



The Principal Writes ...

Term is now well under way and I am very pleased to see pupils and students settling very quickly into their work. The School is a little quieter than usual as all of Year 11 are on Work Experience for two weeks; this is the first time for many years at Riddlesdown that pupils have participated in work experience and the early reports of their work are very positive.

Could I ask parents to be particularly vigilant with regard to issues of uniform as the term progresses. Standards of pupil dress have of course been very good so far, as is the norm for the vast majority of our pupils. However, a handful of pupils have been sent home this term for uniform issues which wastes valuable learning time.

Science College News

Science College activities are well under way. The Science Club had its first meeting on Thursday, when they took a look at DNA fingerprinting. New Year 7 pupils will be invited to join at the end of October, based on their performance in Science lessons. The club will be visiting the University of Surrey on Saturday 20th September and there are still a few places available.

Our award winning pupil-teachers attended the premiere of our DVD on Wednesday and will be taken to lunch by the award sponsors, Wellcome Trust, on Wednesday 1st October.

Our environmental team meets every Monday and has set itself a difficult target to achieve an EcoSchools Green Flag by the end of the year!

A Sixth Form Science Club begins on Monday, when our prize winning Year 9 students will set them the problem that they solved to win the Surrey SATRO competition last year.

For more details of any of these schemes, contact Mr. Vingoe or his assistant, Mrs. Lou Franklin, in the Science College Office.

Vacancy at Riddlesdown

A Learning Support Assistant is required to work during term time only from 8.45 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. supporting pupils in the School. You will need to be flexible, have the ability to motivate and encourage and be sensitive to the needs of pupils.

Full details of this post can be obtained from our website www.riddlesdown.org or by telephoning the School.

Science for All

Riddlesdown Science College organises family laboratory sessions for parents and their children. The first session this year will be "Making and Testing Gases" with Mr. Vingoe, who will show participants how to make Oxygen, Hydrogen and Carbon Dioxide. The sessions are aimed at family groups and are suitable for all ages from 8 to 80. The session will be on Tuesday 30th September from 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. There is only room for 30 people in the laboratory so booking is essential. Telephone the Science College Assistant, Mrs. Lou Franklin, on 020 8655 8750.

H.P.V. Vaccination Information Meeting

Parents of Year 8 girls are invited to attend an information session on Thursday 18th September at 6.00 p.m. in the School Hall regarding the H.P.V. vaccination against cervical cancer. Immunisation will be available to all Year 8 girls during the course of the year.

Important Dates

School Development Day	15th October 2008
Autumn Half Term week begins	27th October 2008
School Development Day	5th December 2008
Last Day of Autumn Term	19th December 2008
First Day of Spring Term	5th January 2009
Spring Half Term week begins	16th February 2009
Last Day of Spring Term for Pupils	2nd April 2009
School Development Day	3rd April 2009



Science



Sports News

Football: On Saturday 6th September, Riddlesdown were invited to the Wilson's School 7-a-side Football tournament. This was the first time Riddlesdown had been invited to a Wilson's football event and maybe the last time, after Riddlesdown cleaned up. The competition was for Year 7's and Year 8's and mainly involved schools from the Sutton Borough.

The Year 7's had never played together before and their team was only selected on the previous Wednesday. Riddlesdown started slowly, losing both their opening games, but the nerves soon settled and Riddlesdown began to get the results they needed, winning their next two games. The Year 7's qualified for the final where they met Glenthorne. Glenthorne had been very strong in the group stages, but could not get the better of Riddlesdown in the final, as Riddlesdown won 2-1. Well done to Scott Millar (7RPM), Sam Casbon (7SJH), Jack Bancroft (7DCP), Joshua Lowen (7FWR), Brandon Alford (7REY), Joseph Roberts(7AJE), Billy Noad (7JTC), Sammy Spice (7AJE), Callum McPherson (7DCP), and Adam Da Costa (FWR), with player of the day going to Scott Millar.

The Year 8 Team, who are looking very strong this year, dominated the competition from the start. Riddlesdown played seven group games, winning six and drawing one, with convincing victories over Glenthorne, Overton Grange, Sutton Grammar, Ashburton and both of the hosts team Wilson's. The early stages had seen goals coming from all over the pitch, with Ben (Christiano) Cotton (8CJG) stealing the show with his silky skills. The final saw Riddlesdown up against Carshalton Boys. Riddlesdown again dominated the final and were easy champions winning 4-1. Well done to the whole squad which included Jack Seddon (8BEB), Jack Hanmore (8HMN), Jack Greenwood (8SMC), Sami Bakhit (8RSH), Dion Conroy (8HMQ), Peter Copeman (8RSH), Jay Massey ((8HMN), Ben Cotton (8CJG), Nathan Davey (8SEK) and Josh Uzun (8KTW). Stars of the day go to Jamie Bakhit and Ben Cotton, who were superb from start to finish.

Congratulations to both teams who represented the school well. Also, thank you to all those dedicated parents who came and supported Riddlesdown through wind and rain and thanks to Mr. Yule and Mr. A. Edwards for giving up their Saturday morning. This successful start will hopefully lead to more success for the Riddlesdown School football teams this year. Last year was very successful, winning three out of the five leagues, one League cup and a Surrey cup, and having more than 20 pupils representing the district teams.

Mr. Langan

Year 8: The Year 8 boys football team have had a fantastic start to the new season. On Saturday the team managed to fend off all opponents to win a seven-a-side tournament at Wilson' Grammar School, comfortably winning the final 4 – 1 against Carshalton. On Tuesday the team overcame terrible weather conditions to complete a 6 – 2 victory against Shirley. Special mentions go out to Jack Greenwood who took over goalkeeping duties at half time and Josh Uzun who scored a peach right footed volley in the first half.

Mr. Yule

Sports Kit: Please can all pupils in Years 7-9, make sure that they bring their P.E. kit to all lessons, even if they are excused from P.E. Pupils are expected to get changed for P.E., even if injured and will take part in either officiating or coaching.