



Ranelagh School

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21st September 2026

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome to the start of a new academic year. Welcome particularly to those students and families who have joined us after the summer break. The majority of these will be in Year 7 but we also welcome students in other year groups and especially in Year 12. I look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks at the various events offered by the school and its hardworking PTA at the start of term.

As always, following the results days in August, I would like to share with you the successes of both Year 13 and Year 11 students from last year. Once again congratulations go to the Year 13 students for another super set of results. At Ranelagh, 25% of grades were awarded at A/A* and 60% of grades awarded at A*-B.

However, the numbers only represent part of the story. The Ranelagh Sixth form offers students the opportunity to make varied choices and enables young people to achieve places at a diverse range of institutions. For example, this year university courses include Biology, Dentistry, Engineering, Geography, Law, Medicine, Music and Psychology. Locations include Birmingham, Durham, Leeds, Oxford, Nottingham and Southampton. A number of our students have also started apprenticeships and employment and we wish them all every success.

We also have a strong tradition of success at GCSE. This year is no exception with some wonderful outcomes being achieved! We are immensely proud of the hard work of our students and staff, and of our continued success at GCSE.

I am so proud of all the students and staff at Ranelagh School. These results are evidence of their dedication, resilience and the amount of hard work that has taken place. I am also thankful for the families that continue to be so supportive. Our whole school community will be celebrating the amazing achievements of these young people and the teachers who taught them. Very well done to all of our students – these results are well deserved and I wish them all every success for the exciting futures ahead.

At the start of the year, it is always good to take a moment to remind yourself of our vision as I think it really summarises all that we are and all that we are trying to do at Ranelagh.



Though we are many, we are one body.

[Eucharistic Prayer, Common Worship]



Following the ministry of Jesus, we empower all to use their gifts in faithful service. We inspire and encourage each individual to develop and nurture unique skills, interests and talents, in order that they can flourish. Our school is a unifying heartbeat, enabling everyone to feel welcomed and valued as members of our community.



A positive, well developed and constructive partnership between parents, carers and staff is vital in trying to ensure that we fulfil this vision. The students are incredibly fortunate to be learning at Ranelagh School. Please do continue to work with the staff as they tweak and adjust the curriculum and learning environment offered to the students. Sometimes these decisions will be part of a larger picture with the impact on learners perhaps not being immediately obvious. Your support for these tweak and adjustments is much appreciated. If you have any concerns then of course we welcome that conversation. Schools are busy places, as I am sure your workplaces are, so my expectation is for your email or phone call to be acknowledged within 48 hours. For clarity, what we are not able to accommodate, unless a child's life is at risk, is a request for an immediate meeting or for parents or carers to arrive at school asking to see staff.

Please see below a reminder of the central email account for each year group:

Year 7: hoy7@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk
Year 8: hoy8@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk
Year 9: hoy9@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk
Year 10: hoy10@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk
Year 11: hoy11@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk

These accounts are monitored centrally with responses being possible from a variety of staff. For queries about students in Year 12 and Year 13 please continue to contact the 6th form team, cmonaghan@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk or cgreeves@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk

Throughout the year staff and students will also be paying particular attention to the basics. As such I have reminded the students of our 5 non-negotiable expectations and we are all working together to achieve them on a daily basis.

- ✓ Do what an adult tells you to do the first time you are asked
- ✓ Wear your uniform as it is intended to be worn and with pride
- ✓ Be punctual throughout the day
- ✓ Be ready to learn and produce your best work
- ✓ Show you care and be kind

Thank you for your continued support for our vision, the students, staff and our wider school community.

Collective worship

Collective worship is a key daily aspect of school life, and throughout the Autumn Term 2026, our programme of collective worship will explore the theme of ***Listening to Diverse Voices*** within the Christian faith, drawing on the lives, experiences and insights of a wide range of biblical figures, saints, Christian thinkers and contemporary role models. Students will reflect on themes including belonging, discipleship, courage, devotion, sacrificial love, integrity, justice, responsibility, spirituality and speaking truth, before moving into the season of Advent with its messages of hope, peace, joy and love. These weekly acts of worship will encourage students and staff to consider how faith is lived out in different contexts and how we can use our own gifts in faithful service to others, in keeping with our school vision.

To support these themes, we have compiled two accompanying playlists containing Biblical readings and pieces of music linked to each week's focus. Families may wish to dip into these

resources at home to explore the themes together and continue the reflections started in Collective Worship. The link to the resource for the first half term is below.

[Listening to Diverse Voices \(1\)](#)

ADMISSIONS

Admissions to Secondary School, for Year 7 September 2027.

Reminder for parents or carers with a child in Year 6.

You must apply for a secondary school place (for Year 7, for September 2027) via your home Local Authority.

For Bracknell Forest residents this application process begins on 12 September 2026. Residents should refer to [The Guide to Primary Education 2027 to 2028](#) for information on how to apply. If you are not a Bracknell Forest resident, you should contact your home Local Authority for further information.

The National closing date for applications is 31 October 2026. If you are applying after 31 October 2026 information will be provided on the Local Authority's website (linked above).

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Art

The Art Department are so excited to welcome our students back in to the Art classrooms after the summer break. We are looking forward to working with them on their art this year and seeing the growth of their creativity!

Could we take this opportunity to stress the importance of students using their lab coats during their Art lessons throughout Key stage 3.

Students must arrive at **every** Art lesson with their lab coat. We are a busy department using a lot of paint and other messy materials. Clearing up takes place at 3 sinks, as you can imagine the potential for materials to accidentally be transferred onto uniforms occurs extremely easily, as well as occasional spillages.

Students are expected and reminded each lesson to bring their lab coats and to put them on for the duration of the lesson, including clearing up.

We appreciate that uniforms are expensive; however, the Art Department cannot accept responsibility for paint or other material stains if a student does not follow classroom expectations, including bringing and wearing their lab coat throughout the lesson and clean-up.

We would appreciate it if you could support us by reminding them of this expectation at home.

Many thanks for your support.
The Art Department

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

A School production by arrangement with LW Entertainment Limited

RANELAGH SCHOOL

Lyrics by
TIM RICE

Music by
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT



INTRO EVENING: Monday 21st September

AUDITIONS: Monday 28th September

CLUBS AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

This term we have an extensive range of enrichment activities on offer. Please encourage your child to participate in this important aspect of school life.

A detailed list of clubs and activities for this term is now published on our website

<https://www.ranelagh.org.uk/Students/Clubs-Activities/>

ROUTINE INFORMATION

For those new to the school, the following information will be helpful. However, we ask that all parents and carers take a few minutes to remind themselves and their children, of information about uniform, parking etc.

The timings for the school day are as follows:

Event	Time
Warning bell	8.45
Registration/Tutor time	8.50
Period 1	9.20
Period 2	10.20
Break	11.20 (30 minutes)
Period 3	11.50
Lunch	12.50 (45 minutes)
Period 4	1.35
Period 5	2.35
End of the school day	3.35

General correspondence to parents and carers

The majority of correspondence is emailed to parents and carers. If you are new to the school, please look out for emails from info@parentmail.co.uk and add this address to your contacts to avoid messages going into your 'junk' email.

Student equipment – 'Ready to Learn'

As part of our 'Ready to Learn' agenda we consider students having the correct basic equipment vital to making the most of each and every lesson. We therefore wish to take this opportunity to remind you that all students require the following basic equipment:

- Blue or black pen
- Pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Rubber
- Compass
- Protractor
- Colourless ruler
- Glue stick

Please make sure your child has their lab coat for science lessons.

Year 10 and 11 students should own a scientific calculator and bring it with them every day.

We would appreciate your support, periodically throughout the year, in helping students' source, organise and *check for themselves* that they have the correct equipment.

We thank you for your support with this.

School meals

Our caterers, Harrison's, are working within government guidelines on healthy eating. Snacks such as fresh and dried fruit are on sale at break. Cakes and biscuits must only be bought as part of a balanced meal. The cost of the school 'meal of the day' is £2.85.

We ask you to support us in our provision by encouraging your child to eat healthily. Please do not provide them with fizzy drinks, crisps or chocolate bars as snacks as this will undermine the work we are doing in order to promote healthy eating. It would also be helpful if you could talk to your children about any food purchases that they may make on the way to school.

School uniform

We would be grateful if you would also support the school by checking the school uniform requirements detailed on our website: www.ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk

Mobile telephones

Mobile telephones are not allowed in school. In exceptional circumstances permission to bring a phone into school may be obtained from the Headteacher. In such cases the mobile phone must be handed in at the school office for safekeeping during the day.

Arrival in School

Students are welcome on the school site from 8.15am. For health and safety reasons, where an early arrival is unavoidable, a written request should be submitted.

Absence

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please inform the school early on the first day of absence (by telephone or email; attendance@ranelagh.org.uk before 8.30am) and on each subsequent day of absence. If we have not received a message the school will contact you. Whilst we encourage prompt arrival to school, please also remind your child to sign in at reception if they arrive to school after 8.50am.

Parking

Parents and carers are reminded that they are not permitted to drive onto the school site at the start and end of the school day. If there is an exceptional reason such as transporting a sick/injured child or a very large piece of equipment e.g., cello, a separate permit can be obtained from school reception. Those parents and carers dropping off/collecting children at the rear or front entrance to the school are also reminded of the importance of not obstructing driveways or access points for residents and other road users and of not waiting in their car with the engine running. The school enjoys positive relationships with its neighbours, and it is important to preserve these.

The safety of all pedestrians must be our priority.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Contact details

In order to help us to accurately maintain our records, please ensure the school is informed immediately of any change of address, telephone number or email address.

SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL

PTA

The PTA (Parent Teacher Association) will keep you informed of their activities and meetings over the course of the year.

Ranelagh Student Support

Identifying and supporting young carers at Ranelagh School - We are committed to ensuring that all students get the support they need to have a positive school experience, are happy in school and can achieve their full potential.

We know that for some students, factors outside of school can have a big impact on this, particularly if there is someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction. We think in every class there could be as many as 2 pupils who are helping to support someone because of one of these factors – we call these students **young carers**.

Students can be young carers for lots of different reasons:

- They might be providing physical support to a parent with a physical illness such as fibromyalgia or ME, such as cooking, fetching things or helping with things like putting shoes on or doing the shopping
- They might be helping a parent with a disability who needs help with more personal tasks such as getting dressed, bathing or changing dressings
- Or it could be more emotional support – like being there if their autistic sibling is upset, taking responsibility for young siblings whilst parents attend health appointments, or checking that a parent with depression/anxiety is ok.

Some young carers might be doing lots of caring, others just a small amount but are impacted by the situation at home for example by worrying about the person with the health condition, or needing to do more things for themselves compared to other students.

There is lots of support available for young carers and their families should they ever need it – both inside and outside of school.

If you think that any of the above applies to your child, and that they might possibly be a young carer then contact our Young Carers Lead, Mrs Worth. Even if you feel your child or family are doing really well and don't need any support, we find that it's better for us to be aware and have them on our radar as potential young carers, in case the situation suddenly changes and they (or you) do need support. It just means that you and your child don't have to start from scratch with letting us know what is going on if things have become difficult.

Our Young Carers' School Operational Lead is Mrs Worth email address: lworth@ranelagh.org.uk

Easy Fundraising – Shop & Support!

Did you know you can help raise funds **just by doing your everyday online shopping?**

It's quick, simple, and completely free through easyfundraising.org.uk or the Easy Fundraising app.

How it works:

- Sign up in minutes.
- Shop online as usual with your favourite retailers.
- A percentage of your purchase is donated—at no extra cost to you!

You can even track your progress on the app's leaderboard and see where you rank among our top fundraisers. Nothing like a little friendly competition to make shopping even more rewarding!

Scan & Join Instantly!

To make it even easier, simply scan the QR code and you'll be taken straight to our fundraising page. Sign up today and turn your shopping into support!

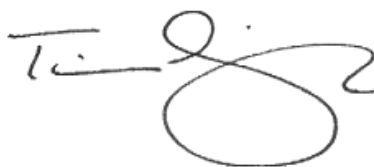


FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Diary Dates – Autumn Term

Wed 23 September	Year11(A) Geography, Bracknell Yearr7 Meet the Tutor Information evening 6.30-8.00pm
Thu 24 September	Year11(C) Geography, Bracknell Parents & Teachers Association (PTA) AGM 6.30pm
Wed 30 September	Year12 Information evening 6.30-8.00pm
Mon 5 October	Year 13 Oxbridge interview workshop Year 9 DofE Information evening 7.00-8.00pm
Thu 8 October	Year 11 Online Parent/Carer Consultation evening 5.00-8.00pm
Wed 14 October	Sixth form Open evening 6.30-8.30pm
Sat 17 October	Year 13 Morocco trip depart
Mon 19 October	Year 11 Globe Players, A Christmas Carol 10.00am
Tue 20 October	Year 8 Wellington College Skills Day Chamber Concert 6.30-8.00pm, Main Hall
Thu 29 October	Year 13 Morocco trip return
Thu 22 to Fri 30 October	Half Term
Monday 2 November	Inset day

Yours sincerely



Mr T Griffith
Headteacher