



Rednock School



Quality, Partnership, Success

Rednock School Termly Newsletter

The latest news and updates from Rednock School

Academic Year: 2020/2021 | Term 1 | Date: Friday 23rd October 2020

A Message From The Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

Welcome to another edition of our termly newsletter! We are keen to show you the excellent work which the students are producing now that we are all back at school. I must praise the students for their commitment to keeping to the year group bubbles and the challenge of the current arrangements for they have been fantastic in observing the new rules and understanding why we all need to keep to them. As if that wasn't enough, we are expecting them to give of their best in class and in their homework. As you know we are posting everything online as well as teaching in the classroom. Satchel One (formerly known as Show My Homework) and Google Classroom host the work and the online lessons. Details were sent out previously in the [Blended Learning Guide](#).

We want to celebrate student success; if you have something which your child has completed, either for school or outside of school - please do send us the details so that we can publish it to inspire others and celebrate success. In these extremely challenging times, we need to emphasize the positives and keep everyone smiling through adversity!

Thank you to all of the parents/carers; we could not do this without you - your support is invaluable. I am going to follow up on the parental survey as well as the student one so please watch out for our next steps based upon your feedback. I hope that you all manage to get some rest in the October break and that the students can then come back refreshed on Monday 2nd November. Take care and look after yourselves.

David Alexander
Head Teacher



Art Department



Miss Chinnock's Year 7 class have made some excellent Monochrome Mood Boards for their first homework task. We include some fantastic examples below. Well done Year 7, you have all responded to this task in such a creative way.



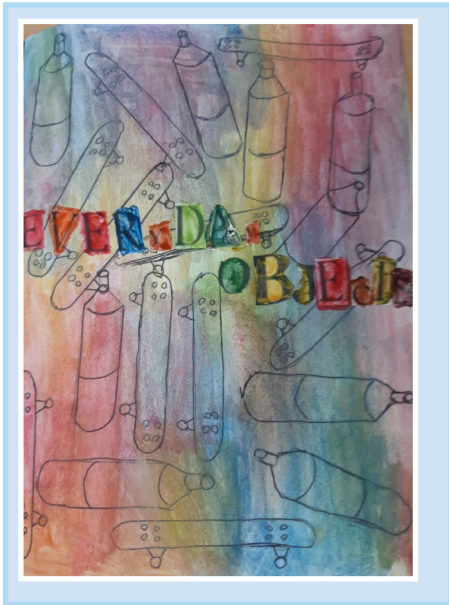
Gabriella Thomas

Amber Sheaff

Madison Spreadbury

Students in Year 9 were asked to draw a group of personal items as part of their Everyday Objects Project. Students created a repeat pattern looking at composition and line. Year 9 were inspired by the artist Michael Craig-Martin. Michael Craig-Martin is an Irish conceptual artist, frequently working in candy coloured paintings of text and everyday objects.

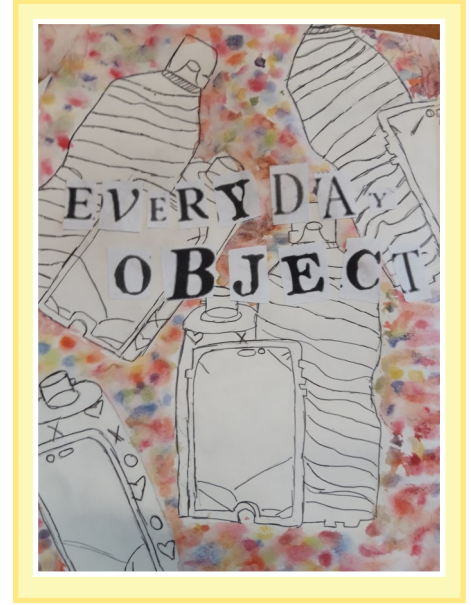
Here are some great examples of the brilliant work created by Mrs Clarke's class.



Piper Wenger



Keira Brennan



Jasmine Lawrence

We are so proud of the artwork the Year 9 students have produced. We look forward to seeing what the students get up to next term. Well done! ★



Drama Department



Congratulations to Year 13 Drama students who performed their Unit 19 Acting Styles Exam of "Teachers" on Friday 9th October. The students did a fantastic job, well done!

Thank you to our audience of socially distanced Year 13 students for supporting us. We include some pictures of the dress rehearsal taking place.





Mindful Well-Being Sessions

Miss Johnson (MJ) is running well-being sessions for tutees and their tutor every Thursday and Friday in the Drama Suite. During the session MJ goes through some really useful mindful breathing exercises to relax the students before they start their day. Students learn the following breathing techniques: Butterfly Hug, Mindful Hand Tracing, Squared Breathing and The Silent Sigh.

Students in the tutor group 10D1 really enjoyed their session and felt a lot calmer before heading off to their first lesson.

All mindful meditation exercises are available on MJ's YouTube Channel, make sure to check it out - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-UUE4Isf1PGyR87HjOjclA>



Computing



The Computer Science students are really enjoying the brand new PC's installed in Room 165 over the summer break.

The machines are state of the art 'solid state' PC's running Windows 10 and give the GCSE groups access to Visual Studio 2017 for their programming projects, where they will be using VB.NET.

All of the Year 11 students have commented on the smoothness of the computers.

A big thank you to Phil Wild, Network Manager, who worked really hard over the summer to make sure the machines were installed and ready to go for September!

Mr Birkett - Head of Computing

Kyle Broderick in Year 11 studies BTEC Digital Information Technology. Kyle took a course in Cyber Security over the summer and passed. This is accredited by the National Cyber Security Centre.

Congratulations, Kyle, you have done a brilliant job in completing this course and you should think about a career in combatting cyber crime. Well done!

Mr Setchfield - BTEC Digital Information Teacher



National Cyber Security Centre
a part of GCHQ



English Department

Tutor Reading Programme

This year we are launching an exciting new class read as part of our Tutor Programme. Reading has long been linked to academic success, but at Rednock we believe in the power of story-telling and the impact it can have on shaping the minds and paths of our students. Reading about the stories of others develops our empathy, challenges our assumptions and allows us to travel beyond the confines of our own lives, alongside, of course, improving our overall outcomes in school and beyond.

Listed below are the books that each year group will be listening to and exploring up until Christmas:

Year 7 – ‘Ghost Boys’ by Jewell Parker Rhodes

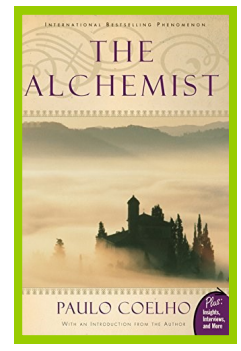
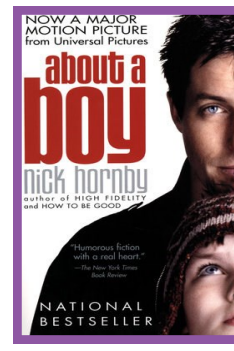
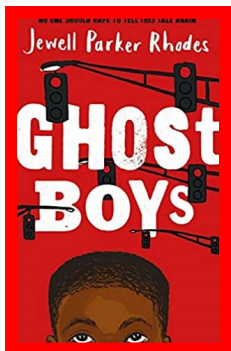
Year 8 – ‘The Dog Runner’ by Bren MacDibble

Year 9 – ‘Coram Boy’ by Jamila Gavin

Year 10 & Year 11 – ‘About a Boy’ by Nick Hornby (this text has previously been on the GCSE set text list and has some mature themes)

Year 12 & Year 13 – ‘The Alchemist’ by Paulo Coelho

We have found that the Tutor time reading sessions have proved a big hit with students and teachers alike. They’ve led to more calm starts to the day and some very interesting discussions about the subject matter covered



Mr Evans reading Ghost Boys to his Year 7 Tutor Group 7H2

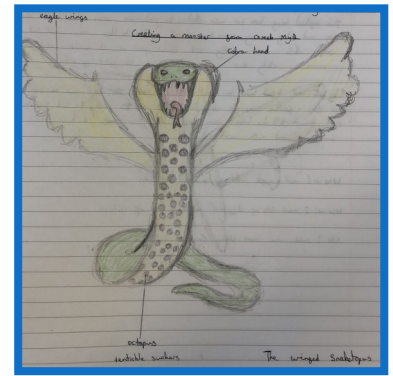
We asked a few students in different year groups what their thoughts are on the Tutor Reading Programme:

"It's good to have relaxing time before doing work in lessons." - Year 8 student

"I think being read to is calming and fun." - Year 8 student

"It is an engaging activity for tutor time and it allows us to explore new genres that we might not have chosen to read otherwise." - Year 10 student

Year 7 students have been having lots of fun studying and discussing Greek myths. 7R1 have created their own fantastic Pandora's boxes, inspired by the story, and they have even created their own hybrid monsters after learning about Theseus and the Minotaur battle. We include some examples below of 7R1's Pandora's boxes.



All of Year 9 were challenged to read an article centred on some of Bruce Lee's ideology about how to live your life. Scarlet Crosbee responded to this task brilliantly, her thoughts are truly inspiring. We include some of Scarlet's excellent work below:

Should we always seek to avoid confrontation?

Even though I think I am water, I still think that there are certain situations when we need to act as rock. The fluidity of water can help us to flow and avoid obstacles. This can be positive in some ways but can also be negative. However, if we act as rock, which has to face obstacles and barriers in life, as rock is unable to flow past, then we shall become a stronger individual or group. Overcoming confrontations, helps us to persevere and improve.



P.E Department



A massive **WELL DONE** to Lily Hieron in Year 9, who has been selected for the Under 14 Gloucestershire County Girls Football Team after successfully completing two rounds of Football trials.

The trials took place at Gloucestershire Football Association (GFA) in Almondsbury.

Congratulations Lily we are so proud of you. We can't wait to hear how you get on in your first league match.



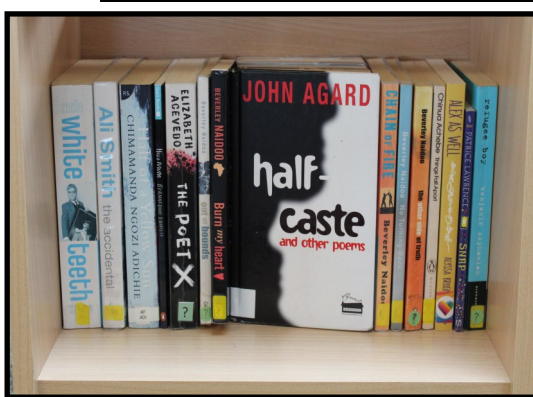
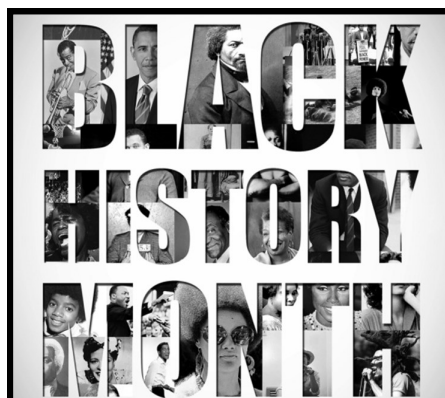


Learning Resource Centre (LRC) News



October is Black History Month

The LRC has a large selection of books by black authors. Look out for a new book ordering system that'll be ready after half term. If you can't wait that long, ask tutors to message Ms Gillies and she will bring a selection of books to tutor rooms. Here are a range of the books that we have in the LRC for Black History Month.



Overdue Books

Don't worry about the due dates, please just return any overdue books. Returned books can be left with tutors.



Science Department



Hettie Hudson in Year 10 has finally had the opportunity to compete in the county final of the Famelab Academy Competition which had been delayed since March. Famelab Academy is an annual event which is run in conjunction with Cheltenham Science Festival and is aimed at improving the public speaking skills of students as well as giving them a better understanding

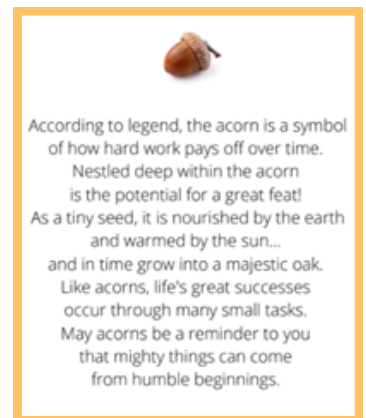
of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects. An auditorium packed with 500 spectators had to be replaced with a zoom video call, but Hettie gave an incredible performance with an enthralling and faultless talk about how we don't actually touch anything due to the repulsive nature of the electrons in our hands and the things we interact with. Twenty two schools across the county took part and Hettie was declared as one of the runners-up. Well done Hettie, an incredible performance.

Raising Standards Team

Each year group bubble has its own Raising Standards Lead (RSL). RSL's work with students to raise aspirations, promote academic attainment, and support students. They are also responsible for the weekly quiz. Well done to 8D2 and 9D1 who are joint first with 61 points, and 8H1 in third place with 60 points (as of 07/10/2020).

Year 7 - Mrs Wade

Over the next few weeks, Year 7 will be thinking about who they are, who they want to be, and where they want to go as part of their 'Acorn Aspirations' project led by Mrs Wade. Students will have the opportunity to grow their own oak trees in tutor time to demonstrate good things take nurture and nourishment over time to grow.



Year 8 - Mr Szmaglik

Over the course of the next few weeks, Mr Szmaglik is launching 'Run the River' - a metaphorical initiative based around the journey of a salmon swimming upriver. The aim is to help students to reflect on their personal and academic targets for the year and anticipate some of the obstacles they might face, and how they might go about navigating them and the support they might need to do this.

Congratulations to Hasan Kaya who has already amassed an impressive 30+ reward points this term for his consistent academic effort, well done Hassan!

Year 9 - Miss Burley

This academic year Rednock will be looking to host exciting subject specific competitions that will begin after half term. These competitions will be a great opportunity for students to showcase their enthusiasm for their favourite subjects. Competitions will include prizes, rewards and points towards communities. Keep your eyes peeled for more information that will be shared with you via the Schools social media platforms and future newsletters.

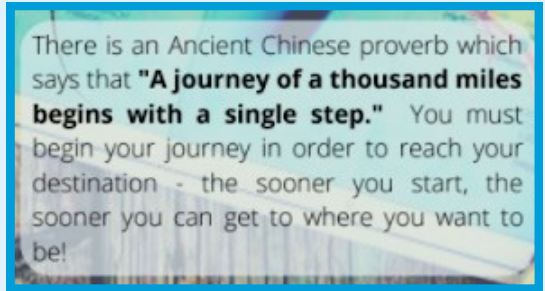
Over the next couple of weeks, Year 9 will be focusing on their career aspirations and what GCSE options and skills they need to start their career journey.

Congratulations to Libby Townsend and Callum Darlow who have already earned 30+ reward points this term so far!

Year 10 and 11 - Miss Ryall and Miss Chinnock

Over the next couple of weeks, Year 10 and 11 will be focussing on their GCSE journey; in particular the grades and career goals they are willing to work hard for, and building a strong and supportive network to achieve these goals.

Congratulations to the following students who have started their journey really well with plenty of reward points for academic achievements: Dinah Yates and Mackensie Winsor in Year 10, and Courtney Phillips and Cruz Ford in Year 11.



Young Farmers Group



From Term 2 Miss Chinnock will be running a Rednock Young Farmers Group in response to her own experience of managing school (as a student, Learning Support Assistant, and teacher) alongside managing life on a farm. The group will be a support group, social network, and educational enrichment. It is open to students from farming backgrounds, with family/neighbours who work in agriculture, and to those who are interested in the rural way of life. Everyone will be welcomed and valued.

We will have a carousel of guest speakers who will present virtually to the group and share key advice about running successful rural businesses. The group will take part in internal and external competitions, and participate in a range of activities which are aimed to consolidate an interest in agriculture with academic aspects of school, blending elements of DT, Science, Catering, Maths, Art and other subjects into fun activities where students might not even realise they are learning.

Competitions will include: biggest egg, cutest calf (voted for by the public on the school's social media channels), best eco-tractor design, tastiest milk cake, longest welly-throw, many more including a Rednock Young Farmers Group team entry to the NFU Farmvention Competition

Parents are welcome to contact Miss Chinnock (samantha.chinnock@rednockschool.org.uk) by email if they have any suggestions or questions about the Young Farmers Group, or are interested in helping out in some way or speaking to the Group.



LIVE ON A FARM OR INTERESTED IN RURAL LIFE?

REDNOCK YOUNG FARMERS GROUP

*Sports!
Competitions!
Support with school work!
Career Advice!*

*Growing food!
Cooking!
Sharing skills!
Extra curricular activities!*

YEAR 7: MONDAYS
YEAR 8: TUESDAYS
YEAR 9: WEDNESDAYS
YEAR 10: THURSDAYS
YEAR 11: FRIDAYS

MEET DURING MORNING TUTOR TIME BY YOUR ZONE SUPPORT BUBBLE BREAKFAST SNACKS PROVIDED!

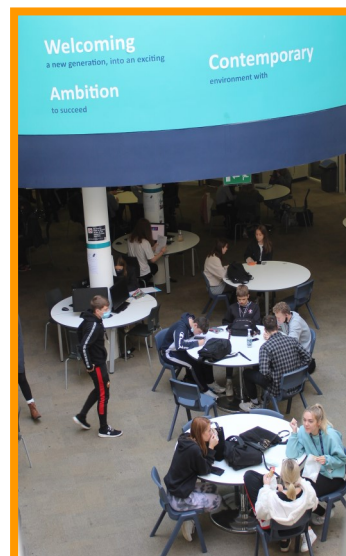
NOT PART OF OR AFFILIATED WITH THE NFYC



6th Form News



The 6th form students have settled in well and adjusted to our new ways of working. Study periods are spent in the 6th form rooms and the atrium. Students are working in their masks, and getting used to regular cleaning of desks. Students are unable to access the 6th form cafe in the common room, so the cafe has come to them. Each break and lunchtime Kim arrives with her trolley of treats!



Year 12 have made the transition into 6th form with guidance from their tutors. They have covered the following topics in morning tutor sessions:

- How to be a successful 6th form student
- Vision and goal setting
- Promoting volunteering
- Time management
- Organisation
- Use of independent study
- Resilience and growth mindset
- Positive working relationships with teachers

Year 13 have been focussing on writing their personal statements in preparation for university, apprenticeships and job applications. We have a number of early applicants through UCAS this year. Ashleigh Hutchinson was the first student to send off her form and is applying to do Musical Theatre. Tilly Hurrell is applying to Oxford University to read Biochemistry. Other Year 13 students have until **15th January 2021** to meet the UCAS deadline.



The 6th form Committee organised voting for this year's 6th form Charity. Students have chosen to support Papyrus, a charity working to prevent young suicide. The committee is currently planning a range of fundraising events.

Sixth Form Assemblies

We are now holding virtual assemblies for Sixth Form students that are shared with them during their morning registration. It's a great way of communicating key messages to the students, we will be doing them more regularly from now on.

Being study ready...

- Have a PLC for all subjects
- Know your strengths and areas for improvement
- Use Smith proformas
- Use your study periods i.e. non-contact time to work independently.



Dates for your Diary



* Friday 23 rd October	End of Term 1
* Monday 2 nd November	Start of Term 2
* Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day Commemoration
* Thursday 26 th November	Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening
* Friday 27 th November	Inset Day 3
* Monday 30 th November	Year 11 Mock Exams Begin
* Friday 18 th December	End of Term 2

Useful Contact Details

Contact Details

Telephone - 01453 543618

Email - admin@rednockschool.org.uk

Rednock School

Kingshill Road

Dursley

GL11 4BY

School Website - www.rednockschool.org.uk

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/rednockschool.org.uk>

Twitter - https://twitter.com/rednock_school

Student Absence Notifications

Telephone: 01453 540755

Text: 07624 813504

- Attendance Officer - Ms Willis



Community Support Officers

- **Brunel** | Year 7 Bubble - Mrs Price | mandy.price@rednockschool.org.uk
- **Darwin** | Year 9 Bubble - Ms Jones | suzannah.jones@rednockschool.org.uk
- **Hubble** | Year 11 Bubble - Ms Harris | gail.harris@rednockschool.org.uk
- **Jenner** | Year 10 Bubble - Mr Spary | kieran.spary@rednockschool.org.uk



From all of us at Rednock School, have a lovely October half term

