



Newsletter

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Spring Issue 19

14.02.19

Dear Parent / Guardian

Member of staff or in Year 9-12? Want to star gaze?

The Physics Department has a digital telescope along with a tripod and numerous accessories available for any member of staff or student in the Years 9-12 (not just Physics students) to loan out.

You can borrow the equipment over several weeks and the instruction manual can be found online. Anyone who is interested should see Mrs Mighall (mighalls@rugbyhighschool.co.uk) in the Physics department.

Please note that a car is essential for transporting the telescope to and from home as the box is rather large and heavy.

RHS Book Month!

The month leading up to **World Book Day** on Thursday 7th March is a time when we really want students to focus on their **wider reading**. Educational research shows that reading is the most significant factor in a students' educational success. More importantly, reading is enjoyable, inspirational and good for your mental health.

There are so many great resources on the **FROG site: just search "World Book Day"** for reading lists, "reading across the curriculum", links and creative ideas to get inspired.

Wider reading is for everybody!

Not just English students!

Books are power: get reading today.

Recycling at RHS

This year, as part of our Silver CREST project, we are trying to make RHS more environmentally friendly. You may notice some changes around the school, as well as a presentation which you will see in form time, there is a new recycling display in the canteen. Additionally, we would like everyone in the school to do a little bit more to help the environment; we encourage you to waste less and use the various recycling bins, including the ones in the canteen. Every little thing you do counts, and we would like to see everyone helping to make our school more eco-friendly.



Generally, one of the easiest things to recycle is paper. However, that is not currently the case at RHS; there are many classrooms without accessible recycling bins. We aim to deliver boxes to classrooms for recycling, and we urge you to use these as much as possible. It may be easier to throw paper into the general waste sometimes, but this goes straight to landfill to eventually decompose. Recycling paper reduces the amount of waste in landfill, and reduces deforestation, as less new paper has to be made. We also encourage you to reuse paper as much as you can – for example - you can use it for notes.

Recycling plastic is just as important, if not more important, as recycling paper. 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic have been produced worldwide since the 1950s, yet only 9% has been recycled. It's not always easy to recycle plastic in school, but remember that there are no one-use plastics in the canteen - all of school's plastic bottles and containers can be recycled in the canteen recycling bins, which will soon be labelled with what can be put in them. It's really important that we use these bins, and they will reduce Rugby High's carbon footprint by a large amount.



We may also be investing in hand dryers to reduce the use of paper towels, which cannot be recycled. Research is being done on whether they are right for the school, and if they will reduce the carbon footprint of RHS.

We hope you can help us make RHS more eco-friendly over the coming weeks.

Thanks,

Freya Milwain, Angelina George, Rania Jhumka and Naomi Minnock.

Debating workshop with Cawston Grange

For those of you who aren't especially familiar with the local Rugby Primary Schools (myself included there) Cawston Grange is a delightful school not far from RHS, where some of the 6th form Debate Committee were fortunate enough to be able to give a workshop on debating.

There, we spoke with a selection of the Year 6 students on the format of formal debating, and on how to write debate speeches, before doing a 'mock debate' on whether or not homework should be banned. The confidence and ability with which the students spoke was wonderful to see, and despite the short amount of time they were given to prepare, they all managed to come up with some really good arguments surrounding the motion and to articulate themselves well.

It was lovely to be able to help them form their arguments and to share our knowledge, especially with such a diligent and mature group. Their enthusiasm was truly inspiring, and they came up with some brilliant and sophisticated points, especially considering that motions surrounding homework can often elicit some interesting responses.

Either way, I think I can speak for us all when I say that it was a valuable opportunity for those of us who attended, and I sincerely hope that when the Year 6 students go back to share their learning with the rest of their year, that their class enjoys the debating as much as they seemed to.

Roheena Buckland, Year 12

To Versailles and back



My study of French A level gave me the opportunity to go on a trip to Versailles to fully immerse myself in French culture, learn about French history and practise my language skills.

First and foremost we explored the picturesque city of Versailles in the snow, seeing the Notre-Dame cathedral, the shops and quintessential French cafés. The city of Versailles was built around the lavish and breathtakingly beautiful palace. We explored the palace and learnt about the lives of the French monarchs, we also saw where the guillotine was placed during the French revolution. We obviously exploited the opportunity to take photos with the snow-covered palace.

My personal highlight of the trip was the macaron making class, I will certainly be making some at home after how delicious the ones we made as a collective came out! Boating around Paris was the coldest and most beautiful experience, the architecture was amazing. My love for politics meant I was very excited to see the National Assembly.

But for me, the most valuable element of the trip was speaking French all week. I stayed with a retired lady who couldn't speak any English so I had no alternative but to push myself and have confidence in myself to speak as much French as possible.

Jomaan Sherlala, Year 13

The Physics of Music – An evening talk from the Institute of Mechanical Engineers

On Tuesday 22nd January, Dr Butcher from the University of Leicester Physics department visited Rugby High School to deliver her talk to an audience of students, parents and local engineers.



In the talk, Dr Butcher focused on the physics of music, including some simple and fun demonstrations on the piano! What was explained was that it's only been in relatively recent times that science and art (music) have been seen as two coherent cultures. In the early middle ages, there was no such distinction and students were taught the basics: arithmetic, geometry, astronomy and music, all separately.

Through the ages, many scientists have continued to combine the study of science and music, most notably the 19th century with 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 underneath the surface of their art. For instance, in a piano, the sound (otherwise known as frequency, f) made will change depending on its length (L), tension (T) and its mass in grams per cm (μ) as seen in the equation; $f = (1/2L) \times \sqrt{(T/\mu)}$. This is why piano strings are so weird in their shape length and width, it's to create different sounds.

The evening was very well attended and much of the work covered was very useful to Year 12 Physics students as we are currently studying waves in our A-level course.

James Bach, Year 12

Jessie Wright poetry competition 2019: “Lost and Found”

Jessie Wright Poetry Competition: longlist and shortlist of the creative writing competition announced.

Congratulations to the following students whose work was long listed in the competition: you will be able to read their work in the next edition of “Illuminate”.

/ Sophie Hill / Mianika Sikabofori / Meg Godsell / Hanna Imtiaz / Jaslene Kaur / Ellie Quinn / Lauren Marks / Anum Kashif / Chloe Menesse / Anusha Ali / Alice Madeley / Jenni Wesson / Lily Hanson / Ellie Shawcross / Carly Craig / Briony Havergill / Hannah Turley / Hannah Wright / Aimy Paul / Naomi Shaw / Hira Ahmed / Eilish Mallon /

Congratulations also to the following students who have made the shortlist. These students have been invited to attend the Jessie Wright Poetry Evening on Thursday 28th February where they will be reading their amazing poetry after the KS3 recitations and the overall winners will be announced.

/ Abi Hoyle / Helen Martin / Charlotte Van Sluiters / Ruby Murphy / Holly Weston / Eleanor Hague / Shona Whelan / Carys Owen / Eva Rath Juanola / Sunita Garg / Lucy Reynolds / Jess Matthews / Emily Brummit-Brown / Anjelica Solomon / Isobel Varley / Delphi Fothergill / Poppy Crossland /

Rugby High School English Department



Jessie Wright Poetry Competition

2019

“LOST AND FOUND”

KS3: recitation / KS4 & KS5: creative writing

28th February 2019 at 7:00 p.m

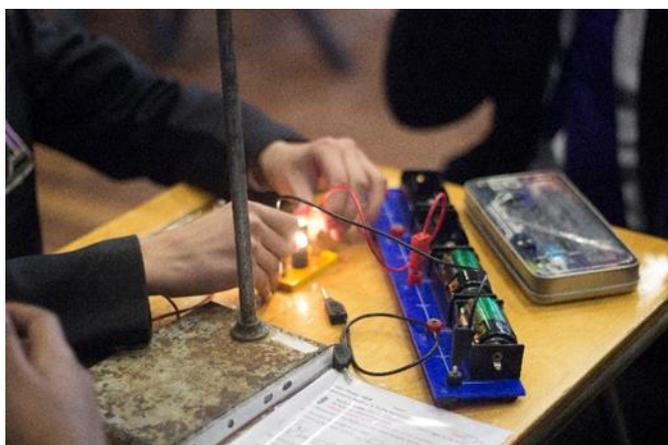
Super Physics Day 2019

On Friday, four of our Year 9 students (Maddie Fletcher, Heather Dargie, Elise Scotney and Akshya Subramanian) took part in Super Physics Day 2019 - an amazing day full of fun science experiments, interesting lectures and a very difficult competition.



After a quick briefing with the other eleven school teams, we entered the hall and got stuck in with our practicals. First, we did three investigations on a range of topics that made us think more about what we were investigating by asking challenging questions, mainly about the application of the science behind our results. Then, we carried out six experiments that focused on analysing results and explaining our observations. Each of these tasks were in an 80 minute timeframe.

Afterwards, we had to choose our favourite practical of the day and build on our findings in the form of a poster and presentation. We chose an investigation about density and displacement, and used the story of Archimedes with a slight twist; our presentation was commended on the combination of sound physics and fun. Whilst awaiting the results of the competition, we listened to a fascinating lecture on the relationship between quantum physics and cryptography, it was mind-blowing!



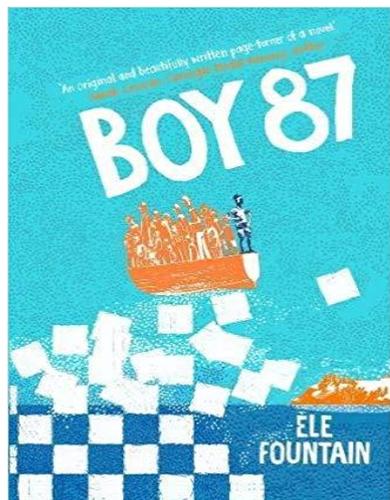
Finally, we were ready to find out the results... **RUGBY HIGH SCHOOL WON** with 79.5%!

The questions had been aimed at the top 4-5% of students and the scores ranged from around 50% to 80%. Trophy in hand, we rushed to thank Mrs Mighall for organising the event, while grinning from ear to ear.

In the end, it was an excellent day and we hope we will host it again next year.

Elise Scotney, Year 9

Looking for something to read? KS3 Book Recommendation



Shif is just an ordinary boy who likes chess, maths and racing his best friend home from school. But one day, soldiers with guns come to his door - and he knows that he is no longer safe.

Shif is forced to leave his mother and little sister, and embark on a dangerous journey; a journey through imprisonment and escape, new lands and strange voices, and a perilous crossing by land and sea. He will encounter cruelty and kindness; he will become separated from the people he loves.

Boy 87 is a gripping, uplifting tale of one boy's struggle for survival; it echoes the story of young people all over the world today.

Thought of the Week from the Languages Department

Prenons une pause !
; Descansemos !

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

Answer to last week's Thought for the Week: Let's take a break!

Maths Quiz 532

How Many Seats?

An outside theatre is in the shape of a regular hexagon with the stage in the centre. The seats are banked up on all six sides with 50 seats on the top row of each sides. There are 10 levels, each level having 3 less seats in each section than the one above. How many seats are there altogether?

Answer to Quiz 531 : 20 (or 19 if a leap year)

Diary Dates

Year 9 Options Deadline

Friday 15th February

HALF TERM

Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February

Year 12 & 13 English Language Conference

Tuesday 26th February

Jessie Wright Poetry Evening

Thursday 28th February

Year 12 Career trip to NEC

Friday 1st March

Book Week

Monday 4th to Friday 8th March

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 6th March

World Book Day

Yr 13 English Language students to Bawnmore Infant School

Thursday 7th March