



21st March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

March Updates

It was wonderful to watch our Year 8 and Year 9 Girls reach the semi-finals of the National Cup last week. This was an amazing achievement, they will play their semi-final match on Friday 28th hoping to reach the Girls' Final for the first time in Riddlesdown's history. The participation of students in co-curricular sport goes from strength to strength – on Tuesday 11th alone, over 200 students participated in sport after school. Please keep encouraging your children to participate in one of the many excellent co-curricular opportunities on offer.

In my assemblies last week, I spoke about misogyny and toxic masculinity. I reminded students that we all have a responsibility to protect our community so that it is a tolerant, inclusive and respectful environment for everyone. I reminded all students to notice when they see or hear anything that goes against our VALUES and to call it out. Please reinforce this message at home and encourage your children to speak to us should they notice any language that is not in line with our VALUES.

Memorial for Jaiden Shehata

Work is now underway to clear the outdoor space behind the Diner in preparation for a memorial seating area for Jaiden Shehata. This space will provide students with a peaceful and welcoming environment to sit, talk and enjoy one another's company. A large mural is being commissioned in remembrance of Jaiden. Work on the area will continue over the Easter holiday, and we are hoping to open the space in the summer term so students can enjoy spending time together in the sunshine and appreciate the importance of friendship and community. We are incredibly grateful to all who have contributed to the memorial for Jaiden. Should any family have any contacts that may be able to support with outdoor seating or plants then please contact me at the Collegiate.

Science Week

Last week students were provided with a range of opportunities to immerse themselves in the wonders of science. Science assemblies were held, and our Science Ambassadors spoke about exciting new technologies and advancements and how these can support industries to be more environmentally sustainable. Our Science fair on Thursday 13th March was a wonderful showcase of science and displayed several models and experiments related to the theme of 'Change and Adapt'. Finally, three teams representing each Key Stage took part in the Inter School SATRO competition. This is a desktop engineering competition held at St. Philomena's School, Carshalton where the challenge was to build a vehicle to be able to launch a plastic cube over a wall using very limited resources. Our students managed to complete the challenge and produced models which were commended by the judges. A fantastic achievement!

Library Remedial Works

Over the next few months there will be some remedial works which are related to Radon concentration levels in the Library. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that arises from



rocks and soils, some building materials and water, and which can build up in houses and indoor workplaces. There is no need for undue concern and remedial work to reduce the Radon concentration in the Library will be planned and installed once further monitoring has completed.

Social Media and X

The Collegiate is now fully distancing itself from the X social media platform due to its direction of travel and recent extremist behaviour by Elon Musk. We will continue to provide information on news items, events and celebrate student achievements via our [website](#) so please check this regularly to keep up to date with the latest news.

Safeguarding Briefing

NSPCC Learning - Sharing safeguarding knowledge to protect children in the UK. Our Library and Information Service provides quick and easy access to the latest information, research and resources on child abuse, child neglect and child protection to help you keep children and young people safe. We are the only UK library that specialises in safeguarding, child protection, child abuse and neglect. Our range of leaflets and resources for parents can provide information and help make these conversations easier. [Parents' leaflets | NSPCC Learning](#)

Yours sincerely

Daniel Osborne
Principal