# THE REDNOCK REVIEW

Term 6 - 2023/24 7th June 2024

Dear Rednock Community,

Welcome back to Term 6! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. As we embark on this final term of the academic year, we are excited about the opportunities and achievements that lie ahead.

Term 6 is always a special time as we wrap up the year's hard work, celebrate our accomplishments, and prepare for the next steps in our educational journeys. We are committed to supporting each student in reaching their full potential, ensuring that we finish the year on a high. This term, we have an array of activities, projects and events planned, all designed to enhance our students' learning experiences and foster a positive and dynamic school environment.

We are just weeks away from crowning our 'Community Champions' and currently, Jenner Community is leading the way. However, there is still much to play for and many points up for grabs that could influence the final results. I encourage all students to get involved and push their Community to the top.





# Click here to a video from Mr Stratford

In this latest edition of the Rednock Review, you will find many exciting school articles and celebrations of our wonderful students. I would like to draw your attention to the important information about the extension to our school day starting in September 2024. The article explains the details of this change, the reasons behind it and what it means for our community.

Thank you for your continued support.

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: Maddie, who was nominated because she smashed her DofE expedition with enthusiasm. Jacob, for being an outstanding member of his tutor group who always works hard. Verity and Charlie, who were nominated for being excellent on the interview panel for the Jenner prefects. Ellouise, who is hard working, respectful, enthusiastic and making good progress across the board. Alex, who has been offered a Level 6 Apprenticeship in Electromechanical Engineering with the Civil Service. Chloe, who worked incredibly hard and demonstrated real commitment in preparation for a Dressage competition. Harry, who completed the 3 Peaks Challenge and raised over £500 for charity. Charlee, who has settled into her new school amazingly well and has worked so hard, and Toby, who has made a great start as a Community Connector in Hubble.









# **Bikeability**

This week, some of our Year 7 students were able to join in with the Bikeability cycle training which equips children with vital life skills. Students not only learn to cycle, they gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing.

The students that took part this year were joined by their instructor, Stuart. All students involved really enjoyed their sessions and came away with new confidence and skills. They were looking forward to using their new knowledge on the road.

# **Year 7 Skills Based Curriculum**

Year 7 students have been enthusiastically engaging in learning basic life-saving first aid, an invaluable skill set that includes CPR training. As part of their Skills Based Curriculum lesson, they practiced chest compressions on Resusci dolls, allowing them to gain hands-on experience in a safe and controlled environment. This practical approach not only enhances their understanding of emergency procedures but also builds their confidence in handling real-life situations. The dedication and focus shown by the students highlights the importance of these essential skills, preparing them to respond effectively in critical moments and potentially save lives.







# **Sculpture Trail**

You may remember that some of our students have been involved in creating a new exhibit for the Sculpture Trail at Twinberrow Woods. Well, the day finally arrived for the grand unveiling of the sculpture that was created in partnership with the Quarry Chapel.

We were joined by some of the students who took part and their families, Claire Mahoney (the artist), Abi from the Quarry Chapel and many others from the local community who helped support this project. It was great to see all of the students' hard work come to life as it's been quite a while since we finished. We're all really proud of what the students have achieved.

Please do take a family trip to the woods to see the sculpture in all it's glory, you can find out more about the trail <a href="here">here</a>.













# **Cardiff University Trip**

The Year 12 English Literature students were extremely lucky to be invited to Cardiff University's first ENCAP Outreach Day on 4th June.

Miss Taylor and Ms Smith travelled with the students on the train, using the journey to talk about their own experiences of university study and things to consider when choosing an institution. When we arrived, we had a fascinating introduction to university study from Dr Meredith Miller, who is an author and lecturer engaged in high quality research at Cardiff, which is a Russell Group university.

The students were able to choose between Philosophy, Linguistics and Creative writing for their first break out session. Robin and Jamie were asked to complete a free writing exercise and Jamie shared her amazing piece about the train journey to Cardiff. The Philosophy session was equally fantastic, really enthusing Charlie, Grace and Jayson. Next was a tour around campus with a current second year student who shared some extremely useful and practical information from a student's perspective.

After a lunch spent chatting with current students, Dr Miller and Dr Gilchrist talked to us about their own route into academia and gave us an excellent insight into their research, including some great tips that the students can use for their A Level in English Literature.

We completed the day with a quick introduction to Cardiff as a city, to demonstrate the benefits of choosing a university in a bustling metropolis. Miss Taylor and Ms Smith were particularly impressed with our students who joined in with every activity and made the most of this fantastic experience. As ever, we are so proud of you.

# **Sixth Form Work Experience**

Term Six is when our Year 12 students focus on broadening their work experience and arranging activities to boost their profiles, ready for the university, apprenticeship and job applications they will be making in the year ahead.

If you are involved in any interesting projects which would value volunteer support, or have opportunities in your workplace that could be made available over the coming months, please contact <a href="mailto:sixthform@rednockschool.org.uk">sixthform@rednockschool.org.uk</a> and we will share your opportunities with the students.



# **Primary School Activities Day**

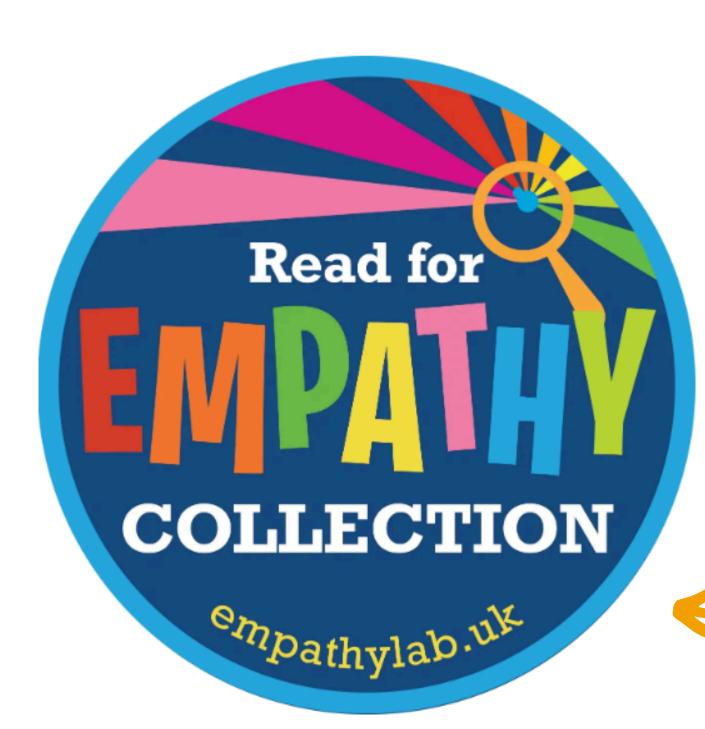
In the first week back after half term, some of our Year 12 and Year 10 students (pictured below) were responsible for hosting our feeder Primary Schools with some multi skills activities. With over 140 Year 1 and 2 students, the Rednock volunteers performed amazingly. Whilst offering a combination of multi skills, speed and coordination activities, some handball and also a combination of relay events and all went really well.

Each primary school child had a fabulous time and there were lots of positive smiles on faces, as for many of the students it was their first experience at Rednock.









# **Empathy Day**

Thursday 6th June was Empathy Day. Empathy is our ability to experience and understand someone else's feelings. It creates stronger, kinder communities. Excitingly, research shows that empathy is a learnable skill, and that books play a key role in developing it. Click on the logo to the left to see this year's choice of empathy building books.

Many of the books are available in the LRC and all from Dursley Library.

# **LRC Stationery Shop**

The LRC stationery shop has most things you'll need at very cheap prices. Avoid consequences by always being equipped and ready to learn.

Click <u>here</u> to view the stationery price list.





# **Overdue Books**

Please remember to return LRC books so that other students have as many books as possible to choose from.

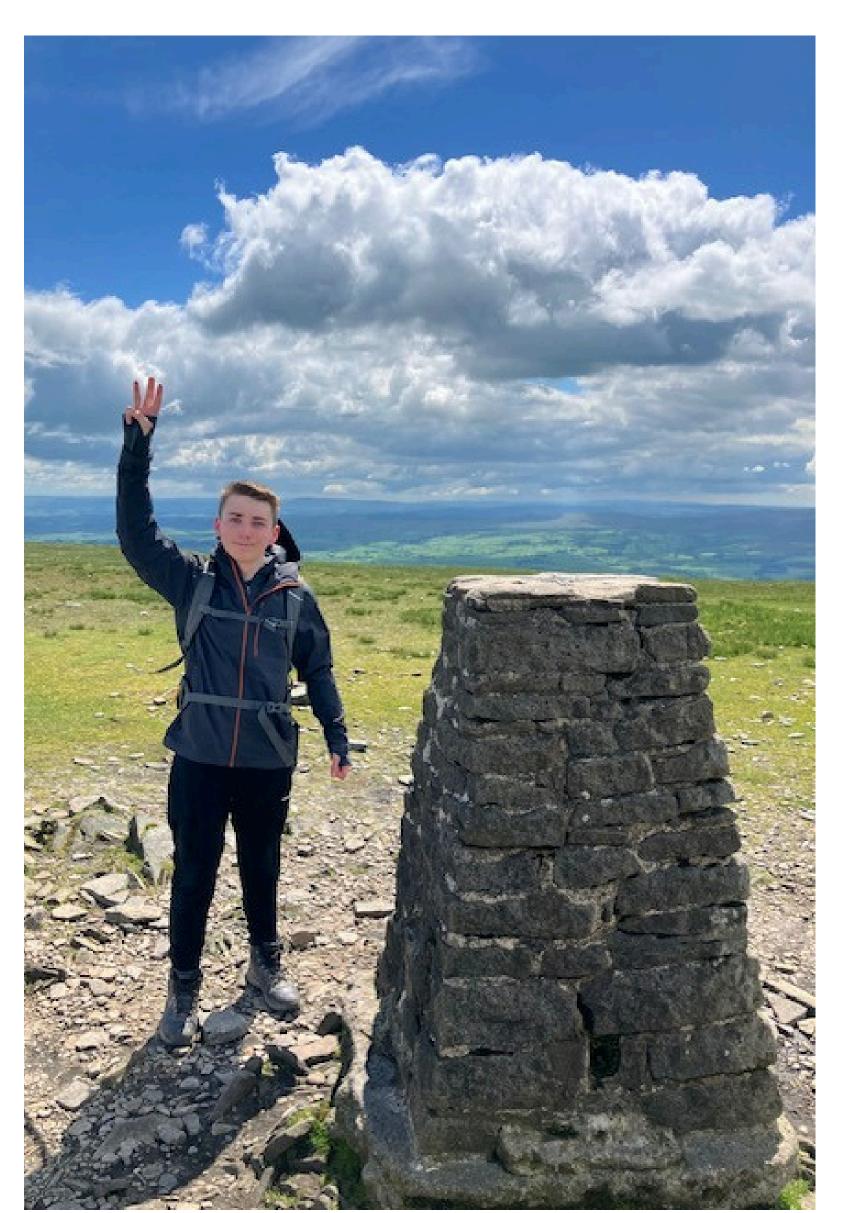


# **Exploring Technician Roles**

From 10th June, Year 10 left and right populations will take it in turns to head out for a week's work experience (watch this space for stories of what they got up to!). For the week that they are not on work experience, they will be taking part in an innovative new programme from the national STEM centre: the technician's programme. The aim is to open students' eyes to the vast range of



different technician jobs that are available, and for them to experience the kinds of work that technicians do. Throughout the week, students will take part in lessons across a range of subjects, for example, exploring what it takes to design and test batteries for electric cars, or to write music tracks for computer games. The programme is currently in its pilot phase nationally, and Rednock is really innovating by exploring how we can offer an experience like this to an entire cohort of students.



#### **Student Success**

During half term, Harry Phillips, Year 10, completed the Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge which involved hiking 23 miles over Pen Y Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough, the three highest peaks in Yorkshire. He was raising money for Little Hero, a charity which supports families affected by childhood cancer (www.littlehero.org.uk).

Harry has raised an amazing £548!

Harry says "I hope that the money I raise will provide respite holidays for two families at Will's Woodland."

Click the below image to visit his Just Giving page where you can find out more and support his fundraising endeavors.







# **Monmouth Maths Challenge**

On the 6th of July Leo, Lydia, Rosanna and Morgan attended the UKMT Team Maths Challenge, held at Monmouth School for Girls. This is the first time the annual competition has taken place since before the pandemic and with little time for preparation the team performed spectacularly. There were four rounds: The first being a general selection of maths questions that were answered collaboratively within groups. Round 2 consisted of a cross-number where one pair in the team had the 'across' clues and the other pair had the 'down' clues. Round 3 was a shuttle round, where again working in pairs the students passed their answer from their question across so that pair two could answer theirs. Finally, round 4 was a relay round,

where one group could not access their question until the other had completed theirs correctly, and so on.

The room was filled with teams from private schools and grammar schools and so it was with a sense of pride and achievement that we came 13th out of 20 teams.

The students were fabulous and gave their all in every round. A teacher from another school who was allocated to facilitate their rounds sought me out to comment on how well they conducted themselves and the effort they put in. I felt extremely proud of them for representing Rednock School and look forward to next years competition.

# **Immunisation Update**

We have been informed by the NHS Immunisation Team that they're introducing a new way for parents and carers to consent to their child's school-aged vaccinations. The consent process this coming Academic year will be completed using an electronic system called Cinnamon.

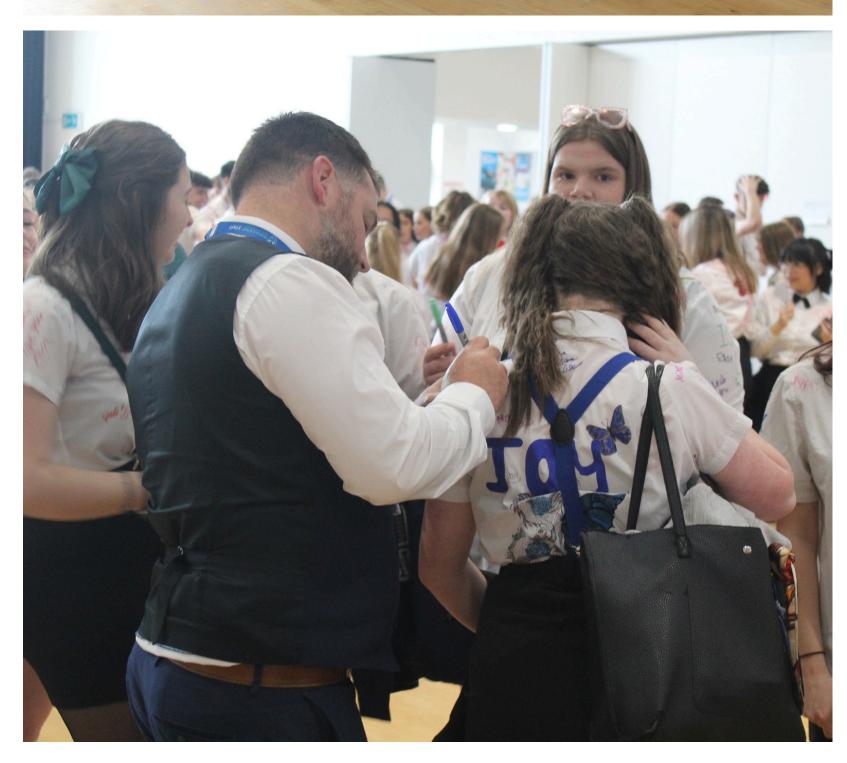
As of 1st August 2024, Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust will have successfully digitised all school vaccination programmes. Rollout will commence early September 2024, starting with the National Flu Programme, which will be delivered to all school-aged children and young people from Reception up to and including Year 11 in mainstream schools.

Please click <u>here</u> to view a letter from the NHS regarding the change.









# **Year 11 Celebrations**

After an unorthodox 5 years at Rednock it was important for our Year 11 students to have a wonderful celebration day where they could relax and look back on their time with us. We are so proud of all of our students and we know how hard they are working whilst completing their GCSE exams. We've been able to watch them grow into strong, confident young adults and we wish them all the luck with whatever their futures hold.

We look forward to celebrating once again at the Year 11 Leavers Prom on July 12th!





# Important Updates from Rednock School

# Changes to the School Day from September 2024

# Why is the school day changing?

The Department for Education expects all mainstream, state-funded schools to provide a 32.5-hour week (or 6.5-hour days) by September 2024. As a local authority, maintained school we must adhere to this. Currently at Rednock, we do not fulfil this requirement. Our current school day is short by 10 minutes.

# What counts towards the school day?

The time from the official start of the school day (morning registration), to the official end of the school day for all students (official home time). It includes breaks, lunch, teaching time and any enrichment activities that students are expected to attend. It doesn't include optional before or after school provision.

The 32.5-hour week is not a requirement of 16-19 provision.

# What does this mean for September 2024?

From September 2024 our school day will end at 3.10pm

## How will the additional time be used?

The additional 10 minutes will be used to extend morning break and to introduce an afternoon registration slot after lunch.

# How might this impact my child?

We have explored many different approaches on how to use the additional 10 minutes and believe that the model chosen will have a positive impact on our school. The longer morning break will benefit students and staff, and the after-lunch registration will ensure students are best prepared for a successful period 5, whilst providing directed time to carry out our legal obligation to conduct an afternoon registration.

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We have consulted with our school transport company who supports our model, meaning there will be no impact on those students catching a bus.

A copy of our school day from September 2024 can be seen below:

8:20 - 8.30	Arrival Students can arrive at school. Lower floor and external spaces only open.	
8:30 - 8.40	Community Call  Movement bell sounds at 8.30am. Staff in Community areas welcoming students.	
8:40 - 9:05	Morning Registration & Community Tutoring	
9:05 - 10:05	Period 1	
10:05 - 11:05	Period 2	
11:05 – 11.25	Morning Break Movement bell sounds at 11.20am.	
11:25 - 12:25	Period 3	
12:25 - 13:25	Period 4	
13:25 – 14:05	<b>Lunch</b> Movement bell sounds at 14.00	
14.05 – 14.10	'Check in' & afternoon registration in lessons	
14:10 - 15:10	Period 5	





# **Dyslexia Intervention Project - Celebration day!**

The students who participated in the pilot for a bespoke dyslexia intervention, met with their parents to celebrate their resilience and hard work over the past 20 weeks. The creators of the intervention - Georgia Niolaki and Aris Terzopoulos from Bath Spa University - congratulated them for their progress and their deeper understanding of themselves as dyslexic learners. They thanked them for their commitment and insightful feedback that will help not only themselves, but other dyslexic students in the future.

Will Tull gave this very thoughtful feedback on the intervention:

"I think that this dyslexia intervention has really helped me to relearn all the things that have slowly drifted out of memory. I loved the pattern of sessions and how we had visual timetables at the start of every session. The wide range of different rules and learning strategies really helped. I particularly liked how we had spelling and reading cards to help us build on our reading and spelling skills. Also, I think that using books was very helpful as we had all learning resources in one place. I feel like I have learnt at least 5 things and much more from these sessions. The games really helped to wrap up what we had been learning each season. The concept cards really helped to drill the key ideas into my head which was good. I loved how we picked up on small things that I would have never noticed, an example would be the highlighting and how much you don't realise you highlight. All in all, I think this intervention was a great success and I'd love to see it being done to help others who may struggle with dyslexia."

The students were given a certificate and a generous Amazon voucher to spend on whatever they wanted! So very well done to - Aiden, Mattia, Will, Lucas and Finley.

Also, last but not least - a BIG thank you to the Teaching Assistants - Miss Cooper, Miss Whitlock and Mrs Pagett, who put in the time and effort to not only learn about dyslexia themselves, but to share that knowledge in such an enjoyable way that the students learnt from it.

Moving forward, the knowledge learnt from participating in this study, will be put into mini schemes of work for Rednock staff to use in the classroom to support our dyslexic learners. Also, Gloucestershire Dyslexia Association will share the success of the pilot around the county.

# **Wendy Hawkins**

Learning Support Teacher / Specialist dyslexic assessor









#### Year 10 Softball

On Thursday, 6th June, the Year 10 Softball team achieved an impressive second place in the County Softball Tournament held at Archway. The boys represented Rednock School with outstanding skill, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm, making them a pleasure to accompany. Their dedication and teamwork were evident in every game, reflecting the high standards of the school both on and off the field. The team's remarkable performance and positive attitude throughout the tournament were commendable, earning them welldeserved recognition and making their school community proud.

### **District Athletics at Thomas Keble**

Students from Year 7 & 8 recently showcased their determination and resilience at an athletics event at Thomas Keeble School. They represented their school with pride and exceptional effort. Among the many talented athletes, Oscar Olivier stood out as a remarkable performer in the 300m race. His impressive speed, stamina, and unwavering focus set him apart, earning him well-deserved recognition. The dedication and sportsmanship displayed by all the students was commendable, reflecting the high standards and spirit of Rednock. Their collective performance was a testament to their hard work and commitment, making their school community incredibly proud.







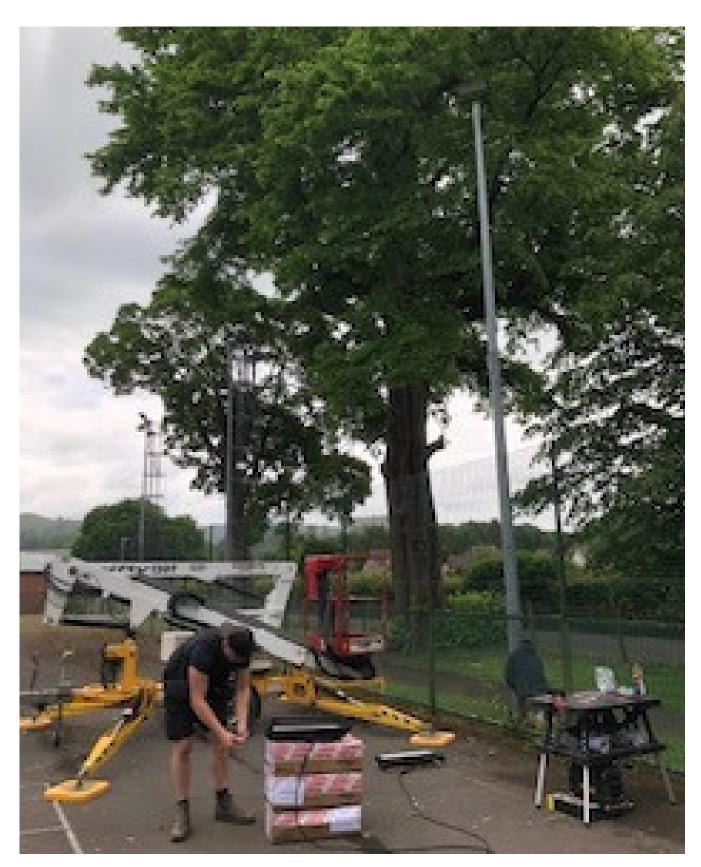
# A fond Farewell

We bid a heartfelt farewell to our dedicated first aider, Ms Hayward, who has been an invaluable part of our school community for the past three years. Her unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of our students has made a significant impact, and we are immensely grateful for her time here. As she embarks on a new journey, we know she will continue to excel and touch many more lives with her expertise and compassion.

Thank you for everything, and best of luck in your new role!

# **Eco Upgrades**

The tennis courts at our school have undergone a significant upgrade with the replacement of old lights with energy-efficient LED ones. This improvement will save energy, reduce maintenance costs, and enhance safety for all users. Additionally, later this term, the court surface will be replaced with a versatile Multi-Use Sports Surface, providing a modern and durable area for various sports and activities. This development is fantastic news not only for the school but also for the local community, who will benefit from a new, high-quality space for recreational use.







# **Dates for your diary**

Date	Year Group	Event
10/06/24 - 14/06/24	Year 10 Right Population	Work Experience Week
13/06/24	Year 10	Geography Trip
17/06/24 - 21/06/24	Year 10 Left Population	Work Experience Week
19/06/24	Year 10	Geography Trip
20/06/24	Year 8	Parent Consultation Meetings Left Population



