

REDBORNE UPPER SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Flitwick Road Ampthill Bedfordshire MK45 2NU



Principal: Mr N K Croft MA

Head of School: Mr S Gray BSc

Deputy Head: Mrs D Buthee BA

Telephone: 01525 404462

E-Mail: admin@redborne.com

www.redborne.com

News - for all the latest [news and events](#) information, please visit our website page

There have been a number of events that have taken place over the past few weeks of last term. You can read about these and see the photographs on the [news and events](#) section of the website.

Year 9 visit to the First World War Battlefields 2017

The trip to Ypres in February 2017 was a big success. After a very early start at 5 o'clock in the morning, the long coach journey was definitely worth it as the sights that were seen were amazing.

The Eurotunnel was an interesting experience for many as was the drive through two countries. When we arrived in Belgium at about 11 o'clock we had already picked up some excellent tour guides and we were ready to go. We drove through countless flat fields until we reached the second largest commonwealth cemetery in the world. We were taught about how and why the graves were organised in a certain way and how so many people of different races and cultures took part in the war. We then visited another cemetery where fewer soldiers were buried but they all had a different story. We then took a trip to a large German graveyard and learnt about how and why it came to be there. This was also where Adolf Hitler had once walked.



The Canadian memorial was next and it was massive. There we learnt about gas attacks and how they changed the war. We learnt how gas masks changed from useless bits of cloth to more modern equipment in a matter of years. The trip to the Passchendaele memorial museum was amazing as we learnt about many different bits of equipment, walked in bunkers and trenches and even got to try on a soldier's uniform and gear. We ended by visiting the largest commonwealth cemetery in Europe and paying our respects to the many soldiers buried there by placing a poppy wreath with a message from Redborne pupils.

We had a great time and learnt a lot as you would hear if you asked any student who went on the trip.
(Louis Gill Year 9DBY)

Ski Trip

Over half term Redborne's annual ski trip went ahead. In a break from tradition, we visited Italy – specifically the Pinzolo region of The Dolomites. As 24 hour coach journeys go, this was a bad one actually totalling nearly 28 hours, but we were rewarded for this arduous trial with six days of glorious sun-soaked skiing, a lovely hotel (which included the finest ski trip food we've ever experienced) and a lot of laughter. As ever, our students were a credit to the school; their exemplary behaviour drawing comments from the staff at the hotel that were effusive in their praise. Even the year 13 girls were quite polite (#ladylike). Our twitter feed kept those back home up to date and can still be accessed to see some of the photographs that may entice you onto next year's trip. It was a fabulous week and we hope to return to Pinzolo next year – hopefully, some of you will join us. Letters detailing the trip for next year will hopefully be available towards the end of March, once our booking has been confirmed. (Mr Trapp, Mr Graves, Miss Borritt, Mr Brooks and Miss Calloway)

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Year 10 Charity Week

We would like to announce that year 10 charity week raised a staggering £1850 during their charity week before the half term. Holding a silent auction, junk food stall, mufti day, cross bar challenge, guess the amount of sweets, cake sale and the infamous Mystery Bucket Challenge – we had an amazing week and are so grateful of the support shown to us from our pupils, parents and local businesses.

We had many donations from local businesses – and those not so local – to raise money using our silent auction; this alone raised over £500 so many thanks to you all for your support.

Our chosen charities were Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, Stonewall, and Save the Children – the Syrian Crisis who will each receive over £600 each. This is an astonishing amount and we thank you all for your generous support and donations.

Upcoming events in March:

All upcoming events can be found on the [school calendar](#) and [important dates](#) for each year group can be found on our website.

Whole School:

Music

Community Concert on the **23rd March** - This will be a performance by Orchestra, Windband, Choir, A Capella Groups, Flute group, String group and 6th form soloists. Tickets are £4 for adults and £2 for concessions from the school shop.

Battle of the Bands

Redborne Battle of the Bands 2017 is **on Thursday 2nd March at 7pm** in the Connolly Hall. Come and support your favourite band to see who will be crowned Battle of the Bands winner 2017, winning the ultimate prize of getting to open Amp Rocks festival in the summer! As well as the bands there will be a range of other music to enjoy including singers, rappers and a DJ. Advance tickets from the school shop cost £3, or tickets will be available for £4 on the door. Refreshments will also be available, with all proceeds going to charity.

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PRESENT

Community Concert for all ages

Music includes:
Adiemus by Karl Jenkins and
Rhapsody in Blue by Gershwin

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Adults and £2 for
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Available from the
school shop or on
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Groups:
Wind Band
Orchestra
Choir
String Group
Brass Band

Thursday 23rd March
Connolly Hall
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Dance

G&T Dance performance day at the University of Bedfordshire - An opportunity for the Redborne Dance Company to showcase their work in the university theatre and take part in various technique classes led by university lecturers. **Weds 1st March 9-4.30pm**

Redborne Dance showcase. **Tuesday 14th March 7pm** Connolly Hall - An evening of dance showcasing the work of all GCSE and A level exam work with performances by the Redborne Dance Company and the Year 9 Dance club. Tickets are available from school shop and are £3 adults and £1 students / children and concessions. There will be a technical rehearsal for all performers on **Monday 13th March 3.30-5.30pm** in the Connolly hall.

Language Trips

Spanish Immersion Visit (years 9, 10 and 12) - **5th to 9th March** - Students who are participating should refer to the travel information distributed at the parents' meeting prior to departure. Please be reminded to apply for an EHIC card if you have not already done so. Miss N. Crossley

German Exchange Visit to Bavaria (years 9 and 10) - The flights have now been booked and the confirmed dates are **10th to 16th July 2017**. Miss N. Crossley

Upcoming Boot Fairs

The next boot fair at Redborne School is on **Sunday 26th March**. Boot fairs are an important way to raise money for the school for items such as the mini-buses. Thank you for your support.

Careers News

For up to date information about volunteering, apprenticeships, school leaver schemes, university and how to make the most of opportunities please follow @CareersRedborne on Twitter.

Looking for an apprenticeship? Don't forget to sign up for <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> and register for text alerts.

The National Apprenticeship Show takes place at the Arena MK on **13-14 March 2017** and will bring together employers, colleges and providers with those wanting to find out more about what apprenticeships can offer. There is a **parents and carers evening Monday 4.00pm – 6.30pm**. If you are interested in attending please register online at <http://www.nationalapprenticeshipshow.org/midlands/>

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Year 9:

Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze D of E 2016 – 2017 is well under way with a fully subscribed programme. Students are completing their volunteering, physical and skills activities while participating in after school training sessions. Students have now been placed in groups for their D of E and should be getting to know and plan their equipment with their group members. The practise camps and assessment camps will take place as follows:

Group A

Practise Expedition April Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd 2017

Assessed Expedition June Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th 2017

Group B

Practise Expedition May Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th 2017

Assessed Expedition June Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd 2017

Any further questions or concerns please contact [Mr Schmidt](#).

Year 10:

Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening

The year 10 consultation evening is on Tuesday 21st March. To make appointments, please use our on line booking system using this link; <https://redborne.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/> (This system will be available from 10th March)

Independent Students

During year 10 parents' evening, our new independent learning guide, specific to all year 10 students will be issued. In here are details of each course your child is taking; how best to prepare for, during and after each lesson and details of the syllabus and exam requirements. This includes how the exams in year 11 are structured for each subject.

Please can you encourage your child to use this guide **throughout year 10 and 11**.

Students always have work to do in the form of independent study. They should not just focus upon specific tasks set by a teacher if they wish to make great progress. This is especially important now with the more rigorous maths and English exams and the linear exams for other subjects (all tested at the end of year 11). If you have any queries, please contact me at school. (Ms N Brennan)

GCSE Drama (yr 10)

Performance assessments have been scheduled for w/b 13th and 20th March. These will take place during drama lessons. Students have been informed of their assessment times.

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Geography

22nd/23rd March Year 10 GCSE Geography field trip to Southwold.

A compulsory requirement of the new 9-1 GCSE is that students undertake two separate days of fieldwork. The first of these will take place on the **22/23 March** with half of our year 10 cohort attending on each day. They will spend this day on the beach collecting data on the physical processes, landforms and management of the coast; information that will then be used in their Component 2 exam in June 2018.

Year 11:

Independent Students

During November, our new independent learning guide, specific to all year 11 students was issued. In here are details of each course your child is taking; how best to prepare for, during and after each lesson and details of the syllabus and exam requirements. This includes how the exams in year 11 are structured for each subject. Please can you encourage your child to use this guide.

Students always have work to do in the form of independent study. They should not just focus upon specific tasks set by a teacher if they wish to make great progress. This is especially important now with the more rigorous maths and English exams and the linear exams for other subjects (all tested at the end of year 11). If you have any queries, please contact me at school. (Ms N Brennan)

Year 11 Revision Sessions

Every Wednesday after school, year 11 are invited to English revision sessions after school in the English faculty rooms.

On Thursday after school, year 11 are invited to maths revision sessions in the maths faculty rooms.

Important ICT Coursework dates

Edexcel GCSE ICT

All coursework submission by 24th February

Exam preparation starts Monday 27th February

Summer 2017 exam date - Tuesday 17th May AM

AQA GCSE Computer Science

All coursework submission by 10th March

Exam preparation starts Monday 13th March

Summer 2017 exam date – Wednesday 7th June AM

OCR Nationals Creative iMedia

All coursework submission by 28th April

Exam preparation for retake starts Tuesday 2nd May

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Summer 2017 exam date (retake) – Wednesday 7th June AM

Cambridge Technicals Level 3 IT

Unit 8 - Project Management final deadline - 21st April

Unit 1 - Fundamentals of IT (retake) - Monday 15th May

Dance

GCSE dance study skills day is **Thursday 16th March** p2-5.

GCSE live moderation/exam day is on **30th March 9am-3.10pm**. All GCSE dance student will perform their work to an external moderator completing 60% of the course on this day. This is a formal exam day and any absences must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

German

Year 11 German students / parents are reminded that after school revision sessions for GCSE German listening and reading skills are every Monday from 3.15 until 3.45 in room 24 with Frau Lawrence

Sixth form:

Dance

A level dance Exam day is **Wednesday 29th March 10am-1pm**. A visiting examiner will be assessing the work of all A level dance students. All dancers who are performing in A level exam pieces will be involved.

Business

GCE Applied Business Students will be doing their 15 hour examination between the **20-24 March 2017**, during lessons 1 to 3 inclusive.

Geography

30th March- 2nd April Year 12/13 enrichment trip to Iceland

At the end of the term we will take some of our A Level geographers on a trip to Iceland. Whilst there are links to their studies of both tectonic and glaciation the main purpose of this trip is simply to learn more about the stunning landscapes of the country. We will see the Eyjafjallajökull volcano which erupted in 2010, as well as experiencing a swim in a thermal pool and view the eruptions of Strokkur geyser in its field of hot springs. Staff, as well as students, are very much looking forward to it!

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Students

Training Day at Redborne School - **Sunday 5th March** (9:00 - 16:30 approx)

Chemistry

Chemistry revision sessions are being run every Wednesday lunchtime for year 13 and every Tuesday lunchtime for year 12, both in room 69.

EPQ

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Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Presentation Evening (year 13) - **Monday 20th March** (4:30-7:00pm) in The Connolly Hall. We look forward to showcasing the work produced by our year 13 students on this evening. Miss N. Crossley

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Redborne School Musical
Workshop
INTO THE
WOODS
Friday 10th March
Drama Studio 3.20-4.30
ALL Students Welcome Y9-12
This is not an audition. No experience required!
Sing through some of the songs
and act out some scenes.

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THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2017

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

7PM CONNOLLY HALL
£3 ADVANCE TICKETS
(£4 ON THE DOOR)

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

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