



RYE COLLEGE

End of Term 4 Newsletter



March 2024



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REFLECTIONS ON A BUSY TERM 4

by Mr Downes, Head Teacher

As we draw to a close another action-packed term, we look forward to the Easter break and the lengthening days. On a personal note, I am somewhat pleased that the changing of the clocks occur during the holiday!

This term has seen a wide range of events involving students, staff and our community.

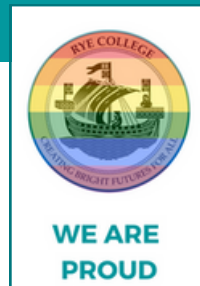
The students, working with Mrs. Chillingworth and Mr. Harrison, continue to build towards their production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We held a fundraising quiz on Thursday, 21st March, involving families and friends from across the community. It was a fantastic night, raising over £600 towards the production.

We held a Careers Fair earlier in the month, involving numerous professionals and employers from across the area. A number of parents and carers dedicated their time to support the event, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone involved.

Staff continue to work hard to provide both educational and enriching opportunities to our students. With this in mind, we will be shortly releasing details of our Enrichment Week 2024. The week will provide our young people with a range of off and on-site activities, including water-sports, visits to places of interest and exciting cooking projects. Another opportunity for our students will begin when we return after Easter: The Rye College Press Club starts on Tuesday, 16th April. Please keep an eye out for our communications.

Wishing all our families, students and staff a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday. We look forward to welcoming students back to Term 5 on Monday, 15th April to a Week A timetable.





PERFORMING ARTS FUNDRAISER

Families, students and staff were treated to a brilliant evening of entertainment courtesy of Mr. Harrison and the cast and crew of our summer production, at our family quiz night. We enjoyed 8 rounds of quizzing that incorporated our students' musical and performing talents! We raised an incredible £621.14 for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - funds that will make a big difference to putting on a fantastic show!



A big thank you to all families who attended and kindly supported us. An enormous thank you to Mr Harrison, Mrs Harrison and Mrs. Chillingworth for all the hard work you put into such a great night!



A BUSY TERM FOR STEM ACTIVITIES

Our STEM teams (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) have had a very busy and engaging term of learning enrichment activities.



Maths Competition

The Maths team kicked off the term under our Rye Advance Programme with the UK Maths Trust Challenge. 37 students from Year 9 and 10 entered the national competition. Congratulations to Wilma in Year 10 who received a Silver Award and Best in School. There were a further 10 bronze certificates with Daisie coming first for Year 9. Congratulations to all who entered - we're really proud of your commitment and love of maths!

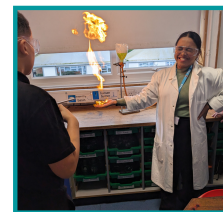
Civil Service STEM Challenge

Year 9 Rye Advance students were in action again, via the Civil Service STEM Challenge 2024. An exciting national competition, where students are asked to use their creativity and scientific knowledge to solve global challenges. Entries will be judged by a panel of leaders from across the government and prizes will be awarded to the groups with the best solutions! This year's challenge is focused on 'A vision of a carbon neutral day in 2050'. We're excited to receive the panel's feedback later in the year.



British Science Week 2024

British Science Week is a celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, designed to provide a platform to encourage learning, participation and engagement in STEM activities. We've enjoyed assemblies that celebrate the diverse people and careers in science and engineering. Science lessons have been highly interactive with lots of exciting practicals and brave teachers!



MARSBalloon STEM project

Rye College finalists designed and made capsules which will be sent into the Earth's atmosphere using a weather balloon. The STEM project plans to launch 150 experiment capsules from different schools on a high altitude balloon 30km up into the Earth's atmosphere. We can't wait to see the results of their experiments in May!



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK



This year's celebration of National Careers Week was bigger and better than ever. The aim of the awareness week is to inspire future career paths and give our students an insight to the world of work.

We were very lucky to have overwhelming support from local education providers and employers who gave their time to speak with our students. Our Art department welcomed Alice Bicknell, a former student. Alice has had an exciting journey since leaving Rye College, gaining a degree in Fashion Design and Technology and working for Harrods and Radley as a handbag designer. She is now working freelance as a designer and illustrator. Alice brought with her examples of her work and set design tasks for our students who were inspired by her work.



Our PE team hosted Hastings United FC, University of Brighton and Eastbourne Borough FC who delivered insightful presentations to our students regarding various careers pathways in sport.

Other subjects looked at cyber security, garden design, journalism, coding, AI, medicine and more. Our staff also shared their career journeys from GCSEs to their roles at Rye College to demonstrate the diversity in experience and that career paths all follow different routes, at times with a total change in direction!



National Careers Week Fair

Our KS3 careers fair is always a highlight of Term 4. We were joined by 23 different employers from architects to firefighters to hairdressers to engineers. Students were tasked with finding information about qualifications, working hours, training opportunities and job roles. One company, Rockpool Creative ran a branding competition for students to name a new energy bar. They have also launched part 2 of the competition to produce a logo.

We are extremely grateful to all of the support we received from parents, local businesses and organisations. If you feel you can contribute to our careers programme in any way, please get in touch with Mrs Starkey via the school office.



STUDENT AWARDS

We believe encouragement, praise and reward are central to unlocking the potential of all our young people. Every term, reward celebrations take place to recognise those students who have demonstrated our 'Rye Values', those with high rates of attendance along with ClassCharts points recognition.

Term 4 Rye Values Winners

- **Be Proud:** Arthur D Y7 for his performances during the Quiz evening.
- **Be Positive:** Ethan O Y7 for his all round positive attitude to learning and extra-curricular activities.
- **Be Employable:** Connor G Y11 for his continued and frequent help and support with events.
- **Be Kind:** Lily-Rose H Y10 for her kindness and support of others.
- **Be Committed:** Braydon R Y11 and Sophia R Y7 for their commitment and achievements in Judo.

Don't forget to send in out-of-school achievements to office@ryecollege.co.uk. We love to share them within our school community.



Term 4 Mentor Group ClassCharts Points Winners



8SRA
496



7EMI
408



7GBL
393

Congratulations to you all - keep up the hard work and get your Mentor Group on Term 5's winning podium spot!

5 MINUTES WITH.....

Getting to know our Rye College team. This term; Mr Gambrell
Head of Physical Education

Tell us about your role at Rye College?

I joined Rye College in September 2023 as the Head of PE. I oversee the planning and delivery of our curriculum, the running of our extra-curricular programme and the delivery of the OCR Sport Science course in KS4.

What's the best part of your job?

Seeing young people enjoying take part in exercise and applying their skills in competitive scenarios in both team and individual sports.

What do you think are the fundamental benefits of sport, particularly for young people?

Sport provides unique opportunities that other subjects can't offer. Not only in terms of the practical application of different skills in a range of sports, but also learning about how sportsmanship, respect and etiquette can play a vital role in upholding core values that run through all levels of participation in sport.

What are your plans and aspirations for the Rye College PE department?

We will continue to grow our curriculum and refine our assessment method (Hands, Head and Heart) to ensure we are giving students opportunities to progress and excel in all domains that PE involves. Our longer term plan is to introduce more competitive fixtures vs. other schools in our area and participate in more local events. Additionally, running regular trips to spectate live elite sport and increase the amount of opportunities we are giving our students to experience Sport.

What's your favourite sport to play?

Cricket - I play for a team in Kent who compete in the Kent Cricket League. I help to captain the 1st XI Saturday side and the organisation of the club in general that relies on volunteers such as myself. I am also pretty handy at badminton... challenges welcomed!

What's the greatest sporting experience you've either watched or been part of?

I have always loved playing sport ever since I was a youngster and have lots of memories of sport, both playing and watching live sport. The best playing memory I have is when I captained my University 1st XI Badminton team in 3 consecutive Varsity wins. My most favourite watching memory is definitely seeing the Kent Spitfires at the T20 finals day in 2021 at Edgbaston (Birmingham), beating Somerset in the final. Amazing day out, would highly recommend it!



LOOKING AHEAD

Key dates for your diary in Term 5

Date	Activity
15/04/24	Start of Term 5 - Week A Timetable
16/04/24	French Exchange Family Trip Meeting 4-5pm Room 8
16/04/24	Rye College Press Club Launches - 3.20pm School Library
17/04/24	Y9 Guided Choices Webinar, 6-7pm on Zoom
25/04/24	Y7 & 8 UK Maths Trust Challenge
06/05/24	Early May Bank Holiday
15/05/24 - 17/05/24	Exchange Trip to France
08/05/24	Year 7 Progress Evening
24/05/24	Last Day of Term 5 (non uniform day)



Equipment Expectations - Term 5 Update
Please refer to our letter sent to all families 25/03/2024 regarding **Being Ready to Learn**.

The required daily essentials are:
A pencil case containing:

- 2 working black and blue pens
- 1 HB pencil
- 1 ruler (at least 15cm long)
- 1 highlighter
- 1 eraser
- **1 purple pen** – please note this is a new requirement introduced from the start of term 5.

Students, who have the correct equipment for the week, are rewarded with an additional entry to the end of term year group raffle.

If a student is missing a piece of equipment, that will be considered a 'strike'. Three 'strikes' will result in a 30-minute pastoral detention.