



The Howard School

Newsletter



Fantastic achievement!

**The Howard School named
among the top performing
schools in Kent & Medway**

High Standards lead to High Achievement
Be Hardworking | Be Good | Be Kind

Welcome

Howard's Year 9 Team Crowned Triple Champions!

The Year 9 rugby team has made history, winning the Swale Cup for the third year in a row! After claiming victory in Years 7 and 8, the boys entered this year's competition determined to defend their title.

They started strong with three impressive wins against Sittingbourne, Fulston Manor, and Borden Grammar, setting up a crucial final match against their toughest rivals — Queen Elizabeth. Both teams knew a win would secure the cup.

Queen Elizabeth struck first with a superb try down the wing, but Howard fought back with two quick tries, going into half-time with a 10-5 lead. The second half was a real test of determination and teamwork, with Howard defending their try line for most of the game. In a game-changing moment, AG made a brilliant turnover, powering through to score the final try. The match ended 15-5, securing the Swale Cup for the third consecutive year.

Huge congratulations to the entire team for their hard work and resilience. Special mention goes to DA, JH, AG, and AW for their standout performances. Well done, boys — you've made the school incredibly proud!



Parent/Carer Drop-In Sessions



Assistant Educational Psychologists (AsEPs) from Medway Educational Psychology Service are hosting parent/carers drop-in sessions at respective hubs on the following mornings:

Gillingham Children & Family Hub
Woodlands Youth Centre
Woodlands Road
Gillingham
ME7 2BX



Wednesday 26th March
9am-11:15am

Chatham Children & Family Hub
Magpie Hall Road
Chatham
ME4 5AZ



Monday 31st March
9am-11:15am

Wayfield Children & Family Hub
Wayfield Road
Wayfield
Chatham
ME5 0HH



Monday 7th April
9am-11:15am

Strood Children & Family Hub
Clifton Close
Strood
ME2 2HG



Tuesday 15th April
9am-11:15am

AsEPs will be present offering a space for you to come and talk with us on the following topics:

Friendships

The Importance of Sleep

Resilience

Self-Concept

Exam Stress

Staying Safe Online

Social Media Usage

Using a Revision Timetable

Our supplemental resources and support are tailored to either primary or secondary school age. We hope they may be useful in the run up to SATs and/or the exam season ahead.

We look forward to meeting you!

Pi Day Celebrations at Our School

On 14th March, our school joined the global celebration of Pi Day — a day dedicated to the mathematical constant Pi (π), which starts with 3.14. The date, written as 3/14, matches the first three digits of Pi, making it the perfect day to recognise this special number.

Some of our Maths teachers marked the occasion by wearing Pi-themed outfits, showing their enthusiasm for all things mathematical. Pi Day is a great opportunity to explore the wonders of Maths, and our department enjoyed sparking conversations about the importance of Pi and its use in calculations involving circles.

Students were encouraged to join in the fun by learning more about Pi and testing their memory with Pi recitation challenges. It was inspiring to see everyone embracing the spirit of the day and discovering the beauty of Maths in everyday life.

Events like Pi Day remind us that Maths is not just about numbers and equations — it's about curiosity, problem-solving, and celebrating patterns in the world around us. Whether it's calculating the circumference of a circle or simply enjoying a slice of pie, Pi is a fascinating part of our lives.



RAMADAN MUBARAK

رمضان مبارك



**A MESSAGE FROM TEAM RE
TO OUR MUSLIM STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES
YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO U23 FOR**

- PRAYER
- RESPITE

AT BREAK AND LUNCH



Year 11 recently took part in their final school rugby competition at the Kent 7's, hosted by Sutton Valence School. It was a fantastic day filled with challenging matches, and the team showed remarkable determination and resilience throughout the tournament.

The competition started with some tough games, but the team quickly adapted, learning from each match and growing in confidence and ability. Their hard work and commitment were clear to see as they pushed themselves to improve with every game. The Kent 7's is known for its high standard of play, making it an excellent opportunity for the students to test themselves against other skilled teams from across the region.

One of the standout qualities of the team was their ability to stay positive and keep fighting, no matter the scoreline. They supported each other on and off the pitch, displaying true team spirit and sportsmanship. As the day progressed, the players grew more cohesive, and their gameplay became sharper and more dynamic. Every match was a learning experience, and it was inspiring to watch them rise to each challenge.

A special mention goes to AB for an exceptional performance. AB's skill and determination stood out, making a real difference on the pitch and motivating the team to keep pushing forward.

Well done to all the Year 11 students who took part. The school is incredibly proud of your efforts and the way you represented us with such resilience and positivity. The Kent 7's marked a memorable end to your school rugby journey, and we hope you take these valuable experiences with you as you move forward.

Congratulations to the whole team for their hard work and dedication. You should be very proud of what you achieved.





OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Principal Mr J Johal

safeguarding@thehowardschool.co.uk

Scan Me



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Vice Principal
Designated Safeguarding
Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3015



MS T MCCOMAS

Pastoral Support Manager
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3006

MRS J DEAKIN

Assistant Principal
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3030



MISS A MULROONEY

Assistant Principal
Safeguarding Officer

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MR N LONGE

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3036



MR B DABURN

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3046



MRS S KEEGAN

Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3009



Medway Council Children's Social Care can be contacted on 01634 334466
Medway's First response Service is 01634 334466: 24 hour emergency number is 0300 041919
Alternative telephone numbers where you have concerns about a child:
NSPCC: 08088 005000 - ChildLine: 0800 1111

Our Year 12 law students had an exciting opportunity to visit Canterbury Crown Court as part of their studies. The visit gave students a chance to witness the legal system in action and see how court proceedings unfold in real life.

During their visit, students observed the start of a trial, watched the jury being sworn in, and saw lawyers question the defendant. Experiencing these moments firsthand allowed students to gain a deeper understanding of the court process and appreciate the roles of everyone involved, from the judge and lawyers to the jury and defendant.

One of the highlights of the visit was meeting His Honour Judge Taylor KC, who generously took time out of his busy schedule to speak with the students and hold a Q&A session. Judge Taylor shared his inspiring journey from growing up on the Isle of Sheppey to becoming a judge. He spoke about his modest background and education, encouraging students to believe in themselves and consider pursuing careers in law.

R.D., one of the students, reflected on the experience, saying, "I was really surprised by how laid-back the court process was. I thought that everyone would be uptight and very formal. We also got to see how the court works and meet a judge, which is helpful to our studies."

The visit was an eye-opening experience, giving students a clearer understanding of how the justice system operates and its impact on everyone involved. Seeing the law in action not only enhanced their studies but also inspired many to consider future careers in the legal field.

Overall, the trip was an invaluable opportunity that brought their classroom learning to life, leaving students motivated and eager to explore the world of law further.



House Events

Term 4



1st - 50
2nd - 40
3rd - 30
4th - 20
5th - 10

**Say what
you see!**



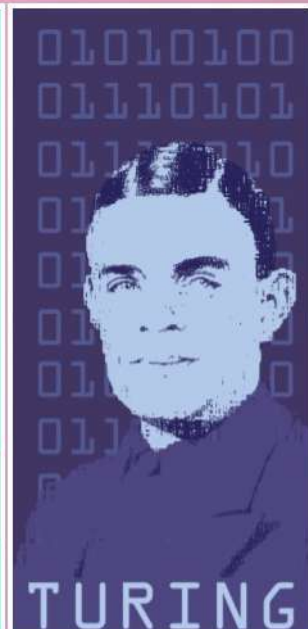
Year 7 - 18th March
Year 8 - 17th March
Year 9 - 19th March
Year 10 - 18th March



Year 7 - 26th February
Year 8 - 5th March
Year 9 - 12th March
Year 10 - 19th March

HOUSE ROWING

To sign-up and represent your House on any event,
head to your Google Classroom or see Mr. Hillier



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and cutscenes, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviour, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at [GAMInvisible](https://GAMInvisible.com).



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

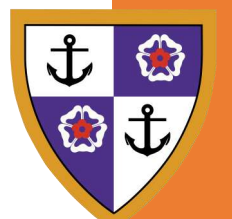
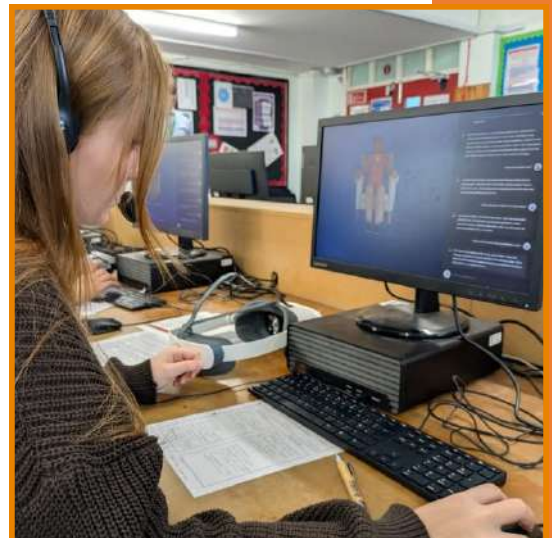
A Journey Through History: Exploring Susan Pollack's Testimony in VR

Yesterday, 68 Year 10 and Year 12 RS and History students had a unique opportunity to explore the testimony of Holocaust survivor, Susan Pollack, through virtual reality (VR). This experience allowed students to step into history and gain a deeper understanding of the events Susan endured.

Using VR technology, students were able to visit key locations from Susan's past, including places she had been during the Holocaust. Hearing her powerful story while virtually exploring these sites made the experience incredibly moving and thought-provoking. Students also had the rare chance to ask Susan questions, making the session even more personal and impactful.

This experience not only deepened students' understanding of the Holocaust but also highlighted the importance of remembering the past and learning from it. Many students described the session as unforgettable and felt inspired by Susan's courage and resilience.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this opportunity possible. It was a truly meaningful experience that will stay with students for years to come. Moments like these remind us of the power of personal stories and the importance of keeping history alive.



1

DEFINITION OF A CHILD

2

NO DISCRIMINATION

3

BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

4

MAKING RIGHTS REAL

5

FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP

6

LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT

7

NAME AND NATIONALITY

8

IDENTITY

9

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

10

CONTACT WITH PARENTS ACROSS COUNTRIES

11

PROTECTION FROM KIDNAPPING

12

RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

13


SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY

14

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

15

SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

16

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

17

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

18

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

19

PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

20

CHILDREN WITHOUT FAMILIES

21

CHILDREN WHO ARE ADOPTED

22

REFUGEE CHILDREN

23

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

24

HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

25

REVIEW OF A CHILD'S PLACEMENT

26

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP

27


FOOD, CLOTHING, A SAFE HOME

28

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

29

AIMS OF EDUCATION

30

MINORITY CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION

31

REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS

32

PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK

33

PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL DRUGS

34

PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

35

PREVENTION OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING

36

PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION

37

CHILDREN IN DETENTION

38

PROTECTION IN WAR

39

RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION

40

CHILDREN WHO BREAK THE LAW

41

BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES

42

EVERYONE MUST KNOW CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

43-54

HOW THE CONVENTION WORKS

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



The Howard
School

Hire our facilities

Scan to book



- Table Tennis Centre
- Sports Hall
- Grass Pitches
- Gymnasium
- Dance/Drama Studios
- Changing Rooms
- School Hall/Classrooms

Opening Hours:

Mon to Fri: 16:30 - 22:00

Sat: 08:00 - 23:00

Sun: 08:00 - 20:00

To Book

www.howard.schoolhire.co.uk



Medway Music Association's
Easter Music Courses 2025
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th April

Information Letter

Venue: Rainham Mark Grammar School, ME8 7AJ

Closing date for applications: **Monday 3rd March 2025.**

We are delighted to announce our Easter Music Courses for 2025.

Please find below information on all courses and who they are suited to. *Please note, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.*

Easter Holiday KS1 Music Course: Sunday 6th April 09:45 – 11:45

Our KS1 course is designed to introduce KS1 children to music through some exciting and engaging musical activities. The activities will include musical games, fun songs and the chance to perform together using a range of percussion instruments. We hope that your children will learn lots of new musical skills, which build and develop the foundations for learning instruments.

Entry requirements: No previous experience is necessary. For children in school years 1 and 2.

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Numbers will be limited so please apply early to avoid disappointment.

Cost: £10.00

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GOLDEN TICKET

During each lesson, our students have the opportunity to receive a Golden Ticket. This Golden Ticket can be received for going 'above-and-beyond' during the lesson. These Golden Tickets are collected in our Main Reception and a portion of the ticket is also taken home so parents/carers can recognise this immense achievement as well.

The tickets are collected in boxes in each of the students Houses and tallied at the end of the academic year. The House that collects the most gets points added to the House Championship total for their House as they compete for the Laurel Cup.

But it doesn't stop there!

At the end of the academic year, all of the Golden Tickets will also be collected by Year Group where a Prize Draw will take place. Each year group were asked what they would like the opportunity to win, and the prizes by year group are listed below. The more Golden Tickets each student receives, the greater their opportunity is to win! Good luck!

Year 7



£200 bike

2 x £100
Amazon
Vouchers



Year 8

*voted for 2 winners

Year 9



£200 JD
Voucher

£200
Amazon
Voucher



Year 10

Year 11



PlayStation 5

This initiative would not be possible without the support from our good friends at 'Camfil'.





Meet Your Head of House



Mr. Edwards

Ms. Samuels

Ms. Anglin

Mr. Dunn

Ms. Mulrooney



ATTENBOROUGH



HAWKING



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING

ATTENBOROUGH

HAWKING

DEEDS NOT WORDS

PANKHURST

TULL

TULL

TURING

TURING

MedwayGo Easter Programme

Book a range of activities, from sports, swimming, theatre workshops, outdoor pursuits and more!

Monday, 14 April
Tuesday, 15 April
Wednesday, 16 April
Thursday, 17 April

Bookings open on
Monday, 17 March



GO.MEDWAY.GOV.UK

MedwayGo

A BETTER MEDWAY



Medway
Serving You





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