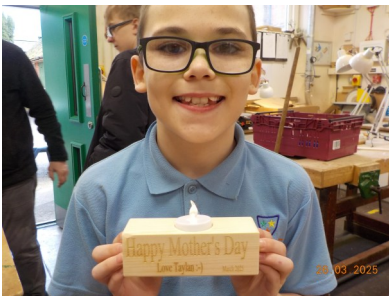


Hello and welcome to the 4th newsletter of this academic year! This year seems to be whizzing by as we are busy getting stuck in here at Ramsden. Students have been able to get out in the sunshine more this half term and make the most of the improving weather. Students have been working well in their lessons and enjoying the reward trips and daily activities. We've had some big Jack Petchey news this half term with two winners, new Gecko's in the Birch classroom, a new mini bus, gymnastics, visiting speakers and much more!

Design and Technology

This half term the DT department are preparing to move into the new area but have still had time to help the boys create some Mother's Day and Easter gifts.



New Arrivals in Animal Care

It's been a busy time in animal care this half term! We sadly had to say goodbye to some of our furry friends but were also able to get some newbies to keep our current ones company. Our new Guinea Pigs; Frazzle, Sid and Snickers have settled in well and the boys have thoroughly enjoyed looking after them.

The students have been really active in welcoming our new pets and taking care of them.



This term saw two further students awarded the Jack Petchey Achievement Award at Ramsden Hall. The Achievement Award recognises and celebrates the outstanding efforts and attitude that young people demonstrate with a grant to be used in an area of the school that will further improve their own and their peers environment for learning.

This terms winners are Nick Shala in year 10 and Finlay Grimes in year 7.

As a member of the Explorers, Nick recently completed a 30 kilometre walk along the Chiltern Hills, taking 8 hours 24 minutes, of which he had spent considerable time training for in the weeks before. He had also helped a fellow Explorer when they fell over and needed first aid.

Nick recently made senior for his positive attitude and effort within school towards learning and received outstanding feedback for his resilience and commitment, without complaint, on work experience where they are keen for him to return in the future.

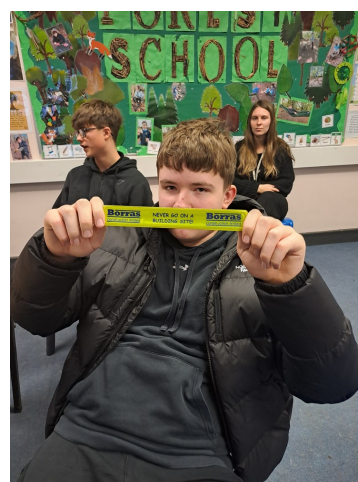
Finlay has done really well this year settling into Ready to Learn. Finlay approaches all lessons and challenges with enthusiasm and ambition and has made some really positive relationships with his peers, motivating them also in his approach. Recently Finlay was given the opportunity to try out Boccia representing a KS3 team for Ramsden Hall for the first time. While this was a completely new experience for Finlay he nominated himself to open the game, later leading to a team win placing 1st in the SESSA tournament.

This is an amazing achievement for these students! We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication.



Boys building a bright future.

Carol from Borrás Construction came in to speak to our students to highlight the wide range of opportunities available in the building industry, including apprenticeships and diverse roles both on and off-site. Carol described life on a building site and all the ways that workers keep themselves safe. We all had great fun trying on the hard hats and hi-vis jackets!



Geckos in Birch.

We've had some new arrivals in Birch this half term in the form of two lovely gecko's, Ron and Dobby. These animals have come over from Animal care and are great support for our students who enjoy animals and like to take care of them.



New Rats for Outreach

Our new outreach lead, Claire has got two new rats which will be kept in the outreach centre once it's complete.

Lots of work has gone into turning a dilapidated gate house into a learning hub and we are very excited to be launching this facility in the near future, along with Salt and Pepper of course!

Redwood and Birch News

It's been another busy half term with our nurture classes of Birch and Redwood. Although the minibus has been out of action we've been making the most of the local area by going for walks in the woods as part of personal development. Birch and Redwood have also been able to go into the Science lab for science lessons where they have conducted experiments, exploring chemical reactions creating sugar snakes and recording data. Both groups have also been taking part in Drama lessons and learning new skills! Well done boys.



MP Visit

This week we had the opportunity to welcome local MP Richard Holden to have a look around the school and meet some of our students who presented him with a limited edition Ramsden Easter craft made by our students in the DT department.



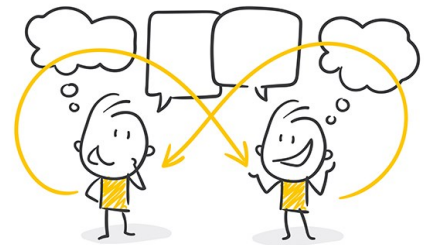
Forest School

The forest is looking particularly fantastic this spring with lots of daffodils and bluebells coming up! Here are some pictures that Louie in year 8 took in his last Forest School lesson.



4 R's

We talk a lot about the 4R's at Ramsden and these are built into the school day in social and curriculum time. These R's support students to develop their social skills and help them to build their confidence in situations they find difficult. They also help students to take responsibility for their actions by reflecting and repairing relationships when they may have been impacted by an individual's actions.



We understand that no one gets everything right all the time and learning how to manage this is an important part of growing up.

1. We are Respectful

In Learning: Being respectful helps students listen to each other and work well together in class.

In Life: Respect helps students build good relationships and communicate effectively with others.

2. We are Resilient

In Learning: Resilience helps students keep going when things are tough, turning mistakes into learning opportunities.

In Life: Being resilient helps students handle life's challenges and changes better.

3. We Repair

In Learning: Repairing means fixing mistakes and relationships, which creates a supportive classroom where students learn responsibility.

In Life: Repairing teaches students to take responsibility and make things right when they go wrong.

4. We Reflect

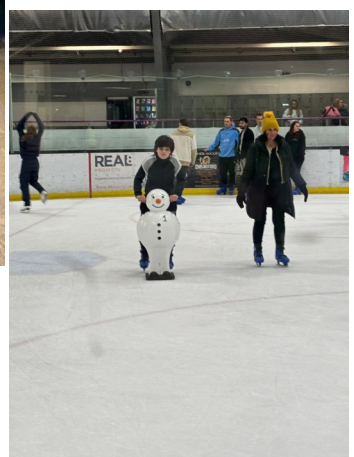
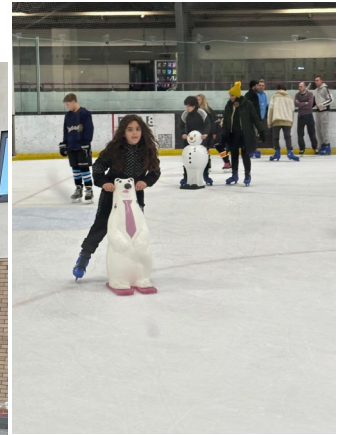
In Learning: Reflecting helps students think about their actions and learning, leading to better choices.

In Life: Reflection helps students understand themselves better and improve continuously.

Residential

It has been a busy term for the boarders, they have started building dens as it is getting lighter in the evenings, using our fantastic surroundings. We have also introduced a some new games, one is called Sardines which all the boarders seem to like! We have taken the boarders Ice Skating and to the thrilling Cresta Run at Thriftwood.

The “Boarders Holiday” is coming is in the Summer term and the trips will be confirmed when we get back after the Easter Holidays. All very exciting stuff! We are getting our bikes fixed next term by one of the boarder’s Dads who has very kindly offered to help us. We are all looking forward to a busy next term, after a nice yummy chocolate Easter holiday. I will finish by sharing that the Care Team were graded as **OUTSTANDING** for the 2nd year running in our recent Ofsted Inspection. Well done everybody on this fantastic achieve!



Reward Trips

This half term we have been able to reward students with 4 fantastic 4R's trips! Students receive trip tokens for their resilience, respect, and ability to repair and reflect, understanding that when we don't get things right we take responsibility and take ownership

We've gone to the London Dungeons, Oxygen trampoline park, Paintballing and Thorpe Park. Students earn a place on the trip based on their trip tokens. These are done each Friday with their tutors and are based on each student's individual points targets, their uniform, attendance to lessons, tutor targets and their weekly positives. Students have worked really hard to get onto these trips and we are really impressed with their behaviour and attitude whilst out being ambassadors for the school. All students that achieved a place on the trips have achieved more than 89% attendance for the half term. This demonstrates that good attendance positively impacts the likelihood of securing a place on a reward trip.



Attendance

Attendance is key to each student building resilience and confidence in education. To help support this we are going to be introducing attendance bands so that students, parents and carers are aware of what band they are in and what support is available should it be needed.

How the Banding Works:

- **Band 1:** Indicates very low attendance. Pupils in this band will receive focused support to address any barriers to attending school regularly.
- **Bands 2-5:** Represents improving attendance. Pupils in these bands are making progress, but still need encouragement and support to reach higher attendance levels.
- **Bands 6-10:** These bands show good to very good attendance. Pupils here are meeting expectations and will be encouraged to maintain or improve their attendance.
- **Band 11:** Represents outstanding attendance. Pupils in this band set a great example and will be recognized for their commitment to regular school attendance.

Our Commitment:

- **Support:** We will provide targeted support to pupils in the lower bands to help them overcome any challenges they face.
- **Recognition:** Pupils in higher bands will be celebrated for their dedication and commitment to attending school.
- **Engagement:** We will work closely with parents and carers to address any attendance issues and support pupil success.

We believe this new banding system will help us ensure all pupils at Ramsden Hall Academy have the opportunity to achieve their full potential by attending school regularly.

Attendance Matters



A Word from the Head

As we approach the Easter break, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on the past term and look forward to the exciting events and opportunities that lie ahead at Ramsden Hall.

This term has been a remarkable journey of growth and achievement for our students. We have witnessed incredible progress in both academic and personal development, thanks to the dedication of our talented staff and the support of our wonderful school community. Pupil attendance this term has continued to stabilise at around 75% and on a few days we have had days of 80% Well done!!

Looking over this newsletter it shows how hard the pupils and staff work in making sure learning is fun and rewarding.

Looking ahead, we have a number of exciting events planned for the summer term. I hope you join everyone at Ramsden Hall in wishing our Year 11's good luck for their exams over the next term.

Easter is a time for reflection, renewal, and spending quality time with loved ones. I wish you all a restful and joyful Easter break. May it be filled with happiness, relaxation, and good health.

Stay Connected

As always, I encourage you to reach out with any questions or feedback. Communication between home and school is vital and the class teams are key to maintaining the links between home and school.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back with renewed energy and enthusiasm for the new term.

