



Rawmarsh Community School A Sports College

RCS

NEWSLETTER

RCS NEWSLETTER - NEWS & UPDATES - MAY 2021

Headteacher's Update

As our first full half term of on-site learning since Christmas comes to an end I would like to take this opportunity to praise the approach shown by the vast majority of our students. They have all continued to focus on the things within their control; effort, good attendance, progress and above all else, learning.

At Rawmarsh, we support others around us. During this challenging academic year, we

have come together as a community and continued to be the absolute best we can be.

I am so very proud of this school, this community and our ongoing achievements. As we start to see the light at the end of the tunnel, and see students return to specialist classrooms, a sense of normality is almost upon us.

To all students, continue to work hard and never give less than your best, parents thank you for your ongoing and unconditional support.

Have a restful half term!

A Message to Y11

It is often the misguided view that with age comes wisdom. Age may bring with it experience but this experience is not always used wisely. Whatever age you are, the decisions you take are what demonstrates how wise you will ultimately become.

As you leave RCS, you are entering a world far different than when you first arrived all those years ago. Irrespective of the challenges we have faced recently, it is a world of endless possibilities; a world in which you must continue to be the absolute best you can be in everything you do.

As a year group you have acquitted yourselves magnificently and embodied the Rawmarsh Way in all that you do. Life is one choice after another and you won't always choose correctly. That said, if you stay true to yourself and continue to epitomise those twelve personal characteristics, you will be right far more often than you are wrong.

“Remember, the two most powerful things in life are doubt and belief. Never allow self doubt to overpower self belief. Believe in yourselves and make the most of your undoubted potential”.

I wish you all the very best
Mr Turton
(Headteacher)

Y8/9 Options Process

All students in Year 8 and Year 9 have now had their options interviews.

Students in Year 8 have chosen their mini options for next year and will carousel around faculties next experiencing up to 3 subjects within that faculty. This will then help them decide which specific subject from within that faculty they would like to study at GCSE when they move into Year 10.

Students in Year 9 have now chosen the specific subjects they wish to study at GCSE after completing their mini options during Year 9 and experiencing a variety of subjects from within a faculty area. A letter has been sent home to parents/carers confirming these choices.

As a school we look forward to all of our students embarking on this next step in their learning journey and continuing to work hard and never give less than their best.

Y6 Transition (Meet the Tutor & Rollover)



We're looking forward to welcoming our new Y6 intake who will be starting at RCS on Monday 5th July.

This year will be a two week period of Rollover where students will get a head start on our Y7 curriculum. Having this in school will allow our new starters to settle in and integrate with their peers. It's also a valuable opportunity for teachers to baseline test all of our students, which is of particular importance in the absence of Y6 SATs, to help determine sets and what additional support may be required.

Prior to Rollover, our virtual 'Meet the Tutor' event takes place on Wednesday 9th June 2021. This will be a virtual event where students and parents will be introduced to their Form Tutor and finalise our preparation for Rollover.

We're also delighted to announce that our new Y7 will be at full capacity with 227 students joining us this year from across 19 different feeder schools.

Tours of the School

We have already started to welcome groups of Y6 students over to RCS for a tour of the school.

Due to current measures still being in place, these are taking place after school with some of our most vulnerable and anxious pupils, as well as those from out of catchment, being prioritised first.

However, we are committed to ensuring that every Y6 pupil gets the chance to visit. Each school has their own designated dates and tours are being led by Mr Skirrow, Mrs Tomlinson, Mrs Hazzard and Miss Glover.

Meet our SLT

As an extra part of our Transition package for this year, we have invited parents and Y6 pupils to submit their questions to our Senior Leadership Team.

Once all the questions are in, we'll be uploading a video onto our website and social media where all the members of our SLT will answer as many of the submitted questions as possible.

Enrichment

This half term there have been **275 CFPs awarded** to students for completing enrichment activities.

RCS would like to say a massive well done to all students who have taken the time to rise to the challenge and try new activities, and learn something new.

While all our students who have completed and participated in an enrichment activity have done brilliantly, the following students have demonstrated they can dream big. Keep up the amazing work.

Special Mentions

Lilly-Jo Bramwell
George Dovey
Enya Pearson
Erin Beardsley

Shaula Berry
Alexia Schofield
Madison Weekes

Harrison Toyne
Alfie bramwell
Courtney Bailey

RCS Pledge Updates

This half term students in KS3 have received their forth Pledge lesson on Life Skills.

They learnt about what life skills are, why they are important and what potential employers will be looking for in the future.

One of the Life Skills Pledge tasks is to visit an art gallery, theatre or sporting event but due to COVID 19 restrictions this has not been possible. Therefore, we participated in a virtual visit to a theatre and watched a performance of 'The play that goes wrong'. Students then followed this up by writing a review of the performance to achieve the Pledge task.

The next Pledge lesson will be on British Values in the week commencing 7th June. We would encourage all students to continue working towards achieving more Pledge tasks at home in the meantime. his class and completing many documentaries of the week.

An overview of the Pledge tasks can be found here:

rawmarsh.org/students/pledges/



So far we have now had 29 students in Y7, 55 students in Y8 and 30 students in Y9 complete at least 1 Bronze Pledge.

We have also had 4 students in Y7, and 1 student in Y8 and Y9 who have completed all 3 Bronze Pledges and are now onto their Silver tasks.

Who will take risks and rise to the challenge of completing a Pledge task next?

PSHE Update

Firstly I would like to say thank you to all the parents who took part in the PSHE parental survey.



Based on some of the comments from the survey I will use this newsletter to both update you on past, current and future events but I will also signpost resources that we will be using in upcoming lessons. Look forward to working with you all.

For those parents who indicated they wanted to be involved in a PSHE parental group I will be in contact shortly with more information and I very much As part of the consultation some parents indicated they would be interested in some parental sessions to support the wellbeing of your children. I am looking into this and will be in touch shortly with arrangements for these sessions.

In PSHE this term Y7, Y8 and Y9 students have been involved in pledge lessons where pupils got to take part in learning about life skills and how these would help them in both school and later life. Students also got the opportunity to work on achieving a Life Skills Pledge and a big shout out has to go to the students in Miss Heather's Y8 class who, in one lesson, dreamed big and really did rise to the challenge; by the end of the session nearly all students had achieved a full pledge.

A big well done to all involved. If you want to support your children in achieving the pledge tasks you can find the information on the school website rawmarsh.org/students/pledges.

Students in Y11 have taken part in cancer awareness workshops to support them in being able to look after their physical health. Y9 and Y10 students have been taking part in safer relationship lessons and have shown a high level of maturity in these lessons as well as taking part in sensible discussions. In Y7 students are working on a Government unit in which they will learn about how politics and government in the UK work.

There have been some very interesting conversations taking place around what makes Britain British with the favourite response so far being fish and chips! In Y8 students are starting a new unit around managing grief and the different views around this.

In this final summer term Y7 will be completing Relationship boundaries and an introduction to the law as well as first aid. An example of a resource we will use in Y7 is childnet 'Back me up' which can be viewed here:

www.childnet.com/resources/pshe-toolkit/crossing-the-line/peer-pressure/back-me-up.

Meanwhile, in Y8, students are studying different types of worships and beliefs and making safer choices. We will also be addressing the topic of managing grief in this unit and giving students

tools to support them. Staff have been made aware of students who may struggle with this topic, if you feel your child may need support with this lesson please don't hesitate to contact myself.

Within the Y9 and Y10 rotations students will have lessons on sexual health, drugs and addiction, domestic violence and alcohol and consent. An example of a resource that will be used in these topics are the Disrespect Nobody campaign which can be found via this link:

www.disrespectnobody.co.uk

I would like to end this update by highlighting the student support section of the website: **aware.wickersleypt.org** on here there are a lot of links for both students and parents should you or your child need it.

Y9 Tenner Challenge

This year has been trying for everyone but some of our budding entrepreneurs have taken up an extra challenge of running their own small business within school.

Each year we run the National 10x Challenge and have had some excellent businesses in years gone by but none have had the added challenge of COVID.

We gave our students £10 each to set up their business, create a marketing strategy and manage and maintain their business. Despite the challenges they faced, our students have done a fantastic job and all have succeeded in creating and running their businesses for 4 weeks; every team made a profit!

They have also now met the criteria to complete their Active Citizenship Silver Pledge task. A huge well done to all involved for rising to the challenge and dreaming big with their businesses.



Careers Update

SHECan

Year 9 and 10 students have blazed their way through this amazing project designed to give them the confidence and knowledge to succeed.

Sessions have taken place both in and after school and include an Articulatory workshop - watch out - the 'SHECan' girls mean business!

Workwise

Thanks to the workwise foundation 40 of our students have completed a one week virtual work experience academy.

Students visited workplaces and met apprentices who shared their career stories and completed work based tasks, their own CV and experienced a live mock interview with a local employer - gaining really valuable employment skills which will serve them well in the future.

US in Schools Mentoring

Well done to our Year 9 students that applied to experience face-to-face mentoring from University students in school - but instead have adapted to online sessions.

Navigating a new online learning environment and working alongside university staff and students to find out more about subjects available, university life, student finance and employability prospects. Most of all they have gained in confidence and enthusiasm for their futures - a brilliant achievement and we couldn't be more proud of them!

Virtual work experience - speakers for schools

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Rawmarsh Eco Council

April saw the launch of the Eco-Council, an initiative that RCS has chosen to take part in aimed at Year 9.

After the launch event kicked off by John Healey MP, six Year 9 students were chosen to represent the school at the Eco-Council in May. Each student chosen showed a clear passion and enthusiasm for tackling the issue of climate change and all demonstrated the commitment and dedication they will need for the programme.



As the programme takes place over the coming year, the students will have plenty of time to put into practice some of the ideas they mentioned in their application form and make a real change when it comes to this pressing issue.

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The students chosen will have the opportunity to make a difference at a school, local, and even National level. The students involved are Blake Roebuck, Mischa Walsh, Jenna Turton, Bailey Chambers, Lucas Daisey and Millie Clogg. They should all be very proud of themselves for having the courage to put their names forward and taking the initiative to choose to be a part of something bigger.

Although the Eco-Council is aimed at Year 9 students, students from the Senior Student Leadership Team (SSLT) were also very keen to get involved with something similar and will do so with students from other years. A number of SSLT members were present at the Eco-Council launch event and asked John Healey about what they could do to make a difference. They were offered the opportunity to put together some information for a change they would like to see in their local community and were very keen on taking up this offer which just shows how much students across RCS care about issues that face their generation and the planet. SSLT members will also be involved in a school-wide initiative where they will work closely with other students in school to look at various ways we can make changes at RCS to make us more eco-friendly.

The environment is clearly an issue that means a lot to many young people at our school and one that inspires them to work towards a common goal. We look forward to seeing what they choose to do with the opportunities given to them and the results of all their hard work.



Mr Bartle & Miss Robinson

It has been another excellent term for our Y7 students at RCS.

The number of students completing their Bronze Pledges has risen dramatically. We now have 26 students who have completed a Bronze Pledge, including four students who have completed their Full Bronze Pledge, and who are now working towards their Silver Pledges. We look forward to seeing the next Y7 students who will take risks and rise to a challenge to sign off a Bronze Pledge.

Our CFP total for this half-term has continued to be extremely strong, with Ethan Barrett and Lilly-Jo Bramwell leading the way with 30 CFPs, followed by Madison Weekes with 27 CFPs and Harley Price with 26 CFPs. You should be proud of your achievements! Last week, Y7 collectively achieved 588 CFPs - an outstanding total - showing that they all work hard and always give their best.

Our after school club attendance has also been great to see, with students attending a wide array of clubs, such as drama, PE, and also our virtual enrichment activities sent out every week. We continue to be proud of the way in which Y7s dream big and rise to whatever challenges that life throws at them. We look forward to seeing what outstanding achievements our Y7 students will make during their final half-term of Y7



Miss Merchant & Mrs Small

This half term Y8 have had a focus on achieving outside of lessons, and, as always, have worked hard to achieve above and beyond expectations.

We have 60 students who have now achieved Rawmarsh Pledges, and this half term has seen our first student to achieve all 3 Bronze Pledges! To be awarded these our students have become experts in origami, learnt how to wash and iron their own uniform, taught themselves greetings in lots of different languages, visited virtual museums and performances and taken part in many other activities.

We've also had a number of students attending after school clubs. From seeing new faces taking part in netball and football, to slime making and making parachutes for eggs in Science club, and problem solving and skill building in Ambassador's club, it has been amazing to walk around and see everyone enjoying themselves - and we are so proud of you for taking risks and rising to the challenge to take part!

As we come to the end of a long and tough hard term we just want to say a big thank you to our Y8 students! They've worked hard and strived to never give less than their best, taken care of each other, and as always have continued to dream big with everything they do. We are so incredibly proud to be their year team!



Mrs Cooper & Miss Egginton

As the end of this half term draws to a close, there is much to be celebrated within the year group.

As sporting and social activities are re-opening, I know that students are appreciating the return of their hobbies and interests. The year group as a whole have taken risks and risen to the challenge, and faced head-on any difficulties that have been put in front of them. Students have adapted well after their first full half term in school after lockdown, and are making excellent progress both academically and pastorally.

Some Year 9's have been showing us their entrepreneurial skills by dreaming big and taking part in the Tenner Challenge. This involves students setting up their own businesses, they are then given a "tenner" to help them start and set up their business with the idea of making as much profit as they can as well as learning some vital life skills. The students involved in this initiative have worked incredibly hard in setting up various food stalls and tuck shops within the Y9 bubble. Well done to the following students who have risen to the challenge and worked hard to succeed: **Will Carter, Aimee Green, Millie Clogg, Laura Skelton, Chloe Dearden, Abigail Adegboye, Keira Kennet, Elsie Saunders, Jenna Turton and Grace Frost. A special mention to Aimee and Millie** who have shown great business enterprise by securing a deal with a local cafe to sell their home made produce. Well done to all involved.

I would like to inform all parents and carers that I have recently stepped back from the HOY 9 role, but will continue to work with the students at RCS. I am pleased to say that the new HOY is Mrs Shaw, and I know that she will support the year group as they move into KS4. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the year group. It is a time in my career that I will look back on with fondness, and will keep in touch with the year group for the remainder of their time at Rawmarsh. I will be spending time with Mrs Shaw over the coming weeks to ensure that the year group have a smooth handover.



Mr Leary & Mrs Tapper

Y10 have continued their learning journey with a renewed vigour after the Easter break, rising to the challenge of post-lockdown learning.

Students have been participating in a range of extra-curricular activities, including career-focused workshops and afterschool PE, showing the constant drive for personal development so firmly embedded into the Rawmarsh Way.

Also, a huge congratulations to the students that have been partaking in and completing Rawmarsh Pledge tasks. Always willing to give their best, these students have shown independence, motivation and a real desire to gain enrichment experience, continuing to forge and nourish a very positive future for themselves as they create their own success stories.

Y11

Mrs Shaw, Mrs Hazzard & Miss Glover

Y11 have been working extremely hard this half term preparing for their end of year assessments. Unfortunately, exams cannot go ahead in the traditional sense this year, but this hasn't stopped Y11 from working hard both in and outside of school in preparation for these alternative assessments.

It has been a tough and challenging year for us all but Y11 are still giving nothing but their best right through to the very end to ensure they receive the grades they deserve and require for their future.

Y11 are busy making their plans and preparations for the future and have been attending careers interviews and completing their applications for further education and employment. Many of our students have secured places at local colleges and are busy attending online and some face to face induction events. Many students, although sad to see their school days coming to an end, are looking forward to the new challenges which lay ahead of them and we wish them the very best for making their next steps once they leave us at RCS.

Y11 students have also been busy trawling through their memories of the past 5 years with us at RCS to remember their favourite teachers, quotes, memorable songs and some golden oldie photos to add to their yearbook, which will be a wonderful reminder of their time here at RCS and a lovely keepsake for them in years to come.

Although our leaving celebrations for Y11 will not look like what they have done in the past, the Y11 are demonstrating their resilient spirit by helping to come up with alternative ideas as to how we can celebrate their time here with us on their final day to still make it a celebration of how much they have achieved in their time with us.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank each and every one of our Y11 students. No one could have predicted the challenges this year would bring and although their last year in school has been nothing like we could have ever imagined, but the vast majority of students have demonstrated their true strength to come through this past year as successful young people.

GOOD BYE
CLASS OF
2021

"YOUR OFF TO GREAT PLACES,
TODAY IS YOUR DAY!
YOUR MOUNTAIN IS
WAITING, SO GET
ON YOUR WAY!"

DR SEUSS



FOR MORE NEWS AND UPDATES VISIT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AT
WWW.RAWMARSH.ORG

HAVE A GOOD - HALF TERM!