

# RPS ROUNDUP

28 September 2023



## Head's Up

Dear parents and carers,

The school is buzzing at the moment, as we immerse ourselves in the Autumn term and all its events. As I walk round the school, I can already hear the beginnings of excellent House choir performances being rehearsed, ready for the big night in October. It is great to see so many Year 7s getting involved in their first year, as well signing up for clubs and teams en masse. What a great start they have made; they seem to be a year group that is determined to make the most of the opportunities that school offers.

We had the second of our parent information evenings, on this occasion for Year 11, on Tuesday. It was well attended and we hope that you found it useful. Feedback after the event certainly seemed to indicate that you did. We have all been impressed with the start that Year 11 have made and they are clearly focussed on the important months ahead. We will be with them every step of the way to support them.

Well done to Wilberforce who had their House week last week. Participation was strong and, according to Miss Harris, it looks like we have raised a healthy four figure sum for charity as well.

Last but not least, we are looking forward to Open Evening. With so many students involved, it really is a time when students give back to their school and we are looking forward to meeting Year 6 students and their families, in what is a busy time for prospective parents.

Have a nice weekend!

Alan Henshall  
Headteacher



## UKMT Junior Olympiad GOLD!

S. Selvakumaran in Y9 completed the UKMT Junior Olympiad at the end of last year. Not only was it an amazing achievement to qualify, but he managed to achieve a distinction of the highest grade, GOLD! He has been awarded a gold medal and certificate, as well as a problem-solving book. Only the top 40 students across the UK achieve gold! This is a fantastic result and he should be very proud of himself, as we are.



**| Roundwood Park - A Place to Flourish |**

## What's On

- 28 September - RPS Open Evening
- 29 September - INSET Day
- 2 October - MFL Support Evening (KS4)
- 3 October - Senior Maths Challenge
- 3 October - Y10 House Netball
- 4 October - ASPIRE Parent Session
- 5 October - District Trampoline Competition
- 5 October - KS3 Scholars Conference
- 9 October - Reading Week
- 11 October - Y10 PSHCE Wellbeing Day
- 13-15 October - Y13 Biology Field Trip
- 16 October - FRANK House Week
- 17 October - Y7 Primary Tea
- 17 October - KS3/4 Exam Support Evening
- 17 October - Y11&13 Exam Stress Workshop
- 19 October - HOUSE MUSIC!
- 20 October - Non Uniform Day

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

## Parking Considerately

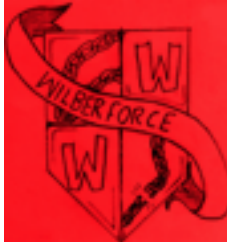
Please can we request your consideration and respect for our neighbours when parking near the school. Please adhere to the parking time restrictions and don't stop or park on zig zags or double yellow lines. Thank you.

**FOLLOW US!**



You will also find lots of information on our website:





## WILBERFORCE House Week Review

We had an incredibly successful week with a range of events kicking off our House calendar and fundraising for the year. We had our famous cake and sweet sales, 9 teams in our 'Bake a Wish' competition, students tackling some tricky words in our WWF themed Spelling Bee, stacks of delicious pizza at our Film Night and a competitive yet welcoming evening for our Y7 parents at Quiz Night!

Congratulations to Rose in Y9 for winning the Spelling Bee and our reigning champions Noa and Zoe in Y8 with new team mate Lana for winning the 'Bake a Wish' competition.

We wanted to thank you all so much for your support for Wilberforce House Week and helping us get our fundraising off to a tremendous start this year. We've managed to raise over **£1500** already.

Stay tuned for our 'Sponge the Teacher' book marked event, Y7 Disco and teacher sky dive coming soon as well as all of the amazing events our other Houses will have on offer.

We look forward to seeing you again soon!

Miss Harris & Wilberforce House

Can you help?

## FRANK House Week is next!

FRANK'S House Week falls within the week of House Music and we are keen to plan fundraising events that can take place at the Alban Arena. The House Music raffle has been very popular over the last few years and there have been some amazing prizes donated by members of our school community and local businesses. I would like to reach out to you all in the hope that you can help support the raffle this year with any prizes. Can you personally offer something to the raffle? Do you have connections with local businesses that could donate? Maybe you have a famous neighbour who could sign a shirt or a ball?! Anything at all would be amazing as we can group smaller prizes or items together to create hampers. Thank you.

Mr Rowlands - Head of Frank House



## Year 7 Rugby

Shout out to our youngest rugby team who chalked up a win in their first Saturday morning fixture. We saw lots of potential on show and were very impressed by those who were playing their first ever game of contact rugby!

Well done all of you 🙌🙌



## HOUSE MUSIC! THURS OCT 19TH SAVE THE DATE!



## RPS PTA

### Second Hand Uniform Sale!

Sat 18 November, 12.30-2pm

Date change

School Hall

See our price list here

We are accepting second hand uniform now!



Watch this space for

Fireworks Tickets & a Christmas

Tree ordering opportunity that will bring funds in to the school!

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



# FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:







## HOUSE Leader Training

On Monday we invited our KS3 House Leaders to a workshop with our Learning, Environment & Diversity Captains to enhance their roles and discuss upcoming initiatives. The first is in Antibullying Week where they will launch a 'Make a Noise' campaign, they also hope to hold a number of environment days in the new year - watch this space! It was a brilliant day full of ideas for the future of HOUSE @ RPS.

In addition, during the day our Heads of House made it official and presented our new Y7 Leaders with their House Leader Badges. They are all very keen and ready to go!

## Meet our Student Leaders

Meet Daisy, Dylan and Aaron..

"Hi guys, we are this year's Extracurricular Captains!

At the start of this year, an extra-curricular fair took place in the school hall, which was organised to encourage all members of the school to participate. We used this as a way to encourage new friendships and hobbies and make it easier for our new Y7s to settle into Roundwood. We would love this to be an annual event at the start of each school year, to showcase what's on offer, and raise awareness of those clubs that are not so well known. Next, we are aiming to get feedback from teachers and peers on our chess tournament, which was an exciting event that many people took part in, all battling to win a prize and recognition! But first our plan is to organise our annual Sports Awards dinner, where we acknowledge everyone for their great sporting achievements this year, as we believe no hard work should go unnoticed. Stay tuned for more!"



## Careers Corner



**The Parent Perspective Podcast**  
- Episode 4 is now LIVE -

This week, Rachel is joined by Anna Morrison, Founder and Director of Amazing Apprenticeships and Kasim Choudry, Director of Thinkfest & Multicultural Apprenticeship Ambassador at the Skills Provider Pathway Group. Set against the backdrop of National Inclusion Week, our speakers explore just some of the ways employers are doing vital work to support diversity in the workplace.

[Listen Here Now](#)

**HOP Webinar - 5th October, 4.30pm**  
**Careers in Set and Prop Design**

This is particularly relevant in Hertfordshire owing to our booming Film, TV and Creative Sector that will see more stages in the county than in Hollywood by the end of the decade!

Students will hear directly from and interact with a Prop Storeman, an Assistant Art Director and hear from a tutor from University of Hertfordshire's creative school.

Registration is now live on HOP and can be found > [HERE](#) <

**Insight to Bird & Bird - Navigating your career in law - 3rd October, 5pm**

Imagine kickstarting your legal journey at Bird & Bird, one of the world's leading international law firms. Join our Exclusive Insight Event opportunity by securing your spot now > [HERE](#) <

**Upcoming School Career Services Dates:**

**Careers Insight Evening - 18th Oct, 6:30pm**

What I need to know about the Careers Service @RPS Webinar

If you would like to find out more about what the Careers Service does for each year group @RPS, please complete the following form to sign up for the webinar > [CLICK HERE](#) <

# CURTAIN CALL

**Local live theatre**

**CONSTELLATIONS**

6-14 October  
The Abbey Theatre  
St Albans

**TREASURE ISLAND**

**| Wednesday 18 October 3.30pm |**

**Look out for sign-up info coming out today!**

**| Popcorn & drinks provided |**

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You will also find lots of information on our website:







## Year 11 PSHCE Day

It was the first Year 11 PSHCE day of the new school year last week and the focus was around digital health / health and wellbeing. Students took part in sessions led by our teaching staff focused on 'Body Image, Media & Health', 'Managing Time Online' and 'Digital Footprints', as well as two sessions delivered by outside providers - Herts Young Homeless came in to give some practical advice on 'Living Independently' and Epic Risk Management added a valuable session on 'Gambling and Addiction'.

## Year 12 PSHCE Session

Our Year 12 Students also received an important session this week as part of our PSHCE provision, on the dangers and risks of vaping and addiction. Such an important topic to discuss, we were delighted to welcome @whysupofficial and @epicriskmanagement in to school to deliver their expert knowledge and advice.

## Community News

Please follow the links below for further information...

- [The Lea Primary School and Nursery Governor Vacancy](#)
- [Fired Up Drama Club](#)
- [OA's Rugby Club - Players Wanted!](#)
- [FREE Parent/Carer Workshops](#)
- [Parent/Carer Chat and Connect Session](#)
- [EBSA Coffee Morning](#)

## Read all about it...

Vol 2

28 Sept 23

We love to celebrate and share our love of reading in the Roundwood Park community.

You may have noticed that we share our 'current reading' on email sign offs in order to promote reading to students and demonstrate that we are all always reading. We also like to donate our books to the community bookshelf in Reception. If ever you pop in, you are more than welcome to take a book home with you for free. We only put ones on there that we loved so can guarantee you a good read!



### One School, One Read

Plans are afoot for the launch of the next 'One School, One Read' book. Watch this space!

### Did you know?

Students who read for pleasure for just 10 minutes a day make more academic progress than those who don't. Read more about the reasons why in Michael Rosen's blog [HERE](#)

### Recommended Read

#### Ready Player One

I loved this book! Set in 2045, Columbus, it follows the story of Wade Watts an orphaned teenager who escapes from the grim reality of life via the OASIS. James Halliday, the creator of OASIS has passed and set a tournament (to see who inherits his fortune) which contains three challenges hidden in the OASIS for players to find. The first person to find and complete these challenges will inherit the OASIS and Halliday's fortune. This book is about exploring whether or not using the virtual world to escape from reality is a good idea.

By Jacob Y8

## PSHCE@RPS

This term, KS3 & KS4 students are studying 'Health and Wellbeing' with a focus on **resilience**.



We are following the new [Bounce Forward Programme](#), teaching our students practical strategies on how to be more **resilient**.

Visit our website for more info > [HERE](#) <

In support of our Year 11 session on Gambling and Addiction delivered by Epic Risk Management last week, please refer to this resource produced for parents > [CLICK HERE](#) < & students > [CLICK HERE](#) <

You can view the slides from the Y7 Assessment, PSHCE & Languages Support Evening > [HERE](#) <

If you have any queries please get in touch with our PSHCE Lead:  
[s.mooney@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:s.mooney@roundwoodpark.co.uk)

For all things sport  
follow RPS PE on X

@RPSPE



FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:







## Year 9 House Netball **WINNERS!**

The wind and showers didn't deter our House Netballers last week as they battled it out on the courts for precious House Points. There was some great play and good skills on display across the Houses - the support was loud and enthusiastic too! Well done to **SCOTT HOUSE** for finishing on top.



## Wellbeing@RPS

Visit our Wellbeing partner website 'Tooled Up Education' and see what events are coming up to support you and your family...you will need to sign in with the information provided by the school > [Visit Tooled Up](#) <

Read the latest Tooled Up Newsletter:

< [CLICK HERE](#) >

Sign up for Tooled Up's Dr Kathy Weston's Wednesday Wisdom:

> [HERE](#) <

Click here to read more about our 5 ways to wellbeing



## HARRY WON YOUNG FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!



We are so proud of Harry and his amazing Fundraising for The Brain Tumour Charity - he has swam, cycled and climbed his way to an incredible £29,000 in memory of his sister, Emily.

You're a superstar Harry!

Thank you to everyone in our community for voting for him



[Read more here!](#)

## RPS Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our Autumn term clubs are all up and running and seeing plenty of participation which is fantastic!

This is a photo from our KS3 Science Club where students really enjoyed making electro-magnets...



Click to see our **AUTUMN CLUBS** programme

## Residential Trips



October - Y13 Cranedale Centre

November - Y7 Manor Adventures

February - Y11&13 PRE/History Tour Rome

February - Y10 French Trip

February - Yr10 Spanish Trip

May - Y10 History Tour Berlin

## WE ARE HIRING!



- Deputy Site Manager/Caretaker  
- Cover Supervisor

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