



Ringwood School

Year 8 Newsletter- Spring Term 1

Dear Parent/Carer

Throughout the year I will be writing to you with a brief outline of the highlights of the previous few weeks and some comments about upcoming events.

This half term has been centred around the house values of Thornhill which is 'Embrace opportunities' and this has been at the forefront of the assemblies that Year 8 have had this half term. The topics covered this term have been 'Trying something new' focusing on all the clubs on offer at school and all the opportunities there are to do in and outside of lessons. Do keep an eye out for the list of clubs that will come out after half term. We also had an assembly from Mrs Jolly on 'Restorative conversations' in which we discussed the importance of restorative conversations and how they can be used effectively. The big focus of the PSHE lessons this half term has been internet safety, which focused on how to conduct yourself online but also who you can and cannot trust. This was further explored in this week's CCR activity based around internet safety day.

Tutor times have kept to a similar structure as before half term, but focussing on a different theme or event each week. This has included activities on Holocaust Memorial Day, Chinese New Year, Burns Night and Martin Luther King Day. The students have engaged very well in tutor activities and it's also great to see a lot of the students getting involved in different house activities throughout the term. A prime example of this was the most recent SPUD day in which many year 8s did their bit for the chosen house charities for each house.

There have been many positives in the classroom as well, with the students receiving their first progress checks of Year 8. It was great to see how the hard work that the students continue to put into their lessons has been recognised in these progress checks. This has resulted in 3,214 house points being rewarded to students in Year 8 this term. The highest earning boy in Year 8 this half term was Frank Moorhouse with 26 house points and the highest earning girl was Rosheen Errington with 34 house points. A big congratulations to those two and all the students who were consistently earning house points this term. A big well done to those who had 100% attendance this half term, which is a fantastic achievement

Looking ahead to next half term, clubs and extracurricular activities will continue so keep an eye out for those. Assemblies after half term will focus around Anning's values of 'Be Curious' and the focus of PSHE will shift to 'community and careers'

We are mindful that the last two years have been really challenging for families and circumstances may have changed. Did you know that your child could be eligible for **free school meals**? Eligibility can be checked confidentially through the government website. Please click on this [FSM link](#) to check your eligibility.

Finally, I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given over this half term, as always it makes a huge difference to both the tutor team and myself to support the students.

Have a great half term break and looking forward to seeing everyone again on the 20th February

Kind Regards

Henry Nicholson
Head of Y8