

THE REDNOCK REVIEW

Term 6 – 2023/24
21st June 2024

Dear Rednock Community,

As the final term progresses, today marks a significant milestone: the conclusion of the summer exam series. I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the students, parents, and teachers who have worked incredibly hard throughout this busy period and supported those taking public examinations.

Our students have navigated this exam season brilliantly, conducting themselves impeccably. Let's hope their hard work translates into excellent results this summer. With the exams completed, the one-way systems and restricted areas in the building will be lifted next week. Our wider dining room, canopy area, and corridors will be fully accessible once again. Thank you to the entire school community for maintaining a quiet and orderly environment during this time.

We are excited to share a bumper edition of the 'Rednock Review,' filled with interesting and celebratory news. In particular, we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our Year 10 students who have recently completed their work experience placements. We have had some outstanding feedback, with some students even receiving job offers!

I would like to draw your attention to an important article in the Review about protecting your child online. This issue, affecting both local and national levels, has impacted some students who use the WhatsApp social media platform. As a parent myself, I have learnt some important safety tips.



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

It's hard to believe we are entering the final four weeks of the school year. We are about to embark on a busy period of community enrichment and transition events, welcoming next year's Sixth Form and Year 7 students to experience life at Rednock.

Please note that the final day of Term 6 is Friday, 19th July, with an early finish for students at 12:45 pm. We have informed our bus companies of this already.

Thank you for your continued support. As always, if there is anything we can do to support you or your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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: **Aidan**, who was nominated because he was awarded Scout of the Year in his Scout group. **Daisy**, who stepped in at the last minute and represented the school in the 1500m race at an athletics tournament. **Aoife**, who always gives 100% in tutor. **Hannah**, who has made an outstanding contribution to school sports this year. **Tiago**, who coped wonderfully in sitting an external Spanish exam. **Neo**, who broke the record for the 300m at the district sports event and **Beatrice**, who is officially the County Shotput Champion.





Exploring Technician Roles

Over the last two weeks year 10 students have been introduced to a variety of technician careers. The sessions have been run across various departments helping students to make links between subjects. In each session students were presented with a brief and stepped into their technician roles to come up with solutions. There was a range of teamwork and individual tasks required. This was part of a pilot scheme set up by STEM learning which aims to enthuse and inspire students to consider careers in STEM that they may not have heard of. Students spent time researching different technician careers followed by hands on experiences.



As **Gaming Audio Technicians** students were tasked with designing an audio soundtrack for a platformer video game.



The **Lighting Technician** session involved designing a lighting rig for a theatrical production, students then constructed a 3D mock-up of the set using coloured lighting to create different moods for a play.

As **Food Technicians** students made bread and created a range of innovative new flavours which they then had to taste test.

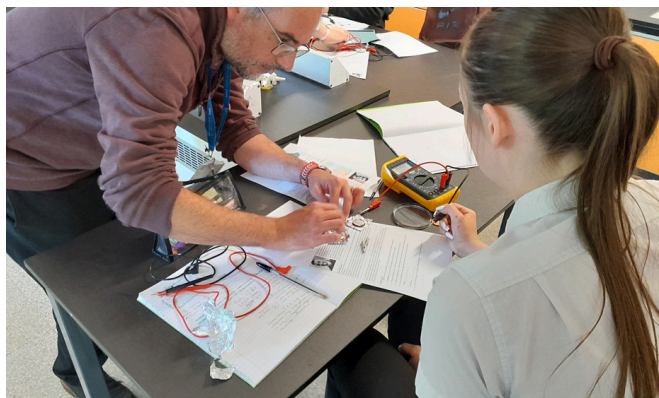


As **Water Technicians** students conducted tests on a range of water samples to evaluate quality and find sources of contamination in a river system.



In the **Battery Technician** session students made batteries from common household materials and used them to light LEDs.

Students have enjoyed the different style of lessons and some are now considering these types of careers. It has also been a great opportunity for staff to work with colleagues in other departments. A big thank you goes out to all staff involved in the organisation and delivery of these sessions - especially the technicians!





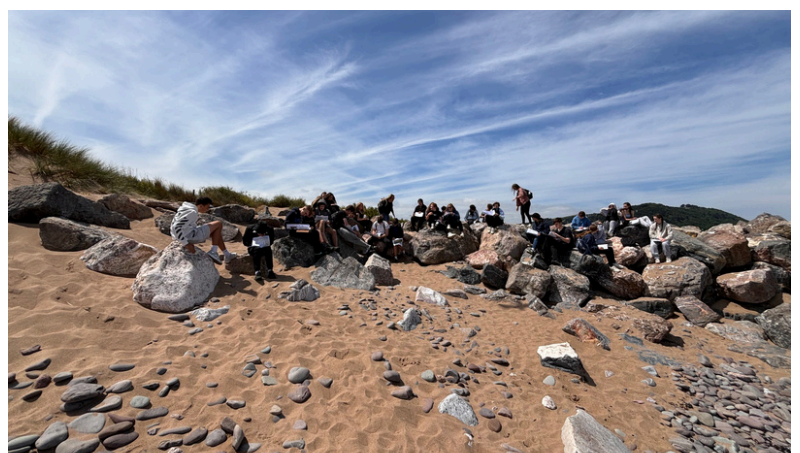
Bikeability

You may remember, in our last issue we let you know of our wonderful Bikeability sessions where some of our Year 7 students had training in riding their bikes safely on the road.

We're happy to say that all students passed with flying colours and have received their completion certificates. Left, you can see just some of our newly skilled cyclists.

Geography Fieldwork Trip

Over the last two weeks 130 Rednock GCSE Geographers have descended upon Minehead in Somerset to investigate the coastal defences there. Whilst we were very lucky to dodge the predicted torrential rain last week, this week sunburn was more of an issue! The students measured the beach profile either side of one of the main groynes, and evaluated the success of these and other defences such as the sea wall, the rock armour and the beach nourishment using techniques such as bi-polar analysis. Fieldsketches were drawn and annotated and surveys of local opinion were conducted. The local economy was boosted through many purchases of fish and chips and even a few ice creams as our summer finally arrived! The students worked hard, making sense of their classroom learning in the real world, and were a credit to the school and to themselves.

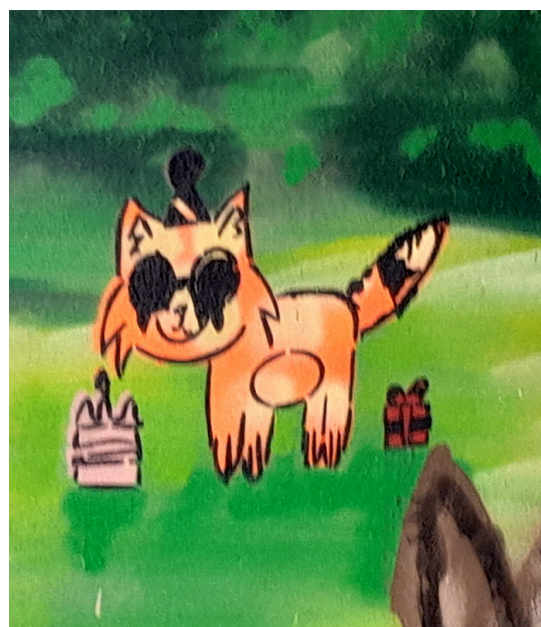




Bus Shelter Upgrades

You may remember that we have been working with the local council to brighten up the bus shelters outside of the school. The students' artistic efforts have transformed the once drab and worn out structures into vibrant and welcoming spaces for the community. With brushes in hand and creativity in full swing, the students worked diligently to create colorful designs and uplifting scenes, adding a touch of beauty to the neighborhood. This project not only enhanced the aesthetic appeal of the bus shelters but also fostered a sense of community pride and collaboration. The students' dedication and hard work has left a lasting, positive impact on their surroundings, showcasing the power of youth involvement in community improvement.

We will include images of the finished product in the next Rednock Review but we recomend taking a trip down Kingshill Road to see the artwork for yourselves!





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 6 students hit the goal and choose a book. Well done to Lauren, Lily, George, Elina, Reagan and Phoebe!



Year 8 Party

We are excited to announce that the Year 11 Celebrations Committee will be hosting a party for our Year 8 students on Thursday 27th June from 5pm -7pm. We have a DJ attending and there will be drinks and light snacks available to purchase as well as glow sticks. Please note that we are only able to take cash payments on the evening.

Tickets are £2.00 each and are available to purchase from Parent Pay and by cash payment in the school's main reception.

We hope to see a lot of our Year 8's there!

Hosted by the Year 11
celebrations committee

YEAR 8 PARTY

27TH JUNE 2024

5:00 PM - 7.00 PM

£2 PER TICKET

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE VIA
PARENTPAY OR MAIN
RECEPTION*

DRINKS, GLOW
STICKS AND LIGHT
SNACKS AVAILABLE
TO PURCHASE*

*CASH PAYMENTS ONLY



Prince of Wales Athletics Event

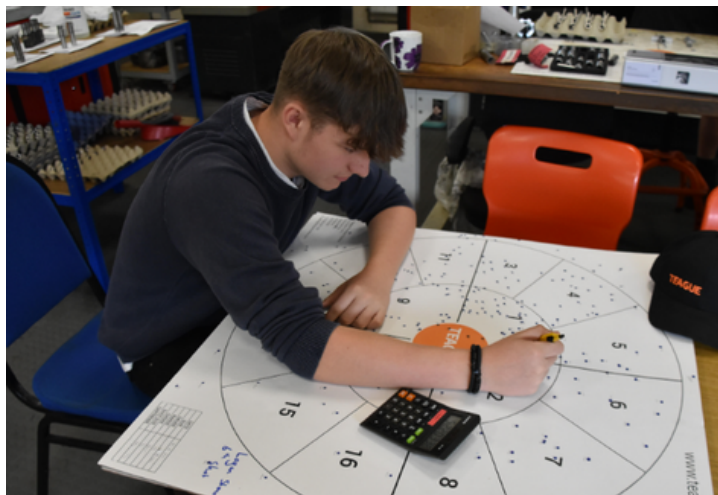
The Prince of Wales Athletics Event is a prestigious district tournament where schools from across the district come together to compete in various athletic events. This year, we had the honor of taking over 65 students to represent Rednock School. Our students were brilliant, showcasing exceptional sportsmanship and encouragement throughout the competition. Rednock achieved some outstanding results, including a remarkable performance by one student who broke the district record in the 300m, completing it in 39.08 seconds. The PE department is incredibly proud of all our participants. Well done to everyone involved! We now eagerly await the final results.





Year 10 Work Experience

We have reached the end of our year 10 work experience programme for this year and it has been absolutely wonderful to see the vast array of placements the students were able to find and secure based on their own interests. The students really gave their all in terms of enthusiasm and eagerness to learn and this has resulted in a number of success stories and many more positive feedback comments being received. All of us at Rednock cannot thank the companies that supported the school this year enough, in opening up these opportunities for our students to experience life beyond the classroom.



Logan Stone (above) went to Teague Precision. Logan had a fantastic time, he really enjoyed his placement with the company, learning and acquiring new skills. He was able to take a piece of material in its raw state through to a finished product and then of course being able to test the product under controlled conditions was great. The company really liked having him for the week.



Chloe Mills (above) threw herself into work experience at CCR equestrian. The owner of the facilities said Chloe was fantastic, a real team player, not afraid of getting stuck in to any job. They went on to say she was a wonderful addition to the team and offered her a job (which she started Sunday as a show jump steward).

Girls Rounders vs Maidenhill

Our Year 7-10 Rounders players recently enjoyed a delightful match against Maidenhill School. The beautiful weather added to the excitement and energy of the game, making it a truly enjoyable experience for all involved. Our students displayed excellent teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship. It was a wonderful day of sport, camaraderie, and fun in the sunshine.





Legumes Project

Since May the Young Farmers group have been participating in a project with Southampton University and other schools to investigate alternative heat-tolerant crops and to determine their ability to grow and produce yield. Feeding the future will require more food than we currently grow, but in a changing climate. For the UK we expect hotter, drier summers, and more erratic rainfall, and these are conditions that negatively affect staple UK crops.

We were sent seeds from six legume plants – broad beans, dwarf beans, peas, chickpeas, lentils, lablab. These crops vary from adapted to the UK (broad beans, dwarf beans, and peas), possibly able to grow, especially in a warm year and/or in the South (chickpeas and lentils), and untested but adapted to hot and dry places, so more risky (lablab).

So far all of the bean species have germinated - we are now closely monitoring to see when they produce flowers, and hopefully some beans for us to eat!

This has been a great opportunity for students to participate in a citizen science project and who knows their data may be used to shape the future of sustainable agriculture in the UK.





Student Success

Bea Sprague represented Rednock in the County Athletics Championships at Blackbridge Jubilee Athletics Track on Saturday 8th June in the Shot Put event. Bea won the event with an enormous throw and a personal best of 9.1m. This meant that she qualified to compete in the South West Schools Athletics Championships in Exeter - an amazing achievement! Bea came 4th! We are extremely proud of Bea's achievement.



National Clean Air Day

As part of National Clean Air Day members of the school Eco group participated in an online chat called 'I'm a scientist, get me out of here'. They used the chat to find out more about how to monitor and improve air quality. The group were joined by 5 scientists, they asked all sorts of questions which will enable them to carry out scientific research. The students really enjoyed this opportunity - fantastic to have so many experts to quiz! They now have the information they need to carry out their research, with the option of booking another chat later in the term to discuss their findings.



Staff Vacancies

We have some wonderful opportunities to join us at Rednock, we're currently looking for a School First Aider and a teacher of Modern Foreign Languages. If you'd like to find out more about these exciting roles, please click below.

[Teaching Assistant](#)

[Attendance Engagement Officer](#)

[PE and School Sport Coordinator](#)

You can keep up to date with our vacancies and find out more about our recruitment [here](#).





Safeguarding Update

We want to bring your attention to the communication we have received from the Police urging parents to check the group WhatsApp settings on their children's phones. This comes following reports of a number of 11 year olds in Gloucestershire being exposed to sexually violent and racist content via the app.

Officers have received reports that children in the county have been automatically added to a group without their knowledge or permission.



Once in the group, which has an American phone number prefix, they are encouraged to add everyone in their contacts and are then sent upsetting sexually violent and racist content. Group members are then warned that if they leave the chat, they will be found. The Police are now asking parents whose children use WhatsApp to check the settings on the messaging app so that they cannot be added to groups by unknown third parties. The default setting in WhatsApp allows anyone to add a number to a group chat without needing permission.

To disable this, go to WhatsApp and follow these steps:

- Go to **Settings**
- > **Privacy**
- > **Groups**
- > Under '**who can add me to groups**', select '**My contacts**'

The Police also advise parents to talk to their children so that they do not view the chat if they have been added to the group and to block, delete and report the group to WhatsApp immediately.

If you have any concerns do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's tutor or any member of the safeguarding team.

Thank you in advance for your attention and support in advance

Kerala Cole
Deputy Head

Safety First



Bus Safety

We wanted to send a reminder that it is crucial for all students to wear their seatbelts when traveling on minibuses. Ensuring that seatbelts are fastened securely is not only a legal requirement but also a vital safety measure. Seatbelts significantly reduce the risk of injury in the event of sudden stops or accidents, providing essential protection for everyone on board. By wearing their seatbelts, students demonstrate responsibility and care for their own well-being and that of their peers. Let's make safety a priority and ensure that every journey on a minibus is as secure and comfortable as possible.



Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
22/06/2024 - 24/06/2024	N/A	Silver DofE Final Expedition Wye Valley
25/06/2024	Students coming to Rednock for Sixth Form	Sixth Form Induction Day 1
25/06/2024	Year 8 Right Population	Parent Consultation Meetings
26/06/2024	Students coming to Rednock for Sixth Form	Sixth Form Induction Day 2
27/06/2024	Year 8	Year 8 Party
03/07/2024	Year 10	Trip to Gloucester College
04/07/2024 - 06/07/2024	Year 10	German/History Trip: Berlin Sachsenhausen
04/07/2024	N/A	Sports Day
04/07/2024	Year 13	Dinner Dance
05/07/2024	N/A	Enrichment Walk
19/07/2024	N/A	Last day of Term 6 - School ends at 12.45 for all students

2024 Cam and Dursley Flower & Produce Show

Schedule can be downloaded from www.chantrycentre.org or collected from The Dursley Pet Shop Inches

Or Scan QR Code for Schedule

Saturday 31st August 2024
Chantry Centre, Long St, Dursley

Annual Enrichment Walk

Our enrichment walk is coming up (5th July) and we want to be prepared! We're asking for donations of pre-loved trainers, waterproofs (just in case!) and water bottles of all sizes for students who may not have the items to hand. Our last walk was a big hit with the students and we look forward to another wonderful day this year.

