



RIDGEWAY HIGH SCHOOL BULLETIN

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House Assembly · Equality of Opportunity

Dear Parents

Nurture is the 'N' of 'LEARN for Success'. It captures the sense that we are all members of a wider community, with a responsibility to care for and look after the well-being of each other as well as ourselves. As it says in our school prospectus, charity fundraising and awareness raising "help give students a different perspective on the world around them and promote a strong sense of social responsibility".

Well done, then, to everybody who took part in our FIFA tournament which, as I mentioned last week, was part of Teresa House's fundraising activities. In total the event raised £135.70 for the Samaritans charity.



Meanwhile, our annual food bank competition is up and running on behalf of families who face particularly challenging circumstances. Between April 2018 and March 2019, the Trussell Trust's food bank network distributed 1.6 million three-day emergency food supplies to people in crisis, a 19% increase on the previous year. We are encouraging students to donate items such as tinned fruit and vegetables, pasta and toiletries, which will be distributed to local food banks in coming weeks.

This week has been National Schools' Football Week. An inter-form competition has been running since Monday, and on Wednesday a group of year 7s made the journey to Manchester to visit the National Football Museum. They had a fantastic time — see the photo above. The museum is packed with information and exhibits relating to the history of the game. Their latest special exhibit is entitled *Strip! How football got shirty*, looking at changing shirt fashions and designs over time, from the heavy woollen jerseys of the Victorian era to today's heavily branded polyester shirts.

Year 11 language students were attending exam-preparation conferences in Manchester yesterday; there was one for French and one for Spanish. Events like this are extremely beneficial. As well as offering lots of handy tips and pointers, they help give students a wider understanding of the examination process and ensure that they are 'exam-ready' in the summer.

Meanwhile, many of our year 9 students will be taking part in a STEM taster day at Liverpool University next week. There will be lots of fun activities on offer to showcase the benefits of studying STEM-based subjects — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — and to highlight the diverse range of study options available at 'A' level and beyond.

Looking further ahead, we will be joining in — as always — with the celebrations for World Book Day on Thursday 5 March. We will be inviting year 7 and year 8 students to come to school dressed as a character of their choice.

Assemblies this week have been focusing on the importance of e-safety. [The February issue of our monthly online-safety newsletter is now available on the website to read and/or download and keep.](#) The people who compile the newsletter have just sent out a handy presentation designed for parents. It sets out the main online dangers and simple steps that you can take to keep your family safe. It will be added to the school webpage over the weekend.

This is my final weekly bulletin of the half-term. Next week we will be issuing the latest *Ridgeway New Times*. Over the half-term break we will be running intervention sessions for Year 11 students. The timetable will be published in the magazine.

Tony Taylor
Headteacher

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday 17 February — Friday 21 February: Half-Term
- Thursday 5 March: World Book Day
- Thursday 19 March: Year 8 Parents' Evening