

RPS ROUNDUP

10 May 2024



Head's Up

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend!

It has always been a privilege to be the Headteacher of our school. There are days when this almost becomes overwhelming, such is the joy we all feel in working with our students. Events like House Music and Achievement Evening spring to mind. For me, the greatest days of them all are the leavers' days, especially when we celebrate the last few years with such amazing groups as our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Both days were blessed with excellent weather for capturing those all so important photographic memories. The Year 11 assembly, celebrated with our Year 11 parents, was an occasion to remember, with emotional speeches by our excellent form tutor team and capped by a speech from the inimitable Mr Wilson, who has led the journey so well. I would also like to congratulate the forms themselves for some wonderfully entertaining form videos. This year they even featured jokes that the old fogeys in the audience (such as me!) actually understood!

The Year 13 leavers' day was equally as enjoyable. We started with a sunny drinks reception (non-alcoholic of course!) and then moved to time with form tutors, some of whom, like Mrs Layton and Mrs Hubbard, had been with their forms since Year 7, and then on to time all together in a wonderful leavers' assembly. I would like to congratulate Luke, Caitlin and Caitlyn for the excellent job they did together in making us all laugh, reminisce and shed some tears of nostalgia for the last seven years. The videos for all the forms were excellent too! I would like to pay tribute to Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Bridgman and the whole Sixth Form team for the superb work they have done in guiding, counselling and walking with this year group all the way through!

Have a lovely, sunny weekend and, as the exams start for Years 11 and 13, remember that we are here to help and support throughout.

Alan Henshall
Headteacher



What's On

- 10 May - Y8-10 PGL Netball Tour
- 13 May - A Level Exams begin
- 13 May - Reading Week
- 13 May - Y12 Work Placement Week
- 14 May - Y10 Drama Performance
- 15 May - Y10 History Trip to Berlin
- 20 May - Y7&8 Exams begin
- 23 May - Non Uniform Day
- 24 May - Sports Day
- 25 May - Y10 Silver DofE Expedition
- 3 June - Back to School
- 3 June - Y9 Exams begin
- 11 June - Y10 Work Shadowing Day
- 11 June - Creative Writing Event
- 13 June - Athletics District Champs
- 14 June - Y12 Biology Trip
- 14 June - Y12 Bletchley Park Trip

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

Sports Day Reminder Friday 24 May



- Students should come to school in PE kit
- Layers should be red/black
- Water bottle / hats / sun cream are required



Please refer to our previous RoundUp for more details > [CLICK HERE](#) <

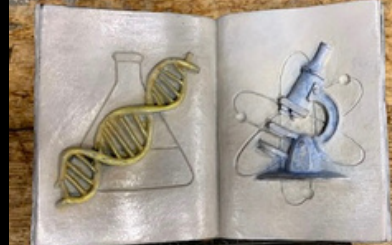
| Roundwood Park - A Place to Flourish |

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





The Alviar Cohen Award

We were very proud to present **The Alviar Award** at our Year 13 leavers' assembly this week.

This is a very special, and beautiful, trophy given in memory of Alviar, a much loved and missed, RPS student and outstanding scientist who sadly passed away in 2021. To win the annual award, students in Year 13 are invited to write a report about an area of science that they are passionate about. This year it was, as always, very tough to determine an outright winner from the fantastic entries we received, but after much deliberation, **Jack F** was awarded the prize for his amazing piece entitled **'Human Evolution & Development: Where did we come from? Where do we go?'**

Well done to our brilliant runners-up too: **Tara C-S, Freya B & Fionn R.**
You're all amazing!

Senior Athletics Championships

Our brilliant athletes from years 11, 12 & 13 represented us all superbly last week at the Senior District Athletics Championships.

Our girls retained their Championship title with a confident win, with our boys taking 2nd place.

Special mention to our Individual District Champions:

O Hughes: 100m hurdles G Newton: pole vault

I Turner: 80m hurdles P Tyson: Shot

R West: triple jump H Johnson: 1500m

E Fabode: shot

Girls 4x100m (Parfitt, Turner, Starkey, Owen)

A superb display from all of our senior athletes - some wearing their RPS colours for the last time...they'll be much missed ❤️❤️



Meet our Student Leaders

"Hi we are Skyler, Lilly and Rowena, your new Communications Captains! We cannot wait to expand the number of followers on our House Instagram page - click below! - and release our first edition of 'The Park Times', coming this June. With this magazine, we want to promote engagement with younger year groups and give them a voice, allowing them to showcase topics that they are passionate about, as they are the heart of RPS. We are very excited to see what this role brings and to do our part for the school community!"

Click here & follow us on Instagram!



Young Sports Leaders

Yesterday we hosted a Mini Golf Festival for local primary school children and we would like to say a huge thank you to our young Sports Leaders whose approach and manner with the visiting youngsters was superb - well done all of you!

P. Brewster, M. Davies, L. Duncan, L. Edmondson, B. Fisher, I. Foster, A. Frankland, E. Gay, R. Godwin, E. Smith, K. Upjohn, I. Wall, E. Wright, A. Phillips, J. Quershi, M. Sharratt & I. Thorpe.







FESTIVAL

on the field

Click here for tickets to SJL's Festival on the field & we will get a donation!

Next

| Second Hand Uniform Sale |

Saturday, 13 July, 12.30-2pm

School Hall

See our price list here



Calling Year 11 parents - if you have any LOGO or PE uniform you no longer need please drop it in to Reception!

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:

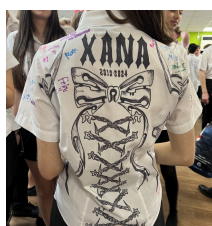




Year 11 & Year 13 Leavers' Days!

It's been an uplifting - and emotional! - couple of days at RPS as we said goodbye to our Year 11 students (although we hope to see many of them back at our Sixth Form), and goodbye for good to our Year 13s. We wished them all the very best as they head off to their next adventure...hopefully with us always in their hearts, as they will forever be in ours.

While we hope to have inspired them, and given them all they need to embody the true 'Roundwood Park Leaver', they have all given us so much in return. We thank them for the memories!



*"I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles,
to the highest of your hopes,
to the windows of your opportunities,
and to the most special places your heart has ever known"*



Year 13 Leavers' ASPIRE Awards

Before our Year 13 leavers' assembly we asked staff to nominate students for our new 'Leavers' ASPIRE Awards' and we were delighted to present our **Resilient Learner Award** to **Courtney V** who is considered to personify determination and resilience. Well done Courtney!

Next was our **Responsible Learner Award**, and this was given to **Will A**, a mature leader who works hard and is an exceptional House Captain. Well deserved! We then awarded our **Overall Leaver Award** for students who embody the attributes of our '**RPS Leaver**' and this went to **Paisley T**, regarded by so many of us as the epitome of a Roundwood Park Leaver. Well done Paisley!



[Click here to see more photos from both Leavers Events](#)

Community News

Please follow the links below for further information...

- [Playing Out April-June](#)
- [Barracudas Holiday Camp](#)
- [BeeZee Families Family Recipes](#)
- [Batford Neighbourhood Survey](#)
- [ACE Tuition - Maths GCSE Papers](#)
- [The Oval Run](#)

Community Fundraiser...

Come along to a Summer 'Gut Buster' Charity Gig...in honour of late RPS parent P Davies and to raise funds for Rennie Grove Peace Hospice and GutsUK. Click for details:

F, L, A, M, D, A, D, D, Y

PSHCE@RPS



All schools in the UK have recently been sent information from the National Crime Agency, raising awareness of the recent rise in reporting of financially motivated sexual extortion (a type of online blackmail often known in the media as 'sextortion'). Children and young people worldwide are being targeted.



Please read the letter linked below on the prevention of on-line exploitation with parent engagement & support:

>> [PLEASE READ THE LETTER HERE](#) <<

If you have any queries please get in touch with our PSHCE Lead:

s.mooney@roundwoodpark.co.uk

or for safeguarding concerns:

h.semple@roundwoodpark.co.uk

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





Rotary Young Citizen Award

We are beyond proud that our Year 13 student Tara C-S has been awarded the Bill Hewetson Rotary Club Prize for 2024.

The purpose of the Award is to recognise a student's achievements and contribution to society, having gone that extra mile to help others.

Tara has been recognised for always helping others, her volunteering work, and for organising and coordinating her RPS student team to win the Imperial College/British Heart Foundation Science in Medicine Award. The overall comments for why Tara won were that "she is very selfless and really cares about her friends and other students, whether in early years lower down the school or, more recently, in Sixth Form. She wants everyone to do as well as they can, so they can pursue their own goals and she puts in so much time to help people if she can". Well done Tara!

Year 11 Interhouse

It was certainly a 'game of 2 halves' for Y11's final Interhouse Sport Competition, with half played in the glorious sunshine last week and half in the cold and wet! Spirits remained high however and a few more RPS memories were made to take with them on their road ahead... Congratulations to **SCOTT House** for the win 🍀



Interhouse Trampolining

It was also our House Squad Trampolining Competition last week, which is always such a lovely event with everyone supporting and cheering for each other, creating a brilliant atmosphere. Well done to **GT** for finishing on top, and to **K Upjohn** for taking the top individual spot.



Careers Corner



Make the Future Yours

Please [click here](#) for the latest issue of Make the Future Yours. It has lots of great inspiration from 'Thinking of Becoming an Architect', to 'How to Choose A Levels' and 'How to become a Plumber'.

UCAT Revision Session *Free

Lincolnshire Training Hub, a segment of NHS England, is holding a UCAT revision session for any students applying to healthcare or veterinary sciences on the **19th of May between 9:30am - 3:30pm on Zoom**.

This course is free to all, register [here](#).

The University of Law Summer Open Days

This summer students can join the popular Open Days on **Saturday 15 June and Saturday 13 July**.

If you are unable to make an Open Day, you can book a Virtual session. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Upcoming School Careers Dates:

Monday 13th - 17th May - Y12 Professional Work Placement Week

All students should have a work placement organised for this week unless approval has been provided to do an alternative date due to exams. Any students without a work placement will be expected in school. Please contact [Careers](#) if you have any questions regarding this.

Tuesday 11th June - Y10 Work Shadowing Day

Communication has been sent to parents with a google form to complete. Please complete the form by **Monday 3rd June**. You can watch an information video [HERE](#).

CURTAIN CALL



Roman Theatre Open Air
Festival in St Albans
See what's on [HERE](#)



Thursday 16th May at 3:30pm
Sign-up now on ParentPay!
| Popcorn & drinks provided |



FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of
information on our website:



Silver DofE Awards

We were delighted to present almost 50 students with their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award certificates this morning. What a fantastic achievement! Here is an idea of what they have accomplished between them all, click to enlarge:



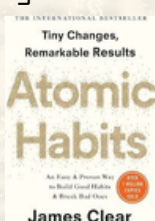
Read all about it...

Vol 13

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Reading Habit

Regular reading is a good habit to have, yet habits can be hard to build. In his book 'Atomic Habits', James Clear explores how we build life changing habits for success and progress. He notes the importance of regular reading stating that a billionaire businessman once said, "In my whole life, I have known no wise people (over a broad subject matter area) who didn't read all the time – none. Zero. You'd be amazed at how much my [business partner] reads – and how much I read. My children laugh at me. They think I'm a book with a couple of legs sticking out." He has generated this list of ways that you can make reading a habit.



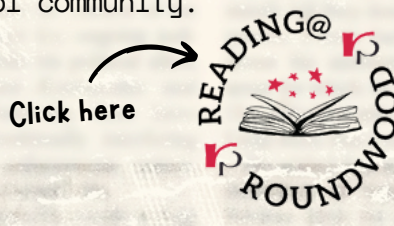
Among other things he suggests: putting a book on your pillow when you make the bed; moving reading apps to the home screen of your phone; and setting a reading target for each day. You can read more about his advice [here](#).

Reading Week

It's Reading Week next week so there will be lots of opportunity to develop this reading habit, with all home learning having an aspect of reading to it.

Reading@Roundwood

You can also visit our Reading@Roundwood website page where we promote and celebrate reading right across our school community.



Click here



RPS Alumni News

New feature!

International Sports Shirts

McIntosh and Gaunce's shirts join our International Alumni Wall in the Sporthall! They now sit alongside J Baggio & M Baggio (skiing), Westwood (badminton), O'Dell (DM trampoline), Dowie (football), McKenna (rugby), Bigham (golf), Woods (athletics) and Adams-Hale (rugby).

We love to follow our students' sporting successes - check our [@RPSPE](#) on X (Twitter) for all Alumni sporting news.



Are you RPS Alumni?

If you are an ex student or staff member of RPS please join us on LinkedIn where you will find our Alumni updates, news and articles >> [LINK HERE](#) <<

KS3 Creative Writing Competition

STUDENTS – DARE TO DAZZLE!

Use your fantastic imagination and all of your amazing skills to write a 200-word story or description based on one of the

following topics:

1. Going for gold
2. History in the making
3. A moment of kindness

Closes 7 June - [click here for more info](#)

FOLLOW US!



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Year 13 YE Business Scholars

Introducing our Young Enterprise Business Scholars! In 2022 these Y13 students started 2 businesses, Neptune & Laval, launching products from tote bags to candles and personalised books for young readers. They took their products to markets and exhibitions, identifying and engaging their customers in order to make sales. They also went to Young Enterprise events with great success, receiving a number of awards for their work. We wanted to recognise their efforts with an award from us too - so we presented them with their very own RPS Scholars badge. Look out for these future entrepreneurs!

A huge well done to: Zara M, Ella D, Jess G, Clodagh S, Mia J, Gabby B, Adam M, Dylan A, Zoe A, Esme G, Will G, Daisy W, Malcolm S, Lucas J, Leo G, Barney T, Elanur D, Tori C and Ethan W.

Aurora Candles Win!

Our brilliant Year 12 Young Enterprise company, Aurora Candles, won the North & East Hertfordshire Area Final last week!

They now go through to the Regional Finals which will be held at the University of Hertfordshire in May. Their products are great, take a look at their website >

<https://www.auroracandles.uk/>

Well done team Aurora!



MUSIC NEWS & CLUBS!

A huge well done to our students who have achieved their music grade exam results - [click here](#) to view them all (parents/carers please let us know if any students have passed music exams outside of school so we can celebrate those too!)



**CHECK OUT OUR NEW UKULELE CLUB:
DETAILS [HERE](#)**

**A REMINDER OF ALL MUSIC CLUBS:
[HERE](#)**



Wellbeing@RPS

Follow the link to read the latest Newsletter from TooledUp Education:

>> [CLICK HERE](#) <<

With exam season upon us this resource from TooledUp Education may be useful to some parents/carers:

[A Quick Guide to Anxiety](#)



Residential Trips



[May 24 - Y10 History Tour Berlin](#)

[May 24 - Y10 DofE Expedition](#)

[May 24 - Y8/9/10 Swindon Netball Tour](#)

[June 24 - Y10 Geography South Wales Trip](#)

[June 24 - Y9 Science, Eurospace, Belgium](#)

[June 24 - Y12 Biology Field Trip - Yorkshire](#)

[June 24 - Y8 MFL Trips - France & Germany](#)

[June/July 24 - Y10/11 DofE Qualifier](#)

[July 24 - Y12 Geography, Liverpool](#)

[November 24 - Y10&11 German, Hamburg](#)

[February 25 - Y11-13 Geography, Iceland](#)

[April 25 - Ski Trip, Jay Peak, USA](#)

[April 25 - Football Tour, Holland](#)

WE ARE HIRING!



- Humanities Teacher
 - Community & Lettings Mgr
 - Subject Leader - Spanish
 - Design & Technology Teacher
- All current vacancies are advertised on our [website](#)

>>> Click to see our [SUMMER CLUBS](#) programme <<<