

# NEWSLETTER

March 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

As we head towards the Easter break, I wish to thank you all for the supportive approach that you have taken during these exceptionally unusual and challenging times. The feedback we have received has been very reassuring.

The forced closure of the school in January, has meant that we have all had to make significant changes in order to continue to support your child, both academically and pastorally.

It has been encouraging to see how well our pupils and staff have adapted and responded to the various online learning platforms. Live lessons, remote exams and assessments have all been introduced in order to maintain a high quality educational programme.

Since returning to school in March, pupils have settled quickly back into school routines and conducted themselves in a mature, positive, safe and sensible manner in and around the building. We appreciate that this has been an anxious time for staff, pupils and parents, so we are pleased that this transition has ran smoothly. The majority of our pupils have returned fully equipped and ready to learn. As you will be aware, it is a requirement, in line with current government guidance, that pupils continue to wear facemasks throughout the school day, unless exempt for medical reasons. Your support by ensuring your child attends school with a face mask every day is appreciated.

In order to support your child's progress it is essential that pupil's attendance to school is excellent. Teachers have worked hard to adapt the curriculum and provide support in class. Intervention and catch up sessions are currently running in school to support pupils across all year groups and blended learning continues to be available to pupils that need to self-isolate.

I would like to thank all the pupils and parents who have provided consent for lateral-flow Coronavirus testing. This initiative has been very well supported across all year groups, and contributes to keeping the whole school community safe. In-school testing of pupils is now complete for pupils for whom we received consent and home test kits have been issued for continued testing at home. More information on home testing can be found here: <a href="https://www.reddish.stockport.sch.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=15&storyid=1476">https://www.reddish.stockport.sch.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=15&storyid=1476</a> Kits will be issued at specified intervals to consenting pupils whilst school continues to receive stock. In the meantime if you wish to take part in Lateral Flow testing at home or you need additional kits please access the Government website: <a href="https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/">https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/</a>

## Year 11 examinations

As you will already be aware, exams for our Year 11 pupils are to be replaced with teacher assessed grades. The outcomes awarded for pupils are based on a range of evidence and data including; prior data, mock examinations, non-examination assessments and teacher predictions in order to make a judgement grade that fairly reflects the work and efforts of each pupil.

We will continue collecting evidence to inform decisions over the coming half term. It is essential that pupils continue to work hard and maintain high levels of attendance and engagement in order for them to achieve the best grade possible.

Results will be published on the 12<sup>th</sup> August. Details regarding how they will be presented and arrangements for end of year celebrations will be confirmed and shared once we have received updated guidance on restrictions.

After Easter, all being well, we hope to reintroduce a full range of extra-curricular clubs, practices and enrichment activities to feature in our end of year newsletter.

Have a happy and safe Easter. Mrs Hanson

## Parent Parking

A polite reminder to all our parents to be mindful of our neighbours in the surrounding roads. Whilst we do not have any jurisdiction over where Parents park, we do have a responsibility to work with our local community and to ensure we have and maintain positive relationships built on respect. Please can we ask that everybody avoids blocking driveways and parking on pavements.

#### Positive Feedback

We would like to say a massive thank you to every parent who has given positive feedback to us regarding our incredible team of staff and their work during the pandemic and beyond. Your kind words are much appreciated and we are incredibly pleased to hear how positively our pupils have embraced our remote learning provision and return to school plans.

RV High School you have been fabulous during this pandemic. Top marks to all the teachers and staff, and well done to the pupils. It's been a tough few months. Keep up the good work. We are proud of you.

All of my son's teachers are so supportive and encouraging, and the comments that are posted on his work really do go such a long way. It must be so hard to try and engage children in imaginative ways that keep their attention whilst dealing with unpredictable technical issues and ensuring that the requirements of the curriculum are met. Thanks to all the staff. You've supported my child exceptionally well during the pandemic. From key worker to key workers; it's very much appreciated.

My daughter is in year 10 and at the start of lockdown she was very overwhelmed and anxious about home learning. She has had days where she felt demotivated to get her work done however thanks to the amazing effort from your staff she has been encouraged to keep going. At a vital point in my child's life I am very grateful for the encouragement she has received.

## National Day of Reflection

23<sup>rd</sup> March marked one year since we entered the first lockdown due to COVID-19. We held a minute silence at 11.55am in line with our split break times in order to respect those who lost their lives over the past year. Joy Mills, our Deputy Head Girl and Macie Charnock, our Wellbeing Student Leader also created a PowerPoint which encouraged students to reflect on their achievements throughout the pandemic.

National Day of Reflection 23 March



Taj Mahal cake by Lacey H, year 7



Strawberry and Lotus Biscoff cake by Harvey B, Year 9

## Virtual Bake-off

Many of our students participated in the Greater Manchester Virtual Bake Off. We saw some outstanding cakes being made by our very talented students.

For regular updates from the food tech /design tech department, you can follow them on Instagram- @rvhs\_dt





Panda cake by Imogen, Year 7



Easter themed carrot cake by Samantha A, Year 10



## Wellbeing Rewards

Congratulations to many of our students who have won the well-being reward challenge that was set over half term.

It was lovely to see the different activities that were completed such as walking, baking, drawing, and even skateboarding! We hope they enjoy a well-deserved amazon voucher and some chocolate.

## Professional Dance workshop

Over lockdown some of our Year 9 Dance students had the opportunity to take part in a contemporary dance workshop led by professional artist Mel Simpson.

Mel, who trained at Bird College and the renowned Trinity Laban, London, led our students in a contemporary technique and creative class giving them the opportunity to further develop their technical and choreographic skills.

All of the students participating did brilliantly and were a credit to the school. Mel commented, "They were so great and only year 9! A real pleasure!"

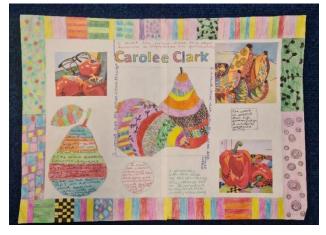




## Artistic Excellence

Amila Nisic and Lily May Boardman have both produced excellent artist research pages during lockdown, with such incredible detail.

They have both shown such pride and creativity in their work which is great to see.



## **Student Leaders Making a Difference**

Congratulations to Layla Nisic, our Diversity Student Leader and Macie Charnock, our Well-being Student Leader for winning an Excellent Contribution to School Award.

Both Layla and Macie created excellent resources for all of our students during lock down. These included presentations on Mental Health & Well-being, Holocaust Memorial Day, International Women's Day and International Stand Up To Bullying Day.





### Photograph Competition

8I participated in their own photography competition during February half term, and upon returning to school, they voted for the winning entry!

The winner was Shania P (photo below) and the runner up was Harley B (photo above)

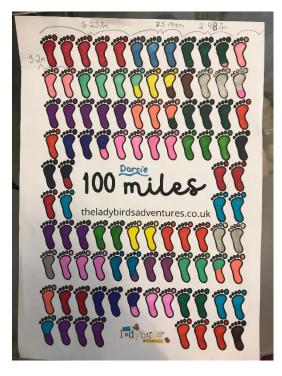


## PE Achievement

The PE department would like to congratulate Darcie Gallagher on running 100 miles during the recent lockdown.

She is a very motivated and hardworking pupil, who is a fantastic role model for all our talented pupils.

Well done Darcie



### Careers: Code Workshop

On 24<sup>th</sup> February, 52 year 10+11 pupils attended a virtual presentation with the Digital Company Code Computerlove.



Within the hour session students learned about the **roles and company details, routes into the profession**, **qualifications, benefits, career progression, salary, highlights, challenges and a lot more.** 

They had the chance to ask questions to UX designers and operational managers and they got a chance to gain insights into a thriving company and a growing sector.

## Where can I get help for my mental health?

Depending where you live there are multiple services and places you can get help with your mental health. A great place to start is with a trusted adult, whether this be a GP, teacher or parent, however if you aren't ready to talk to someone there are many resources available online.

You can also contact the following helplines:

24 Hour NSPCC helpline- 0808 800 5000

The Samaritans- 116 123 (24 hours a day, 365 days a year)

The Mix- The Mix to 85258 or call on 0808 808 4994

Papryus Hopeline- 0800 068 414 (weekdays 10am-10pm, weekends 2pm-10pm and bank holidays 2pm–10pm)

Saneline- 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm-10.30pm every day).

Cruse (Bereavement)- 0844 477 9400

Ring 111 or 999 in the case of an emergency



Never struggle alone. There is always someone to help.



