

February 2022

REDHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



School of Rock Theatre Trip!



On the 3rd February, a selection of Drama students went to see School of Rock in Birmingham. Thank you to Mrs Hastings, Mr Lindsay and Mrs Wagstaff for accompanying the students to the show. It was fantastic, with amazing songs and high energy. Students enjoyed the trip to McDonalds afterwards too...!

GCSE Practicals are Underway



Well done to the GCSE students who have started their practical submissions this month. Students from the Food and Nutrition Department had their practical examination in the last week of the month, spending all morning in the tech rooms making varied and high skill dishes. They worked really hard and should be very proud of what they produced.

GCSE Drama students have also been working very hard on their practical performance pieces. Mrs Wagstaff recorded some of their performances to send off to the exam board. They have devised, learned lines and rehearsed very well together and we hope they were as happy with their performances as the Drama department was.

It is always tough when examinations and mocks begin to appear, but so far the students have taken each challenge in their stride and are submitting fantastic work that contributes towards their final grades. Well done and keep up the hard work everyone!

Launch of the Redhill Writes Blog!

We are launching a creative community blog on our website which celebrates and details life at school. The blog will have four main features:

‘Student Spotlight’ voices the student perspective. It congratulates their sport, arts and academic achievements and includes reports written by students themselves about events, projects and more. ‘Staff Speak’ is a similar section, allowing staff to reflect upon and commemorate moments of teaching and school life.

‘Thoughts From the Headteacher’ are entries that appreciate happenings and events within the school and contain forward thinking entries about future terms at Redhill. Finally, we will be contacting our former students in our ‘All About Alumni’ section, providing insight into what they’re doing now and what they have achieved in their professional and personal lives.

The launch will be announced on social media in March!



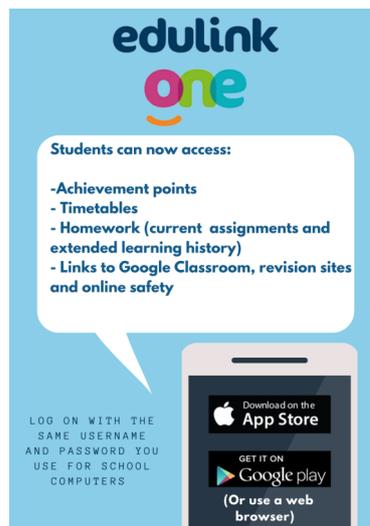
Hand Sanitiser Donations

Thank you to Scott Young Research in Lye for coming to our school and donating boxes of hand sanitiser to our staff and students.

Two Year 7s accepted the donation and thanked them for coming. This is a huge help to our school community and reinforces safe teaching and learning.



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Army and RAF Visit Years 10 and 11

On Tuesday 15th February, two representatives from the RAF and British Army came into our school and hosted a drop-in question and information session in the library for Years 10 and 11. We had some keen interest, students asked lots of questions about training, enrolment, various job roles and qualifications.



The representatives were really encouraging and inspiring, talking about common misconceptions about joining the forces and telling us about their personal experiences in their different roles.

We thank them for coming in and we hope they can come and speak to the wider year group in the future.



Phase Trust Mental Health Awareness Week Sessions

Thank you to Phase Trust for coming in and running an essential mental health workshop for Year 9. They spoke about the NHS' 5 steps to happy health which included socialising, exercise, mindfulness, learning new skills and giving to others. Students drew around their hands and wrote who they can support and who can support them. They watched some lovely videos and played interactive games to promote teamwork and social connections. It was a really positive session and we look forward to welcoming them back in the future.



Year 7 Go to Symphony Hall

Year 7 went on a fantastic trip to Symphony hall in Birmingham with the Music department, to hear performances about the Natural World.

These concerts provide pupils with a snapshot of orchestral repertoire, showcasing the different sections and instruments of the orchestra through a range of orchestral music, from the classical era to the sounds of today - ensuring that there really is something for everyone!

It was a very unique experience that the students appreciated. Izzy especially liked the piece called 'Spring' as it had a sweet, calm melody mixed with drums.

They had seats high up in the auditorium so they had a wonderful view! Thank you to the staff who accompanied the students.



Year 7's Nature-Poetry Park Trip

On the 4th February, Year 7 English walked down to Mary Stevens Park to explore the nature as inspiration for poetry writing. They compared the calmness of the lake to the countryside and the chaos of the playground to the bustle of London.

They enjoyed the trip to the ice-cream van after their hard work!



Anti-Bullying Assemblies



Year 8 have had some insightful assemblies in form time about anti-bullying. They have discussed the difference between banter and bullying and spoken about the way that others may interpret what you say in a different way to you.

Well done to Year 8 for engaging with the assemblies, asking questions and discussing important topics like standing up for yourself and for friends.

Creative Writing Entries

At the bottom of my garden,
Winter has taken over.
You can't see the fresh, green grass,
Or the lucky four-leaved clover.

There are no birds or badgers,
Or beautiful ginger cats,
Now there are just icicles
And hanging, pitch-black bats.

Flowers are not blooming,
The fireflies are gone,
Although they tried to save the light
That once so brightly shone.

My garden is dead now,
I hope it will live once more,
And I wish that the light comes through
Like it did so long before.

Charley C, Year 7

The Valentine's Poem

By Cameron H-A, Year 7

Roses are red
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet
And so are you.
I'll be there too,
Sitting on a blanket,
For a picnic for two.



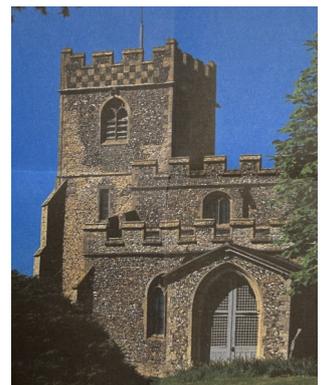
The Empty Church by Sophie B, Year 11

Don't let the blue skies behind it and friendly appearance fool your innocent self. The layered stones and ancient doors hide things behind them, things townspeople of the past would prefer remaining behind the doors.

You see, no one has been brave enough to go back inside after that morning. It's strange to see how, through the half-a-century it has remained empty, it hasn't changed one bit. You can't help but wonder what the inside looks like now. For all the time that has passed, it must be long overdue a sweeping by now.

In one, foolishly calculated move, you walk towards the window closest to you, and despite its stained glass, you manage to get a fairly good look at the interior happenings. It's completely spotless.

As you realised, someone was staring back at you, you only wished you hadn't. It's too late for you now.



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Redhill School is a member of the Stour Vale Academy Trust (SVAT)