



# Newsletter

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of Platt v Isle of Wight Council which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under S444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

**Warwickshire Secondary School pupils recorded 8,895 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 1,816 on the previous year.**

## Planning and Development Day – Parental Invite

On 20<sup>th</sup> June, there is a Planning and Development day where students will not be in school.

Instead, we will be hosting a whole-school planning and development morning, with a sequence of workshops designed to allow us to reflect on the year so far, and plan for future developments at Rugby High School with an invited group of staff, students and parents.

As you can imagine, we cannot accommodate all parents in this process, but if you would be free to join us from 8.45am-12.30pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June, could you please drop me a line expressing your interest. You will need to be available for the whole morning session.

There will be a small pack of information to read ahead of the event in order that our discussions can be as focused and productive as possible.

I apologise in advance to those of you who may be disappointed in not securing a place to join us; my aim is to have parent representatives from each year group.

I hope you will be able to join us for an exciting event that will allow us to plan for the further development of the school as a whole community.

Replies need to have reached me by 3:45pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June. You will be informed of your place by Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Best wishes,

Mr Grady

[m.grady@rugbyhighschool.co.uk](mailto:m.grady@rugbyhighschool.co.uk)

## LAST CHANCE - PTA Raffle Tickets

Please look out for the PTA Raffle Tickets and support the PTA Grand Draw which will be drawn tomorrow, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

There are many wonderful prizes to be won, including a £100 cash prize, vouchers for Casa Loco, dinner for 2 at the Huntsman Carvery in Dunchurch plus more.



The money raised by the Grand Draw goes directly back into school and supports such projects as a Poetry Workshop for English, CREST projects in Science and the newly installed water fountains around school.

Please consider supporting the PTA Grand Draw. With each ticket purchased, you are helping to enhance your child's education at Rugby High School.



## Year 8 Stem Day

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, a team from RAF Cosford (@rafyouthengage @raisingrobots @legoeducation) visited our school to provide a STEM day for all of Year 8.



On that day we built robots out of Lego and we programmed them. We started with just making simple robots that couldn't even move. Then during the first two periods of the day, we made our robots move forwards and backwards and turn. Some of us even added sounds and faces to our robots. At the start it didn't work but we didn't give up; in the end it worked!



Before break we had a race in our classroom which had three finalists with amazing robots. After break, we all went out onto the tennis courts and we had a massive race with another class. We raced three times and the same team of Alli and Saranya from 8T3 won three times in a row. Even though it was hard work and quite frustrating at times, all of us had fun and enjoyed every bit of it.

*Megha Jitesh 8T3*

The team from @rafyouthengage are also promoting a free summer residential Space Camp for Year 8 and Year 9 students. Follow @hiimpactconsult for more details.

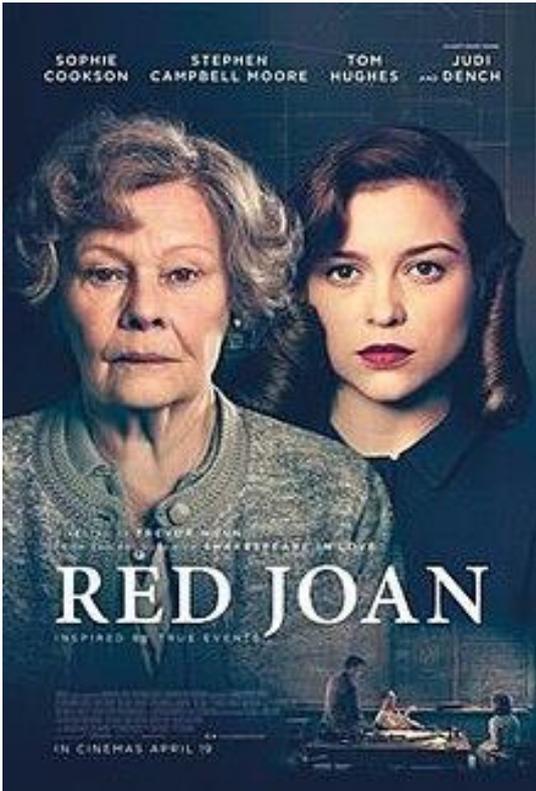


**Returning Schools Library Service books to the school's Reading Room. Do you have any at home?**

We are fortunate enough to have the loan of a large collection of fiction books from the Schools Library Service each year. We are currently collecting in the books we have had this academic year in preparation for borrowing a new collection.

Please could you have a look around at home for books with an "SLS" or "Schools Library Service" sticker on the spine? Please ask your daughter to return these either to The Reading Room, directly to Miss Danks or drop them off at school reception as soon as possible. Thank you!

## History in Film, Literature and Television



Film Title: Red Joan

Director: Trevor Nunn

Cast: Judi Dench, Sophie Cookson, Tom Hughes, Tereza Srbova, Stephen Campbell Moore, Ben Miles

Age Rating: 12+

Enjoyment Rating: (5/5)

Accuracy Rating: (4/5)

Time Period: 1938 to present day- focusing on the WWII period

Genre: Historical drama

Red Joan is a heart-wrenching and surprising film, which shows how the actions of one young woman had such a big impact on WWII. It is based on the novel written by Jennie Rooney, which was inspired by the true story of Melita Norwood.

It tells the story of Joan Stanley, studying Physics at Cambridge, finding herself entangled in radical Communist propaganda groups and Russian spies. After university she becomes part of a group working to build the nuclear bomb

for the U.K. during World War II. The story begins from the perspective of present-day Joan (played by Judi Dench), an old woman who is being arrested for betraying her country and giving away top-secret information to the USSR. The majority of the film is told as a flashback and set in the past, showing how Joan (played by Sophie Cookson) came to the decision of helping the USSR and becoming a spy for them.

Although some characters are fictional, they are all adapted from real people and real actions. Parts of the film have been sugar-coated to create a "happier" and more satisfying ending, but the film still has some dark moments throughout. This film is a real eye-opener, and tear-jerker, as it shows how unfair WWII was for everyone, no matter what side they were on. You will come out of it with a new perspective on war, and the unfairness of it all, and you may find yourself siding with the "enemy".

## Year 12 Career Talks

Thank you to all the parents who have offered up their valuable time to speak to our Year 12 students as part of their Next Steps Programme in July.

I have had a request to have a talk from a Publisher, an Optometrist and a Clinical Psychologist if anyone can help?

Geraldine Brown  
Sixth Form Manager

# ***The GCSE Drama Showcase!***



Our GCSE Drama students have been working hard over the past few months to create innovative and unique performances for their practical examination. Students will be performing a range of group pieces, as well as one outlining her costume design choices.

Before their exam on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June, we are holding a showcase in which they are able to show their hard work!

***So what can you expect to see?***

**Creative Adaptations of 'James Honeyman' by W H Auden, 'The Nightingale and the Rose' by Oscar Wilde and 'The Small Hand' by Susan Hill**

## **Where and When?**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June @ 4pm – 5.30pm**

The Drama studio! All are welcome!

**Tickets are £1 for adults and 50p for students/children.**

Proceeds will be donated to charity.

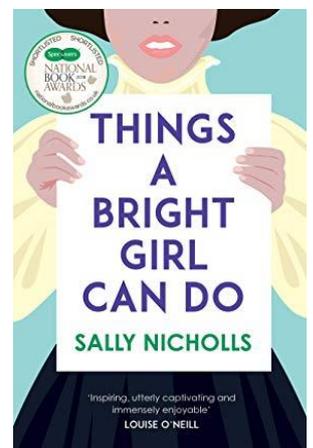
## Looking for something to read? KS3 Book Recommendation

Through rallies and marches, in polite drawing rooms and freezing prison cells and the poverty-stricken slums of the East End, three courageous young women join the fight for the vote.

Evelyn is seventeen, and though she is rich and clever, she may never be allowed to follow her older brother to university. Enraged that she is expected to marry her childhood sweetheart rather than be educated, she joins the Suffragettes, and vows to pay the ultimate price for women's freedom.

May is fifteen, and already sworn to the cause, though she and her fellow Suffragists refuse violence. When she meets Nell, a girl who's grown up in hardship, she sees a kindred spirit. Together and in love, the two girls start to dream of a world where all kinds of women have their place.

But the fight for freedom will challenge Evelyn, May and Nell more than they ever could believe. As war looms, just how much are they willing to sacrifice?



## Diary Dates

Year 8 Black Country Museum Trip

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Year 10 Geography Trip to the Carding Mill Valley, Shropshire

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Intermediate Biology Olympiad Year 12

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Year 7 Trip to Bilton

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Year 7 Parents Evening #1 (7R & 7H)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June

Year 10 (a few students) Trip to George Elliot Hospital

Year 7 Parents Evening #2 (7S & 7G)

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Year 5 & 6 Open Evening

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

Planning & Developing Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

Year 9 Exams Begin

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June

Year 7 Introduction to Food Preparation & Nutrition Day

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Next Steps Day Year 12

PMNW – Year 10

Year 10 Drama Examination

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Year 6 Induction Day

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June

Year 7 Residential to Cholmondley Castle

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July to Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Year 8 Wimbledon Trip

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July to Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Incoming Year 12 Induction Day

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July