



Hello and welcome to the final newsletter of the year! It has been a fun and fantastic year at Ramsden Hall and we have enjoyed seeing the students thrive and enjoy their time at school. We've had library visits, boarders holiday, Athletics reward trips, year 10 bonding trip, Ready to Learn Airport experience, Norsey woods adventures, sports fixtures, reward trips, fun days and finally we will be closing the year with the Ramsden Hall Ambassador Day. Phew!

I hope that you enjoy catching up on this half terms news!

Chicks in Animal Care

Our Ramsden chicks have been doing well and the students have been enjoying watching them grow and caring for them. It's been great watching the students get involved in looking after them and creating a safe and fun environment for them to grow and thrive.



Gymnastics

Students have continued to work hard in gymnastics each week working on developing their skills and fitness. Some new students have joined this term and it's been great to see them having a go at a new skill.

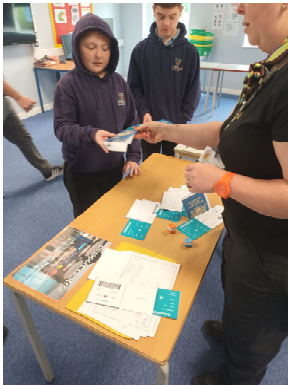




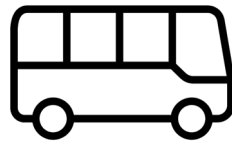
Come Fly With Us!



Ready to Learn was turned into an airport one Friday morning consisting of security and passport checks, departure lounge and the actual aeroplane. Students got to enjoy the snacks in the lounge and on the plane as well as some in-flight entertainment. Safety was well observed on the plane and despite some mild turbulence, the flight went smoothly with all customers enjoying the experience.



Library Bus



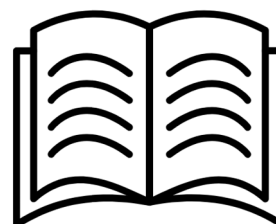
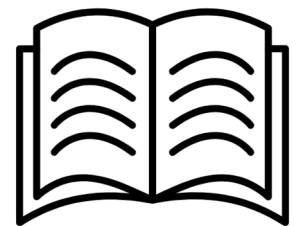
Students got to experience the library bus at school and it was a great success! The library is a great resource for parents and students and many of our students took out books to read at home or in boarding. Even Pesh, our reading dog, got in on the action!



Summer Reading Challenge

This summer we are encouraging students to get involved with the summer reading challenge. This is being set up at libraries around Essex. All you need to do is pop into your local library and register for a library card (if you don't already have one) then get out 6 books to read over the holidays. These can be any kind of book, including audio books!

Thanks to Glen for coming in to speak to us about the challenge, the more students that register and take part, the better! And... there is a little prize in it for students completing the challenge from school.



SESSA Athletics Competition

Our students took part in the SESSA Athletics Competition. Eight boys represented the school- they did themselves proud with all of them bringing back medals and we finished 3rd in both key stages, finishing 2nd overall. Well done.



Wimbledon



On the opening of Wimbledon this year students took a trip to prestigious event for round 1 of the opening singles matches on court 1. After a lengthy journey to Wimbledon and patient wait to watch some of the top seeded tennis stars in the world, students demonstrated outstanding behaviour and were a true credit to the school amongst excited tennis fans. This was all made possible thanks to the contributions of parents and the wider community through the Easy Fund Raiser Program set up by Dave Birch.

Jack Petchy Leader Award

Having successfully recognised students at Ramsden Hall for their resilience and efforts in the Jack Petchy Achievement Award, we also saw staff nominated by both students and colleagues for their efforts too.

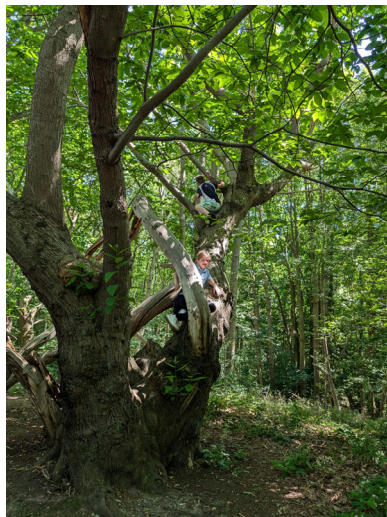
The Jack Petchy Foundation encourages nominations of staff who have made a significant contribution and impact on students and school life through the Leader Award. The successful staff member gains the opportunity use £1000 towards a future project for the benefit of students.

After applying a new model to transition this year for Redwood, to much success, Carol intends to use the grant to replenish and expand on the resources and opportunities for the new growing cohort for 2024. The transition phase is a key part of student development, especially at Ramsden Hall. Strengthening the access and opportunities in this area will only support our students further through their educational Journey. Well done Carol.



Year 10 Thorpe Park

On Wednesday 26th, five year 10 students took a trip to Thorpe Park on one of the hottest days of the year so far! Students were rewarded with this opportunity after showing improvements over the last term in their behaviour, effort and attitude across the school. Despite the hot day, students soon cooled off on Tidal Wave and Storm Surge. Alongside this, they ventured onto the Walking Dead Ride and the new Hyperia (travelling at 81mph and up to 236ft into the air) just to name a few.



Ready to Learn Forest

Adventures

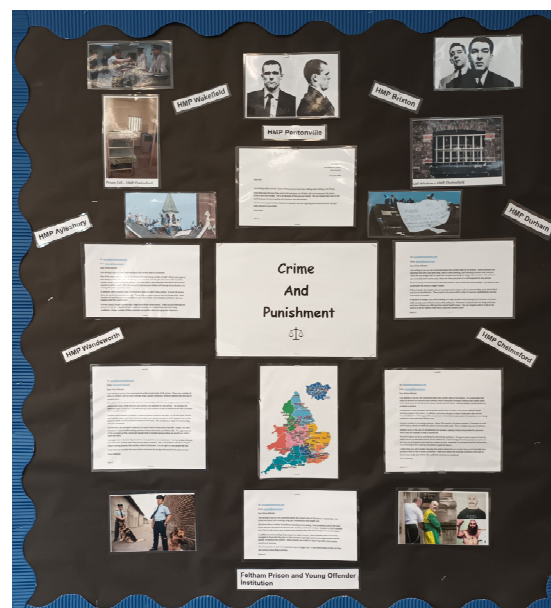
As part of the social development aspect of Ready to Learn students often go off site to explore and learn about the world around them.

We've become regulars in Norsey Woods where the students like to explore and find trees to climb and hidden paths to follow.

This time we came across some interesting 'installations' which the students were enthralled by!

English

This half term in English, Year 9/10 have been looking at Crime and Punishment as part of their preparation for the GCSE Non-Fiction unit. They have read a number of texts including an extract from Charles Bronson's autobiography and the background to the Derek Bentley case. Students have also written a formal letter to the Prime Minister about the poor conditions in the UK's prisons and an informal letter to a family member, explaining life inside HMP Strangeways prior to the riots.





Residential Holiday



This half term, like every year, the boarders go on holiday for a week. This involves a different day out each day and staying over every night! For many of our students this is truly the highlight of the term and this year was another fantastic week of fun packed experiences for our boarders.

“What a week we all had on the boarders holiday!! The week started at Essex Outdoors where we got to have a go at the high ropes and the climbing wall in the morning, followed by the giant paddle board (of course we didn't stay dry). When got back to school we enjoyed a nice fire pit to warm up and share our adventures.

On Tuesday we headed off to Ninja warrior which was loads of fun and in the afternoon we went to an aqua park. Who doesn't like a bouncy castle on the water??? Everyone was very tired and as it was an early start on Wednesday, it was early to bed ready for Thorpe Park in the Morning. Everyone enjoyed Thorpe Park despite the long day and a good time was had by all.

On Thursday it was time for the beach and it was great weather! The boarders enjoyed building sandcastles, flying kites and taking a dip in the sea. All topped off by a fish and chip supper and back to the residential to watch a very disappointing England game. The week was finished off by a trip to King Georges' park on the Friday morning before a weekend of recovery for all! It was a brilliant week and many memories were made.”

A massive shout out to our fantastic care team who organised and carried out this fantastic opportunity.





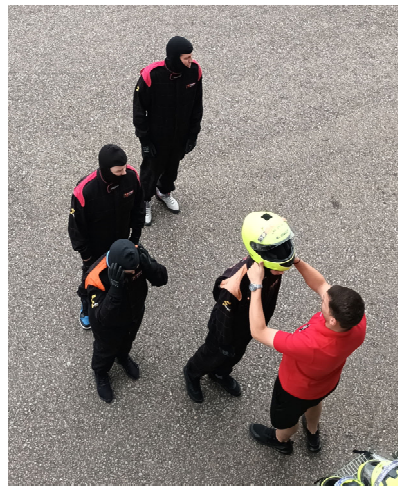


Reward Trips



This half term students have been rewarded for their 4 R positives of resilience, respect, repair and reflect. This time we did Go Karting, Adventure Island, Thorpe Park, Paintball and a special Friday reward trip of Nuclear High Ropes. These trips are a great way for our students to learn the value of showing resilience and respect as well as learning how to take responsibility for their actions by reflecting on what has happened and being able to repair if necessary.

We've also had extra trips to celebrate students achievements personally and as groups, such as tutor celebrations for points achieved in lessons, improved attitudes to learning and social skills.



Usually we'd have lots more photos but everyone was just having too much fun!

Forest School

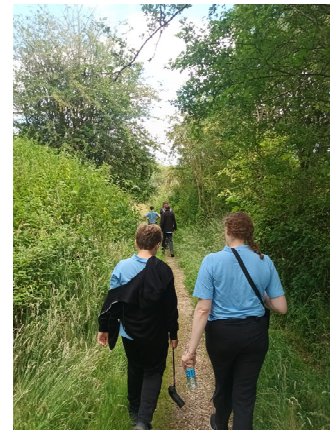
This term, our Forest School students used the bow drill fire-lighting technique. A bow drill is an advanced fire lighting technique using friction. A bow drill uses a bow to rotate a spindle of wood into a base board. The heat generated from the friction is used to ignite the tinder. The type of wood used is very important to the success of the process. All of our Forest School students at Ramsden Hall Academy have had the opportunity to try this advanced technique for fire-lighting.



Science Trip



7 students travelled to Essex Wildlife trust centre, Fingringhoe for a Science field trip. The students took part in pond dipping and identification of countless pond dwelling species, such as Water Boatmen, Shrimp and Stickle-back. The students also got to dissect Owl pellets and identified various small mammals, prey of the local Barn Owl and Hawk population. Then in the afternoon the students took part in bird watching from various hides across the nature reserve spotting Oyster Catchers, Terns and various other species of birds living along the estuary of the River Colne.



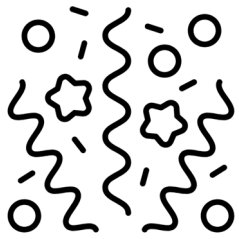
Ready to Learn

Team Building at Stubbers

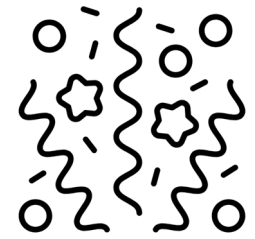


Students from Purple and Green groups in year 7 took some time out to have a team building day at Stubbers. Here students took part in the High Ropes which were no mean feat! It was very high! The boys were great at encouraging each other and supporting Alison who was absolutely terrified. After the high ropes students enjoyed a picnic in the playground, followed by a good run around the park playing tag with Mark!





Well done!



100% Attendance

William B

Patrick

Well done boys! This is 100% for the year!

Top Points for The YEAR!

Korey

Kai

Louie

This is a massive achievement so a huge well done!

Points

This Half Term

Top KS3 Points

1st - Korey

2nd - Kai

3rd - Louie

Top KS4 Points

1st - Drew

2nd - Josh

3rd - Jay E

It has been a very busy year here at Ramsden Hall Academy and we would like to say a massive thank you to our staff who have worked hard throughout the year to give the students the best possible opportunities to thrive in and out of school.

I am sure you will join me and all the staff in wishing this year's key stage 4 leavers all the very best. And to the staff who will be leaving, Leigh Nielsen is off to work in a school in Thurrock, and Claire Parker is taking a year out to go travelling. We wish them all the best on their new adventures.

I'd like to thank the parents for their continued support with our students at home and working with us so that we can meet the needs of our young people. And lastly, our students who continue to impress and amaze us.

As per usual, over the summer there will be a much reduced staff presence. Therefore any correspondence will take longer than normal.

I wish you a restful but fun summer and look forward to welcoming our students back to school on the 4th of September.

Antony Clements—Headteacher