



Mrs Scripps' Scribbles

Well it's been a busy fortnight. We are part of the DFE Behaviour Hubs programme so last week I travelled with our Assistant Headteacher, Miss Devonshire, to Norfolk and Northamptonshire to visit two secondary schools that are recognised by the DFE as Lead Schools for Behaviour and Culture in England. Year 5 students did their Bikeability courses. Selected students enjoyed a Police Drone demonstration. We have held a Parent Forum meeting about Parent Teacher Consultations and annual reports. Yesterday Year 5 and 6 students enjoyed the House Netball competition. Year 7 boys played a basketball match against Saffron Walden High School. Governors have spent time in school listening to students talk about behaviour.

Staffing Update

Mr Verderame, our Acting Deputy Headteacher is leaving us at the end of this term to take up a teaching post at a local primary school. We have successfully appointed a new Deputy Headteacher who will be joining us in September. Mr Jon Davison is currently Head of Science at Simon Balle All Through School in Hertford and will be bringing with him some fantastic ideas from that outstanding school.

After Easter we are welcoming two new permanent teachers. Mr Andrew Carter will be teaching 5Parks for the summer term and then teaching maths, science and PE across the whole school from September. Mrs Venetia Bentley is joining us from Freman College. She will be leading on Humanities. During the summer term she will be teaching Year 7 and 8 geography and Year 5 and 6 history. From September she will be teaching history and geography across the school.

Positive On Calls

Congratulations to the following classes that have had positive on calls over the last couple of weeks.

5Teresa: History, Art

5Pearson: Art

5 Parks: Art

6George: English

7Yousafzai: Science x2

7Attenborough: English, RE

8Jemison: Science, Geography, English

8Rashford: Science

Behaviour Hub Update

We believe that teaching students respect and manners are vitally important, so we are promoting **STEPS** across the school:

S—calling staff Sir or Miss

T—saying Thank you

E—saying Excuse me

P—saying Please

S— Smiling and saying Good Morning/Afternoon when we meet people around the school

We have introduced a range of systems that have resulted in improved behaviour and attitude around the school. However, there is a very small minority of students who seem to think it is okay to behave poorly and disrupt lessons and activities. This type of behaviour is not tolerated and students whose behaviour is stopping teachers teaching and students learning are removed from lessons. These students then have to remain in the Inclusion Base for the rest of the lesson. If any student is removed from two lessons in the same day, they spend the next five lessons, including any breaktimes or lunchtimes in the base. In line with our Behaviour Policy, if students continue to exhibit persistent disruptive behaviour they will be suspended from school and if after these suspensions the student still does not meet our high expectations then a managed move to another school or a permanent exclusion is the only option.

The majority of students at Ralph Sadleir behave really well and 6384 House Points have been awarded since half term. The following number of students are currently on track to be awarded Gold, Silver or Bronze House Points awards at the end of the year:

	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Gold	0	0	29	13
Silver	14	0	33	59
Bronze	54	34	9	38

Year 5 & 6 House Netball:

Yesterday Year 5 & 6 students took part in a Round Robin style House Netball competition.

	Freman	Sadleir	Salisbury	Wellington
Freman		2-3	2-10	4-2
Sadleir	3-2		104	8-2
Salisbury	10-2	4-1		9-3
Wellington	2-4	2-8	3-9	

1st: Salisbury

2nd: Sadleir

3rd: Freman

4th: Wellington

Freman: Zoe B, Jamie W, Evie D, Sophie C, Alice P

Sadleir: Lyla K, Harrison M, Lyla H, Freya K, Kai S, Betsy W and Jemima H

Salisbury: Laura T, George S, Lexi H, Kalani W, Amber P, Thea T-M, Lola J, Connie R, Rachel R

Wellington: Suki H, Rosie D, Isabella L, Sophia S, Leuan H, Rosie H, Amelie H, Betsy B, Amber Y

Many thanks to Mrs Morrison and Mrs Tye for umpiring the matches and the Year 8 House Captains and Sports' Leaders for organising their teams. Special shout out from Mr Brooks to Phoebe R who was an exemplary Sports' Leader for encouraging and cheering her team on especially when things were not going so well.

Parent Forum:

Many thanks to the seventy-one parents who completed the recent online survey and those who attended Parent Forum this week.

In relation to the question whether parents would prefer Face to Face or Online Parent Teacher meetings 55% opted for Face to Face, 30% for online and 15% didn't mind. All the parents at the forum preferred online meetings and wondered why it might be that a slight majority of parents had opted for face to face. It was agreed that a second short survey should be done to unpick the reasons why parents preferred one over the other. A link to the second short survey will be sent out via Parent Mail next week.

Mrs Scripps will be meeting with teaching staff to share parents' ideas about the report format for this year. She is also looking at report formats that other local schools use. The aim is that our reports provide parents with the information that they want, without taking a disproportionate amount of time for staff to produce.

French Language Nut Competition:

Sixty students took part in a recent international French competition. Congratulations to Matas, Ashton and Oscar who secured first, second and third place on the school leaderboard. Matas ranked 1040th out of over 120,000 students across the world.

Bikeability Course:

Twenty three Year 5 students completed the Bikeability course last week. Betsy W tells us, "We had to learn how to signal correctly on the road. We learnt how to safely turn into and out of a junction. We also learnt about the ABCD check. A is air for your tyres, B is squeezing the brakes to check the bike doesn't move, C is move the pedals to check the chain is working properly and D is checking the handlebars are correctly moving the direction of the bike. I think it was worth doing especially as my Mum is now saying I can cycle on the roads. Everyone got a certificate at the end."

Well done to Austin C, Rosie D, Mila H, Lilah H, Vlad K, Ruby N, Alice P, Preston T, Ted W, Kalani W, Henry H, Jessica I, Max S, Charlie S, Beau S, William W, Jamie W, Betsy W, Rosie D, Milo A, Charlie H, Isabella L and Edward M.

Police Drone Demonstration:

Last Wednesday, students who expressed an interest in joining the police got the chance to watch a police drone in action. Harrison A tells us, "The police introduced themselves and told us about their role. There was a laptop connected to a drone with a camera on it. It had thermal vision, could record in colour and black and white. It could go over 200 metres high and far away. They use it to see if any people are lost, or if people are poaching animals on local farms. It was quite interesting to see how far and high the drone can travel and how it can change different camera settings."

Home Community Service Awards

Well done to Millie W who has earned her Bronze Home Community Service Award. Millie has spent a lot of time making scarves to be sent to the Ukraine to keep people warm. She has even translated some notes to put in with her scarves.

Megan J has also earned hers. She has recently taken it upon herself to volunteer as a marshall at the local Westmill Park Run. Megan has spent an hour each Saturday over the last three weeks doing and she is really enjoying it.

[Please click here](#) if you would like to nominate your child.

Basketball Match

Year 7 played Saffron Walden County High this week and won 20-18. According to James W it was a closely fought match, but Ralph Sadleir managed to take the lead because of outstanding play from Ashton and Levi.

The team was Ashton, Levi, James W, Max B, Lenny F, Josh S, Harvey S and Henry C.

Word of the Week

undulating (adj) - to have a wavelike appearance or form

'I had crossed a marshy tract full of willows, bulrushes and odd, outlandish, swampy trees; and I had now come out upon the skirts of an open piece of undulating, sandy country'

(Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson)

Extra Curricular Achievements

Congratulations to Eva H and Layla C who have earned their Bronze Extra Curricular Achievement awards.

In February, Eva participated in the East Regional Sportshall finals, representing Hertfordshire. There were five counties that took part and Hertfordshire came third overall. Eva was part of the U13 girls team with year 7 and 8 participating. Eva took part in a 2 lap individual race, vertical jump and 4x1 relay. It was such a great atmosphere and Eva had a brilliant time. Eva has been taking part in athletics since she was 6 years old, joining Herts Phoenix at the age of 9, competing in both cross country competitions and outdoor track events. She absolutely loves it and her favourite event at the moment is the 200m.

Layla spends 3 hours every Saturday morning at theatretrain practicing dancing, acting, and singing. During September she performed 2 shows with her group at the Royal Albert Hall in front of a packed crowd. She was one of 50 students from her group alongside 2,000 6-18 year olds from across the country. Layla was recognised by the teachers for her great help with the younger students on the day.

Has your child taken part in a significant competition, show or event outside school and would like it to be recognised as part of their Ralph Sadleir Award? We'd love to hear about their achievements.

[Click here if you wish to nominate your child.](#)

Dates for the rest of the year 2023/24— **new/updated dates in red**

Date	Who's involved	Event
19th Feb— 12th March	All students	Science Fair Project to be completed
12th March	Selected students	Big Bang Science Conference
13th March	All students and parents	Science Fair 3.30—4.30 p.m.
14th March	Year 5 students	Theatre Trip to Cambridge
14th March	Year 8 Parents	France Trip Meeting 6.00—6.45 p.m.
15th March	5 Teresa students and parents	Class assembly 12.30 p.m.
18th March	5 Parks students and parents	Class assembly 12.30 p.m.
21st March	Year 7/8 Girls	House Netball 3.30—5.30 p.m.
26th March	6 John students and parents	Class assembly 12.30 p.m.
27th March	All students	Bring entries in for the House Bake Off Competition
28th March	All students and parents	End of term (1.30 p.m.)

SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE SUMMER TERM AND 2024/2025 TERM DATES

Date	Who's involved	Event
SUMMER TERM 2024		
15th April	-	INSET Day—school closed to students
16th April	All students and parents	Start of term
28th April—3rd May	Year 8	Trip to France
7th May	All parents	Parent Forum (Safeguarding) 9.00—10.00 a.m.
16th May??	Year 5 Parents	Moving up to Year 6 Meeting 5.00 p.m.
21st May	Year 8 students	HVP1 Vaccine
22nd May??	Year 6 Parents	Moving up to Year 7 Meeting 5.00 p.m.
24th May	-	INSET Day—school closed to students
24th—31st May	All students and parents	Half Term Holiday—school closed
3rd—7th June	Year 6 students	Trip to PGL
11th June	Selected students	House Athletics
12th June	Year 7 students	Stanborough Lakes—Water Sports Day
13th June	New Parents	Welcome to Ralph Sadleir Meeting 5.00 p.m.
19th June	Year 8 students	Thorpe Park
26th June	All parents	Parent Forum (subject tbc) 2.30—3.30 p.m.
27th June	All parents	Reports Home
5th July	All students and parents	Sports Day
9th July	All students and parents	Sports Day Reserve—if cancelled on 5th due to weather!
11th July	All students	Transition/Moving Up Day
15th July	All students	Olympics Cross Curricular Day with Olympian Athletes
16th July	Freman House students and parents	Prize Giving (2.30 p.m.)
17th July	Sadleir House students and parents	Prize Giving (2.30 p.m.)
18th July	Salisbury House students and parents	Prize Giving (2.30 p.m.)
19th July	Wellington House students and parents	Prize Giving (2.30 p.m.)
23rd July	All students and parents	End of term (1.30 p.m.)

Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
2nd September: INSET Day	6th January: INSET Day	22nd April: Start of term
3rd September : Start of term	7th January: Start of term	26th—30th May: Half Term Holiday
28th Oct—1st Nov: Half Term Holiday	17th—21st February: Half Term Holiday	18th July: End of term
6th December : Occasional Day	4th April: End of Term	21st—23rd July: Allocated INSET Days*
20th December: End of term	7th—21st April—Easter Holidays	* Twilight sessions throughout the year.
23rd Dec— 3rd Jan: Christmas Holidays		

