



Dear Parents and Carers,

House Music

We were delighted to see so many parents and students at House Music last week. Congratulations to Kinman, our overall winners, but it truly was an occasion to celebrate every House and our adjudicator, Rebecca Starling, from Southfield School commented on the exceptionally high standard and range of performances - enjoyable, entertaining, and full of talent. It was also wonderful to hear all the House Songs sung by our Year 7 and Year 8 students, although these were not able to be shared on the night.

Winners:

House Song:	Kinman
Junior Soloist:	Luc Bryant (Cowper)
Senior Soloist :	Peter Sharman (Kinman)
House Ensemble:	Wallace
Overall:	Kinman

A special thank-you to the Parents' Association for providing refreshments, and for the support you continually give our students which helped make the evening even more enjoyable.

Our thanks also go to the sound and technical team, who did an excellent job ensuring the evening ran smoothly. Events like this are what make school life memorable, and our students should all feel extremely proud of what they achieved.

We are very much looking forward to building on their skills and talents throughout the rest of the academic year. Thank you once again for your continued support, and for helping make events like this such a success.

U18 Boys Rugby – National 7's Tournament

Richard Hale U18 boys delivered an exciting and hard-fought campaign at the National Rosslyn Park 7s, demonstrating resilience, attacking flair, and determination across a demanding schedule of fixtures.

The tournament began in Group AA with a narrow 22–21 defeat to Olchfa School. Despite the setback, Hale understood the challenge ahead — they needed to win their remaining matches to stand any chance of qualifying for Day 2.

They responded in impressive fashion. Confidence grew in the second fixture as Hale produced a dominant performance to defeat St Cenydd Community School 38–14. The team showcased a far more clinical edge, with sharp attacking play and composed finishing that had been missing in the opening game.

Momentum continued to build with a commanding 48–19 victory over the previously unbeaten Sir William Borlase’s Grammar School. Hale played some of their best rugby of the tournament, with their attacking strength on full display. Crucially, they not only secured the win but overturned a 12-point deficit in points difference, achieving it in style and sealing progression into the knockout stages.

In the Last 64 elimination round, Hale maintained their high standards, overcoming Farnborough Sixth Form College 34–19 to advance further in the competition. Reaching the last 32 teams in the country marked an outstanding achievement for the squad.

The following day presented an even greater challenge, with Hale placed in a highly competitive group featuring the eventual Bowl winners and Vase finalists. A narrow 27–26 loss to Collegiate in the opening match was followed by another tightly contested game, as Hale fell 26–24 to Exeter School after a last-minute opposition try and a successful conversion on the second attempt.

Fatigue and the quality of opposition were evident in the final fixture, where Hale were defeated 34–17 by Whitchurch High School, a school with a proud sporting heritage that counts notable former students such as Sam Warburton, Gareth Bale, and Geraint Lewis among its alumni, and who went on to reach the final.

Despite the results on Day 2, the squad can take immense pride in their performances throughout the tournament. Their journey to the last 32 showcased not only their ability but also their character, teamwork, and commitment against some of the strongest schoolboy rugby sides in the country.

Under 14 National Sevens

The Under 14s opened their National Sevens campaign against Brighton College, coming up against a strong and well-organised side. Despite a committed and spirited performance, they were unable to find a breakthrough and fell to a 35–0 defeat. Nevertheless, the players showed resilience, using the experience as a valuable learning opportunity heading into their remaining fixtures.

Their response in the second match against Llanidloes High School was outstanding. In a fiercely contested encounter, the team demonstrated excellent teamwork and composure under pressure to secure a narrow but well-deserved 22–21 victory.

The final match of the day against Earlston High School proved equally dramatic. In a high-scoring and end-to-end contest, the team held their nerve to claim a superb 29–28 win, completing an impressive turnaround after their opening setback.

Across the three matches, the team scored 51 points and conceded 84, finishing with two wins and one defeat. Despite topping the group on points, the significant points difference from the opening match meant that Brighton College progressed to the knockout stages instead.

Regardless, the squad displayed outstanding character, determination, and teamwork throughout the tournament—an excellent effort and a performance to be proud of.

National Semi-Final

Richard Hale Year 8B welcomed Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys in what promised to be a tough and highly competitive fixture and the match certainly delivered drama, quality, and nerves in equal measure.

Tunbridge Wells started the brighter of the two sides, applying early pressure and deservedly taking the lead after a strong opening spell. However, Hale responded well and gradually grew into the game. Their persistence paid off when Alfred Sinclair-Hows produced a superb finish to bring the scores level, sparking an eruption from the home support.

With confidence building, Hale began to take control of the match. Solid defensive work combined with increasingly dangerous attacking play saw them push forward with intent. Their pressure was rewarded when Henry Laidlaw finished well to give Hale a 2–1 lead. Momentum was firmly with Hale, and shortly before halftime Ewen Cove rose to convert an excellent corner delivery, extending Hale's advantage to 3–1 at the break.

Tunbridge Wells emerged for the second half with renewed energy and determination. Their efforts paid off when they tested their luck from distance and reduced the deficit to 3–2. The goal shifted momentum, and with nerves beginning to show, Hale were put under sustained pressure. Tunbridge Wells capitalised, scoring again to level the match at 3–3 and send the game into extra time.

Extra time proved to be a tense, end-to-end affair, with both sides creating chances to win. A crucial moment came late on when Luc Bryant produced a fantastic save to keep Hale in the contest and send the match to penalties.

Penalty Shootout Drama - Tunbridge Wells stepped up first, but Luc Bryant made an immediate impact with a strong save. Ewan Cove then calmly slotted home to give Hale the advantage (1–0). Tunbridge Wells' next penalty — from one of their biggest threats all game — was missed, and Quinn Ward stepped up confidently to roll his penalty into the bottom corner (2–0 Hale).

Tunbridge Wells needed to score, but once again Luc Bryant delivered with another outstanding save. Joey Myalti then stepped up for the decisive penalty and coolly sent the goalkeeper the wrong way.

Hale win the shootout and book their place in the National Final!

This was a tremendous team performance, with every player contributing and showing resilience, determination, and composure under pressure. The boys thoroughly deserved their place in the final after an outstanding display.

National Final Details Stoke City FC on Wednesday 20th May 2026.

Year 7 football

A massive congratulations to the Year 7 football team for their spectacular victory against Edwinstree to bring home the District Cup. The final was a showcase of talent and hard work, with an impressive performance on the pitch that kept supporters entertained throughout.

This trophy is a testament to the commitment and teamwork shown by every player throughout the entire year. It has been an exceptionally successful season for the squad, and their hard work has officially paid off - well done to the whole team!

Year 10 basketball

Huge congratulations to the U15 basketball team for their thrilling victory against Chauncy to secure the District Cup for the first time as a squad.

In an absolute nail-biter that pushed into a second period of overtime, the players showed incredible resilience and nerves of steel to clinch the win. It was a truly amazing performance from everyone involved, marking an impressive milestone for this talented group - well done to all concerned.

Music Instrumental Tuition

Did you know that your child is able to learn a variety of musical instruments whilst at Richard Hale, and we offer lots of opportunities for music-making that make a valuable contribution to your child's confidence and personal development?

Instruments available include:

- Singing/voice
- Piano, Keyboard
- Flute, clarinet, saxophone
- Violin, Viola, Cello
- Cornet, Trumpet, Trombone, French horn, Tuba
- Electric/Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar

Lessons are available through Hertfordshire Music Services (HMS) and bookings for summer term are now open.

We also have a selection of instruments available for trial on a loan basis. If your child receives Free School Meals (FSM), Pupil Premium (PP), or is a Looked After Child (LAC) or Adopted Child you may be entitled to receive free or subsidised tuition.

Information on lesson fees and terms and conditions is all available at:

<https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/music-lessons.aspx>

(Please ensure you select Richard Hale School to register.)

If you have any queries please email direct to HMS.customersupport@hertfordshire.gov.uk or our Music Support Officer, Ms Buckley, in the music department at zbu@richardhale.co.uk.

Hale News

Please find below the link for the latest bumper edition of Hale News:

<https://richardhale.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/HALE-NEWS-Spring-2-2026.pdf>

Free meal planning support for East Herts families

Please see below information we have been asked to pass to you from East Herts Council.

East Herts Council is supporting local families with access to a free meal planning service to help improve health, reduce food waste and lower food shopping costs. Families can receive personalised weekly meal plans and shopping lists, making it easier to plan meals, save time and avoid unnecessary spending. This initiative is fully funded by the council, meaning there is no cost to residents, and no payment details are required. To access the service, visit:

<https://fivedinners.com/mycommunity> and click on East Herts Council

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and restful break. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 13th April 2026.

Ian Hawkins

Headteacher

March 2026 Calendar

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
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Wednesday 15 th	GCSE Art Exam
Thursday 16 th	GCSE Art Exam A Level Drama Practical Exam
Monday 20 th	Year 10 Work Experience Week GCSE MFL Speaking Exams Week
Wednesday 22 nd	Post-18 Pathways Evening
Thursday 23 rd	Year 7 Bude Information Evening
Monday 27 th	A Level MFL Speaking Exams
Wednesday 29 th	Junior Maths Challenge
Thursday 30 th	Year 12 Exams start A Level Art Exam

May 2026 Calendar

Friday 1 st	A Level Art Exam
Monday 4 th	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 5 th	Year 7 Parents Evening
Wednesday 6 th	BTEC Exams start GCSE Exams start
Monday 11 th	A Level Exams start
Friday 15 th	BTEC Exams end Year 10 Geography Field Trip 1 – Epping Forest
Saturday 16 th	Year 6 Treasure Hunt
Monday 18 th	French Language Trip to the 22 nd
Monday 25 th	Half Term Week

June 2026 Calendar

Monday 1 st	Return to school
Tuesday 2 nd	Year 10 History Trip – Tower of London
Thursday 4 th	Year 10 Parents Evening

Weeks

Monday 30 th Mar	Easter Holidays
Monday 6 th Apr	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th Apr	Week 1
Monday 20 th Apr	Week 2
Monday 27 th Apr	Week 1
Tuesday 5 th May	Week 2
Monday 11 th May	Week 1

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