



**Royal Wootton Bassett
Academy Sixth Form
Weekly Newsletter #126
3 November 2023**



Last terms winners of the Sixth Form positive recognition awards are:

Sheilja Gurung and Sarah Javaid

Enjoy your Costa vouchers!!

The Year 13 mock exams are fast approaching, and A level students will have study leave. Btec students will continue with lessons.



Week beginning 13th November.

Exams start on Friday 10th November and are on until 21st November.

During study leave week students may choose to work at home and only come in for exams or continue to work in the designated sixth form areas.

Good luck with your continued preparations.


On your exam day

This checklist will help you to be as prepared as possible for your exams, so that on the day itself you can focus on doing your best.

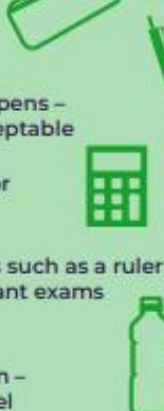
Before sitting your exams, ensure you know:

- the date, time and location of your exams – you might find it helpful to write this information in a calendar or planner
- who to contact at school or college in case there's an emergency that makes you late or unable to sit your exam

What you cannot take into exams:

- any type of phone
 - revision notes
 - any type of watch (this includes analogue, digital and smart watches)
- 

What you will need:

- a clear pencil case
 - at least two black ink pens – blue pens are not acceptable
 - an approved calculator for relevant exams
 - appropriate apparatus such as a ruler or protractor for relevant exams
 - a clear water bottle if you wish to take one in – it must not have a label
- 

Other important information:

- Listen carefully to the invigilator's instructions which will be specific to your exam. If you are unsure of anything, please raise your hand and wait for the invigilator.
- Fill in your details on the front of your answer booklet.
- If you need additional answer sheets, raise your hand and wait for an invigilator who will provide you with one. Remember to add your details to this booklet too.
- If you need to use the toilet or feel unwell, raise your hand and wait for an invigilator who will escort you from the exam room.
- Make sure you stay silent – talking to a fellow candidate could result in disqualification from all your exams.

Contingency sessions:

- There are contingency sessions within the Summer 2024 exam timetable – the afternoon of 6 June and 13 June 2024 and the morning and afternoon of 26 June 2024. Make sure you are available on all three dates even if you do not have an exam.

If you have any questions about your exams, please ask your teacher or exams officer.





This Week the Sixth Form Leadership Team ran a

Halloween Fundraising Event

A Halloween Themed Bake Off Competition (entries from across the school)

A Bake Sale

Apple Bobbing

Sold Flavoured Coffees

Ghostly Beer Pong Game (no beer!)

And a Costume Competition

CONGRATULATIONS ON RAISING £44.50

FOR YOUR SIXTH FORM CHARITY



**RAINBOW
TRUST**

SUPPORTING FAMILIES
WITH A SERIOUSLY ILL CHILD





Congratulations to our Bake Off contestants:

Jasmin Hughes, Katie Chau, Gabrielle Thompson, Zak Horter, Scarlett Cook & Freddy Richardson, Erin Langham, Lily Day, James Simons

We had some superb entries, which made it a very close competition. Thanks to Mrs Bevis and Mrs Salmon who put on their 'Mary Berry' Hats and took on the challenge to taste and judge the entries against the following categories:

Presentation & Decoration, Texture, Flavour & Filling, What would Mary Berry say and mark it

OUR WINNERS WERE:

1st James Simons – 9C01

2nd Lily Day – 7W11

Highly Commended: Scarlett Cook & Freddy Richardson – 9C01

Highly Commended: Erin Langham – 12C02





See our Creepy Gallery & Games





ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT
MAKING EVERYONE AT RWBA
FEEL INCLUDED AND HAPPY?



What are we?

A place where students can come together to discuss any **issues** they face and how we can come together to **make change.**



RWBA

"Many voices, one Bassett"

**EVERY TUESDAY
IN H4, 3-4PM**

Why do we need this?

We believe no one should be treated differently because of their:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Race
- Religion or beliefs
- Sex
- Sexual orientation



We are a safe, respectful space where everyone is free to express their thoughts without judgement



Congratulations to all the students who now head up various cabinets within the school Parliament.

Prime minister – Bobby Seymour and Emma Latus

Deputy Prime minister – Emma Beet

Environment cabinet leaders – Mollie Gallagher, Thomas Henderson, Olga Dolik and Jasmine Hughes.

Teaching & Learning cabinet leaders – Caitlin Young, Luci Weeks, Millicent Woods and Katie Jackson.

Anti Bullying cabinet leaders – Tiana Kariuk, Gabriel Cazacu, Grace Gould and Amelia Smith

Wellbeing cabinet leaders – Kate Warlow, Harsimran Sunner and Effion Rodrigues

Identity cabinet leaders – Alimah Hamzat, Rianna Knobloch and Sophie Saru



Recruiting – Primary Liaison Sixth Form committee

I am currently looking for 6 Year 12 students who would be interested in helping me with the running of the RWBA Primary Liaison programme. I work closely with our feeder primary schools to offer different opportunities and programmes throughout the year. I need some students who

would be willing to help year 6 students read, visit primary schools and help teachers run after school sessions for year 5 students.

This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone hoping to enter an education-based career or just a career working with other people. This will be something great to be able to talk about in interviews and when writing references for yourself.

If this is something you would be interested then please send me an email of interest and an explanation of why you think you would be good for this role to mcullen@rwba.org.uk, feel free to email for more information as well. Please email by 17th November.

Thanks,

Miss Cullen



Good luck to the students entering the Physics Olympiad on Friday 10th November.



[Join the Careers in Business Virtual Expo on the 6th December!](#)

We will be hosting multiple live sessions covering topics such as **How to Apply to University, Careers in Law, Careers in Accounting, Supporting the Entertainment Industry, Degree Apprenticeships, Women in Leadership and much more!** There will be opportunities to interact with employers' virtual stands and visit our Careers Advice Surgery!

Organisations joining us on the delay include: **UCAS, Santander, Sage, Warner Bros. Discovery and many more!**

There will also be the opportunity for 7 students to win prizes, including Amazon vouchers up to £100 from ACCA and a school or college to win a set of Success at School Guides for their students by interacting with live sessions and engaging with employers to work their way to the top of the leaderboard.

Sign up here:

[Careers In Business Expo hosted by ACCA and Success at School Tickets, Wed 6 Dec 2023 at 08:30 | Eventbrite](#)

All About Apprenticeships at bp - 28 Nov 2023

Join us for a Miniseries Masterclass* with bp where you'll hear about all of the apprenticeships on offer, as well as tips for online assessments and assessment centres.



The first webinar provides you with an opportunity to meet with current apprentices to discuss their journey and take part in a Live Q&A with the early careers team.

Timings: 18.30 - 19.00

Who can attend: Students in Years 10-13. Parents, teachers, and careers leaders encouraged to join.

*You must sign up for all three webinars individually to secure your space!

Sign up here:

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)



Accenture: Are you considering a career in Technology or Consulting?

Join Accenture for an insight webinar to hear from apprentices and the recruitment team about starting your professional career within consultancy or technology and how to make your application stand out.

You'll also gain an understanding of the apprenticeship opportunities and life at Accenture, including personal experiences from a panel of current apprentices, followed by a Live Q&A.

On: 5th December 2023 at 6.30 - 7.30 pm

For: Students and parents of those in years 10 to 13.

Sign up here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

DENTONS

Meet Dentons: Life as a Solicitor Apprentice at the World's Largest Law Firm

Are you considering a career in law? Did you know that you can become a Solicitor and gain a law degree by doing an apprenticeship? Join Dentons to find out more about applying, what the programme looks like, and how you will be supported throughout.

PLUS: Speak with current apprentices who will offer top tips about applying and tell you more about their experience!

On: 21st November 2023 at 6.30 - 7.30 pm

For: Students and parents of those in years 10 to 13.

Sign up here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

The British Army: Apprenticeships & Scholarships

This webinar provides valuable insights into the apprenticeship and scholarship opportunities available from the British Army. Come along to hear about how you can support young people in making informed decisions about their futures, helping them explore diverse pathways, gain financial assistance, and develop skills that will benefit their military career and beyond.

On: 16 January 2024 at 6.30 - 7.30 pm

For: Parents, Carers, Teachers and Careers Leaders

Sign up here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)





Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe



SWANSEA UNIVERSITY
WHERE BRIGHT FUTURES BEGIN



[Undergraduate Open Days - Swansea University](#)

Join Every First Sunday Of The Month!



Scan to register!

LIVE!
VIRTUAL



Allied Healthcare Work Experience

Take your first steps into the world of healthcare careers
in our Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience.

Meet this month's **guest speaker**, **Shelley**, a renowned **radiographer**, from **9 - 10am**, and then dive into live work experience sessions.

After a compelling talk from Shelley, **dive into live work experience sessions from the safety of your home.**

Shelley, the Course Lead for BSc Radiography at AECC University College, boasts 27 years of experience in Radiotherapy, making her the perfect guide to explore NHS healthcare careers.

Witness the journey of two patients from injury to recovery over 6 months, and experience how many different healthcare professionals are involved in a patient's care, from hospital all the way through to a community team.



ALLIED
HEALTHCARE
MENTOR

Take a look at these outreach programmes, all are unique and give students so many valuable opportunities.

Speak to Mrs Vaughan if you would like to know more.



What is Pathway to Bath?

Pathway to Bath is a free blended learning programme that gives students the chance to work online alongside experienced staff and current students, to develop key skills for university study and beyond. You will also be given the opportunity to apply for a place on a free 3-day residential visit to campus in the summer, to experience life as a student at Bath.

The programme is designed to fit around your busy A level (or equivalent) schedule - you can work through the sessions wherever and whenever suits you. Live sessions will take place on Wednesday late afternoons but will be recorded to watch back if you can't make it.

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/pathway-to-bath-programme/>

Pathway to Bath Programme

Pathway to Bath is an award-winning, free curriculum enhancement programme for students to develop skills for university.

www.bath.ac.uk



READING SCHOLARS 2024

Year 12 Higher Education Experience



Reading Scholars outreach programme

The Reading Scholars programme gives Year 12 students a real taste of undergraduate life, combining the insights of leading academics and undergraduate mentors.

www.reading.ac.uk

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/visiting-and-open-days/activities-for-schools/reading-scholars>



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



Applications for your Year 12 students to apply for LSE Springboard are now open!

Do you work with high achieving students currently planning their next steps after A-Levels? [The London School of Economics and Political Science \(LSE\)](#) are offering your pupils the chance to take part in the Springboard programme which gives students a taste of university-level teaching and learning.

This is a **fantastic opportunity for students** to gain the support they need to apply to LSE and other high-tariff universities.

The fully funded 10-month hybrid programme kicks off in January and includes:

- An online academic programme delivered by PhD tutors in partnership with The Brilliant Club
- Multiple campus visits to LSE, including an end of programme celebration
- Virtual information sessions on applying to university, student finance and budgeting and personal statements
- Guidance sessions on how to think about careers, revision skills and mental wellbeing



Deadline: Sunday 26th November.




All students who complete the Springboard programme and go on to apply to LSE, will be considered for contextual admissions. To check your students' eligibility and for more information about how to apply, all the details can be found on our [website](#).

Apply Here: Deadline 26th November.

https://lse.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0jonoEhFG3lmzY2?dm_i=7K7A,X9T,2K5U,3E56,1



https://uptree.co/courses/?pk_campaign=bulletin

<p>Introduction to the National Cyber Force Start course</p> <p>Complete this course to learn about the National Cyber Force partnership, the UK's defence and intelligence ecosystem, and related early careers opportunities. This course should ...</p> <p>30 mins</p> <p></p>	<p>Introduction to Life Sciences with ATAC Start course</p> <p>Complete this course to learn about the life sciences industry, Early Careers opportunities available and the Advanced Therapies Apprenticeship Community (ATAC). Each lesson should take ...</p> <p>2 hours 30 mins</p> <p></p>
<p>Careers at J.P. Morgan Start course</p> <p>Complete this course to learn about global financial services leader J.P. Morgan and the early careers opportunities they offer. Each lesson should take about 30 ...</p> <p>1 hour</p> <p>J.P.Morgan</p>	<p>Professional Services Taster Lessons Start course</p> <p>Complete this short course to learn about different aspects of careers in Professional Services (accountancy, finance, law, insurance, consultancy and the civil service). Each lesson should ...</p> <p>3 hours</p> <p></p>

Introduction to Industries & Early Careers Opportunities

Start course

Complete this short course to gain insights into different industries, and to learn about different opportunities available to develop your skills and grow your network.

[All...](#)

uptree

3 hours 45 mins

Essential Skills for the Workplace

Start course

Complete this short course to develop your essential skills, and to better understand what employers look for during interviews and how to use your skills ...

uptree

3 hours

Develop Your Employability Skills

Start course

Complete this short course to develop your employability skills, ace your application and prepare for starting work.

Each lesson should take 20-30 minutes

uptree

2 hours 50 mins

STEAM Taster Lessons

Start course

Complete this short course to learn about different aspects of careers in the Sciences, Tech, Engineering, Arts or Maths (STEAM) industries.

Each lesson should take ...

uptree

3 hours 20 mins

Arm Technology Apprenticeships

Start course

Complete this course to learn about technology firm arm and the early careers opportunity

arm

1 hour 15 mins



The Gresham Schools Oracy Competition

Enter by 8 December 2023*

Gresham College is back for the second year, launching the Schools Oracy Competition in October 2023. For state schools and sixth form students only, it's aimed at Year 12 students. **The competition promotes the art of communicating complex information in a clear, concise and compelling way.** This year's topics include music, law, AI and science amongst others.

Read more here: gres.hm/competition

The Competition will:

- support the development of oracy skills,
- help students with UCAS applications and job interviews,
- promote a deeper understanding of their chosen topic,
- introduce students to the inspiring research of world-class academics, and

- be an opportunity to present in front of academics and professionals.

How to Enter

Choose one of the following topics and please make a reasoned argument:

1. **How can the law aid in creating a more equal, diverse and inclusive society?**

[video presentation upload link Q1](#)

2. How might Large-Language models like ChatGPT affect the future of education?

[video presentation upload link Q2](#)

3. Could genome editing consign genetic diseases to history and would that be ethical?

[video presentation upload link Q3](#)

4. Should the exploration of space be left to private companies, or to governments?

[video presentation upload link Q4](#)

5. How far is it morally justifiable to curtail personal freedoms to protect the environment?

[video presentation upload link Q5](#)

6. If you could introduce a Private Member's Bill to change one law in a UK jurisdiction, what change would you propose, and how would you argue for it in a Parliamentary speech?

[video presentation upload link Q6](#)

7. With rising mental health issues in young people, how could an emotional response to music be used to help?

[video presentation upload link Q7](#)

8. Paganism in Britain was replaced by Christianity with apparent speed and ease. What are the parallels today for religions and other societal changes?

[video presentation upload link Q8](#)

9. The prime minister has said that everyone should learn maths to age 18. Is he right?

[video presentation upload link Q9](#)

10. The wind-up radio (invented in Britain) was transformational in the developing nations in transmitting information before the internet or solar power were widespread. What area today would a small, cheap invention be best focussed on for those societies?

[video presentation upload link Q10](#)

Students should submit a recorded video presentation of no more than 5 minutes – the main focus should be the student speaking but you can use images, graphs, slides or other visual props that help explain your points. Shortlisted candidates will then be invited to present again in person in London, and there will be three awards (including prizes for student and the school).

To enter the competition, you need to fill out your details and a short summary citing your sources [on our entry form](#), and by uploading the video file to the corresponding folder (ie if you are presenting on question 1, upload to Q1, if you're presenting on question 2, upload to Q2 etc.).

There are some guidance and resources on [our website](#) to help students explain complex issues in a clear, concise, logical and engaging way.

Why Enter?

Benefits for Students:

1. Participating in the Gresham Schools Oracy Competition will help students develop oracy and presentation skills useful for interviews and public speaking opportunities; it will also enhance CVs and UCAS applications.
2. The first place winner will receive £9,250 towards their first year of university tuition and £1,000 towards a laptop, the second place winner will receive £800 towards the purchase of a laptop,

and the third place winner will receive £600 towards the same.

3. Other benefits including mentoring opportunities.

Benefits for Schools:

Schools of the winners will receive £1,000 for the first place winner, and £500 for the second and third place winners to go towards enhancing the school or college's curriculum activities.

Key Dates

16 October 2023: Competition opens

8 December 2023: Competition closes

Early new year: Entrants notified

26 March 2024: In-person presentation at Gresham College (we will cover travel expenses)

Each finalist will have five minutes to present and five minutes for Q&A with the panel.

Three Gresham medals will be awarded (Bronze, Silver and Gold).

What are the rules for entering?

1. Presentations must be **no longer than 5 minutes** – if you submit a video that is longer than 5 minutes **your entry will be disqualified.**
2. When you start your presentation, please state your name, your school and which question you are answering.
3. You must submit a six point summary of your presentation with up to six sources.
4. Act as though you are presenting to a live audience at Gresham College.
5. Don't sit and read from your notes throughout your presentation.

6. If shortlisted, you will perform the same presentation as the one you originally entered.

*Competition closes at **6pm** on 8 December 2023

Please note this competition is for state school or sixth form college students only.

Watch our video about last year's inaugural competition: youtu.be/3VN9sd3xWcc.



This week we learnt about the sad passing of a former teacher and Head of Sixth Form, Mr Peter Shepherd.

Peter taught General Studies in the Sixth Form as well as many other subjects throughout his long career in education.

Peter was always saying he should have retired by now, but kept coming back, such was his dedication to teaching students.

Our condolences go out to his family, he was a character and always willing to stop and chat and share a positive ditti for the day.

Rest in Peace Peter