Riddlesdown Collegiate

12th June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

June Updates

What a fantastic start we have had to the final half-term of the academic year, with our celebration season now in full flow! Last Thursday, we hosted a wonderful Sports Awards Evening, celebrating the incredible sporting achievements of so many of our students. The celebrations continued this week with our annual College Showcases, which highlighted the exceptional effort and achievement within each College while beautifully showcasing our students' brilliant creative talents. Looking ahead, we are anticipating an incredibly exciting week next week with our Cultural Learning Week, which is packed with trips and wonderful activities for all of Key Stage 3. Meanwhile, GCSE and A Level exams are still underway, and we are incredibly proud that the dedication and high standards of our students have remained exceptionally high throughout this demanding period. There are so many other achievements and events to celebrate, which you can explore both in this newsletter and on our website. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to welcoming many of our families to the other wonderful events we have planned in this busy and exciting final half-term!

Cultural Learning Week

We are incredibly excited for the return of Cultural Learning Week! This year the whole of KS3 will be off-timetable to enjoy a fantastic lineup of enriching trips and workshops, ranging from African drumming, martial arts, and dance to Climate Change & AI, enterprise, and sporting activities. To help the week run smoothly, please note that students must wear school uniform (with comfortable footwear) on trip days, and full PE kit on workshop days. To cover the external facilitators, we kindly request a voluntary contribution of £16 per student, payable via ParentPay. If you need ParentPay login details, email parentpay@riddlesdown.org and if you are unable to make the contribution, please contact Theresa Ward directly at theresa.ward@riddlesdown.org. We are thoroughly looking forward to what promises to be an unforgettable, inspiring, and vibrant week for all of our Key Stage 3 students!

Duke of Edinburgh

A massive congratulations to our incredible Duke of Edinburgh students who tackled their Silver Practice Expedition last weekend! The British weather certainly gave them a true Silver-level challenge with rain and wind making walking and navigating conditions testing. However, our students didn't let the downpour dampen their spirits. They showed outstanding determination, teamwork, and pure resilience from start to finish whilst navigating, camp-building, and cooking like absolute pros through it all. We are incredibly proud of how they handled the adversity and supported one another. They are now officially one step closer to that Silver Award!

More Sporting Success!

Riddlesdown Collegiate has achieved a remarkable sporting milestone, making history in this year's District Cup competitions. The school became the first Croydon school ever to reach every District Cup final across all eligible age groups. Not content with simply making history by reaching every

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final, Riddlesdown went one step further by winning every final they contested, an extraordinary achievement that is sure to stand as one of the greatest accomplishments in Croydon school sport and a record that will be difficult to surpass. All finals were played at the prestigious Crystal Palace FC Academy Training Ground, providing a fitting stage for an unforgettable series of performances from Riddlesdown students. Congratulations to all of our victorious teams:

- Year 7 Boys
- Year 8 Boys
- Under 13 Girls
- Year 9 Boys
- Year 10 Boys
- Under 15 Girls
- Year 11 Boys
- Under 18 Boys

These outstanding results are a testament to the dedication, talent and hard work of our students, coaches and staff throughout the season. Their commitment, teamwork and determination have created a historic moment for Riddlesdown Collegiate and the wider school community. Well done to every player and member of staff involved in this incredible achievement. You have made Riddlesdown history! Thank you to all the parents/carers who supported our teams along the way.

Young Playwrights Award Winner – Lucy Leggatt

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Year 10 Pegasus student, Lucy Leggatt, has been named a winner of this year's prestigious Young Playwrights Award at the Royal Court, the world-renowned "writer's theatre." Out of more than 260 entries from across the UK, the judging panel selected Lucy's play, *Fruit*, as a winning entry in the 13–15 age category. As part of this incredible achievement, Lucy's play will be professionally performed at a festival of rehearsed readings at the Royal Court Theatre and published in an upcoming anthology by award partner Nick Hern Books. Given how many legendary playwrights made their debuts at the Royal Court, being recognised by such an institution is a phenomenal milestone. Huge congratulations, Lucy, we are immensely proud of you!

Attendance

At Riddlesdown Collegiate we know that excellent attendance is one of the most important foundations for every child's success. Being in school every day not only supports strong academic progress, but also helps children to build confidence, enjoy their learning, and make the most of all the wonderful opportunities we offer at the Collegiate. Additionally, regular school attendance is vital to ensure your child doesn't miss out on the rich, exciting experiences planned this half term, including special themed activity days, trips, awards shows, sports, and much more. Being in class every day ensures students don't fall behind or miss making core memories with their peers. What's Happening This Half Term?

Our school calendar is packed with brilliant enrichment and academic events you won't want your child to miss. Highlights include:

- Cultural Learning Week activities for students in Key Stage 3
- Curriculum Trips as part of Cultural Learning Week for students in Key Stage 3
- Conservation for a group of Year 8
- Y10 Art and Geography trips
- Sports fixtures
- CPA Award Evening
- Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition
- Summer Concert
- The Riddlesdown Summer Festival
- Year 13 Prom
- Year 11 Prom
- Sports Day

While our lessons and the curriculum build foundational skills, these special half-term activities are designed to build confidence, resilience, and a sense of community. When your child is absent, they don't just miss a single lesson, they miss the chance to collaborate, celebrate, and learn alongside their friends. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, and ready for a brilliant half term of learning and fun, inside and outside the classroom.

Yours sincerely

DAOsborne

Mr D Osborne
Principal

Safeguarding Briefing

Staying Safe in the Community

As the days become longer, many young people spend more time out with friends. While this independence is important, it can also bring increased risks. We encourage parents to talk to their children about staying safe in the community. This includes knowing where they are, who they are with, and how they will get home safely. The Metropolitan Police provide helpful advice on personal safety and protecting belongings, including mobile phones, which can be found on their website: How to protect yourself from street robbery | Metropolitan Police
Protect your phone | Metropolitan Police

If your child tells you they feel unsafe, please take this seriously and let the school know. Concerns can also be discussed with the NSPCC helpline (0808 800 5000) for additional guidance. Working together helps us keep all young people safe.