



Head Teacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the second edition of the newsletter this term. We are actively communicating with you so that you have a better knowledge about what is going on in school. We want you to be involved in your 'School of the Community for the Community'.

Christmas is fast approaching; everyone is very excited here. Christmas Jumper Day is just one of our charity events at this time of year along with the Sixth Form Christmas Fayre, the carol concert and the sixth formers' fancy dress on the last day. We break up on Friday 21st December at 1:30pm so that the preparations can start in earnest!

I do hope that you and your families have a happy Christmas and a lovely New Year. Don't forget that there is an INSET day for staff on Monday 7th January, so students return to school on Tuesday 8th January at 8.30am.

Sixth Form in the Spotlight



This has been another busy term for the Rednock Sixth Form. The annual Christmas Fayre was once again a huge success and raised £304.21 for the charity, Teens in Crisis (T.I.C.). Thank you to everyone that took part in this event.

Sixth Form students continued to take a leading role in the peer mentoring and Reading Buddies programmes. Year 13 have mentored Year 11 students, while Year 12 supported Year 8 and Year 9 learners.

Sixth Formers can offer peer

support for students who are finding things challenging and struggling in school. For students looking for support, advice and guidance they should seek out our 'Guardian Angels' who are trained students in Mental Health First Aid. For more details, students can visit the display board outside of the 6th Form Atrium.



Finally, a special mention must go to brothers, Ryan and Alex Rijsken-Salman who achieved gold and silver medals respectively in their weight categories at the Judo British Championship, earlier this month.



Year 11 'Results' Day

Over a two week period in November, all Year 11 students took a series of Pre-Public examinations (often referred to as mock exams). After completing their final exam, students waited in anticipation to find out how they had performed in each of their subjects.

On Friday 14th December, the wait was over because the Rednock 'Results' day had arrived! Each Year 11 student received their certificate of results in a sealed envelope and was given time to reflect on how they had performed by talking to staff and peers. This was followed by a whole year group assembly. This celebrated students' success stories and highlighted the importance of embracing the challenges ahead in preparation for the 'real' examinations in the summer. The 'Results' event provided students with a snapshot of what the actual GCSE Results Day will be like in August. Its aim is to encourage them to think about the qualifications and grades needed to progress onto the various career pathways at post-16 and beyond.

During Term 3, students will be supported in the creation of a revision timetable and given practical ideas on how to revise effectively. It is really important that students start their revision early by reviewing and practising what they have learned on a regular basis.

Year 11 Parents' Consultation Meetings will take place on Thursday 17th January 2019. This provides an opportunity for Parents/Carers to speak directly to subject teachers about the best ways to support their children over the coming months. Please make appointments via the online booking system using the following link:

<https://rednockschool.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/>

Christmas Carol Concert

It was a pleasure to see so many people at our annual Carol Concert at St James's Church, Dursley. The evening was a real celebration of Christmas with a fantastic arrangement of traditional and new performances with swing rhythms as well as folk included. There was truly something for everyone to enjoy and an excellent opportunity for the students to showcase, not only their diverse talents but musical inspirations as well.

A huge thank you goes to all of our performers and those who have supported them, particularly our Music team, Mr Andrews and Ms Merchant.

Thanks to the generosity of all, the collection raised £216.12 which will be divided between the four charities that our communities are supporting this year.

Music and Drama at Rednock

It has been a busy term for the creative subjects. The Music Department have supported a range of events outside of school, including the annual Dursley Fireworks and the switching on of the Christmas lights. They have done some sterling work entertaining all and raising money, both for local charities and to replace aging pianos in the practice rooms.



Alongside all their outside commitments, the students have again been making great progress with their individual instruments as well as their music studies. For instance, Year 10 Level 2 BTEC Music students recently completed the performance unit of their assessment.

The Drama Department have also had a busy term. Key Stage 4 and 5 students have been rehearsing hard to perfect productions from *The Curious Incident*, *Teechers* and *Blood Brothers*. These performed pieces will contribute to students' final qualification in Level 2 and Level 3 BTEC in Performing Arts.

The audience was treated to some outstanding performances. Some of these will be showcased in the New Year, as part of Rednock School's Gold Arts Award evening. This event will be an excellent opportunity for parents, staff and students to see students' work across all of the creative and performing arts subjects: Drama, Art, Photography and Music.

Sports Fixtures and Results

Rednock School took part in the Level 3 School Games Table Tennis (County) Competition. The under 16 girls came second, narrowly losing out to High School for Girls and the under 14 team came third. The girls performed exceptionally well and a special mention must go to Anna Blanch and Izzie Carey who were unbeaten on the day.

The Year 9 boys' rugby team recently competed in the second round of the Gloucestershire Schools E.D.F. Plate Competition. Despite losing to the Cotswold School, the boys demonstrated some excellent team play on the day.

For the first time in eight years, Rednock School entered a team to compete in the District Under 16 Basketball Tournament. The following students participated in the event and, as a result of some great play, achieved fourth place overall: Toby McCormick, Louis Polkinghorne, Jamie Polkinghorne, Oliver Ball, Alex Ide, Joe Camper, Patrick Dixon, Tom Cox and Ethan Littlewood.



On Wednesday 19th December, the Year 11 and Year 9 boys' badminton teams competed in the district tournament final at Wycliffe College. A great performance by the Year 9 team (Carlo Fossali, Matty Halsey, Fin Van't Hoff and Henry Seal) secured third in their competition. The Year 11 team (George Thomas, Aaron Witts, Harvey Mockett and Kyle Macmillan) played exceptionally well and went on to win. As competition winners, they will now compete in the county finals in the new year.

Well done to all students who have represented Rednock School this term.

Winning Year 11 Badminton Team



School Notices

E-Safety – Protecting your child online

Students may access the internet from a number of different devices including: mobile phone, laptops, home computers, tablets, iPads and games consoles as well as some smart TVs.

Once online, they can access a whole range of different materials and social networks via websites, Apps and online games.

While some of the content that students have access to is age-appropriate, there will be a significant amount that is not. Therefore, it is important that we take a pro-active approach in protecting students online.

Please take some time to review the following information/resources that we have put together about keeping your children safe when using the internet.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.rednockschool.org.uk/online-safety/>

In summary, three key questions you should consider as a Parent/Carer are:

Contact - Do your children really know who they are 'friending' on social media?

Content - Is the content that your child is accessing appropriate for their age or maturity level?

Conduct - Is your child being bullied online or inadvertently bullying others?



Dates for Your Diary

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| • Monday 7 th January 2019 | INSET Day 3 - no school for students |
| • Tuesday 8 th January 2019 | Start of Term 3 for all students and staff |
| • Thursday 17 th January 2019 | Year 11 Parents' Consultation Meeting - Left and Right Population - 15:30 to 19:30 |
| • Thursday 31 st January 2019 | Year 13 Parents' Consultation Meeting - 16:00 to 18:00 |
| • Thursday 31 st January 2019 | Art Residential Trip Information Evening - 18:00 to 19:30 |
| • Thursday 7 th February 2019 | Key Stage 4 Options Evening - 17:30 to 20:30 |
| • Tuesday 12 th February 2019 | Year 12 Parents' Consultation Meeting - 16:00 to 18:00 |



Useful Contact Details

Contact Details

01453 543618
admin@rednockschool.org.uk
Kingshill Road
Dursley
GL11 4BY

School Website - www.rednockschool.org.uk

Community Support Officers

- **Brunel** – Mrs Mandy Price (01453 540775)
- **Darwin** – Ms Suzannah Jones (01453 540773)
- **Hubble** – Ms Gail Harris (01453 540748)
- **Jenner** – Mrs Donna Dummelow (01453 540774)

Student Absence Notifications

Telephone: 01453 540755

Text: 07624 813504

- Attendance Officer - Mrs Nerys Croft



From all of us at Rednock School, have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

