

Issue: 156

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

Headlines

Dear parents and carers

As we approach the end of a very challenging, but ultimately successful year, I wanted to thank you for the great support that you have shown to all of us here at Roundwood Park. We have delivered our brand of education as best we can through this pandemic. When I look back over the year I feel a sense of pride that we worked together as a community and that the amazing staff of RPS worked well with the amazing students of RPS, whether they were at home or at school. We did not choose the last year but from it came greater resilience, greater fortitude and a grit and determination in all of us. Thank you for all of your support.

On Tuesday we held our Achievement Afternoon to replace our Achievement Evening. Although we were unable to welcome the parents into the Hall along with our award winners, the livestreaming of the event and the recording should compensate for this as we hope that more people can watch, including grandparents and other relatives.

As ever at the end of the year, we say goodbye to a number of colleagues.

Promotions

We said goodbye to Eszter Kosa who has gained a well-deserved promotion to be the Librarian at a local primary school. She has done a really good job in the library and has been a valued member of the team. She did an amazing job in lockdown, including creating escape rooms so that students could stay in touch with their reading.

The fact that she has gone to our biggest feeder school means that she can easily keep in touch and our two libraries can work more closely together in the future. Cate Brown, who is currently Head of Year 9, has been promoted to be Head of Inclusion at another school in the County. Cate has been following the National Award for SEN Coordination this year and was keen to secure a post in this field. Many congratulations to Cate. We wish her well and thank her for the work she has done with her year group in the three years she has been here.

Katie Rawcliffe, our former student who has been working as our technology technician this year, has secured a role on a graduate training programme. This means that she will be using her architectural degree to the fullest extent as she begins this exciting career. Congratulations to Katie.

Retirements

Alan Holmes leaves us after almost 17 years. He is an excellent colleague who has a range of skills which have been used to great effect to keep the site in good order over the years. We thank him for his loyal service to the school.

Three Roundwood legends are also leaving us this year who have given many years sterling service to the school and its students.

Kirk Dumbleton joined us in 1994 and has performed many roles in the school such as head of humanities, Assistant Headteacher and, most recently, teacher of history as he scaled back his hours. We will miss Kirk greatly as he has always been a kind, friendly and positive colleague to all of us. On a personal level, I much valued his wide and calm contributions around the SLT table as he always offered a different and carefully thought through opinion.

In science, Colleen Halliday leaves us after 19 years. During that time Colleen has become a Roundwood Park institution. She has remained fiercely positive about the school and the job throughout her years here, even when times have been tough for her and for the school, as in the last 15 months. I will miss my many conversations with Colleen over the years, in which she has always taken the time to feed back positives as well as the things she feels we ought to be doing better. Good luck Colleen.

Lastly, but by no means least, Paul Barnett, affectionately known to all as Barney, leaves us after 43 years at the school. Barney has seen many changes in the school during that time and he has always been an excellent teacher. I will miss our frequent conversations, his thoughtful feedback as a union rep, a role which he performed very conscientiously for many years and I will particularly miss second and third generation former Roundwood students saying "Do you remember when you taught me Mr Barnett?" at Open Evenings. All three of the above colleagues will be hugely missed by everyone at the school as they leave us after a combined service of 89 years.

Other leavers

Kate Frost will be leaving us to step down to spend more time with her family. She has spent several years at school ably and

sensitively working as a Learning Support Assistant, supporting our most vulnerable students by helping to remove barriers to their learning. Prior to this she was a cover supervisor and ensured that high quality cover lessons were delivered to students. Nicole Lind will be leaving us to relocate. Her work in the science department supporting the teachers and being a part of the technician team has been much valued and we will miss her skills and enthusiasm. Gemma Gill is relocating to Scotland and is therefore leaving our PRE department. Gemma has been a superb colleague for many years and has lately worked extremely effectively with Gemma Harvey since she arrived as head of department. Katherine Sunderland is leaving us as she has secured a fulltime job that she was seeking at an excellent school in the County. Katherine was a returner to the profession when she joined us and she has worked extremely effectively as part of the English team after a long break from her career. She thoroughly deserves the securing of a full-time post at an excellent school.

Temporary positions and trainees

Ying Yin has been helping in maths over the last year and will be leaving when her fixed term contract expires. She has plans to do further studies at university and she leaves with our best wishes. Natalie Bamford leaves us after returning to cover Rebecca Porter on her maternity leave. Natalie formerly worked at the school and it has been great to have her back. She leaves us with our gratitude for the professional job she has done while Rebecca was away. Emma Cunningham and Cristina Atkinson have both been training with us this year in food tech and Spanish respectively. I am pleased to say that both have secured roles for next year and we thank them for all they have done for our students during their training year.

I will introduce you to our new colleagues in my first RoundUp of next term.

I wish you a restful and peaceful summer and I hope that you can have some time with your families either on holiday or at home.

Alan Henshall
Headteacher

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](#); [@RPS CAREERS](#)

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

Reporting Student Absence:

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



Drinking water is available from the water coolers in the canteen at break/lunchtimes, however, please note that all other water fountains remain closed due to Covid-19. Please ensure that students bring enough water with them to last the day, especially in the warmer weather.

End of term arrangements

School closes at 12.10pm on Wednesday 21 July. The buses will be arriving at this time.

Autumn term arrangements

Year 6 and 12 students will be in school on Monday 6 September and the rest of the school return on Tuesday 7 September. Please remember that students should be in winter uniform.

Payments



CERN Year 13 Physics Trip

4-6 March 2022

Deposit £100 due by 16th July 21.

Chromebooks

Full payment or first instalment due by 12th July.

If not yet paid, please pay immediately!

Calling all Year 13s...

If anyone is interested in being a Learning Support Assistant for a year, or you know somebody who is, we would be keen to hear from you. If you want to find out more, please contact Ian Stowe, our HR Manager, on i.stowe@roundwoodpark.co.uk.

Vacancies

Any current vacancies are published on our website. Please follow the link below: <https://roundwoodpark.co.uk/vacancies/>

Hertfordshire County Council Update

Hertfordshire County Council have asked us to share the following update with you ahead of the end of term.

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, we would like to thank you for the efforts and sacrifices you have made to keep your nursery and school communities safe over the past 16 months. As we head into the summer holidays, we'd like to remind you of some of the ways we can all enjoy a safe summer together.

While people will be excited at the prospect of restrictions being lifted on 19 July, others will be fearful or apprehensive. Remember, rules around self-isolation of close contacts for under 18's do not change until 16 August 2021. We all need to be kind to each other as we move into this next phase.

Covid-19 won't end when the rules change, in fact cases are rising and we need to keep being sensible. It's important to recognise that everyone's circumstances are different and what feels comfortable to one person might not feel that way to another. Let's keep looking out for one another and recognise that we're all going to be moving forward at our own pace.

What you can do to keep yourself and others safe

Get vaccinated

Vaccinations are now available for everyone aged over 18 who is eligible, you don't need a GP and often don't even need to book an appointment. Visit <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/> for local sites and regular pop ups. If you or children have medical conditions, please speak to your GP about your Covid-19 vaccination.

Keep testing

Regular rapid testing, including for those who are vaccinated, for everyone in Year 7 and above (tests are not designed for use on children younger than this) can make a big difference, as most people don't know they're infected until they have infected others. You can order or collect free rapid tests locally, visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest for more information. If you have symptoms get a PCR test and self-isolate.

Look out for one another

Give people space, wear face coverings in crowded indoor areas, keep your windows and doors open when you have people round, wash and/or sanitise hands. These measures have kept us safe and will keep us safe still.

By looking out for one another we can help us keep infections low. There are many people needing healthcare for non Covid-19 reasons who have been waiting for some time. If Covid-19 cases continue to rise, people will have to wait longer for hospital and health care so let's try to stop that by working together.

We hope you all enjoy a safe and happy summer!

Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire County Council – Vaccination Survey

We need your help to gather views on vaccinations for young people aged 12-17

We are waiting a decision from Government on offering a vaccination programme for young people aged 12-17. In the meantime, Hertfordshire County Council are running a survey to gather feedback from young people and parents and carers which they hope will help them to better understand their views and plan effectively should the government decide to go ahead.

The survey link is now live:

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/PEC871/>

The survey closes on the 22 July.

What's been happening in Drama

It's been a very busy last few weeks in drama. We wanted to set the tone for opening up to full capacity again in September, as well as give reward to our amazing students. They have still managed to create wonderful work in spite of lockdown and various other obstacles in our way this year.

The Year 10s demonstrated their performance work to each other last week. They completed some very successful and inventive pieces created around the themes social media culture and online grooming. It was lovely to see the drama studio at capacity again as their friends watched.

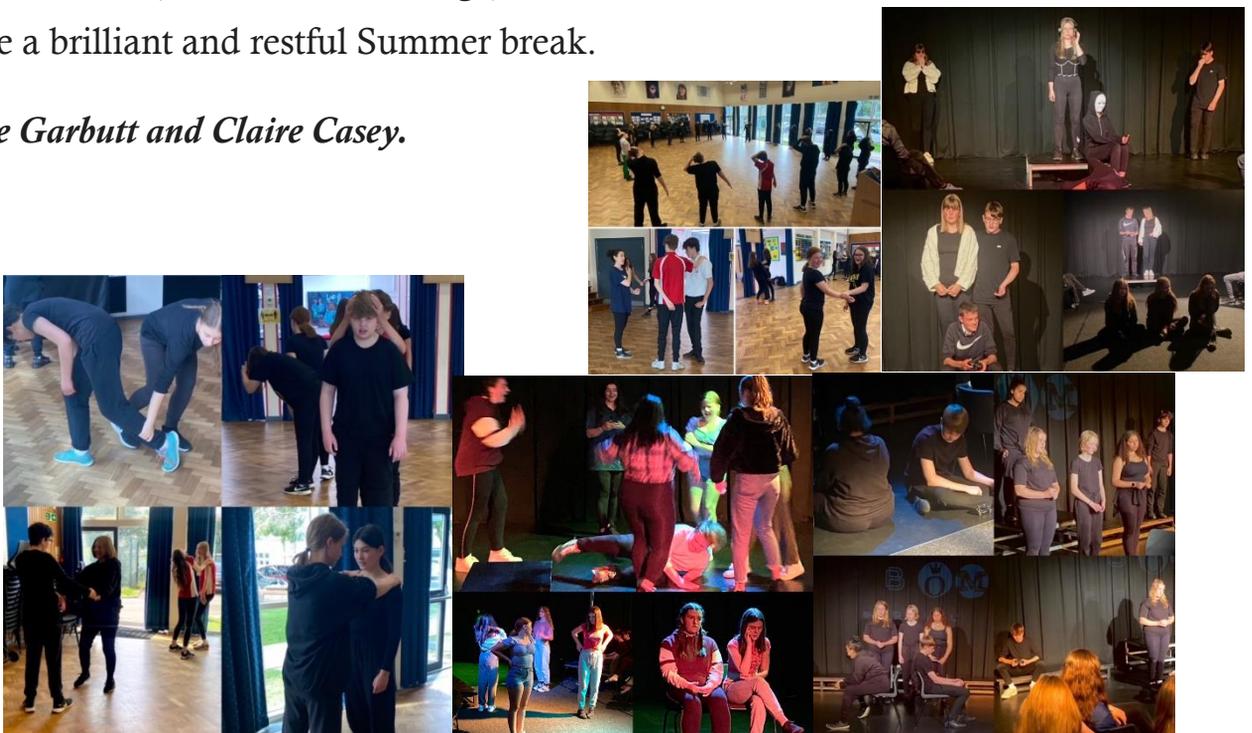
This week we hosted world renowned theatre company Frantic Assembly who ran two workshops with Years 9 and 10. They are the theatre company behind *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*. All students worked very hard and created some excellent movement based pieces.

To top it off, on Thursday this week, we had the Year 13s performing their piece: *Girls like That* by Evan Placey. This closes off what has been a very difficult year for them with a really solid end performance they have been working on since we came back.

It's brilliant having the studios and hall ringing with the sound of students creating excellent original and creative work again and we look forward to more of the same from September when we hit the ground running with our school production of the RSC's *Matilda*. All year groups are invited to audition and we have loads of opportunities (both on and off-stage) available!

Have a brilliant and restful Summer break.

Mike Garbutt and Claire Casey.



NATIONAL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

English Schools National Athletics Championships

This past weekend brought the English Schools National Athletics Championships in Manchester. In order to attend this event, athletes have to reach certain performance standards and then be selected to represent Hertfordshire. Five students from RPS qualified for the event, which is exceptional. The performances of those five were absolutely amazing and we'd like to congratulate all of them. Simply making the English Schools is something that most athletes will never achieve, to go there and perform so well is incredible.

H. Booth: 9th in Senior girls triple jump

M. McIntosh: 1st in Inter girls 80m hurdles - **NEW BRITISH U17 RECORD TIME**

G. Lamb: 3rd in Inter boys discus

T. Gaunce: 3rd in Inter boys 400m

N. Franklin: 3rd in Junior boys discus

Hertfordshire athletes won 16 medals at the event this weekend. Our brilliant students took four of them. The PE department and the entire school are so incredibly proud of these students. We know that our other high level athletes through the school will be desperate to emulate them in the coming years and it is that kind of role model culture that we're so eager to foster and so determined to continue.

Well done to these students, their hugely supportive families and everyone who has contributed to them achieving so well and conducting themselves with such class.



DISTRICT ATHLETICS

Under COVID conditions, this year's full district athletics championships wasn't possible. It was decided that only Year 9 and 10 would compete. As holders of the overall district championships, we were clearly disappointed not to take the whole athletic group with us, but were pleased that we could do something.

Some Year 8s forced their way into the Year 9 team, such is their quality, but the goals were the same for all involved - compete hard, get close to our collective peak and accumulate as many team points as possible.

The students involved were nothing short of exceptional. In a strong district, RPS athletes secured a huge number of individual medals, with a large number of individual champions coming from Roundwood Park. As a result, great team points were earned and the spirit through the day was one of togetherness and school pride.

Results:

U14 girls - **DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**

U14 boys - **RUNNERS UP**

U15 girls - **DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**

U15 boys - **DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**

We'd like to congratulate everyone who trained hard through this year, from all year groups. We now look forward to next year. Let's keep chasing progress.



Having completed their county league & district championship season in athletics, the PE department would like to congratulate our athletes of the year & most improved athletes.

Athletes of the year
U14: B Day & R Owen
U16: H Burrows & F Adio-Moses



Most improved athletes
T Baker & D Willson



TRAMPOLINING & INTERHOUSE

TRAMPOLINING AWARDS 2021

Best newcomer – J Qureshi

Most Improved – E Day, C Wall, N McHale

Best Effort - I Turner

Club Commitment –E Sandilands, A Rees-Witham

Well done to everyone for working hard in the limited training sessions we had this year. It's great to see so much progress within the squad.

Gymnast for the month for July is R Warren for hard work, commitment and great progress.

INTERHOUSE RESULTS

Congratulations to Grey-Thompson who are the interhouse winners!

Well done to E Bignell, N Bates, N McHale, E Lowry, S Baloch, and J Qureshi, all part of the winning team for GT.

Frank 2nd

Wilberforce 3rd

Mandela 4th

Cadbury 5th

Scott 6th

Owens 7th

Congratulations to E Lowry who is the individual inter house Champion

2nd I Glennie

3rd N McHale





Duke of Edinburgh's Award News

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has faced its challenges over the past 15 months. Expeditions were cancelled without knowing when they would ever be able to take place again, expeditions were then booked and cancelled due to last minute lockdowns and students had to change their activity choices due to clubs and venues having to close.

We are immensely proud of our students who persevered and completed their Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections in order to receive their DofE Certificate of Achievement:

Bronze

K Bhandal, P De Malglaiive, S Murat and A Nakum.

Silver

L Akroyd, L Andrews, G Binns, B Claxton, K Hiscott, L Humphreys, R Marigliani, J Mills, T Sanwo, E Turner and J Wright.

Some of our Year 10 students also went on to complete their Bronze expedition at Easter and have achieved their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Huge congratulations to the following 30 students who will be presented with their certificates before the end of term

G Bandell, M Bricknell, B Cavill, D Chandra, E Erman, A Evans, A Ford, E Fryer, M Gaches, I Glennie, L Godbee, J Grigg, E John, L Josse, M Kinsella, D Lumb, M McCarthy, N Mehra, T Orchard, A Ram, E Roberts, F Robinson, A Rymill, J Stent, B Tant, A Turner, A Wake, J Wallis, T White and E Winder.

Finally, the following Year 13s achieved their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award before they left RPS:

Y Al Gurair, C Dorney, T Godwin, G Schlayer-Westbrook, D Short and L Young.

Congratulations to all of the above-named students and we look forward to taking our Year 12 Silver students away on their Qualifying Expedition tomorrow!

Mrs Thomson, Mrs James and Mrs Godbee

Sixth Form News

Future Options

The Year 12s have had a successful week planning their journey beyond Sixth Form: David Grout, an ex-student, has visited us to share his experiences as an apprentice at CISCO, the technology giant, and Katherine Pagget from Birmingham University gave the students insight into making strong applications to university. The students have made huge progress in their preparations for post-18! Great work.



Competitive University Programme

On Wednesday evening we were delighted to welcome some of our Oxbridge alumni students into school. They spent time discussing applications to competitive courses and universities with some of our Year 12s. Their knowledge and confidence was evident as the room was abuzz with conversation. Top tips on interview techniques, admissions tests and personal statement writing were all shared. It was lovely to see them again and we are so very grateful for their input!



Technology Day run by the SLG Curriculum Captains and the Food Science and Nutrition students

Also this week Year 7 and Year 8 were exposed to the delights of the technology kitchen. Ms O'Coy and her team of Year 12 students made a plethora of food and drink items including toffee apples, honeycomb, various milkshakes, candy floss and a 'dare to try' critters stand.

We are looking forward to the next technology day in the autumn term, where students will run sessions for KS3 on making hovercrafts!

Sixth Form Induction Day

On Tuesday and Wednesday last week we were delighted to be able to welcome our new Year 12 students into school for a two-day Induction event.

Our new Sixth Form students were able to experience lessons in each of their chosen A Level and BTEC subjects and participated in a study skills session where we introduced the students to VESPA, our Sixth Form growth mindset programme, as well as the enrichment options available to them in Sixth Form. They also had the opportunity to listen to a presentation from our SLG who gave them advice and top tips to help them make a successful start to Year 12.

Even though we had to slightly curtail the event due to Covid restrictions, the feedback from students was extremely positive and we were so impressed with how smart they looked and the enthusiastic and mature manner in which they conducted themselves throughout the two days.

We hope they all have a lovely summer break and wish them the very best of luck with their results.

Mrs F Bridgman, Head of Year 12



We love walking, whether it is up mountains, along coastal paths or through rolling fields. When Macmillan became a school charity we discovered that one of their fundraising projects was a series of Mighty Hikes – marathon walks in various locations around the UK. We decided to sign up in 2020, unfortunately the walk we were planning to do had to be cancelled for obvious reasons! So instead our walk is taking place this year, on

4th September, along the Jurassic Coast in Dorset. The course is not only 26.5 miles long but rises over 3000 feet in height so it will certainly be a challenge!

Macmillan is an amazing charity that provides emotional, physical and financial support to people affected by cancer. Right now, there are over 2.5 million people living with cancer and this number is growing higher every year. The charity funds Macmillan Nurses who can provide face-to-face support, as well as an online support line. They also deliver free courses and workshops and conduct research to help them to understand the needs and experiences of people affected by cancer to develop better care and services.

We would be really grateful for any sponsorship to help us raise money for this great cause, our just giving page can be found here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/HikeStapleton>

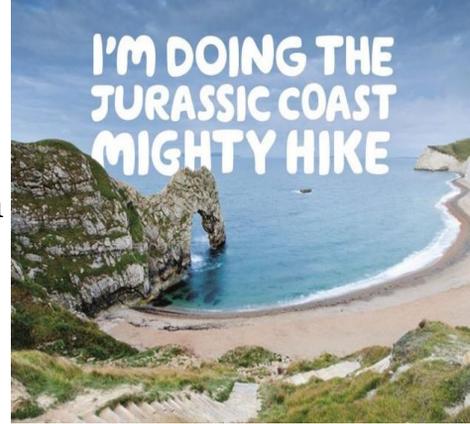
Many thanks

Gemma and Katie Stapleton (Y12)

Show your support for an ex-student

A former student, who is visually impaired, has had a negative experience recently. She is trying to raise support for marginalised groups to have greater access to representation and legal support in police investigations. She has asked us to share the link to a GoFundMe page that she has set up:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-victims-of-abuse-from-marginalised-groups>



RPS School Careers Insight Evenings



The RPS careers team would like to say a big thank you to all the speakers, parents and students who joined us recently at the career insight evenings. We heard about entry points into law, politics, medicine, dentistry and other careers open to you after studying biology or chemistry at university.

During the autumn term we have further evenings planned covering careers in business, accountancy, technology, computer science and engineering. We are also planning an insight evening early in 2022 looking at careers in the media and creative industries. Finally, we have had requests for a careers event looking at jobs connected with sport and would very much like to hear from anyone who might be interested in giving an insight into this area.

ROUNDWOOD PARK PTA



We are pleased to announce our Sale will be **Saturday 17th July** in the **School Hall, from 1pm to 2.30pm.**

We have a fantastic selection of good quality, donated 2nd hand uniform at extremely low prices. This is an excellent opportunity to stock up and also get that spare tie, PE kit or blazer.

The next sale will not be until around January so this sale will also include summer shirts.

Payment can be made by cash and cheque.

We are now accepting donations - if you have any good quality, laundered uniform that you are able to donate, please bring it to Reception by Friday 16th July

Thank you for your support.

Regards,
Roundwood Park PTA



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shop with all generic uniform

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we are open to special
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Monday - Saturday 9:00 to 5:30 / Sunday 10:00 to 4:00 (Summer Only!)

Please call us with any queries; we will always be more than happy to help however we can!

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOPPING SUMMER 2021

Your local branch is **St. Albans or Harpenden**

10 Leyton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2TL

St. Albans Telephone: **01727 853262**

Harpenden Telephone: **01582 968939**

28th June – 14th August: Open for pre-booked appointments and Click&Collect only. Please call the branch directly to book an appointment at Harpenden, or book via our website for St Albans branch appointments.

16th August onwards: Walk-in customers welcome.

Please refer to our website for information on extended opening times.

In-store Fitting Appointments:

Following the success of our service last year, appointments will take the same format this summer. They are recommended for new starters (rather than online ordering) and will be bookable online. Pre-register now, if you don't already have an online account, and we'll send you an email in advance of booking opening.

The recommended appointment window for your school at St. Albans Branch is 26th July until 1st August or for the Harpenden Branch 28th June until 14th August. Please, where possible, book during this window. This helps us to maximise school specific stock and reduce the time taken to serve you.

Online Ordering:

Our website will continue to operate as normal. **Orders should be placed by Sunday 1st August, to ensure in stock items can be delivered for the start of the autumn term.**

If you choose our 'Click&Collect' service when ordering you can collect, even when our branches are open 'by appointment only'. However, we may need to ask you to queue to pick up your order, while we manage social distancing in our stores.

Customer Services:

Want to talk to a member of our team? Our phone lines are open Monday – Saturday 9am-5.30pm. Your branch contact number is **01727 853262**

Safe Shopping

We continue to follow government guidance to provide 'safe shopping' for our customers and staff. So, customers visiting us are kindly asked to wear a mask (over the age of 11), observe social distancing measures and sanitise their hands on entry to our branches. Where possible, payment by credit/debit card is preferred.

120 day returns policy

You can buy now and still be able to exchange unused garments 120 days later if your child has a sudden growth spurt before the start of school.

For more information
about us visit
www.stevensons.co.uk

STEVENSONS

SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS



Rothamsted Park Play Area

GRAND RE-OPENING!

24 July ★ 11am-2pm

★ Fantastic Faces
face painting

Showtime
Circus ★

★ Food stalls

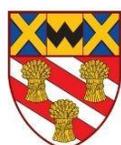
Bouncy castle ★

★ Mini Professors

Soft play ★

★ Disco Kids

ArtVenturers ★



**HARPENDEN
TOWN COUNCIL**
CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY



**Playpark
Action
Rothamsted
Committee**

In partnership with

Act2Act Youth Theatre proudly presents

The WIZARD of OZ



TM

**Auditions for children aged 7 -17
on Saturday 11th September in
Watford!**

**For more information or to
book your place call us on**

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www.act2actyt.co.uk



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£38.95
Full week:
£148.95
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*discounts valid until 9/7/21 (wgc)
and 16/7/21 (st.albans)



A string of colorful triangular bunting in shades of yellow, orange, red, pink, blue, and green hangs across the top. Below it are several colorful masquerade masks in shades of blue, pink, and orange.

SUMMER 2021

WITH HERTS INCLUSIVE THEATRE

Two colorful masquerade masks, one pink and one purple, are positioned on either side of the date text. A yellow stick with a pink mask is on the left, and a yellow stick with a purple mask is on the right.

27th July - 26th August

**Jam-packed inclusive, creative
workshops for all ages**

FIND OUT MORE

www.hit-theatre.org.uk/whats-on/events

HIT is a registered charity 1180955    



INTERACTIVE

MUSICAL

FOR ALL AGES

SINGALONG!

1:30 - 3:00pm

Thursday 26th August

Via Zoom 

£3.50 pp

BOOK NOW

w: www.hit-theatre.org.uk/whats-on/events

e: admin@hit-theatre.org.uk

HIT is a registered charity 1180955    



FOR YOUTH AGES 13 - 17

IMPROVISATION

ONLINE SKILLS WORKSHOP

10:30am - 12:00pm

Thursday 19th August

Via Zoom 

£3.50 pp

BOOK NOW

w: www.hit-theatre.org.uk/whats-on/events

e: admin@hit-theatre.org.uk





FOR YOUTH AGES 13 - 17

KINGS & QUEENS OF HOLLYWOOD

Play in a Week

10:00am - 4:00pm

9th - 13th August

The Pump House, Watford

£87 pp, £67 for siblings

BOOK NOW

w: www.hit-theatre.org.uk/whats-on/events

e: admin@hit-theatre.org.uk



SEASON TICKETS
2021/2022
£40 TO BE PART OF HISTORY



SCAN FOR MORE

WWW.HARPENDENTOWNFC.CO.UK

#ONETEAMONETOWN