

THE REDNOCK REVIEW

Term 1 – 2026/27

2nd October 2026

Dear Rednock Community,

Welcome to the second edition of the Rednock Review! It is filled with stories of student achievement and exciting updates from around our school.

This edition comes hot on the heels of a joyous and successful Key Stage 3 Awards Evening held on Thursday, 1st October. It was a wonderful celebration of student effort and achievement across our younger year groups.

Alongside these successes, we remain focused on maintaining high school attendance. Our attendance rate since returning is currently around 93% - a positive start, but slightly lower than our target. We are striving to raise this even further. Thank you in advance for your continued support in ensuring your children attend school every day possible.

As we pass the midpoint of the term (already!), school life remains busy, purposeful, and rewarding. As part of our ongoing commitment to safety, we will rehearse our lockdown procedure before the end of term. This is a routine part of our emergency planning and nothing to be concerned about. I will write to you with further details shortly, and students will be fully briefed during tutor time to ensure they feel prepared and comfortable with the process.



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

Important Dates for Your Diary:

- Thursday 8th October: Year 11 GCSE Study Evening
- Thursday 15th October: Meet the Tutor Event & Community Connects Event (running alongside 'Meet the Tutor' in the Main Hall)
- Thursday 22nd October: Final day of term for students
- Friday 23rd October: Staff INSET Day

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Rednock Review.

On behalf of everyone at Rednock School, I send you my very best wishes.

Mike Stratford
Headteacher



Rednock School
Where everyone matters



Achievement Heroes

Each week, we select new Achievement Heroes to celebrate. We've had some amazing nominees and we're proud of everything they've accomplished.

They were recognised for different reasons, each one just as impressive as the last.

Every nominee exemplifies what it means to be an Achievement Hero and we couldn't be prouder to shine a spotlight on their accomplishments.

This issue's Achievement Heroes are:



Charlotte, for helping out with the Year 7 clubs and being a supportive coach to the younger students.

Daniel, for gaining his black belt in Taekwondo last Sunday.

Esther, for having a really positive start to the academic year and achieving a high number of reward points.

George, for volunteering to help a Year 11 student with his media coursework.

Keira, for having an amazing week in school.

Rosie, a special word goes to Rosie for attending Achievement Heroes with a friend to help calm her nerves.

Isabelle, for being awarded 50 reward points in just 5 weeks!

Ella, for her exceptional levels of support and kindness to a new student within her tutor group.

Elodie, for making her debut for Gloucestershire Schools Football team in a 4-1 victory.

Charlotte, for winning her age category in Archery which makes her U15 regional Champion 2026.

Bailey, for being really kind and supporting a friend.



Teaching and Learning Focus – Celebrating Great Home Learning

It has been amazing to see students across all year groups embracing their home learning, which has been set on ClassCharts since the beginning of term. Home learning plays a vital role in supporting academic progress and setting our students up for long-term success. Educational research from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) suggests that effective home learning can add an extra five months of academic progress in a school year compared to those that do not complete it.

To encourage student engagement with home learning, we have been awarding reward points for Taking Responsibility for all home learning submitted on time and an additional reward point for Ambition for particularly good pieces of work. Thousands of reward points have already been awarded in the first five weeks.

If your child would like extra support to complete their home learning, or just a quiet space to work, remember that we have two home learning clubs available to them:

- Lunchtime in a computer suite every day.
- After school in the LRC from 3.10 - 4.10. On Monday, Thursday and Friday it is a quiet space to work, with computers and books available whilst on a Tuesday and Wednesday dedicated staff are on hand to provide support and guidance.

We are delighted to be able to celebrate some brilliant home learning in Year 7 Science, which was to take part in a Science Safety Poster Competition.

Congratulations to Eliza, pictured, who was the winner of our Competition!

We had a fantastic range of entries, which made choosing an overall winner a very difficult job. Students demonstrated excellent creativity and a strong understanding of how to work safely in a science laboratory.

Eliza's poster particularly stood out because it was colourful, clear and incredibly eye-catching, while also covering a wide range of important laboratory safety rules.

As our overall winner, Eliza received a copy of *Scientists Making a Difference* by Dr Shini Somara, which tells the stories of 47 inspirational scientists and the discoveries they are making to change our world. We also have a second copy of the book which will soon be available to borrow from the LRC, so other students can enjoy reading about these inspirational scientists too.





Staff Charity Coffee Morning

School staff recently came together for a special coffee morning to raise funds for cancer support, held in honour of a much-loved colleague, Catherine Knowles.

There was an amazing array of homemade and shop bought cakes to enjoy, so much so that we had to spread the event over two days to make sure not a single slice went to waste! In all, staff raised an incredible £474.12 for this important cause. A fantastic amount from a very generous bunch of cake lovers.

It seems that if there's one thing guaranteed to win the hearts of school staff, it's definitely cake! A huge thank you to everyone who baked, donated and tucked in.



Netball Round-Up

It was a mixed set of results for our netball teams this week.

Year 10 got their season off to a fantastic start with a convincing 20 - 4 victory. The team played exceptionally well, with some outstanding performances from Emily and Ruby.

The Year 11 team faced a tough first game of the 2026 season, losing 28 - 14 to a very tall and physical SWR side. Despite the result, the team put in a strong effort against a challenging opposition and will look to build on the experience in their next game.





Future of Fuel

On the 30th September we were privileged to host the Royal Institution's Science in Schools show. Through engaging demonstrations our presenter, Nerys, explained how fuels are used to make electricity and explored ways to sustainably store it.

We saw flaming butane bubbles, watched candles extinguished using the magic of carbon dioxide and were stunned by the boom of a hydrogen balloon exploding. Afterwards, Year 7 asked some brilliant questions and found out more about what the future might hold for scientific research.





Year 7 Orchestra Project

This term our Year 7 students have been getting to know the wonderful world of orchestral instruments as part of an exciting new Year 7 orchestra project.

During their Music lessons, students have had the opportunity to look at a range of orchestral instruments and, most importantly, have a go at playing them for themselves. From strings, woodwind and brass, students have been discovering how each instrument works and the important role it plays within an ensemble.

The project has been a fantastic opportunity for students to experience music making first-hand and to discover an instrument that they might really enjoy learning. We may even have some future musicians, composers and performers among our Year 7 students!

Want to keep playing?

If your child has discovered an instrument they would like to learn further, we are able to offer individual instrumental lessons in school with our independent peripatetic music teachers for a small cost.

Lessons are available during the school day and provide students with the opportunity to develop their musical skills and confidence by playing an instrument alongside their normal Music lessons.



Letters with further information about instrumental lessons will be coming home shortly, including details of the instruments and teachers available.



ESFA National Cup

The Year 10 boys Rugby team had a narrow 1-0 defeat to Sir Thomas Rich's school in the second round of the ESFA national cup.

An early penalty from the visitors proved enough to win the game. Rednock were unfortunate not to capitalise on the couple of chances they had in the second half.

Attention now turns to the county cup later in the year.



Year 9 Discover the Magic Behind the Scenes

This term, our Year 9 Drama students have been exploring the exciting world of careers in theatre and the performing arts and have discovered that there is so much more to a performance than what happens on stage.

Students have been looking at the wide range of backstage and technical careers that help bring a production to life. From lighting and sound design to costume, set and technical theatre, students are discovering the skills and creativity involved in working behind the scenes.

As part of this work, students have been getting creative with special effects makeup. This term, every Year 9 student will have the opportunity to learn some of the techniques used by professional makeup artists to create their own special effects. Students are exploring how makeup, colour, texture and creativity can be combined to create convincing theatrical effects. It is a fantastic opportunity for them to develop practical skills while also learning about a career that they may never have considered before.



Under 14 Boys Rugby

The Under-14 boys were beaten 32-12 by Gloucester Academy in the first round of the EDF Cup.

It was a spirited effort against a very big and physical Gloucester side. Rednock found themselves 10-0 down early on but fought back with tries from Freddie and Theo, with Freddie also adding a conversion.

Unfortunately, we ran out of steam in the second half, with injuries to a couple of key players making it difficult to get back into the game. Despite the result, the boys showed plenty of determination and battled hard throughout.





Ernest Cook Trip

On Friday the 25th September, Year 13 biologists spent the day at the Ernest Cook Trust studying woodland ecology.

They spent time exploring the site and finding out about how woodlands are managed for conservation and education purposes. They also planned investigations and collected data to use for their biology practical coursework.

The teamwork and work ethic was excellent and the group were a credit to Rednock.

We are really grateful to have this valuable educational resource so close to our school and thanks go to Liz and Ella who were inspiring. We look forward to the next visit already!



Gloucestershire Schools Football Association Success

Congratulations to our students who have been selected to represent Gloucestershire Schools Football Association (FA).

Elodie made her Gloucestershire Schools FA debut, playing away in Abertillery against Caerphilly Schools. The team came away with an impressive 4-1 victory.

We are also delighted to share that two of our Year 11 students, Ollie and Oz, have been selected for the boys U16 squad. A fantastic achievement and recognition of their talent and commitment.

Well done to all three students and we look forward to following their progress throughout the season!



Spotlight on Thrillers, Mysteries and Crime Novels.

In October we are celebrating all things crime, thriller and mystery in the LRC! So as the nights draw in, why not lose yourself in a good puzzle and see if you can work out “who did it?”

From shocking True Crime to the cosiest of crime fiction, we have a book for everyone...



OVERDUE BOOKS

To ensure students have as wide a choice of books as possible, it really is vital books are returned when finished. Please ask students to look for and return any overdue. Students will be informed which books they have over the coming week.

If a student has more than 3 overdue books, no more will be issued until they are returned or replacements paid for.



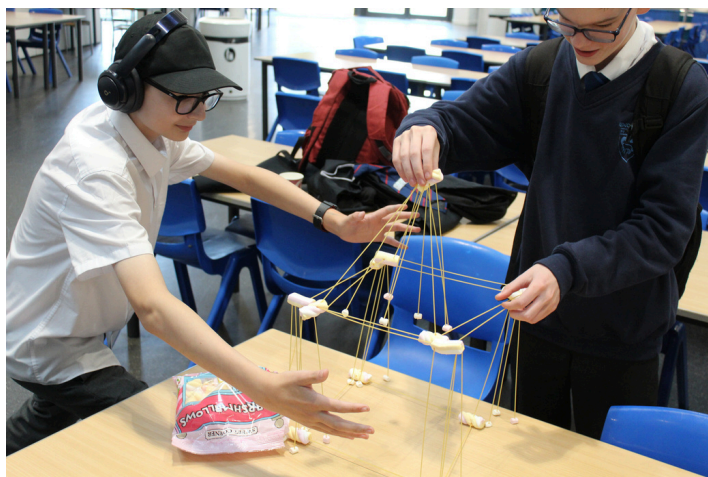


Ausome Bug Tower Challenge

This week, some of the Ausome Bugs took part in a fun and creative team challenge - to build the biggest tower possible using just pasta and marshmallows!

The challenge quickly became much more than just building a tower. Students had to work together, share ideas, listen to each other and communicate effectively to decide how they could make their tower as tall and stable as possible. There were plenty of creative ideas, some impressive engineering skills and, of course, a few towers that didn't quite survive the building process!

The activity was a great way to explore the importance of communication, teamwork and problem-solving. Students had to learn that everyone's ideas are valuable and that working together can often achieve much more than working alone. Most importantly, the students had lots of fun, supported each other and showed some fantastic teamwork along the way.



Year 10 Boys Football

A fantastic result for our Year 10 Boys, who secured a 4-1 victory against St Peters in the first round of the National Cup.

The boys put in an excellent performance, with two goals each from Henry and Harry securing the win and sending the team through to the second round.

We now await the draw to find out who they will face in Round Two. Well done, boys!



Crime Scene Investigation

Year 13 Applied Science students have been fully immersed in the world of forensic biology this term as part of their AAQ in Applied Science.

To bring their learning to life, a full mock crime scene was created in the Science Department. The scenario placed students inside a museum where a valuable painted mask has been stolen, leaving behind a range of evidence for our forensic scientists to investigate.

Following correct crime-scene procedures, students must carefully identify, record and collect evidence without contaminating the scene. This includes analysing mock blood, fingerprints, fibres, bite marks, hairs, soil samples and footprints. The activity gives students the opportunity to apply the forensic techniques they have studied in a realistic setting and understand the importance of accurate, methodical scientific work.

A huge thank you must go to our fantastic Science Technician Team, whose creativity and hard work have gone into creating such an impressive and immersive crime scene for our students.



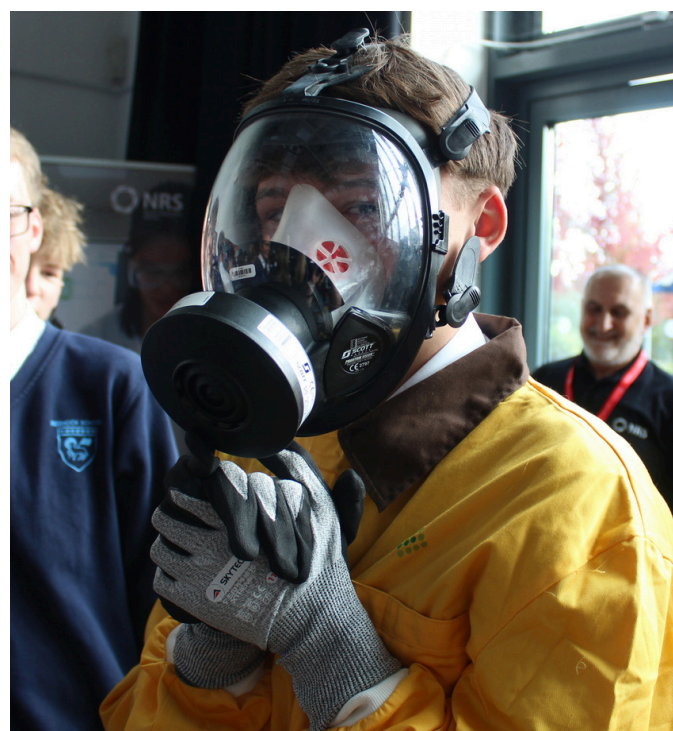


CAREERS CORNER

APPRENTICESHIP AND RECRUITMENT FAIR

On Thursday 24th September we held our annual Apprenticeship & Recruitment Fair for students in Years 11, 12 and 13. This event is designed to introduce students to independent training providers, companies offering apprenticeships and jobs with training to our up and coming school leavers.

Many thanks to all who attended – including a previous student, Austyn, who came to represent his current employer!





Bronze DofE

Year 10 students put their outdoor skills to the test as they took part in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Practice Expedition and training weekend on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September.

The expedition had originally been planned for the summer term but, following its postponement, was rearranged for September. It was fantastic to see so many students able to take part and continue their journey towards completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Setting off from Rednock School on Saturday morning, seven teams began a challenging weekend designed to prepare them for their forthcoming assessed expedition.



Throughout the weekend, students developed a wide range of essential expedition skills, including navigation and map reading, route planning, first aid and emergency procedures. They also explored the Countryside Code and learned how to respond safely and responsibly to situations they might encounter while out on expedition.

After navigating their routes, the teams made their way to Conygres Campsite in Wotton-under-Edge, where their learning continued. Students practised pitching and managing their tents, developed their camp craft skills and experienced the realities of working together as a team after a full day outdoors.

The evening provided another important challenge as students began planning their routes for their assessed expedition. This gave them the opportunity to put their newly developed navigation and map-reading skills into practice and take greater responsibility for the next stage of their DofE journey.

After camping overnight, the teams continued their expedition on Sunday before making their way back to Rednock School for the finish.

The weekend was about much more than walking. Students were required to communicate, solve problems, make decisions and support one another, developing confidence, resilience and independence along the way. A huge well done to all of our Year 10 students who took part and embraced the challenges of the weekend. We would also like to say a very big thank you to our parents and carers for their flexibility, patience and continued support, particularly following the rearrangement of the expedition from the summer term. Their help with preparing students, organising equipment, transport and adapting to the new dates was greatly appreciated.

Finally, thank you to the Rednock staff who gave up their time to support the weekend and to our DofE expedition provider, WOLT, for their expertise and guidance throughout.

Our students will now have the opportunity to put everything they have learned into practice when they undertake their Bronze DofE assessed expedition in October.

We wish all of our teams the very best of luck for the next stage of their Bronze DofE journey!



GIRLS
Rugby
CLUB

Run by Gloucester Rugby Coaches who will be joined by player Alex Matthews.

YEARS 8 & 9 GIRLS
WEDNESDAYS
3.15PM TIL 4.15PM



New Girls' Rugby Club

We're excited to launch a new Girls' Rugby Club for our Year 8 and 9 girls.

Running every Wednesday from 3:15pm - 4:15pm, the sessions will be led by coaches from Gloucester Rugby, with a very special guest joining them, Alex Matthews, who plays for Gloucester-Hartpury and England's Red Roses and is a Rugby World Cup winner!

No experience is needed, just bring your PE kit, boots or trainers and an enthusiastic attitude. It's a great opportunity to develop rugby skills, have fun and enjoy the game.



Archery Success at the Inter-County Championships

Congratulations to Year 8 student, Charlotte (above), on an impressive performance at the Archery Inter-County Championships in Exmouth, where she competed against archers from Devon and Cornwall, Dorset and Wiltshire, Somerset and Gloucestershire.

She won her age category, making her the Under 15 Regional Champion for 2026. An even bigger achievement was finishing 4th out of 13 girls shooting the same type of bow. Following this success, she has now been selected to take part in the National Talent Development Programme over the winter – the first step on the pathway towards the Olympics.



Rednock Connects, Community Information Evening

On Thursday 15th October, we're bringing together a range of local groups and organisations for our Rednock Connects event, a community information evening.

The event is a chance for families to meet local organisations and find out more about the activities, opportunities and services available in our community.

There will also be a pre-loved uniform sale where you can stock up on any necessary uniform.

The event is running alongside Meet the Tutor, so if you're visiting school that evening, don't forget to pop to the bottom floor and take a look!

Rednock Connects

Community information evening

Thursday 15th October
3.30pm – 6.30pm



We are excited to be bringing together local groups and organisations to showcase the services, activities and opportunities available within our local community.

We will be joined by...



... and many more!

School Parking Reminders

As we look ahead to our upcoming Meet the Tutor event, we'd like to remind parents and carers to please be mindful of parking around the school.

We ask everyone visiting the school to park carefully, considerately and safely, being mindful of our local residents. Please ensure that residential roads are not blocked and that driveways, entrances and access routes are kept clear, ensuring that emergency vehicles can gain access to any premises if needed.

Thank you for helping us to make the community safe and considerate for everyone in our school and local community.



Fantastic Performances at the Prince of Wales Athletics Event

Well done to our 66 students who took part in the Prince of Wales Athletics Event recently.

Students competed across a wide range of athletics events, producing some fantastic performances and showing great determination, enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the day.

A huge well done to everyone who took part and represented Rednock so brilliantly!

U18s Take on the National Cup

Our U18 squad took on Sir Thomas Rich's in the first round of the National Cup.

The match ended in a narrow 1-0 defeat, with the only goal coming from an early penalty.

Despite the result, the team put in a strong effort and can now turn their attention to their league campaign, which gets underway after Christmas.

Well done to the squad for their efforts!



District Cross Country Success

On Wednesday 30th September, 16 Year 7 and Year 8 students visited Thomas Keable School to compete in the District Cross Country Run.

All of our students performed brilliantly, showing great determination and enthusiasm throughout the event.

We were particularly pleased with the team results:

- Year 7 Girls – 3rd
- Year 7 Boys – 4th
- Year 8 Girls – 4th
- Year 8 Boys – 1st

A fantastic set of results, well done to everyone who took part and represented Rednock!



Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
08/10/2026	Year 11	Exam Support Evening
10/10/2026 - 11/10/2026	Participating Students	Bronze DofE Final Expedition
15/10/2026	Year 6	Year 6 Open Morning
15/10/2026	All	Meet The tutor Evening
15/10/2026	All	Rednock Conects, Community Information Evening

Rednock Connects

Community Information Evening

15th October
3.30pm - 6.00pm



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Image: Sarah McIntyre, Adventure Mice: Of Mice and Mummies

TRAIN TO TEACH

IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE
INFORMATION EVENING

 Tuesday
3rd November 2026

 5pm - 7pm

 Pate's Grammar School
Cheltenham, GL51 0HG

Book your place now by emailing admin@odysseytsh.org
or call 01242 538 240 or [sign up here](#)

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PJD Productions return for a Sixth Sensational Season

Beauty and the BEAST

Tickets
from
£17



The Spellbinding Family Pantomime

**Friday 18th December 2026
to Sunday 3rd January 2027**

This Christmas at the Sub Rooms promises to be bigger, better and more beautiful and beastly than ever before!

Join us for the spellbinding story of Belle, the spirited and headstrong village girl who enters an enchanted castle and melts the heart of the monstrous beast who dwells within its walls.

It's time for more music, magic and mayhem in a fantastic festive treat for the whole family.

PREVIOUS PANTOS AT THE SUBS FROM PJD

**"Absolutely hilarious! Don't miss it.
Stroud should be proud!"**

Keith Allen

"Its modern, current and quite simply hilarious, so if pantos aren't your thing, I urge you to give it a go - you'll look forward to it every year from here on out"

The Stroud Times

Fri 18 Dec 2026	11am	3pm	6pm	7pm	Gold Band Shows Adults from £25 Child from £23
Sat 19 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			
Sun 20 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			Silver Band Shows Adults from £20 Child from £18
Mon 21 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			
Tue 22 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			Preview Shows Adults from £17 Child from £15
Wed 23 Dec 2026		1pm	5pm		
Thu 24 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			Adult Shows from £25
Sat 26 Dec 2026		4pm			
Sun 27 Dec 2026	11am	3pm			PJD PRODUCTIONS
Mon 28 Dec 2026	11am (R)	3pm			
Tue 29 Dec 2026		1pm	5pm		
Wed 30 Dec 2026		1pm	5pm		
Thu 31 Dec 2026	11am	3pm	8pm (AO)		
Sat 2 Jan 2027		2pm	8pm (AO)		
Sun 3 Jan 2027		2pm			

(R) Relaxed Performance - Monday 28th December at 11am

A performance specifically designed to welcome people who will benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people with an autism spectrum condition, sensory and communication disorders or learning disability.

(AO) Adults Only - Thursday 31st December and Saturday 2nd January at 8pm

Our Adult Only performances offer the chance to leave the kids at home and experience panto with no filter whatsoever! Absolutely not for the faint hearted or easily offended.