



## **Mrs Scripps' Scribbles**

Last week I had the privilege and pleasure watching all the year groups take part in the House Athletics. There was the perfect mix of competition and support between the children. Well done to all the children who overcame the weekend's heat to still be able to bake entries for our Summer Bake Off. Results will be shared in the next newsletter. Good luck to the year 7 and 8 students who are representing us in external events this week—an Axiom Maths event in London and a STEM competition at The University of Hertfordshire.

## **Safeguarding and Wellbeing Matters at Ralph Sadleir.**

### *Upcoming Social Media Ban for Under-16s*

The UK government has officially announced a sweeping new plan to ban children under the age of 16 from using major social media platforms. Following a nationwide public consultation where 90% of parents backed tougher restrictions, the new regulations are set to be laid out by the end of the year, with full implementation expected in Spring 2027.

### What is Changing?

- **Platform Bans:** Under-16s will no longer be allowed to hold accounts or access major user-to-user platforms, including TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, Facebook, and X.
- **Feature Restrictions:** High-risk features such as livestreaming and communication with strangers will be restricted for minors. This also extends to popular gaming platforms where adults and children frequently interact.
- **What is NOT Banned:** Traditional messaging services like WhatsApp and Signal are excluded from the ban, allowing children to continue staying in touch safely with known friends and family. Educational tools and news sites will also remain accessible.

### How Will it Work?

Crucially, parental consent will not override the ban. Tech giants will be legally required to enforce these rules using highly robust age verification and assurance systems (such as facial analysis or credit card checks for adults). Furthermore, the government is considering default overnight social media curfews (between midnight and 6 a.m.) for 16 and 17-year-olds.

### What Do Parents Need to Do Now?

For the time being, families do not need to take any immediate action. The government and Ofcom will provide detailed roadmaps and guidance closer to the 2027 rollout. The goal of this legislation is to step in where tech companies have failed—protecting our children's mental health, curbing screen addiction, and giving young people more time for a healthier, safer childhood.

## **Shape Our Digital Future: Join Our New Parent-School Working Group**

At Ralph Sadleir, we always strive to live by our school motto: "Students of Today, Citizens of Tomorrow." As technology evolves at a rapid pace, preparing our students for that future means navigating the digital world together. To ensure we are balancing innovation with our deeply held commitment to safeguarding and wellbeing, we are forming a new Parent-School Working Group.

This group isn't necessarily about making immediate, drastic changes. Instead, it's an opportunity to look thoughtfully at the digital issues affecting our children today. We will be considering key topics such as:

- **AI in Education:** How we navigate the rise of artificial intelligence.
- **Digital Footprints:** The use of children's images on our website and social media.
- **Mobile Phones:** Managing phone use both inside the school gates and addressing unmonitored use at home.
- **Screen Time:** Balancing technology use for homework and during lesson times.

Our main objective is to figure out the best ways to consult our entire community—including students, parents, and staff—so that everyone's voice is heard. Everything we discuss will be grounded in our core Ralph Sadleir values, keeping student safety and mental health at the forefront. We would love to have a diverse mix of perspectives. If you are passionate about digital safety, technology, or simply want to help shape a healthy environment for our students, please join us.

Our first meeting will be Friday 3rd July at 2.00 p.m when we will map out our focus areas and set a schedule for future meetings, which will run once every half-term from September. [Click here if you would like to join us.](#)

Together, we can help our students become responsible, safe, and successful citizens of tomorrow.

## Fidget Toys

We are asking parents for their support regarding fidget toys. We have seen a significant increase in these items being brought into school by our younger students where they are causing distractions during lessons. A small number of our students with special needs benefit from concentration tools to help them regulate and stay focused. Staff are aware of who these children are and monitor their use to ensure that they are actually helping the child to focus and not distracting other children. Where staff see that they are not being used properly they will be removed. If there has not been agreement with Mrs Wilson that your child needs a concentration aid, please ensure that your child does not bring small toys like plastic ducks, gel filled squidgies or fidget toys to school!

## House Athletics

Our House Athletics went very well last week with the children putting maximum effort in to do their best and competition was fierce. Many thanks to the Year 8 House Leaders who selected the teams and helped at the Year 5, 6 and 7 competition. An enormous thank you to Mr Brooks and Mr House who organised the competition and Mrs Morrison who stayed calm whilst doing the scoring!

	Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8		Overall
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
1st	Sadleir	Wellington	Salisbury	Wellington	Freman	Freman & Sadleir	Salisbury	Sadleir	Sadleir 366
2nd	Freman	Salisbury	Freman	Sadleir	Wellington		Sadleir	Salisbury	Salisbury 329
3rd	Salisbury & Wellington	Sadleir	Wellington	Salisbury	Sadleir	Wellington	Freman	Wellington	Wellington 326
4th		Freman	Sadleir	Freman	Salisbury	Salisbury	Wellington	Freman	Freman 324

	Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
100m	Amber	Josh	Sophia T	Beau	Rosie H	Henry	Lara	Toby
Obstacle Relay	Sadleir	Salisbury	Salisbury	Sadleir	Sadleir	Freman	Salisbury	Freman
Bean Bag Race	Lyra	Teddy	Esse	Bence	Suki	Tommy L	Amber	Toby
Skipping	Millie	Monty	Georgia	Taylan	Alice Pr	Dolton	Beau T	Harry J
4 x 100m relay	Freman	Freman	Salisbury	Wellington	Freman	Freman	Salisbury	Salisbury
4 x 400m relay	Sadleir	Wellington	Freman	Wellington	Freman	Freman	Salisbury	Sadleir

## Moving Up Meetings

As you will have seen on the dates list we do 'Moving Up' meetings for parents. Parents have found these useful to not only develop their knowledge about how life is different in the next year group, but also to be reminded about the school's policies and protocols. Please click on the links below if you are planning on coming so we know how many chairs to put out. The meetings start at 5.00 p.m. and last approximately 30-45 minutes depending how many questions are asked. Children are welcome to attend, but please note the meetings are aimed at parents.

[Moving Up: Year 5-6 5.00 p.m. Wednesday 24th June](#)

[Moving Up: Year 6-7 5.00 p.m. Wednesday 1st July](#)

[Moving Up: Year 7-8 5.00 p.m. Wednesday 8th July](#)

### **Attendance Matters at Ralph Sadleir**

As we approach the end of the academic year, it can be tempting to feel like the hard work is already over. However, the final weeks of June and July are just as critical as any other time of year. Lessons continue right up until the end of term. Missing this time means missing out on vital preparation for next year's curriculum, as well as important final assessments that help teachers track progress. Beyond the classroom, these weeks host the landmark events that define our school community and create lifelong memories. From House Athletics and Sports Day to the celebration of achievement at Prize Giving, being present allows students to support their peers and celebrate their own hard work. Every day counts. Let's finish the year strong, maintain excellent attendance, and make the most of every remaining learning opportunity together

	<b>Since last RSN 1st—18th June</b>	<b>This year: 2nd Sep—21st May</b>
<b>1st</b>	5N & 7K –96.5%	5C & 7N 95.9%
<b>2nd</b>	7N 95.9%	6E 95.6%
<b>3rd</b>	5O 95.5%	7K 95.3%
<b>Whole school</b>	94%	94.4%
<b>95%+ attendance this academic year</b>	180 students	
<b>100% attendance this academic year</b>	15 students	

### **Excellence Matters at Ralph Sadleir**

133,824 House Points have been awarded across the school this academic year. Well done to everyone, but special congratulations to these students who earned the most House Points so far this half term:

	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>
<b>1st</b>	Harvey L	Kai L	Preston T	Aaron W
<b>2nd</b>	Finley R	Lily-Mae F	Daisy C	Dylan P
<b>3rd</b>	Louie B	Belle S	Brooke T	Emma T

### **The Ralph Sadleir Award 2025-2026**

As we approach the end of the school year we are coming up to the time when we calculate the students Ralph Sadleir Award level based on House Points, attendance, participation in House competitions and events, community service and extra-curricular events.

Parents have until Friday 3rd July to let us know about any community events or extra-curricular achievements outside of school:

[Extra Curricular Activities](#)

[Community Service Activities](#)

### **Maths Matters at Ralph Sadleir**

Congratulations to the following students who earned the most coins on TTRS so far this half term:

5C	Mia T	6D	Essé LC	7K	Evie G	8R	Toby D
5O	Stefan R	6E	Sofia T	7I	Preston T	8E	Rosemae M
5N	Grace R	6T	Eddie R	7N	Amber PM	8S	Emma T





## Reading Matters at Ralph Sadleir

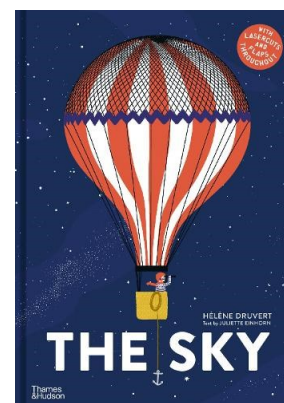
To celebrate the National Year of Reading, in each RSN going forwards, we will share with you a recommended great book for each year group. They should all be available to borrow from Buntingford, Ware, Hertford or Royston library. If they don't have it in stock they can order it in for you.

### **The Sky by H el ene Druvert**

Year 5

With cutouts, immersive illustrations, short chunks of accessible text and bold headings, readers will be whisked away on a non-fiction journey into 'The Sky'. Covering the air, eclipses, the atmosphere, travel, history, pollution, the solar system and much more, this book will encourage children to look up. 'The Sky' is a breathtaking large-format illustrated book to be treasured at home or at school.

**Picture book**

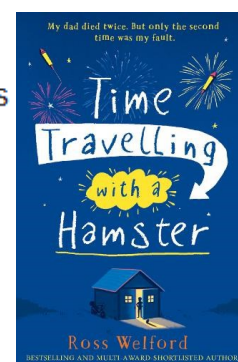


### **Time Travelling With a Hamster by Ross Welford**

Year 6

A moving and memorable story about time travel. When Al reads a letter it sets off a chain of events in which he races to travel back to 1984 to try and save his late father. A highly imaginative and thought-provoking middle-grade chapter book, this is a must-read novel for year sixes.

**Science fiction**

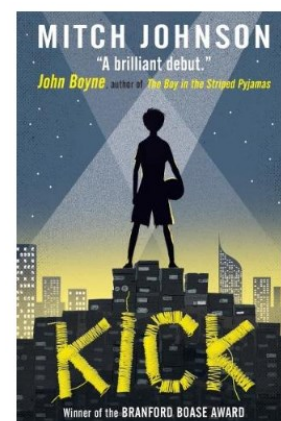


Year 7

### **Kick by Mitch Johnson**

Set in Jakarta, when Budi's dreams of escaping poverty through football stardom abruptly end, his life spirals as he finds himself owing money to a very dangerous man. But through sheer force of will and determination, he resolves to put everything right. This fast-paced and gripping novel is an uplifting and inspirational story that will leave Year seven pupils believing that anything is possible.

**Sport | Thriller**

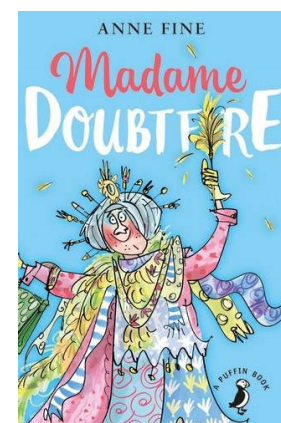


Year 8

### **Madame Doubtfire by Anne Fine**

Lydia, Christopher and Natalie's parents have divorced. When their mum looks to hire a nanny, their Dad, Daniel, gets the job – using a cunning disguise. An easier read for Year 8 pupils.

**Family**



# WORLD CUP 2026 SWEEPSTAKE

Participant	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3
Freman House	 Argentina	 South Korea	 South Africa
Freman Owens	 Uruguay	 Paraguay	 Tunisia
Freman Riddle	 England	 Switzerland	 Panama
Freman Young	 Colombia	 Iran	 DR Congo
Sadleir Bentley	 Brazil	 Algeria	 Uzbekistan
Sadleir Brooks	 Belgium	 Austria	 New Zealand
Sadleir Dias	 Spain	 Mexico	 Cape Verde
Sadleir Dobson	 Germany	 Ghana	 Bosnia and Herzegovina
Salisbury Coppen	 Netherlands	 Australia	 Jordan
Salisbury Haigh	 Morocco	 Scotland	 Iraq
Salisbury Hindhaugh	 Norway	 Egypt	 Ivory Coast
Salisbury McIver	 Croatia	 Sweden	 Qatar
Wellington Arthur	 USA	 Senegal	 Haiti
Wellington Draper	 Japan	 Ecuador	 Curacao
Wellington Grist	 France	 Turkey	 Saudi Arabia
Wellington Mikelsons	 Portugal	 Czech Republic	 Canada



**RIB VALLEY**  
PARTNERSHIP

## Areas that we can offer signposting information on:

- Managing finances
- Housing
- Domestic Abuse
- EBSNA (emotional based school non-attendance)
- SEND
- Routines and boundaries
- Sleep
- Toileting
- Challenging Behaviour
- Relationship difficulties
- Supporting siblings
- Child & adult mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Child & adult physical health
- And more!



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### Partnership Schools:


Anstey First, Ardeley St Lawrence Primary,  
Edwinstree Middle, Freman College,  
Hormead First & Nursery,  
Jenyns First School and Nursery,  
Layston First, Millfield First & Nursery,  
Ralph Sadleir School, Roger de Clare First  
and Nursery, St Thomas of Canterbury  
Primary

Rib Valley Partnership,  
c/o Hobbs Hill Wood School,  
Hemel Hempstead,  
Hertfordshire,  
HP3 8ER

01442 401222 ext 8

[ribvalley@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ribvalley@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk)

Term Time only



# Struggled with high energy bills Last winter?

**Free home energy improvements with the Warm Homes Local Grant can help you stay warmer and save money this winter.**

## **You may be eligible if:**

- You are a homeowner or private tenant
- Your home has an EPC rating of D, E, F or G
- Your total household income is £36,000 or less
- Someone in your household is getting certain benefits



**HOW TO APPLY: CONTACT US FOR FREE (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)**

 **0800 107 0044** (Please note, the contact number we will return your call on is 01908 538490)

 **bhbh@nef.org.uk**

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# Complete our residents' survey



**What matters  
to you?**



[hertfordshire.gov.uk/residentsurvey](https://hertfordshire.gov.uk/residentsurvey)



Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire County Council has launched its residents' survey for 2026, asking people who live in Hertfordshire to share their thoughts on County Council services, their local area and how they want to be kept informed. Share your thoughts and help shape future services. It doesn't take long to fill in online; deadline is Sunday 12 July at [Hertfordshire.gov.uk: Resident survey](https://hertfordshire.gov.uk: Resident survey)

### Dates 2025/2026

New events are in green and changes to the dates are in red. As there are so many events across the year, please look at the second column to see who the event is for, that way you can ignore many of the dates!

<b>Date</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>
w/b 22nd June	All students	Tutor Student Review Week
w/b 22nd June	All students	House Athletics during Games lessons if wet/too hot
w/b 22nd June	Year 6 students	GL Assessments—English, maths, science
22nd June	All students and parents	Summer Bake Off House Competition
24th June	Year 5 Parents	Year 5-6 Moving Up Meeting, 5.00 p.m.
26th June	New Year 5 students with SEND	SEND Welcome Tea Party, 3.30-4.45 p.m.
29th June - 1st July	All students	Tutor Student Review Week
30th June	Year 7 parents	Parent Teacher Consultations, 3.30 - 7.00 p.m.
1st—12th July	Parents of students with SEND	IEP Review Meetings
1st July	Sadleir Brooks students and parents	Sadleir Brooks assembly, 8.40 - 8.55 a.m.
1st July	Year 6 Parents	Year 6-7 Moving Up Meeting, 5.00 p.m.
1st July	Selected Year 8 students	Trip to see Wicked
2nd July	All students and parents	Sports Afternoon, 1.30 - 3.10 p.m.
7th July	All students and parents	Reserve Sports Afternoon, 1.30 - 3.10 p.m.
8th July	Year 7 parents	Year 7-8 Moving Up Meeting, 5.00 p.m.
9th July	All students	Transition Day
10th July	Year 5 parents and students	Year 5 Awards Assembly, 2.30-3.00 p.m.
10th July	All students and parents	Summer Term reports home
13th July	Year 8 parents and students	Year 8 Awards Assembly, 2.30-3.00 p.m.
14th July	Selected Year 5 and 6 students	Lawn Bowls Festival, 9.00 a.m—12.30 p.m.
14th July	Year 6 parents and students	Year 6 Awards Assembly, 2.30-3.00 p.m.
15th July	Year 7 parents and students	Year 7 Awards Assembly, 2.30-3.00 p.m.
16th July	Year 8 students	Leavers' Celebration Day
17th July	All students and parents	End of Term, 1.00 p.m.

#### Autumn Term 2026

1st September: INSET Day  
 2nd September : Start of term  
 26th –30th October Half Term Holiday  
 4th December: INSET Day  
 7th December : Occasional Day  
 18th December: End of term  
 21st Dec— 1st Jan: Christmas Holidays

#### Spring Term 2027

4th January: INSET Day  
 5th January: Start of term  
 15th—19th February: Half Term Holiday  
 25th March: End of Term  
 26th March—9th April —Easter Holidays

#### Summer Term 2027

12th April: INSET Day  
 13th April: Start of term  
 3rd May: Bank Holiday Monday  
 31st May—4th June: Half Term Holiday  
 21st July: End of term  
 22nd July: Allocated INSET Day\*

\* Twilight sessions throughout the year.

<b>2026-2027 Dates</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>
Autumn Term		
1st September	All students and parents	INSET Day—School Closed
2nd September	All students and parents	Start of Term
3rd September	Year 5 students	Writing Baseline Assessment
w/b 7th September	Year 5 and other new students	Baseline Assessments
8th September	Freman Parents	Meet Your Child's Tutor, 8.40—8.55 a.m.
9th September	Sadleir Parents	Meet Your Child's Tutor, 8.40—8.55 a.m.
10th September	Salisbury Parents	Meet Your Child's Tutor, 8.40—8.55 a.m.
11th September	Wellington Parents	Meet Your Child's Tutor, 8.40—8.55 a.m.
w/b 14th September	Selected Year 6 students	Bikeability Course
w/b 21st September	Selected Year 6 students	Bikeability Course
23rd September	Year 8 students and parents	Freman College Open Evening
w/b 28th September	Selected Year 6 students	Bikeability Course
8th October	All students	Ralph Sadleir Open Evening
13th October	All students	Flu vaccinations
26th—30th October	All students and parents	Half Term Holiday
19th November	All students	Flu vaccinations catch up
1st December	Year 5 parents	Parent Teacher Consultations 3.30 - 7.00 p.m.
4th December	All students and parents	INSET Day—School closed
7th December	All students and parents	Occasional Day —School closed
15th December	All students	Jack and the Beanstalk Panto
15th December	All students and parents	Christmas Enterprise Fair 2.45—4.15 p.m.
17th December	All students	Christmas Lunch
18th December	All students and parents	End of Term, 1.00 p.m.
Spring Term		
4th January	All students and parents	INSET Day—school closed
5th January	All students and parents	Start of Term
1st—4th February	Year 6 students	Mock SATs
15th—19th February	All students and parents	Half Term Holiday—House Art Competition
23rd February	All students and parents	House Art Competition Exhibition
2nd March	Year 6 parents	Parent Teacher Consultations
8th—17th March	All students	Tutor Student Reviews
19th—21st March	Selected Year 7 & 8 students	Netball and Football Tour
24th March	All students and parents	Spring Term Reports Home
25th March	All students and parents	End of Term, 1.00 p.m.

2026-2027 Dates		
Date	Who	What
Summer Term		
12th April	All students and parents	INSET Day—school closed
13th April	All students and parents	Start of Term
19th April	Selected students	Paddington
3rd May	All students and parents	Bank Holiday Monday—school closed
10th—13th May	Year 6 students	SATs
17th –21st May	Year 6 students	Residential trip to PGL
25th May	Year 8 parents	Parent Teacher Consultations
31st May—4th June	All students and parents	Half Term Holiday
21st—30th June	All students	Tutor Student Reviews
29th June	Year 7 parents	Parent Teacher Consultations
16th July	All students and parents	Summer Term Reports Home
21st July	All students and parents	End of Term, 1.00 p.m.