23 October 2026

RIDGEWOOD SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and reflect on what has been a very positive start to the academic year.

It has been a pleasure to see our pupils settle into the routines and expectations of school, embrace new challenges and approach their learning with enthusiasm, resilience and determination. From our new Year 7 pupils finding their feet to our older pupils building on their achievements, there has been so much to celebrate across our school community.

We are particularly proud of the commitment our pupils have demonstrated, both in the classroom and beyond. Whether participating in after-school activities, representing the school in sporting events or showcasing their talents at our Young Performers' Evening, our pupils have embraced the opportunities available to them with enthusiasm and pride. It has been wonderful to see them living out our school values, developing their talents and making such a positive contribution to school life.

Looking ahead to next half term, there is plenty to look forward to as we begin the countdown to Christmas. For our Year 11 pupils, this will be an especially important period as they prepare for their mock examinations. These exams provide a valuable opportunity to assess progress, identify areas for further development and build confidence ahead of their final GCSE examinations. I would encourage parents and carers to support pupils in establishing effective revision routines and beginning their preparations early. Just as importantly, we want our young people to maintain a healthy balance between their studies, time to relax and sufficient rest. With consistent effort, good preparation and the right support, we want every pupil to feel confident and equipped to achieve their very best.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, whose hard work and commitment ensure that every pupil is supported, challenged and encouraged to reach their full potential. Their contribution to the life of our school is invaluable. Thank you, too, to all our parents and carers for your continued partnership and support.

As we head into the half-term break, I hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved opportunity to relax, recharge and spend quality time together. With Halloween just around the corner, I would also like to wish you all a **very happy Halloween!** Whether you are enjoying seasonal activities, spending time with family and friends or simply taking a little time to unwind, I hope you have a safe, happy and restful break.

We look forward to welcoming our pupils back after half term, refreshed, re-energised and ready for another busy and exciting period of learning, progress and achievement as we continue our journey towards Christmas.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I wish you and your families a wonderful half-term break.

Warmest wishes,

Ruth Hartley