



Rye College Newsletter

End of Term 2 - December 2022



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas

Mr Downes, Headteacher

We are rapidly drawing to close another term here at Rye and have had the opportunity to host a number of Christmas events: including, carols, bake sales, food bank collection, Christmas dinner and Christmas jumpers! I would like to thank all of our students, staff and families who have performed, supported and attended these events. It is incredibly heartening to see the generosity of our community as the food bank's van was filled to the roof with the donations provided and collected by our students.

Alongside these events, we have had trips to Kent University, the theatre to see A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls, visits to local businesses and sports tournaments.

It has been a busy term.



Some staffing news: Chris Giles, a member of our canteen team, retires at the end of term after 29 years of service. The number of meals produced and students fed over that period of time is truly significant. We wish her a happy and restful retirement! In addition, Steve Rickard has successfully secured a promoted post as Deputy Headteacher at Eastbourne Academy and will be leaving us at the end of term. We wish him all the best and look forward to working with him in his new role.

Finally, I wish you all a restful break, a fantastic Christmas and a happy New Year.

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*Well done to Robin in Year 9
for your fantastic winning
Christmas card design*

Christmas Events at School

We have had an action packed end to term 2 with our students well and truly getting into the festive spirit with lots of Christmas events.



Christmas lunch was enjoyed by one and all with a special visit from Father Christmas. Our canteen team did a wonderful job, as did our Student Leaders who helped to set up the tables, clear and reset between sittings and made sure everyone had a great time.

The Music Department hosted a Christmas concert. Ms Evenden led a Year 7 choir, Year 10 and 11 music and Wurlitzer students in a festive evening of song.

Thank you to all students who participated and to all the families who attended the concert. It was wonderful to be able to welcome a performance back to our main hall stage after a long absence due to the pandemic.



Enrichment Activities

This academic year has seen a return of extra-curricular activities and enrichment trips, to really help bring our students' learning to life. A busy term for Years 10 and 11 who have enjoyed: English theatre trips to London and Brighton, an engineering field trip to a local manufacturing company, a textile workshop with Romney Tweed, along with a Geography field trip and lecture at The University Of Kent.

We are delighted to welcome KS3 food technology back this term and have enjoyed seeing our students culinary creations. Crochet club continues to go from strength to strength and our new science club has some very enthusiastic members. These clubs are free for students to attend. Please see our website for the Term 3 club timetable.



Charity and Community

Charity and community activities are important ways to help demonstrate and live out our Rye College kindness value.



**WE ARE
KIND**

The start of Term 2 sees the important calendar event of Remembrance Sunday.

We join together with Rye Community Primary School and our local community to lay a wreath in remembrance for those who have given their lives in military service.



Every Christmas we run a community charity event to help local families in need. Our students chose to support Rye Food Bank this year. Each student donated a food bank item in return for a day of non uniform.

As always, we are blown away by the generosity of our families and so proud to see how our students embrace the opportunity to help others. Our Student Ambassadors had to make several trips to load up the very full delivery van – full of essentials to help many local families this Christmas. Brilliant work!



Continuing with our fundraising energies; the Student Leaders' Christmas Bake Off Competition and Bake Sale was a great success. A regular and much enjoyed end of term activity where we get to enjoy the baking talents of our students and raise money for our student enrichment fund. Well done to everyone who participated.



The final activity is the much loved, 30 year old tradition of welcoming Rye's Travelling Crib.

Rye Community Primary School's Head Boy and Girl proudly transferred the nativity scene to our Head Students. The figures will reach their final destination of St Mary's Church for the Christmas Eve Crib Service.

Careers Spotlight

Another busy term for careers events which we deliver through Life Education and enrich across the curriculum. We are delighted to say that in a recent evaluation, we are once again meeting 100% of the Gatsby Benchmarks, showing the strength of our CEIAG provision. A diverse range of events have taken place this term including:

Year 7 – Journey to the future with My Future Starts Here;

Year 9 – Careers in the NHS Enact drama performance;

Year 10 – Romney Tweed Textile Art Workshop and an Engineering trip to a local manufacturing company;

Year 11 – Mock Interviews with employers, Success at 16 evening and Geography Trip to University of Kent.



Year 11 College applications: Year 11 have been working hard on their college applications, with over half having already submitted theirs. The Rye College deadline for applications is Friday 6th January. Can families please support the students to meet this deadline as it takes the pressure off them as they begin the final phases of their GCSE courses. Mrs Starkey is more than happy to review personal statements if they are emailed to her.



Year 10 Work Experience 2023: Thank you to students and families who have either found their own placements or made choices through the Aspire system. Although reminders have been sent out, we have nearly 40 students who have not yet added anything to the system. If the students have lost their log in details, please contact Mrs Starkey who can re-issue these. Placements need to be added or chosen using the Aspire system – aspire.net (eastsussex-brighton.org.uk) This MUST be done as soon possible. This block of work experience is compulsory for all Year 10 students and has been fully funded by the school.

For any careers related questions or suggestions please contact Mrs Starkey via the school office – office@ryecollege.co.uk. You can also visit our Careers web page to find out other useful information.



Careers Week – 6th March 2023: We are planning a careers fair for our KS3 students on Wednesday 8th March. If you have an exciting job or business or you know of any local businesses who would be willing to have a stall at this event, please get in touch. We would also love to hear from you if you have a career that links specifically to one of our subject areas and you would be willing to speak to our students during a lesson or in an assembly.



Pupil Premium Strategy

As part of Rye College's vision to 'Create Bright Futures For All, Through Life Transforming Learning', the intent of the Rye College Pupil Premium Strategy is to achieve equity, in learning and opportunity, for all of our students. We hope you have found our Autumn and Winter Bulletins useful. Please be reminded of some of the elements of our strategy:

- **Breakfast club for all every morning 8 – 8.45am.** Up to 20% of our students are visiting our canteen for free toast, cereal and drinks, so they can start the day ready to learn. It also provides somewhere comfortable and supervised for the students to sit and socialise before the school day starts. Pastoral support is also on hand, if required.
- **School laptop loan for all.** If your child does not have access to a computer at home, we have laptops available to loan for free. Please email office@ryecollege.co.uk for further information.
- **Free music lessons for KS3 Pupil Premium Students.** Pupil Premium students in years 7, 8 and 9 are eligible for free weekly group music lessons in school provided by Create Music, which includes instrument hire, if required. Tuition is available for drums, guitar, bass, keyboard, brass, strings, woodwind. To find out how to apply, please email office@ryecollege.co.uk

Children of secondary school age may receive free school meals if their parents or carers receive certain benefits. Please see our Free School Meals web page for more information or email office@ryecollege.co.uk if you have any questions.

5 minutes with

Getting to know our Rye College team. This term;
Mrs Willett - our Head of Geography

Tell us about your role at Rye College?

I am Head of Geography at Rye, this means I organise the curriculum for Geography lessons, deciding what topics we learn and organising fieldtrips.

What's the best part of your job?

I really love getting students out of the classroom and into our local environment. I like to take students down to Rye Harbour and look at the amazing habitat of the salt marsh and also to Camber Sands to look at the sand dunes!

What paths can a love of Geography take our students on career-wise?

Geography is an amazing subject for a huge variety of careers. Jobs in the outdoors may include, river and coastal management, wildlife rangers, tree surgeon.

Environment jobs may include working with waste management, recycling and renewable energy.

Jobs in tourism may include tour guides, travel advisor and many more.

Tell us about the extra-curricular clubs you run?

We run a geography club for KS3 students Wednesday lunchtimes and Thursday after school, we try to look at a different theme each term and to visit local areas of interest. Most recently geography club students visited the town model at Rye Heritage Museum to learn about the influence of the changing coastline on the town. I also run a crochet club on Wednesdays after school and on a Friday week 2 lunch time.

If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would it be?

I'd most like to visit Costa Rica, I'd like to see the rain forest and look at all the conservation work they are doing there to protect the animals and the natural habitat.



Local Support Services

This Christmas will be difficult for many.

Please find some useful information and links to local support services.

Food Banks

www.hastings.foodbank.org.uk

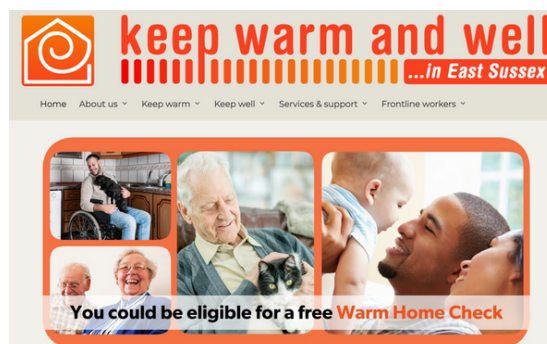
www.rye.foodbank.org.uk

Heat Checks

www.warmhomecheck.org

Community Support Groups

www.hastingsheart.com



RYE FOODBANK
HELPING LOCAL
PEOPLE IN CRISIS



One-off tasks we can help you with

- Food shopping/ delivering essentials
- Collecting medications from pharmacies
- Transport to your Vaccination Centre
- Posting mail
- Signposting to other advice and support
- Transport to hospital or other services
- Phone support/befriending
- A helping hand with something

Help Request Form

Hello, thank you for contacting HEART. Please take a few minutes to fill in this short form

abiddle@ryecollege.co.uk (not shared) [Switch accounts](#)

*Required

HASTINGS
HASTINGS EMERGENCY
ACTION RESILIENCE TEAM

For more information please contact

Clare Langridge on 07923236743 or 01424 377110
or email: thehub@fsncharity.co.uk

FSN Charity No: 208446