



**RYE HILLS
ACADEMY**

NEWSLETTER

**APR
2023**

SPRING

As we approach the Easter break, I would like to take the opportunity to express my pride and excitement in being appointed Head of School of Rye Hills Academy in February. The students and staff have been incredibly welcoming and I feel truly privileged to be part of the Rye Hills community. I would also like to thank the parents and carers who I have met through various events for their warm welcome and support.

This half term I have been hugely impressed by the professional approach, commitment and resilience of our Year 11 students throughout our second series of mock examinations. Students have engaged intensely with our offer of support, including revision sessions and morning booster sessions before examinations. The performance of our students is positive, and I would like to encourage them to continue to use their time well in preparation for their GCSEs which begin in May.

Very early in my time as Head of School I was honoured to be able to judge the entries in our latest Culture Vulture project based on the theme of Valentine's Day and love. The variety and creativity of the entries was simply astounding, and I look forward to seeing what wonderful creations our students produce in the future.

The creativity of our students was also on show when our Y11 students held a Valentine's day themed cake sale to raise funds for their Y11 Prom.

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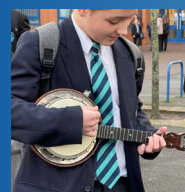
In this issue:

Careers fair



In preparation for National Careers Week, students in Years 7 - 13 took part in our annual Careers Fair.

Morning pick me up



Find out what Year 7 George has been up to before lessons...

Sporting leaders



Our dedicated sports leaders have been keeping busy and doing themselves proud.



Sports leaders

Well done to our sports leaders for their excellent organisational and referee skills at the primary football festival this term, organised by the Redcar Schools Sports Partnership.

The group did themselves proud and were a credit to our school, well done.



Head's message continued...

Our Year 9 students have enjoyed the support of their families in making some key decisions regarding their options choices and I would like to commend them for the mature manner in which they have approached this key transitional phase in their education. It was a pleasure to engage in many thoughtful conversations with students, parents and carers during options evening and to see that our students are so incredibly invested in their own education and futures was inspiring.

In the summer term we will be sending out more information about the Year 10 work experience programme and this year's activities week, which will build on the success of last year's events to create a rewarding and memorable set of experiences for our students.

Wishing you all a safe and restful Easter break.

Hijab Zaheer

Hijab Zaheer, Head of School

Faith during spring time

As a predominantly Christian country, the UK celebrates **Easter** during the spring time to mark the resurrection of Jesus after his crucifixion. Each year, Easter Sunday takes place on a different date - the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox.

Passover, a spring holiday in the Jewish calendar, also takes place in spring. Passover celebrates the Biblical story of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. It is tradition to eat a special bread that does not contain yeast (unleavened bread) called matzo. You must have speed on your side when making matzo as the bread begins to rise after 18 minutes!

Ramadan is celebrated by those who follow Islam and this year it's from the end of March to the end of April. Those who celebrate Ramadan practice fasting, prayer, reflection and celebrating community. Food can only be eaten after sunset or just before dawn, meaning many families create plentiful feasts to enjoy after daylight hours.

Year 7 champs

Our netball teams competed in the Year 7 Redcar District Tournament this term.

Well done to both teams who played brilliantly. The A team (blue vests) even finished joint 1st place with Freebrough Academy.



Well done everyone and thank you to Year 10 Lilly S for umpiring.



Careers fair

In the spirit of National Apprenticeship Week our students got stuck into an inspirational careers fair.

We welcomed over 30 different local and national businesses, careers advisors and providers of further and higher education routes. All our students got involved and asked the providers plenty of questions.

A massive thank you to the many providers and staff who made this event possible.



Good luck Year 11

This week we held a session with our Year 11 students on how to make the most of their revision. Heads of each department led talks on the most impactful ways to revise their subjects, ready for the upcoming Year 11 exams.

Students enjoyed learning about excellent revision techniques, skills and resources. After a tasty buffet lunch, Neil Young, Skills Academy Development Manager at Teesworks and long-time friend of Rye Hills Academy, talked to our students about the importance of integrity, dedication and reliability in the world of work.

We are so pleased and proud of our Year 11s and encourage them to use what they have learned to prepare efficiently for their mock exams after the half term break and their formal exams in the summer term. Good luck!



A morning pick me up

We'd like to give a special mention to wonderful George in Year 7 who plays tunes on his ukulele and has a sing song every morning before school. What a cheerful way to start the morning!?



Easter careers

Let's take a look at some career paths that really flourish at Easter time...

Chocolate Research and Development Scientist

This career involves developing new chocolate prototypes and products as well as improving quality of existing products. But it's not just about the taste test, a chocolate scientist needs to provide technical reports and guidance too. Having qualifications in food chemistry and nutrition can lead to becoming a chocolate scientist.

Florist

Did you know that Easter is one of the busiest periods for florists? A college course in floristry on average takes around two years to complete. You may also choose to open your own florist shop!

Allergist

During the spring, allergists see almost 30% of their patients for the whole year. After completing training, the average salary of an allergist is £29,384 - £34,012. At the level of a Consultant, this can rise to £114,003!



Anti-bullying ambassadors



A group of students begun working towards The Diana Award in an Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme this term.

The group were joined by Year 11s, Elise and Ender, who kindly shared their experience of being ambassadors. The group are looking forward to working together and promoting our Rye Hills values to create a kind and caring environment for everyone.

We look forward to seeing what they do!



DATES

for your diary

31 MAR Break up for Easter

17 APR Back to school

01 MAY Bank holiday

08 MAY Bank holiday

Did you know?

In 2019, the UK spent a whopping £206 million on Easter eggs! But did you know Easter eggs weren't always made of chocolate? Giving eggs as an Easter gift dates back all the way to 1290 when King Edward I purchased 450 decorative eggs to give to members of his household.



Global Easter traditions

In the UK, it is traditional for Christians to attend Easter mass to mark Jesus' resurrection. It is also popular in the UK to eat hot crossed buns that symbolise the crucifixion of Jesus. Some North Western European communities kick off Easter celebrations by enjoying a bonfire while people from Ethiopia often celebrate 'Fasika' which is similar to lent, where people avoid meat and animal products for 55 days in the lead up to Easter Sunday.

Italian people often gather for firework displays which dates back over 350 years!

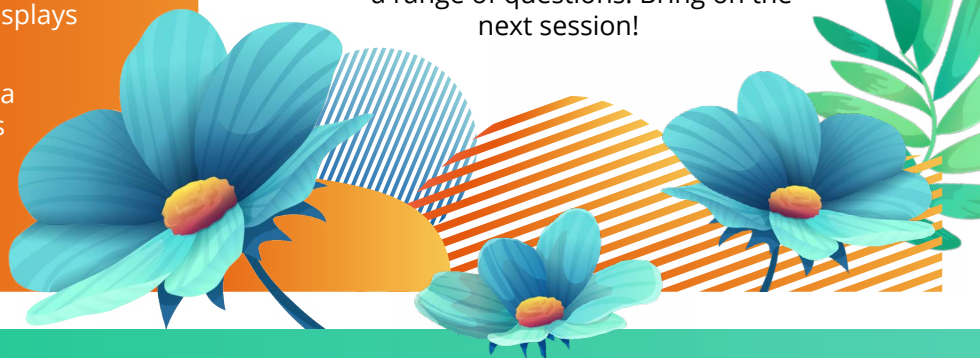
People from the city of Antigua Guatemala mark Easter by creating colourful carpets that cover the streets to prepare for the Good Friday procession through the city.



Dine and discuss

In February, we saw the return of our Dine and Discuss sessions with a Valentine's Day twist.

Students read an article about the history of St Valentine over a hearty lunch and discussed a range of questions. Bring on the next session!





WHAT WOULD DAVID DO?

Is your child an eco champion? We're launching a new eco-campaign in school to encourage all students to join our exclusive What Would David Do? (WWDD) club, where membership is reserved for our most eager energy experts, resolute recyclers and superior species savers.



←
MERCH!

Your child is in with a chance of bagging this year's must-have uniform embellishment if they can prove that they have worked hard to save energy, reduce waste and improve the environment around school and at home.

Students (even sixth formers!) across the North East Learning Trust will be sent one of our limited edition pins and certificates at the end of each term if they can prove that they are an eco champion.

Is there anything you can do at home to help them bag one of our recycled wooden David Attenborough pins?

HOW TO WIN A BADGE:

START AN ECO INITIATIVE

SHOW PROOF OF YOUR ENERGY SAVING

SHARE ECO IDEAS OR PROJECTS + MORE

How to apply:

Your child will need to download an application form and fill it in (including a signature from their teacher) before sending it to NELT Head Office. At the end of term our eco champions will be decided and their place in the WWDD club confirmed with the delivery of their certificate and pin.

Visit: nelt.co.uk/WWDD

