

# **Ridgeway News**





SHARING THE DETAIL AND THE BIGGER PICTURE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Issue 112 July 2024 Week 2

# **Headteacher's Message**

As we come to the end of a busy academic year, it has been wonderful to celebrate student achievement at the Prize Giving assemblies.

Congratulations to all award winners.

We finish term tomorrow with a whole school celebration assembly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff at Ridgeway for their hard work and commitment to our students.

Thank you to the staff who are leaving at the end of term and we send best wishes for their future roles, particularly Ms Vaughan and Mrs Williams who have served our school community for many years.

I would like to pay tribute to Jackie Smith, my Deputy, for her dedication to our school community and wish her every success in her next role.

We are welcoming Antonia Timpson as Subject Leader for Philosophy & Ethics, Kate Dalgleish as Subject Leader for ICT & Computing, Dan Burridge as Assistant Subject Leader for Science, Gursimen Kaur as Assistant Subject Leader for Maths, David Bishop as Lead Practitioner for English, James Shum as Teacher of English, Anna Dyson as Teacher of Drama, Sonya Barnes as Teacher of Spanish, Lorraine Johnson as Teacher of PE, Emma Walker as Teacher of Art & Design Technology, Taj Saidzadeh as Teacher of Geography, Lawrence Mbamarah as Teacher of Maths, William Benson as Cover/Learning Supervisor. We also welcome Louis Wylie as Sports & Lettings Manager.

Have a wonderful Summer break, relax, recuperate and enjoy special time with your friends and family.

Mrs S Mitcherson **Headteacher** 

#### Staff Leaver's

Julie	Cain	Assistant Head of Yea Sports Centre
Ross	Goodship	Manager Asst Subject Leader
Taslima	Hannan	English Technology
Georgia	Harris	Co-ordinator
Ibrahim	Khan	Science Teacher
Jill	Kitchener	Co-SENDCO
Carmen	Love	MFL Teacher Subject Leader
Farina	Malik	Computing and ICT
Jackie	Smith	Deputy Headteacher Social Sciences
Kerry	Steers	Teacher
Katy	Tranter	English Teacher
Shelley	Vaughan	PE Teacher
Steve	Warren	DT Teacher
Jasmine	Watts	Science Teacher
Te Larnii	White	Maths Teacher
Kathie	Williams	Admin Assistant

# **British Sign Language**



#### **SUMMER**

Open hand brushes across forehead.

#### End and Start of Term

Pupils finish this Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 12:15pm

Return to school in September is staggered:

#### Wednesday 4th September:

New Year 7 and 12 and Year 13 only.

#### Thursday 5th September:

All other year groups.

# Year 8 and 9 Geography Trip

We recently had another very successful and enjoyable trip to the outdoor education centre in Wales. The Year 8 and 9 students enjoyed a gorge adventure that involved exploring a very steep gorge, clambering up waterfalls, sitting underneath waterfalls and even jumping into deep plunge pools.

They all learnt about the formation of gorges through adventure and fun, and it was fantastic to see them helping each other out and being really brave. The students also learnt how to canoe and explored a 4km section of canals and waterways around Brecon. Many of them struggled to go in a straight line initially but soon got the hang of it. We saw lots of wildlife and had a great time.

Then we visited Hay-on-Wye, perused the many book shops, explored the castle and the delightful back streets of this literary town. Students enjoyed a barbecue and fun times in the evenings with a selection of games and activities. The return journey included a visit to Bristol where students had time to explore the city. They saw the Clifton Suspension Bridge, SS Great Britain, The Matthew, M-Shed, Arnolfini, Watershed, CBD, St. Nicholas Market and Cabot Circus. We also enjoyed a boat ride through the harbour on the way back to the minibuses. The group helped to serve and prepare food and helped to keep the farmhouse clean and tidy. They learnt many skills including communication, teamwork and resilience.

A huge thank you to them and also to Mr Pring, Mr Loftus, Ms Wesson and Ms Burgess for the time and huge effort they put in to make this trip such a success. Enjoy the Summer and we hope to see more of you joining our trips next year.

#### Mr M Broad Geography Subject Leader







#### 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 8 - Week commencing 24th June

Megan B	A8
George M-M	8L
Alfie S	8M
Burt Q	8P

Nathan Y **HOY Nomination** 

#### Year 9 - Week commencing 1st July

Archie P	9A
Ebony S	9H
Tegan O'L	9L
Daniel B	9M
Aarron A	9P
Harry R	9T

Aishu F HOY Nomination

Mr R Nelson

Assistant Headteacher

# **Top 20 House Points**

Top 20 House Point Achievers 18<sup>th</sup> June to 16<sup>th</sup> July.

Name	<b>Tutor Group</b>	Points
Leah P	7 Parks	174
Eva H	8 Anderson	158
Jack F	8 Turing	122
Thomas T	8 Turing	121
Ben P	8 Turing	116
Ellie O'C	8 Anderson	110
James S	8Anderson	110
Jack S	8 Lytton	110
Sam H	8 Anderson	106
Didi E	8 Anderson	103
Kiara C	8 Anderson	101
Lilly R	8 Lytton	99
Lexi G	8 Anderson	97
Harriet J	8 Anderson	96
Hayden W	8 Anderson	96
George Mc-M	8 Lytton	91
Katie L	8 Anderson	90
Jaeden U	8 Lytton	90
Brooke F	7 Parks	88
Sanjana K	8 Lytton	88

#### **Achievement Assemblies 2024/25**

This week provided us with the opportunity to celebrate the successes of so many of our students, through the annual Prize Giving assemblies. Well done to those that were awarded prizes, it is a great achievement to be singled out for praise and you should be really proud of yourselves! If you are a parent that was able to attend, we would also like to extend our congratulations and thanks to you for all of the support you provide to your child. We look forward to providing more opportunities to celebrate the success of our students next year and wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break!





Mr R Nelson
Assistant Headteacher

#### After School Clubs

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

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



#### **Sports Day**

On Monday, the entire school came together for our annual sports day. Students from each form, along with their form tutors, participated in a variety of activities such as volleyball, handball, table tennis, football, and basketball. Although the afternoon activities were cut short due to rain, the spirit of sportsmanship prevailed.

We are proud to announce the winners of the day:

Best Form Tutor: Mr Khan Best Sports Person: Dexter R

Congratulations to the following year-level winners:

Year 7: Parks Year 8: Mandela Year 9: Lytton Year 10: Parks

Overall positions:

5<sup>th</sup> place: Hawking, Turing, and Franklin

4<sup>th</sup> place: Mandela 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Lytton 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Anderson 1<sup>st</sup> place: Parks

A big round of applause to everyone who participated and contributed to the success of Sports Day!

Mr J Chappell **PE Subject Leader** 











# **ATTENDANCE**WHY 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 - 18th June 2024 - 16th July 2024

7 Anderson	Olivia G	Amilie H	8 Turing	Frankie H	Fabien T
Martin B	Owen H	Johann L	Nyla A	William H	
Tyler B	Samuel K	Katie L	Brian B	Libby R	10 Hawking
Ethan B	Gabriela K	Ellie O	Cameron B		Ella D
Jaeden C	Isabelle M	Libby T	Lily C	9 Mandela	Kya F
Rayyan I	Charlotte S	Hayden W	Lacey C	Ellen A	Ademola G
Emil J	Daisy T	8 Hawking	Benjamin D	Dexter A	Maia K
Helen O	Louis T	Faith C	Jack F	Isabella B	Jaden T
Hamza S	Riley W	Sinead K	Kimberley G	Theo K	Isla T
Ella T		Timur K	Alina I	Michael O	401.44
7	7 Mandela	Harrison N	Caitlyn M	O Dawles	10 Lytton
7 Franklin	Gracie A	Brandon P	Paige R	9 Parks	James D
Artur D	Milosz D	Isaac R	Samuel S	Seth B	Marley G
Layland H Ashton H	Ariel I Kieron K	Grace S Ella T	Maika T Niamh T	Shylah-Malia B Taylor J	Szymon K Jayden N
Chloe L	Andrei K	James T	Thomas T	Alicja L	Carson W
Raphael M	Tinashe M	Jailles I	Kiera W	Dexter R	Carson vv
Mishti P	TITIASTIC IVI	8 Lytton	Nicia VV	Solara T	10 Mandela
Mia-Joy R	7 Parks	Jayden B	9 Anderson	Joiala 1	Nathan B
Zachary T	George C	Bella F	Konnie B	9 Turing	Jenson G
Zaoriary	Harvey C	Lilly R	Jack C	Jared A	Maddie H
7 Hawking	Brooke F	Kieran S	Ella D	Ehis G	Sophie H
Leo D	Bella J	Miley T	Tia D	Kacei G	Ruby H
Grace D	Dantes J	,	Clara H	Harry R	Oliver H
Jessie G	Zachary L	8 Mandela	Harley K	Vladimir R	Bethany P
Harvey M	Leah P	Dougie B	Cameron N	Jamie T	Harmonie Y
Teagan R	Jaiden S	Olaf B		Olivia T	
Max S	Zachary T	Harvey C	9 Hawking	Sophia W	10 Parks
Leo W		Grace H	Aishu F		Reece C
	7 Turing		Dalila F	10 Anderson	Francis C
7 Lytton	Lucus B	8 Parks	Рорру Н	Kian B	Dejoie J
Ishan A	Beloved E	Zachary A	Archie H	Annabel B	Ethan N
Ayden A	Troy H	Jayden C	George M	Daisy H	Finley P
Theodore B	Alice P	Chloe M	Kalen T	Lauren H	Anna-Mae V
Jackson B		Burt Q	Jasper T	Kobie N	40 7 .
Summer C	8 Anderson	George R	Olivia W	Evie R	10 Turing
Tegan C	Kiara C Didi E	Finn S	0 Lytton	Victor R	Emily H
Bianca D		Henry W	<b>9 Lytton</b> Hsian A	Sophie S Daniel S	Callum H Oliver W
Nancy F	Samuel G		Oliver F		Nadia Z
Riley F	Eva H		Oliver F	Amalia T	ivadia Z

#### **Head of Year News**

#### Year 7 - Mrs C Hunt

What a year! We are almost at the end of Year 7 and you will soon be going into your second year at Ridgeway. It has been fantastic seeing you grow from your first day and you have already changed so much. Have a restful and fun summer and I will see you back in September for Year 8!

#### Year 8 - Mr Amstuz

What an excellent year it has been for Year 8! Many of you have worked incredibly hard and overcome challenges, and I am so proud of how far you have come on your journey so far. I look forward to welcoming you back in Year 9, where we will hit the ground running as you prepare for your GCSE options and Year 10.

#### Year 9 - Miss G Picone

What a year it has been for Year 9! It has been a pleasure watching you mature, grow, and overcome your challenges. This year has been significant as you chose your options and began preparing for your GCSEs. Your focus ahead of Year 10 commendable. I wish you all a restful summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

#### Year 10 - Miss N Wilson

Well done to all year 10's completing work experience! We had some fantastic feedback from placements, about how mature and sensible most of you were!

#### Year 11 - Mr M Pring

Well Done Everyone in Year 11. I hope you are looking forward to coming in for results day on the 22nd of August to see how fantastically you have done in your GCSE's and then look forward to welcoming you all back for 6th form.

#### Sixth Form - Mrs N Picariello

Well done Year 12 - you've made it! One more year of Ridgeway Academy left to go, and it will be a busy one with UCAS applications, apprenticeship searches and final exams! Make sure you make the most of your work experience next week, have a great summer and try not to leave all the summer work until the last minute:)

#### Attendance News

Under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days.

This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160. Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

Money raised via fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.

Mrs M Tinker Assistant Headteacher

#### **House Points**

#### **Anderson**



68930

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



63060

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.

#### Lvtton



70089

suffragette, writer and speaker who women's rights under an alias to



**Parks** 



71992

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 74777 points. Last updated 16.07.2024

#### Director of Public Health Sarah Perman



Hertfordshire County Council County Hall Pegs Lane Hertford SG13 8DE HertsHPT.SPOC@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 17 July 2024 Dear Parent.

A reminder to ensure your child's vaccinations are up to date, it is never too late to catch up:

As we approach the end of term, and as you may be preparing for a summer break in the UK or abroad, we would like to remind you of the importance of vaccinations and encourage you to use the summer break to catch up on any missing vaccinations.

This year, in Hertfordshire, and across England and Europe, we have seen higher numbers of cases of measles and whooping cough. We have supported a number of schools across Hertfordshire to help manage measles outbreaks this school year. Sadly, this has resulted in many children becoming very unwell, with some hospitalised.

Measles is highly contagious and spreads easily among unvaccinated people, especially in nurseries and schools and can lead to serious health conditions such as meningitis and hearing loss. The <a href="MMR vaccine">MMR vaccine</a> is the most effective way to protect people from catching measles, mumps and rubella and becoming extremely unwell.

Whooping cough is also contagious, and can cause prolonged cough, coughing fits, breathlessness and gasping for breath during coughing, and vomiting due to coughing. It is particularly serious in very young infants and can cause death in infants under 6 months old. A free vaccination for whooping cough is available through your GP.

Due to the serious and contagious nature of these illnesses, if your child is exposed to measles or gets whooping cough they may be required to stay at home for a prolonged period.

Vaccination for measles (MMR vaccination) and whooping cough is available free via your GP. Check your child's status and contact your GP to make an appointment. Your practice nurse is best placed to address any questions or concerns you have about any of the vaccines.

I hope you have a pleasant summer break and thank you in advance for protecting your child through vaccination prior to September 2024.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Perman

Director of Public Health

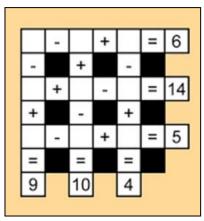
# Subject Focus - Maths

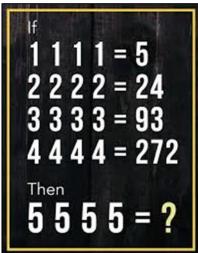
As this year draws to a close, we have the opportunity to reflect back on the year and all the wonderful successes our school, department and students have had. We would like to congratulate our Year 11 students for their hard work and dedication this year, and wish them nothing but the best for the future. Many of our students spent Monday afternoons and holidays doing extra maths and putting in 110%.

Our Year 10s have also had their first taste of mock exams, and have shown great resilience.

Looking forward to the next academic year, the maths department have many exciting things in the pipeline. We are very excited to potentially be offering A level Mathematics in our 6th form, and will be running UKMT mathematical challenges throughout the year (this will give our students not only the opportunity to show off their amazing problem-solving skills, but also let them represent our school on a national level). As the maths team grows, we have more exciting plans for trips, clubs and activities for our amazing students to sink their teeth into.

To end off the year, we would like to wish all of our students a restful and safe summer break. And last but not least, it wouldn't be a maths news piece without a puzzle. Enjoy!





Mrs J Webb Lead Practitioner for Mathematics

# Democracy Day at Ridgeway Academy - 9<sup>th</sup> July

Whilst some people may be pleased the General Election is over, education about our democratic systems and the importance of voting is still going strong at Ridgeway Academy! For curriculum enrichment week, we have dedicated a day for KS3 and KS5 students to learn about Democracy. Lessons were planned so that students were able to understand what democracy means, how democratic systems work and the importance of voting and having their say. Lessons involved using Celebrations sweets to understand voting systems, and analysing

the benefits of First Past the Post, discussing the democratic deficit and what can be done to change it as well as designing posters supporting increasing voter participation.



The day culminated with a referendum vote on whether our student body agree that the voting age should be lowered to 16. A Hustings debate was held by two of our Year 12 Politics A Level students, Mieka B d'S, Edith K and Livia K who spoke in front of a packed sports hall, and students then cast their votes in the Ballot officiated by more Year 12 Politics students. Our new local MP Andrew Lewin sent the following message students:





"I wanted to send a quick message to everyone taking part in Democracy Day at Ridgeway Academy. It's never been more important for young people to



make your voices heard. You will all have a vote by the time of the next General Election, but that doesn't mean you have to wait to speak up. Enjoy today, learn and never be afraid to ask questions or speak out about the causes you care about. I started to study politics in Year 12 in 2003. Twenty-one years later, I have just been elected as Welwyn Hatfield's MP. Nothing is impossible."

Students said that they enjoyed the day:

'It was a great learning experience - especially learning about democracy in other countries.'

'It was a fun day - especially period four learning about how more people should vote and designing a campaign'.

'US Politics was the most interesting, I was amazed that black people in America weren't able to vote until so recently'

Mrs N Picariello History Subject Leader / Head of 6th Form

### **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.



# **Parking Outside of School**

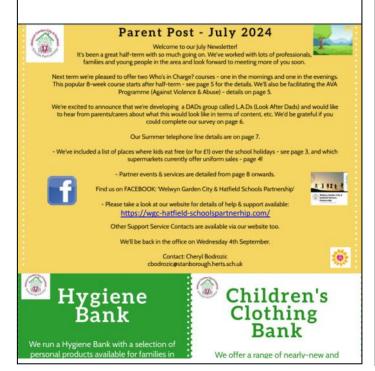
If you are collecting your child by vehicle at the end of the school day, please park respectfully and be mindful of local residents who may need to access their driveways when parking in the layby opposite the school. Please do not park on the hazard yellow lines, on the grass verges and across residents driveways.

Where possible please arrange to meet your child a short walk from the school and ensure that your child only crosses using the pedestrian lights on Herns Lane.

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

Miss M Harrigan School Operations Manager

# Click here to View Welwyn Garden City & Hatfield Schools Partnership latest newsletter



# **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** 

#### **Sports Centre News**

#### **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 again in the Summer holidays. Coaching is delivered by UEFA qualified, ex-Tottenham player Jesse Waller Lassen. Visit <a href="https://strivefootballacademy.com/">https://strivefootballacademy.com/</a> for further information



Barracudas will again be joining us in the Summer holidays. Parents can get £20 off a full week or £4 off a day by applying this code in the promotions box: HSCP24 \*can't be used in conjunction with other offers. To book, please visit:

https://www.barracudas.co.uk/camps/welwyn/

#### Herts Balance and Ride

We are delighted to welcome back Herts Balance and Ride during the Summer Holidays. Full details can be found on the poster.



#### **New Staff**

After a thorough recruitment process, we are delighted to welcome 7 new members of the Sports Centre staff who will start over the summer and be in place ready for September. Please welcome Louis, who will be taking over as Sports and Lettings Manager, Paul who will be a Duty Manager and Liam, Rhys, Jamie, Josh and Alfie who will start as Leisure Assistants.

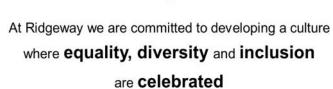






Mr R Goodship **Sports Centre Manager** 





# K<sub>2</sub>

**Lunchtime Hub Club** Monday

**Diversity** Tuesday

**Lunchtime Hub Club** Wednesday

Thursday **Young Carers** 

**Lunchtime Hub Club** Friday

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





# **School Term and Holiday Dates 2024**

#### **SUMMER TERM 2024**

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July **Last Day of Term** 

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July Shadow Inset Day (school closed)

# **School Term and Holiday Dates 2024-25**

#### **AUTUMN TERM 2024**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September All Staff Training Day

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September INSET/Training

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September Start of Term (New Year 7 and 12 and Year 13 only)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September Start of Term (All other year groups)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September Open Evening

> Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November Occasional Day Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December **Last Day of Term**

#### **SPRING TERM 2025**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January Start of Term

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

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February Half Term

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April Last Day of Term

#### **SUMMER TERM 2025**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April Start of Term

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May Half Term

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July Last Day of Term

