

22nd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Shout Out For German Week

This week, our school is proud to join the nationwide celebration of #ShoutOutForGerman Week, an initiative led by the Goethe-Institut and the German Embassy to champion the vibrant language and culture of Germany. Despite being the UK's second-largest trading partner, German is becoming an increasingly rare and prestigious skill; currently, only 35% of state secondary schools teach German at Key Stage 3, and just 38% offer it at GCSE. By choosing to study German, our students truly "stand out from the crowd," equipping themselves with a unique competitive edge. As the most widely spoken native language in the EU and a powerhouse in engineering, finance, and renewable energy, German is a strategic asset for any young professional in the international business arena.

Our students have fully embraced the week with both enthusiasm and humour. In Key Stage 3, classes have been sharing their favourite German words; a particular highlight was *Eichhörnchen* (squirrel), which caused much laughter as students tackled its tricky pronunciation—only to discover that German speakers often find the English word "squirrel" just as difficult to master! Meanwhile, our Year 12 German for Business students took a more professional look at the language by attending a Goethe-Institut "Business Lunch" webinar with Philip Dodds. This session provided invaluable insights into the world of international commerce and encouraged our students to consider the immense benefits of a year abroad during their future university degrees.

Rosie Galligan Visit – Thursday 29th January

We are delighted that Rosie Galligan will be coming to talk to some of our students next Thursday. Rosie was part of the England Women's team that won the Rugby World Cup last year but prior to that, she faced great adversity through life and her career, and she will be sharing those experiences with Years 7, 10 and 12 next week. If any student wants to bring in any items to be signed by Rosie, they are very welcome to.

Rugby

All Rugby fixtures for the season for all year groups can be found via the link below:

[Richard Hale School | Sports, Teams, Fixtures & Results](#)

Please Note: Venues and timings are subject to change from those listed on the link. Any updates will be communicated to all students in advance via Google Classroom and during their Games lessons.

U12 Rugby Results vs QE Barnet

U12 Australia Won 11-1

U12 England Won 7-1

U12 New Zealand Won 4-0

U12 Wales Won 6-2

Sat 24th January vs Merchant Taylors

Kick Off - 10am.

U12 x 3 Teams

U13 x 2 Teams

All fixtures will be held at: Merchant Taylors School, HA6 2HT

Parent Trustee Nominations

Further to the letter of the 12th January 2026 regarding the Parent Trustee vacancy, can I please remind you that the deadline for nominations is Monday 2nd February at 4.00pm.

Progress Reports

Year 11 PR 1 Mock Exams reports will be available on the SIMS Parent App from 3.20pm on Friday 23rd January 2026. If you have any problems accessing the system please email [simsparentapp@richardhale.co.uk](mailto:simpsparentapp@richardhale.co.uk).

Ian Hawkins

Headteacher

January 2026 Calendar

Wednesday 28 th	Intermediate Maths Challenge
----------------------------	------------------------------

February 2026 Calendar

Monday 2 nd	School Production Rehearsals to the 4 th
Thursday 5 th	School Production
Friday 6 th	School Production
Wednesday 11 th	Year 11 Parents Evening
Thursday 12 th	GCSE Art Gallery Visit
Friday 13 th	Inset Day Junior Ski trip departs to the 20 th
Saturday 14 th	Senior Ski trip departs to the 19 th
Monday 16th	Half Term Week
Monday 23 rd	Return to School
Tuesday 24 th	Year 11 Revision Workshops
Wednesday 25 th	Year 13 Parents Evening
Friday 27 th	Year 11 and 13 Photographs

March 2026 Calendar

Monday 2 nd	Year 8 Careers Networking Event
Tuesday 3 rd	Year 8 Careers Networking Event
Wednesday 4 th	Sixth Form Offer Holder Evening
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
Friday 6 th	Year 9 Welwyn Youth Drama Festival
Monday 9 th	GCSE MFL Mock Writing Tests to the 13 th

Tuesday 10 th	Year 12 Parents Evening
Thursday 12 th	Year 13 Revision Evening
Thursday 19 th	House Music
Monday 23 rd	Senior Colours Assembly Year 8 Exams and BTEC Mock Exams to 26 th
Wednesday 25 th	Year 9 Parents Evening
Thursday 26 th	Year 11 English Exam
Friday 27 th	Non-Uniform Day End of spring term, school finishes at 12.30pm
Easter Holidays	

April 2026 Calendar

Monday 13 th	Summer Term begins A Level MFL Mock Speaking exams Year 10 Exams to the 17 th
-------------------------	--

Weeks

Monday 26 th Jan	Week 1
Monday 2 nd Feb	Week 2
Monday 9 th Feb	Week 1
Monday 16th Feb	Half Term
Monday 23 rd Feb	Week 2
Monday 2 nd Mar	Week 1
Monday 9 th Mar	Week 2
Monday 16 th Mar	Week 1
Monday 23 rd Mar	Week 2
Monday 30th Mar	Easter Holidays
Monday 6th Apr	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th Apr	Week 1

You are receiving this email because you have elected to receive the Headteacher's weekly newsletter from Richard Hale School. If you are no longer interested, please reply to this email with the subject UNSUBSCRIBE