



The Ropemakers' Academy

PART OF THE BECKMEAD TRUST

Headteacher's Message

It's been an interesting start to 2024 at Ropemakers. We returned from the Christmas Holidays to find that our lower ground floor had been the victim of a rogue water pipe, and as a result had a temporary swimming pool. The resulting flooding has caused some significant damage, especially to the sports hall, but I can assure you that the insurers are already sorting out the repairs and we hope it will be sorted very soon.

In other news I am delighted to announce that Shani Lerner has been promoted into the School Leadership Team in the role of the Student Welfare Administration Manager. Shani will be bringing some much-needed capacity to the team, enabling us to make further improvements to the school. I am aware that parental communication and engagement is one area that we need to get better at, and I would welcome any suggestions of what would work for you all.

On a slightly more negative note I would be grateful if you could speak to your child about the importance of avoiding causing damage to the school building. We have seen an increase in the number of incidents of damage around the school. I've always tried to avoid passing the cost on and will use the school budget to make those repairs, but the message I need the students to understand is that every pound spent on unnecessary repairs is a pound less spent on their provision.

Elsewhere in the newsletter is a piece about our Year 11 exams. This is the first cohort at Ropemakers taking part in formal qualifications, and marks an exciting milestone in our journey. I am incredibly proud of those students and the Y11 team who have supported them, so please share in praising our students for being so brave and taking on their exams!

I wish you and your family a wonderful half term break, and look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 19th February.

- Simon Hawthorne





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Geography Trip to Brighton University

Class Teacher Alice Jones recently led a group of our KS3 students on an exciting Geography trip to Brighton University to complete fieldwork based on sustainability and using Geographical Information Systems (GIS). The students engaged well with the fieldwork and were asking and answering lots of questions. The trip also included a tour of the Falmer campus.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to explore and learn outside the classroom. Huge thanks to Ms. Jones for organizing this enriching experience, and for leading a fantastic trip despite the rain!

A Milestone for Ropemakers'

We are very proud to announce that some of Ropemakers' Y11 pupils have completed their first formal examinations! This milestone reflects their dedication and hard work, supported by our wonderful educators and parents. Special thanks to Leona Brown-Morris, a visitor from within the trust who facilitated the Y11s in completing their science practicals.





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Soundworks Music Opportunity

FREE MUSIC WORKSHOPS

for

children & young people with SEND

(Junior group: age 5 - 11 / Senior group: age 11 - 19)

Wednesdays 3.30-5pm, Hailsham Family Hub

Hailsham East Community Centre, Vega Cl, Hailsham BN27 2JZ



Lifesize
lifesize.org.uk



Early Help 0-19
Respect | Partnership | Strength

Funded by
UK Government



Limited spaces
to sign up please email:

sam@lifesize.org.uk

Reminders & Announcements

We are requesting donations of junk modelling supplies – e.g. cardboard boxes, paper tubes, cartons.

Please bring any clean donations to reception.

We hope that you all have a peaceful and restful half term break. We look forward to seeing everyone on the first day back, Monday 19th February 2024.

