

THE REDNOCK REVIEW



TERM 1 WELCOME - 2023/24
SEPTEMBER 8TH 2023



My name is Mike Stratford. It is my privilege to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Rednock School. After my first ever visit to the school on 28th April 2023, it was clear that Rednock was a special place. A school I would love to lead. Its vision that 'everyone matters' resonated with me immediately. I knew then that I must apply for the role. Fast forward a few months, I am now in post, excited about leading Rednock through its next stage of development.

I have been a senior leader for over a decade at Cheltenham Bournside - Gloucestershire's largest secondary school, prior to accepting the role at Rednock. My early career was as a PE teacher, department leader and Head of Year. When appointed to senior leadership I held responsibility for leading teaching development, have been a Head of Sixth Form and, as a Deputy Headteacher, had responsibility for whole school culture. I loved my time at Bournside, and it would have taken a special school to make me consider leaving. Rednock was that school.

I join Rednock with an educational belief that every child is unique, and that their welfare, happiness, and success is our school's priority. Every child deserves to be safe, enjoy school, and be given every opportunity to achieve their potential. I am excited about leading our exceptionally committed staff to establish an ambitious culture which centres around care, challenge and aspiration. Rednock is rightly proud to be at the heart of its community. David Alexander, previous headteacher, led our school through a complete rebuild and expertly navigated the school and community through some of the most challenging times in education so, I take the reins with humility and hope to continue his fantastic work. Creating an ambitious school where a community 'loves where it learns' will be my priority.

Click [here](#) to view a welcome video from Mr Stratford



"It is my absolute privilege to lead Rednock School and I would like to extend the warmest of welcomes to our students, parents, and many friends."

Mr Stratford
Head Teacher

OOPS WE FORGOT!



Goodrich Castle

Due to the amount of exciting news in our final Newsletter of the last academic year we were bound to miss something! Unfortunately for the History Department it was their wonderful trip to Goodrich Castle.

“The History department were delighted to take year 8 students out to explore Goodrich Castle last month. Students were given a tour of this fantastic castle to investigate its defensive features and to evaluate what it would have been like to live and work in a castle like this. As the students progressed around the castle they became expert at spotting features that gave them clues as to what each room was used for and they took photographs of the most useful parts of the castle in order to produce an evaluation of what they had learned about castle development for their homework. We all enjoyed a relaxed lunch in the castle grounds and those brave enough took on the challenge of going up to the top of the Tower and getting down in one piece.

The students were great ambassadors for Rednock School as Goodrich Castle staff told us their exemplary behaviour had been commented on by visiting members of the public. We are very proud of them and have been very impressed with many of the presentations we have received, which will shortly be on display in the Humanities Department.”

Mrs Kelly
History Teacher

“My favourite bit was the Tower and the trembling stairs, one wrong step and I could have slid all the way down. It was much higher than it looked!” Jozef Timpson.



“I was surprised at how much was still there to enjoy and explore. I learnt a lot about its history” George Loveday.

“I really liked being able to explore the whole castle, especially the dungeon. Can we have lots more trips please?” Joe Kelly.



OUTDOOR UPDATES

Summer Projects

We are proud of our school site and are very lucky to have such lovely grounds, but we are always on the look out for ways to improve. Over the summer break we have been working hard making some exciting updates!

Our AWP (all weather pitch) is a valuable resource for not only our students but also the local community. As it is used so regularly it was in need of a new cover, which is no mean feat! The contractors have been working hard but due to our 'wonderful' British weather the process is taking a little longer than expected. The end is in sight though and we're looking forward to re-opening the AWP soon.



Canopy Construction

Covered outdoor spaces is something we've been keen to introduce for a while now and we're happy to announce that our all new canopies are now in place!

This provides our students with shelter from the rain or harsh sunshine and also helps to ease congestion inside the building during breaktimes.

TREE SURGERY



Tree Trimming

Many of you will be familiar with the beautiful cedar tree we are lucky enough to have on our school grounds. It has watched the school develop since it's conception and has seen thousands of students come and go over it's lifetime.

We were devastated when a large branch unexpectedly fell and for safety reasons we needed to look into essential maintenance and possible felling. Luckily we had tree surgeons assess the branches and it has had a bit of a facelift and trim and we were able to save the tree whilst keeping our students' safety at the top of our list.

You can see the tree peeking over the top of both the old and new school buildings below, a true member of the Rednock family!



STUDENTS RETURN!



New Starters

We have had a total of 238 Year 7 students (and 1 new Head Teacher) join us this year and it's been an exciting start to their journey at Rednock School. Along with Mr Stratford (remember it's his first week too!), their first day was probably full of nerves and excitement. They have all worked hard to overcome their anxieties over the week and have thrown themselves into all tasks and activities prepared for them. Well done everyone!



Returning Students

It's lovely to see the school full of students again after the summer break. We've loved hearing what they all got up to over the holidays and it seems like everybody has managed to relax and recuperate! They've all returned with a fresh mind ready for learning and we're excited to see what the year ahead brings.



What should students be aiming for in this term?

In Term 1, the main aim is to get students settled into school and to be happy and confident about coming here each day. By the end of the term they should know their way around the school, have met all their teachers and started to settle into the routine of their timetable.

Once students have had their first IT lesson, they will have access to the school's computer systems, including 'Edulink' which tracks their progress and attendance and 'SatchelOne', which is where homework is set.

How can I help as a parent/carer?

At the very beginning, the best things you can do are to reassure your child and to talk to them frequently about what is happening at school. The more specific your questions, the more specific the answers will be! If you have any concerns at all about your child, it is really important that you raise them with their tutor. It is MUCH easier to 'nip problems in the bud' while they are small than to let them build into something bigger.

Once your child has set up their IT accounts, you will be sent details of how to log on to and use 'Edulink' and 'SatchelOne'. It is really helpful if you can download both of these apps and check them regularly. If you are unable to access or use the apps, there will be workshops to help you with this on the October Meet The Tutor evening.



Rednock School

Upcoming Open Events

Open Mornings

Wednesday 20th September 2023
Thursday 19th October 2023

Come and visit Rednock School on one of our Year 6 Open Mornings. We will be running tours where you can explore the school and see us in action!

Please note this is a ticket only event!

You can book your spot on a tour on our school website. Tickets will be available from 2 weeks prior to the event.

Open Evening

Wednesday 13th September 2023

Come and see our amazing school.

We are excited to invite parents and families to our school Open Evening to find out about life at Rednock School. Meet our students, be inspired by our staff, and hear from our new Headteacher about what makes Rednock such a vibrant community. There will be an opportunity to tour our extensive facilities, explore our exciting curriculum and experience what learning at Rednock is like.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Don't forget!
The closing date for applications is
Tuesday 31st October 2023



CONTACT INFORMATION

MRS WYATT- BRUNEL



laura.wyatt@rednockschool.org.uk

MRS TURNER- DARWIN



steph.turner@rednockschool.org.uk

MRS HARRIS - HUBBLE



gail.harris@rednockschool.org.uk

MRS POULSON - JENNER

(Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday only)



jennercso@rednockschool.org.uk

MRS FLETCHER - JENNER


(Thursday and Friday only)



jennercso@rednockschool.org.uk




School Contact details

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

 www.rednockschool.org.uk

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

Student Absence Notification

-  01453 540755
-  07908661525
-  attendance@rednockschool.org.uk