



# A Year in the life of Roding Valley High School

Aspiration Respect Endeavour

September 2020

## Roding Valley High School students celebrate A Level and GCSE successes

**Our Year 13 and Year 11 students remained motivated, supported, and connected with us during this most extraordinary and difficult 2020 academic year. We were delighted that they were able to celebrate their A-Level and GCSE successes; which have allowed them to pursue the University courses, other education, or employment routes of their choice.**

Many of our A Level students secured places at top Russell Group Universities such as Imperial College London, the University of Bristol, and the University of Liverpool. Our students also achieved higher level apprenticeships with employers such as Hill Group.

High flying twins Mashrur and Maisha Khondokar have secured their dreams of studying at Imperial College London and in the USA, respectively. Mashrur was awarded A\*, A\*, A\*, A\* in A levels Chemistry, Physics, Further Mathematics, and Mathematics and will be reading Mathematics and Physics at the University. Maisha will be attending Skidmore College in New York, having achieved A\*, A\*, A in Sociology, Religious Studies, and Psychology.

Alex Croll, also accomplished A\*, A\*, A\*, A in Further Mathematics, Mathematics, Physics and Geography and will be reading Mathematics at the University of Warwick.

The sixth form has significantly improved its A level results and curriculum offer since inception and now demonstrates above average progress and value added scores.

Our GCSE results were just as impressive with 21 students achieving at least six grade 8's and 9's in their results.

Congratulations to the school's top 10 GCSE achievers: Ewan Briggs, Jayden Patel, Thomas Allsop, Bo Green, Toby Hamid, Finley Dickson, Peter Petrov, Jessica Okaka, Millie Simmons, Jolie Joyce.



Attainment at GCSE in all subjects demonstrated the outstanding progress rates of our students from their varied starting points. 2020 was an unprecedented year and students were finally awarded on their centre assessed grades.

Mrs. Jenner, said: "I am incredibly proud of all of our students, especially their fantastic work ethic demonstrated during their A-Level and GCSE courses and their resilience showed throughout this difficult time. I am delighted that we have maintained our upward trajectory of improved results for A-Levels and GCSEs, which is a testament to the excellent teaching, enrichment, and support offered at our school. We are now working hard to support our current exam cohorts through to their 2021 exams and to support all our students amidst the ongoing pandemic. This ongoing support includes full interaction with our google classrooms and interactive opportunities for remote learning resources."



## Invitation to our Year 6 RVHS Virtual Open Morning

**Goes live on Saturday 3rd October at 10am**

Given the current restrictions, we want to welcome you to our school but in a different format. Please register to take part in our exciting Virtual Open Morning, where you will meet staff and students, take a tour of the school and learn about our admissions process.

Please scan the QR code to register your interest and receive our prospectus.

[www.rodingvalley.net](http://www.rodingvalley.net)



Roding Valley  
HIGH SCHOOL

Proud to be part of the CLP

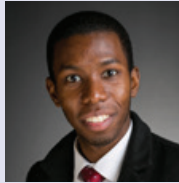




## ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

### 2020 Award for Outstanding New Teacher of the Year

We were absolutely delighted to announce that our very own Mr Ibrahim was awarded the 2020 Award for Outstanding New Teacher of the Year by the Pearson National Teaching Awards.



We are very proud of his fantastic achievement !

We are so lucky to have Mr Ibrahim as our Lead Physics Teacher, what an asset to our already amazing Science Faculty.



### Revision Workshops

This year we held Revision workshops for our Year 7, 8 and 9 students. Our students had a two hour session on our RVHS tried and tested techniques and how they can use them in their own independent study and revision.

Our students were also asked to put what they have learnt into practice by entering their own Buzan Mind Maps into a House Competition. The winners gained valuable House Points for their individual House.



Our parents were also invited to Revision and Study Skills workshop on Monday 24th February. During this workshop, parents were guided through the revision techniques that we use at RVHS, including; Buzan Mind Mapping, Cornell Notes and Cue Cards.



### Creative Writing Club

When Creative Writing Club started in September 2019, I was bowled over by how many students would want to get involved in their free time and by the amazing talent these young writers have.

I thought that I would take the opportunity to share this fantastic work with all of our parents and carers and you will see for yourself how imaginative and witty the students of Roding Valley are. They have brightened up my Wednesday lunchtimes with their brilliant ideas and tireless efforts to write intriguing stories for everyone to enjoy.

After seven exciting months, with a lot of fantastic creative work produced, we had to leave school due to Coronavirus and I thought Creative Writing Club would have to be put on hold for the time being... but even a pandemic will not stop their creative minds!

Alongside their schoolwork, students have continued with their writing; emailing work to me and submitting it on our Creative Writing Club Google Classroom and have therefore kept the club alive!

Please use this link (<https://rodingvalley.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Creative-Writing-Booklet-July-2020.pdf>)

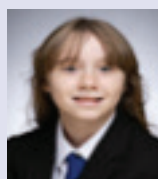


to access our booklet and I hope you enjoy the first edition from our Roding Valley Creative Writers and we hope you feel inspired to pick up a pen and have a go yourself!

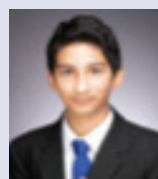


#### Our Creative Writing Students

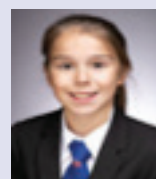
Well done to all of the following students that contributed to this booklet:



Tiffany Hansen  
Year 7



Alexander Patel  
Year 9



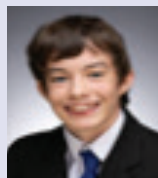
Louisa Nicholson  
Year 7



Liam Smith  
Year 7



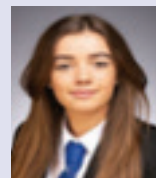
Freddie Rose  
Year 7



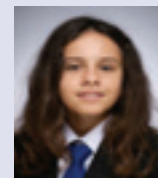
Nathan Wakinshaw  
Year 9



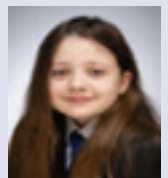
Poppy Tribe  
Year 9



Tora McLaughlin  
Year 9



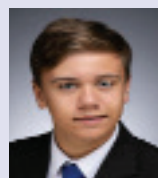
Elizabeth Nutaj  
Year 7



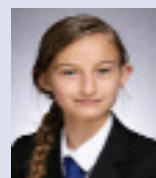
Isabelle Slevin  
Year 7



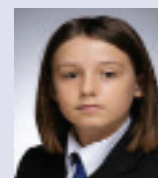
Xenia Tseka  
Year 7



Anthony Dean  
Year 7



Grace Dolling  
Year 7



Bethany Cooper  
Year 7



Vaughn Maree  
Year 7



## ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

### Making a choice - Open Morning 2019

"Our vision is to be the school of choice for our local community, developing successful young people with high aspirations, who show **respect** for all and **endeavour** to become the very best that they can be."

In October 2019, we opened our doors to hundreds of prospective students and their families. It was a fantastic Saturday morning showcasing all of the amazing things that our school has to offer.

From our English department presenting scenes from 'An Inspector Calls' to live debates in our Brook Library from our Debating team. Parents were also able to attend our Headteacher's Presentations which featured some amazing musical and dramatic performances from a few of our Year 7 and 8 students. It was a huge success with over 500 families joining us on the day.

It is very sad that we cannot do the same this year but I hope that this magazine, our website and our 'Virtual Open Morning' will allow parents to have a

flavour of what our wonderful school has to offer. We have admitted a full cohort of students into Year 7 September 2020 and record numbers into our 6th Form. The school's continued success is now embedded and evident in the daily practice and outcomes of the school.

Roding Valley High School is the right choice.



### Our first ever Year 6 Virtual Transition Evening 2020 Making a big school, small!

This year due to COVID-19, we held our first ever Virtual Parent Transition Evening.

The presentation provided our new parents with key information regarding their child's start to Roding Valley High School. The video provides parents with key information on how the school provides effective support to ensure a smooth, stress free transition into secondary school. This may help prospective parents appreciate how we help to make 'a big school, small'.

Please click on link to view the video which can be found on our Transition Video 2020  
<https://youtu.be/2JjMwZczNmA>







## ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

### CAREERS 2020FEST

**This year over 1000 students and their families attended our annual Careers Fest. It was our 11th Careers Fest and probably the most successful yet!**

The event is a fantastic opportunity for our students to view the different career and educational opportunities that are available to them Post 16 and Post 18. The event was attended by over 75 exhibitors including local and national employers from private and public sector organisations, as well as Institutes, Universities and Colleges. Throughout the event the exhibitors provided information and advice to students at all levels. Students were given advice about apprenticeships and in some instances supported to apply for current vacancies. It also really helps them to develop their networking and communication skills.

What was so nice to see this year was how many of our students are now employed by these companies and they are now manning the stands and sharing their experiences with students from their own school.

As a school, we pride ourselves on the level of careers support that we offer - please do follow the link and visit our website <https://rodingvalley.net/high-school/careers-next-steps/...> for a flavour of the support your child can expect.



### Challenge & Enrichment Virtual Showcase Winners 2020

As part of this year's Roding Valley High School's Key Stage 3 Challenge and Enrichment Virtual Showcase 2020, students worked really hard at home and with enthusiasm during these difficult times to produce a masterpiece.

We are very proud of them all and how creative they were in getting their ideas across. Please visit our school website to see the projects. We were especially proud of all the entrant this year as they all demonstrated the motivation and resilience to participate during the lockdown period. This challenge is now entering its 10th year and the standard of work just keeps getting better, young students producing independent projects at A-Level standard.



**Informative Award**  
Archie Savage and his prosthetic arm project



**Imaginative Award**  
Tylan Sami for his energy-efficient Island



**Innovative Award**  
Aiyana Patel for her prosthetic hand project



**People's Choice Award**  
Ava Towner for her energy-efficient Island

Also, a big well done to Bianca Nedelcu and Archie Carr for producing amazing projects and taking part in this competition.

### Year 7 Reading with the Residents of Poets Place

**This year we have launched a really successful, reading and community initiative.**

This initiative was designed to support our Year 7 students with their reading development and build important intergenerational relationships. Our Year 7 students and the elderly residents of Poets Place came together once a week to read aloud and work together on word exercises and games. It was thoroughly enjoyed by both parties and many of the elderly residents said, 'it was the highlight of their week'.

We just hope that we will be able to resume this initiative soon as we all miss the connectivity that it provided.





## ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

### KS3 Awards Evening and the Character Cup

At Roding Valley High School we focus on celebrating achievement. At our Key Stage 3 Awards evening, we awarded 257 awards. This year Tolani Aradeon and Vienna Igwe were delighted to be the first-ever recipients of the "Character Cup".

The **Character Cup** was donated to the school in 2020 by the son of the late Mrs. Delchar, who was Headmistress at Loughton County High School from 1972-1976. It was very sad that she died prematurely from cancer in 1976 when her son was only 12. She is remembered as a great and motivational leader of her time. She is fondly remembered by the alumni of Loughton County High School and by her family for the years they have lost but for the character and resilience that she helped shape in them all.



### UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

We have had a fantastic set of results for the UKMT Individual Senior Maths Challenge. Fifty of our brightest students in Year 11, 12 and 13 participated.

Overall, 26 students received a certificate including 3 Gold, 5 Silver and 18 Bronze certificates. Stan Shute, Mashrur Khondokar and Saskia Cushings received the Gold certificate and have also qualified for the Senior Kangaroo Round. Stan also received the Best in School and Year 13 award whilst Saskia received Best in Year 12. Jayden Patel received the Best in Year 11 award.

Our Year 9s and 10s are up next who will be sitting the Intermediate Maths Challenge, followed by our Year 7 and 8 students who will sit the Junior Maths Challenge. We are certain they match or exceed the standard set by Upper School!

### Chelmsford Shakespeare Festival 2019

In November, our Drama students visited The Boswells School for the annual 'Chelmsford Shakespeare Festival', joining students from four other schools to perform extracts from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', the funny bits.

Our students featured throughout the evening; popping up in and amongst the audience whilst rehearsing their play (within a play) in the woods.

It was a fantastic showcase of our student's skills and love of Drama. Well done to everyone who took part!







## ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

### Duke Of Edinburgh Award Scheme

This year, we have seen the continued success of the Duke of Edinburgh program, with a high number of our students enrolling in the program.

Students in Year 9 have the opportunity to take part in the Bronze award and Year 10 students can participate in the Silver award. Our exciting, yet challenging expeditions saw our Bronze students spend two days walking through the Chelmsford area,

navigating through fields, national trails and small country lanes. Our Silver students spend three days/two nights hiking through the beautiful Chilterns. This has proved to be an invaluable experience for our students, who come away with a vast array of new teamwork and leadership skills.

In managing the expedition component for the students, it allows them to fully engage in the other three components; physical, skill and volunteering.

We have seen students volunteering in a vast array of different establishments which has built character, leadership and resilience amongst our students.



### Rotary Young Chef Area Competition



Congratulations to **Louisa Nicholson 7V**, who won the Rotary Young Chef Area Competition on Saturday the 18th of January 2020. This took place at the New City College.

Her menu was vegan tart served with rocket and pomegranate salad.

Well done Louisa for your amazing effort!

### Loughton Young Artist of the Year 2020

Congratulations to **Patsy Stow, Eren Tyler and Mia Ali** for winning prizes at the Loughton Young Artist Competition 2020.

On Thursday 13th February 2020, they attended the prize giving and were rewarded with certificates from Loughton town Mayor and a gift bag kindly donated by Hobby Craft.



### Harry Potter Night 2020

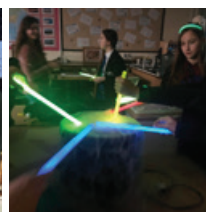
In February, Roding Valley was once again transfigured into Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Many of our Year 7 students shook off their muggle disguises and embraced their magical sides, with the help of our Year 9 Prefects and wise Professors.

Releasing fire demons in Defence against the Dark Arts and brewing wicked concoctions in Potions, the night was full of cackling laughs and some sneaky snacks.

Tony, Taliah and Sienna won the fancy-dress competition, whilst Beth and Enru won the Sorting Hat crafts.

After apparating into various Hogwarts locations with our green screen magic, I think that everyone had fantastic night!





# HOME LEARNING & CURRICULUM DELIVERY

## Home Learning

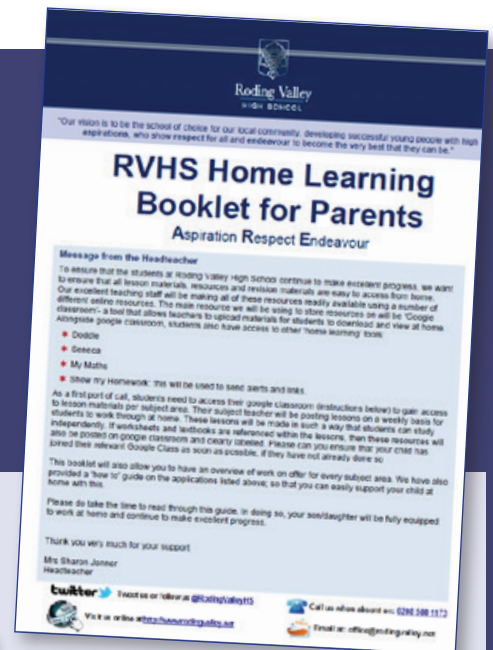
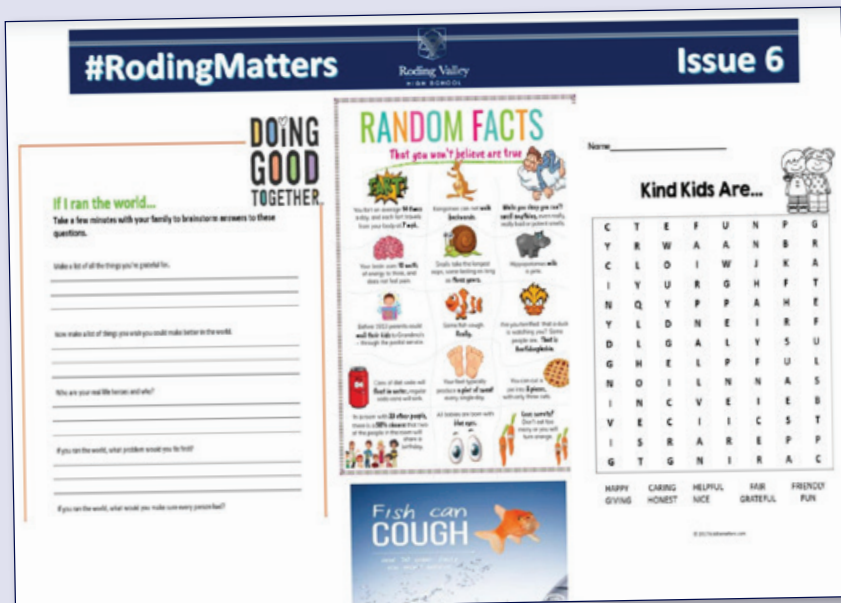
During the National Lockdown, RVHS students worked extremely hard to maintain their studies. At RVHS, our teachers used 'Google Classroom' to deliver their lesson material and provide feedback on the work submitted.

Alongside this, our teachers delivered parts of the curriculum via 'video recorded teaching'; where they recorded their teaching from home - so that difficult subject content could be explained.

Our older students also had a programme of live subject lessons and live masterclasses to attend online. This ensured that students could interact with their teachers face to face, ask questions directly and forward their understanding.

## Wellbeing Wednesday

Wellbeing Wednesday was a huge part of our homeschooling experience at RVHS.



We recognised that school isn't all about learning in the classroom - and that we needed to continue our pastoral and welfare provision. Each week, a 'Wellbeing Wednesday' bulletin was sent to all students, parents and carers. The bulletin contained wellbeing advice, strategies to help reduce stress and helpful activities to promote healthy bodies and minds.

<https://rodingvalley.net/info-faqs/wellbeing/>



## Launch of the RVHS YouTube Channel

RVHS now have their very own YouTube channel! This channel was launched in April and has enabled us to communicate with our students, celebrate success and support parents.

Our YouTube channel contains information for new parents, FAQs on home learning and celebrates achievements across the school.



Our subject departments have also started to create their own individual YouTube channels. For example, our History department channel contains an array of videos on topics that are studied by our students; all explained by our History team.





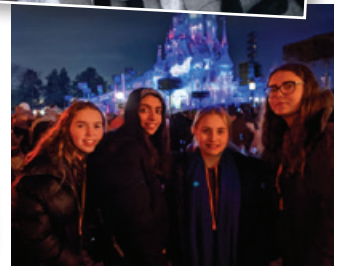


## EXTRA CURRICULAR EXCELLENCE

### KS3 Trip to **Disneyland Paris**

Over the February half term, students from Year 8 and 9 made the annual trip to Disneyland Paris organised by the Mathematics Department.

The trip was for three packed days of fun and activities. On the first night, students had dinner at Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show whilst watching a performance. The second day was spent at the Walt Disney Park, going on the many rides and watching the parades before ending the night with a spectacular fireworks display. On the final day, students visited the Walt Disney Studio Park before departing back for home.



### KS4 Trip to **Paris**

During the spring half term 32 students in Year 10 and 11 visited Disneyland Paris and spent a day in Paris as well.

The visit included a river cruise along the Seine and under 22 bridges, up to the lookout of Tour Montparnasse, a trip to Louvre to see the Mona Lisa and a stop by the Eiffel Tower for some photos. We also spent a day and a half in and around the Disney Village and Parks.



### KS4 **Barcelona** Trip

In February, some of our KS4 students visited Barcelona with members of our MFL department. They had a fantastic time!







## EXTRA CURRICULAR EXCELLENCE

### Year 11 Trip to Oxford University

**On Tuesday 25th February, a group of Year 11 students visited Hertford College at Oxford University.**

Upon arrival, students spectated the annual pancake race around the 'College Quad', watching as students tossed pancakes whilst running at top speed to win a trophy.

After learning about 'Life at Oxford', having a tour of the beautiful, traditional college as well as lunch in the Great Hall, students took part in an ethics seminar. A number of contentious issues were debated but opinions were most divided on the issue of 'Designer Babies'.

Students enjoyed the day and left the college full to the brim with pancakes and feeling enthused about their future in higher education.



### Ski Trip to Italy

**During the February half term, 42 Year 9 students headed to Prato Nevoso in Italy for a week's trip skiing. The group started their journey on Friday evening and after a lengthy journey of nearly 23 hours, we arrived in resort Saturday evening.**

Sunday morning, students were up early for breakfast and then onto the Ski Fit centre to pick up their boots and skis for the week ahead. They then hit the slopes for their first day where students were split into their different ability groups; from those who have never skied up to the advanced group.

The student's day consisted of having a wakeup call in the morning at 8.00am ready for breakfast at 9.00am. The first session of skiing took place 11.00am until 13.00pm with a two-hour lunch break and then back on the slopes 15.00pm until 17.00pm giving them a total of 4 hour skiing each day with pupils took full advantage of. The skiing conditions were perfect with plenty of snow and bright sunny days.

During the evening, a variety of activities were put on after dinner including a trip down to the local town where students had the opportunity to stock up on their treats and buy souvenirs. We gave them plenty of time to relax with their friends around the hotel and spent one evening at a local Pizzeria.

Our final evening consisted of a Quiz night lead by the teachers and awards given out to those students who had impressed us throughout the week.

Skiers of the Week:

- Sophie Reed
- Luke Rogerson
- Cydney Spinoza
- Harry Marcus
- Ruby Curtis

Our students were excellent the entire week; a credit to both themselves and Roding Valley and made impressive progress with their skiing ability; some of



which started the week with never having placed their feet in Ski Boots to parallel skiing blue and red runs! We are very proud!





## EXTRA CURRICULAR EXCELLENCE

### Medical Expo 2019

In October, students interested in pursuing a medical career visited the NHS Medical Expo 2019 at Harlow College.

At the event, students explored a range of stands, activities and hands-on workshops; designed to inspire the next generation and help raise awareness of the opportunities available to students.

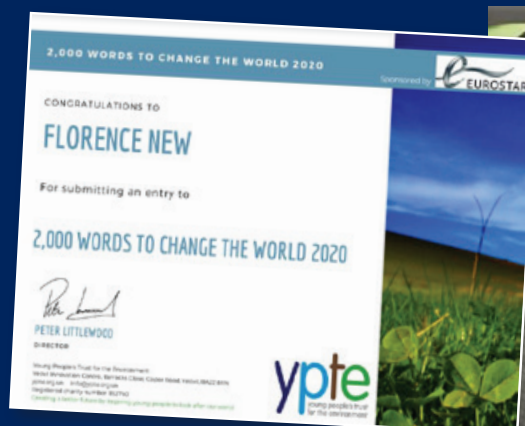
Exhibitors included the East of England Ambulance Service, NHS Research and Development and Clinical Coding – a brilliant day of learning for everyone involved!



### 2000 Words to Change the World

**Congratulations to Florence New, who achieved 3rd place in a National Writing Competition. Florence had to write a 2000-word essay on eco-friendly travel.**

Peter Littlewood, Director of the Young People's Trust for the Environment wrote in his letter to Florence; *"On behalf of YPTE and Eurostar, I would like to offer our congratulations to you on producing such an excellent piece of writing and some very strong arguments about responsible travel".*



### A Level Photography Trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum

In November, our A Level Photography students had a wonderful time at the Victoria and Albert Museum, visiting the Tim Walker Photography Exhibition.

They even managed to get a quick stop at the Natural History Museum too!







## SPORTING SUCCESS

### Roding Valley High School students go for gold in Virtual Sports Week

On Thursday 16 July, Hawking was announced as the winning House in the first ever Roding Valley High School Virtual Sports Week. During the virtual event, students and staff, who were grouped into the five school houses, took part in a series of exciting challenges and events, such as keep ups, a marathon and a sports quiz, submitting their videos and scores via a dedicated website.

As part of a ceremony celebrating the accomplishments of the 167 students who took part, Hawking House was announced as the champions, scoring a total of 1,201 points overall. Following the assembly, Max and Beth, Hawking House Captains, were invited into the school to collect the coveted Sports Day shield.

Omar Hussain, Associate Assistant Headteacher for Houses, at Roding Valley High School, said: *"Our annual Sports Day event is a highlight of the school calendar for so many of our students and we felt that it was a real shame to miss out on it altogether this year. So, we developed a creative approach to our Sports Day and it has been inspiring to see the enthusiasm and commitment from students, and staff, taking part in the challenges and how everyone came together during this strange and uncertain time."*

With most students still learning from home, the Virtual Sports Week was organised by teachers to ensure that the school's community spirit was thriving.

Sharon Jenner, Headteacher at Roding Valley High School, commented:



*"With students missing their weekly P.E lessons it was really important for us as a school to keep their motivation and fitness levels up. It's been fantastic to watch everyone get involved. Throughout this difficult time, our students have remained a shining representation of our school community, helping one another and keeping up communications with teachers and peers; perfectly demonstrating our school's values and ethos."*



### Netball and Football Tour to Malta

On Thursday 24th October our students had the opportunity to travel to the island of Malta for a Netball and Football Tour.

They all had a fantastic time, thank you to our staff for organising this trip!



### Sports Awards Evening

Following a record-breaking year of sporting achievement, our sports stars joined us for an evening of awards at the annual Sports Awards.

Parents, students, teachers and special guests Jon Moncur, former English Professional Footballer and Mr Paul Wershof, Chair of Governors, came together to celebrate the sporting success of students from all year groups; with some students receiving awards after joining the school just a few weeks ago!

The school's most prestigious awards, the Moncur Award, Outstanding Achievement in PE Award, and Team of the Year Award, were won by Year 9 student Caleb, Year 11 student Maddie, and the U13 Girls Football Team respectively.

Well done to all!





# ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

## Student Voice

At Roding Valley High School, we value the opinions, thoughts and views of our students. Therefore, our 'Student Voice' team is incredibly important to us. Last October, our Student Voice team of 2019-2020 was formed; led by our Head boy and Head girl. The team met once a half term and even continued their work throughout lockdown, using Google Classroom. Last years team were:

**Year 7:** Anthony Blackledge and Ilya James

**Year 8:** Bianca Nedelcu and Sydnae Smith

**Year 9:** Archie Worth and Charlotte Erescova

**Year 10:** Lauren Marks and Tolani Aradeon


**Year 11:** Charlotte Copeman and Jenny Lycett

**Year 12:** Hannah Green and Raj Singh



Our Panel was led by Head Boy Sam Copeman and Head Girl Maisha Khondokar.

Some notable achievements included:

- Launched our fantastic Anti-bullying Initiative - our students helped to redesign our Anti-bullying Policy. In the process, they created this fantastic video that was shown to all of our students in their assemblies: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEV-ey6P4g> 
- Discussed the school's Canteen menu and healthy eating and brought about the introduction of the salad pot for Spring 2020!
- Reducing our plastic consumption, as a result we have now signed up to the Plastic Pledge 2020 and removed all plastic cutlery from our school canteen.

## Are you a keen footballer and would like to continue developing your football skills alongside your Post 16 studies?

There is an opportunity from September 2020, for you, to be a part of the developing partnership between Roding Valley High School and Chelsea FC. Foundation. This will enable you to study at Roding Valley High School alongside developing your football skills.

For the academic side of the programme, you would have the opportunity to study a Level 3 Diploma in Sport (worth two Level 3 qualifications) or to choose from other subjects that we have available. For further discussion about the subject options available, please email Mr Mammen at [cfcf@rodingvalley.net](mailto:cfcf@rodingvalley.net).

### Chelsea Football Club Foundation Sixth Form Education Programme

We are delighted that we have now joined into a partnership with Chelsea FC and are offering their Foundation Sixth Form Education Programme here at Roding Valley High School. This is to complement our full curriculum offer of A levels and new vocational courses in IT and Business. We are all incredibly excited about this and have already enrolled our first cohort onto the course making full use of our excellent and extensive 3G pitches. Future

career paths from this programme include going on to be a football coach, studying at university, working for Chelsea in retail, hospitality, at the training facility, finance, and administration, the list of opportunities goes on. For those students who do want to complete this course but go onto university then there is also the option to study three Level 3 qualifications or equivalent, you would just spend less time on football training.



## Follow us



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[www.rodingvalley.net](http://www.rodingvalley.net)

