

RPS ROUNDUP

26 June 2026



Head's Up

Dear parents and carers,

As I write this, Enrichment Week is well underway; it remains one of the highlights of our school year. It has been lovely to see so many students arriving each morning excited for the day ahead. Our students have thrown themselves into a really diverse range of experiences this week including day trips to the IWM in Duxford, the Tower of London and Whipsnade Zoo. I myself had the pleasure of accompanying Year 7 to Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in London and Year 10 to Thorpe Park.

As well as activities in school and day trips, we have had successful residential trips to South Wales, Paris, Boppard in Germany and Eurospace in Belgium. I look forward to hearing all about these trips when everyone returns to normal lessons next week.

A huge amount of work goes into making a week like this possible and I would like to thank Paul Seymour for his tireless work putting this week together. He is ably assisted by Bev Kennedy, Anna Ring and Gemma Bell - a truly amazing team. Indeed, I'd also like to thank all trip/activity leaders who have had to make adjustments in light of the intense hot weather we have experienced this week. Please read on to find out more about the various trips and photos from the activities.

Finally, I'd like to say well done to our Year 11 and 13 students who officially finished their GCSE, A Level and BTEC examinations last week. The exam season felt particularly long this year, but our students conducted themselves with real maturity and resilience throughout. I am very much looking forward to celebrating their hard work at the upcoming Year 11 and Year 13 Proms, which will shortly be upon us.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend.

Katie Barter
Headteacher



[Click here for Term Dates](#)

What's On

- 29 Jun - Sixth Form Induction Day
- 29 Jun - Y12 Work Placement Week
- 30 Jun - New Y7 Parents Info Eve
- 30 Jun - Y13 Leavers' Ball
- 1 Jul - Y11 Leavers' Ball
- 1 Jul - Parent Workshop - RSE Curric.
- 2 Jul - Y7 Parent Consultation Eve
- 2 Jul - House: Ready, Steady, Cook
- 3 Jul - Y8 Interhouse Sports Day
- 6 Jul - Reading Week
- 6 Jul - Y7 Speakers Cup
- 7 Jul - Y9 Interhouse Sports Day
- 7 Jul - Achievement Evening
- 8 Jul - Primary Music Making Day
- 9 Jul - Battle of the Bands

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

Proud RPS

We are extremely proud of George L who was recently awarded the youth 'Grassroots Volunteer of the Year' by Bedfordshire Football Association for his contribution to sports through playing, refereeing and media work. Well done George, this is amazing!



| Roundwood Park - A Place to Flourish |

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ENRICHMENT WEEK 2026!

HUGE THANKS TO THE WHOLE RPS TEAM FOR BEING UTTERLY BRILLIANT THIS WEEK, ADAPTING TO THE HEAT AND MAKING SURE OUR STUDENTS HAD A FANTASTIC TIME!

DUXFORD IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

In support of their history studies, our Y8 students enjoyed a huge day out at IWF Duxford. They got up close to gigantic aircraft and walked in the footsteps of the men and women who served at the airbase during World War II.

THORPE PARK

Y9 and Y10 students had a fantastic day trip to Thorpe Park to enjoy the thrills and spills of 'Hyperia', 'Stealth' and 'The Swarm'. Water rides 'Storm Surge' & 'Tidal Wave' proved extremely popular for obvious reasons!

TEAMBUILDING

Thanks to our PTA and your recent donations, we have been able to buy some brilliant equipment to run our own teambuilding days here at school. From our new boulder wall to giant Jenga and Connect 4, our Y7 & Y9 students enjoyed a great day working together, developing their strengths and learning new skills.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Y10 students enjoyed a film-themed day where they chose and watched a film and then used it as the inspiration to plan, create, and edit their own! We'll be sharing the films next week so look out for those!

SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MANDIR

Y7 students had the fabulous opportunity to visit a Hindu temple where they spent the day exploring and learning about the temple and Haveli (meeting space), listening to a talk about the Mandir as well as watching the midday prayer. The marble building made for the perfect respite from the heat of the day!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH TASTER DAY

Y8 had a fantastic day learning about the expedition section going for a short walk, and keeping cool in the woods learning navigation skills. They also learnt how to put up our tents and had a look at maps and routes for a Gold expedition. We hope that many of the students decide to complete their DofE in Y10! Huge thanks to our volunteers in Y12 & 13 who worked with the teams.

GO APE

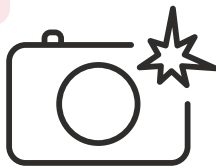
Y10 had the option to head to the highest point of the Chiltern Hills and into the tree canopy to enjoy the high ropes and epic ziplines back down to the forest floor!

GOLF

Y10 also had the choice to spend the day on the golf course. Everyone really improved after some coaching and practice, well done team RPS!



Keep checking here for more photos of the trips & activities next week!



E WEEK REQUIRES A MAMMOTH EFFORT FROM EVERYONE AS YOU CAN IMAGINE! HUGE THANKS TO OUR INCREDIBLE STAFF – YOU'RE AMAZING!

ENRICHMENT WEEK 2026!

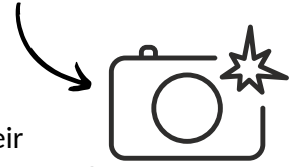
CSI ROUNDWOOD

A brilliant day as our Y9 students turned investigators! Using forensic techniques they learned in the morning they were suited up and tasked with investigating and solving a murder crime scene...this activity has become a staff favourite too!

DIGITAL CREATOR

Y8 spent the day with Baasit Siddiqui from Gogglebox! They learned about the 7Cs - Creativity, Communication, Collaboration, Compromise, Community, Courage and Curiosity and then put their learning into practice by creating a short, motivational video - enhancing their digital skills in the process!

Keep checking here for more photos of the trips & activities next week!



GO KARTING

46 Y10 students chose to hit the track and raced electric go karts for fun and fastest laps! Well done to the top 3 racers of the day - Max, Ruan & Charlie!

CORAL REEF WATERWORLD

A welcome way to cool off this week as students enjoyed a swim along with the thrilling waterslides and an erupting volcano!



TOWER OF LONDON

Y8 students have enjoyed a brilliant day out in London today, exploring the Tower, getting up close to the Crown Jewels and meeting the legendary Yeoman Warders and ravens!

YEAR 7 INTERHOUSE

An adapted timetable due to the weather but Year 7 had an excellent day with superb attitude shown throughout. Well done to all - especially **SCOTT HOUSE** who took the top spot!

YEAR 10 INTERHOUSE

Y10 are still enjoying their interhouse today and the competition was strong this morning! Look out on our social media later for today's winners...

WHIPSNADE ZOO

Always a fabulous trip with Y7, we all enjoyed seeing the animals of Whipsnade Zoo - we were especially hoping to spot the new baby cheetahs!

Y7 WINNERS!



E WEEK REQUIRES A MAMMOTH EFFORT FROM EVERYONE AS YOU CAN IMAGINE! HUGE THANKS TO OUR INCREDIBLE STAFF – YOU'RE AMAZING!



District Athletics Championships

We enjoyed an excellent day last week with a HUGE haul of medals and lots of fantastic displays. Sadly not enough to retain our title but we were fairly beaten by an exceptional Sandringham - and second in the District is still very impressive! To our athletes; you should be very proud of yourselves and excited about our future meets, we are!

A special well done goes to our Y7 girls, Y8 boys and Y10 boys who won their year group competitions. Head to [@rps_pe](#) for all of the results.

We have also had confirmation that ALL 4 teams have qualified for the County League Athletics cup final on 30 June. In addition, our U14G, U14B and U16B all finish top of their league too. What a fantastic achievement for our athletes. They've all worked so hard to maximise points each week and it's paid off. We're incredibly proud!

Y10 Geographers in South Wales

Our GCSE Geographers have been on an adventure in South Wales this week, exploring both human and physical geography in the real world.

 Day 1 - Cardiff Bay

We began with an urban exploration of Cardiff Bay to assess the success of urban regeneration and waterfront development, seeing first-hand the transformation of this former dockland into a vibrant, modern cityscape. Students got hands-on with their human geography fieldwork at Mermaid Quay. Armed with clipboards, they investigated the area using a range of techniques, including pedestrian counts, environmental quality surveys, and questionnaires.

 Day 2 - Oxwich Bay and the Gower Peninsula

We carried out dune transects at Oxwich Bay to see whether the theory studied in class applied to the sand dune system. We then got into the River Pennard on the Gower Peninsula, where students explored changes in river characteristics downstream. In the afternoon, we swapped our original plans due to the heatwave and enjoyed some air-conditioned mini golf instead!

 Day 3 - A Fun Finish

To round off the trip, students swapped fieldwork for friendly fire with an exhilarating morning of paintballing! After several days of learning, data collection, and fieldwork, it was a fantastic way to end the visit.

A huge thank you to all the staff who gave their time to make the trip possible, and well done to all our students for their enthusiasm, resilience in the heat, maturity, and curiosity throughout the trip.

Until next time - keep exploring!

The Geography Department



 [Click for more photos](#)



Careers Corner



What's On:

Mon 29 June-Fri 3 July
Y12 Work Placement Week

Y12 Parents & Students - Good luck to everyone going on a work placement next week. Please look at your travel options and timings, dress code, lunch arrangements in advance of the placement. If you are unwell and cannot attend the work placement, please notify the employer as well as school.

*Good!
Luck!*

[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION ON CAREERS EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES!](#)



A HUGE WELL DONE TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS WHO HAVE TAKEN THEIR EXAMS RECENTLY - PARTICULARLY YRS 11 & 13 - YOU DID IT!

YEAR 11 - WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING MOST OF YOU NEXT MONDAY AT THE 6TH FORM INDUCTION DAY.

PLS ARRIVE BY 9.10AM!

WE'RE ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO BOTH PROMS NEXT WEEK - SEE YOU ALL THERE!

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





Y10 DofE Silver Qualification

A Roundwood record 123 students successfully completed their Silver Qualifying expedition last week! Not only did 123 complete, but this is a 100% pass rate - testament to their determination and skills. Some showed resilience to finish with blisters, aches and pains - but never considered giving up. True RPS spirit.

The teams navigated really well and assessors were impressed with their campcraft, goals and team work. Some had some longer days after detours and other teams showed they could navigate really well after some mislocations on practice! They reflected really well with assessors on the skills they have learnt, both hard practical expedition skills and soft skills they have developed that will serve them well in the future.

Thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who supported the expedition. It would not be possible without you. In particular to Miss Darby who took charge of half of the groups and organised their safe supervision.

The participants will now be finishing off sections so they can get signed off in September ready for what will be a big celebration at the awards presentation evening next year. Well done everyone!

Empowering Y10 Students

This term, our Year 10 students took part in an interactive and engaging workshop called 'Solve It - Resolve It', delivered by the brilliant team at Herts Young Homeless (HYH).



As part of our PSHCE curriculum, the session was designed to give students practical life skills to manage conflict and maintain healthy relationships both at school and at home.

The session covered:

- **Understanding Conflict:** Learning how to identify the direct effects of their own behaviour when an argument arises.
- **Communication Skills:** Looking at the hidden factors that affect how we communicate when we are stressed or angry.
- **Positive Change:** Helping students identify practical, positive changes they can make to de-escalate difficult situations.

Feedback from students was really positive with 100% rating the session as helpful or very helpful, and every single student walked away knowing exactly where and how to access support if they ever feel worried about arguments at home. A huge thank you to HYH Education for delivering such an impactful, engaging, and vital session for our young people. We are already looking forward to welcoming them back next summer!



INTERHOUSE SPORTS DAYS

~~Year 7 - Thursday 25 June~~

~~Year 10 - Friday 26 June~~

Year 8 - Friday 3 July

Year 9 - Tuesday 7 July

ESSENTIAL:

FULL PE KIT, WATER BOTTLE & SUN SCREEN

Y8 & Y9 INTERHOUSE DAYS STILL TO COME!

SCHOOL GAMES: PLATINUM AWARD

#RPSPE



The School Games Mark is a government-led award scheme that celebrates schools' commitment to developing competitive sport within their school and community. It awards high participation levels, the opportunities given to students to compete, to hold positions of leadership, the provision of equal opportunities and generally that students are supported in being active.

As you may expect, the RPS PE Department excels in all of these measures, and due to continued attainment of the Gold Award, this year, we have been awarded a coveted Platinum Mark.

We know our PE team is extraordinary, now it is officially recognised as such!

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





Y10 Thrales End Farm Visit

Last week, our GCSE Food & Nutrition students traded their textbooks for welly boots during an educational visit to Thrales End Farm. The field trip provided a hands-on look at how modern agriculture coexists with nature conservation.

Students learned about the lifecycle of crops and farmer Ian Piggott explained the precision technology used to sow, manage, and harvest crops like barley and oats.

The focus then shifted to wildlife conservation and we explored the farm's conservation initiatives, including:

- **Wildflower Borders:** Strips of land left uncultivated to support essential pollinators like bees and butterflies.
- **Hedgerow Habitats:** Dense bushes that provide nesting sites and travel corridors for small mammals and birds.

The trip successfully demonstrated that food production does not have to come at the cost of the environment. By protecting local habitats, the farm acts as a thriving ecosystem while supplying food to the community. Students returned to school with a deeper appreciation for sustainable farming and the biodiversity in their own backyard.

Read all about it... Vol 50 26 June 2026

Celebrating PRIDE

Across the school we have been celebrating PRIDE this month, and in the library we have been highlighting a selection of books including fiction books with LGBTQ+ characters and non-fiction books about the history of the PRIDE movement and how to be an ally to the LGBTQ+ community. In our library lessons we often talk about books being both mirrors and windows. They are mirrors that can reflect back a reader's own life, thoughts and feelings, helping them feel more connected. They can also be windows into how it might feel to have a life different from their own, developing empathy and a greater understanding of the

world around us. The books in our library reflect our diverse student community as well as the wider world, and throughout the year we have recognised Black History Month, Neurodiversity Celebration Week, International Women's Day and we are looking forward to celebrating our own RPS Culture Week before the end of term.



PTA UPDATE

| Second Hand Uniform Sale |
Saturday, 11 July, 12.30-2pm

School Hall

See our price list here



Calling Year 11 families –
if you have any uniform you no longer need please drop it in to Reception!

***We will also accept items such as calculators, pencil cases, school bags and revision guides. Thank you!**

SAY HELLO!



We will be serving refreshments at a number of events over the next few weeks, we look forward to seeing many of you! **(New Y7 Information Evening/ Current Y7 Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening/Achievement Evening)**

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

FOLLOW US!



You will also find lots of information on our website:





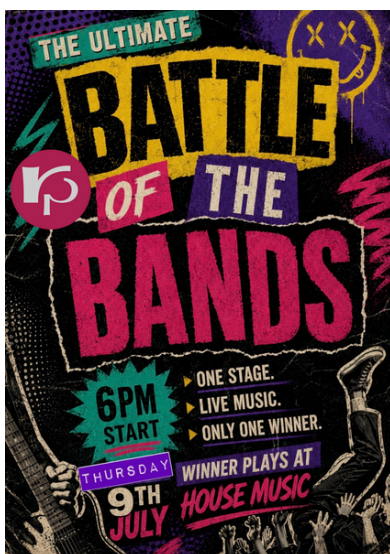
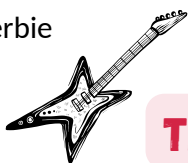
Battle of the Bands!

This is going to be an incredible night as RPS bands Offsett, Static, Fusion and Free Fall battle it out to win a slot on the stage at the Alban Arena during this year's House Music!

It's free to attend and we would love to see as many of you as possible there to create a real 'live gig' vibe here in our hall!

Refreshments will be available and the event will be judged by returning RPS Alumni - Strike Free band member Herbie and drum teacher Jacob!

We hope to see you there!



THURSDAY 9 JULY 6PM!

Learning Support Parent Survey



As we approach the end of the academic year, the Learning Support Department would value your feedback about the SEND support at Roundwood Park. Please [click here](#) to complete a short survey.

The survey will be available until Friday 19 July

RPS SPORTS CENTRE & LETTINGS

Summer Holidays at RPS

It's going to be BUSY! Signed up so far are: [Howsdar Cricket](#), [Mad Science](#), [APEX 360](#), [ArtShed](#), [Watford FC Trust](#), [Showtime Circus](#), [Mini-Chef Academy](#), [Herts & Beds Netball Coaching](#) & [Drama Academy](#).

In addition, CASPA summer workshop bookings are now live! All existing CASPA, Roundwood Park, Roundwood Primary and Bovingdon Primary Academy students get 10% off. Please email info@caspaschools.co.uk for details!

Take a look at the Stunting & Tumbling Workshop > [HERE](#)
And the Contemporary & Commercial Dance Workshop > [HERE](#)

For any enquiries at all please feel free to contact the Lettings Office on 01582 714019 or email us at lettings@roundwoodpark.co.uk

RPS Sports Centre Team

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

Wellbeing@RPS

Visit [TooledUp Education](#) and sign up for their latest webinars and weekly newsletter. You will find a huge amount of evidence-based resources for parenting, education and family life.

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

Take a look at the July Webinars > [HERE](#)

Community News

Please follow the links below for further information...

- [Children's Wellbeing Workshops](#)
- [Potters Bar Football Club U16s](#)
- [Bedfordshire Hospitals Fundraiser](#)
- [MHST Mental Health Summer Support](#)
- [Rock Chorus Kids Workshop](#)
- [Advanced Acting Workshop](#)
- [Rainbow Run](#)
- [Mid Herts Music Centre - Come & Try!](#)
- [Friends of the Nickey Line Photo Comp](#)

Residential Trips



[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

Join our TALENT POOL:

<< [HERE](#) >>