

16th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to parents for their support through this year. Have an enjoyable and restful holiday and we look forward to seeing all the students in September.

Junior Colours & Cock House Cup

Last Friday we had the pleasure of awarding Junior Colours to Year 8 students at our end of year achievement assembly. This year a record number of students met the requirements across extra-curricular and academic work to receive this accolade, the highest award possible in KS3. Alongside these, it was great to celebrate a vast number of extra-curricular contributions through our achievement certificates, awarded for regular and sustained participation in this important aspect of our school life.

As part of the assembly we also presented the Junior Team of the Year. There were 5 very worthy nominations this year, covering teams in Year 7 to 9. The winning team was the Year 9 Welwyn Drama Festival group (a cast of 33) who earlier this year enjoyed huge success with their performance of 'The IT' as part of the Welwyn Festival.

As is tradition, we ended Junior Colours by summarising what has been another exceptional year of House competitions and events. The level of participation has been superb and students have demonstrated great team spirit and commitment to their House over the year. Hale House were announced as the winners for 2025-26 after what has been another closely fought competition. Congratulations to all the Houses for their success this year.

1st:	Hale	268 points
2nd:	Wallace	252.5 points
3rd:	Croft	252 points
4th:	Kinman	242.5 points
5th:	Cowper	234 points
6th:	Page	195.5 points

Uniform

Students will return in September in full school uniform. Please check the uniform list (link below) to ensure students have the correct uniform and equipment for September.

<https://richardhale.herts.sch.uk/school-life/uniform/>

Athletics

Congratulations to Alex Shoesmith in Year 9 who represented Hertfordshire at the English School Athletics Championships in Birmingham. Alex had a tough heat but managed to place 8th in a very respectable time of 4 mins 19.85 secs. Well done to Alex who had to cope with extreme temperatures on the day . We wish him good luck in all his future races.

Payments through the Arbor parent app

The finance team will be closing the payments app in Arbor from the 24th July 2026. Please make any payments before this date for either school shop items you are waiting to purchase or to top up meal balances. The payments option will be reactivated on the 1st September 2026. Any questions, please email arborpayments@richardhale.co.uk.

Ian Hawkins
Headteacher

July 2026 Calendar

Friday 17 th	Non-Uniform Day Academic Year ends and school finishes at 12.30
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August 2026 Calendar

Thursday 13 th	A Level Results Day
Thursday 20 th	GCSE Results Day

September 2026 Calendar

Tuesday 1 st	Inset Day – school closed to students
Wednesday 2 nd	Year 7 Only Return
Thursday 3 rd	Whole School Returns

Weeks

Monday 13 th July	Week 1
Wednesday 2 nd September	Week 1