



Ramsey Voice

Updates Newsletter

"Aspiring to be the best you can be"



@RamseyAcademy



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Note from The Head

Welcome to the first edition of the year's Ramsey Voice. This is a bumper version as we were not able to publish one in October. We are delighted to include so many stories that highlight the positive activities of our students. Despite the challenges faced returning to school and adjusting to the ongoing disruption caused by the pandemic, many of the 'normal' activities we provide that contribute to the extended curriculum have been reintroduced. These activities combined with high quality lessons help us to achieve our aim of being an "outstanding school in the heart of the community."

Initially we would like to thank Mrs Keen, our previous Editor, who has changed roles within the school and will no longer compile this newsletter. For several years, she has collated the articles and taken the photographs to produce the Ramsey Voice, which plays an important role in celebrating the success of the students and informing parents of various support networks. The new Editor, Mrs Nally, is keen to receive specific notices from local voluntary groups and charities, for inclusion, if we have space.

The Year 11 Leavers attended their 'live virtual' Awards Evening. For the second successive year, despite not being able to see everyone in person, the awards were presented and in this most difficult of years, where so many of the normal 'leaving' activities were cancelled it was fantastic to celebrate their achievements.

Yet again, we are delighted with the number of Year 6 students applying to be part of the Ramsey Community in September 2022. We have received nearly 300 applications for 150 places and are over-subscribed, showing many families are choosing the school as their first choice in the local area.

During the term, we have re-introduced many of the activities that contribute to the extended curriculum, which is an important part of the school experience. Students have enjoyed completing elements of their Ramsey Achievement Award, attending clubs, participating in sporting and charity events, and attending several trips and visits. We hope that next term we will be able to continue to provide an increased range of activities subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

Throughout the past two years, the school and local community have worked together to offer support and provide opportunities for the young people in challenging circumstances. We know many of them have struggled in many ways. They have missed learning time, socialising with friends and missed opportunities to develop their cultural awareness. This has impacted on their well-being, and we will need to provide additional support for some time. As a school, we aim to be central in this support.

It used to be said, "students went to school to learn the 3R's – reading, writing and arithmetic". But today, we would suggest a different 3R's are also very relevant: "Respect – for self, Respect – for others, Responsibility -for own actions."

We want to work with the students and their families to encourage these new 3R's. If we can achieve these simple values, the young people will fulfil our aim and aspiration of "be the best you can be".

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year - Rob James



Year 9 Art Focus Day

On Friday 5th November, all Year 9s came off timetable and had a 'Focus Day'. We had been asked to work on a project with Earls Colne residents and Earls Colne Primary School. We spent half a day designing a community mural which could go onto the back of twelve garages in Earls Colne. The theme was 'The Local Environment' such as Chalkney Woods, fields and hedgerows and the River Colne. In the summer, some of us will have the chance to go and paint the final mural with students from Earls Colne Primary. It was nice to come off timetable to focus on art for half a day. It was relaxing to draw and create work using different media, which we don't always use in lesson time. It was also good fun to work with people we don't normally work with. - Callum R. Year 9



Year 9 Art Focus Day



21/2/22
10am - 12pm

11/4/22
10am - 12pm

12/4/22
10am - 12pm

30/5/22
10am - 12pm

17/8/22
10am - 12pm

24/8/22
10am - 12pm







**Suffolk
New
College**



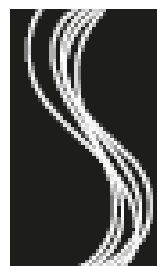
FOOTBALL TASTER EVENTS

Find out more about Football Studies at our Ipswich Campus by coming along to one of our open training Taster Days.

For more information please contact Sam Burman on 01473 382470 or email samburman@suffolk.ac.uk

01473 382200 | info@suffolk.ac.uk |    

To book your place visit www.suffolk.ac.uk/courses/football-studies-btec-level-3



Suffolk
New
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FOOTBALL TASTER EVENTS

Find out more about Football Studies at our Ipswich Campus by
coming along to one of our Parent Information Evenings

For more information please contact Sam Burman on 01473 382470
or email samburman@suffolk.ac.uk

8/2/22
7pm - 8pm

17/5/22
7pm - 8pm

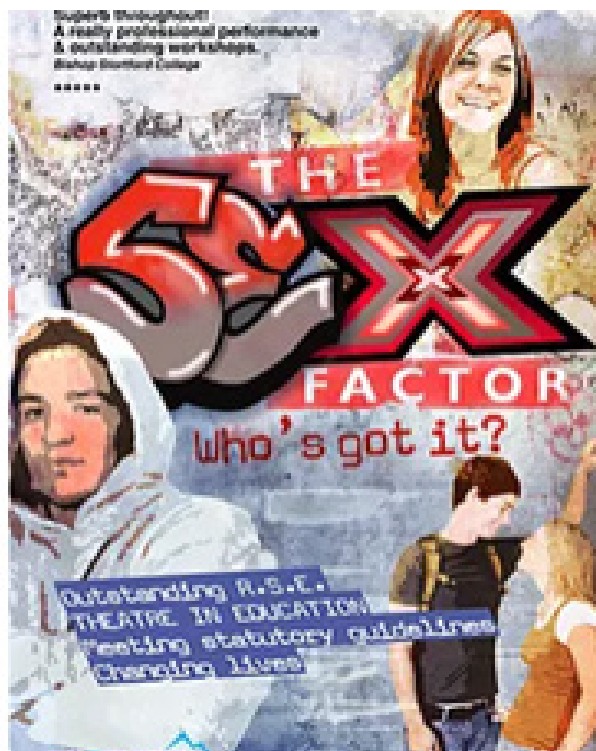
01473 382200 | info@suffolk.ac.uk | [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Snapchat](#)

To book your place visit www.suffolk.ac.uk/courses/football-studies-btec-level-3

Tip of the Iceberg - The Sex Factor

On Friday 5th November, Year 11 spent the day with the team from the 'Tip of the Iceberg'. The day involved an emotive and thought-provoking play, focussing on healthy relationships, as well as three workshops with the actors. The workshops helped encourage students to think about what makes us who we are, about consent and how the decisions they may make will impact their futures.

All students involved, participated well and the team were very impressed with their input.



"We really enjoyed the play; the actors were really nice, and I would recommend the day to other students"

"It was a good experience and it helped us learn about the impact of young people's decisions regarding relationships"

"It taught us how to get out of a difficult situation if we were placed in one"

"At the start of the day I felt shy about sharing what I thought but by the end they had made us feel confident"



Essex

ACTIVate

Free holiday clubs for eligible families this winter!



Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council are working with a **network of locally trusted organisations** to deliver **Essex ActivAte** clubs, on behalf of the **Department for Education**. These clubs are free for children and young people who are **eligible for benefits based free school meals**. Plus, **Essex County Council have extended the offer** to provide free spaces for children from **low income working families** who would benefit from this support.

Clubs will take place over multiple days of the **Winter Break**, predominantly from **December 20th - 23rd**.

Every club will be **inclusive**, with **trained Inclusion and Mental Wellbeing ambassadors** at each venue.

Each club will provide it's own unique variety of **physical and enrichment activities**, as well as **fun food education**.

Children and young people will receive a **tasty and nutritious meal** each day that they attend a club.

Specialist **SEND and Mental Wellbeing Hubs** are available across the county, offering **tailored sessions** run by **specialist coaches**.

Book now!

Careers Fair

On Wednesday 29th September 2021, Year 11 students visited the Careers Fair at Chelmsford City Racecourse. The fair hosted representatives from public and private sector employers, as well as universities, local colleges and training providers. It was such an exciting event; after a challenging time of little or no opportunities to meet anyone from outside the school environment, our students showed great confidence and maturity as they engaged with local businesses and education providers. We were incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves and the very positive feedback from exhibitors reflected how impressed they were with our resilient, enthusiastic young people. Alongside local employers such as Maycast-Nokes and Milbank, local law, accountancy and care firms, students were able to talk directly to representatives from industries and institutions, as wide ranging as the chemical oil and gas industry, football and rugby academies, the Armed Forces, the Royal Horticultural Society, hair and beauty salons, recording studios, construction and mechanical engineers and 6th Form Colleges. Year 11 students are currently facing the difficult choices that will shape the next few years of their lives and, potentially, the education, training and career paths they may take for the rest of their lives. They certainly made the most of this opportunity to research and confidently ask questions about the options open to them post 16. Back at Ramsey, the students returned to take advantage of visiting speakers and personal development lessons to support them in their decisions and help them to build CVs, and prepare personal statements and professional covering letters. Whether they choose apprenticeships, A Levels, vocational programmes or employment with training, we certainly wish them the very best of luck with their application process this Autumn!



Careers Fair

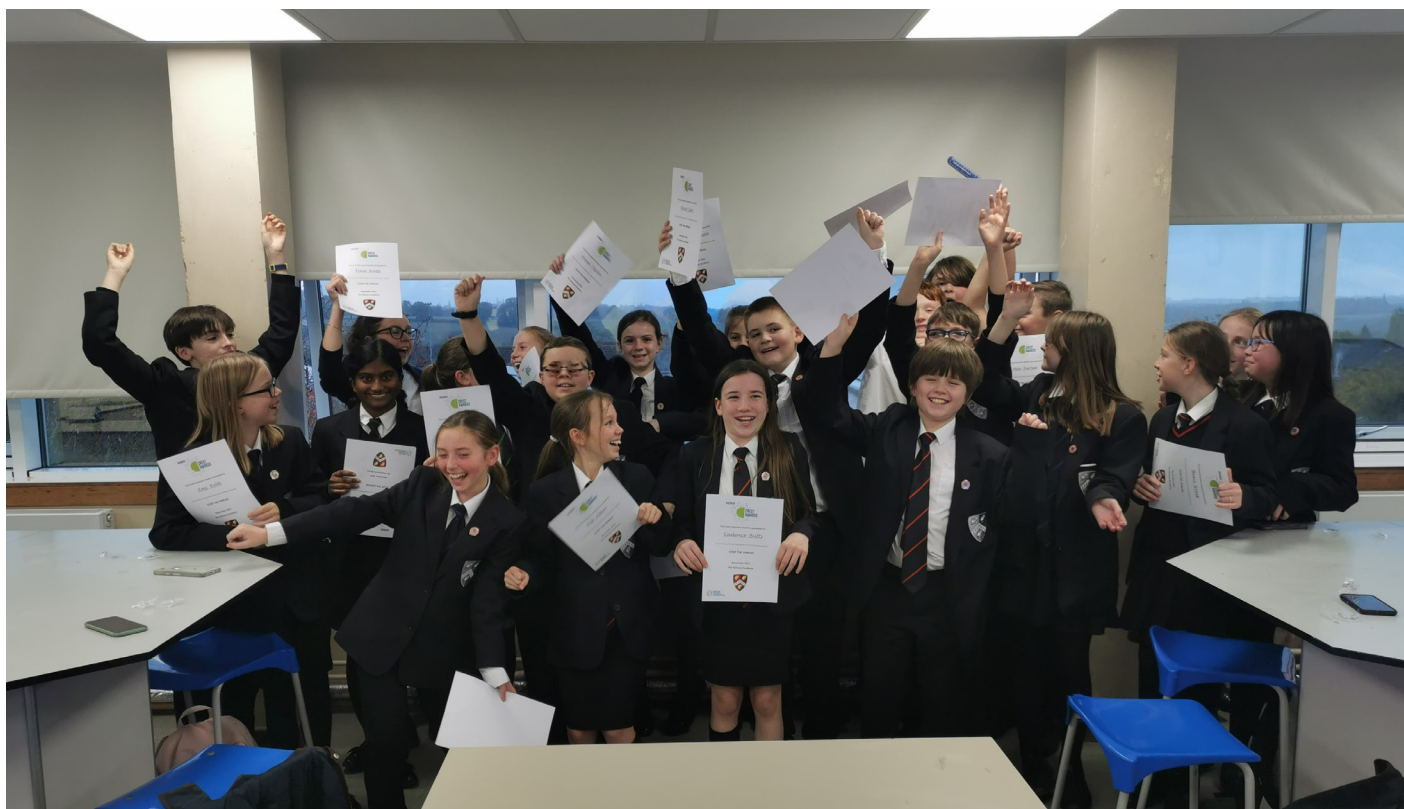


Year 7 Science Club

The Year 7 Science Club has completed their STEM Crest challenges. They are now working on individual STEM projects; here they are pictured looking for life in moss samples using microscopes.



Year 7 Science Club Mini Awards



Year 7 Science Club celebrating their recent mini awards ceremony. All students completed the 'Surviving a Zombie Apocalypse' Crest Discovery award!

Year 8 Science Club

The Year 8 Science Club have completed numerous STEM practicals this year. Here they are pictured building racetracks for stunt cars.



Year 9 Gifted and Talented Science Club



Our Year 9 and 10 Gifted and Talented students, at the Ramsey Robotics Club, have been working on building and programming VEX robots. They have also been learning how to use our 3D printer.



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Protecting and serving Essex

THE SALVATION ARMY

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership

Eastlight
Community Homes

Braintree District Community

Christmas Giving Tree

Donate a small toy or gift
(unwrapped, suitable for ages 3 – 15)
so we can deliver to a vulnerable child this Christmas

Donations collected at
Braintree Police Station

Please donate by 19th December

For more information visit [Essex Police - Braintree District](#)

Working with volunteers and partners to make Christmas in Braintree District special for everyone

Foodbank donations

Every year The Ramsey Academy show their warmth and generosity for the local community by donating items to The Food Bank. This year was no different!

We would like to thank everyone who donated again this year, your generosity really does make a difference to those in need at Christmas!



Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

On November 5th 2021, Year 10 students received training from The Jack Petchey Foundation, to aid them in taking part in the 'Speak Out' Challenge programme.

Here is what Ramsey Year 10 students, Mollie and Tetti, had to say about the experience:

"The Jack Petchey Foundation was set up to inspire and motivate young people across Essex and London, by creating exciting projects and programmes for them to get involved in. They also recognise outstanding achievements of young people by awarding them for their hard work and positive impact in their community.

When the Jack Petchey Foundation came to our school, we were lucky enough for all students in our year to participate. They split us up into different groups so that we wouldn't have to worry about speaking in front of the whole of Year 10 and it wasn't as scary. All the coaches were so friendly and confident and made us feel comfortable in speaking to them.

In the workshop, we built up to a talk on something we enjoyed. We started by stating our names and some important things about us. Over the day, we continued to build confidence, when talking about things and by answering questions that the trainers sprung on us randomly. This method was very fun and useful as it made us think quickly off the top of our head and structure what we were going to say from memory. This taught us to think quickly in difficult situations. At the end of the workshop we planned and performed a 1-2 minute speech, which was very scary! Thanks to the trainers, it was made a whole lot easier and everyone felt a lot more confident.

They also taught us how to manage our nerves by not standing awkwardly, but open with a strong stance. This would improve the performance of our speech. The trainers gave lots of examples for the speeches, by showing us what we should look like when standing up in front of everyone and how we should speak. This really helped as it gave us a clearer idea of what to do and how to perform the speech accurately.

We were also shown different example creative starts and ends to the speech, to make it more interesting and for us to use in our final talk. When planning it, we also had lots of support to guide us and the booklet we were given, really helped us give a strong structure to the speech so we wouldn't lose our way. This programme really helped us boost our confidence and we hope workshops such as these, will continue to help others over London and Essex."

Aspiration Charity Week – 18th - 22nd October 2021

YOUNG MiMINDS



Aspiration House supported 'Young Minds', a mental health charity that will be working with the school to provide support for some of our students and 'The Smile of Arran Trust', a brain tumour charity that was set up in memory of an extraordinary and inspiring young man, Arran Tosh, who lost his life to a brain tumour at age 13.

All students were encouraged to join in and help raise as much as possible towards these worthy causes. Aspiration staff and students organised a range of activities throughout the week, which included:

- Staff Basketball/ Netball match – staff won – AGAIN!
- Student Lip Sync battle
- 'Ramsey does Bake off' – staff and students bought in cakes, with a theme of 'green and yellow. These cakes were sold at breaks and lunch throughout the week.
- '5miles for Arran' or 'Young Mind5' – a sponsored walk, run, hop a total of 5 kilometres throughout the week
- A non-uniform day, with students encouraged to wear yellow to support 'Young Minds' or green to support 'The Smile of Arran'
- Talent show - students showed off their range of talents including dancing, singing and joke telling to mention a few skills

Thank you to all students who baked and donated cakes. Thank you to the students that completed the sponsored run in their own time outside of school. They collected sponsors and collected their sponsor money. Thank you to students that performed in the Talent Show and the Lip Sync battles and to the students who came to watch and support. Thank you to the staff and students that played in the staff vs students Basketball and Netball matches and the students that came to support. Finally, thank you to the parents that supported the events by donating cakes and helping with making and decorating.

The unofficial total raised is in excess of £1600, which will be shared evenly between the two charities once the final total is confirmed!



Aspiration Charity Week – 18th - 22nd October 2021



UK Polar Network Antarctica flag design competition



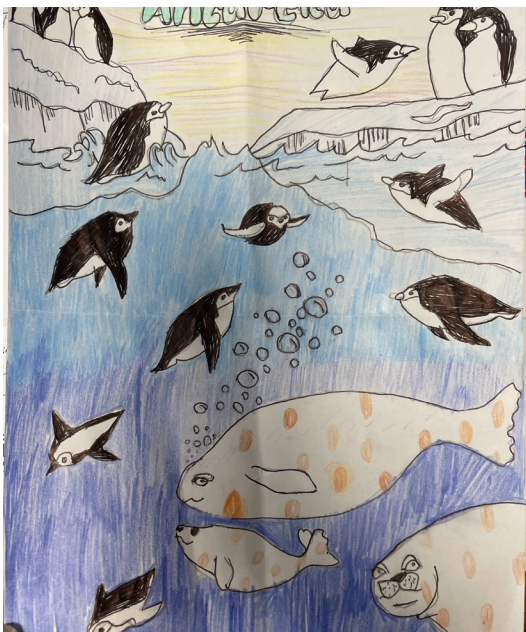
Every year on the 1st December, the British Antarctic Survey celebrate the 1st December 1959 signature of the Antarctic Treaty, which was adopted "with the interests of Science and the progress of all mankind." To commemorate this important day, schools across the UK, take part in the UK Polar Network's Antarctic flag design competition, where one flag design from each school gets sent to the researchers and scientists living in Antarctica. Year 7 learnt all about the continent as part of their Geography curriculum and had to the option to take part in this competition. We received many entries, all of which showed incredible hard work and effort; all who entered will receive 2 house points. In third place with a merit and some sweets is Harry J (7E2), in second place with two merits and some sweets is Ria H (7E1) and the winner with 3 merits, some sweets and whose design will actually go to the Antarctic is... Eleni H (7E2)! Well done to all those who took part and a special well done to our 3 winners! - Miss Hilton



1st Place - Eleni H



2nd Place - Ria H



3rd Place - Harry J



St Andrew's Church Christmas Tree Festival

For the past month, we and a few other Year 8s (and some Year 7s) have been working on making pom poms to make into a Christmas tree. This is for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Andrews Church, Halstead. It is a community project that we are really happy to be involved with. We attended lunchtime club every Monday to do this. Our favourite part was putting together the tree at the end and creating all the different combinations of colours. The tree will be in St Andrews Church from November 25th to November 29th. We will then display it in our school reception area.

- Scarlett K, Hannah E, Amber A, Milana and Isabella L. Year 8



Year 11 Prom 2022

We are delighted to announce the return of a Prom for our Year 11 students. This is one of a number of celebration opportunities that Year 11 benefit from in their final year with us. This year's Year 11 Prom, will take place at Essex Golf and Country Club, in Earls Colne, on Thursday, 7th July 2022. Year 11 families were recently informed of the evening's details.

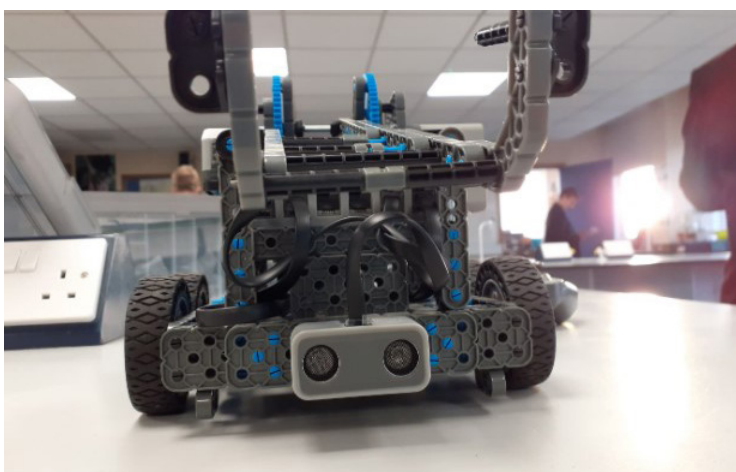


Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants, are now well underway with their award. Participants have begun completing their three sections (volunteering, a physical activity, and a skill) with a wide range of different activities being undertaken from running, to archery, photography, baking, robotics, to volunteering at a local charity shop. We are incredibly pleased with the effort that the participants are putting in already and hope they continue to work hard, ready for their final expedition in the Summer!

As well as completing their own activities for their three sections, they have also been attending their fortnightly sessions in school, where they are learning crucial information and skills, such as the countryside code, first aid, and map skills.

If your child is part of the Award, please remind them to attend their fortnightly meetings on a Thursday after school – the itinerary can be found on the 'Student SharePoint' on the school website. Please also remind them that parents or carers, or any other family members, cannot be used as their activity assessors, instead they could use their form tutor or a class teacher. - Miss Hilton, Miss Ellis, Mr Jefferies and Miss Bond



Free-Online Accountancy Summer Academy

What you'll cover:

- An introduction to Accountancy and Finance
- Career options
- Accountancy Taster (inc. Practical Exercises)
- CV and Interview preparation
- Employer Forum (Q&A)

For school, college and
university students

7th & 8th July
9:30am - 3:30pm
5th Floor Halford House, Coval Lane,
Chelmsford CMI ITD

Click here to
sign up

<https://zq345.infusionsoft.app/app/page/74aae11a5a9d1a2ef141436e67305818>

Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Achievement in PE

- Cobi B



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Maths Certificate for Progress in Food Technology

- Macy B



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Art

- Chloe B



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Computing & ICT Certificate for Achievement in Food Technology

- William C



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Health and Social Care

- Charlotte C



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Effort and Progress in English Language

- Kiara C



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Progress in Maths

- Georgia E



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Combined Science Certificate for Progress in Health & Social Care

- Anda A



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in RE Certificate for Achievement in Drama

- Kennedy G



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Health & Social Care

- Paige G



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Combined Science Certificate for Progress in Design & Technology

- Bence H



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in English Language

- Lacey H



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Achievement in Combined Science
Certificate for Achievement in Health & Social Care

- Fern H



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Computing & ICT

- Aiden J



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Triple Science
Certificate for Achievement in History

- Matthew J



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Geography

- Joshua J



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Triple Science
Certificate for Achievement in Computing & ICT

- Daniel M



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Geography

- Charlie M



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Achievement in MFL
Certificate for Achievement in PE
Certificate for Progress in English Literature

- Erin N

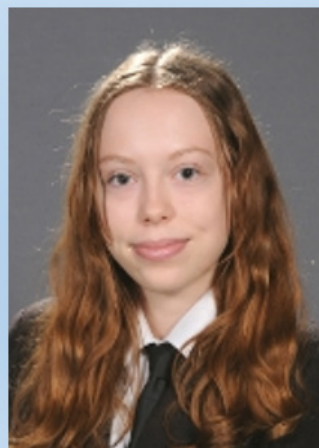


Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Geography

- Charlotte N

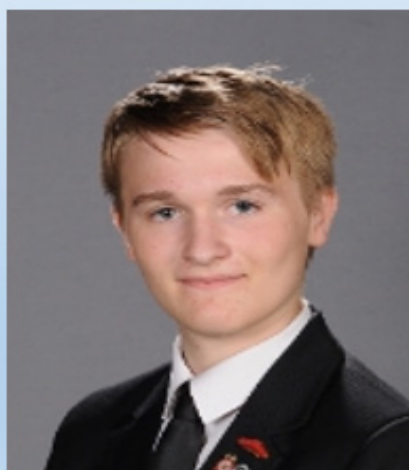


Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in Geography

- Adam P



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in PE

- Izzy P



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Passion & Achievement
in Design & Technology
Certificate for Progress in Geography

- Sennen R

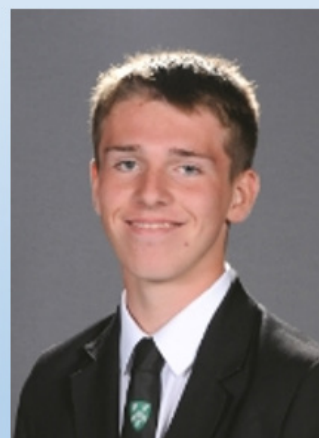


Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Progress in English Literature

- Ben S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Achievement in Combined Science
Certificate for Achievement in English Language
Certificate for Achievement in Geography

- Harry S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Combined Science
Certificate for Progress in Health & Social Care

- Millie S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in RE
Certificate for Achievement & Progress
in Food Technology

- Reece S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in RE

- Lily S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Design & Technology

- Lincoln S



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Art

- Jessica T



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Certificate for Achievement in Art Certificate for Achievement in Geography

- Chloe T



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in RE

- Rose V

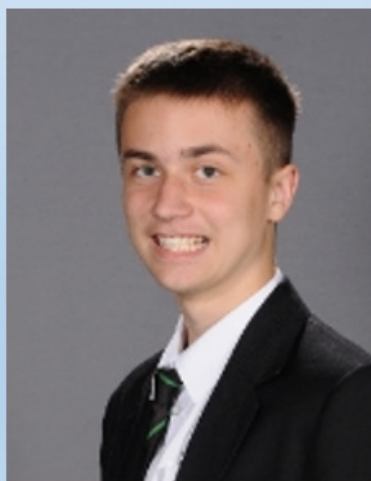


Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Maths

- Daniel W



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in History

- Edward W



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Certificate for Achievement in Computing & ICT Certificate for Achievement in English Literature Certificate for Achievement in History

- Tom W



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Outstanding Contribution to Sport

- Callum H



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Lucy Jordan Plate

- Jessica T

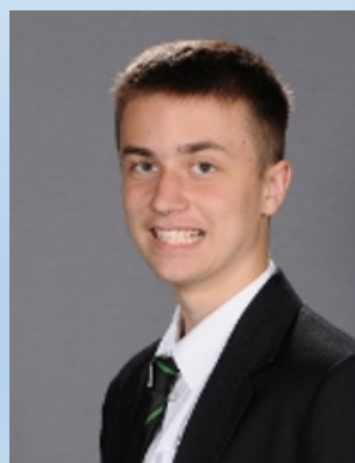


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David Fielding Award

- Daniel W



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Alan Dyer Award

- Daniel M



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Halstead Grammar School Old Girls' Award

- Ellie P



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Christopher Holmes Prize

- Reece S



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Newell Shield

- Tom W



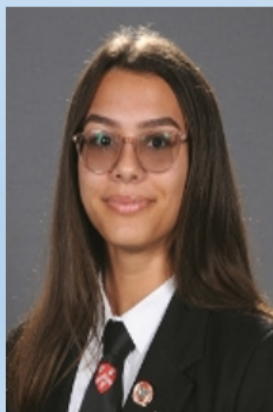
Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Key Stage 4 Awards Evening

Old Colonials' Association Prize for Languages

- Anda G



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



The Milburn Drama Plate

- Harrison D



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Elizabeth Ward Memorial Trophy

- Kennedy G



Aspiration, Diversity, Endeavour



Eco Club



The Ramsey Eco Club has been working hard this half term to get ready for Spring. We have managed, with the help of Science Club to plant 400 spring bulbs around the school site. Lots of bulbs have been planted at the front of school, in the Triangles and the Wellbeing Garden, to hopefully provide some help to early pollinators. The bulbs were kindly gifted to us by Braintree District Council. The Wellbeing Garden has also gained lots of Wallflowers and Winter Pansies, to provide a little colour in the grey Winter weather! We have cleared the polytunnel and have been growing winter lettuces in it, as well as potting on some of our excess Strawberry runners from the Wellbeing Garden. Work has started on bringing the allotment back in to use and with any luck we should be ready to go when the weather warms up.

In the coming weeks, we have some more native hedging plants to plant from The Woodland Trust. Anyone who is interested in helping to improve the school environment is more than welcome to join us on a Thursday 3:10-4:00pm, we start in FG3.

Ramsey Library



From Mrs Burrage and Mrs Heath



Autumn Term 2021

It has been lovely welcoming students back to the school library this Autumn term! The Year 7 students have had, and hopefully enjoyed their library inductions. They were all given a copy of instructions on how to use our online library, Reading Cloud. Reading Cloud enables both staff and students to search the library for their next book choice. You can renew and reserve books and leave book reviews.

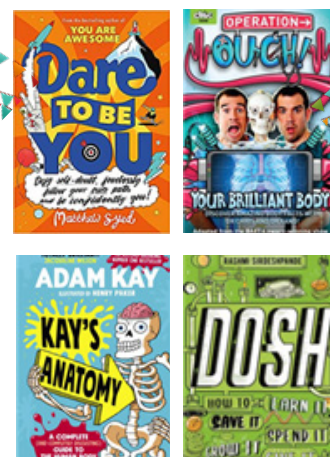
Students can use the library for quiet reading, research and homework before registration, and at break and lunch times. We have had lots of students enjoying all the library has to offer this term.

We have a new group of new Student Librarians, who have been helping us at lunchtime, which has been great. They have helped us with our displays for anti-bullying, non-fiction November, our new 'get wrapped up for Christmas' display board, plus the Christmas decorations. A huge thank you to all of them!

We have invested in lots of new books, including some lovely new non-fiction titles. All current Year 7 students were able to choose their own 'BookBuzz' book and we are very lucky to now have all the titles available in the school library.



Some of our new non-fiction titles



We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year!