



Hello and welcome to the final newsletter of 2025! I cannot believe how quickly this term has gone and how much the students have crammed in! The outreach centre was opened this half term after a significant refurbishment of the Ramsden Hall Front Lodge. We've had lots of reindeers, cottages and key rings made in DT, trips out for personal development, reward trips for school and attendance, and a fantastic, well deserved Jack Petchey winner. On top of this boarding have continued to take the students out and about on lots of activities.



The Jack Petchey Achievement Award has been presented to Koah Whitely this half term in recognition of daily positive attitude, dedicated focus to learning and positive impact and interactions with those around him. The Achievement Award honours young people aged 11–25 who demonstrate outstanding commitment to helping others and inspiring peers through their actions.

Congratulations to Koah for embodying the spirit of generosity, resilience and drive that the Jack Petchey Foundation seeks to celebrate. Koah received £300 to put towards school improvements. Koah has chosen the gym and his form room in Science.



Zoe, our amazing kitchen manager, is leaving after 13 years at Ramsden Hall Academy! Zoe started cooking in Chelmsford schools in 1987 and this is her 5th school. She has prepared a whopping 500,000 meals during her time here at Ramsden. She's also brought her two daughters into the Ramsden family who have gone on to similar positions in other schools, continuing her legacy. You have been a credit to the school Zoe! We will miss you and wish you the absolute best for the future!



## Gymnastics

This half term we have been taking some of our newer students over to Basildon Sporting Village to take part in gymnastics sessions. This has been a great experience for our students who have been able to develop and showcase their gymnastics skills in a professional space and represent the school.

We look forward to doing more of this next term.

## Year 9/10 Football Tournament

Our boys took part in SESSSA football tournament at Cedar Hall in November. The students played very well and after the round robin were top of the group.

In the Semi final we played Castledon winning this, setting up a final against Langham Oaks.

A very good match closely fought, unluckily we lost 2-1.

The boys all showed good team spirit and sportsmanship.



## SESSSA Swimming Gala December 25

5 of our younger students were chosen/ volunteered to attend the SESSA Swimming Gala competing against 5 other SEN schools.

The boys were very well behaved, swam well and showed exceptional sportsmanship and team spirit.

They cheered every swimmer home and every medal presented, this was led mainly by Logan.

They picked up 4 Bronze medals for their efforts.

Thank you and well done boys, for not only representing the school but cheering on and supporting the other competitors.



## DT Projects

This half term students have been building soldiers for Remembrance and a whole range of Christmas decorations and keyrings. They've been honing their skills on the laser cutter and using the natural resources of the forest to build reindeers.



## Key Stage 4 Life Skills

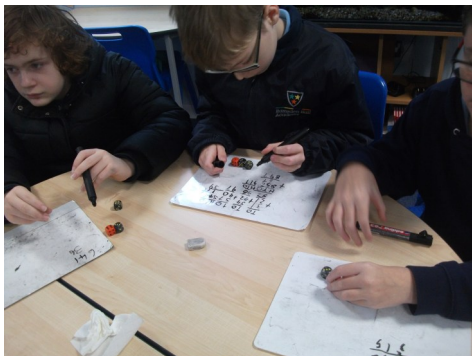
Tracy and Kelly came to see our year 11s to talk about Chelmsford College. All of the students engaged well with our visitors and enjoyed finding out about life at college. We played games to help learn about expectations at college and the ladies answered lots of our questions.





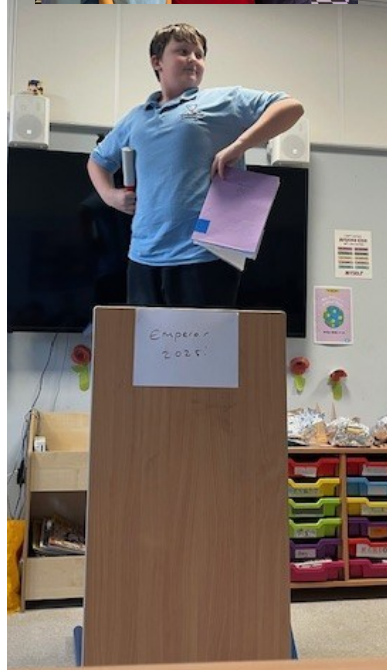
## Redwood and Birch

Students have continued to settle well into the Redwood and Birch areas and have started to go out on Personal Development trips to different areas outside of school. As you can see they've been busy working and getting involved, especially in their science lesson where they made edible pool!





## Birch and Redwood continued...





## Presidents Sporting Lunch

We had an absolute blast at the Presidents Sporting Lunch this year! This is a fantastic event held at Barleylands in their festive marquee for SEN schools all over Essex. Students get to meet sporting legends, enjoy a 2 course meal, get balloon models, face paint, candy floss and popcorn, as well as a fantastic goodie bag! Each school nominates a student who has excelled in a sporting achievement and Vinnie was presented with the award for Ramsden Hall Academy for his dedication to P.E. at school. Well done Vinnie!





# Christmas Lunch

Once again, our AMAZING kitchen staff have excelled themselves with this years Christmas lunch. This is a lovely way to get together and celebrate the end of the term. Students got to pull crackers, share jokes, wear silly hats and enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner! Also, thanks to SLT for serving us.





# Residential

This half term the boarders have been enjoying the lead up to Christmas. Now that the wintery evenings are here we have been making the most of some indoor activities. We enjoyed learning about Diwali and doing some Diwali crafts and went trampolining which is a new activity that we all really enjoyed. We all can't wait for Christmas and especially enjoyed the trip to the Christmas market and just had our annual Christmas party which didn't disappoint.









# Rewards Trips!

This half term we have had another fantastic set of reward trips for our top achieving students. Competition has been fierce this half term and students have been trying hard to ensure that they claim their spot! This half term we've had paintball, cinema, laser tag and a trip to Barleylands for the 4R's and breakfast for 100% attendance! Students are awarded Trip Token's based on the Ramsden 4R's of resilience, respect, reflect and repair, helping to support students for life in and outside of school.







# Achievements



## Points

### Key Stage 3

Ben E

Jack N

Finley W-R

### Key Stage 4

Mason A

Freddie K

James H

Well done to these students who have shown dedication and hard work in their lessons!

Well done to the following students who have achieved

**100% attendance!**

Ralph, Harley, Stanley H, Joseph E, Freddie F, Cameron, Archie J, Logan, Kayden Mc, Finley W-R and Taylan

And well done to **Birch** who are the tutor with the highest attendance in the school!

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I would like to extend my gratitude to our pupils, staff, families, and partners for their ongoing commitment and support. This term I think everyone has shown the Ramsden 4R's Respectful, Resilient, Reflect, Repair, and a growing confidence in their learning and personal development.

This term, we have welcomed a number of new pupils both into Ready to Learn and other years of the school. We remain especially proud of the way our young people have supported one another, embraced new challenges, and celebrated individual successes—both large and small.

This term, we bid farewell to our Catering Manager, Zoe Russell, who will be retiring after a distinguished career. She feels that this will be a good move for her take time with her family; she has worked at the school for over 13 years and has fed thousands of children throughout Essex. We are going to miss her, but her team will continue to work under Cathy's leadership.

I would also like to recognise the dedication of our staff, whose professionalism and compassion ensure that every pupil feels safe, valued, and understood. As we look ahead to the new year, we do so with optimism and ambition. I wish you all a peaceful, restful Winter break and a happy, healthy New Year.