

RPS ROUNDUP

30 June 2023



Head's Up

Dear parents and carers,

As you may have seen from our social media pages, last week we had two highly enjoyable events. The first one was our Year 14 awards evening. It was great to see so many of our students, now working or studying in higher education or university, who came back to us to receive their exam certificates, as well as to receive awards nominated by their teachers. The atmosphere was extremely convivial and I really enjoyed chatting to their proud parents too.

On Thursday we had the Year 11 prom at Shendish Manor. A highly enjoyable evening was had by all as we braved the heat and the thunderstorms to celebrate the end of Year 11 and, for some of our students, the end of their time at Roundwood Park. Well done to Isai and Bella for being voted prom king and queen respectively, although in our eyes everybody was a winner as they all looked fantastic. In my opinion, the arrival of the evening must go to Tom in his tractor!

This week we have many residential trips and I look forward to hearing all about them when the students and staff return.

Have a nice weekend.

Alan Henshall
Headteacher



What's On

- 30 June - Year 7 Interhouse Sports
- 30 June-3 July - DofE Silver, Peak District
- 4 July - Sixth Form Induction Days
- 5 July - Year 13 Leavers' Ball
- 5 July - New Year 7 Parents Info Eve
- 6 July - Year 7 Parent Consultation Eve
- 10 July - Year 10 Interhouse Sports
- 10 July - Reading Week
- 10-15 July - Year 12 Liverpool Trip
- 11 July - Achievement Evening
- 12 July - Year 8 Interhouse Sports
- 13 July - Secondary School Transfer Day
- 20 July - Non-Uniform Day
- 20 July - Last day of term - 12.10 finish

Please check our [SCHOOL CALENDAR](#) for all key dates and school events

Letters Home

26 June - [Strike Action 5 & 7 July](#)

Essay Competition Winners



Huge congratulations to three of our Scholars, Ella, Jess and Anais who took the opportunity to enter the prestigious Academy of Real Assets annual essay competition. They were asked to write under the title, 'If this building could talk.' They all took entirely different approaches and worked imaginatively and independently to submit their work. And all three have won and been published in the final book. The digital book has been published and can be read [HERE](#).

They are travelling to London in July to be presented their awards. We look forward to seeing photographs of the celebration on the day!

| Roundwood Park- A Place to Flourish |



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

We would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete our Learning Support Questionnaire, to let us know how you feel about support at Roundwood Park.

Click here

To keep up to date on all the latest school news and see what your young people are up to, click the logo links and give us a like or follow on social media:



You will also find lots of information on our website:





2022 Leavers' Achievement Evening

It was wonderful to see our 2022 'Year 14' Leavers back in school from all over the country last week to receive their A Level Certificates, Awards and generally celebrate their success. We were particularly proud to present L. Darby with the very special Alviar Award in recognition of her outstanding research on 'Climate Change and its effect on the Ocean around Mexico'. A real highlight of the evening. Stay in touch RPS Alumni!



Year 7 - Bully Free Form

For the past two half terms, in their PSHE lessons, Year 7 have been talking about how to deal with bullying. Students have learnt about how to be a good friend and who you should tell if you are bullied or if you see bullying happening. They have explored different types of bullying, how the victim feels and also how the bully feels to help us understand why it happens and how to prevent it. Tutor groups also decided on their own form 'rights and responsibilities' which are now posted on the form noticeboards.



At the end of the unit each tutor group was assessed to test the students' knowledge and understanding on how to be a 'Bully Free Form'. There were presentations, role plays, poems and some students even performed a rap.

Happily, all Year 7 forms passed the test of being a bully free form and now have a certificate to prove it on their form noticeboards. Well done Year 7!

National Impact Awards

Dan Klinger, the Harpenden and local area School Games Organiser, who has been based here at RPS for the past 17 years, recently received a National Impact Award in recognition of his delivery of the School Games programme. The School Games programme is a national scheme that is jointly funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Department for Health.



Dan works across 8 secondary schools and 32 primary schools within the St Albans District area, and delivers targeted events in a variety of sports & activities and also trains secondary school sports leaders to support the programme. He works closely with many local sports clubs and delivers events that provide opportunities for all young people to be physically active no matter their level of ability. We'd like to say a huge 'Congratulations' to Dan, this award is very well deserved.

Community News

Please follow the links below for further information...

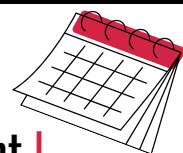
- [Arriva Student Travel Information](#)
- [Harpenden Mini Chef Academy](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe Online](#)
- [Herts Orienteering Club](#)
- [JP Pro Summer Camps](#)

DONATION REQUEST



We are in need of additional sewing machines for our Art & Textiles courses. If you have a machine that you are not using and is in good working order we would really appreciate the donation. Please email Gill Jenkins if you can help - g.jenkins@roundwoodpark.co.uk Thank you!

RPS PTA



| Race Night |

Saturday 7 October

A fun evening to socialise with those in our RPS community
£5 a ticket

MORE INFO > [HERE](#) <

PTA@roundwoodpark.co.uk

| Second Hand Uniform Sale |

Saturday, 15 July, 12.30-2pm

School Hall

[See our price list here](#)

We are accepting second hand uniform now!

Scan the code to sign up to easyfundraising and raise money for our PTA at no cost to you!



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PRIDE Week @RPS

We had a wonderful PRIDE Week at RPS, led by our Diversity Captains Lily and Jack, and supported by everyone across the school from the library to the canteen. Students created stunning 'chalk walks' full of uplifting messages and love, our 'positive pebbles' were repainted for the occasion, there was body art, brooches and ribbons, the flags were flying again and we ate the rainbow at lunchtimes! We're all very proud to be, and support, such a diverse and inclusive school where every single student and member of staff is confident to be exactly who they are.



IDO World Disco Dance Championships

We are so proud of our dancers N. Haynes, C. Bailey, R. Godbee, I. Kinnon & E. Burdett who travelled to the Czech Republic last weekend to compete for Team UK in the IDO World Disco Dance Championships! They danced up a storm, huge congratulations to them all. #proudrps



Careers Corner



Talking Futures

Talking Futures is a resource created to help parents/carers have informed and constructive conversations with their child about the different training and education pathways available to them.

IGD Work Experience Week: 10-14 July

Free virtual Work Experience Week with IGD for all students in Years 8-13. Students will meet industry experts, work on exciting projects, learn key skills and receive a certificate for their CV for taking part. There is a different theme for each daily webinar. Sign up [here](#), as an individual.

Building Crafts College: E-brochures for Bench Joinery, Site Carpentry and Stone Masonry

The Building Crafts College is excited about working with schools to provide alternative destinations for 16-19 year olds. The BCC offers diploma courses specifically designed for those interested in a craft career within the construction industry. As well as teaching funded diploma courses they also train apprentices – for those who have successfully secured employment in our available trades. We hope you will enjoy looking through the attached e-brochures:

[Schools Overview](#) / [Stone Masonry](#) / [Site Carpentry](#) / [Bench Joinery](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact them at mail@thebcc.ac.uk or call 020 8522 1705.

Upcoming School Careers Dates:

12 July – STEM Virtual Insight Eve 6:30pm

The last insight evening of the term will be on STEM careers. We have three guest speakers: Mr Al-Ta'an - Consultant Surgeon, Mr Algar - Aerospace Engineering and Ms Ashcroft - Civil Engineer and Project Manager.

To register your interest please [click here](#).

**CAREERS SUMMER NEWSLETTER
OUT NOW - [CLICK HERE!](#)**

CURTAIN CALL



Local live theatre



'HOME'
30 June - 8 July
Abbey Theatre
St Albans



| Play adapted for screen |
| Thursday 13 July 3.30pm |
Sign-up NOW via Parent Pay
| Popcorn & drinks provided |



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Artist Sarah Graham's Visit

Local artist **Sarah Graham** came in to RPS last week to run a workshop with some of our Year 8 artists. They had a fantastic day; starting with charcoal sketch warm up exercises and then choosing one of Sarah's wonderfully bright photographs of sweets, lollies and toys to copy and paint. She was so impressed with the level of their work - and so were we!

Holocaust Survivor Testimony

On Tuesday, Yr9 had the privilege of hearing Moira and Peter Hart share Kitty Hart Moxon's Holocaust Survivor Testimony. Peter and Moira reflected on the life of Peter's mother Kitty Hart-Moxon, a survivor of Auschwitz-Birkenau. Kitty was sent to the death camp in 1943 at the age of 16, where she survived for two years. Shortly after her liberation in 1945 by American soldiers, she moved to England with her mother. Kitty, now 96 years old, has spent her life writing and talking about her experience of the Holocaust. She has written two autobiographies entitled *I am Alive* (1961) and *Return to Auschwitz* (1981) and has made a number of documentaries about her experiences. Today, Peter and Moira continue to educate young people about her life and survival.

As many of you will know, Moira Hart served as the chair of governors here at Roundwood Park and her four sons attended the school. We are very lucky to have links with the Hart family and we were incredibly moved by their talk, and thank them for continuing to share Kitty's powerful testimony.



Meet our Student Leaders

Meet our new Community Events Captains, Isabel, Connie and Sienna...

"Hi everyone, we're your new Community and Events captains and we're looking forward to planning exciting events for the school in the forthcoming year. With help from Miss Tatts, we recently finished planning the King's Coronation, which was a week filled with British themed activities, including a Bake Off and an Art Competition. We're now into House Music preparations, and we hope you're as excited as we are. Our aim for House Music this year is to get as many people involved as possible to make it a night you won't forget!"



AUDITION NEWS! RPS SCHOOL PRODUCTION



FOLLOW THE QR
CODE IF YOU'D
LIKE TO BE
INVOLVED!



Performance dates: December 13/13/14

SPOTLIGHT ON PSHCE

Year 10 PSHCE Day - The Sex Factor

Year 10 had another PSHCE day this week, this time dedicated to sexual health, healthy relationships and staying safe. 'Tip of the Iceberg' theatre company came in and delivered their annual full day program of workshops.

Year 10 worked very hard and took home some very clear and important messages about healthy and safe relationships.

CLICK HERE to visit our website and take a closer look at our PSHCE Learning Journey.

CLICK HERE to view some useful FAQs on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education.

If you have any queries please get in touch with our Lead PSHCE teacher:
s.mooney@roundwoodpark.co.uk

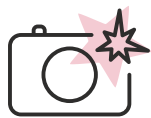




Year 11 Prom

It's that time of year again! Our Year 11 students got themselves all dressed up to go to Shendish Manor to celebrate the end of their exams and, for some, their time at RPS. It was a wonderful occasion and everyone looked so smart, happy and confident in their finery. There was lots of catching up, and photos outside before fuelling up on woodfired pizzas and then hitting the (very hot and crowded!) dance floor.

Whatever these guys go on to do next, they've certainly made some friends for life and we're very proud of every single one of them.



[Click here for lots more photos!](#)



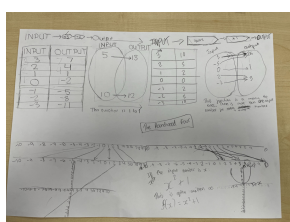
HFL Maths Challenge Final

Following on from their recent success, Yr 8 students R Morales, E Reid, S Selvakumaran and E Broadbent (80) took part in the HFL Maths Challenge Final last week in Stevenage.

The HFL Challenge has four distinct tasks which are designed as informal, friendly inter-school competitions, designed to challenge young mathematicians. They require excellent communication, problem-solving and team-working skills, as well as mathematical skill and insight. Each challenge is divided into four equally-weighted rounds; general maths (x2), memory and estimation.

The Roundwood Four scored 168 points and came 3rd out of 18 finalist teams on the day - and out of 70 teams who entered the Challenge altogether! They particularly excelled in Round 3 (estimation/problem-solving) and were the top-scoring team with 46 points.

The pictures shows them mentally fired up, and their memory poster. All students should be credited for their efforts and enthusiasm, they were amazing! Thank you for giving up your time and representing Roundwood, a great achievement for you all and for our Maths Department!



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY!

RPS SIXTH FORM

We have a fantastic speaker programme running in our Sixth Form and would love to enhance the scheme. We're looking for some support in the administrative management of this and wondered if you could help?

If this sounds of interest to you please email

l.gallagher@roundwoodpark.co.uk for more details

DUKE OF EDINBURGH TOP TIPS!

By Issy, Jess, Mia and Josie



CURRENT YEAR 11 WE WANT YOU!

- RPS CANTEN**
- Hourly pay while at school!
 - £7.01 under 18 / £7.35 over 18
 - Shifts Mon-Fri 13.20-14.20
 - FREE Level 2 Food Hygiene & Safety qualification (valid 3yrs)
 - Free lunch on shift! (up to £3)
 - Friendly team, work experience, build your CV, references given

**APPLY NOW!
START IN SEPTEMBER!**

j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk or pop in and see us!



To keep up to date on all the latest school news and see what your young people are up to, click the logo links and give us a like or follow on social media:



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Track & Field Cup 2023

CHAMPS!!!!

All four RPS teams made it to the T&F regional final this year - a huge achievement in itself - and they were absolutely fantastic, in both performance and attitude. And then to our absolute delight our Intermediate Girls (Yrs9 & 10) scored an enormous 475 points to become **REGIONAL CHAMPIONS!** They won the whole thing! This means they're off to the finals in Chelmsford on 8 July, we can't wait to see what they achieve there. This is a first for RPS and an absolutely amazing opportunity. A MASSIVE WELL DONE FROM US ALL!!

Follow RPS-PE for all things sport



Years 7 & 9 Interhouse Sport

We've had two fantastic days of inter-house sport this week with brilliant displays of support, enthusiasm and attitude from all of our students as they battled to win precious House Points!

Year 7 winners - **SCOTT**

Year 9 winners - **WILBERFORCE**



An RPS send-off for our Tennis Champ

Good Luck Rhys!



This week we said a fond farewell and wished good luck to Rhys who has been offered a place at the LTA National Academy at Loughborough University, which he will take up in September 2023. This is an amazing opportunity for Rhys to continue working on his very successful tennis career. Whilst we are very sad to see him go, we are very excited for him and look forward to hearing about his future journey (and successes!).

Good luck Rhys - keep in touch!



Click here to see our **SUMMER TERM CLUBS** programme

Wellbeing@RPS

Take a look at the latest TooledUp Education Newsletter > [HERE](#)

Also listen to a recent podcast episode on empowering girls, optimising nutrition for peak performance, the significance of comfortable sports gear, menstrual cycle tracking, and fostering a lifelong love of sports. Listen [HERE](#)

Click here to read more about our 5 ways to wellbeing



Residential Trips



30 Jun-3 July - [DofE Silver, Peak District](#)

10-15 July - [Yr12 Geography, Liverpool](#)

13-15 Oct - [Yr13 Biology, North Yorkshire](#)

13-15 Nov - [NEW Yr7, Norfolk Lakes](#)

WE ARE HIRING!



- Key Stage 3 Student & Family Support Worker
- HR Assistant
- 6th Form Office & Events Assistant

All current vacancies are advertised on our [website](#)