

Ridgeway News





SHARING THE DETAIL AND THE BIGGER PICTURE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Issue 111 July 2024 Week 2

Headteacher's Message

Term continues at pace with lots of events and activities across Ridgeway. Congratulations to all students involved in the excellent Sixth Form Induction programme in readiness for September and the Year 12 Careers Conference across our Consortium this week.

Thank you to:

Nicola and Jayde Felton for the organisation and smooth running of the Sixth Form Induction last week, this went very well and all students seemed really engaged and focused. Thank you also to Kate Parsons, Emily Gray, Tara Yelland, Paul Flannagan, Jon Chappell, Mike Broad, Gerard Loftus, Chenise Hunt, Emma Kemp, Justine Webb and Taylor Hennah who planned and led induction sessions.

Mike Broad for leading the Geography trip to Wales supported by Jasmine Watts. Thank you also to Matt Pring, Katherine Burgess, the Admin and Finance team for their attendance/ support of the trip.

Well done and congratulations to all involved in District Athletics! There were some amazing performances.

Kate Parsons and team for Art exhibition.

Congratulations to Rebecca Smith who has passed the British Sign Language exam.

We held our Year 11 Leavers Day and Prom – congratulations to all students and a big thanks to Mr Pring and the Year 11 team.





Mrs S Mitcherson **Headteacher**

British Sign Language



THANK YOU

Flat hand starts with fingertips on chin. Hand moves down and away from signer.



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 20th May

Jasmine H	9A
Gracie D	9H
Lucy B	9L
Isabel C	9M
Shylah-Malia B	9P

Dayan I HOY Nomination

Year 10 - Week commencing 14th June

Krzysztof K	10A
Elise S	10H
Marley G	10L
Maddie H	10M
Finley P	10P
Josh B	10T

Macey J HOY Nomination

Year 7 - Week commencing 17th June

Iqrah A	7A
Abdul M	7F
Isabelle T	7H
Louis T	7L
Maia G	7M
Zach L	7P
Corey-James W	7T

Tommy H-M HOY Nomination

Mr R Nelson

Assistant Headteacher

Parking Outside of School

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, on the grass verges and across residents driveways.

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

Top 20 House Points

Top 20 House Point Achievers 22nd May to 18th June.

Name Tutor Group		Points
Joseph T	10 Anderson	127
Eva H	8 Anderson	108
Didi E	8 Anderson	107
Ellie O'C	8 Anderson	103
Victor R	10 Anderson	97
Fabien T-B	10 Anderson	96
Libby T	8 Anderson	93
James S	8 Anderson	92
Daniel S	10 Anderson	92
Johann L	8 Anderson	91
Katie L	8 Anderson	91
Daisy H	10 Anderson	90
Michael O	9 Mandela	90
Amilie H	8 Anderson	88
Amalia T	10 Anderson	87
Sam H	8 Anderson	86
Gracie A-C	7 Mandela	85
Kiara C	8 Anderson	85
Maddison M	10 Anderson	85
1		

After School Clubs

We offer a wide choice of After School Activities. Please visit SOCs to view them:

https://www.socscms.com/login/4393/



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.



Pupil News - School Athletics Record

We are very proud of Frank R who broke a 2018 300m school record last week with a time of 43.05s (the original record was 53.3s).

We are also taking Niamh T (100m), Kacei G (200m & Triple Jump) and Frank R (300m and Long Jump) to the Hertfordshire Athletics Championships where they will compete against the best of the county. Kacei in particular will be competing against students in Year 10.

Mr J Chappell **PE Subject Leader**



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

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

Diversity

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.



Hub Club
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
lunchtimes, we have Lunchtime Hub Club
in K2 which gives students the opportunity to
complete homework at lunchtime as well as
drop-in sessions if they wish to speak to a
member of the safeguarding team with any
concern.



Young Carers
Every Thursday lunchtime, students can

meet in **K2**, to discuss **Young Carers** within our school.



Pupil News - Duke of Edinburgh

While former Head Student Megan Singleton was in Sixth Form she completed her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award. She was invited to visit Buckingham Palace with her Grandma on Monday May 13th to receive this award and celebrate her achievement, even meeting the Duke of Edinburgh.







Mrs S Mitcherson **Headteacher**

ATTENDANCEWHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Alban Academies Trust

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 - 22nd May 2024 - 18th June 2024

7 Anderson	Roxy T	Tegan C	Zachary L	Mati W	Isabella S
Martin B	Zachary T	Riley F	Lily R		Sienna S
Oscar B		Charlie G	Jaiden S	8 Hawking	Alfie S
Tyler B	7 Hawking	Olivia G	Zachary T	Mitchell C	Jake V
Ethan B	Maisie C	Owen H		Faith C	Ruby W
Jaeden C	Mia C	Samuel K	7 Turing	Kaysie D	
Riley E	Leo D	Gabriela K	Luke C	Harrison D	8 Parks
Zyra F	Grace D	Isabelle McC	Imogen D	Connor F	Zachary A
Autumn G	Adam G	Alexandru S	Beloved E	Lois F	Lewis F
Rayyan I	Jessie G	Daisy T	Mia F	Sinead K	Ryan H
Charlie M	Gracie-Mai H-T	Louis T	Tommy H-M	Timur K	Rafael H
George M	Callum H	Riley W	Connor L	Harrison N	Chloe M
Mason M	Olivia M		Nellie M	Laurie P	Emily R
Helen O-O	Kaydence M	7 Mandela	Alice P	George S	George R
	Harvey M	Gracie A-C		Grace S	Finn S
7 Franklin	Mckenzie M	Alissia A	8 Anderson	Owen T	Chloe T
Hollie C	Mia R	Harrison D	Megan B		Henry W
Julia D	Finlay R	Maia G	Toby B	8 Lytton	
Sophia F	Max S	Ruby H	Ellis E	Jayden B	8 Turing
Lexi H	Larry T	Ariel I-A	Didi E	Bobby B	Nyla A
Layland H	Isabelle T	Reilly-Kai L	Skye G	Lashaun K	Willow B
Darsi-Bleu K	Lucas V		Lexi G	Luana S	Brian B
Chloe L	Candice V	7 Parks	Sam H	Bianca-Maria S	Cameron B
Jamie M	Leo W	Bobby B	Eva H	Jaeden U	Kingston D
Raphael M		George C	Johann L		Emmie D
Angus M-S	7 Lytton	Harvey C	Katie L	8 Mandela	Jack F
Abdul M	Theodore B	Oliver H	Ellie O'C	India A	Kaila-Kelly G
Dylan P	Jackson B	Olivia H	James S	Olaf B	Eleanor M
Theo P	Hayden C	Bella J	Libby T	Harvey C	Caitlyn M
Mia-Joy R	Summer C	Dantes J	Hayden W	Olivia M	Ben P

Paige R	9 Hawking	9 Mandela	Alicja L	10 Hawking	Maddie H
Frank R	Beau B	Ellen A	Isabella N-P	Aydan B	Freya H
Maika T	Brennan B-M	Isabella B	Dexter R	Kya F	Kyle P
Kiera W	Molly D	Daniel B	Solara T	Ademola G	Luca T
	Aishu F	Louise B-W	Lucas W	Daniel H	Harmonie Y
9 Anderson	Dalila F	Eve D	9 Turing	Maia K	
Chloe B	Finley G	Keirnan D-L	Mia D	Jaden T	10 Parks
Charlie B	Archie H	Lily F	Emily H		Francis C
Jack C	Tilly J	Lenny F	Alan K	10 Lytton	Daniel H
Tia D	Dominic McC	Eloise F	Harry R	Katie C-L	Connor K
Angelo G	Ryley-James S	Eric G	Vladimir R	James D	Ethan N-P
Clara H-M	Jasper T-B	Eva G	Jamie T	Aiden G	Maksymilian N
Clara-Louise H		Theo K	Olivia T	Ella G	Archie P
Jasmine H	9 Lytton	James M	Daisy W	Harley H	Finley P
Harley K	Hsian A	Michael O	Sophia W	Szymon K	
Joziah-Ray M	Amelia B	Jayna R		Mason McD	10 Turing
Cameron N	Luke E	Rafa V	10 Anderson	Jayden N	Jack G
Alexander N	Ben F		Jessica G	Dora S	Evie H
Archie P	Frankie H	9 Parks	Lauren H	Ava S	Emily H
Olga P	George I	Seth B	Maddison McP	Carson W	Callum H
Archie S	Tegan O'L	Shylah-Malia B	Victor R		Harley S
Maxwell T	Oliver T	Verity B	Amalia T	10 Mandela	Jake W
		Evan D-T		Ethan C	Oliver W
		Tyrese F		Ashley C	Corby W

House Points

Anderson



65459

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.

Hawking



60452

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.

Lytton



66529

was the suffragette, writer and speaker who campaigned for prison reform and women's rights her family connections.





Parks



67661

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 67688 points. Last updated 18.06.2024

Head of Year News

Year 7 - Mrs C Hunt

A big shout out to Darcey D, Zach L, Iqra A and Ed Q who competed at the district athletics.

I have seen some remarkable enthusiasm and dedication throughout lessons. Year 7 have tackled new challenges with resilience, participated in exciting projects, and supported one another in their learning journeys. Let's keep it going until the end of the year!

Year 8 - Mr Amstuz

I am thrilled to share the latest updates and achievements from our amazing Year 8 cohort! Congratulations to all our students who have excelled in athletics and county football this term. Your dedication and hard work have truly paid off, and I am incredibly proud of your outstanding contributions and achievements.

It's also been wonderful to see such creative work emerging from our music classes. Your talent and passion for music are inspiring, and I am delighted by your growth and enthusiasm.

Well done, Year 8! Keep pushing yourselves and supporting each other. I look forward to more fantastic achievements in the future.

Year 9 - Miss G Picone

Well done, Year 9!

This term, there has been a remarkable change in the attitudes and maturity levels of our Year 9 students. I have had the privilege of witnessing their participation in lessons and have seen how actively they engage in their learning.

Across the board, there have been notable improvements in the number of house points they are receiving. Last week, Year 9 achieved the highest attendance rate in the school. Thank you for your continued hard work in supporting the school's behaviour policy and attendance.

I would also like to extend a massive congratulations to Kacei G for his outstanding performance in the 200m and Triple Jump at the Hertfordshire Athletics Championships. Competing against some of the best athletes in the county, including those a year older, Kacei represented our school admirably. Well done, Kacei!

Lastly, a special shout-out to our current top house point earners this term so far:

Maxwell T - 9A Aishu F - 9H Hsian A - 9L Michael O - 9M Seth B - 9P Emily H - 9T

Year 10 - Miss N Wilson

Well done Year 10! This term, there has been a huge change in the attitudes and improvement in behaviour points. I have been able to witness your brilliant participation in lessons and extra curricular activities. Thank you for your continued hard work in supporting the school's behaviour policy and attendance.

Year 11 - Mr M Pring

Well done to Year 11 for completing their GCSE Exam Period successfully. Information regarding Results day will come out in the next few days. We look forward to welcoming record numbers of students back into year 12 in September. However, first we have our sixth form induction programme which will be taking place next week for students to experience taster lessons for the options they have chosen.

Sixth Form - Mrs N Picariello

Well done to Year 12 who are starting their end of year exams this week - you've worked hard all year and now is your time to shine!

Year 13 have been amazing throughout the exam period - just a few papers to go this week and then all done! We miss you already Year 13: make sure you come back and tell us all about your adventures:)





We're Hiring!

- Would you like a term-time job?
- Do you want a role within the local community?
- Are you good with young people?

We are recruiting TEACHING ASSISTANTS

- Flexible hours
- Training provided
- Term-time only
- Free parking

Scan the QR code for more information or email appointments@ridgeway.aat.school to come in for an informal chat.



Subject Focus - English

It has been a busy and exciting year in the English department so far! Students have been involved in many extra-curricular opportunities including author visits, lunchtime clubs and a wide range of competitions, we have made changes to parts of our KS3 curriculum and students have been working hard in preparation for examinations.

September saw the launch of the Young Writer's national poetry competition, in which students were tasked to write poems about themselves, guided by the topic "this is me". This was particularly effective for our (then) new Year 7 cohort, who had the opportunity to explore what makes them 'them', whilst simultaneously introducing themselves to their new peers! However, it wasn't just our Year 7s who flourished in this competition, with several entries across the school getting published in the Young Writer's 'This is me' poetry anthology. Well done on such a winning start to the year!

In November, the author Chris Bradford visited students in Years 7 and 8. Students learnt about

Chris' Young Samurai and Bodyquard series and were trained in the of skills beina Students bodyguard. had an excellent day and produced some fantastic writing about their day. Students were so engrossed by the experience, not only are Chris' books in constant demand in the library, but several students have even gone out of their way to purchase



their own copies of his book series.

March saw the celebrations in English continue, with World Book Day. Across the school day, students were read a section from The Man with the Yellow Face by Anthony Horowitz each lesson by their teachers. However, this was no ordinary reading, as students were then tasked with voting for the teacher who gave the best reading performance throughout the day. Miss Walsh was awarded the first prize, closely followed by Mr Pring in second place, and Ms Wilson and Ms Russell in third. It was great to see the competitive spirit kick in across the school!

As well as enjoying a whole school read for World Book Day, students were also invited to enter 2 competitions. The first was to write a 500-word story. We read some amazing short stories about warriors, islands and robots but the best story at KS3 was written by Gracie A in 7 Mandela and was about a young boy called Oli and a penguin called Skipper. At KS4 the best story was awarded to Ashton C in 11 Parks. The second competition involved students

designing a book cover. The winner was Kristina L in 9 Mandela for the cover of the graphic novel The Demon Slayer by Kimetsu no Yaiba. Kristina's cover design will now replace the book cover in our school library.

At Easter, we introduced a new novel to the Year 9 curriculum: Noughts and Crosses. The novel is about two teenage friends, Sephy who is a Cross and Callum who is



a Nought, who live in a world where Noughts and Crosses do not mix. The novel deals with some sensitive topics and we have been impressed by how students have responded to the text. Well done for discussing the text with such maturity. The book has proven to be popular, with the text now being in high demand in the school library. In light of student enthusiasm, we have purchased further copies and bought the rest of the novels in the series. The series is highly recommended, so you'll need to be quick to grab a copy for summer reading!

Easter also saw revision in full swing for KS4 and KS5 students. Year 10 students had their pre-public examinations - we truly commend the hard work and effort that students put into their exams.

Similarly, after two years of dedication, it was finally time for our Year 11 classes to show off their knowledge in their English GSCEs. Alongside their after-school interventions, a number of students attended targeted intervention sessions in the Easter holidays and the May half-term. We hope you found these sessions beneficial and we welcome your feedback on these. The turnout for pre-exam breakfast was spectacular each morning (whether that was because students wanted to do some last-minute revision or they wanted a breakfast of pastries, supplied by the English department!). We wish you all the best of luck for the next stages in your education, and we look forward to seeing your hard work pay off in August when you receive your exam results.

Our A-Level students also displayed a similar commitment to their studies in the lead up to their examinations. As you move on to the next stages of your lives, we wholeheartedly wish you the best for your futures, and hope that you keep in touch with where your A-Levels take you.

As we now approach the end of the academic year, we ask all English students at Ridgeway Academy to continue to display enthusiasm, enjoyment and engagement towards the subject.

Miss S Walsh Teacher of English



Cyber Choices and Online Safety Events

For parents / carers of children aged 9 and up

You are invited to attend two free online sessions to discuss all things "cyber".

These sessions will be suitable for parents/carers of children in Year 5 (age 9) and above. This will be a fantastic opportunity to learn and ask questions regarding your child's online world and it shouldn't be missed!

<u>Part 1</u> will introduce you to the Cyber Choices programme which will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Choices Team. They will provide:

- An overview to parents and carers on what cybercrime is.
- · What the risks to young people are.
- How the Cyber Choices programme supports at-risk individuals.
- How you can refer a young person into Cyber Choices.

You will also hear from Kent County Council's Education Safeguarding Team, who will provide an overview of:

- Some of the potential risks that children and young people may experience online.
- Advice to support parents to make informed decisions and keep their children safer online.

Please visit the NCA website to find out more about Cyber Choices

Please register for <u>one</u> part 1 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 1 Book here <u>Part 2</u> will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Protect Team. They will provide:

- Advice on how to improve your personal cyber security.
- Identifying and protecting yours (and your children's) key accounts.
- Threats and techniques that cyber criminals may use to target you / your family.
- · Benefits of family accounts.
- Parental controls on your router.
- Signposting to useful resources.

The aim of the session is to provide you with tools and techniques to improve the cyber security of your family.

Advice and guidance from the session will be in line with the Government's Stop Think Fraud and the National Cyber Security Centres Cyberaware campaigns.

Again, please register for <u>one</u> part 2 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 10th July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 2 Book here

If you have any questions or would like us to cover a certain topic within our sessions, then please complete our Online form

School Vacancies

The school is currently recruiting for the following

Teacher of Girls PE (ECTs welcome to apply)

9:00am Monday 15th July 2024 Apply by: September 2024/January 2025 Start:

Director of Mathematics

9:00am Friday 19th July 2024 Apply by:

Start: September 2024

Teacher of Mathematics (Full or Part time) 5K Golden Hello

9:00am Monday 15th July 2024 Apply by:

Start: **April 2024**

Sports Centre and Lettings Manager

9:00am Thursday 4th July 2024 Apply by:

Start:

Teacher of Geography (Humanities) with ability to teach Philosophy and Ethics

9:00am Thursday 18th July 2024 Apply by:

Start: September 2024

Teacher of Science

9:00am Thursday 18th July 2024 Apply by:

Start: September 2024

Assistant Subject Leader for English

9:00am Friday 19th July 2024 Apply by: September 2024/January 2025 Start:

Cover/Learning Supervisor

9:00am Friday 19th July 2024 Apply by:

Start: September 2024

For more information visit:

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

Mrs K Biss

Human Resources Officer

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
- → Green pen REACT or Recall starters are completed in silence
- → 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

ARE YOU A YOUNG CARER?









Do you care for a family member because.....

they have a mental or physical illness?







Carers in Hertfordshire will help you by ...



Listening

Empowering



Supporting



Carers in Hertfordshire **Young Carers**

Support for YOU



For more information, visit www.carersinherts.org.uk/young carers or scan the QR code

Student Learning Expectations

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

Mrs L Hyde **Deputy Headteacher**

Sports Centre News

Rambino's Coffee to Go!

Rambino's Coffee were delighted to receive a 5 star hygiene rating from the food standards agency, congratulations! The opening hours for Rambino's can be found on their social media channels @rambinoscoffee on a weekly basis.





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 are pleased to welcome Strive Football Academy in May Half Term and the Summer holidays. Coaching is delivered by UEFA qualified, exTottenham player Jesse Waller Lassen. Visit https://strivefootballacademy.com/ for further information.

Barracudas will again be joining us in the Summer holidays. To book, please visit: https://www.barracudas.co.uk/camps/welwyn/. We are pleased to share an exclusive Ridgeway parent discount code **HSCP24**.

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.

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.

Mr R Goodship
Sports Centre Manager







School Term and Holiday Dates 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 8th to Friday 12th July Enrichment Week

Sunday 7th - Wednesday 10th July Year 9 Geography field trip to Wales/Bristol

Monday 8th to Friday 12th July Work Experience Year 10

Thursday 11th July Secondary Transfer Taster Day

Friday 19th July Last Day of Term

Monday 22nd July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)

Tuesday 23rd July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)

Wednesday 24th July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024-25

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Tuesday 3rd September INSET/ Training

Wednesday 4th September Start of Term (New year 7 and 12 only)

Thursday 12th September Open Evening

Monday 28th October - 1st November Half Term

Friday 29th November Occasional Day

Friday 20th December Last Day of Term

SPRING TERM 2025

Tuesday 7th January Start of Term

Thursday 13th & Friday 14th February INSET/ Training days

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February Half Term

Friday 4th April Last Day of Term

SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22nd April Start of Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th May **Half Term**

Friday 18th July Last Day of Term

