

Issue: 145

Roundwood Park School, Roundwood Park,
Harpenden AL5 3AE Tel: 01582 765344

Date: 11 September 2020

e-mail us at admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk



RoundUp is published fortnightly on our website.
<http://www.roundwoodpark.co.uk>

Headlines

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been great to welcome your children back to school after such a long time. It is not quite school as normal but it is much more like the school that we know and love. I am really grateful to you as parents for the way you have prepared them for their return and they seem to be thriving despite the inevitable worries that coming back to school after such a long time brings. Now that the students are getting used to the one-way systems and different lunch times and breaks, they are starting to settle into school nicely. Step one of our plan was to get the students back into school full time and learning which was a huge operation as I am sure you will agree. I am immensely grateful to the staff for their hard work in order to make this happen. Step two will be to improve their experience in school including at lunchtimes, with the food service, and the use of Sixth Form spaces. We will be communicating with you more about this shortly.

I was particularly pleased to welcome our new Year 7s to the school last week. Year 7 have made an excellent start and they look smart and are enjoying their learning enthusiastically and with a smile. The fact that they are in one block at the moment means that they are finding it easier than normal to find their way around. It was also great to have our former Year 11 students back as Year 12s. I would particularly like to welcome our external students joining the school this year. I feel sure that they will make a positive contribution to our community. It was highly unusual to do an outdoor assembly standing on a fire escape while they stood on a tennis court below, but such are the times we are living in!

During lockdown we restructured the leadership team in the Sixth Form in order to add more capacity. I am delighted to say that Mrs Gallagher has been appointed as an Assistant Headteacher for Key Stage 5 and will therefore oversee the Sixth Form. We also now have two Heads of Year. Congratulations to Mrs Bridgman who has been promoted to Head of Year 12 and I am delighted to say that Mr Mercel is Head of Year 13 with all the expertise and experience he brings to the role.

Promotions:

Lucy Gallagher – Assistant Headteacher: KS5
Sarah Gilpin – Head of Psychology
Fiona Bridgman – Head of Year 12

New staff:

Ed Wilkinson – Head of Economics
Holly Jackson – Design Technology
Emma Cunningham – Design Technology
Mark Hamilton – Computer Science and ICT
Susan Crook – English
Sophie Capel – MFL
Cristina Atkinson – MFL
Ying Yin - Maths
Matt Layzell – IT Network Manager
Natasha Mowatt – Student Support Officer, KS4

I am already enjoying work alongside all of them.

Have a lovely weekend.

Alan Henshall
Headteacher

Inset Day

A reminder that we have an Inset day on **Friday 25 September** and school will be closed to students.

Forthcoming Events & Information

Please visit the [RPS website](#) for information including:

[RPS Calendar](#)

[Letters Home](#)

[Daily Bulletin](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Trips & Visits](#)

[PE News](#)

[Vacancies](#)

[RPS HouseSystem](#)

Please also follow us on **Facebook & Twitter**

[@RPSCREATIVE](#); [@RPSPE](#);

[@RPS_Pastoral](#); [@RPSCAREERS](#)

Or download the Roundwood Park mobile app to keep up to date with our news.

Reporting Student Absence

Absence Line

When you call in for absence, please use our dedicated 24 hour absence line: **01582 714049**
or e-mail us at absence@roundwoodpark.co.uk

Payments



Day Trips:

Cancelled TUTOR2U Workshops – GCSE/ A Level Business and Economics (March-April 2020)

We have had correspondence from the supplier and we are happy to advise that the refunds for the above cancelled workshops will be completed by the end of September.

Yr 13 Geography Field Studies days to Stratford, London.

Mon 12th & Tues 13th October 2020

(attendance is required both days)

Payment of £52.50 per student to be made by Friday 25th September.

Residential Trips:

The Jay Peaks Ski Trip scheduled for Easter 2021 is currently still going ahead and we have 5 places available. Full details can be found under the “What’s On” section of the school website under trips and events. If your son/daughter is interested in joining this trip, please contact c.manton@roundwoodpark.co.uk. Available places will be allocated on a first come - first served basis. This trip is open to all year groups.

All other planned residential trips are currently on hold.

Miss Manton & Mrs Kennedy / Trip Coordinators

Vacancies



Any current vacancies are published on our website. Please follow the link below:

<https://roundwoodpark.co.uk/vacancies/>

COVID-19:

What to do if you or a member of your household becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell:

If you have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, however mild, self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started. You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 (see information in the link below). Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

If you are not experiencing symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19, self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms during this isolation period, restart your 10-day isolation from the day you developed symptoms.

After 10 days, if you still have a temperature you should continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice. You do not need to self-isolate after 10 days if you only have a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste, as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone. See the ending isolation section in the link below for more information.

If you live with others, all other household members need to stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill or if they do not have symptoms, from the day their test was taken. If anyone else in the household starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms appear, regardless of what day they are on in their original 14-day isolation period. The ending isolation section in the link below has more information.

If you have [symptoms](#), try and stay as far away from other members of your household as possible. It is especially important to stay away from anyone who is clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable with whom you share a household.

The full guidance for households, including how to arrange a test, is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

* * Urgent Fundraising Plea for Alviar * *



Alviar left Roundwood Park this year. He has been tirelessly battling Leukaemia since 2017. Can you help him raise funds for a treatment which could save his life? Please read the extract from his Gofundme page below. To read Alviar's full story and to make a donation, please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/alviars-chance-for-a-future>

Hi. I'm Alviar. An ordinary teenager living near St Albans in the UK. Except I have Leukaemia. Unfortunately the bad kind. These days 90% of Leukaemia patients are cured. I'm in the 10%. Intense chemotherapy, a bone marrow transplant (from my twin brother Justin) and other treatments have all failed to kill the cancer. I've been told I've just a few months to live. I was also told a year ago my Leukaemia was "incurable". That was until a few weeks ago. A specialist team in Singapore have a brand new treatment. It cured Oscar, a 5 year old boy in the UK (you can read about Oscar [here](#)). And I've just been told I'm eligible for the same treatment. But the treatment is in Singapore. And it costs £500,000. It sounds huge. How are we going to raise that? But as my mum and dad say, "we just need 50,000 people to give £10 and we're there...or just 5,000 to give £100!" That's it. Please give me my chance. To beat this cancer and live.

That's my plea. But it's not my story. My story is below. Please read it. So you get to know me. And thank you for reading this. I can't tell you how amazing it is that ordinary people want to reach out and help someone in need.

Thank You.

Alviar

Maths Challenge during Lockdown

Congratulations to our amazing mathematicians, now in Years 8 and 9, who took part in the very first UKMT Online Junior Maths Challenge! 118 students took part in this demanding competition from home: it was more challenging than usual as they couldn't draw additional lines or scribble on the pictures because all the questions were on a screen. Therefore, it is most impressive that everyone achieved a good score and over half of the students got a high enough result to qualify for a UKMT bronze, silver or gold certificate.

Particular congratulations go to A Murat, B Taylor-Rose, C Robinson, M Willis, I Turner, A Aujla, S Birkett, S Nadiger and N Vicente Serra in Year 8; and D Gaches, B Wake, E Watson and K Shah in Year 9 all of whom qualified for a gold certificate. A special mention is due to D Gaches who achieved the highest score at Roundwood Park and so won the 'Best in School' award.

Mrs Davies
Head of Maths



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**



Huge Success at Nationals 2020



On 14th March Roundwood took a large squad to the National Finals. Nationals was the last major competition of the season and was a day filled with success and excellent sportsmanship for everyone involved.

First up at Eastleigh were the Year 7-8 Girls novice team made up of A Rees, I Harnett, I Turner and E Sandilands. They faced a great deal of strong competition and all put in brilliant efforts. But despite this as a team they placed 4th and missed medalling by 0.4.



Next up were the Year 9-10 Girls novice team made up of E Gallagher, I Glennie, T Bowles and E Graham. They all performed exceptionally which saw them take the National Champions title. I Glennie performed two outstanding routines, being crowned National Champion.

Our 7-9 Boys intermediate team took the stage - E Roberts, E Lowry, A Hall and S Haxon. Their competition was tough but they were able to conduct themselves brilliantly. They retained their National Champion title.



Next to compete were the U19 Intermediate boys, N Bates, J Woods and A Birch. Great performances all round taking a well-deserved place.



After lunch our Year 11- 14 Girls novice team made up of G Sands, B Colyer and E Bignell were the last to compete. They faced some very tough competition and with just three in their team they battled against the pressure. Despite their great efforts they placed 5th as a team and E Bignell placed 4th as an individual so she just missed medalling by 0.3.

Overall, all 5 teams and 3 individuals performed exceptionally well. A huge congratulations to all the gymnasts who attended and thank you for your attitudes throughout the day. Lastly, thank you to Mr Hunter, Miss Mullally, Miss L Moxham and all the parents for ensuring the smooth running of the day. Also a big thank you to Mrs Moxham for preparing, coaching and encouraging our gymnasts on the day and throughout the year. It really wouldn't be possible without her. It has been a great season and we plan to keep training hard.





Living with an Anxious Child

A workshop for parents and carers of children aged 5-19 who worry, and show signs or symptoms of anxiety.

We will cover :

- ⇒ **What anxiety looks and feels like**
- ⇒ **When anxiety becomes a problem**
- ⇒ **How to respond to an anxious child**

**Thursday 30th September
10.15—12.15 (maximum time)**

Via Zoom

email : dmarsden@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk

With your name, your children's School and their ages

***£20 fee if your child does not attend a HarpendenPlus Partnership school**

List of partnership schools: Beech Hyde, Crabtree schools, Grove schools, Harpenden Academy, High Beeches, Kimpton, Lea, Manland, Redbourn Schools, Wood End, Roundwood Park, Roundwood Primary, Sauncey Wood, Sir John Lawes, St Dominic, St George's, St Helen's, St Hildas, St Nicholas, Wood End, Katherine Warrington School

Harpenden PLUS

PARTNERSHIP

Harpenden-Kimpton-Redbourn-Wheathampstead

Parenting Pre - teens



A free* Zoom work shop for Parents and Carers of children in year 6 and 7

Have you noticed your child is developing into a Teenager?, would you like some strategies to support your developing child?, Is your child about to/ recently transitioned to Secondary School? - come and find out how to support them, does your child want more independence? - find out how to safely meet their needs without the worry.

Wednesday 14th October 10.-15 - 12.15 (maximum time)

**To express interest please contact
dmarsden@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk**

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their ages**

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askus@familylives.org.uk

15-17 The Broadway, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5HZ

* From landlines and most mobile networks.

**Do you like helping and talking to people?
Do you have a few hours a week to spare?
Thinking about volunteering?**

Our volunteers are a lifeline to many families going through a difficult time. Become a Helpline Volunteer and enjoy the experience of helping others as well as improving your own wellbeing. If you are good at listening and can spare a few hours a week, we want to hear from you. Full training is provided, you can volunteer from home if you have a PC and good internet connection or at our local branch based in Old Hatfield in Herts.

Email us at suebe@familylives.org.uk for more information.

Visit us at www.familylives.org.uk.

Support the Town Mayor's nominated charities in the

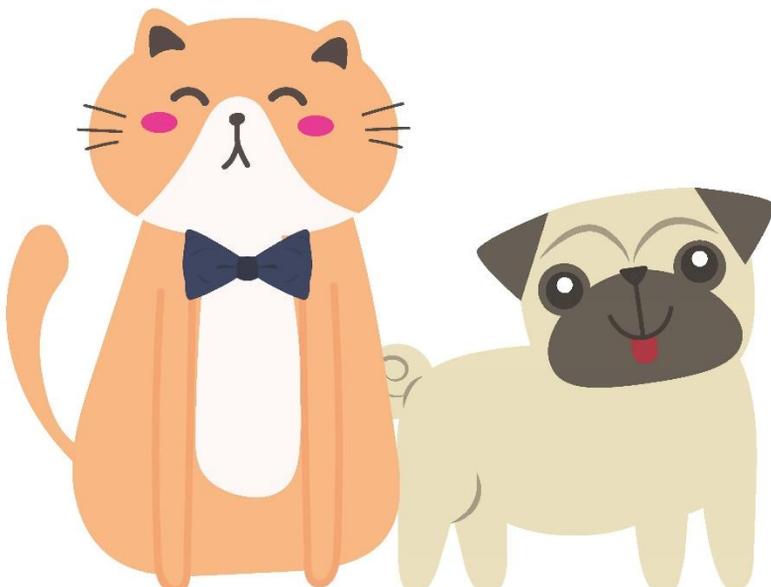
PET PHOTO COMPETITION

In support of:



Enter your pet for just £2 per photo!

-  Winners in each category will receive prizes
-  Competition closes 20 September
-  Enter the competition & view the photo categories on our website: www.harpenden.gov.uk



Follow along with the competition & view entries on the HTC's Facebook page!