Dexter, Frankie, Ehis, Louis, Tyler and Sam.

Please continue to support and encourage our students as they strive for excellence both inside and

outside the classroom. I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate school expectations surrounding Attendance and School Uniform. Please remind your child of the following:

- Punctuality: Encourage your child to arrive promptly to lessons and to school.
-
- The importance of attendance: A lack of attendance to school will have an impact on their academic progress.
-
- School Uniform: If there are any issues regarding school uniform, please ensure that a letter/email is provided explaining the circumstances.

Thank you and keep up the work Year 9.

Year 10 - Mr L Gallagher and Miss N Wilson

Thank you, Year 10, for welcoming Miss Wilson and I into the year group with open arms. We have developed positive attitudes towards your behaviour and attitudes towards learning. As you are aware, transitioning and preparing for your GCSE's is not easy. However, your eagerness to impress and the support that you demand is excellent to see and it will definitely provide a strong foundation for next year. Believe in yourself and know that your name will be Year 10 'the resiliency dream team' by the end of the year.

Monday and Tuesday saw the Sweeny Todd performance with a number of our year 10's performing in our year 13's Btec exam! Well done!!!!

Year 11 - Mr M Pring

Year 11 have been excellent across the mock exam period, it is fantastic to see so many students working hard and attending intervention to try and achieve the best outcomes possible.

It is also pleasing to see how many students are now discussing their next steps and planning their future post 16. Students are having some really healthy conversations about what they want to achieve and how they are going to do it.

We will be hosting a variety of internal and external interventions for students across all subjects as we progress through the next half term. There will also be options to hold intervention in the Easter holidays in preparation for the exams.

Sixth Form - Mrs N Picariello

A group of Y12 and 13 students benefited from mock-assessment centres for degree level apprenticeships last week, where an external provider came into school. Students found the process useful as they were educated about future pathways for their careers after Ridgeway Academy. Thank you to Mrs Merrigan for giving them the opportunity.

Year 13 have now completed UCAS applications and are focused on final exams, following progress reports

and parents evening.

Next for Year 12 is a visit to the UCAS show in London, where they will be able to look at university options post 18, all ready to start the UCAS process in May.

Keep up the hard work Sixth Form - your future is in your hands!

Support for Parents - Sleep Hygiene

<https://kidshealth.org/>

Sleep Hygiene

Most teens need 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night. But many have trouble sleeping. Lack of sleep can affect your mood, relationships, and ability to pay attention. When you don't get enough sleep, it's hard to be at your best in school and sports. It can increase the chances of getting sick, gaining weight, and having an accident if you drive when you are drowsy.

How can you get the sleep you need? Here are some ideas:

- Be active during the day. You've probably noticed how much running around little kids do - and how soundly they sleep. Take a tip from a toddler and get at least 60 minutes of exercise a day. Physical activity can help improve your mood and ease stress. Just don't work out too close to bedtime because exercise can wake you up before it slows you down.
- Avoid caffeine near bedtime. Caffeine is in coffee, tea, energy drinks and more. It's a stimulant, which means it can help keep you awake and alert. That's something you might want in the morning. But at night, it can leave you tossing and turning in bed. To help you sleep, limit how much caffeine you have during the day, and switch to decaf or caffeine-free beverages in the evening.
- Say goodnight to electronics. Make your bedroom a tech-free zone. The light from electronic devices tricks the brain into thinking it's still daytime, so shut everything down an hour before lights out. And by turning off your phone, late night texts won't wake you up.
- Keep a sleep routine. Going to bed at the same time every night helps the body expect sleep. Creating a set bedtime routine can enhance this relaxation effect. So unwind every night by reading, listening to music, spending time with a pet, writing in a journal, meditating, or doing anything else that relaxes you.
- Expect a good night's sleep. Stress can trigger insomnia, so the more you agonize about not sleeping, the more likely you'll lie awake staring at

the ceiling. Instead of worrying that you won't sleep, remind yourself that you can. Say, "Tonight, I will sleep well" several times during the day. It can also help to practice breathing exercises or gentle yoga poses before bed.

- Everyone has a sleepless night once in a while. But if you regularly have trouble sleeping, talk to your doctor.

Mrs M Tinker
Assistant Headteacher



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

K2

Monday	Lunchtime Hub Club
Tuesday	Diversity
Wednesday	Lunchtime Hub Club
Thursday	Young Carers
Friday	Lunchtime Hub Club

School Vacancies

The school is currently recruiting for the following roles:

Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)

Closing date: Wednesday 28th February
Start date: September 2024

Teacher of English (ECT's welcome to apply)

Closing date: Tuesday 27th February
Start date: July 2024

Examination Invigilator

Closing date: Monday 26th February
Start date: November 2024

Teacher of Science (Temporary Maternity Cover)

Closing date: Tuesday 27th February

Teaching Assistants

Closing date: Tuesday 27th February

For more information visit:

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

Mrs K Biss
Human Resources Officer

Students of the Week

Each week Heads of Year provide Mrs Mitcherson with students of the week nominations.

These students come out of lesson at 1:10pm on a Friday and make their way to the Headteachers office for a prize (hot chocolate, chocolate bar, cake or ice cream in the summer).

Year 9 - Week commencing 22nd January

Name	Tutor Group	
Roisin R-M	9A	
Dexter R	9P	
Louise B-W	9M	<i>HOY Nomination</i>
Harry R	9T	
Kristina L	9M	
Archie H	9H	
Princess B	9L	



Y9 District Football 7-a-side Winners 2024

Alan K	9T
Tyler F	9L
Dexter R	9P
Louie C	9L
Sam S	9M
Frankie H	9L
Ehis G	9T
Finley G	9H



Year 10 - Week commencing 29th January

Name	Tutor Group	
Lauren H	10A	
Oscar R	10H	
Dora S	10L	
Sophie H	10M	
Sophie G	10P	
Kaytelyn L	10T	
Daniel S	10A	<i>HOY Nomination</i>

Year 11 - Week commencing 5th February

Name	Tutor Group	
Lilith A	11A	
Alfie D	11H	
CJ M	11L	
Robyn C	11M	
Callum C	11P	
Rose K	11T	
Olivia M	11L	<i>HOY Nomination</i>

Year 12 - Week commencing 12th February

Name	Tutor Group
Sam L	12
Laura H	12
Luke H	12
Matt O	13
Ray C	13
Rhianna R	13

Mr R Nelson
Assistant Headteacher

Parent/Carer Reminders

Water Bottles

Please remind your child that they need to bring a water bottle with them each day.

Contact Details

Please contact the school if any contact information has changed; mobile numbers, addresses etc. so that we can ensure that our records are up to date and accurate.

Label Clothing

Ensure that you name all items of clothing. Students can check for lost property in Student Services in K Block. All lost PE bags/kits go to the PE Department.

Mrs J Airey
Student Liaison Officer (KS3)

Submit a Story to Ridgeway News

If you would like to have an article published in the school's newsletter Ridgeway News, please fill out the form [here](#) which will be sent to the editor for review.

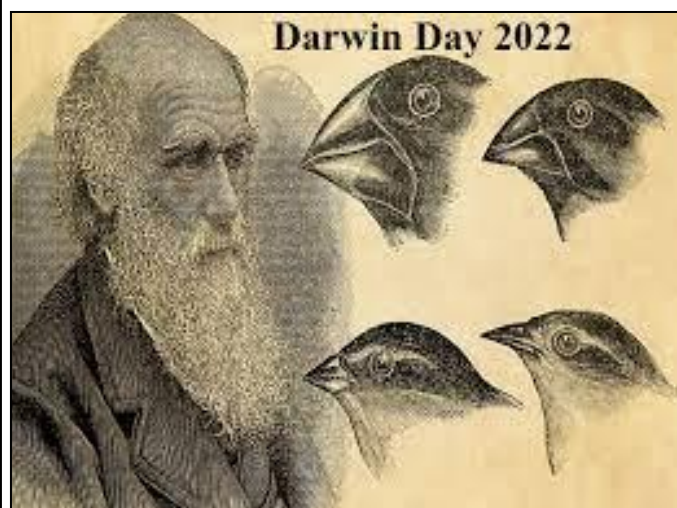
Your article could be a news item, an account of a school trip, an achievement or a book review.



Theme of the Week - Darwin Day

Darwin Day is celebrated on 12th February every year to commemorate the birthday of Charles Darwin.


This day is observed to commemorate the contribution of Charles Darwin in the field of evolutionary and plant science. International Darwin Day on February 12th will inspire people throughout the globe to reflect and act on the principles of intellectual bravery, perpetual curiosity, scientific thinking and hunger for truth as embodied in Charles Darwin.




Top 20 House Points

Top 20 House Point Achievers 25th January to 12th February 2024.

Name	Tutor Group	Points
Didi E	8 Anderson	145
Johann L	8 Anderson	142
Eva H	8 Anderson	140
George R	8 Parks	134
Sienna S	8 Mandela	133
Maisie N	7 Franklin	129
Dora S	10 Lytton	126
James S	8 Anderson	123
Nyla A	8 Turing	120
Lewis F	8 Parks	120
Tiah G	11 Anderson	120
Ella G	11 Lytton	119
Jayden N	10 Lytton	115
Libby T	8 Anderson	115
Ellie M	11 Turing	114
Leah P	7 Parks	114
Anna-Mae V N	10 Parks	114
Katie L	8 Anderson	113
Paige R	8 Turing	113
India A	8 Mandela	112





Delivering Special Provision Locally

The Hub

ASC/SEND Coffee Mornings

Vista St Albans are hosting coffee mornings with a School Family Worker to help support Parents/ Carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, diagnosed or not. This is an informal and safe place for Parents/ Carers to share information and chat.


Running alongside our coffee mornings, there will also be the opportunity to pre-book an appointment with a member of staff from the SEND Specialist Advice and Support Service (These sessions are for ASC advice).
Times available are: 9.30am, 10.00am, 11.00am and 11.30am

Time: Coffee Morning starts at **9.15am** until **11.00am**
(no need to book)

Venue: The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW
(The Hub is situated to the right hand side of the School building)

For more information about this service or to book an appointment please call Vista/St Albans Plus on 01727 519128
Email: vistastalbands@gmail.com

Dates:
 Wednesday 29th November
 Wednesday 31st January 2024
 Wednesday 13th March 2024
 Wednesday 8th May 2024
 Wednesday 26th June 2024



www.vistastalbands.org.uk
www.facebook.com/Vistastalbands

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



Every **Tuesday lunchtime**, students can meet in **K2**, 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.

No need to book. Just turn up.
Miss C Wesson



Every **Thursday lunchtime**, students can meet in **K2**, to discuss **Young Carers** within our school

Subject Focus - History

What's on in History at Ridgeway?

Year 7

Year 7 pupils are currently studying the Crusades, they have been looking at the 200 years of the Crusades and exploring how they started, key battles, influential individuals, such as Saladin and Richard the Lionheart, as well as the lasting legacy of the Crusades by looking at what the primitive Europeans learnt from the advanced armies of the Muslim world.



Questions to ask:

What caused the Crusades?

Why was Jerusalem important to both sides in the Crusades?

Which side was eventually successful in holding Jerusalem?

Year 8

Year 8 pupils are currently studying about revolutions in the 17th and 18th centuries. They have looked at the Glorious Revolution of 1688 and asked to what extent it was a revolution at all and then also the French Revolution and how it lived up to its grand ideals. These topics are fundamental to explaining how our democracy was formed and understanding how our country works.



Questions to ask:

What was weird about the Glorious Revolution?

Why did England and Scotland unite?

What was France like before and after the revolution?

Year 9

Year 9 pupils are studying about how the Nazis first rose to power and then kept power through intimidation and violence. They have looked at how the historical context of the time gave the Nazis their chance to gain popular support and have touched upon the ideologies of Communism, Fascism Capitalism and Democracy.



Questions to ask:

What was the Treaty of Versailles?

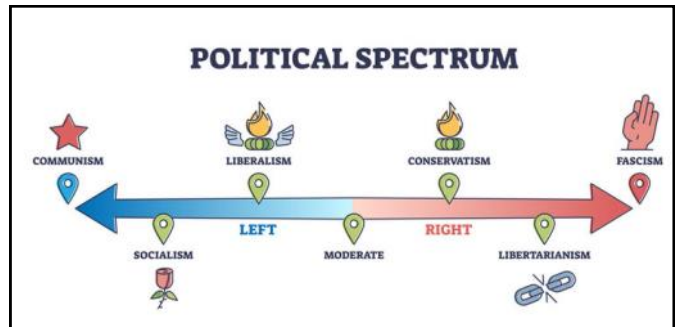
Why did people vote for the Nazis?

How did the Nazis keep control of Germany?

Year 10

Year 10 are studying their first unit of the Weimar Republic and Nazi Germany topic. So far, they have looked at the different political ideologies that were

prevalent at the time such as Communism, Fascism, Socialism, Conservatism and Liberalism. They have looked at economic history through the study of Hyperinflation, and political theory through studying the pros and cons of proportional representation in a political system.



Questions to ask:

How stable was Germany following the First World War?

How do the Left and Right of the political spectrum differ from each other?

What are the pros and cons of proportional representation?

Year 11

Year 11 pupils are currently studying Early Elizabethan England. They look at the challenges that Elizabeth I faced when she first came to the throne as well as the wider historical context of England at this time. This includes how the English government was set up and functioned, the economic situation in England and the religious tensions that made England a very volatile place to live.



Questions to ask:

What problems did Elizabeth I face when she came to the throne?

What is 'debasement' and how does it link to our current economic situation?

Why was religion so important to the Elizabethans?

Mr G Loftus
History Subject Leader

Sports Centre News

Rambino's Coffee to Go!

Please read the recent article in Welwyn Hatfield Times:

<https://www.whtimes.co.uk/news/24102204.welwyn-garden-city-meet-rambinos-coffee-owner-jason/>

We are delighted that Rambino's Coffee have now started to serve hot drinks at Ridgeway Academy during our community time in the evenings and weekends.

We felt this was something we were missing from what we offer the community so we were delighted to work with Rambino's to get this off the ground.

You may recognise the founder of Rambino's, Jason from his work in the local primary schools over the last 20 years so it will be a familiar face making the delicious coffees!



Opening hours will vary to meet demand, so be sure to keep an eye out in the next few weeks. The pod will be situated just outside the Sports Centre, go and say hello to Jason and see what Rambino's have to offer!

Currently, we are expecting the pod to be open on a Tuesday and Friday evening and during the morning on Saturday/Sunday. Over time this will hopefully increase to more evenings. You can find them on social media: @rambinoscoffee

Community Sessions at Ridgeway Academy

There is so much going on at Ridgeway Academy, with over 1,000 people taking part in community based sessions during the evenings, weekends and holiday periods. We were very pleased to welcome Strive Football Academy in October Half Term for the first time. Coaching is delivered by UEFA qualified, ex-Tottenham player Jesse Waller Lassen. They will be running in February half term so visit <https://strivefootballacademy.com/> for further information.

Barracudas will again be joining us in February half term – to book, please visit: <https://www.barracudas.co.uk/camps/welwyn/> We are pleased to share an exclusive Ridgeway parent discount code!

Welwyn Garden City Youth FC are pleased to announce their new TIKA-TAKA Mini sessions for children aged 4-7. They take place on our brand new 3G every Saturday morning from 9-10am. Full details can be found on the poster.

A-Z Basketball, in partnership with Welwyn Hatfield

Borough Council are again offering FREE Basketball sessions every Thursday evening from 7-8pm in our Sports Hall. These sessions start on Thursday 4th Jan until Thursday 28th March 2024. Please visit @welhatsports on social media to book a place!

Stevenage FC Foundation are still running their FREE Premier League KICKS programme every Friday night from 8-9pm on our brand new 3G pitch. Full details can be found on the poster.

The poster is for 'Mini-Soccer Sessions' by Welwyn Garden City Youth Football Club. It features the club's logo and the text 'TIKA-TAKA' in large, colorful letters. Below this, it says 'Mini-Soccer Sessions FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 4-7'. Contact information for Luke Marshment is provided: 'Contact Luke Marshment 07958 486 568 admin@wgcyouthfc.co.uk'. The sessions are held at 'RIDGEWAY ACADEMY 3G SATURDAY 9 - 10AM' for a fee of '£6'. The poster includes illustrations of children playing soccer and a soccer ball.

The poster is for 'Premier League Kicks' in partnership with Stevenage FC Foundation. It features the Premier League logo and the text 'PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS'. The sessions are held at 'RIDGEWAY ACADEMY SPORTS CENTRE, HERNS LANE, WELWYN GARDEN CITY, AL7 2AF' every Friday from 8-9:00pm. It is 'FREE FOOTBALL FOR 8-18 YEAR OLDS'. The poster includes photos of people playing soccer and a QR code for sign-up. The text 'Sign up by scanning the QR code!' is prominently displayed.

We are pleased that Lucy Hunt School of Dance will again be running 2 dates over the Easter Holidays in our Main Hall. Full details can be found on the poster.

For a full list of facilities available, list of our hirers and more, please visit <https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/sports-centre-bookings/>

Sports Centre News continued...

Our state-of-the-art 3G facility, laid in summer 2022 is a perfect space for Football training and is equipped with various size goals.

We have some limited, regular availability on a Monday and Friday, please see full details on the poster or feel free to email:

GoodshipR@ridgeway.aat.school

3G All Weather Pitch Available

Available Now!

MONDAY	5 - 6 PM	1 / 3
FRIDAY	5 - 6 PM	1 / 3

PRICE
1/3 for **£42.00**

Please email: GoodshipR@ridgeway.aat.school to book today!

VAT NOT included



A-Z Basketball Project

Ages 11-16

Ridgeway Academy, WGC

29 February - 28 March (every Thursday)

7pm - 8pm

Book via our Eventbrite page:
<http://tinyurl.com/34ej4zba>

Logos for WellHat Sports, Welwyn Hatfield, and A-Z Basketball are at the bottom.

*** STRIVE FOOTBALL ACADEMY ***

FOOTBALL CAMP

scan to book or for more details

9AM-3PM **FEBRUARY HALF-TERM**

ALL ABILITIES
AGES 7-15
RIDGWAY ACADEMY, WELWYN GC

WWW.STRIVE FOOTBALL ACADEMY.COM

Summer Camp

@ Ridgeway Academy, WGC

Matilda THE MUSICAL
Weds 9th Aug

MARY POPPINS
Thurs 10th Aug

THE LITTLE MERMAID
Fri 11th Aug

Come and join us for fun-filled days of dancing, singing, arts & crafts, glitter tattoos & more!

10am-3pm 4 years upwards!
£25 per child per day
multiple booking discount available

To book please email us on info@lucyhuntschoolofdance.com

Logos for Facebook, Instagram, and Lucy Hunt School of Dance are at the bottom.

BOOK NOW!



SCHOOL HOLIDAY CHILDCARE EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT!

USE CODE:
HSCP24

APPLY CODE FOR AN EXTRA:

- £20 off a week
- £4 off a day

*Not to be used in conjunction with other offers



SCAN ME & LEARN MORE!

Visit barracudas.co.uk
or call 01480 467 567



SPRING 2024 |
PARENTS/CARERS

ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER.



[Please click here to read The Online Safety Newsletter produced by HFL Education Wellbeing team](#)



01438 544 464
Visit our website



RASC Easter Toy Collection



Deadline Monday 25th March!

All Items Donated Must Be:

- Brand New & Sealed
- Unwrapped
- Suitable for ages 0-16
- Can be toys, games, books or chocolate

With the help of the local community we have now donated over 800 toys



Toy Drop Off:
Main Reception
(Herns Lane)
OR
Sports Centre
(Apple Tree Way)

Any Questions? Contact James:

01707 351 352 OR

sportscentre@ridgeway.aat.school

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
 - Anxiety
 - School

No
Diagnosis
Required

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people



Are you a
Parent, Carer
or
Professional?

01727 833963

supporthub@add-vance.org

Open Monday-Friday
9 AM - 1PM

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear

We Can't:

- Give updates/fast track places on waiting lists
- Recommend specific private assessors



The latest edition of Carers in Hertfordshire Newsletter Carewaves is available on their [website](#).

Issue 2 of 2023 www.carersinherts.org.uk

Carewaves

A Newsletter for Family Carers and Caring Friends

Carers are resilient and determined, which some young carers demonstrated when they tackled a climbing wall at one of our summer events. You can find out more about our upcoming activities for unpaid carers inside!

Student Learning Expectations

Standards for Learning

Ridgeway Routines must be consistently conformed to:

- Full uniform, worn correctly at all times - top buttons, blazers, no black jumpers which aren't Ridgeway logo
- Students are equipped and ready for learning
- All students stand behind chairs in silence at the start of lessons
- Green pen REACT or Recall starters are completed in silence EVERY LESSON
- Students must be on time to all lessons. Sanctions issued for more than 5 minutes late - C3
- All students stand behind chairs in silence for a uniform check before leaving the classroom row by row

Equipment

Students must be prepared for learning - **every lesson, every day**. Form Tutors will check full equipment **each morning** during form time. It will be a school standards focus for the next two weeks.

All students must have the following equipment:

- Two black pens
- Two pencils
- A green pen
- Pencil sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Pair of compasses
- Scientific calculator (preferably Casio Classwiz)



Consequences

C1 will be logged for a lack of equipment (daily).

3 x C1 within a week will result in a C3.

Tutors will be communicating with parents regarding missing equipment

Equipment can be purchased from reception where necessary

Parents will be communicated with to ensure they ensure all students are equipped and ready to learn

Support may be given to families who may be struggling with providing equipment through contacting their Head of Year

The Ridgeway

- Holding high standards of uniform and equipment is the easiest way to show your teachers you are ready and willing to learn.
- Having respect for yourself and ensuring you are ready to learn is one of the most important things you can do at school
- School is for learning and every lesson counts - this means **arriving on time, with correct uniform and equipment, with the correct mindset**.
- Missing equipment slows learning down and causes unnecessary conflict with teachers

It is the Ridgeway to be prepared for learning and take responsibility for this!

Mrs L Hyde
Deputy Headteacher

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024

SPRING TERM 2024

Thursday 15 th and Friday 16 th February	Inset / Training Days
Monday 19 th to Friday 23 rd February	Half Term
Friday 8 th March	Year 9 Options Deadline
Tuesday 12 th March	Extended Learning Day
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Term

SUMMER TERM 2024

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

