

# RamseyVoice

'Achieving Excellence Together'



Issue 46  
March 2024

Year 10 Apprenticeship Fair

Book Awards

Holocaust Memorial Day

And much more

## Ski Ramsey

Students and staff visit Davos





# Easter Break

We wish all students and their families a relaxing  
Easter break

Students return to school on

**Monday**  
**15 April 2024**





# HeadteacherUpdate

Welcome to the Spring term edition of the Ramsey Voice.

As always, it has been a busy term with lots of additional events taking place. Please read on to find out details of some of these.

The ski trip that took place over half term was very successful and was thoroughly enjoyed by staff and students. Year 10 took part in the Apprenticeship Fair which gave them the opportunity to consider their future plans.

There have been a number of visiting speakers in school including Essex Fire Service and the Sexfactor and Year 9 attended a live webinar on Holocaust Memorial day. There have been a number of PE fixtures including football, netball, futsal and rugby. Well done to those who took part representing the school and their successes.

I would like to thank our librarians Mrs Owen-Westwood and Mrs Gilbert who continue to use their passion and enthusiasm for reading to encourage our students. Well done for your successful application to The Siobhan Dowd Trust bookshop competition. This has provided the school with additional funding to spend on books chosen by students. They are also taking part

in the BAT book awards which provides further opportunities for students to take part in trust competitions.

As year 11 have been completing their last full term in school there have been lots of additional revision support in place. This has included sessions during registration, lunchtime and after school, "Impress the Examiner" days, offsite focus days for English, Maths and Science, My tutor and holiday revision sessions. There are further details about those planned over the Easter break further on in this newsletter.

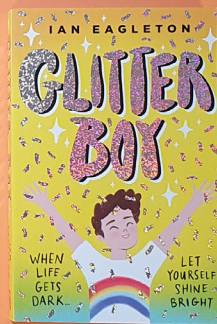
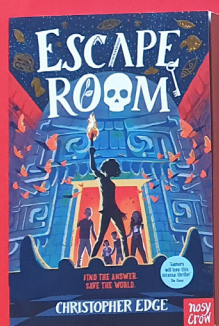
We say goodbye to three members of staff this term Mr Whitley, Miss Ellis and Ms Jarvinen. We thank them for the contributions they have made to the school during their time here and wish them all the best in their new appointments.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and also take the opportunity to complete Gabriel's problem on page 9 from the Maths Faculty.

On behalf of all staff and governors I wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable Easter.

- Mrs Sterland





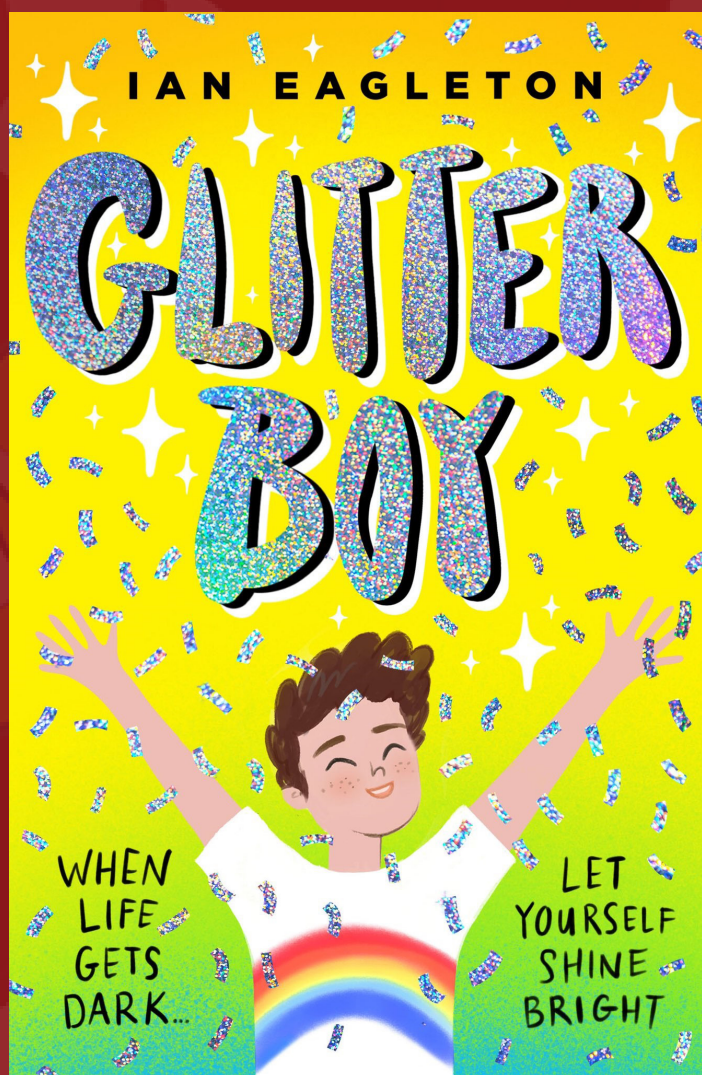
# Book Awards

After a successful first year in 2023, the BAT Book Awards have returned! This time hosted by Notley High School, there are a shortlist of four books (see picture) for students to read and then vote on their favourite.

In April we will go to Notley for a workshop with author Ian Eagleton and then attend the awards ceremony in June. There will also be opportunities for students to enter competitions and win prizes, as well as attend regular book club meetings here at Ramsey. (All dates and times TBC.)

Last year's awards proved to be a really rewarding experience for the students who participated, so we are excited to get reading and discussing once again!

- Mrs Owen-Westwood and Mrs Gilbert





# HOLOCAUST EDUCATIONAL TRUST

## Holocaust Memorial Day

As part of the Holocaust Memorial Day events in school this week Year 9 attended a live webinar with survivor Hedi Argent on 23rd January. Pupils were able to listen to Hedi's testimony and add to their existing knowledge of events.

Hedi grew up in Vienna in Austria and suffered antisemitism from an early age. She described how children would refuse to play with her in the playground and would refer to her as a dirty Jew. One child however, did agree to play with Hedi. When Hedi asked if she was sure she said her mother told her to stand up for what she believed in and to always be kind to others. Hedi was able to track the girl, Gerti down in her 80s and has visited her since several times. Hedi also told pupils about how life changed after Germany joined with Austria, her father lost his job as a lawyer and she was suddenly excluded from school, just for being a Jew. Hedi also found her leisure activities suddenly restricted, she was banned from ice skating and not able to visit the park.

Luckily, Hedi and her immediate family were able to get visas to come to England before the outbreak of WW2 and she reached safety carrying a small suitcase only. She told the pupils how her classmates in England had accepted her and made her feel welcome. Unfortunately, Hedi's extended family did not make it out of Austria before the borders were closed and they all perished in the Holocaust.

Hedi's message to the pupils about tolerance, acceptance and making the most of the life that is given to you was extremely powerful and Year 9 really benefited from hearing first hand about the consequences of racism and antisemitism.

- Mrs Perrins



# PositiveFeedbackForm



WELL  
DONE

You can now submit positive feedback to us via this form <https://buff.ly/3FcZGZ6>. This can also be found on the contact us page of our website. We look forward to receiving all your comments.

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## HousePoints



11788

Aspiration



12861

Diversity



12152

Endeavour





# PEFixtures

Another busy term here in PE, with multiple fixtures. The Year 9 netball team have been on great form winning matches against Alec Hunter, Hedingham and Forest Hall and had a narrow miss against Gosfield. The Year 7 netball team have also played a number of matches winning against Hedingham and Maltings. Meanwhile, the Year 8 football team have started off their league with a win against Gosfield. We also had some help from some Year 9 students who officiated the game. We had success in futsal back in February with Year 9 and 10 teams both reaching the finals and narrowly missing out on District victory. The Year 10 and 11 rugby team went over to Hedingham for a Rugby tournament, beating Honywood but losing against Hedingham. Well done to all students who represented the school in fixtures this term. A new extra curricular timetable will be sent out after the Easter holidays and lots more fixtures are ready to be played.

- Miss Danino





# Maths News & Puzzles

## Parents Corner – Double Sided Counters

This term we have been introducing students to double sided counters. These small plastic discs are versatile and can be used across the curriculum to unlock and deepen mathematical concepts from early years to key stage 4.

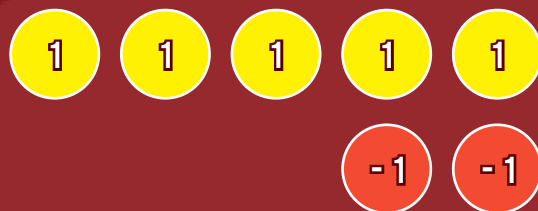
At The Ramsey School we use yellow and red double sided counters and have been introducing them with directed numbers. This helps deepen understanding around negative numbers and allows students to understand the concept and not just learn the rules of what to do.

- Miss McAndrew



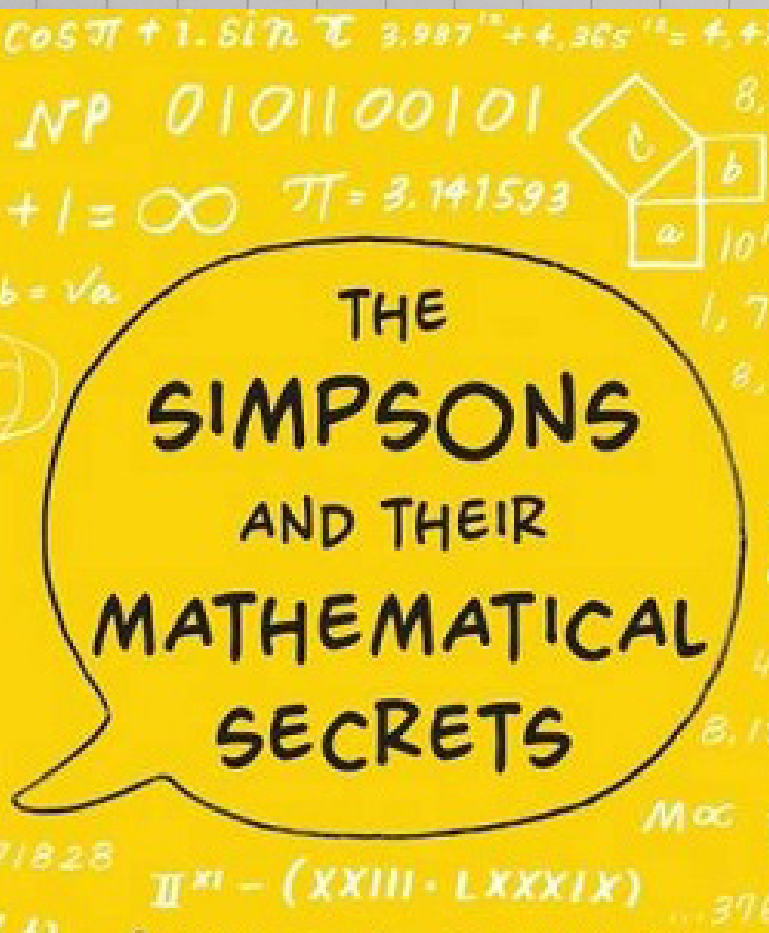
Zero Pairs

$$3 - - 2 = 5$$





# ★ THE SIMPSONS AND THEIR ★ MATHEMATICAL SECRETS ★ ★ BY SIMON SINGH ★



## Mathematical Secrets

We all really liked that they explained complicated equations in a playful manner. For example, the joke page on examination 2. I personally found the illustrations helpful and interesting - especially seeing what the author looked like in secondary school.

We love that they have linked a very popular TV show to a hard subject, but one of the key subjects that jobs need.

It was very educational, and I liked that they added a page for fun things like rock, paper, scissors. We enjoyed reading the puns hidden in titles and how they incorporated characters. We liked how there is a good balance between the actual maths and the Simpsons.

In conclusion we all really found it helpful as young people trying to study hard maths equations in a fun way.

- Millie, Beau and Poppy  
(Students)

## Gabriel's problem

Gabriel wrote the numbers 1-9 in a 3x3 grid.

He then multiplied together all the numbers in each row and wrote the resulting product next to that row.

He also multiplied the numbers in each column together, and wrote the product under that column.

He then rubbed out the numbers 1-9.

Can you work out where Gabriel placed the numbers 1-9?

Did you have more information than you needed?

The answer can be found on page 18.

			24
			40
			378
60	21	288	





## UK Maths Trusts Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2024

Congratulations to the 26 students in years 9, 10 and 11 who were selected to represent Ramsey Academy in the UK Maths Trusts Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2024. Students gained 12 Bronze, 3 Silver and 1 Gold place between them. Particular congratulations to Cian, who has made it through to the next round.

# UK Maths Trust

- Miss McAndrew

## Proud to work with an **Outstanding** teacher training provider



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[admin@midessexteachertraining.com](mailto:admin@midessexteachertraining.com)

“The quality of teaching is exemplary. Centre staff are highly knowledgeable. They are expertly supported in delivering the curriculum by staff across the partnership” - Ofsted report, March 2024

# Vacancies

Have you considered working at the Ramsey Academy?

Please see the vacancies section of our website for more details.

<https://www.careersatbridge.com/our-schools/item/the-ramsey-academy-halstead>

All vacancies at the school can be found on this page.



# Year 11 Revision Sessions

Teacher	Subject	Content	Date	Students
M. Steadman	Geography	Paper 3 (Fieldwork and pre-release)	02/04/2024 @ 09:00-12:00	Any but places must be booked
K Riddleston	Science - Biology topics	Key concepts in Biology (Cells/ Osmosis/Active transport/ Enzymes)	02/04/2024 @ 10:00-12:00	Any but places must be booked
A. Perrins	History	Making of America	03/04/2024 @ 09:30-11:30	Any but places must be booked
H. Price	Religious Education	Paper 1 Christianity and Islam	05/04/2024 @ 09.30-11.30	All
S. Patching	Dance	Component 3 - Choreography	05/04/2024 @ 10:00-15:00	BTEC Dance - all
K Bushell	Food	Exam ( written) preparation	08/04/2024 @ 10:00-12:00	All
L Tyler	Art and Textiles	Exam preparation and CW catch up	08/04/2024 @ 09:00-12:00	All
J Mantle	Science - Physics	Motion and forces / Radioactivity / Electricity and Circuits	09/04/2024 @ 09:00-13:00	Any but places must be booked
A. Perrins	History	British History and Hedingham Castle	10/04/2024 @ 09:30-11:30	Any but places must be booked
S Brooking	Science - Biology	Triple Bio	10/04/2024 @ 10:00-12:00	Any but places must be booked
E Ruiz	French	French	10/04/2024 @ 09:30 - 11:30	All
R. Linsdell	Health & Social Care	Exam preparation	11/04/2024 @ 09:30-11:30	All
S. Brooking	Science - Combined	Combined	11/04/2024 @ 10:00-12:00	Any but places must be booked
D Wheeler	Science - Chemistry	SC17, 18, 19	08/04/2024 @ 10:00-13:00	Any but places must be booked
D Wheeler	Science - Chemistry	SC20, 21	11/04/2024 @ 10:00-13:00	Any but places must be booked
K Alforcea Bullock	Spanish	Writing paper	03/04/2024 @ 10-00- 13:00	Invited
K Alforcea Bullock	Spanish	Speaking	08/04/2024 @ 10:00-12:00	Invited
K Alforcea Bullock	Spanish	Reading & translations skills	10/04/2024 @ 10:00-13:30	Invited





# TheParentVoice

We would like to extend our thanks to the Parent Voice group for their continued support. The Parent Voice group meet termly to provide us with feedback on new initiatives or items which are key to our improvement. In the past, the Parent Voice has provided us with valuable feedback linked to our marking and feedback policy. We have listened and updated our marking and feedback policy to have more consistency in all subjects. The Parent Voice group were really positive about the introduction of the Pink marking and feedback sheets, which can be seen in all books across the curriculum. The sheets provide specific, individual feedback to pupils, linked to target levels and how to improve. Feedback in books is provided every 10 lessons, in core subjects this means books are marked every two weeks.

We are also delighted to be able to inform you that we are now in a position to bring back the EDULINK app. Edulink was popular with parents, however unfortunately when we bought in new operating systems, it was not compatible. This has now been rectified and we have purchased Edulink again. More updates will follow.

National statistics for teacher recruitment and retention were provided and updates on what the Government, Initial Teacher Training providers, The

Trust and The School are doing to ensure that high quality practitioners are recruited and Retained. We have recruited staff in varying roles and the Parent Voice group reiterated that sadly this is the same in the primary Sector and other secondary schools. We remain committed to securing other experienced staff.

Lastly, we discussed how the pupils really value Focus days throughout the year. The Parent Voice group felt that external agencies such as Jack Petchey and The Sexfactor were particularly helpful for young people, especially as parents feel their children are growing up in a world which can be challenging for teenagers. Parents were keen for their children to also be taught by a range of outside agencies to raise awareness of issues such as mental health, knife crime and healthy relationships. We are keen to work with outside agencies and facilitate the opportunity in the summer term.

It was an exceptionally positive meeting and a great opportunity for us to gain valuable feedback. If you think you would like to be part of the Parent Voice, please Contact Mrs Howkins.

-Mrs Howkins





# ApprenticeshipFair

## Year 10- Apprenticeship Fair

On Friday 9th February 2024, students from Year 10 attended the Apprenticeship Information Event. Apprenticeships have become highly sought forms of post-16 education and whereas we once thought of them as only being for people who wanted to pursue careers in the "traditional trades", they are now offered across a huge range of subject areas. From IT to business, from engineering to accountancy and from electrical installations to horticulture, apprenticeships are offered from level 1 to degree level depending on the academic ability of the student.

Students got to experience recording and TV studios, beauty therapy salons, art and media rooms, IT suites and business environments. We were hugely proud as many came away with contacts for work experience and part time jobs as well as aspirational thoughts for future careers and professional qualifications and training.

- Miss Pearce





# SkiRamsey



After a journey of 24 hours travelling on a coach, we woke to find ourselves in Switzerland. Once we arrived in Davos we went straight to the youth hostel to drop our bags off and then headed to the ski shop to get our ski gear. The rooms were nice, spacious and very clean, we even had our own bathroom.

Over the course of the next five days, we went skiing from 8:30am to 3:45pm. Even though we were woken up at 6:00am by Mr Child blowing his whistle outside our door (thanks sir!) every day, it was worth it for the ski slopes.

On the first day we all went and skied on Jakobshorn. This was the smallest slope and allowed all students to get the feel for skiing and meet the instructors.

On the second day a few groups went up to Parsen whilst the others stayed at Jakobshorn. Parsen was mainly blue and red runs, with wide open slopes and plenty of fresh powder.

I then had the opportunity to go to Klosters and Madrisa. At the bottom of Madrisa there was a very long black run, with lots of challenges, steep sections and some ice. We even had to ski through mud!

On the last few days, unfortunately the weather took a turn and we saw heavy snowfall with some white outs. Everyone therefore stayed at Parsen.

After skiing every day, we went to town and bought plenty of Swiss chocolate from the local Coop. One night, we also went ice skating in the town centre. All our meals were at the hostel and were very nice. There was a lot of food, and it was a buffet so you could get as much as you want.

Overall, it was a fantastic experience, with lots of fun! I would definitely recommend this trip to all students. Thank you to the teachers that took us.

- Tom R  
(Student)















# Essex Fire Service

During PSHE lessons, year 7, 8 and 9 have been visited by the Essex Fire Service.

These sessions are invaluable to students as they provide key lessons on how they can prevent fires at home, the importance of home security, consequences of committing arson or making hoax calls, crime prevention, cyber safety, road safety, knife crime and healthy relationships.

Year 7 looked at Arson and hoax calls

Year 8 looked at home safety

Year 9 looked at knife crime and healthy relationships

These sessions help to reinforce the message and ensure that young people are educated and empowered to make the right choices and keep themselves and their community safe.

- Miss Pearce







# TheSexFactor

On Friday 1st March, Year 10 were involved in the Sex Factor workshop. The day involved an emotive and thought-provoking play, as well as three workshops with the actors.

The workshops helped encourage students to think about intimate and sexual relationships, consent, the impact of ailing mental health 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.

- Miss Pearce





# RamseySocialMedia

Below are the official social media sites for The Ramsey Academy. Please be aware that, with the exception of departmental Instagram pages, other social media sites are not related to the school.

**Facebook...** [www.facebook.com/ramseyacademy](http://www.facebook.com/ramseyacademy)

**Instagram...** [www.instagram.com/theramseyacademy](http://www.instagram.com/theramseyacademy)

**Twitter...** [www.twitter.com/ramseyacademy](http://www.twitter.com/ramseyacademy)

## MathsPuzzleAnswer

### Gabriel's problem

The question can be found on page 9.

Please see more information on how to solve the puzzle here:

<https://rich.maths.org/11750/solution>

Puzzles kindly supplied by Miss Pearce.

2

3

4

5

1

8

6

7

9





***[www.midessexteachertraining.com](http://www.midessexteachertraining.com)***



# *Train to Teach in a Secondary School in Essex!*

## **You could train as a teacher if:**

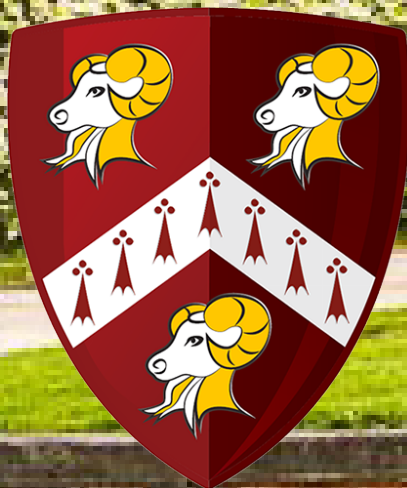
- You have a degree at 2:2 or above
- You have a passion for working with and inspiring young people
  - You are passionate about your chosen subject

## **About the course:**

- We work with more than 20 schools across Essex
  - A part-time route is an option
- Scholarships and bursaries are available in some subjects

***Think you've got what it takes? Visit our website for more information,  
to arrange an informal chat, or to sign up to our mailing list!***





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