

THE REDNOCK REVIEW



TERM 5 - 2023/24
19TH APRIL 2024



Dear Rednock Community,

Welcome to the first edition of Term 5's Rednock Review. Although only in our second week of term, Easter seems like a distant memory and the school is certainly back up to full pace. For our Year 11 and 13 students, this will be their final term ahead of the public examinations. It goes without saying that we will rally around them as they make strides towards their final examinations. We wish them (and all of you who are parents of these students) the very best of luck. We are extremely proud of the efforts they are making.

Earlier this week I sent you a letter drawing your attention to a shared concern amongst many secondary Headteacher's in our County. Having seen an increase in the ease and prevalence of students accessing vapes, we have a joint concern for the welfare of our students. I ask that you read my previous correspondence that outlines this in greater detail.

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



We had a wonderful day of activity and fundraising in school on Wednesday, all in aid of the Stroke Association, and in support of Mrs Alexander who will be running the London Marathon on Sunday for this worthy cause. We wish her all the luck in the world!

In this edition of our Rednock Review there are many good news stories, events within our community and wonderful student achievements. As always, I hope you enjoy reading it.

On behalf of everyone at Rednock School, I thank you for your continued support.

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: Shelby, who was nominated because she always supports her community, Poppy, who is working hard for her refereeing qualification, Tristan, who is always enthusiastic and polite, Will, who was nominated because he's a wonderful role model, Harry, who completed 6 laps of the all weather pitch for the Stroke Association whilst on crutches, Leo, who is always kind and helpful and finally Lily Hobbs and Emily Docherty, who supported Mrs Alexander in organising and running the sporting fundraising event on Wednesday.

We're always proud of our students and love to celebrate their success from inside and outside of school life.



Term 5 Transition Advice

What should students be aiming for in this term?

In Term 5 the aim is to continue increasing students' independence so that they start to take more responsibility for, and ownership, of their own learning and progress.

How can I help?

There are lots of ways to encourage independence, for example:

- Asking your child to pack their own bag and then checking it, rather than packing it for them.
- Asking your child to look on SatchelOne and decide for themselves what homework needs doing.
- Encourage your child to talk to their tutor by themselves if there is something they are struggling with, before you step in.
- If your child is struggling with homework, or unsure about something, suggest that they email or speak to their subject teacher themselves, before you step in.



Stroke Association fundraising day 1440 KM Challenge – 17th April 2024

We are pleased to announce that the day was a huge success and the challenge completed. The total kilometres needed to be covered by the Rednock staff and students was set at 1440 (the number of people that make up our wonderful community). Throughout the day everyone participated with enthusiasm and vigour, throwing themselves into walking, running, cycling and rowing to cover the distance – staff and students were equally engaged and it was a real team effort. Not only was the target met but it was absolutely smashed... the final total of kilometres covered during the day was 2,454!!! Prizes of vouchers for the Pulse in Dursley will be presented to the students who completed the most kilometres and thanks must go to the Pulse for their support of the event - their loan of static bicycles enabled even more distance to be covered. Alongside this was our non- uniform day. Students and staff embraced the theme of sporting wear or purple (the colour of the charity); there were some fabulous outfits across the school.

The money raised from this and the very generous extra donations from members of our community; staff, students, ex students, parents and governors has been humbling. The final amount raised for the Stroke Association will be announced in the next Rednock review. The community challenge coin collection will continue next week so keep collecting.... And THANK YOU.

Mrs Alexander

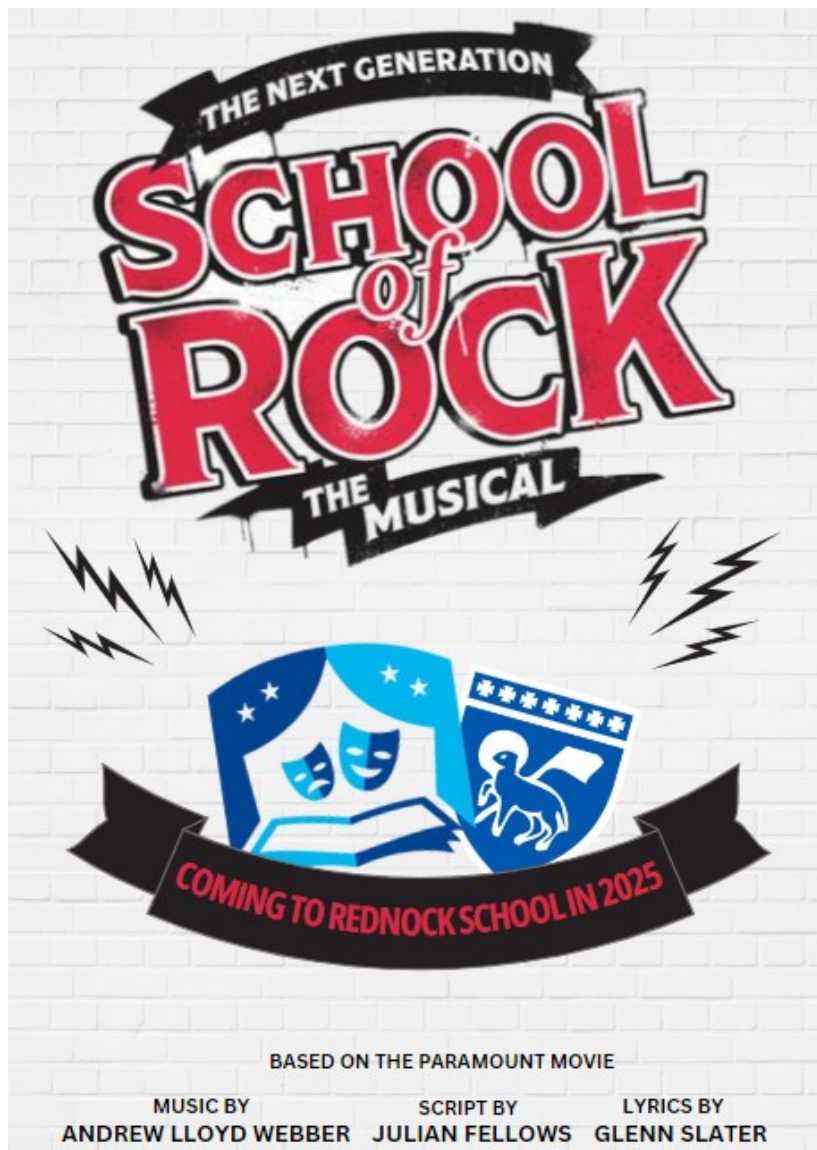
Stroke
Association





2025 Production Announcement

After the success of Peter Pan we are proud, and very excited, to announce that the school production for 2025 will be 'School of Rock'.



School of Rock is a rock musical with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the 2003 film. The musical follows Dewey Finn, an out-of-work rock singer and guitarist who pretends to be a substitute teacher at a prestigious private school. After identifying the musical talent in his students, Dewey forms a band, in an attempt to win the upcoming Battle of the Bands contest.

There are lots of opportunities to be involved and we will be looking for students to undertake roles in all areas of the production. Students will be able to sign up and register their interest to receive all the audition and production information from Monday 3rd June. Students can do this by emailing Mrs Curtis or signing up in the drama studio.

We will be having some pre-audition rehearsals on Wednesdays in Term 6 and all auditions will be held in September.

We can't wait to get started and show that Rednock is "ready to ROCK!"

Mrs Curtis



Philosophy and Ethics

Year 7 have been studying Hinduism, looking at their key beliefs and practices. They have looked at many different Hindu deities and why worship is important (left, you can see the small shrine that has been set up to bring this aspect to life for the students). They have also studied the festivals of Diwali and Holi in particular which was celebrated on the 25th March. To celebrate the end of this unit on Hinduism a number of students were welcomed to try some traditional Indian sweets which were purely vegetarian.



Year 8 have been thinking and working around the question of 'Do we need Prophets in the world today?' 'Who can be a prophet?'. They have all produced some fantastic responses throughout each given case study along with some beautifully presented research posters as part of their homework tasks. The assessment was to produce a speech around an injustice in the world today that they believed should be highlighted and we should all take notice of and a very well done to all those who delivered their speeches.

Year 9 have been studying contemporary issues in the UK finalising with the concept of forgiveness which they have been reflecting on and using actual case studies to help them develop a better understanding of the process a person has to go through when deciding to forgive or not. This culminated in a GCSE based exam question and there have been some outstanding pieces of written work centred around both religious and non-religious views, so well done.

Year 10 are continuing to work hard and put in the effort both in the classroom in terms of their homework in which they needed to create a revision resource that worked for them. This all feeds into them practicing and developing their skills to answer exam based questions. Keep up the hard work it will definitely pay off in the end!

Year 11 are really putting in the effort both in terms of their revision during our lessons and attending the after school sessions I have been offering over three consecutive evenings. Keep putting in the hard work and it should all pay off in the end.



Bus Stop Project

The Bus Stop project is moving along nicely and the student group are now practicing the techniques they will use on the final project.

These 'practice' pieces will be on display shortly at the Dursley Library and the Cam Council offices.

We're very excited to see the student's creativity and how they are incorporating the original design of ribbons into their re-imagined artwork.





Year 8 Boys Football

The Year 8 Football team were crowned district champions against a very strong Deer Park side with a final score of 4-1 to Rednock.

What a fantastic performance by the whole team, they were exceptional. The team was brilliantly led by their captain Louie Freeman who played central midfield alongside Sam Roberts. Both Sean Sacca and Harry Harper took it in turns to play left midfield whilst Jude



James played the entire game at left midfield earning himself Rednock's Player of the Match. In defence we had Oz Thomas, who scored a goal from a corner kick, as well as George Johnson, Henry Bevan and Cameron Rowlands. Ralf Bateman came on as right back in the second half. Up-front we had Oli Smith and Zak Bennett, in fact, Zak scored a penalty in the first half putting us in the lead. In the second half Jacob Triber came on as a striker and scored two goals. The first was a brilliantly taken volley just into the penalty box and the other a follow-up tap-in after the Deer Park keeper spilled. The second half saw Austin Seal take on a striker's role having changed from being the school's goalkeeper back in January. In goal we had Beau Davies who was exceptional as always. We also had Fin Hocking as a sub who could have played in any position. And finally it was great to have Sam Carter along who sadly had been injured but was a valuable player from previous rounds. I would also like to thank the players' parents who have supported us this season.

The Year 8 Football team now await their next opponents as they step up to the County Quarter Finals. A massive well done to all the players who took part.

Mr Kelly

Year 7 Boys Football

The Year 7 boys football team competed in the district championship and did very well. In a nervy semi-final against Sir William Romney Jimmy Jagger scored a last minute penalty to send Rednock through to the final against KLB.

The final was a hard fought contest where a wonder goal from KLB secured them the victory. The Rednock boys should be very proud of their achievements and they had a very successful first season.

Year 10 Boys Football

The Year 10 boys qualified for the semi final of the district championship after finishing second in their group. They were drawn away against Kingshill.

Rednock started brightly through Liam Clack as he scored with a well worked set piece. Kingshill then started to dominate and grabbed one goal just before half time. Just after the restart Kingshill scored three in quick succession making the score 4-1. We managed to score a consolation goal in the dying minutes of the game through Archie Howarth.



Year 11 Boys Football

The year 11 boys lost narrowly in the Stroud District Football final at Cirencester Town Fc 4-3 to KLB.

In a really well fought game Rednock went behind in the first half to a fortuitous mishap. The lads re-grouped and scored a well earned equaliser with Ethan Smith scoring at the far post. Within a short time in the second half, Joe Price scored a really good goal on the half turn in the box. KLB then replied with 2 well worked goals up against it, Sam Biddle created a magic strike to even things up. As the game was moving towards a penalty shoot out the KLB winger cut inside and unleashed an unstoppable strike into the far corner to break Rednock hearts.

Man of the Match Bobby Lawrence, closely followed by Mason Stewart and Sam Biddle.

As it is the end of the football season and Year 11 time with us, Mr Sykes would like to say a huge thank you to all the Year 11 boys who have represented the school in any sport, but especially to this group who have reached the final for the past 2 years and worked incredibly hard to get there.



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Duke Of Edinburgh Award Scheme

And we're off! The Bronze Practice Expedition goes ahead next weekend, 27th and 28th April. We are keeping it local for the practice with a meet-up at school at 10am, then camping for the night near

Wotton-Under-Edge and back again to school for Sunday afternoon. Fingers crossed the sunshine sticks around, but no matter the weather, we're sure the students will bring their enthusiasm! The Bronze Final Expedition is 18th and 19th May where they can continue show off their map reading skills, culinary prowess and team work.

The recent Silver Expedition unfortunately needed to be postponed due to high water levels and soggy campsites. But we have new dates: The Practice Expedition is 22nd - 25th June and the Final Expedition is 13th-15th July (straight after Prom), so I am glad we have been able to squeeze it in before France, Theatre trips and all the other amazing opportunities offered at Rednock!



Year 11 Biology

This week the Year 11 Biologists have had the opportunity to further develop their investigative skills by planning and setting up an experiment to explore water loss in plants. This has been possible because the GCSE booster sessions we are providing before and after school have freed up curriculum time to stretch their practical skills. The experiment will be completed next week when the students will collect and process their own data, thus consolidating their mathematical skills too.



Alumni News

We are delighted that so many students who have completed their 7 year journey at Rednock continue to keep in touch to let us know what they are doing and how their careers and further education have progressed. We recently learned that Keira has been accepted to continue her studies, allowing her to follow her dream of becoming an Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon. Keira studied Chemistry, Biology and PE A levels at Rednock Sixth Form before completing a degree in Dentistry. Congratulations Keira!



I am really excited to have gained a place on an accelerated Medicine degree (3 years) at the University of Liverpool. This course is for Dentists who want to enter into the field of OMFS (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery). The application process involved an interview with a panel of consultants and only 3 places were awarded this year, so I was delighted to have received one. I have already worked in OMFS for 2 years (most recently at Alder Hey Children's Hospital) but to be an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon you require degrees in both Medicine and Dentistry, so I am thrilled to start on this next step towards becoming a surgeon. Kiera Madden (Rednock Alumnus)



MOD Work Experience

Last week Aidan Henderson Y12 completed work experience at the MOD in Filton. He was able to experience what it's like to work for the MOD and to see various machines and vehicles, such as this reconnaissance drone he is pictured with above.

Aidan is hoping to embark on a career in the RAF after Rednock and this has allowed him to get a better understanding of what that might mean and the opportunities available to him. He has now got a clear career plan in place. Well done Aidan for taking this opportunity and thank you to all the staff and members of our wider community who made this possible for Aidan.





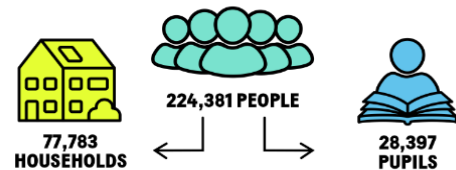
The Big Plastic Count

The national results are in! One in every 300 people across the UK took part in The Big Plastic Count back in March. That's hundreds of thousands of people who counted their plastic waste. The evidence is beyond doubt: the only way to tackle household plastic waste is to cut it at the source. That means reducing the amount we're making from the get go.

Many students from Rednock contributed to the count and we would like to thank all students and tutors who supported them in participating in this citizen science event. H3 won the competition for the most participants and were presented with their prize of tokens for the refillable drinks machine (above).

For more information on what we can do to help, click the images below and consider signing the petition to reduce our plastic waste.

OUR CITIZEN SCIENTISTS



**THEY COUNTED 4,639,685
PIECES OF PLASTIC IN A SINGLE WEEK**



Skate4Josh 2024

Skate4Josh, taking place on Saturday, April 20th at Jubilee Park, and was born out of an idea for a memorial to celebrate Josh Hall's life by those nearest to him. The event has evolved from a small idea for a scooter competition to a family event for the whole community.

Last year around 300 people attended, including scooter enthusiasts from further afield who wanted to take part in the scooter competition. This year there will be a junior, amateur and pro competition and a prize for best trick in each category. Riders can enter on the day, but will need to supply and wear their own safety equipment.

As well as the competition there will be various food stalls, including ice cream, brownies, candy floss and a BBQ. The Music Works will be bringing their mobile recording studio so that young people can record a song or DJ. There will also be a penalty shootout challenge, children's crafts, a bouncy castle and other activities including safe space for young people.

SKATE4JOSH

FAMILY FUN DAY & SKATE COMPETITION REMEMBERING JOSH HALL



Skate Competition // Musicworks // Food Drinks // Games // Stalls // Bouncy Castle
Ice Cream // Penalty Shoot Out // Crafts

**SATURDAY 20TH APRIL, 3-7PM
@ JUBILEE SKATE PARK, CAM**





VAPING AND E-CIGARETTES THE FACTS

NICOTINE VAPES CAN HELP ADULT SMOKERS TO STOP SMOKING.
SMOKING CAUSES DISEASE AND EARLY DEATH.
Vaping is much less harmful than smoking as you don't inhale the **toxic tar** and **carbon monoxide** you get from tobacco smoke.

BUT VAPES ARE NOT HARMLESS.
Short-term effects can include **coughing, headaches, dizziness, and sore throats.** Long-term effects are as yet unknown.

MOST CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DON'T VAPE OR SMOKE.
DON'T SMOKE? DON'T START TO VAPE.

smokefreeSheffield.org
talktoFrank.com

ash.
Action on Smoking and Health

Smokefree Sheffield

Developed by Smokefree Sheffield in collaboration with Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)

Vaping and E-cigarettes

Mr Stratford has recently written to you regarding vaping. His aim was to help raise awareness about the issues in general as well as share with you that we have recently seen a rise in Gloucestershire of young people being exposed to harmful substances whilst vaping. If you have not yet had an opportunity to read his letter please find a copy of it here. It contains advice and also links to further information shared with us by the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning team including this [parent information leaflet](#). These resources are specifically designed to equip you with anything you may need to know when talking to your child. Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that both vaping and the carrying of vaping paraphernalia in school is banned. If students do not follow this clear guidance they will be sanctioned in accordance with the school behaviour policy and the items will be confiscated. If your child would like to talk to an adult in school about vaping they are always welcome to speak to any member of staff who can give them advice or they are welcome to go to the school nurses drop in service on a Monday lunchtime in 601.

WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.



ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 1.3 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.



POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain 'heavy' metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.



UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.



SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.



UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.



LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction: that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.



VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term 'natural and artificial flavourings'. Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.



ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.





Astro Turf (AWP) Use out of School Hours

There have been a number of incidents recently where students have gained access to our school AWP out of school hours. A reminder that this is a publically bookable resource used by our community out of school hours. We have had incidents of students climbing perimeter fences to gain access outside of normal school hours. This is extremely dangerous. We have spoken to individuals we have been able to identify about the possible risk, but ask that you support us with this message at home.



Free Parent Support Groups From TIC+

We wanted to share with you details of the FREE Parent Support Groups that TIC+ are running in Stroud, Cheltenham and online via Microsoft TEAMS from June 2024 over a course of 6 weeks. These groups are for parents/carers of children between the ages of 11-18 within Gloucestershire.

Our established groups are designed to inform and support parents, helping them to understand their child’s distress and discover effective strategies to improve their resilience. The group is also an opportunity for parents going through similar experiences to encourage, support and learn from each other in a safe and friendly environment.

Dates	Day	Time	Location	Booking
4 June – 9 July	Tuesday	10:30am – 12.00pm	Stroud	Book here
5 June – 10 July	Wednesday	7:00pm - 8.30pm	Cheltenham	Book here
6 June – 11 July	Thursday	7:00pm - 8.30pm	TEAMS	Book here

Dates for your diary

Date	Year Group	Event
23/04/2024	Year 7	Year 7 Right population Parental Consultation Meetings
27/04/2024 - 28/04/2024	N/A	Bronze DofE Practice Expedition