

Issue: 160

Roundwood Park School, Roundwood Park,
Harpenden AL5 3AE Tel: 01582 765344
e-mail us at admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk

Date: 8th October 2021



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

Headlines

Dear Parents and Carers

“Pull up a chair. Take a taste. Come and join us. Life is so endlessly delicious.”

Ruth Reichl

What is a community? For us, it is a coming together of our people to celebrate who we are and what we stand for.

Last week, after a year away, we were able to hold our Open Evening and welcome those who are considering joining us into our school. What a celebration of all things Roundwood it was! The sheer number of students who volunteered to guide, help in subject areas and welcome families was a joy to see. Headteachers may talk about the strengths of their school but the test is what happens when the audience leave the hall? For us, the students speak with great personal warmth about their school, their experiences and their journey towards being a Roundwood Park leaver. Whether that journey is showcased through STEM subjects such as maths, the sciences or the technology subjects, or through our creative subjects, through physical exertions and sporting participation, or in languages and being outward facing, RPS has all of this to offer.

In most cases, students do not choose to “pigeonhole” themselves in one of these areas, but instead take the many opportunities we offer to experience all of this and to find their passions because, as Stephen Covey points out “strength lies in difference, not in similarities”. Whether it is feminist literature or the Russian Revolution which ignites a spark, the importance is the breadth and depth of our curriculum, taught by a community of passionate teachers and experienced and contributed to by an enthusiastic student body working together in friendship. The Open Evening we hold is an opportunity for all of this to be presented to the wider community with the warm invitation to come and join us next September.

This week as I walk around the school, I can hear the singing of the house choirs as they begin their rehearsals for House Music. The return to the Alban Arena later this month will be a chance for us all to join together and support each other after a tough year. I can't wait!

Have a lovely weekend.

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

Non-Uniform Days 2021/2022

A polite reminder that non-uniform charitable donations are due for payment by Friday 8th October. Please make payment via ParentPay if you haven't done so already. Thank you to all parents who have already paid.



Lost Property

We still have a large amount of lost property from the Year 7 trip. Please can you ask your child to go to reception to collect it as soon as possible. Thank you.

Vacancies

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

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



Give Ofsted your view on your
child's school

We would be grateful if you could spare a moment to click on the link in the banner above and give your views on our school.

Thank you.

REPORTING COVID CASES

Dear parents and carers

When you are informing us about your child potentially having Covid-19 or who might be absent for another reason, please can you closely follow the bullets below to help us manage these as efficiently and effectively as possible, to keep everyone safe and as many students attending school as possible:

- When reporting illness via Edulink, the Absence email or voicemail, please indicate if the student has, or has not got, **a cough, a temperature or a loss of sense of taste or smell** - *it is not enough to simply tell us that they are "unwell" or "sick" or have a cold;*
- If they do have **ANY** of the three key COVID symptoms listed above, please book a PCR test and let us know;
- If a student has **ONE** of the three key COVID symptoms, but a Lateral Flow Test is negative, you should still book a PCR test as these are more sensitive and it is not uncommon for a PCR test to be positive when a previous LFT has been negative;
- If a student has **ANY** of the symptoms, or has had a positive Lateral Flow Test, we ask that you keep them at home to self-isolate, whilst waiting for the test results;
- If a student **DOES NOT** have COVID symptoms, or a positive Lateral Flow Test, they do **NOT** need to self-isolate while they are waiting for a PCR test result – *even if someone in their household has had a positive PCR test;*

Please provide a copy of the PCR test results when these are available, we must have sight of this before the student returns to school.

Thank you for following this guidance closely and helping Louise Evans [School Attendance Officer] and her supporting team to continue to do the amazing work they have now for the past 18 months under immense pressure and challenge – I know it will go a long way to help them and will be greatly appreciated!

Many thanks and best wishes

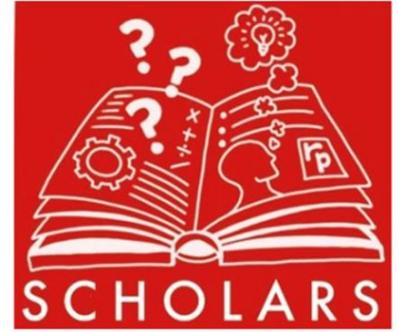
Glen Pettengell
Deputy Headteacher

Super-Curriculum

What is the Super-Curriculum?

Learning does not just happen in the classroom and those who go on to be masters in their field spend lots of time independently exploring, asking questions and finding answers. So we have developed the

Roundwood Park Super-Curriculum to help your children follow their passions and achieve mastery in the subjects that may shape their future.



Why complete the Super-Curriculum?

Completing these stretch and challenge tasks will give your child an opportunity to shine. Committing to these learning challenges will help them to develop many Aspire habits too; they will become a more resilient, ambitious and independent learner. These are skills that are sought after by employers and universities alike.

What is a Roundwood Park Scholar?

Students who complete either ALL of the challenges in ONE subject or FIVE in FIVE subjects will become a Roundwood Park Scholar and be given a scholars badge to wear on their blazer.

Please see the school website for details.

[Roundwood Park Super-Curriculum](#)

Warrior Packs – We Need Your Help!

Warrior Packs made by us MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We would be very grateful for any donations which may include: a colouring book, colouring pencils, a journal, reading books, socks, lip balm, moisturiser, a water bottle, playing cards, a manicure set, a puzzle book, tissues, magazines, earphones, hand sanitizer, gift cards, gloves, scarves, teabags or scented candles.

Absolutely fantastic of staff & pupils from @Roundwood_Park to go to Lister Hospital Chemotherapy Centre in Stevenage & speak to patients & hand them out gift bags. A lovely touch & I know my Dad appreciated it.



Beth McNeil @BethHFundraiser · 3d

Thank you to the fantastic @Roundwood_Park school! Your kind gifts will make such a difference to our patients. Thank you for helping us make a difference

East and North Hertfords... · 3d

Massive thank you to Roundwood

Robert Warren @RobGWarren · 3d
Absolutely fantastic of staff & pupils from @Roundwood_Park to go to Lister Hospital Chemotherapy Centre in Stevenage & speak to patients & hand them out gift bags. A lovely touch & I know my Dad appreciated it.

Fiona Keeley @fionakeeley · 3d
@Roundwood_Park thank you so much for the thoughtful gifts for those patients receiving treatment at Macmillan Cancer Centre, Lister Hospital. My husband was delighted (and so am I)



Packs will be made and distributed on:

Wednesday 13th October

If you would like to donate, please bring the items to your form tutor or to Mrs Tatt's office

no later than the morning of:

Wednesday 13th October.

ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL

House

Music



By James Jewell

House Music is Coming!

Tickets go on sale:

Thursday 14th October.

Further details will be
communicated next week!

Do you want to join the RPS Equestrian team?



The RPS Equestrian team is currently seeking new members.

If you would like to join us competing in NSEA showjumping, eventing and dressage events, please get in touch:

Jackie Johnson - j.johnson@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Black History Month – Useful Links

<p>1. Rosa Parks, civil rights activist. https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/02/04/rosa-parks-famous-birthday-5-facts-you-should-know/4653590002/</p>	<p>2. Maya Angelou, poet and writer. https://www.biography.com/writer/maya-angelou</p>	<p>3. Mary Seacole, nurse. https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p07pvv3z</p>	<p>4. Juan Garrido, explorer. https://face2faceafrica.com/article/7-amazing-black-explorers-who-made-a-mark-in-history</p>
<p>5. Michelle Obama, former First Lady and campaigner. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wePNJGL7nDU</p>	<p>6. David Olusoga. Historian. <i>David was born in Gateshead and grew up there</i> https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/profiles/2pT94YQjVvG1LJpdYDrMn6t/david-olusoga</p>	<p>7. Billie Holliday, singer. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Web007rzSOI</p>	<p>8. Chris Ofili, Turner Prize winning artist. https://artuk.org/discover/stories/ten-black-british-artists-to-celebrate</p>
<p>Dr Shirley Jackson, physicist. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKAgAdHaJw0</p>	<p>10. Joseph Bologne, classical musician ‘Black Mozart’. https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/black-composers-who-made-classical-music-history/</p>	<p>11. Reasonable Blackman, Tudor silk weaver. https://www.historyextra.com/period/tudor/black-faces-of-tudor-england/</p>	<p>12. Barbara Walker, artist. https://artuk.org/discover/stories/celebrating-black-british-artists-in-public-collections</p>
<p>13. Matthew Henson, Polar Explorer. https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2016/02/160224-polar-explorer-matthew-henson-photos/</p>	<p>14. Jesse Owens, Olympic medallist. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quQopJmQry4</p>	<p>15. Toussaint L’Ouverture, leader of the Haitian Revolution. https://www.blackpast.org/global-african-history/loverture-toussaint-1743-1803</p>	<p>16. The first Black Briton, taken from Black and British. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4oIXLBoi0Q</p>
<p>17. Otis Boykin, inventor. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXqOoALq5fs</p>	<p>18. Charles Drew, scientist. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFddM7p2zH4</p>	<p>19. Florence Prince, classical musician. https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/black-composers-who-made-classical-music-history/</p>	<p>20. Bernadine Evaristo, writer. https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/bernardine-evaristo</p>

<p>21. Diane Abbott, politician. https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/history-of-politics/the-first-black-parliamentarians-in-our-times/</p>	<p>22. Black Poppies, soldiers in WW1. <i>Year 9 History students reading extracts of this at the moment</i> https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/black-poppies-britains-black-community-great-war/</p>	<p>23. Dame Doreen Lawrence, campaigner https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/baroness-lawrence-theres-no-halo-just-say-hello/</p>	<p>24. Betty Campbell, Wales' first black headteacher. https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-58721710</p>
<p>25. Donald Rodney, artist. https://artuk.org/discover/stories/ten-black-british-artists-to-celebrate</p>	<p>26. Chadwick Boseman, actor. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VSx2E7WE50</p>	<p>27. Saint Martin de Porres, Patron Saint of racial justice, harmony and mixed-race people. https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Martin-de-Porres</p>	<p>28. Private Arthur Roberts, WW1 soldier. https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/histories/black-history/arthur-roberts/</p>
<p>29. The story of Windrush. https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/inspire-me/the-story-of-windrush/</p>	<p>30. Dr Anthony Roberts, QC. https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/dr-john-anthony-roberts-qc/</p>	<p>31. James Peters, rugby player. https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/james-peters-the-1st-black-rugby-player/</p>	

Further resources available:

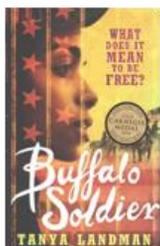
- Hamilton, theatre by an all black cast: www.youtube.com
- Black History Month website: www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk
- African Kingdoms: www.africkingdoms.co.uk
- Painting Our Past: www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/painting-our-past
- Black and British: A Short Essential History by David Olusoga
- Black and British BBC: www.bbc.co.uk
- National Archives, Black British History on Record: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/black-history



Fiction Texts

Buffalo Solider (13+) Tanya Landman

Plantation slave Charley Smith is eleven when America blows itself apart, with Abraham Lincoln's decision to prohibit slavery. Charley thinks a slice of heaven is coming her way. But it's a taste of hell.



The Hate U Give (12+) Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her best friend Khalil.



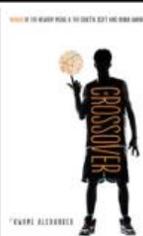
Crongton Knights (12+) Alex Wheatle

McKay's life on the South Crongton Estate is rough. His Mum has died, his Dad works all hours of the day to keep away the Bailiffs, and his brother is always out looking for trouble. McKay never looks for trouble, but in one mad night everything changes.



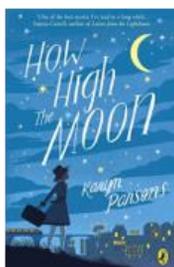
The Crossover (10+) Kwame Alexander

Josh and JB are basketball legends at their school. They also happen to be identical twins, but it's easy to tell them apart if you know how to look. As the boys build up the most important matches of their lives, tensions grow between them.



How High The Moon (14+) Karyn Parsons

In a small town in 1940s South Carolina, Ella has got some very exciting news. She'll be leaving her grandparents and cousin Henry behind, because her mother finally wants her to join her in the busy city of Boston. But can the reality ever live up to Ella's dreams?



Non-Fiction Texts

Black and British (13+) David Olusoga

David Olusoga's latest edition of *Black and British* has been revised and rewritten especially for secondary school children, and explains and illustrates the much-overlooked history of Black peoples in Britain and beyond.



The Extraordinary Life of Series (10+)

Published by Penguin, this series explores the extraordinary life of many influential people such as Nelson Mandela, Serena Williams, Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole, Katherine Johnson and many more.



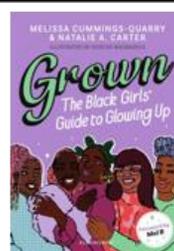
This Book is Anti-Racist (10+) Tiffany Jewell

Often using personal anecdotes about her own schooling, family and experiences as a young mixed race girl, Jewell's fascinating, friendly and hugely relatable guide is essential reading for kids with questions about racism, politics and history as well as the current #blacklivesmatter movement.



Grown: The Black Girls' Guide to Glowing Up Melissa Cummings-Quarry (14+)

Being a teenager and trying to understand who you are and what you stand for is hard. But if you're a Black girl and don't always see yourself represented in the books you read, the films you watch, the adverts you see or the history you're taught, it can be even tougher.



Timelines from Black History: Leaders, Legends, Legacies (9+)

The lives and achievements of leading lights as diverse as Stormzy, basketball star LeBron James, poet and novelist Maya Angelou are chronicled in this excellent book that follows black history across many centuries to today's contemporary world.



A Change is Gonna Come (12+)

Featuring poems and stories from 12 black, Asian and minority ethnic authors – including four previously unpublished writers – this absorbing book offers refreshing perspectives and thought-provoking questions about the meaning of change that will hit home with everyone.

**British Library – Windrush Stories**

In June 1948 the *Empire Windrush* arrived at Tilbury Docks, Essex carrying hundreds of people from the Caribbean. 70 years on, *Windrush Stories* invites us to consider a longer, more complicated and ongoing relationship between Britain and the Caribbean.

Still I Rise (11+)
Maya Angelou

*“You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I’ll rise.”*

**TV****BBC Adaptation of Malorie Blackman’s *Noughts and Crosses*.**

In a dystopian London, Sephy and Callum fall in love despite the odds. Can they breach the divide between the black elite and white underclass?

**What Stephen Lawrence Taught Us (12+)**
Benjamin Zephaniah

*“As we continue emptying our pockets on the pavements,
And we continue to ask ourselves
Why is it so official
That black people are so often killed
Without killers?”*

Podcast**The Black Curriculum Podcast**

Available on Spotify and Apple Podcast, this podcast explores British Black history with short discussion on topics such as sound system culture and the Bristol bus boycott.

**Half Caste (12+)**
John Agard

“but yu must come back tomorrow

*Wid de whole of yu eye
And de whole of yu ear
And de whole of yu mind.”*

**Film****Black Panther**

T'Challa is the king of Wakanda, the secretive and highly advanced African nation, as well as the powerful warrior known as the Black Panther. This is the first Marvel film with a predominantly black cast.

**waiting on the mayflower (14+)**
Evie Shockley

“i. august 1619

*arrived in a boat, named
and unnamed, twenty, pirated*

*away from a portuguese
slaver, traded for victuals.”*

Art**Kara Walker**

Kara Elizabeth Walker is an American contemporary painter, silhouettist, print-maker who explores races and identity in her work. She is best known for her room-size tableaux of black cut-paper silhouettes.





Alban Federation

School-based training, inspiring teachers

WANT TO BECOME A TEACHER? WE WANT TO MEET YOU!

If you are interested in becoming a teacher and would like to find out more then come along to our virtual Open Morning on Saturday 9th October 2021



9th October

Online Webinar (register for the link)
10am-12pm



01727 799560 EXT 4217



afgtpenquiries@Sandringham.Herts.sch.uk
www.albanfederation.com



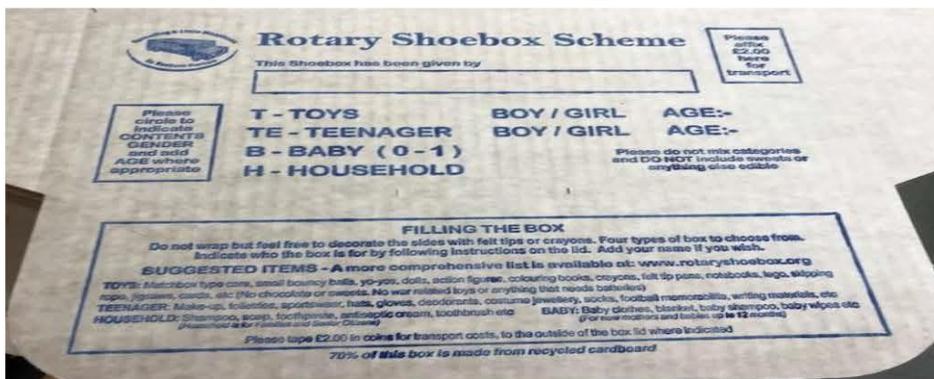
Register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/169940074337>



RPS House Charity Shoe Box Appeal

Every year, Roundwood Park takes part in the Rotary Shoe Box Appeal- we create boxes of presents to send to children in undeveloped countries all over the world so they can have presents for Christmas.

We are always trying to get more people involved and get more boxes sent to those who don't get the benefit of treating themselves this Christmas.



To create a box, you must:

- Buy your box from the Sports hall at breaktime- boxes cost £2 each and can be bought every breaktime from the 11th-21st October. There is no need to attach any further money to the box as your £2 will cover all delivery costs.
- Fill it with presents (no food, drink, medicine or sharp/dangerous objects) and indicate on the front of the box what age/gender child you want your box to be for.
 - Please do not wrap the box.
- Return to the Sports Hall between 20th -22nd October

Mrs Porter (PE)

Student Travel 2021-22



Do you or your child travel to University, College or School by bus? If so, we've got the perfect solution!

Arriva Student Saver tickets are valid for anyone in full time education. You will get unlimited access to travel on any Arriva bus, across all of our routes in your chosen area.

The Saver tickets will not only cover your travel to and from University, School or College, but can also be used to travel in the evenings, at weekends and throughout the holidays too.

Arriva's Direct Debit scheme allows you to spread the cost of your ticket over affordable monthly payments. It's an easy way to pay for travel and there's no contract involved, making it an ideal way to get reduced bus travel for the whole Academic year, without paying upfront.

***Our tickets do not cover Arriva London/TFL routes**

It's a simple process to apply, to arrange your Direct Debit please visit:

www.arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets

Once registered you can select either to receive your monthly pass by post or sent to your mobile phone. This ticket will rollover every month for as long as the direct debit remains active.

For any queries regarding the scheme, please email: talktous@arriva.co.uk

A close-up photograph of a young woman with vibrant, multi-colored hair (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) and black-rimmed glasses. She is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting.

Student travel

Make your money go further.



Noah's Ark Pre-School Assistant Vacancy

Noah's Ark Pre-School in Harpenden is looking for a pre-school assistant for 2/3 days a week.

Ideally the applicant should be NVQ Childcare Level 2 or 3 qualified or have previous experience working with young children.

The hours are 8.30am – 1.30/4.00pm, 2 or 3 days each week, term time only.

The children are aged between 2 – 4 years old.

Please send your C.V. or email for more details to – info@noahsarkharpenden.co.uk

Noah's Ark Nursery Assistant Vacancy

Noah's Ark Nursery at the Lea in Harpenden is looking for a nursery school assistant for 2/3 days a week.

The applicant will be NVQ Childcare Level 3 qualified.

The hours are 12-3.30, 2 or 3 days each week, term time only.

The children are aged between 3-4 years old.

Please send your C.V. or email for more details to – info@noahsarkharpenden.co.uk

Noah's Ark After School Club

Noah's Ark Nursery at the Lea are looking for someone enthusiastic and passionate about working with young children to join the team at our after school club.

- Qualified and first aid trained
- Term time only
- Monday to Friday 3.30 – 6.00pm
- Experience a bonus

Please send your C.V. or email for more details to – info@noahsarkharpenden.co.uk

Christmas Card Design Competition

Harpenden children aged 4-11 are invited to design a Christmas card based around this year's theme "Christmas in Harpenden". The winner will have their design used for the Town Mayor's Christmas Card and will be invited to turn on the Town Christmas lights at the Christmas Carnival!



Cards should be designed on A4 paper, with your name, age and school on the back.

All entries should be received by Thursday 4th November, they can be delivered by hand or posted to The Mayor's Secretary, Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, AL5 2LX.



Friday 15th October

9.15am

The George, Harpenden

Join us for breakfast to hear a stellar panel of local women talk about their journeys to where they are today & the women who have supported them.

Imogen Porter, Beauty Buying Manager, Harrods

Laura Rudoie, Founder & CEO, Evolve Beauty

Lisa Smosarski, Editor-in-Chief, Stylist Magazine

**in conversation with Caroline Jones,
aka Knickers Model's Own**

The Brilliant Breakfast is run in aid of Women Supporting Women at The Prince's Trust. It funds vital, life changing programmes for disadvantaged young women in the UK, supporting them as they gain the confidence & skills they need to go into education, work or training.

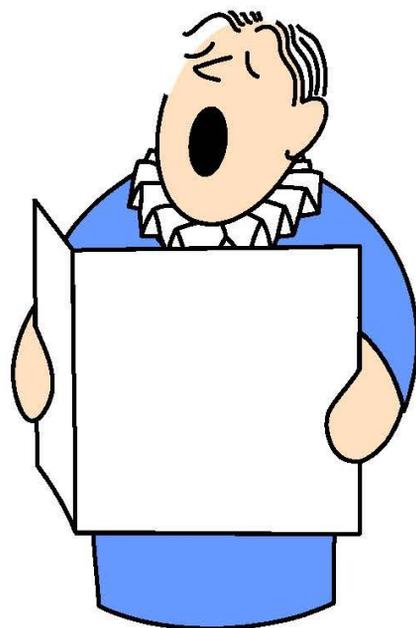
**Limited tickets: £20 (includes breakfast & goody bag)
available [here](#)**

Kindly supported by Whittaker & Co

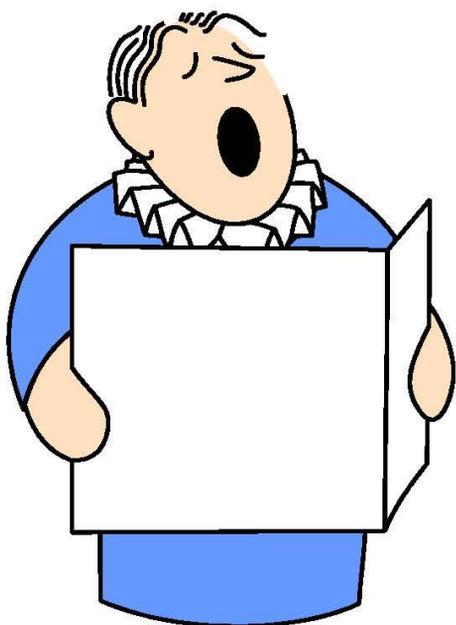


Music at St Nicholas Church

Would **YOU**
or **YOUR**
CHILD like to
join us?



We are recruiting for children aged 7 to 14 for our **BOYS** and **GIRLS** choirs – no experience is needed and there are no auditions.



We are also recruiting for **EXPERIENCED SINGERS**, who can read music, for our **Adult Choir** from age 14 up.

Contact:
Music@ParishofHarpenden.org

Do YOU have a son, daughter, granddaughter or grandson, neighbour or friend who enjoys singing?

We are always keen to welcome new members of our two children's choirs at St Nicholas Church.

Why join a choir?

Anyone who has heard a good choir sing will appreciate the **magic and beauty** of choral singing. The human voice is a musical instrument to be treasured.

There is **no charge** for the vocal and **musical training** the children receive, and the children themselves receive **pocket money** for their work in the choir!

Learning to sing is a challenge and **learning to sing with others** is even more rewarding.

You will **make friends!** Choral singing can become a **hobby for life** and musicians are notoriously sociable!

Research has shown that studying music **benefits children** across the academic curriculum in many ways. They will learn transferable skills and **gain in confidence** too.

Learning to sing is also enormously beneficial to those already learning to play instruments.

Children can join at **any age from 7**, the junior choirs go up to 14 so older starters are welcome.

No previous experience is necessary and there is no audition!

To begin with your child will join as a **'probationer'** while they get used to being in the choir. Older children will help them settle in.

They will attend **Rehearsals** –

- Girls – Thursdays 5.15-6.15pm
- Boys – Thursdays 6.15-7.15pm

And **Sunday Services** –

- 9am rehearsal for 9.30 service.



Each choir has some Sundays off. Duties increase as choristers get older and more experienced and may involve singing for Weddings, for which there is **additional pay!**

We provide

robes, music, pencils, friends, training, experience, expert advice, fun, treats, sense of belonging, pride, pocket money, rewards, etc.

You provide

your child - ready to attend regularly on time and grow as a singer, your support and encouragement!

Contact music@parishofharpenden.org
if you & your child are interested, or for more information.