

2023-2024

Newsletter

Summer 1



**Reddish Hall
School**



The Hive
At Reddish Hall

Part of the Acorn Group



Science:

Last term in science we celebrated British science week. The theme of the week was based around “Time”. Scientific innovations are intertwined with time. The passing of time prompted the invention of ways to mark it, from the sundial to the pendulum clock to digital clocks - where would be without them?

To celebrate this theme, our students were challenged with the task of creating a pendulum clock that would operate for exactly 30 seconds. Congratulations to Stuart W, whose pendulum recorded a time of exactly 29.9 seconds.



Smashing stereotypes:

What do you imagine when you’re asked what a scientist looks like? Are you picturing lab coats, goggles and conical flasks? How about the person? Are they a white man with grey hair, who resembles Albert Einstein?

If that’s who you pictured - you aren’t alone. But it’s something that we want to change.



At Reddish Hall, we look beyond the scientist with a white lab coat and show our students the wider application of the subject in the real world. This is reflected in our career challenge weeks where we look at different scientific careers.

Upcoming topics:

| Week | | Aut 1 | | | | | | Aut 2 | | | | | | SPR 1 | | | | | | SPR 2 | | | | | | SUM 1 | | | | | | SUM 2 | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Class | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Keystage 3 | Y7 | Activate 1 - Energy | | | | | | Activate 1 - Organisms | | | | | | Activate 1 - Matter | | | | | | Activate 1 - Electricity | | | | | | Activate 1 - Reactions | | | | | | Activate 1 - Ecosystems | | | | | |
| | Y8 | Activate 1 - Forces | | | | | | Activate 1 - Earth | | | | | | Activate 2 - Organisms | | | | | | Activate 1 - Waves | | | | | | Activate 2 - Matter | | | | | | Activate 2 - Genes | | | | | |
| | Y9 | Activate 2 - Forces | | | | | | Activate 2 - Reactions | | | | | | Activate 2 - Earth | | | | | | Activate 2 - Electromagnets | | | | | | Activate 2 - Genes | | | | | | Activate 2 - Waves | | | | | |
| Keystage 4 | Physics | Energy | | | | | | Electricity | | | | | | Particle model | | | | | | Forces | | | | | | Waves | | | | | | Space | | | | | |
| | Chemistry | C1 | | | | | | C2 | | | | | | C3 | | | | | | C4 | | | | | | C5 | | | | | | C6 | | | | | |
| | Biology | Cell Biology | | | | | | Organisation / Ecology | | | | | | Infection and response | | | | | | Bioenergetics | | | | | | Homeostasis / Ecology | | | | | | Inheritance and variation | | | | | |



Chester Zoo trip:

Last term, our Year 9 class went on a trip to Chester Zoo as part of their ecosystems topic. At the zoo, the students got the chance to observe ecosystems of different animals and see what specific things the zoo included to replicate an animal's natural habitat.

The trip was a massive success, with the students enjoying the experience and bringing back wonderful memories such as Bobbi chasing a duck to pet, and Arron amazing a chimpanzee with his magic tricks.



Science Club:

Our science club is aiming to improve its STEM club quality mark this year. We have been busy completing lots of science experiments and activities to achieve our STEM club silver award.

See below for information on last term's science activities and the upcoming plan for this term.



Last term:

Planting world's hottest chilli seeds

Splitting geodes

Digging for fossils

Digging for gold

Rock polishing

Upcoming:

Planting lavender seeds

Clean water project

Butterfly garden

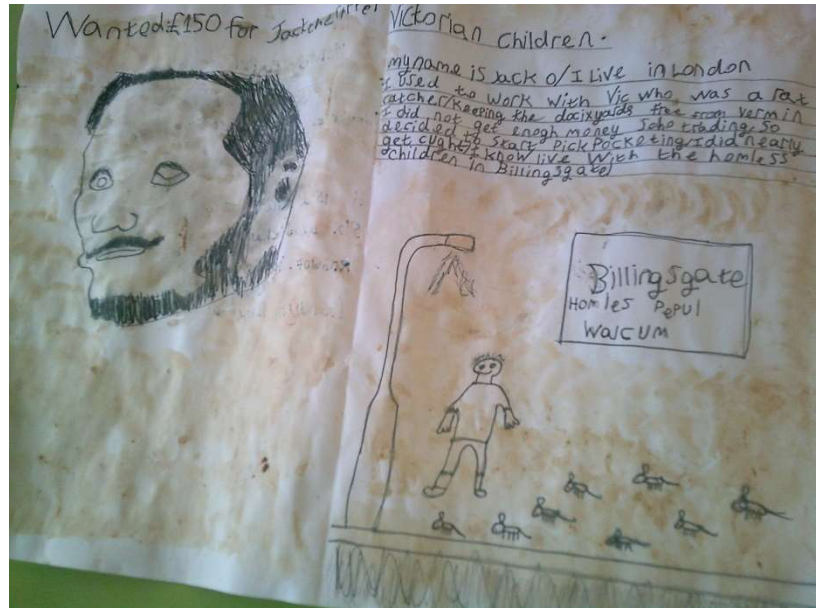
Gigantic bubbles

Setting up an aquarium for crabs



Humanities:

This half term, our project in humanities has been Jack the Ripper and Victorian life. We have learned about the mystery of the unsolved crimes that occurred in Whitechapel in 1888 and also what life was like for the poor compared to the aristocracy, in particular finding out some of the jobs children were expected to do. The children explored this topic by imagining they were a Victorian journalist, writing a new piece for their newspaper each week over the half term.



English:

This term, Year 9 have been working on non-fiction reading. This involves looking at various non-fiction texts more critically than in previous years and developing skills that will help them next year in their transition to GCSE. They already had a solid understanding of the techniques to look for when encountering new text, and this scheme of work has taught them a more systematic way of combining the various things they have learned across KS3 in preparation for the English Language GCSE. It also involves looking at texts from different eras and how to infer information about the genre, audience and purpose by looking closely at the language used.

It is often difficult to engage students in reading, but the English Department has begun putting together a reading comprehension folder. These are tailored to specific students' interests, but they can then be shared with those in other groups or year groups to encourage reading. They include a few pages of text and comprehension questions to ensure that the pupil has understood what they have read and teaches them vital skills of retrieving information. Because they are developed with input from the students themselves, engagement is higher. This exemplifies Reddish Hall School's dedication to making learning inclusive and bespoke to the needs and interests of our pupils.

Next term, Year 9 will be looking at 'Pop & Poetry' and learning how many of the techniques used by modern artists have their roots in the poetic styles of the past.

Year 11 have been revising English Language paper 2 this half term in preparation for the summer exams. We have been reading a range of non-fiction texts and practising the reading skills needed for the exam and then having a go at writing our own articles, letters, and speeches.

Next half term, the focus will be more bespoke to each class as teachers identify the gaps to be filled before exam season. For example, one class will be working on technical accuracy (spelling, punctuation and grammar), exam strategies and timings and writing skills.



Nurture:

This term, Nurture 1 have been visiting The Strawberry Fox Café, where pupils have had a budget to last them over three visits. They have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and have budgeted their money well. We have introduced morning meditation which pupils are engaging well with. Pupils have been learning about the USA in wider world and have enjoyed making native American dream catchers, lanterns for Independence Day and polyester prints of New York.



Motor Vehicle:

Our students have been busy at work improving their knowledge of mechanics. See below for some of the great things they are learning.

Vocational:

Cael TB has completed his level one extended certificate this term: here he is completing the drilling skills unit.



Year 9/Keystone 2:

Here is Aiden W working on the routine vehicle checks unit, testing anti-freeze levels and condition.



Year 10:

Shae P has completed his exhaust assessment this term: here he is fitting an exhaust silencer.

Year 11:

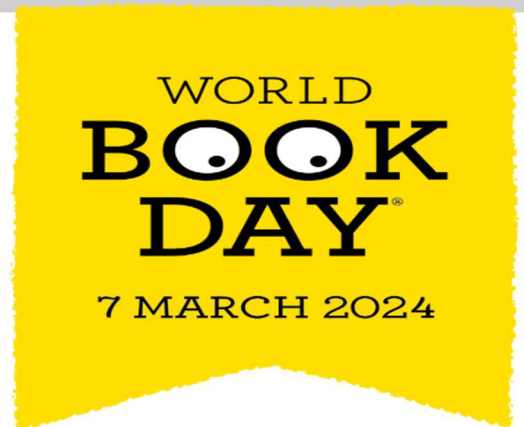
Armaan A has completed the AIM awards Level 1 diploma; he is the first student from Reddish Hall to achieve this.



World Book Day:

World Book Day 2024 took place on Thursday 7 March 2024. This annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading is one of the highlights of our year at Reddish Hall School. Our students participated in a variety of reading based activities, including a game of guess the staff by guessing which staff member was behind which book.

Reddish Hall Year 7 pupils MR & LE won the WBD OFG Super Reading Powers competition.



Activity ideas to try at home:

- Create your own 'super' characters with amazing superpowers.
- Twist a favourite story to give it a 'super' theme.
- Share some amazing stories in 'super' unusual places.
- Create a 'super' amazing reading corner / den or library to enjoy your favourite books.
- Or anything else with a 'super' theme.

Useful Websites:

Share a Story Corner (worldbookday.com)

World Book Day Audiobooks

Reading Recommendations (worldbookday.com)



Student poems:

3 of our amazing students have been published in the book
This is me: Our shared humanity.

The Art of noticing

By Harry Ackroyd

How the world will flow

Artistically beautiful, I would, should know

Rotten, forgotten, but the people will grow

Righteousness is rudeness, its not nice to show

You aren't me and I am not you.

A reflection of myself

By Katie Pool

Outstanding scores across the board,

Almost died at nine months old,

A 9 in Maths, I am assured,

However, "Please stop talking!" is what I'm told,

So this is who I am,

I accept my fate,

And do the best that I can.

My life's kinda messed up

By Otis Allen

The pavement outside my house is made of gravel,

I really like to travel.

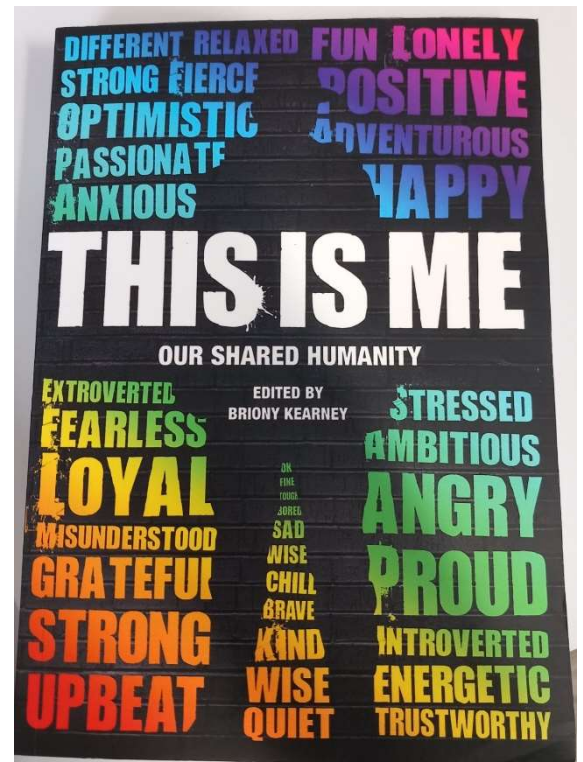
America, Egypt, Mexico and Jamaica.

My brothers very annoying,

My parents kind of spoil him.

I just found out my mum is pregnant,

It really hit me like a dead ant.





Keystone:

In Keystone 1, the students have been busy creating advertisements for their class magazine as part of their English topic. Rocco has created a fantastic advertisement for his Dad's mobile tyre service (see next page).



Save the bees:

At Reddish Hall, our eco-team are passionate about saving the bees. They are organising a fund-raiser to fund the implementation of some bee friendly additions. See below for some ways you can help our local bees:

- Plant a bee garden
- Avoid pesticides
- Provide trees
- Create a bee bath

Red Cross:

Wednesday 13th March, Year 11 students attended a joint workshop lead by The Red Cross to learn more about common injuries and how to help in situations where someone is experiencing a medical emergency. The Red Cross workshop facilitator was very impressed with some of their knowledge and the importance of some of the questions that students asked. The session was an hour long and all of the students learned the essentials and shared some of their experiences, as well as answering and asking questions. A special shout out to Harvey from 11B for contributing so well; he was outstanding throughout the session and he will make an excellent first aid responder. All the students concentrated well and were engaged for the full hour and behaved in an impeccable way that they should be very proud of. It was a pleasure to have them represent the school in a session delivered by a representative of a worldwide charity. A massive thank you to Geraldine from Red Cross for being such a great teacher.



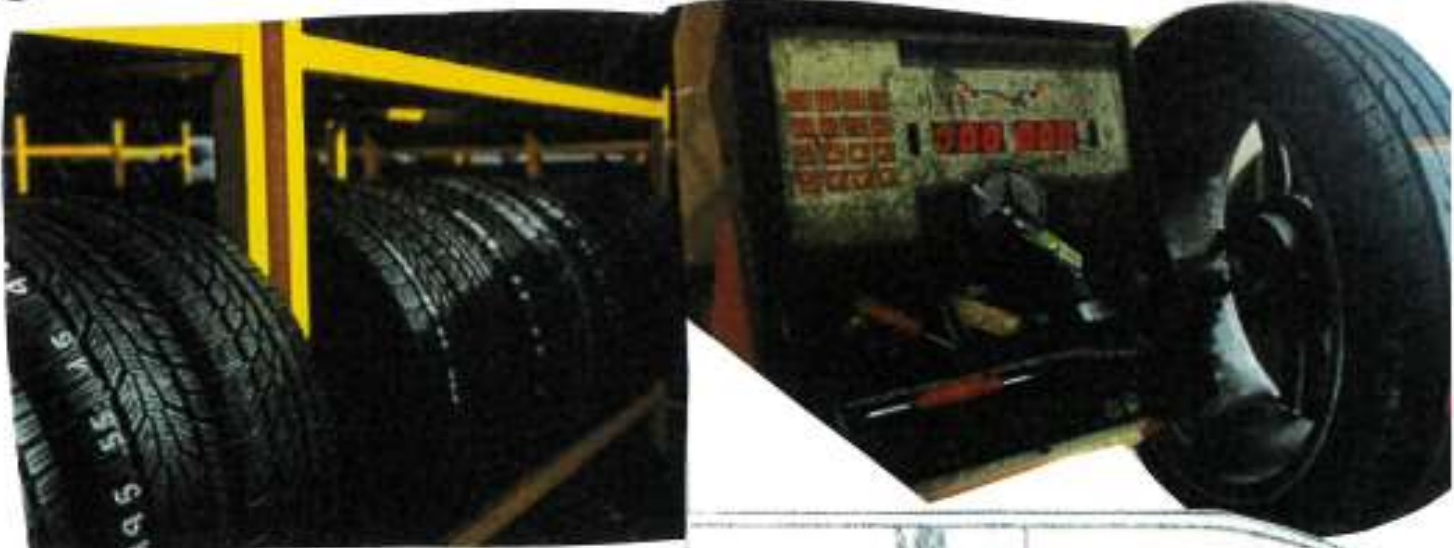
BritishRedCross

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of kindness**



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WE BUY & SELL PART
WORN & NEW TYRES
& WHEEL BALANCING



Transatic Tyre
PART WORN





Maths:

Some of our year 8s and 9s have recently completed a sourdough bread-making project within the maths curriculum. Over the past few weeks, students engaged in practical baking activities, intertwining fundamental mathematical skills with hands-on culinary experiences. From mastering measurements and ratios to scaling recipes and analysing data, our students were able to connect key mathematical concepts to real-world scenarios, using fractions, percentages, and decimals they carefully monitored their sourdough starters and worked with different systems of weight and capacity and volume to perfect their recipes. As the culmination of the project, students used the sourdough dough to craft delicious pizzas, showcasing their newfound skills in a delectable and satisfying way. This project not only provided students with a deeper understanding of mathematics but also fostered collaboration, problem-solving and practical life skills. We commend our students for their dedication and enthusiasm throughout this enriching learning journey.





Upcoming external exams:

| EXAM | DAY | TIME |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Health and Social Care | Tuesday 7 th May | 09.30am |
| | | |
| Biology 1 | Friday 10 th May | 09.30am |
| | | |
| History Paper 1 | Wednesday 15 th May 2024 | 09.30am |
| Computer Science 1 | Wednesday 15 th May 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |
| Maths Paper 1 | Thursday 16 th May 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| Chemistry Paper 1 | Friday 17 th May 2024 | 09.30am |
| Geography Paper 1 | Friday 17 th May 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |
| Computer Science 2 | Tuesday 21 st May 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |
| Physics paper 1 | Wednesday 22 nd May 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| English Language Paper 1 | Thursday 23 rd May 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| HALF TERM BREAK | | |
| Maths Paper 2 | Monday 3 rd June 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| History Paper 2 | Tuesday 4 th June 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |
| Geography Paper 2 | Wednesday 5 th June 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| English Language Paper 2 | Thursday 6 th June 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| Biology Paper 2 | Friday 7 th June 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |
| Chemistry Paper 2 | Tuesday 11 th June 2024 | 09.30am |
| | | |
| Physics Paper 2 | Friday 14 th June 2024 | 1.00pm |
| | | |



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