

RUTLISH SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

December 2020

Message from Ms Howarth



As we come to the end of an unprecedented term, I want to say thank you to all our students (and to parents and carers) for their commitment to school and for adapting to so many new ways of working both at school and remote learning at home.

I also want to pay tribute to all the staff who have continued to work tirelessly to support our students. They have learned new ways of teaching, embraced new technology and software and shown great resilience to the many DfE changes that we have had to navigate.

We are saying goodbye and a fond farewell to two long standing members of staff who are leaving at the end of term. Ms Ford, Deputy Headteacher has been at Rutlish since 2004 and Mrs Botha-Smith, Associate Headteacher since 2000. As senior leaders of the school, they have been an integral part of the school's success and I would like to thank them both for their hard work and dedication to Rutlish students and staff for so many years. On behalf of the students, staff, governors, and parents and carers, we wish both them the very best of luck for the future.

I do hope you are able to have a well-earned rest during the Christmas holidays and that you and your families remain safe and healthy.

We look forward to seeing everyone return at the start of next term on Monday 4th January.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to you and your families,

Laura Howarth

New Website

We are launching a new Rutlish School website at the beginning of the spring term.

The picture is a glimpse of our new home page. The website is designed for parents, carers, students and prospective students. It is easier to navigate and find the information you are looking for. You will also find a more detailed section for RR6.

The website address remains:
www.rutlishschool.merton.sch.uk



RR6

Applications for RR6 are open. Please visit our website to find out more, including our virtual open event and the application process.



Prize Giving

This week we have congratulated all the prize winners for their exceptional achievement during the last academic year, even though we have not been able to hold our usual Prize Giving Evening event.

The students have been given their certificates and prizes along with the programme of winners to take home.

Their commitment to learning and the wider school community is to be highly praised and I commend each and every student on their effort last year and wish them continued suc-



Anti-Bullying Week

Students took part in a variety of activities to raise awareness., including a house competition to design a poster or write a poem. We also held a virtual assembly to raise awareness of anti-bullying and to introduce the Anti-Bullying Team to the Year 7 students. We also participated in Odd Sock Days to signify how we celebrate each other's differences.

During tutor time, students were taught to identify the different forms of bullying, for example, verbal, physical and cyber bullying. We highlighted who the students should speak to if they ever fall victim to bullying.

The new Anti-Bullying ambassadors in Year 7 and 8 were introduced to the rest of the team.

END OF TERM

- The last day of term is Thursday 17 December.
- Students will have a celebration assembly in Period 5.
- Students will be dismissed between 2.40pm and 3pm.

Dates for your

First day of term:
Monday 4 January

BTEC Level 3 exams
and task start:
Monday 4 January

Year 12 mocks start:
Art: 15 January
Exams: 18 January

Thursday 7 January
Yr 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 21 January
Yr 11 Parents' Evening

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twitter



House Competition

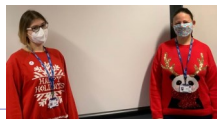
We have seen some hard fought competitions this term including a spelling bee, design an anti-bullying poster, design a face mask and The Cube.

Leader Board
1st Trojans
2nd Argonauts
3rd Kelts



Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 11 December was our annual Christmas jumper day in support of Save the Children. It was well supported by students and staff.



Community

Rutlish prides itself on building strong links with the local community. Each year, students across the school liaise with local businesses in order to raise money. This facilitates the purchase of an array of Christmas gifts which are hand delivered to local care homes.

In a usual year, students make personalised Christmas cards and practice their "A Christmas Carol" performance ready to perform to residents of Kew House Care Home in Wimbledon.

Due to Covid restrictions, this year students have been more innovative in their approach. Instead they have donated money towards a bouquet of flowers and card. Students in 8A also wrote personalised Christmas messages of support of residents.

One of our Year 8 students presented a bouquet of flowers and Christmas card for the residents of Kew House Care Home in Wimbledon. He stated "This has been a challenging time for everyone, but especially for those in care homes". It is important that they know we are still thinking about them, that we have not forgotten them.



School Improvements

The students and staff have been benefitting from the refurbishments to the Pavilion, RR6, sports hall, memorial garden and field. The school would like to thank the Governing Body and the Rutlish Foundation for their time and financial support for all these projects and also for providing laptops for students. Also, thank you to the PTA for funding towards the memorial garden.



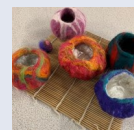
Wimbledon Bookfest Young Writer's Competition

As a school we were very proud to have 14 students chosen for awards.

We give special applause to Jack, Yr8, for being the joint winner for the KS3 poem, Otto, Yr 11, for highly commended KS4 poem and Calum, Yr 13 for highly commended KS5 poem.

Staff Wellbeing Week

Staff enjoyed wellbeing week at the beginning of December. A week of fun after school activities rather than meetings. Thank you to everyone who participated and Ms Doherty for making the arrangements. This included zumba, pilates and a fiercely competed badminton competition as well as art and crafts.



PTA

There are lots of way to support the school; buy a lottery ticket, choose Rutlish as your cause with Amazon Smile, Easyfundraising and the Co-op or sign up to Riverford using SCH_MER_RUTLISH code. Please check their Twitter account @parentrutlish Thank you for your continued support.

Senior Maths Challenge

Congratulations to all Year 12 and 13 who entered the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge earlier this month.

The top scorer Matthew, Yr13, was awarded Gold and is one of 1,000 students in the country to be invited to participate in the first round of the British Mathematical Olympiad. Ben, Arthur and Rachel, all Yr13, were also awarded Gold, which puts them in the top 10% in the country. Sammy, Yr12 achieved Silver and another 11 students were awarded Bronze: Lucas, Caitlin, Zak, Alex, Dushanth, Ilya, Sunny, Nilan, Ahsan, Sagina and Mike.

Sports Clubs



We were delighted to see our sports clubs start again after the October half term break, including rugby at sunset.

