



# Ringwood School

Dear Parents/Guardians

## Year 7 Newsletter- Autumn Term 1

Throughout the year I will be writing to you with a brief outline of the highlights of the previous few weeks and some comments about upcoming events.

What a half term this has been! Your children have consistently impressed me with their enthusiasm, willingness to get involved and maturity over the past few weeks. I have seen the vast majority hit the ground running and absolutely thrive in the new environment and it has been a pleasure for the team and I to get to know them. Students have continued to set high standards for themselves and are working hard every day to ensure they can be proud of all their achievements.

I have never had so many members of staff stop me in the corridor to praise the enthusiasm and all-round loveliness of their classes and I wanted to pass that on. They have really grasped the Year 7 values of trying their best, getting involved and being kind and it's been wonderful seeing them become part of #TeamRingwood.

We have seen great things from our Year 7 sports teams already. The boys and girls football teams have made great starts to their seasons. The netball, rugby, cross country, table tennis, badminton and hockey players have also showed excellent teamwork and enthusiasm with a huge turnout at clubs each week. Non-sporting clubs have also seen a great turnout and the students are really embracing the opportunities and one of our core Year 7 values to get involved.

Year 7 have been awarded over 8000 house points this half term. Our top girl is Matilda Yarnold with 54 and our top boy is George Bradbury with 53. Well done to all our rewarded students this term.

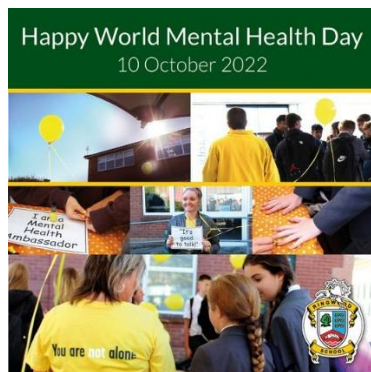
Each month we draw from reading Wonder and have a quote or "precept" as a year group focus. We award our students of the month based on these precepts. Our September Precept was a quote by Winston Churchill: "Continuous effort – not strength or intelligence – is the key to unlocking our potential". One student from each tutor group received a certificate and phone call home to congratulate them for demonstrating excellent effort. It was lovely to speak to some of you around this and share their successes.

Our precept for October is "Kind words do not cost much, yet they accomplish much" and we will reward the kindest members of our year group after half term. A focus on being kind at this point is vital as friendships group grow and change, so please do discuss how we can be kind to each other and ourselves going into the next few weeks with your child. World Mental Health Day was used to reflect on this very point, so your children should have some practical examples to help their well-being and that of others (one of the bits of advice was "help your parents with the housework" so you may want to start there). The final Friday of half term students and staff will wear red as we support the Show Racism the Red Card initiative.

With well-being in mind, we also wanted to remind you that online support is available for students at : <https://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk/information-2/emotional-wellbeing/>.

The Mental Wellbeing of our pupils is really important to us and we take every opportunity to share this with our Pupils. Last Monday was **World Mental Health Day** and Mrs Lakin, The Mental Health First Aiders and our 6<sup>th</sup> Form

Mental Health Ambassadors spent social times reminding our pupils that they have many different people available to talk to them and help them to problem solve any issues that happen in their school day.



Pupils can talk to their Tutors, Head of Year, OnCall, The Safeguarding Team, Mental health Ambassadors, Peer Mentors, School Nurse, Trusted friends and Trusted websites and helplines.

If you or your pupil is experiencing a difficult time out of school hours, we highly recommend kooth.

<https://www.kooth.com/>



We also recommend Parenting support such as online workshops by local company FACE.

**contact us**  
info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk  
Take a look at our website and book online

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

**Online Support for Parents Interactive Teach & Workshop sessions (£12 each)**  
Topics relating to communication, behaviour and emotional management. Offering a range of advice and practical interventions.

scan to see more  
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Our half term House Theme has come from Hardy House and has been “Dream Big” and we have asked students to think about how much they can achieve this year. Next half term we will be looking to Nightingale House and “No Excuses”. The focus on students being personally accountable for their actions and achievements.

I know some students have taken some time to get used to the new home learning programme so I wanted to remind you that the LRC is open every day after school and fully staffed on Monday to Thursday until 4:00 for Homework Club. Students do not need to sign up for this they can just turn up and receive any support they need.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank you as parents for your support and collaborative mindset during this half term. Transition isn't always smooth sailing but when problems have arisen, the vast majority of contact from you all has been measured, supportive and sent with an understanding that we are all working together with the best

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interests of your children at the centre of what we do. It really makes it easier to juggle the needs of the 265 students when the parents work alongside us.

I hope you all have a great half term. The tutors and I are going to recharge our batteries and look forward to seeing students back on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Many Thanks

Mario Massimino