



A Message from the Headteacher

February is suddenly upon us; Christmas and New Year celebrations are now long forgotten. Students and Staff are hard at work preparing for the forthcoming examinations, ensuring that success is within reach for everyone. We are also looking closely at our Key Stage 3 Curriculum with a view to making it more dynamic, appealing and checking that it lays down the foundations for success at Key Stage 4 and 5. More on this later in the year.

Work with Primary Schools is underway, looking at how we can support our students moving to secondary education. There is a lot to learn from our primary colleagues; regular transition meetings are proving fruitful. The collaborative approach really does help the students. Creating a community of schools and a community of learners can only help the local population.

Visit to Gloucester Mosque - Wednesday 29th January

On Wednesday 29th January 17 year 11 GCSE Philosophy & Ethics students visited Gloucester Mosque. The visit was both informative, interesting and as their teacher it was lovely to see the curiosity on the students' faces as they embraced totally new experiences. As always, their behaviour was exemplary and once they found their bearings they were keen to ask questions!

Imam Hassan touched on key aspects of our GCSE course, as well as contemporary issues that the students will continue to see in their daily lives and how the media can affect the way we view different religions. A big thank you to Imam Hassan for this great experience.

A final thought, a quote from Nietzsche – “The surest way to corrupt a youth is instruct them to hold in higher esteem those who think alike, than those who think differently.”





Year 11 Mock Interviews - Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd January

Over two mornings in January, 20 local people with experience of HR and conducting job interviews gave up their valuable time to interview all Year 11 students at Rednock as part of our annual Mock Interviews exercise. Over the two days, 200 students received timed appointments to be interviewed based upon an application form and personal statement that were completed just before Christmas.

Each student entered this formal process feeling rather apprehensive and nervous as this was the first time that most of them had been interviewed by a stranger. Each person was judged on their personal presentation, body language and the way they spoke and conducted themselves during the interview process. At the end of the interview each student received verbal and written feedback as to their performance.

It has been my privilege to oversee this process and to see everyone feel more confident about themselves after they finished their interview. Everybody recorded that they learnt a lot from the process and were more comfortable about attending interviews in the future.

After all, this is a life skill that we are all called upon to use throughout the rest of our lives.

What makes me really proud is the feedback I received from every interviewer who were each blown away by the quality and professionalism of all our Year 11 students.

Here are some of their quotes:

“That’s exactly the kind of person I want working for me.”

“Wow, I wish I had that level of confidence when I was their age.”

“I didn’t know someone could do that much in their lives at school.”

“If that were my son, I would be bursting with pride.”

And my favourite quote:

“If this is the calibre of students coming out of Rednock, my faith in the future success of our country is reassured. We are in safe hands.”

As a teacher, I am always looking for ways for each student to improve; I must learn to look back more often to appreciate how much each student has improved.

All students of Rednock should be justifiably proud of themselves and realise that they are a lot better than they think they are!

Mr Justice
Head of Careers



English Department News

Year 11

Thank you for supporting the English department in helping to prepare your child for their English Language and Literature mock exams. We have almost finished the GCSE course so lesson time will now be spent honing skills ready for the final examinations. Please do contact your child's English teacher if you require any additional support or resources so that your child is able to revise effectively at home. The Year 11 English clinic started on Wednesday 2nd February and will run every week until the exams have ended. If your child needs support with their English or just somewhere quiet to focus on revision they can drop in. Miss Duncan will be available to support and advise students.

Year 11 and Year 9

To support your child's study of their Shakespeare texts, The Young Shakespeare Company will be running a workshop and performance of Romeo and Juliet (Year 9) and Macbeth (Year 11). Letters have been sent home regarding these events and they were given to students during English lessons. We request a voluntary contribution of £5 so that these events can go ahead. If we don't receive enough contributions, unfortunately the events won't be able to run. Payments can be made via Parent Pay. Please note, you will only be able to make payment once the slip has been returned. If the letter has been misplaced, please put a note in an envelope addressed to 'finance department' so that we can make the payment option available to you on Parent Pay. We request that payments are made by Monday 24th February.

Reading

One of the most effective ways for students to improve in English (and across the curriculum) is for them to read widely and often. The school has a well stocked library full of fiction and non-fiction books. Please encourage your child to visit the library and choose a book they would like to read for pleasure. Please look out for our subject specific wider reading lists which will be published via Show My Homework and also on social media.

Creative Media Competition

A group of Year 7 students entered a Creative Writing competition in December based on the theme 'Hunted'. The stories from the following students have been chosen by the competition to be published:

Faith Western, Billy Boulting, Poppy Jones, Lexi Jewkes-Long, Inaya Wood, Juliette Boyd, Primrose Barfe
Bethany Gray, Willow Calcott, Drew Calcott, Dylan Court

A huge well done to the students who entered the competition!

Upcoming News

The Young Shakespeare Company will be performing Macbeth to Year 11 on Tuesday 17th March. They are also performing Romeo and Juliet to Year 9 on Tuesday 31st March.

We are excited to be planning writing workshops which will be delivered to students over the next couple of months. Create Gloucestershire are organising an author to deliver writing workshops to groups of KS3 pupils.

Also, Amnesty International are delivering a poetry writing workshop for Year 8 pupils in the summer term.



News from the P.E Department

Girls Under 16 Table Tennis



Rednock Girls Under 16 Table Tennis

The Rednock Girls Under 16 Table Tennis team (who were previously successful at the District Level 3 tournament as winners) went to represent the County up in Walsall and finished a creditable 4th place. The competition was extremely fierce and included many club and county players.

A special mention to all four girls, Izzy Carey, Anna Blanch, Rosie Spears and Jasmine Sprague for their tremendous efforts. Another huge thank you to those parents who gave up their Sunday to take the girls to the event in Walsall. This was a fantastic sporting achievement and experience for the team.

Girls Football News

The Under 12 Girls Football Team

The Under 12 girls made it through to Round 3 of the English School cup narrowly missing out to Ashton Park School. The girls played very well. There were notable performances from Beth Gray as well as brilliant leadership and encouragement from the captain Lily Herbert. Eve Wellings and Lily Fryc worked really hard in defence. We are looking forward to welcoming teams from across the county for our Level 2 tournaments.

Dates of L2 tournaments:

U16 - 12th February

U14 - 26th February

U12 - 4th March

The Under 16 and 14 Girls Football Team

The Rednock Girls Football U16 and U14 teams played against Stroud High School on Tuesday 4th February. The U16s won their match 3-1, Izzi Carey and Izzi Hughes playing brilliantly.

The U14s also won scoring 2-1 against Stroud High School, Lily Hobbs and Zara Judges playing well for the team.

It was a great afternoon of football with a great team spirit and a wonderful atmosphere between all of the girls.



Rednock Girls U14 and U16 Football Team



Badminton Report

The Girls Under 16 Badminton team are made up of; Caitlin Swift, Rosanna Spears, Lottie Waldron and Charlotte Morse. The team competed at the Level 3 school games competition (county level), after winning the district Level 2 competition. The girls competed in 5 matches against other District winners, beating both Deer Park and Newent school, and coming a close second to both Denmark Road and Balcarras, the girls finished a very impressive 3rd in the County.

The girls played some fantastic Badminton battling throughout every game, representing the school with the highest of standards. Well done girls!



Rednock Girls U16 Badminton Team

Indoor Cricket



Rednock Girls U13 Indoor Cricket Team

On Thursday 6th February Rednock hosted two tournaments for the Gloucestershire Cricket Board, the first being the Under 15 Boys tournament. Castle School, Crypt and Rednock competed with the Rednock boys finishing runners up, with really notable performances but one especially from captain Matty Halsey.

The Girls Under 13 Indoor Cricket team also took part in the Level 2 tournament against Castle School and Stroud High School. The girls did really well against Castle School in their first match winning convincingly by 33 runs. There was a really good batting performance from Gabby Mears to help us win. In the second game against Stroud High School the girls struggled to make runs against a

very fast bowler. Rednock lost the game 45 runs to 98 runs. Well done to Lily Fryc, Amy Nash and Evie Arnold for competing in the competition a year early! Congratulations to Amélie Bouvier for her superb captaincy.

Sports Ambassadors

Two of our Sports Ambassadors for the school, Tom Ford and Laurie Hayes (Year 11) have been playing county level rugby matches for Gloucestershire rugby. In a recent fixture for the team, Tom (number 8) and Laurie (second row) helped Gloucestershire to secure a victory over Oxfordshire (score 35-19) in a thrilling match between the sides! The boys are also part of the Gloucester Rugby academy U16's squad and have more matches lined up for both Gloucester Rugby and Gloucestershire county.





Sixth Form News

On Wednesday 29th January, Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Services visited Rednock during the Lifeskills session to present a thought provoking programme called 'Wrecked'. The presentation educated our students on drink/drug driving awareness. 6th Form students in years 12 and 13 learnt about the Drink Driving Campaign, 'One drink is too many' and how being a passenger should also influence their decision about getting into a car where a driver has had a drink or taken drugs. Ben Kirby (Year 13) said, "we know it's not ok to drink and drive, but I was really surprised to learn how long alcohol stays in the system".



The Learning Resource Centre

Reading for pleasure remains as important as ever.

Young people are faced with multiple screen-based distractions such as social media, gaming and television as well as more traditional demands for their time e.g school work, hanging out with friends and sports. It's more important than ever to support and encourage students to read for pleasure. Not only for the significant educational benefits but as a highly effective way of relaxing and building empathy.

At Rednock we believe that by encouraging students to continue the habit of reading, widely, into teenage years and beyond helps them to:

- deal with their increasingly complex world, and understand some of the adult issues they will have to grapple with
- know they are not alone – that others may be thinking and feeling the way they do
- open lines of communication, particularly if parents, teachers, librarians provide opportunities to discuss what teens are reading
- share and see how others have found solutions to problems
- develop their vocabulary
- broaden their imaginations
- improve their writing
- deal with the increasing demands of school work
- gain confidence when speaking.

The LRC has a wide range of new, exciting and thought-provoking fiction books this term, including a selection of LGBTQ+ themed books, that will help students make sense of often confusing gender issues.

As exam season creeps near, students are reminded that the LRC is a perfect place for quiet study until 4pm.

******OVERDUE BOOKS SPECIAL REQUEST******

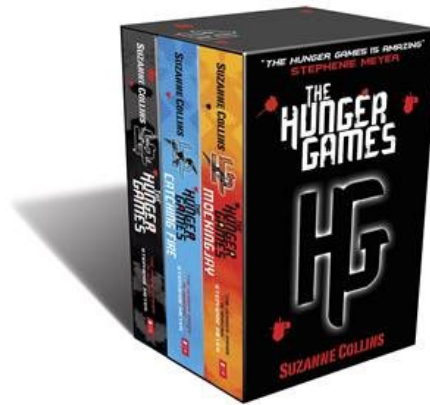
PLEASE RETURN ANY OVERDUE BOOKS, no matter how overdue or damaged.



The LRC is looking for donations

The Twilight Saga and Hunger Games books are really popular, sadly our copies are falling apart. If you have spares or would like to donate copies of the following books we would be most grateful.

Please ask your child to bring the books to Mrs Gillies in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC).



Science - Famelab Academy Competition

Rednock School is taking part in the Famelab Academy Competition which is run in conjunction with Cheltenham science festival. The competition is aimed at improving the public speaking skills of students as well as giving them a better understanding of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects. All students in Year 9 have worked hard to prepare a 3-minute presentation that they have to present on their own to their peers, no scripts or PowerPoints allowed. Rednock have been partnered with 2 STEM ambassadors; Bethany Jones from GE Aviation and Rhys Phillips from Airbus. They have come in to add their expertise and guidance to help the students improve their presentations.

This year Rednock students will also have the opportunity to present their talks to an audience in France as they will be working collaboratively with a French school, Collège Robert Roger, on the outskirts of Toulouse. The 10 school finalists will be involved in a school exchange with the French students joining us at the end of March with a return trip scheduled for the end of May. This is going to be an amazing opportunity for students involved. The trip to France has been funded by the British Council for France.

GirlGet SET Scheme

Girls from Year 7, 9 and 10 took part in GE Aviation's GirlGetSET scheme this term. This is the first of three days where the girls get the chance to experience the fun side of engineering. GE Aviation scheme aims to raise awareness among girls about the great and exciting opportunities that lie behind Science, Engineering and Technology (SET). It was a fantastic day packed with awesome activities run by a great team of volunteers from GE Aviation. We look forward to hearing what they get up to on their next day of the scheme.



Forest Green Rovers (FGR) - Hospitality and Catering event

GCSE Cooking Students had the opportunity to take part in a Hospitality and Catering event at Forest Green Rovers.

Day 1 - Thursday 28th November

On the first day Students from Rednock were greeted by James (FGR Community Outreach Coordinator) and given a tour around the FGR stadium where they discussed FGR as a sustainable club including the team kit and vegan food. Students were then introduced to Head Chef Jade, who gave them recipes for the day. The day was well structured and organised. Students were given the opportunity to cook both dishes that they were to cook on the intergenerational day and they were able to see the kitchen and see the process of preparing food, cooking and clearing afterwards. They then ate a beautiful lunch of Chickpea curry and samosas.

Day 2 - Monday 3rd February

On the 2nd day students were told by the FGR team that this time they were to be cooking and serving almost 100 people. The students were initially daunted and excited but they didn't have time to think on this as they had to begin preparing. Jade (Head Chef) decided that the students would have to cook two types of curries and the added challenge of a dessert. The students got stuck in straight away and thanks to the prep day they were able to confidently create the dishes. Students were pushed out of their comfort zone when asked to meet and greet the guests and seat them. They also realised that the hardest job was surprisingly taking the tea and coffee orders!

Once the guests were served the students had lunch and chatted with people from Woodchester valley and FGR, they were excited to see the academy scholars eating with them too. Mr Alexander was also a guest at the event. It was a pleasure to see Rednock students working so well as a team and putting on such a great event.

Thank you to the Forest Green Rovers Team for organising and supporting this. It will be a highlight of the course for the students.

Happy #Love Arts Award week 10th - 15th February

To mark #Love Arts Award week, we want to raise the profile of **Arts Award in Gloucestershire**, and celebrate all the stories, individual journeys and partners who have been delivering Arts Award (AA) over the last 15 years.

With support from Sarah at Real Ideas, Camille at the Everyman Theatre, and Rob at Artspace Cinderford - we created 4 one minute case study films and 1 blog to show the value of Arts Award in different settings, including **Rednock School**, Everyman theatre, Gloucestershire Hospital Education Service and Artspace Cinderford. You can watch the films and read the blog here:

<https://www.creategloucestershire.co.uk/arts-award>

Our ex-Rednock student **Georgia Wade** is interviewed and so are our current students **Rebecca Jones** Year 12 and **Kristine Mendoza** Year 13 both undertaking Gold Arts Award.

Please check out **The Everyman Theatre** Cheltenham website too and see their partnership with **Rednock School** as part of this Love Arts Week.

Mandy Johnson | Head of Drama



Dates for your Diary

- Friday 14th February End of Term 3
- Monday 24th February Start of Term 4 , students should be in school by 8.30am at the latest
- Tuesday 25th February Sixth Form Admission Interviews (Day 1)
- Wednesday 26th February Sixth Form Admission Interviews (Day 2)
- Wednesday 4th March Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
- Wednesday 4th March Year 12 What If Roadshow
- Tuesday 17th March Young Shakespeare Company Performance for Year 11 students
- Wednesday 25th March Year 10 BTEC Music Concert (6.30pm - 8.00pm)
- Thursday 26th March Year 7 Left Population Parents' Consultation Meeting
- Tuesday 31st March Year 9 Romeo and Juliet Performance
- Wednesday 1st April Malawi Trip Information Evening for Parents and Students (6.00pm—8.00pm)
- Thursday 2nd April Year 7 Right Population Parents' Consultation Meeting
- Friday 3rd April End of Term 4

Useful Contact Details

Contact Details

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Kingshill Road

Dursley

GL11 4BY

School Website - www.rednockschool.org.uk

Student Absence Notifications

Telephone: 01453 540755

Text: 07624 813504

- Attendance Officer - Ms Willis

Community Support Officers

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



Don't forget to check out the School Website and Social Media pages for up to date messages and notices