

# The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

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Dear Parents/Carers

## Launch of Endeavour Charity Week 5<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> February

Endeavour House has chosen to support My Blue Heart. The organisation exists to encourage understanding and compassion towards everyone who has to live on without someone they love. They aim to give bereaved people a way to show others they are grieving through wearing a heart shaped badge, in forget-me-not blue, with a red heart in its heart. The badge conveys the message 'I carry your heart in mine' and always will.

They hope that the blue hearts will become a nationally recognised symbol of bereavement, providing a way to communicate loss and giving others the opportunity to show consideration and support.

All profits from the sale of blue hearts are donated to other established charities to support their work with bereaved children. We will be supporting East Anglian Children's Hospice. Staff will also wear blue hearts to show they will discuss worries with students and to promote the use of blue hearts in school to support children and young people who have experienced a significant loss.

All students are encouraged to join in and help raise as much as possible towards this worthy cause. Endeavour students will be organising a range of activities at break and lunchtime. Posters will be displayed around school to advertise the events.

We have decided this year to use the theme of Romeo and Juliette and Sharing the Love with Endeavour.

Notably there will be:

- A clothes and shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for Endeavour Charity week.  
Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 2001 it has now paid out over £27 million.  
As well as raising vitally needed funds for Ramsey Academy, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill. A recent DEFRA report has shown that textile collection schemes are helping to reduce the volume of textiles discarded as municipal solid waste. However it is a fact that as a nation we still send 350,000 tonnes of textiles to landfill every year.  
By getting involved in our Bag2School collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.  
If you fill the donation bag and still have more then you can use any other bag to donate your items and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well!

Bag2School will be collecting from Ramsey Academy on 26 February. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to reception and help us have a really good collection.

- My blue heart treasure hunt.
- Non Uniform day on Friday 9 February - £1 donation.
- Lunch in the Great Hall. On Friday 21 February students may bring their own food or get food from the canteen and bring it to our own Great Hall for lunch. The hall will be decorated for the theme and we will be showing the film. There will be again sweets and glow sticks for purchase. The cost will be £1. Could students wishing to attend please sign up at the House Office so that I am able to judge numbers.
- Staff Medieval Joust.
- Share The Love Photo Booth.
- Daily Cake Sale in the Main Hall at break. (Cake donations greatly appreciated).
- Chocolate and Sweet Trolley.
- Film showings of Romeo and Juliette and Gnomeo and Juliette.
- Sponsored events.

Ramsey students are always very generous and willing to help others and I am sure we can count on your support to help us raise as much as possible. All the events will need to be paid with cash. Any loose change will be very welcome!

Yours faithfully



L Tyler (Mrs)  
Endeavour House Leader