



Newsletter

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Dear Parent / Guardian,

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire Secondary School pupils recorded 8,895 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 1,816 on the previous year.

New Parent Governors Required

The Governing Body of Rugby High School works closely with the Headteacher and other senior staff to provide strategic and operational oversight of the school. It consists of 18 people from various backgrounds and it includes parents of pupils attending the school. Governors sit for a four year period and following the expiry of existing Governors' terms of office, new vacancies have arisen. Governors attend around 10 evening meetings a year and visit occasionally during the day.

As a result of the vacancies, the school would like to hear from any parent interested in standing as a Parent Governor. We are seeking people with Financial or Human Resources experience in particular. You will need to have the support of two other parents and will need DBS clearance (which the school will arrange).

If you wish to stand or would like to understand more about the role please contact the Clerk to Governors Allan Kerr (a.kerr@rugbyhighschool.co.uk). We would like to hear from you by midday on 1st February 2019.

Allan Kerr
Clerk to Governors

PARENT SURVEY: We need your help!

Rugby High School is currently reviewing its sanctions policy and would like feedback from parents as part of this consultation. Look out for a very quick survey via parent mail coming your way very soon!

Your ideas and input will be very much appreciated.

Many thanks



Sixth Form Editorial Committee relaunch Rugby High School's creative writing magazine, Illuminate!

Illuminate is Rugby High School's creative writing magazine, which showcases the very best work of students throughout the school.

Started three years ago, the magazine is being relaunched next week by the new Sixth Form editorial committee and Mrs Dermott-Bond. Aaliah Aziz, Sophia Bradshaw, Lauren Marks, Katy Timms and Shona Whelan have been busy selecting, organising the eclectic, exciting and breath-taking collection that will be published next week.



Watch out for our cover design and bespoke logo! The words themselves, of course, will prove the most beautiful things of all.

You will be able to read Illuminate next week, published alongside the school newsletter.

Engineering Opportunities for Year 9

If you are in Year 9 and are interested in a potential career using your Science and Maths skills, then Engineering might be something to research further. The Smallpeice Trust is offering the following opportunities.



YEAR 9 EASTER 2019 RESIDENTIAL COURSES

With everyone now back at school, we'd like to let you know about some of our Year 9 Easter university based residential courses which are booking up quickly. These courses give students a great opportunity to learn about engineering but also provide a great taster of life on campus as a student.

[Year 9, Intro to Cyber Security](#)

[1 – 3 April, Royal Holloway, University of London – £210](#)

Get to grips with the risks that threaten the freedom and opportunity that come with cyberspace, and explore the latest security measures.

[Year 9, Off road Vehicle Engineering](#)

[2 – 4 April, Harper Adams University – £275](#)

Put your engineering skills into top gear with a course that explores the exciting off-road vehicle industry.

[Year 9, Automotive Engineering](#)

[8 – 10 April, University of Warwick – £210](#)

Want to make a living working with cars? Get your dream career into gear with this hands-on course, learning from automotive engineers from top companies such as Aston Martin and Jaguar Land Rover.

[Click to see course timetable](#)

ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE SUMMER RESIDENTIAL COURSES – 2 NEW LOCATIONS FOR 2019

Ignite your potential on this popular course which shines a spotlight on the exciting and dynamic world of engineering and has two additional locations for this year.

[Engineering Experience \(Scotland\)](#)

[24 – 26 June – Edinburgh Napier University – £210](#)

[Engineering Experience \(Northern Ireland\)](#)

[8 – 10 July – Queen's University, Belfast – £210](#)

[Visit our website](#)

Music: the Science behind the Art

Dr Gillian Butcher Research Associate, Dept of Physics and Astronomy,
Leicester University

If you are in Year 10 - 13 you may be very interested in popping back to school on Tuesday 22nd January to hear how Science, Engineering and Maths play a part in the Art of Music. Details below and attached. The talk is FREE and no need to book. Cakes and drinks available.

Mrs Mighall
Head of Physics

It's only in relatively recent times that Science and Art have been seen as two separate cultures. In the early middle ages there was no such distinction and natural philosophy students were taught the quadrivium: Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy and Music. Through the ages, many scientists have continued to combine the study of Science and Music, most notably the 19th century scientist Helmholtz. Thus, although the piano and other musical instruments were developed over the years mainly through trial and error by craftsmen, there is a great deal of Physics and Engineering underpinning their art.

In this talk, Dr Butcher will focus on the physics of music, including some simple and fun demonstrations at the piano! Tuesday 22nd January 2019 6pm for 6.30pm start Rugby High School Free entry, open to all, no need to book For further info, visit our Near You page: <http://nearyou.imeche.org/near-you/UK/Midland/RugbyArea>

From your Catering Team

First thing in the morning in the Canteen

Tea, Coffee, and Fruits Teas available upon request (syrops & cream offered)
Hot Chocolate, Latte & Mocha
Range of Cereal & Milk
Also Gluten Free & Dairy Free Cereal & Soya Milk

Breaktime in the Hall

Hot Snack of the Day
(In cold weather) Soup & Roll
Tea, Coffee, and Fruits Teas available upon request (syrops & cream offered)
Hot Chocolate, Latte & Mocha
Iced Mocha or Latte

Lunchtime in the Hall

Jacket Potatoes with a Variety of Fillings
Weekly Specials (see notice board in Hall for details)
Salad bar
Hot and Cold drinks
Daily Puddings available with these meals

Birthday Cakes

Round or Square 12 portion or 12 large cupcakes
Chocolate or Vanilla with Buttercream Icing (colours & flavours available)
£7.00
Please allow 48 hours' notice and order from Kim in the Canteen / Hall



Student Finance talk for Parents

On Tuesday 5th February at 6.00pm in the school hall there will be a speaker from Aston University to talk about student finance. The talk is aimed at the parents of Year 13 students intending to go to University in 2019. Year 12 parents are very welcome to attend.

Hepworth celebration

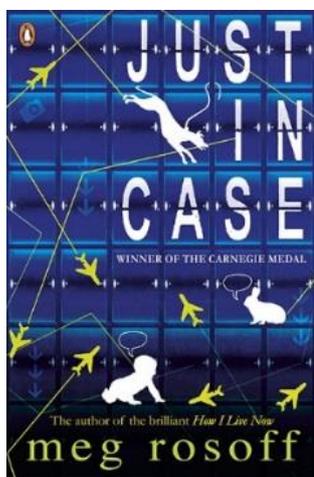
Throughout the whole of last term, the four Rugby High School Houses (Sharman, Ryder, Hepworth and Glennie) had been competing to collect the most House points. The prize was to have lessons five and six off on Friday 11th January to watch the film "The Greatest Showman". Just before the Christmas holidays, it was announced that Hepworth were the winners!

Fast forward to Friday 11th January and Rugby High's hall was buzzing with excitement as the various students in Hepworth, ranging from Years 7-13, waited for the movie to start. Then the tray of popcorn came out and from the combined chatter of students you could hear "I'm so excited", "This is better than Maths on a Friday", "I can't wait". As the movie progressed the whole of Hepworth sang along to the familiar songs and laughed at the mishaps of the characters.



When the movie had finished and the litter had been disposed of, all you could see were smiles, friends laughing alongside one another and the collective agreement that Hepworth were ready for the weekend. Overall the event was a great end to the first week back.

By Fatima Krida 9H



Looking for something to read? KS3 Book Recommendation

15 year old David Case thinks that fate is out to get him. There are so many things you could do in life such as reinvent yourself, change your name and the way you look; leave home and find yourself caught up in a series of strange misadventures and even romance. But what's the point if you're not in control and if David isn't, who is?

Warwickshire Police Cadets

Please see the attached information for students and parents regarding a Warwickshire Police Cadet drop in evening, full details are on the attachment.

Used Postage Stamps

We would still like to collect used postage stamps to give to Birmingham Children's Hospital in order for memory boxes to be bought for the parents of babies born prematurely.

If you are able to help with this request please ask your daughter to hand them into the main office. Thank you.

Thought of the Week from the Languages Department

Bon courage!
¡Ánimo!

Use this phrase in your Language lessons to gain a house point.
The English translation will be in next week's newsletter.

Maths Quiz 528

How many ornaments are there?

Rachel collects china cats which either stand on 4 legs, on 2 legs or lie down. Half lie down and one third stands on 4 legs.

If she had 6 more that stood on two legs, that number would be a quarter of the number that she now has.
How many cats are there?

Answer to Quiz 527: The perimeter is 182

Diary Dates

Institute of Mechanics Engineering Talk
Tuesday 22nd January

Year 13 Classics Trip to Warwick Art Centre
Thursday 24th January

French Trip to Versailles
Monday 28th January to Friday 1st February

Year 9 Vaccinations (DTP + Men ACWY)
Monday 28th January

Year 9 Options Evening
Tuesday 29th January

MARKING DAY
Thursday 31st January

British Biology Olympiad Year 13
Friday 1st February to Friday 8th February

Ski Trip Years 8 and 9
Saturday 2nd February to Saturday 9th February

University Finance Talk Year 13
Tuesday 5th February 6pm

Year 9 Parents' Evening #1
Wednesday 6th February

Intermediate Maths Challenge Years 9, 10, 11
Thursday 7th February

Year 9 Parents' Evening #2
Monday 11th February

Year 12 & 13 Art Students to Tate Modern, London
Tuesday 12th February

Trip to India Year 11, 12 & 13
Wednesday 13th February to Saturday 23rd February