

RPS ROUNDUP

22 May 2026



Head's Up

Dear parents and carers,

Congratulations to our Young Enterprise teams who recently advanced to the East of England regional finals held at the University of Hertfordshire. BranchOut won the Creativity Award for their excellent children's activity booklet and Chloe I took home the individual award for the East and South Central regions for her outstanding leadership of the team, even when having some challenges herself to overcome. Congratulations to all the students who have dedicated so much time to this programme alongside their A Level/BTEC studies. This remains a valuable part of the Sixth Form enrichment offer, and I am grateful for the volunteer mentors, Teresa Owen and Chloe Seager-Scott for their support.

Last Friday the Wilberforce House Week started with an after-school Colour Run - an event that will now become an annual feature for Wilberforce. I'm not quite sure who enjoyed it more: the runners or those responsible for throwing the paint! Many thanks to the SLG and Ms Hawkins for organising this fantastic event.

Today we ended the half term on a high with our annual sports day. Unfortunately, a training course meant that I missed this fantastic event but I know that it's a highlight in our calendar. It's a day not just for our top athletes, but for every student who stepped up to represent their House and earn valuable points. This event is always a wonderful way to bring our community together. A big thank you to Mr Hunter and the PE team for a superbly executed event. Congratulations to all involved - you can read more on the next page!

Finally, good luck to our Gold Duke of Edinburgh students heading to South Wales this Saturday for four days trekking in the Black Mountains and Bannau Brycheiniog (the Brecon Beacons). Fingers crossed the weather is kind to them!

Have a wonderful and restful half term break.

Katie Barter
Headteacher



What's On

[Click here for Term Dates](#)

- 23 May - Gold DofE Practice
 - 25-29 May - HALF TERM**
 - 1 Jun - Back to School
 - 1 Jun - Y9 Exams Begin
 - 1 Jun - Week 2 Y7 & Y8 Exams
 - 9 Jun - Y7 & 8 Maths Kangaroo
 - 11 Jun - District Athletics Champs
 - 15 Jun - Diversity Forum
 - 15 Jun - Y10 DofE Qualifier 1
 - 16 Jun - Y8 Parent Consultation (*Virtual*)
 - 16 Jun - Creative Writing Event
 - 18 Jun - Y10 DofE Qualifier 2
 - 18 Jun - Y12 Exams begin
 - 22 Jun - Non Uniform Day
 - 22 Jun - Y10 PSHCE Day
 - 23-26 Jun - E Week - *more info page 4*
 - 28 Jun - Sixth Form Induction Day
- Please check our [SCHOOL CALENDAR](#) for all key dates and school events

| Roundwood Park - A Place to Flourish |



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Sports Day 2026

The sun shone on our Sports Day again! Another amazing day of community sport at RPS with lots of fantastic performances, top class effort and even better support! Everyone was wearing their colours proudly and giving the best they have, true RPS spirit on show all day long.

Well done team!

A HUGE thank you to our wonderful PE team, our fabulous SLG who really stepped up to make sure things ran smoothly today, and to Mrs Tatts and Mr Rowlands for doing another fantastic job of hosting the afternoon.

And now to reveal the winner...only **2 points** ahead of **GT**...the trophy today went to...**SCOTT HOUSE!!!** Well done to them and to everyone who took part today - you're all brilliant!

2026 SPORTS DAYS WINNERS!!



**T STARKEY
BREAKS THE
RPS LONG JUMP
RECORD! 6.48M!**



SUPER SCORERS!



Problem Solving Club

Every spring our Year 12 further mathematicians are invited to have some mathematical fun with Roundwood's Problem Solving Club. They get to look at the maths behind varied topics, including magic tricks and how to know when to continue rolling the dice in Yahtzee. Almost all the maths explored in the club is outside the further maths syllabus, providing an enriching and stimulating experience for the students.



Behind all the fun lies another purpose, to help students prepare for competitive university entrance exams and interviews for maths-related courses. There's no better preparation for the competitive application process than practising the lateral thinking required to solve mathematical puzzles. Students can then take the entrance exams in the autumn of year 13, confident that they are prepared to tackle whatever unusual questions the universities decide to throw at them.

Want to have a go yourself at an entrance exam question? [CLICK HERE!](#)
See the answer [HERE!](#)



| 2nd Hand Uniform Sale |
Saturday, 11 July

Please drop any unwanted, clean uniform into Reception!

ONLINE SUMMER SHIRT ORDERS

We would like to offer you the opportunity to order summer shirts online - pls email pta@roundwoodpark.co.uk with size/quantity and choice of fitted or loose. Cost is £3 per shirt.

**THE
SPONSORED WALK!**
Friday 10 July

Date for your diary!
More information about our bi-annual whole school Sponsored Walk will be sent home soon.

Please sign up to:
easyfundraising

Select Roundwood Park PTA and the school will receive 'free money' each time you shop online!



**FOLLOW US ON OUR
NEW INSTAGRAM
PAGE!**



Please sign up by sending an email to the PTA to keep up to date and/or volunteer!
pta@roundwoodpark.co.uk

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Wilberforce House Week

Wilberforce House would like to thank everyone who got involved in our recent charity week! We kicked things off by hosting the infamous RPS Colour Run, organised successful cake and sweets sales, raised awareness through our 'build your own Mercy Ship' session and ended the week on a high with a fun filled "Sponge the Staff" event - massively enjoyed by both students and staff who were actually quite grateful for the cool-down! Brilliant sports - thank you!

All of the events helped create a great atmosphere across the school and brought students from all Houses and year groups together, all while supporting our school charities.

A huge thank you and well done must go to the Wilberforce House Captains **Amelie F, Hannah SSR & Azhar U** for their unbelievable organisation, enthusiasm and execution. Thanks also must go to all Wilberforce House Leaders, the SLG, Wilberforce forms, staff and every student who got involved!

All your efforts raised over £1000 - well done!

Miss Hawkins - Head of Wilberforce House



ECO Week Competition Winners!

Well done to **Grace B** and **Ella B** for the winning artwork, and **Eleanor K** for winning the writing element of our ECO Week Competition. The prizes were awarded quite fittingly on the great David Attenborough's 100th Birthday! Well done all of you - we think they're brilliant.



Raspberry Pi Winners

Following on from their success in the computer science BEBRAS competition, selected students were invited to participate in the Raspberry Pi Foundation 2026 Coding Challenge. This consisted of 10 coding challenges to be completed in 40 minutes.

Congratulations to Sebastian F (Y8), Penelope W (Y8), Josh F (Y8), Lana R (Y10) and Matthew W (Y13) who achieved the "Best in School" for their programming category. Special mention to Sebastian who also achieved the maximum possible score!

Well done to all 56 students who participated.



Raspberry Pi



Careers Corner



Upcoming RPS Events:

16 June - Y8 PAL Assembly

29 June-3 July - Y12 Professional Work Placement Week

West Herts College

Representatives came in to talk to our Year 10 students last week about the options available to them following their GCSEs. Thank you to them!

Year 10 Work Shadowing

It was an exciting time for Year 10 who were on their work shadowing day on Tuesday, exploring different job roles within a variety of workplaces. We have had lots of positive feedback!

Harpenden Library Volunteering

Year 9 & 10 students had assemblies this week from Harpenden Library, talking about volunteering opportunities with them. This is open to 14-24 year olds, and can be short or long term, from 1 hour a week or more; helping librarians, creating their own clubs and can go towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

InvestIn - Offer Code FINAL10

This gives students 10% off any of InvestIn programme until 1 June. Visit InvestIn > [HERE](#) <

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE EVENTS!](#)

OVERDUE Reminder - Y12 Parents & Students Please enter all work experience information into Unifrog ASAP.

Video instructions > [HERE](#)

InvestIN is a London-based organisation that delivers immersive career experience programmes for school students, and they have sent us a great document that we wanted to share - 'The Ultimate Parent's Guide to Life After School'

[CLICK HERE](#) to take a look

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Spotlight On Scholars

Some of our most recent Scholars!

We believe that learning should go beyond the classroom so our Super-Curriculum is designed to help students develop into confident, independent and reflective learners. It gives them the chance to dive deeper into the subjects they love, and to begin shaping their future with confidence and purpose. The Super-Curriculum is not part of home learning – it's entirely independent and is all about commitment, curiosity, and challenge. Each task is worth a different number of points depending on how much depth and independence it requires, and for students to earn their Scholar badge, they need to complete enough tasks to reach 50 points. You can find out more on our website > [HERE](#)

At KS4 and above, there is also the option to 'build your own' Super-Curriculum – a more flexible and personalised route to becoming a Roundwood Park Scholar.

Instead of following set tasks, students can design their own programme of challenging activities which is ideal for those who want to explore their interests in greater depth, develop a university personal statement, or gain insight into future careers.

Read more > [HERE](#)



Meet the SLG

Hello Roundwood, we are your new(ish) Wellbeing Captains: **Will, Erin, Faye and Amy!**

We see our role as that of helping protect and advocate for our students' wellbeing and



mental health. We plan to do this through education, promoting ways that we can stay on top of stress and how to create and maintain a healthy mind set.

We have been working towards achieving our goal in a number of ways; we have been running assemblies to highlight Mental Health Awareness Week, as well as talking about acceptance in our neurodiversity assemblies. These have been very successful and have allowed us to reach a large audience with our tips and messages; we also run a Wellbeing Club every Friday. These initiatives, in conjunction with our events during Mental Health Awareness Week, such as wearing a touch of green, have really helped to spread the message around the importance of looking after our mental health.

We look forward to being able to continue our support of students' wellbeing here at RPS.

Don't forget to give our SLG a follow on our House System Instagram page!



Community News

Please follow the links below for further information...

- [Hertfordshire SEND Recruitment Event](#)
- [£10 tickets! St Albans Foodies Festival](#)
- ['Calling All Girls' - Basketball Try Outs](#)
- [HRFC Marquee Hire](#)
- [MHST Summer Camp](#)
- [The 4.15 Service](#)
- [DENS Castle Walk](#)
- [Avalon Television Limited Casting!](#)
- [Getting on with your Pre-Teen/Teenager](#)
- [Less Shouting More Cooperation](#)

National Youth Orchestra

Congratulations to Scarlett and Daniel, both in Year 9, who were accepted to join the National Youth Orchestra Inspire Programme, and recently completed a 3-day residency taking part in various youth orchestral ensembles.



What a fantastic achievement, well done both of you!

Welcome!



To our two new Parent Governors - Laura Taylor and Adrian Walker.

We have a fantastic team of Governors here at RPS and we are always grateful for their support. To read the resumes of our newest members, as well as the others, and for more information on the board in general, please visit our website > [HERE](#)

FOLLOW US!



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Year 12 Interhouse

Our mixed Year 12 Interhouse competitions concluded on Wednesday with **SCOTT HOUSE** winning the football and **WILBERFORCE** winning the rounders. Overall, including the scores from last week, **FRANK & GT** shared the top spot.

Lots of friendly competition, and lots of fun too! Well done Year 12 and thanks as always to our brilliant PE team.

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

Huge congratulations to our Y7 and Y8 students who recently sat the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge, with a fantastic number of them achieving a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. In addition, 15 of our students have qualified to go forward to the Junior Kangaroo and/or the Junior Maths Olympiad, we wish them the best of luck for those rounds.



NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH? THERE IS!

RPS CANTEN

WE ARE HIRING!

- Hourly pay while at school! £8.97 under 18 / £12.16 over 18 (this includes holiday rate)
- Shifts Mon-Fri 13.20-14.20pm (flexible with swaps)
- FREE Level 2 Food Hygiene & Safety qualification to use for future jobs! (valid for 3 years)
- Free lunch on shift (up to the value of £3)
- Friendly team, work experience for your CV - and a first reference for future employment!



(CURRENT) YEAR 11 APPLY NOW!

TO START WORK SEPTEMBER 2026 WHEN YOU ARE IN YEAR 12
Email j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk or pop in and see us ASAP!

Read all about it...

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Spotlight on Sparx

Sparx Reader has been the weekly homelearning for Year 8 & 9, and students have been fantastic at getting in to the routine of completing 300 points each week. Sparx promotes careful, deliberate reading, and tests students on their reading comprehension so it is a brilliant way to ensure that students are practising the reading skills they will need throughout their studies. A particular shout out to **Arabella M (Y8)** and **Beatrice M (Y9)** who top the Sparx leaderboards for their respective year groups. With Year 10 joining in in the Spring term, they were set the task of rereading both Macbeth and A Christmas Carol by their

teachers. Since then, Year 10 students have clocked up 962 HOURS rereading those texts which will be vital to their revision as they approach their GCSEs next year. Well done to **Lana R** who tops the Year 10 leaderboard!

Overall, as a school, we rank 66th out of 1,158 schools in on-time homelearning completion, and have cumulatively read for 8,056 hours and completed 2,882 books! We, as the English department, are so proud of the progress being made, and are looking forward to creating a whole school culture of careful reading next year!

 **Sparx Learning**



Art & SCIENCE

Present
Famous & Inspirational Scientists Art Competition

Art & SCIENCE

Art Competition

Our Art & Science Departments have launched a fantastic new competition! The whole school is invited to take part and create a piece of artwork that will be displayed in our Science corridors. The competition criteria: Between A3 & A1 size / 2D only / Depict a famous or inspirational scientist / Be creative and unique!

Closing date: Friday 5 June

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





Young Enterprise Regional Finals

After qualifying earlier this month, our Young Enterprise teams went to the regional finals this week, with more success! BranchOut won the Creativity Award for their excellent children's activity booklet and Chloe I took home the individual Journey Award for the East and South Central regions for her outstanding leadership of the team - we are so proud of you Chloe!

It has been another fantastic year for our YE students and we want to congratulate every single one of them for their dedication and commitment to their businesses, and their teams. Visit our teams' websites and read more about their teams, products and ethos:

CLICK THE LOGO >>



RPS SPORTS CENTRE & LETTINGS

ATTENTION YEAR 11 & 12 STUDENTS!

We are pleased to invite current Year 11 & 12 students at RPS to apply to work in the Sports Centre. This is a paid, varied hours role including evenings, weekends and school holidays.

You will have received an email from Mrs Perry last week with full details and how to apply! **Closing date is Wednesday 3 June at 9am!**

May Half Term at RPS:

APEX Multi-Sports are in the Primary School and offer a wide range of activities including Nerf Guns! [BOOK HERE](#)

Art Shed are also in the Primary School and have some exciting new projects including their space inspired "Life on Mars" painting! [BOOK HERE](#)

Showtime Circus return with their holiday camps which are jam packed full of fun, including a full schedule of new activities, warm-ups, dance, poster designing and of course, the Showtime Showcase Finale! [REGISTER HERE](#)

Watford FC offer a great opportunity to develop Football skills for a wide range of ages and abilities! [BOOK HERE](#)

Finally, we have the amazing **Mini-Chef Academy** run by Caroline, children get to learn basic cookery skills in a fun and safe environment, be sure to keep an eye on their Facebook page - Harpenden Mini Chef Academy.

There will be **NO Pay & Play** that week but it will return in the summer holidays.

Bank Holiday Closure: 25 May

For more information, or any enquiries at all, please contact the Lettings office on: 01582714019 or email: lettings@roundwoodpark.co.uk

Follow us on social media! →



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

Wellbeing@RPS



Read this week's TooledUp Education Newsletter > [HERE](#)

June Webinars

Please take a look at TooledUp Education's webinars for June. Topics such as 'Parenting for Emotional Health', 'Supporting Young People with Addictions', 'AI and the Future of Careers' and 'Starting Secondary School' will be covered. Take a look & register > [HERE](#)

OFSTED Report Cards & Grades

Read an update from Hertfordshire County Council and HFL Education regarding the update to OFSTED report cards and grading > [READ THE LETTER HERE](#) <

Residential Trips



[June 26 - Y9 Euro Space Centre, Belgium](#)

[June 26 - Y8 MFL, France & Germany](#)

[June 26 - Y10 Geography, South Wales](#)

[July 26 - Y12 Geography, Liverpool](#)

[September 26 - Y13 Cranedale Centre](#)

[November 26 - Y10/11 MFL, Hamburg](#)

[February 27 - Y11-13 Geography, Iceland](#)

[April 27 - All Years Ski Trip, Jay Peak, USA](#)

[April 27 - Y8&9, PE, Holland](#)

VACANCIES

- Art & Design Teacher

More information
<< [HERE](#) >>