

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Mobile Phone Policy**

It is good to see that students have responded positively to the changes to the mobile phone policy and lunchtime is certainly louder now that more students are interacting with each other! Thank you for your support with this.

### **Achievement Badges**

I had the pleasure of awarding a large number of Year 8 students this week with their Silver and Bronze Achievement Badges in recognition of their hard work, excellent behaviour and large number of achievement points earned. Students in Years 9-11 will be awarded their next badges shortly, if eligible, and Year 7 are currently working towards their Bronze badge with almost all students on track to achieve this at Easter. Students need to 'bank' four half term periods at our required standard in order to achieve their next badge. These do not need to be consecutive so some students will be awarded their next badge at a later date when they meet the criteria. For full details on our Achievement Badges please visit <https://richardhale.herts.sch.uk/about-us/achievement-system/>

### **House Volunteering Competition**

As we announced before Christmas, we are running a House volunteering competition this half term. Students in all year groups can take part and simply need to undertake 5 hours of voluntary activity, or 5 different activities which may take less than 5 hours. Hundreds of students have already signed up to take part and many have already started sending in their evidence. There has been lots of litter picking taking place, students helping siblings with homework/reading, support at local sports clubs, etc. Some really impressive efforts so far! All students need to do is join the Google Classroom with code bqegsnd complete their voluntary activities, and then upload their evidence. This can be photos (if appropriate), a written account, a photographed note from a parent, etc. If in doubt students can just describe what they have done or see Mr Camm in person to recount it! Every student that enters earns points for their House.

### **RHS Careers Network**

There is still time to join our expanding network of parents and ex-students who support our careers programme at RHS. There is no obligation to commit to specific events or times and we welcome engagement from people in all sectors, roles and backgrounds. Already this year 52 companies have signed up to support our extensive careers programme and we would be very grateful if you would consider joining us. The link to more information is here:

<https://forms.gle/MU3SzhKxdHKdGZWD6>

We also welcome our school community to follow our LinkedIn page which helps connect students and parents, both past and present, with the school and our network of local and national employers <https://www.linkedin.com/school/richard-hale-school-official/> For more information on any part of our careers programme please contact Mr Camm ([pca@richardhale.co.uk](mailto:pca@richardhale.co.uk)).

## **Guys and Dolls**

Students from years 10 to 13 have been busy rehearsing for this year's senior production of the classic musical Guys and Dolls. The performances are on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm and tickets are now available to purchase through WisePay. Please come and support our older students who are acting in the cast and performing live music in the band.

## **Rugby**

Results from games on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

U12 Rugby results vs Watford Grammar. Three competitive games, teamwork, respect and enjoyment in abundance.

Australia – Won

England – Won

Wales - Drew

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, the U12 play QE Barnet (H). Please check Google Classroom and X (formerly Twitter) for match details and weather updates.

## **Burns Night**

Unfortunately, due to lack of ticket sales the Burns Night Celebration planned for the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 has been cancelled. The PA will be looking to host Burns Night on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## **Staff News**

Mr Smith will be running the London Marathon 2024 in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust. Every day, seven young people aged 13-24 hear the words “you have cancer”. Cancer doesn’t just devastate their health, it threatens to take away everything they care about, their identity, their independence and their dreams. Teenage Cancer Trust funds specialist nurses, youth support teams and hospital units within the NHS to provide the very best care and support during treatment and beyond, making sure cancer doesn’t stop young people living their lives.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated by Mr Smith.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alex-smith1901?utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=alex-smith1901&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share&utm\\_term=355184e32eb947668120b0969612dde1](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alex-smith1901?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=alex-smith1901&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=355184e32eb947668120b0969612dde1)

Ian Hawkins

**Headteacher**

## **January 2024 Calendar**

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 12 Mid-Term Tests week
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 10 Cambridge University visit

	Holocaust Memorial Event
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 8 HPV Immunisations (Year 9 immunisations moved to April) BTEC exams end
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sixth Form Politics talk
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Intermediate Maths Challenge GCSE Food Tech Practical

### February 2024 Calendar

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	School Production
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	School Production
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 Parents Evening
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	GCSE Art Gallery Visit Year 8 Careers Networking Event
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 8 Careers Networking Event A Level Drama – evening theatre visit
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Uniform Day 3.20pm finish Junior Ski Trip departs, returns 24 <sup>th</sup>
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Ski Trip departs, returns 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term Week
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 Revision Workshops
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 Parents Evening

### March 2024 Calendar

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 11 and 13 Photographs
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Parents Evening
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 MFL Mock Writing Exams Week
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	House Music
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 9 /10 French Exchange to RHS to the 22 <sup>nd</sup> Year 9/10 German Exchange to RHS to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 11 English Exam
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Uniform 12.30pm Finish
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday Easter Break begins

### April 2024 Calendar

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Summer term begins
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### Weeks

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Week 2
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 1
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Week 2
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Week 1
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term Week

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Week 2
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Week 1
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Week 2
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Week 1
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Week 2
	Easter Break
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Week 1

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