

Staying

Connected

Parent / Carer Bulletin



July 2025



ROOKS HEATH SCHOOL
Strive to be your best



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another successful school year, I want to take a moment to reflect and celebrate the achievements of our wonderful students.

Throughout the year, there have been so many moments where our school community has not only spoken about our values but truly *lived* them — demonstrating teamwork, resilience, and kindness in ways that make us all incredibly proud. It's not enough to laminate our values and display them on the walls; what matters most is seeing them alive in our students' actions every day.

Whether representing the school on trips, at events, or during visits into the wider community, our students consistently impress. Time and again, members of the public and external organisations comment on how well they conduct themselves — their behaviour, manners, and enthusiasm are a credit to themselves, their families, and our school. Staff feel immense pride when these comments come back to us — they are a testament to the outstanding young people we have here.

We are also incredibly proud of the academic progress every student has made this year, particularly in literacy, oracy, and reading. Reading remains the golden thread that runs through every aspect of learning, opening doors to knowledge, creativity and confidence. Reading unlocks so many doors in education, and I encourage all parents and carers to continue to support and motivate their children to read, read, and read some more over the summer break. A love of reading will not only help them access the full curriculum but will also foster a lifelong love of learning.

All that remains is for you to enjoy reading about just some of the activities and successes your children have been part of this year. As you read on, you will see just a snapshot of the vibrant and varied activities your children have been involved in this year. I hope it fills you, as it does us, with pride and joy. I wish all our families a safe, healthy, and happy summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready to do it all again next year.

Mrs Manderson

Year 11 Leavers Breakfast and Assembly

Ms H. Capper

In May, the time came to bid farewell to our Year 11 students and we wanted to do it in style! The sun shone beautifully for our students who arrived at school looking fantastic in their best formal outfits, looking so grown up and ready to fly the nest. Students had the red carpet, exclusively, rolled out for them before they had their pictures taken with plenty of smiling staff and peers alike. Students were welcomed in with a champagne flute (of lemonade) through a colourful balloon arch to a tasty breakfast spread for them to enjoy. The Rookery was filled with joy and a sea of smiling faces, some filled with anticipation as to what old photos were about to be revealed! Year 11 then made their way to the hall for their final assembly and oh what fun we had! A sea of grins as we reminisced over memories made from sports days and trips, comparing old Year 7 hairstyles to the current 'cool' ones and looking at how, as a Year Group, students have grown. Staff came along to share their best wishes and partake in the trip down memory lane before we finished the day with a bang (if only our party cannons had gone off



simultaneously as planned!)

It has been a pleasure watching you grow during your time at Rooks Heath. You are an amazing Year Group that I know will go on to do amazing things! #classof2025

Bike Shed Revamp



Over the Easter holiday the bike sheds were transformed from a tired space into a bright and colourful seating area for students to enjoy at break and lunch times, and incorporates our Track values of Teamwork and Resilience brilliantly.

Thank you Mr Pitchforth and Mr Sharp for your artistic skills! Keep your eyes peeled in September for more.

Year 11 Prom



Ms H. Capper

What a night to remember! By the end of June, the exams were over and with just over 150 students there, the venue was packed full of smiles and dance moves. The students all looked absolutely sensational in their carefully coordinated outfits, with some arriving in style being chauffeured to the event! Students all had a great time and were happy with how their planned décor and hard work turned out. It was a perfect ending to celebrate their last 5 years with enough photos to last a lifetime! We wish all Year 11s a restful summer break and look forward to further celebrations on results day in August.



Ms C. McCutcheon

On Friday 9th May we bid farewell to our current Year 13s in the leaver's assembly. It was a wonderful event where all students made the effort to dress for the occasion, and where there were lots of smiles, laughter, and unity in the room. They were a fantastic Year Group. We were sad to see them go, but we wish them goodbye and good luck as they venture on to their next steps.

**CLASS OF 2025
LEAVERS ASSEMBLY**



Model UN Crisis Debate

Mr M. Hutchinson

The 29th May saw the inaugural meeting of the Rooks Heath Model United Nations. Delegates representing group of major nations convened to debate the militarisation of space in front of a keen audience, with all participants offering thoughtful, articulate and convincing contributions to a lively discussion. Special congratulations to the chairs, Aditya and Aarav, who organised and hosted proceedings with a maturity that belies their age. Thank you to all staff who attended and supported .

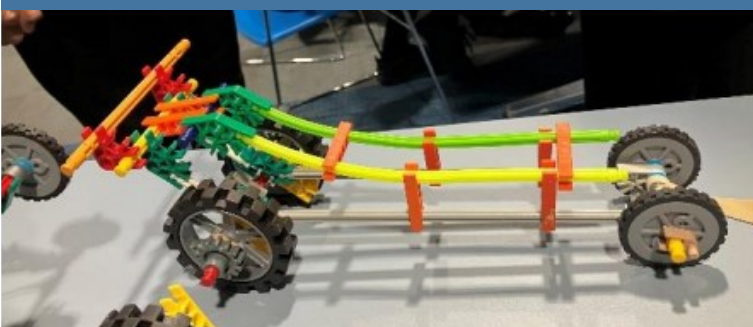
STEM Trip to Brunel University

Mrs H. Grewal



On Wednesday 21st May, 40 of our enthusiastic Year 9 students took part in an inspiring STEM trip to Brunel University London. The visit offered a fantastic opportunity to explore the exciting world of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Students engaged in a variety of hands-on workshops that brought STEM subjects to life and showcased their real-world applications. From creative problem-solving to innovative experiments, the day was packed with activities designed to ignite curiosity and boost confidence in these important fields.

We are proud to provide opportunities like this, that broaden horizons and encourage students to consider future studies and related to STEM careers.



Rooks Heath School Slam

Mr M. Hutchinson

The Thursday before Easter saw the return of the annual Rooks Heath School Slam, a celebration of the spoken and written word. Once again, students and staff demonstrated their courage, eloquence and literary prowess in front of a rapt theatre audience. Highlights included Tyler's (10Y) original poem 'My Dad is Superhero', Bethany's (7Y) recital of the Anthony Horowitz poem 'Hope', and a piece of original prose from Oli (13B). The evening was another showcase of the extraordinary talent flourishing here at Rooks Heath - both among the students and staff.

Thanks to all staff who were able to attend - and special thanks to Ms Samms and Ms Green for both performing and helping with organisation, Ms Jenkins for allowing use of the theatre, Mr Pitchforth for technical support, and the Sites team for setting the theatre up.



Luca Chigbo Visit

Ms C. McCutcheon

On Tuesday 6th May, we were lucky enough to have Luca Chigbo visit our Sixth Form students. Luca has a significant Tik Tok presence with thousands of followers, where he advocates for the youth of today by teaching and encouraging them to explore their post-18 options through apprenticeships. Luca himself works for one of the 'big four' accounting firms – EY (Ernst and Young). The students found his talk engaging and relatable and



were well equipped with plenty of questions. Luca provided them with some key advice on how to prepare and navigate their next steps. The experience was invaluable to students and will no doubt ensure they feel better prepared in considering life post-18.

Performing Shakespeare Regional Final

Mr M. Hutchinson

The evening of Monday 12th May saw a wonderful celebration of Shakespeare with students and visitors from across London journeying to Rooks Heath to take part in the regional final of the English Speaking Union's Performing Shakespeare Competition. The judges and audience members were greatly impressed by the outstanding quality of the performances from all participants, and, although she was not selected to proceed to the final of the competition, Malak (Year 8) showcased courage, art and eloquence in her portrayal of Hamlet. The wonderful Bethany (Year 7), meanwhile, delighted audience members with her wit as the compere of the event. A heartfelt thanks to the students and staff who contributed to the success of the evening.



Last Week of Term



Year 9 & 10 Sports Day: Dr. Donkor celebrates his retirement



Culture Evening Show Spectacular



Year 9 representing on Culture Day



Mr Sharp, Mr Wright and Mr Parkinson hunt for the Gruffalo at Chessington World of Adventures

Rooks Heath celebrated the end of term with an afternoon of fun in the park.



Have a great summer!

Key Dates	
Tuesday 2nd September	Year 7 and 12 Induction Day
Wednesday 3rd September	All students in from 11:35am
Wednesday 10th September	Open Evening – students finish 1:15pm
Thursday 11th September—Saturday 13th September	Year 11 Geography Residential to Swanage
Tuesday 16th September	Year 8 'Getting Involved in the Year Ahead' Evening for parents
Wednesday 15th October	Year 11 'Strive to Thrive ' Evening for parents
Monday 20th October – 31st October	Half Term (2 weeks)

