

THE REDNOCK REVIEW



TERM 4 - 2023/24
23RD FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Rednock Community,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you back to Term 4. It was certainly a wet half term and that has continued this week! Nevertheless, I hope our students managed to enjoy themselves over the break. You will be pleased to hear that our school has started back with real purpose and pace. We will certainly need this as, yet again, we have a relatively short term ahead. In fact, at the time of writing this we only have 4 weeks until the Easter break which arrives on Friday 22nd March. We certainly have a lot to fit in.

We were thrilled to welcome back our school trips that went at half term and would like to thank all of the staff who gave up their break to provide these wonderful opportunities



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

for our student community. Read more about this and enjoy exploring the photos and videos that we have provided as part of this edition of the Rednock Review.

There are plenty of stories to enjoy in this publication and some key dates for you to note on the final pages.

When I write to you next, we will be about to enter our school production week. I hope many of you can come and enjoy our production of Peter Pan which opens on 13th March; be sure to get your tickets!

On behalf of all of the staff at Rednock School, I wish you a warm welcome back to Term 4 and hope you enjoy our latest edition of the Rednock Review.

Best wishes,

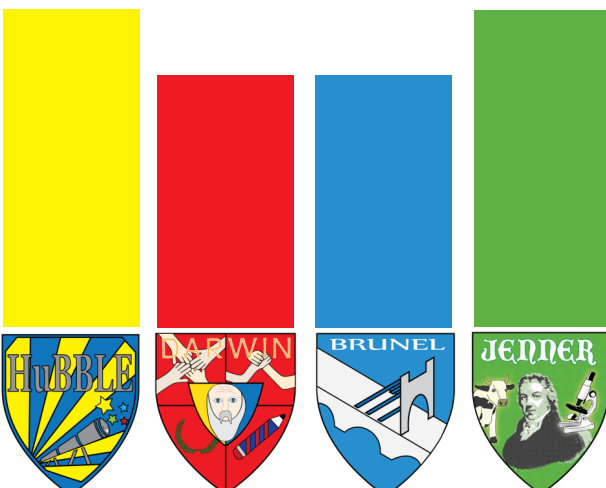
Mike Stratford
Headteacher



Achievement Heroes

We've had some wonderful Achievement Heroes in the past 2 weeks and we're extremely proud to celebrate their achievements. They were nominated for various reasons, all as impressive as the last!

Winners are: Seth who was nominated for his enthusiasm to engage with his community, Spencer who became double county champion in breaststroke with the Dursley Dolphins, Esme who, despite a fear of public speaking, gave a compelling talk for her Science Famelab Presentation, Noah for playing in the under 17 league for Cheltenham Town, Poppy for her wonderful Famelab presentation, Logan who has shown resilience and leadership, Lexi who comes to school each day with a positive attitude and works hard in all her lessons and 4 Sixth Formers, Ruby, Sophia, Lewis and Charlie for their amazing band performance at the Sixth Form Open Evening!



Community Leader Board

Darwin took the win with the highest number of Clean Sheets in the final week of Term 3 and Brunel took the sports title for the term but when points all came together with the Year 11 revision podding figures it is Hubble and Jenner that sit at the top of the table at the start of Term 4 and Darwin and Brunel not too far behind in joint second!

The next Community Challenge takes place next week which will be led by the KS4 Raising Standards team so watch this space to see what they get up to.

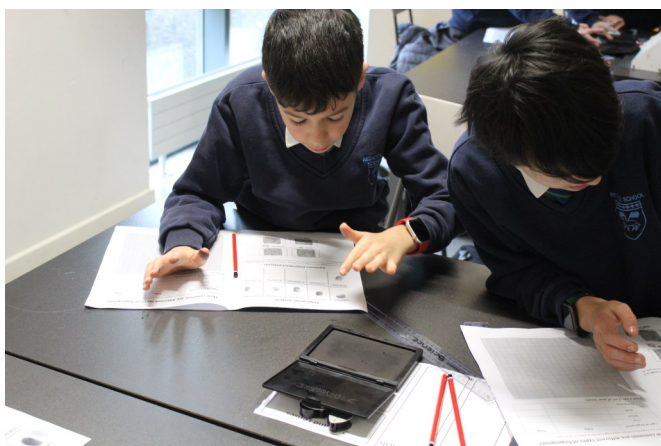


Key Stage 4 Options Information Evening

Our Key Stage 4 Options Information Evening went ahead on Thursday 22nd February and it proved to be a very informative and enjoyable evening. We hold evenings such as this to ensure that our students get the relevant information, support and guidance to inform their choices around which course to move forward with.

We were particularly excited to share information about the brand new courses we have on offer such as GCSE Photography and BTEC Tech Award Health & Social Care. Teaching staff were available to answer specific queries relating to their subject and members of the School Leadership Team were also available to answer general questions.





Enrichment Day

The whole school was off timetable on the 7th February and all were immersed into the world of careers as part of our enrichment program to help expand students' vision. There were a vast array of activities that took place including talks by colleges, universities and companies that came in to discuss their apprenticeship schemes. We also welcomed a large number of other employers to talk through what they do and why they enjoy their role. This included Physiotherapists, Hair and Beauty, Archaeologists and Cyber companies to name only a few. Overall the day was very well received by our guests, staff and especially the students having received over 500 responses to the feedback form from them all giving me additional suggestions which I will look to implement in future events.

Mrs Anika Mould
Careers Education Lead





Extended Project Qualification EPQ

On Wednesday Year 13 students held the EPQ marketplace style event enabling them to complete the mandatory presentation element of this award. As always with EPQ, the students chose a wide and varied range of topics - from 'Supermarket Design' to 'One Direction', to 'The History of Sharpness Docks'. We welcomed members of school staff and governors who all asked questions and engaged students in lively conversation.



"I felt privileged to have the opportunity to understand the range of subjects the students had chosen to pursue in depth. Every student I spoke to presented their chosen subject with confidence and panache, answering my questions thoroughly and succinctly and in doing so showcased their passion and enthusiasm for their EPQ. I felt proud to be part of the Rednock Governor team."

Di Caesar (Rednock Governor)

Unlocking Science at Rednock Sixth Form

This week, Rednock School's Sixth Form students have been immersed in a world of scientific exploration. From biology to chemistry and physics to applied science, they've been hands-on, engaging with experiments that bring science to life.

In A level Biology, students extracted plant pigments and used chromatography to separate them, gaining insights into plant biology's complexities. A level Chemistry students explored chemical reactions by reacting zinc and iodine to form zinc iodide, then separating them back through electrolysis. In A level Physics, students tackled polarised light, microwaves and motor efficiency calculations, grounding theoretical knowledge in practical applications. Applied Science students dissected chicken wings, delving into joint, ligament and tendon structures, enhancing their understanding of anatomy and physiology.

These experiences are not just about learning science; they're about developing critical skills for future success. If you missed the chance to explore our Science department at the recent Sixth Form open evening, don't worry. You can click [here](#) to get a glimpse of what we offer by watching our promotional video. Join us at Rednock School's Sixth Form, where you'll discover a dynamic science community and endless opportunities to explore your scientific curiosity.

Sixth Form applications close today -

23rd Feb 2024!

[Click here to apply](#)





Rednock Ski trip, Wagrain, Austria 2024

Well what a week we had!

It all started at 3am on Saturday morning, some tired, yet excited children met us at Rednock car park ready to embark on what was for many of them their first experience away from home and for 90% their first time skiing.

We arrived at Gatwick airport, there was lots of anticipation!

After a long journey on the plane and then a 4 hour coach ride, we arrived at the Markusof Hotel in Wagrain, Austria. We got our boots and skis fitted and attempted an early night before our first day of skiing!

Sunday was a very wet day! Everyone was really resilient and most had mastered the snow plough or 'pizza' by the end of the day!

By day three we took a coach ride to attempt a mountain! There was some trepidation! By the end of the day all students had skied down the mountain! Amazing! As it was pancake day we rewarded the students with the Austrian delicacy 'Kaiserschmarrn'! It went down very well!

Throughout the week students showed incredible resilience and determination. All students skied all day everyday! No injuries!

The Après-ski was also a hit with students, ice skating, swimming and especially the pizza night with unexpected disco!

An excellent week had by all! Many thanks to Mr Barrett, Mr Merriman and Miss McParland for coming along!

Mrs Bird

Click [here](#) to view a wonderful video that includes shots of the week's adventures!





“I loved the ski trip because I loved doing all the different activities and I loved seeing the amazing views.” Amelia, Year 10



“I absolutely loved the ski trip and I enjoyed every bit of it was a little tired after a little but was definitely worth it.” Liz , Year 8



**“It was very fun I enjoyed lots and had fun with all my friends and instructors.”
Richie, Year 8**



**“I enjoyed everything about the trip except for the food on some of the days.”
Dexter, Year 8**



Famelab 2024

After weeks of hard work we held our Famelab final in the drama studio on 21st February.

A big well done to all of the finalists who were fantastic and presented with a confidence beyond their years. We were delighted with a range of science topics and the final decision for the judges was not an easy one. All of the finalists will attend the Gloucestershire final in March to support our overall school winner.

Congratulations go to the following students: Runners up Ellie Fox who gave a fascinating talk on why we dream and Leo Lai who demonstrated and explained why some of us can burp on demand and finally our amazing winner Poppy Crosbee (right) who wowed the judges with her talk entitled 'Are you Scared?'. We are really looking forward to seeing Poppy in the final!

Thank you to our judges for making that very difficult final decision!



Duke of Edinburgh

Before half term a group of Year 9's headed armed only with maps, a compass and waterproofs to practice their map reading and navigation skills ahead of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition later in the year. Each of them managed to navigate the group to the next checkpoint giving approximate timings, landmarks and features they would pass. We all came back to school with a deeper understanding of navigation and an extra layer of mud.

Well done everybody who took part in the expedition!



National School Football Week

This week we have been supporting National School Football Week and our students have been taking part in a 5 day long inter-community football tournament. A grand total of 240 games have been played throughout the week!



Sixth Form Football

Our Sixth Form football team went head to head with St Bedes on 21st February. The match included some nail biting moments and proved to be a strong competitive game. We fought hard and came away with a win of 3 - 2.

Well done boys!





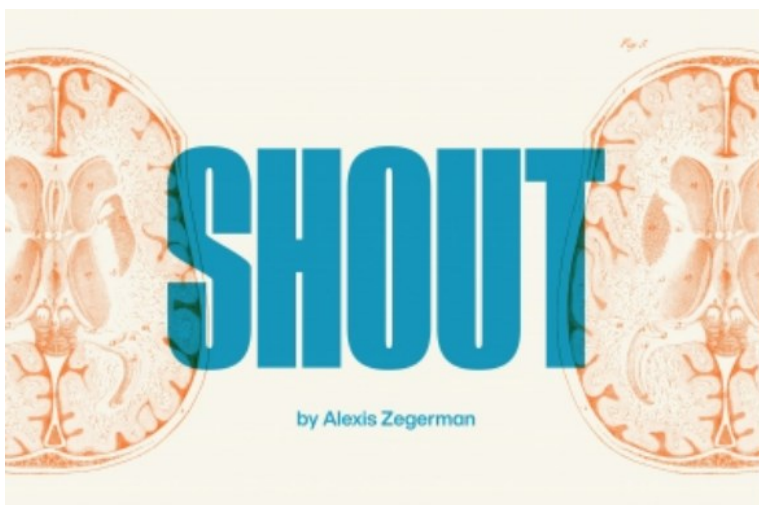
National Theatre Connections Project

We are only a few weeks from our performance at Bristol Old Vic. We are performing as part of the National Theatre connections project. This is a prestigious national event and we are one of only a few comprehensive schools chosen to perform. The students have been working very hard on preparing the production.

Tickets are now available for purchase from the Bristol Old Vic from this link, [NT Connections 2024 | Bristol Old Vic](#) (Please make sure that you book for REDNOCK's performance of SHOUT as there are a number of companies listed). We are performing at 8.30pm on Wednesday 20th March. Tickets are £5 or £8 if you want to see the double header on the night we perform which would start at 7pm.

The students would really appreciate seeing a few supportive faces in the crowd.

As always, thank you for your support in helping us to give our students these fantastic experiences.



SHOUT

By Alexis Zegerman

In a world full of words, how can Dana survive when she can't speak? Dana has selective mutism, but that doesn't stop her vivid imagination. Shout is a funny, moving play about anxiety, celebrating difference, and finding your voice. A play that wonders what exactly it takes to overcome anxiety and mental health issues when you're a teenager. It's not just the noise you make that makes you who you are.

Peter Pan Production

Peter Pan rehearsals are well underway and the show is fast approaching!

With a diverse cast of 60 students, the Drama Department selected a lively, nostalgic script. They wanted something that would be fun for all ages and have described the play as having a pantomime feel, with adventure, music and humour that will make spirits soar!

Tickets are £8 each and can be purchased via Parent Pay or Main Reception (cash only via reception). The show times are as below:

Wednesday 13th March - 7.00pm

Thursday 14th March - 7.00pm

Friday 15th March - 7.00pm

Saturday 16th March - 4.00pm





St Ives Art Trip

During half-term the Art department took 36 GCSE and A'level students to St Ives for 3 days. Students visited the Tate Gallery and the Barbara Hepworth Gallery. The students had guided tours of both the galleries and learnt about the history of art.

Day 2 - Students took part in a Mixed Media workshop with local artist Rowena Tarplee, they created some beautiful work based on seascapes using a variety of found materials. They also went on a drawing tour around St Ives with another local artist, Greg Humphries - luckily the weather stayed dry!

Day 3 - The students visited the Leach Pottery where they experienced a guided tour and took part in a clay tile workshop. Students also had the option of a photography workshop with local landscape photographer Chris Webber. They took some amazing photographs, even capturing a seal.





Year 11 Mock Interviews

Over three mornings this term we carried out the Year 11 mock interviews, this was an aspect that all students had been preparing for during their life skills lessons. The school welcomed a large number of professionals into school each morning with whom I am extremely grateful for giving their time to spend with our students. The guest interviewers all left extremely happy and really enjoyed the time spent with each student, this is based on the wonderful feedback I have received;

"It's inspiring to meet young people embarking on their future, and to encourage them to think about what skills they have in a different light - from an employer's perspective"

"Overall I was very impressed with the school and in particular the behaviour of the students and their positive attitude. They were a real credit to Rednock"

The students also walked away from the experience feeling confident and positive, appreciating the importance of being given such an opportunity. They are now eager to receive the written feedback from their interviewer to see how they got on.

Mrs Anika Mould
Careers Education Lead





Read for Good

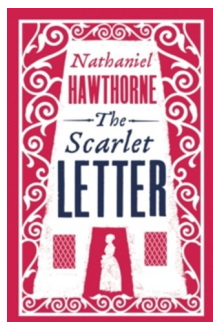
This term started with a successful bid to receive another [Brilliant Box of Books](#) from the Nailsworth-based charity Read for Good. As well as new titles for the shelves, Rednock Young Carers also got to choose one to read and keep.



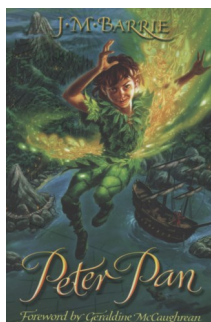
Literature Inspiration

Did you know Taylor Swift loves books and reading? So much so she references them in her songs.... And even more proof that reading for pleasure is an indicator of future success!*

*DFE 2023



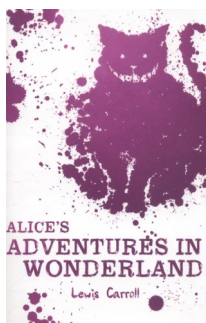
New Romantics



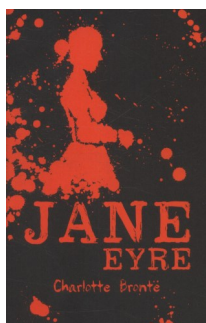
Cardigan



Evermore



Wonderland



Dear reader



Volunteering

Emily and Ezri are volunteering in the LRC, as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.



Word Millionaires

We love the written word here at Rednock and we like to encourage our students to read a variety of genres and styles of book.

Each book a student reads has a word count that's added together and monitored until they hit the magic number of 1 million! Once they hit this target they are rewarded with a token for the Book Vending Machine where they can choose a book of their choice!

We've had 3 students hit the goal and choose a book. Well done to Stephan, Olivia and Oliver!



Rednock Readers

Millie - Year 9

What are you reading at the moment?

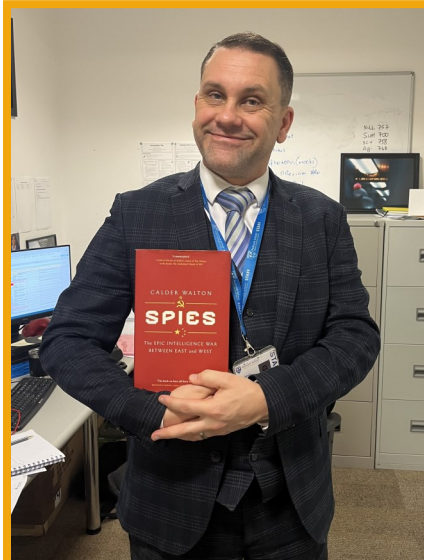
'Siren Song' by Jacqueline Rayner.

Who would like this book?

This book would be good for anybody who likes mystery and mythological creatures.

Why do you read in your spare time?

I read to improve my literacy and because my grandmother always used to read.



Mr Cheeseman - Humanities

What are you reading at the moment?

'Spies - the Epic Intelligence War between East and West' by Calder Walton.

Who would like this book?

This book would be good for anyone with an interest in the Cold War or espionage and how it has shaped our world.

Why do you read in your spare time?

I read to expand my understanding, get away from screens and because I enjoy it!



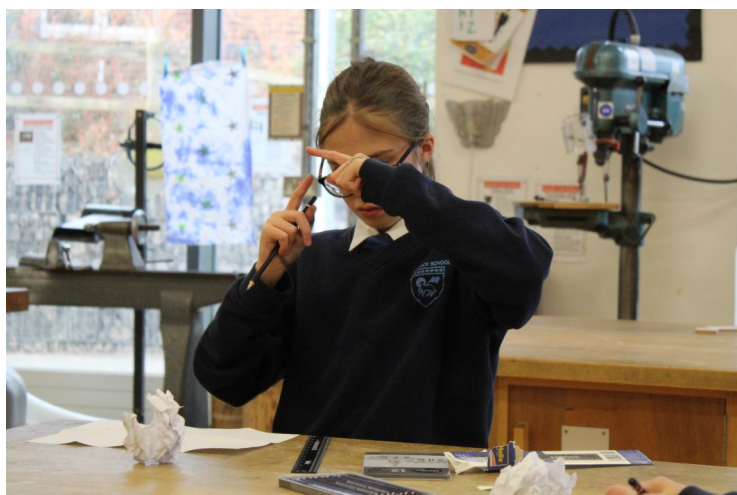
Bus Shelter Art Project

Back in 2023 we had some exciting news... Dursley Town Council secured the funding to move ahead with the street art decoration for the 2 bus shelters outside Rednock School! This project is a response to feedback from young people that the town lacks colour and the council are keen to work in partnership with young people to address this.

The winning design (right) by student Lizzie Karakulah, Year 10 will be developed for the bus stop opposite the school and the shelter by the main school entrance will be inspired by the local landscape/ buildings/ history.



Student volunteers have joined forces with a local artist to develop the design and bring it's concept to life. The first meeting was held this week to discuss the project and work on developing their skills. Watch this space for updates on the team's progress!





Hitler on Trial

Year 10 students went to watch a Hitler on Trial workshop in Bristol, where Hitler was put on trial for his crimes and the students were the jury. Below are some quotes from the students about their experience:

"Great experience, loved every second"

"The trip was helpful as we went through exam questions and this will then help us with our GCSE Germany mock."

"It was an enjoyable and insightful experience. I highly enjoyed it."



Reducing plastic waste at Rednock School

Soft drinks sold through the Rednock School catering service result in 20,000 single use plastic bottles being provided each year. We all know how important it is to reduce plastic waste and as a school we will recycle what we can, but the best approach is to avoid the use of these plastics altogether.



On 26th February students wanting a soft drink should bring a refillable bottle. This could be anything that is secure and will not leak in their bags. If they don't have a bottle we have secured a supply of excellent value aluminium reusable bottles which will cost £2.50 with a drink token included.

We know that this approach is well supported by students and hope that you agree it is a great move towards reducing the impact of our school on the environment. Following a successful student trial we have installed two soft drinks dispensers that work with refillable bottles. From Monday 26th February students can purchase a token for the use of these at the school canteen. At the same time we will stop selling soft drinks in plastic bottles. These currently cost £1.19. A drink with the refillable bottle will cost 85p so we hope that this will also make dinner money stretch further.

Dates for your diary

Date	Year Group	Event
29/02/2024	Year 9	Year 9 Left Population Parents Consultation Meetings
01/03/2024	N/A	Lost Property Jumble 3.15 - 4.00pm
05/03/2024	Year 9	Year 9 Right Population Parents Consultation Meetings



Advice from National Online Safety

As infants, we all rely completely on adults to help us resolve situations that are causing us to become upset or stressed. This is known as co-regulation. The next phase, once autonomy has begun to develop, is called self-regulation: this is when children start to become capable of exercising more control over their impulses and behaviour, and managing their own emotions.

This vital developmental milestone, however, isn't reached spontaneously. Learning to self-regulate requires sensitive guidance from trusted adults – simply talking with children about their thoughts and feelings, for instance, can ease the route to self-regulation. This #WakeUpWednesday guide has some expert tips for supporting children to reach this goal.

You can find this guide and many more by clicking [here](#).

ANONYMOUS 121 SUPPORT

Need someone to talk to?

You're not alone. We're here for you

Scan me

No appointment needed

tic+chat is an anonymous, 1-2-1 support service for young people aged 9-25 living in Gloucestershire. Speak to our friendly team about anything that's troubling you. No problem is too big or too small.

How can I get in touch?

Call 0300 303 8080 to chat with one of our team members over the phone*

OR

Live message chat online via ticplus.org.uk

*standard provider rates apply

OPEN HOURS:
Sunday – Thursday
5pm – 9pm

Find out more
www.ticplus.org.uk

Counselling, Support and Care for Young People and Families