

RAMSEY NEWS

Tuesday
10/06/2025

vol.2

School Updates

A brief overview of key notices and school information

Prefect Applications

Students in year 10 have the opportunity to apply to become a school prefect.

Student Achievements

See photos and descriptions of some of the wonderful things students have been up to



Safeguarding & Careers

Newly introduced segments on safeguarding and careers which parents should find helpful

Feedback Corner

My favourite section is our feedback corner, where I spotlight feedback from students and parents

It has been wonderful to see the students thoroughly enjoying the newly surfaced football and tennis courts at break and lunch.



A NOTE FROM MS CARROLL

We have a bumper edition for you this week, with new additions to support students, parents and carers in our safeguarding update and careers corner. I hope that you find these inclusions a helpful source of information and guidance as a parent. It has been my pleasure to work with the Ramsey students this term.

Another highlight for me over the past 3 weeks has been visiting our students working with our artist in residence. I was blown away by the wonderful creations from the students which are now displayed beautifully in the parents waiting area of our reception. - Ms Carroll



A NOTE FROM MISS MEAD

We have been very impressed with how determined year 11 students have been throughout this exam season and we wish them the very best for their exam results and their next steps. We will be here in August for any student who might need support and guidance.



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SCHOOL UPDATES

The School Day

The school day timings will revert back to our original schedule on Monday 23rd June

The timings will be:

- Form Time: 8.30am to 8.50am
- Period 1: 8.50am to 9.50am
- Period 2: 9.50am to 10.50am
- Break: 10.50am to 11.15am
- Period 3: 11.15am to 12.15pm
- **Period 4: 12.15pm to 1.15pm**
- **Lunch: 1.15pm to 2pm**
- Period 5: 2pm to 3pm

The Governing Body

A reminder of the current governing body.

Malcolm Bailey, non elected – Chair
Tanya De Bruyne, non elected – Vice Chair

Rebecca Ayre – non elected
Catherine Hales – non elected
Emma Haxell – non elected
Jenny Gerrard – Staff
Sue Freear – Parent
Karen Boyles – Parent
Sandra Carroll, Head of School – ex officio

Disruption to Learning

In order to avoid unnecessary disruption to learning, we ask that all students take the opportunity to use the toilet and re-fill water bottles before school and during lunch and break.

Early passes. These differ from Toilet Passes and Time-Out Passes. Leave Lesson Early passes are typically issued to students with a medical need, such as a broken leg, requiring extra time to walk to class with ease.

As of 20th June 2025, all current passes will be void, and new passes will be issued. We are aware that in the past some students have had leave early passes due to SEND. The use and re-issue of these passes will also be reviewed. If you believe your child requires a 'Leave Lesson Early' pass, please contact Ms Bartlett, our Data Manager on **JBartlett@ramseyacademy.com**

Working together, we can ensure that students are maximising their learning time in school and boosting their chances of leaving school with excellent results.



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PREFECT APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS

Application Process

For any pupil wishing to apply for prefect status:

1. Pick up an application booklet.
2. Complete the form
3. Say why you want the role
4. What you'd like to achieve
5. How you'll inspire others
6. Secure a teacher's reference
7. Submit everything.

What's on Offer?

- Head Students (2) & Deputy Heads (Boy & Girl)
- Be the voice of your peers at assemblies, parent events and on the Senior Leadership Team. You'll help steer school initiatives, lead the Student Council, and represent Ramsey at external functions.
- Year Group Prefects (2 per Year 11 group)
- Champion your year group by gathering feedback, running assemblies and supporting new students. You'll be the bridge between form reps and senior leaders.
- Prefects & Committee Leads
- Join one of our specialised teams—Prom, Sports Day, Charity, Environment, Anti-Bullying, Peer Mentors, or Promotions—and drive the activities that make school life memorable.



Why You Should Become a Prefect

Being a prefect is a great way to grow as a leader, support your school, and make a real difference. You'll learn how to take responsibility, build confidence, and be a role model for others. It's also a chance to share your ideas and help improve school life. You will build leadership skills, make the students' voices heard and inspire others.

If you're ready to step up, help others, and challenge yourself, becoming a prefect is a great opportunity. See Mrs Blunkell if you have any questions or would just like to have a chat about it.



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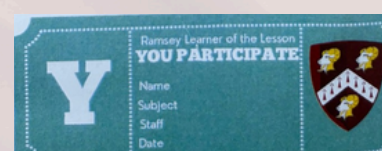
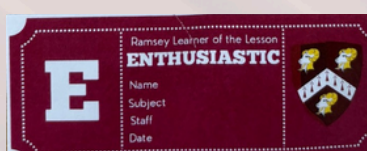
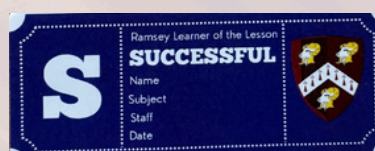
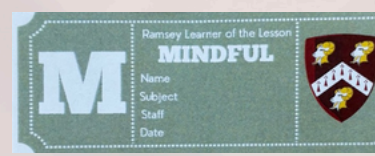
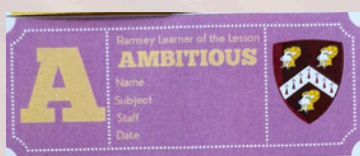
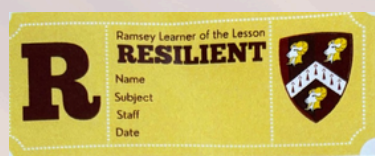
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THE RAMSEY LEARNER

Celebrating a milestone—over 2,000 Ramsey Learner of the Lesson awards!

Since February, our staff have acknowledged thousands of moments where students demonstrated outstanding learning behaviours. Impressively, over 75% of the year group have earned this recognition, showcasing their dedication and positive attitude.

The Ramsey Learner initiative was developed collaboratively with staff and students to highlight behaviours that support effective learning. It centers on six key qualities: **R**esilience, **A**mbition, **M**indfulness, **S**uccess, **E**nthusiastic, and **Y**ou Participate—all essential for success inside and outside the classroom.



Each lesson, teachers select a student who exemplifies these qualities, awarding them a Ramsey Learner of the Lesson voucher for entry into weekly or termly prize draws. This initiative goes beyond rewards. It fosters a culture of recognition, pride, and consistent effort, helping students grow into confident, self-aware, and motivated learners. Your support at home can also reinforce these values in their everyday habits.

Next year, we're excited to expand the programme, allowing students to earn badges for each Ramsey Learner quality, something that our student voice has shared that they would appreciate. Thank you for being part of this journey—we're proud of every Ramsey Learner.

Congratulations to our most recent Ramsey Learners of the lesson who were selected to win a prize:

- Eddie M (English, You Participate)
- Madev G (PSHE, You Participate)
- Amber B (Health and Social Care, Enthusiastic)
- Martha T (Maths, Enthusiastic)
- Taylor B (History, Successful)
- Holly R (Spanish, Successful)
- Amy R (Geography, Mindful)
- Alex D (History, Mindful)
- Amber K (Science, Ambitious)
- Harry C (History, Ambitious)
- Stanley W (PSHE, Resilient)
- Ethan H-R (Geography, Resilient)
- Archie R (English, Resilient)

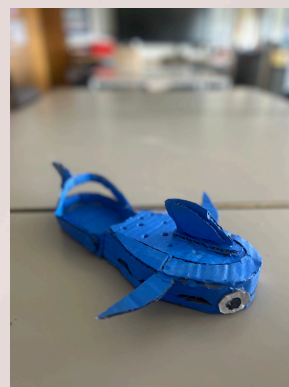


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PUPILS SHINE IN INSPIRING MODEL-MAKING WORKSHOP WITH ARTIST MATT MACKMAN

Selected pupils recently had a fantastic opportunity to work with local artist **Matt Mackman**, where they developed their model-making skills in preparation for their 3D Design/Art GCSEs.

As part of the workshop, students were challenged to design and construct cardboard shoes that reflected their individual personalities. The results were a showcase of creativity, craftsmanship, and personal expression.



The pupils demonstrated dedication and enthusiasm throughout the day. Their hard work and imaginative approach have laid a strong foundation for their upcoming GCSE studies, and they should be incredibly proud of what they've achieved.

Well done to

Karin, Edward, Ghofran, Lewis, Summer, Lily, Riann, Kai, Alfie, Ryan, Evie, Amber, Elliot, Christian, Keanu, Charlie, Billy-Lee, George, Emily, Tommy, Bonnie, Charlie, Jimmy and Layla.



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YEAR 10 RELIGIOUS STUDIES MOSQUE VISIT



On Tuesday 13th May, Year 10 Religious Studies students visited the Al-Falah Community Islamic Centre and Mosque, in Braintree. This was to support our study on Muslim Practices, as part of the GCSE Religious Studies course. Upon entering the mosque, all students removed their shoes and placed them in the shoe racks provided, thus respecting Muslim protocol.

The trip then consisted of a talk from the Imam; the opportunity to ask many questions of a practicing Muslim, and a tour of the mosque. We got to see the main hall, used for worship, and students got to position themselves along lines, facing Makkah, as Muslims do for prayer. They got to see the mihrab (the niche in the qibla wall indicating the direction of Makkah, as well as the room for washing before prayer (Wudu) and many mosaics and pieces of writing, but of course no images of Allah, Muhammad or angels.



This was a great opportunity for students to tour a local place of worship, and to bring parts of our Muslim Practices unit to life. Students were impeccably behaved and respectful, throughout the duration of the trip, with the Imam being very impressed by their conduct, questions, and manners.



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PE UPDATES



We have had a busy first half term here in PE, with local fixtures against Hedingham for all year groups with the boys doing cricket and the girls taking part in rounders. We have tennis club running every lunchtime and afterschool athletics, rounders and cricket for all year groups.

We are also looking forward to District Athletics which we will select a team for in the coming weeks. We have some talented athletes representing the County in an athletics competition at Melbourne Athletics Stadium in June. We look forward to sharing our successes with you soon.

Earlier this half term we awarded the Year 9 school football team their individual trophies and the bronze community award.

"I'm extremely proud of the boys' continuing efforts and dedication to both school and sports, representing the school on many different fronts throughout the year." - Mr Farrelly



Elsewhere, the Year 9 netball team are waiting for the commitment awards for their dedication to improving their performance with commitment to training



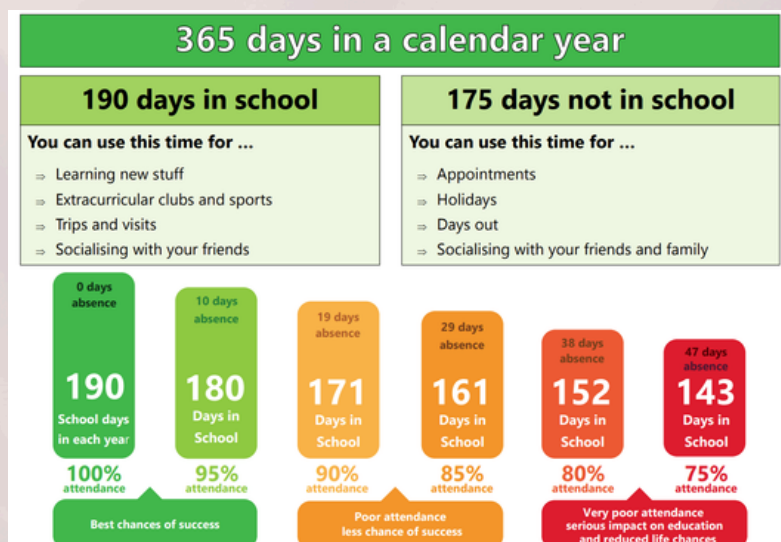
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ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to **9R4** for the highest percentage attendance over the last week at 96.9%. A reward is coming your way!

Attendance is critical! There is a direct link between those with good attendance (95%+) and improved GCSE/A Level grades.



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

"I am Gracie and every so often I go to a care home to give the elderly some company. I love doing this because I have a lot of experience with my nan and I know that she would love it if someone did that for her.

I find joy and happiness when talking to them all as I get to find out what they did before they became unwell, and it makes you understand that they haven't always been 'old people' or 'sick people' - they also have had a life before that!"

We are so proud of Gracie, representing the values that are so important to us at the Ramsey Academy, celebrating diversity and what we can all give back to our society.



If you have a story of something wonderful you have done in the community, please email us so that we can celebrate and share what you are doing.



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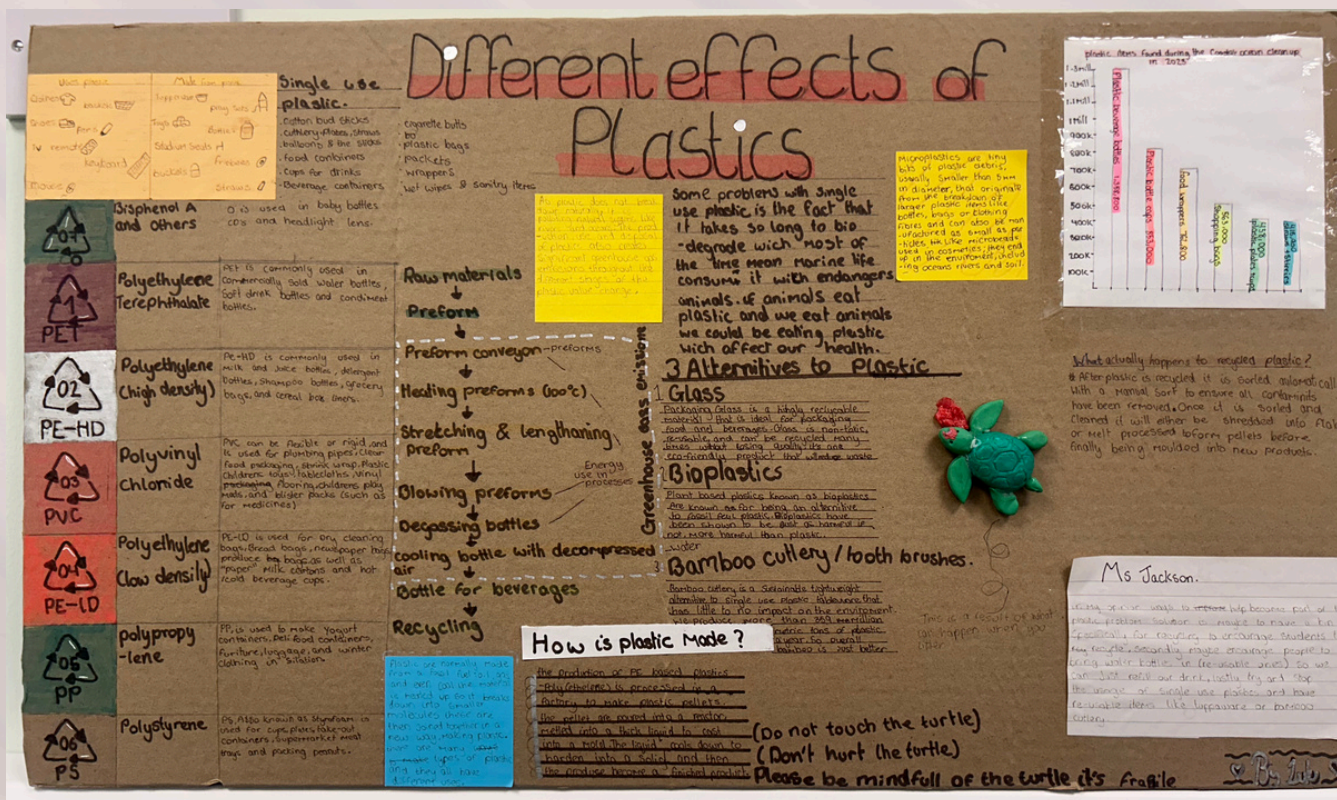
CELEBRATING STUDENT WORK

Y7 - Plastics and their Impact on the environment

Year 7 were set a project-based homework on above topic and then asked to create a presentation on their findings. Students were required to research, use data to present findings, draw conclusions and evaluate the problems associated with plastic disposals.

The Science Department were very impressed with the quality of the work produced and it was clear that students had taken the time and care to produce this work.

Lulu, 7R1, produced an outstanding piece. It not only looked fantastic but also covered all required tasks and used great scientific vocabulary and understanding throughout. Well done!



FEEDBACK CORNER

For the best,

Every day I enter with a smile on my face-
Was because of your warm, caring embrace.
I've never felt judged or scared to talk,
Knowing you were always there for a walk.

I'm one of many, comforted by you all;
You catch us gently whenever we fall.
We're lucky to have you guys as a team,
Always here to boost our self-esteem.

Whilst I'm moving on now, I've learnt lessons.
Every child in need learns from your sessions,
The support you gave me will stay forever.
You've always been here for me, whenever.

You have inspired my future career too;
I hope I can be as amazing as you.

Student Feedback

This absolutely BEAUTIFUL poem was written by M in year 11 to thank the Learning Support Team for supporting her and all students in Year 11 over the past 5 years.

We have been extremely moved by this thoughtful gesture. Our staff go above and beyond every day and it's moments like this that really make it worthwhile for all of us.

Thank you, M!



Parent Feedback

"M is having an amazing time at RAM and has developed her confidence so well. She enjoys her lessons and completes her homework eagerly!"

Thanks to everyone at RAM we appreciate how well M has settled in year 7."

"It is wonderful that revision sessions have been carried out at school. I understand that it must cause a lot of hard work for all staff involved, but it is amazing idea to support students especially for parents who are working full time and cannot be home to ensure students are revising effectively. Thank you to all involved."



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NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY – 18TH JUNE



The UK-wide celebration of all teaching and support staff is back. National Thank a Teacher Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th June!

As always, we will be celebrating all the amazing teaching and support staff in our schools - from the dinner helpers to the classroom assistants and librarians. They deserve the spotlight for everything they do to keep things running smoothly.

Want to make someone's day? If you know a special teacher, dedicated support staff member or even a whole school team, let them know how grateful you are by **sending a free e-card** on the [Thank a Teacher website](https://www.thankateacher.co.uk). ([Click here](#))

With celebrations across the UK get involved on social media using the hashtag #ThankaTeacherDay. There will be plenty of exciting updates ahead of the day, so don't forget to follow Thank a Teacher to hear the latest on competitions, giveaways and celebrity shout outs.

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [X](#) | [Instagram](#) | [TikTok](#)
We can't wait to celebrate with you!

We would love to see our students, families and colleagues getting involved to thank those who have gone above and beyond to help you in school!

www.ThankaTeacher.co.uk



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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.



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Careers Corner



Become a Fire Cadet - Join the action!

Are you between the ages of 13 - 17? Come and join the Fire Cadets in Essex!

Where: Fire Cadets Units at Clacton, Dovercourt, Great Baddow, Harlow, Orsett, Southend and **Halstead**.

What you'll learn: hose running, ladder pitching, breathing apparatus, search and rescue, first aid, control room procedures and much more!

So, what are you waiting for?

The course starts every September!



essex-fire.gov.uk/fire-cadets



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

