



**Royal Wootton Bassett
Academy Sixth Form
Weekly Newsletter #105
24 March 2023**



**Yr 12 Cardiff
University Open
Day Trip – Friday
30 June**



Thank you to those of you who registered your interest in attending the visit with

Mrs Vaughan. This will be placed on Parent Pay on Monday for all of you who put your names forward. It is a one off payment of £9.00. The trip will depart at 8.30 am and will return around 3.30pm.

If you are a bursary student you can request the bursary to pay for you. Please let Mrs Stubbs know by email.

Yr 13 Valedictory Dinner

4 July – Blunsdon House Hotel

Time is ticking by If you want to go we need your deposit by **Friday 31 March**.

Deposit of £20.00 to pay on Parent Pay, to confirm your place. You won't want to miss the Dinner and Disco with your peers and staff at the end of your 2 years

SO BOOK NOW!

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=spD4XJRqLOWMKZ9zZbaLoPdXHvgJSLBNkKZLBzXsaBpURTOxN0tJRktMVkM3WTQ3RDZBUkRKUlg3Mi4u>





ENRICHMENT TRIPS ON 18 AND 19 JULY



We are planning 2 trips out for Year 12 as part of the enrichment week in July, which is focusing on experiencing your local area and activities.



Tuesday 18 July

There will be a visit to the Ten Pin Bowling Alley, at Shaw Ridge, Swindon. A chance to play 2 games of bowling with your friends and to get into the competitive spirit. The trip will cost between £5.00 and £10.00.

Wednesday 19 July –

We plan to take students to Bath for the day by train (from Swindon Station). You can have your own adventure sightseeing, shopping, bring a picnic lunch and sit by the river or visit some of the cafes etc – the day is yours. Details are still being finalised, but we expect the trip to cost between £10.00 and £15.00.



If you are interested in attending one or both of the trips, please complete the attached MS form to register your interest, so we know how many to cater for.

<https://forms.office.com/e/TSsFWYfG63>

Congratulations to Alex and Talia for achieving such outstanding results in the recent Science Olympiads!!

This is to certify that
Alex Judge
from
Royal Wootton Bassett Academy
has been awarded
Gold
in the British Biology Olympiad 2023




Dr Matthew Johnston
Chair,
United Kingdom
Biology Competitions


Dr Andrew Treharne MBE
Secretary,
United Kingdom
Biology Competitions





Mental Health
Foundation

Thank you to the 22 students who have signed up to be the next Peer Educators. Training will take place on 17th April Period 5 & 6 and you will be delivering the sessions to Year 7 students for 10 weeks after Easter.

Thank you for volunteering to make a difference.



RWBA wishes Ramadan Mubarak to all our muslim families.

Congratulations to the students who received their BTEC results yesterday from the January series.

Remember if you wish to improve on your **grade entry details and payment must be made to the exams officer by Monday 27th March.**





This year, **Earth Hour takes place between 8.30pm - 9.30pm on 25 March 2023.** Since 2007, Earth Hour has been encouraging individuals from around the globe to switch off their lights to show symbolic support for the planet and to raise awareness of the environmental issues affecting it.

This is an opportunity for you to take this time to reflect on what nature means to you.



A virtual 'Insight into Allied Health conference' is taking place **on Sunday 30th April, 9am - 5pm.**

The conference will include first-hand accounts of the daily experiences and responsibilities of different healthcare professionals, from midwives to paramedics.

All guests will be answering questions throughout the conference, giving your students the chance to gain personal insight into their respective fields.

We look forward to empowering students to see their future in the NHS.

Tickets are just £10.

Students in all year groups can register here:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/national-healthcare-insight-conference-2/>



Despite the horrendous weather it was a great day at Rosslyn Park 7s on Monday with the girls and boys doing themselves proud.

Boys u18s

RWBA 0 - 48 St Peters (Previous tournament winners)

RWBA 10 - 15 Graveney School (lost to last play try)

RWBA 5 - 10 Weston College (lost to last play try)

Girls u16s

RWBA 20 - 0 Kingsdale

RWBA 20 - 0 Denstone

RWBA 12 - 24 Bryn Celynnog

The girls match vs Denstone can be found below (2.45.00)

<https://www.youtube.com/live/DD2vAga59ZI?feature=share>





The Maker Challenge Summer 2023 For Years 9 to 13

Applications Now Open

Are you aged 14 -18? ? Do you like making? Do you live local to West London?

If so, join us on the free Maker Challenge programme which teaches you how to make, design and create. At our Makerspace in White City, you'll learn design thinking, 3D printing, laser cutting, prototyping, electronics, coding and more!

You will get a chance to develop a creative idea from concept to prototype at our state-of-the-art workshop with the support of our staff and students.

- Group A runs 24 July 2023 to 03 August 2023
- Group B runs 07 August 2023 to 17 August 2023
- Finale Showcase takes place Saturday 19 August 2023

Click here to find out more:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/schools-outreach/secondary-schools/stem-programmes/the-maker-challenge/>

Applications for the Maker Challenge close 16 July 2023



RCSU Science Challenge 2023 Science in Medicine Schools Team Prize 2023 For Students in Years 10 to 13

RCSU's annual science communication competition is back. The Science Challenge gives young scientists the opportunity to develop the skills to talk about science in a way that is engaging and fun to all.

Entrants will produce a short piece of science communication, in answer to one of four questions set by the guest judges.

With exciting prizes and a wide range of interesting questions perfect for showing off your skills, this year promises to be a very exciting competition. [Visit the Science Challenge webpage](#) to find out how to enter and more.

The Science Challenge submission deadline is Monday 17 April 2023 at 17.00

Click link below to find out more:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/natural-sciences/about-us/outreach/rcsu-science-challenge/>



Science in Medicine Schools Team Prize 2023 **For students in Years 12 and 13**

The National Heart and Lung Institute and the British Heart Foundation's Centre of Research Excellence at Imperial College London 3rd Annual [Science in Medicine School Teams Prize](#) is now open.

Aiming to engage sixth form students with science and medicine, this year there are three separate team contests:

- The British Heart Foundation Cardiovascular Prize
- The Lung Prize
- The Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK Prize

Teams work together to produce an innovative e-poster exploring a scientific topic in the contest categories, giving participants the opportunity to display scientific knowledge, communication skills, collaborative working and art and design skills.

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/bhf-research-excellence/community/>



<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/schools-outreach/secondary-schools/stem-events/meet-the-researcher-webinar-series/>

Previous researchers include these and many more. All can also be viewed via the link above.

Meet the Researcher - Megan from the Department of Life Sciences (Alumna)

Megan Joseph is a PhD student with the London Interdisciplinary Doctoral Programme (LIDo) at University College London and King's College London. Megan completed an undergraduate degree in Biology and a master's in Immunology at Imperial College London before going on to her PhD. In this webinar she will be talking about her current research using new super resolution imaging technologies to investigate how T cells fine tune their actions in the immune system and what implications this can have for autoimmune diseases and cancer. You'll begin to consider how your A-level subjects may lead you into the interdisciplinary field of the life sciences that strives to save lives.

Meet the Researcher - Annie from the Department of Chemistry

Annie Sahota is a Chemical Biology PhD student at Imperial College London and has a degree in Chemistry. During this webinar, she will discuss cutting-edge single-cell technologies and how these can be used to expand our knowledge of the biological mechanisms that lead to disease. She will also give an update on her current research: Using nanotechnology to study individual neurons in the brain. You will learn how your knowledge from Chemistry, Physics and Biology can be combined in multidisciplinary research and applied to real-life problems such as in healthcare and medicine.

Meet the Researcher - Ruthie from the Department of of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Ruthie Parsons is a PhD student in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Imperial College and has a BSc in Mathematics, a MSc in Global Health Science and Epidemiology and industrial experience in chemistry, manufacturing, and control statistics. In this webinar she will explain the link between the waste we generate and the risk of birth related issues (such as premature birth) and childhood developmental delays. You'll get an idea about how you can use Maths and Science to help people stay healthy and protect them from health threats.

Meet the Researcher - Philip from the Department Surgery and Cancer

Philip Leung is a Clinical Medicine PhD student from the Department of Surgery and Cancer at Imperial College and has a BSc in Medical Biosciences. In this webinar he will be talking about how breath testing can be utilised for health monitoring and early cancer diagnosis. You'll obtain an insight towards how cutting-edge analytical chemistry techniques can be translated into a clinical setting to improve quality of life and survival of cancer patients.

Meet the Researcher - Department of Materials

Join us for an exciting event where you will have the chance to meet some of the fabulous researchers in the department of materials who will talk about their work in this multidisciplinary field. We will talk about many different materials including Liquid Crystals, Graphene and Turbine engines, in a journey to understand more about the great subject of Materials science.

Meet the Researcher - Becky from Design Engineering

Join us for the first episode in our new Meet the Researcher webinar series where Becky from Design Engineering will talk about her research exploring the Bornean rainforest using sound and machine learning.

Meet the Researcher - Lantian from the Department of Aeronautical Engineering

Lantian Pinkney is a MSc Composites student in the Department of Aeronautics at Imperial and graduated with a BEng Aeronautical Engineering from City, University of London. During this talk she will share what eVTOLs are, what's the hype around them and how they have the potential to transform our lives! As well as the science behind flight and how you can pursue Engineering without an A Level in Physics!

Meet the Researcher - Sanjee from the Centre for Environmental Policy

Sanjee Panditharatne is a Physics PhD student at Imperial College and has a degree in Chemical Physics – a mix of Chemistry and Physics. Her research is in support of an upcoming European Space Agency mission looking at how the Earth is losing its cool, particularly focusing on the role of cirrus clouds. In this webinar she'll take you from the sea to the sky, exploring how satellite measurements can help us better understand our planet.

Meet the Researcher - Cecylia from Biology

Cecylia Watrobska is a Biology PhD student at Royal Holloway, University of London and Imperial College London, looking at how bees learn and remember the world around them. In this webinar, she will introduce you to the intricate world of bee cognition, and ask questions about how an animal with such a tiny brain evolves such complex learning abilities. You'll be able to apply your current A-level knowledge to research questions, and see the range of potential research avenues that a degree in Biology can offer.

Meet the Researcher - Zainab from Earth Science and Engineering

Zainab Titus is a Computational Geoscience research student at the Earth Science and Engineering Department and has experience teaching science subjects, particularly maths and physics to students. She has a background in Petroleum Engineering and is passionate about using her knowledge and skills in this field to contribute to ending the world's energy poverty. In this talk, she will be sharing how the "heat beneath our feet" can play a major role in sustainable energy development, and how by using a data-driven approach and techniques from related fields such as oil and gas extraction, geothermal energy can pave the way for addressing climate change. You'll see how you too can consider a career in helping to save the planet.



Students interested in law are invited to the Get Into Law conference on **Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd April (9:30am - 2pm)**.

This conference is the perfect opportunity for students to learn everything they need to know about pursuing a career in the legal profession.

Registration Link: <https://lawmentor.org.uk/product/get-into-law-conference/>

Our conference, will provide insight as a judge into life within the legal industry. **For just £15 entry**, It will offer advice on:

- Life as a law student and a solicitor or barrister (realistic insight into law)
- Legal myth-busting and empowering you to achieve your dream!
- How competitive is it to 'get into law'?
- What really makes you stand out from the crowd?
- Your application timeline (compartmentalising and working SMART)
- CV, extracurricular activities and transferable skills for law
- The UCAS form – key components to be aware of
- The personal statement (and the academic reference)
- Interviews (basics, deeper insights and how to shine)
- Entrance exams: LNAT, Cambridge/Oxford Law Exam and their significance.

The conference will give students insight into what a legal career entails and will provide the building blocks needed to be successful in their application to

university. By sharing our expert knowledge about the UCAS application process for law, students will be provided with all the resources and guidance they need to succeed in their law school applications.

Get into Law registration form: <https://lawmentor.org.uk/product/get-into-law-conference/>

***The cost per entry is £15, which covers administrative and technological costs.**

Attending this conference is the perfect opportunity to delve further into the law profession and help students learn about the different paths available to them, so they can make an informed decision about their future career.



Current work experience opportunities:

www.speakersforschools.org

20th April: Focus on NHS caring careers: End of Life Care Nursing - NHS Improvement

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth_opportunities/focus-on-nhs-caring-careers-end-of-life-care-nursing/

21st April: Be Inclusive at Bentley - Bentley Motors

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth_opportunities/beinclusive-at-bentley/

24th May: Insights into accountancy – Azets for business and finance students – see below flyer

30th May: 'Tips and Hints' for those considering a career in Finance - Caxton

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth_opportunities/tips-and-hints-for-those-considering-a-career-in-finance/

2nd June: Army Careers - Begin Your Journey. - Speakers for Schools - British Army

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth_opportunities/army-careers-begin-your-journey/

Current Educator Discovery Workshops available:

Click on the link to access these and many more.

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/discovery-workshops/>

 Punch	 Animal Welfare		 Harper Adams University
Date: 26/04/2023 10-11am Industry: Music Industry Booking deadline: 31/03/2023 Opportunity ID: 4635 More information here	Date: 27/04/2023 10-11am Industry: Animal welfare Booking deadline: 31/03/2023 Opportunity ID: 4089 More information here	Date: 23/05/2023 10-11am Industry: Leisure & tourism Booking deadline: 10/05/2023 Opportunity ID: 4791 More information here	Date: 19/07/2023 11-12pm Industry: Apprenticeships at Uni Booking deadline: 23/06/2023 Opportunity ID: 4125 More information here

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& the latest news from the
Southwest team!





SPEAKERS
for schools

Get set to discover the 9th largest
accountancy firm in the UK:



24h May 2023
9-11.30am

Good with numbers? Want to earn more than £35,000 a year?

[Click here](#) to find out how to hear from an array of
staff who work for this successful

accountancy firm in an array of fields such as tax, forensic
accounting, payroll and corporate finance.

Staff will share their inspirational stories, what motivated
them into accounting and how they are making a difference
in their workplace.

[Register](#) or sign in to the portal [here](#) to apply



You will be sent your vwex username and password
to access the opportunity via Google Classrooms



Graduate Careers Live!

A special TV programme for Year 12 sixth form students is being broadcast on **Thursday 27th April**. It will be recorded and will be available to watch on demand after this date.

Graduate Careers Live! is a new twice-yearly 90-minute programme that will introduce sixth form students, their parents, and schools' careers & university admissions staff to today's graduate job market.

Broadcasting from a studio in central London, the April programme is **specifically aimed at Year 12 students and their parents** – and will showcase many of the graduate job opportunities, occupations and professions that sixth form students can aspire to in the future.

The programme will provide invaluable inspiration, information and practical careers guidance on how university – or one of the growing number of degree apprenticeships – can lead to rewarding careers in areas

like **engineering, technology, banking & finance, law, accountancy,**
the **media** and the **public sector**.

But with employers currently receiving an average of **40 applicants per graduate job** – and fewer than a third of the country’s undergraduates now securing a job offer by the time they leave university – choosing the right university course or degree apprenticeship has never been more important.

Featuring employers, recent graduates, degree apprentices, recruitment experts, special guests and the very latest research and insight on what it takes to be successful in the highly-competitive graduate job market, **Graduate Careers Live!** is being presented by **Martin Birchall**, Editor of *The Times Top 100 Graduate Employers*.

It will be essential viewing for **all Year 12 students** at schools & sixth form colleges across the UK, just before they begin considering their post-sixth form options, visiting universities and researching degree apprenticeship opportunities.

The programme is produced by **High Fliers Research**, in partnership with the **Department for Education**.

As soon as the link to the recording becomes available it will be shared via the Newsletter. **The launch of this programme is perfectly timed to support Year 12 students on the two Skills for life days we have left this year.**



Keen to get started in planning your future?

Log onto Career pilot to explore your options.

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>



Advanced Mathematics
Support Programme®



Give your students the skills for success with our Problem Solving Matters course

Our Problem-Solving Matters course will return in June and is **now open for applications**.

The course will run three face-to-face study days and take place at six venues across England so that students can select the most appropriate venue for them.

The course is designed for Year 12 students interested in applying for places at Oxford University, Imperial College, and Warwick University to study maths, along with several other universities, or students who wish to improve their mathematical problem-solving skills in preparation for a university course.

As the content is identical at each venue applicants should select the most appropriate venue for themselves. If a first-choice venue is full, applicants will be allocated to an alternative venue.

The course will run at the following venues:

University of Bath: 10 June, 1 July, and 16 September

Durham University: 24 June, 8 July, and 23 September

Imperial College, London: 17 June, 1 July, and 23 September

University of Manchester: 17 June, 1 July, and 16 September

University of Oxford: 24 June, 8 July, and 30 September

University of Warwick: 1 July, 15 July, and 16 September

This course is only open to students from state-funded schools, colleges, and academies. **The course fee is £60.** However, if you have trouble meeting the cost of the course, free places are available. Please indicate any additional support needed on the application form.

You can find out more information and apply, please follow the link below.

<https://amsp.org.uk/event/5216/?scrlybrkr=f260fbc5>



Join us for the NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience on **Sunday 2nd April** and get ready to be amazed!

Whether your student dreams of becoming a nurse, a paramedic, or any other healthcare professional, this work experience is their ticket to gaining valuable insight and making an informed decision about their future career.

Registration Link: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>.

During the work experience day, they will follow two patients from their initial presentation to recovery, gaining a unique and unforgettable insight into the world of healthcare. They will interact with a variety of NHS healthcare professionals, including:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Radiography

- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout the day, empowering them to make informed career decisions and demonstrating their passion for healthcare in their UCAS application.

Once they've registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals.

Students are awarded a Work Experience Certificate for every session they complete. Those who complete the full 5-month programme will be awarded a Highly Commended Reference from the Presidents of Allied Healthcare Mentor. These are fantastic additions to their CVs!

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 5-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. **Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs.**

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>



MEDIC
MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY



With the Easter holidays approaching, all students thinking about applying to **medicine or dentistry** need to start working on their application. The best way to get started is by attending a free conference hosted by doctors and dentists who specialise in university applications.

These conferences have limited space so I would advise students to sign up as soon as possible.

Attend our FREE virtual Get into Medicine conference on Sunday 26th March (2:30pm - 7:30pm) or Sunday 1st April (2:30 - 7:30pm) to help gain unique insight on making a student's medical application stand out.

Hosted by Dr Mike Carvill, students will receive step-by-step guidance and access to our community of Chief Mentors (Doctors) and Mentors (Medical Students) who are dedicated to helping students succeed in their medical career.

Whether they're curious about medicine or dead set on becoming a doctor, we've got them covered. These conferences are here to help your students, not to test them.

All aspiring doctors in years 10-12 are invited to sign up here:

Registration link: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/medicine-national-healthcare-weekend/>



DENTAL MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY



For aspiring dentists, Dr Fiona and Dr Siva will be leading the next free virtual Get into Dentistry conference on Saturday 25th March (9:30am - 1pm).

All aspiring dentists in years 10-12 are invited to register here:<https://medicmentor.co.uk/online-get-into-dentistry-conference/>

With bespoke advice for medicine and dentistry, these conferences will cover:

- Tactically choosing universities
- Personal statements
- UCAT and BMAT
- Medical school interview skills
- Medical Leadership Programmes
- Awards Programmes
- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Building a CV
- Applying for scholarships

We believe that applying to medical and dental school is a collaborative effort that involves support from both parents and teachers. That's why we invite all

parents to attend our virtual conference alongside their aspiring doctors and dentists.

By sharing our expert knowledge about the UCAS application process for medicine and dentistry, students will be provided with all the resources and guidance they need to succeed in their medical and dental school applications.

Get into Medicine registration form: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/medicine-national-healthcare-weekend/>

Get into Dentistry registration form: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/online-get-into-dentistry-conference/>



Masterclasses are a range of online, subject-specific, hour-long sessions for students in Year 12 running weekly from 4-5pm from January 2023 - March 2023

About Masterclasses

Masterclasses are online, subject-specific hour-long sessions for students in Year 12 to get an opportunity to have a taste of university. The masterclasses are designed to introduce you to subjects that can be studied at university. The hour-long sessions will feature a lecture on a specific topic from UCL academics or students. This year, Masterclasses will be hosted online.

The sessions are interactive, and we encourage you to engage with the presenters, there is an opportunity at the end to ask questions about the topic presented.

Taking part in Masterclasses can be a fantastic way to find out more about university subjects. You can find out more about the subjects covered, who is presenting the lecture, and the date the Masterclass is running in the Subjects section of this page.

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13/masterclasses#msdynmkt_trackingcontext=e214e92d-ee8b-4b1d-be57-f9be0e1e0545

Psychology ▼

Topic: What does it mean to be mentally healthy, resilient, and stress-free?

Presenter: [Dr Steven Papachristou](#) and [Dr Liory Fern-Pollak](#)

Date: Tuesday 28 March 2023, 4 - 5pm

Stress is something we all experience throughout our lives. When we do nothing to reduce stress and over a prolonged period of time, this increases our risk for mental health problems. Using Psychology, the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, you will learn about the relationship between stress and youth mental health. In our university-lecture style Masterclass, we will explore various ways to help you tolerate, or even master, stress-inducing situations. By the end, you will get a taste of how different branches of psychology - developmental, social, and biological - can inform each other to explain the relationship between stress and mental health.



Topic: What is a Pharmacist?

Presenter: [Nadia Bukhari](#)

Date: Thursday 30 March 2023, 4 - 5pm

In this session, you will get a taste of what being on the Master of Pharmacy (MPharm) course is like at UCL. Learn about drug combinations, take in the aspirin case study, and understand what's involved when you're a pharmacist.