



# Newsletter

February 2024



As I write, an intrepid group of Geography students and staff have recently returned from their trip to **Iceland**. Having seen the photos it looked like an amazing experience with some jaw-dropping scenery and extreme weather. Thanks to Claire Bassett, Claire Blindell, Greg Buckland, Jon Gunn and Kirsty Wheeler for giving their time to enable this trip to happen and thanks also to all of the Geography students who attended for your excellent conduct throughout and for being such great ambassadors for Redborne.

The Spring Term always feels particularly busy due to preparations for the upcoming summer exam season. Year 11 have just completed their second set of **mock exams** which we are in the process of marking and analysing in order to help focus the final weeks of learning and revision before the GCSE exams start in May.

It was great to see such a high turnout of parents and students at our recent **Year 9 Options Evening**: thanks for your engagement. If you have any further questions, please email Graeme Armstrong ([graeme.armstrong@redborne.com](mailto:graeme.armstrong@redborne.com)) and remember your child needs to return the completed Google form by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**.

One of our priorities for the current academic year is to improve **parent engagement**. To this end, we have been holding regular meetings with **parents of students with SEND** and also have established a **Parent Voice Group** who meet regularly with a senior member of staff to share their views on a range of current issues. Thank you to all of you who have been part of any of these events: we value your input and already these meetings have led to noticeable improvements in the day-to-day running of our school.

Also, on the theme of parent engagement, a reminder that every Wednesday from 3:10pm-4:10pm there is an opportunity to **drop in and meet with the Headteacher** to ask any questions or raise any concerns you may have. No appointment is needed. Please arrive at North reception.

Finally, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break and here's looking forward to lighter evenings and increasingly Spring-like weather (hopefully....).

**Olly Button, Headteacher**

# Dates For Your Diary 2023 / 2024

16th - 24th February	Ski trip
19th - 23rd February	HALF TERM
26th February - 1st March	Year 13 mock exams
29th February - 5th March	Scholastic Book Fair
7th March	Redborne Dance Showcase
18th & 19th March	Second APDR cycle
18th March	EPQ presentation evening
21st March	Community Concert
25th March	SEND Parent/Carer Support Group
26th March	Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening
28th March	Break up for Easter
15th April	First day of the first half of the Summer term
18th April	UCAS Information Evening - 6pm Connolly Hall
19th April	Year 13 and 11 leavers photographs
9th May - 26th June	Summer Exams
9th May	Jazz Café - 7pm Connolly Hall
27th - 31st May	HALF TERM
3rd June	First day of the second half of the summer term
27th June	Year 13 Prom
21st June	Year 11 Prom
1st - 3rd July	Year 12 induction
9th July	Summer music festival
19th July	Break up for Summer
15th August	A Level results collection
22nd August	GCSE results collection

2024 / 2025 Term Dates can be found on our website

[www.redborne.com/term-dates](http://www.redborne.com/term-dates)

## Exam Certificates

A reminder that GCSE and A Level Certificates can be collected from the Exams Office during the school day.

## Central Bedfordshire School Transport

CBC have advised us that they are proposing some changes to their School Transport Policy. If your son/daughter uses any of the CBC transport services please visit <https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations> for further details and to take part in the consultation.

## REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENCE

To report absences or appointments for students in Year 9, 10 or 11 please call the school or email **absence@redborne.com**

If you can, please report any absences **before 9am** on the day of the absence. The **absence@redborne.com** email address will go directly to the pastoral team who will then log any absences.

**Sixth Form** absences should continue to be sent to **sixthform@redborne.com**

If your son or daughter has a positive Covid test result please report the absence as normal on **absence@redborne.com** detailing that they have Covid. Students should stay off for three days - day one being the day after they test. They should only return to school if they feel well enough.



For regular updates on what is going on here at Redborne please follow our social media pages. Here you will find important dates and events, student achievements (both academic and extracurricular) and a general behind the scenes view.

Facebook:

**Redborne Upper School & Community College**

<https://www.facebook.com/redborneupperschool>

Instagram:

**@redborneupperschool**

<https://www.instagram.com/redborneupperschool/>

Twitter:

**@RedborneHead**

<https://twitter.com/RedborneHead>

**Drama Twitter**

<https://twitter.com/redbornedrama>



## Water Bottles

Please ensure students have a water bottle with them in school that they can refill during break times. We cannot provide plastic cups for students. Please note only plastic or metal water bottles are allowed to be brought into school by students - no glass bottles please.

# Redborne Learning Support Department

## Parent / Carer Support Group

The second meeting of the parent/carers support group for children with SEND took place in the Croft Centre on **Monday 22nd January 2024, 4.00pm**. We discussed the first APDR cycle of the year and took some valuable feedback from our parents and carers. If you wish to offer feedback from this process, please reply to [vicki.walsh@redborne.com](mailto:vicki.walsh@redborne.com) We will not reply individually to comments, but will add these into our evaluation process.

Thank you to all that attended this meeting. From our evaluations, 100% would recommend the event to others. We have some suggestions to follow up and it was lovely to see some new faces. The group will meet again on **Monday 25th March 2024, 4.00pm until 5.00pm** and its remit is to be a supportive network for parents and carers to gain information from each other.

## Study skills sessions for students with SEND

Every year we hold an exam 'walk through' for these students. It targets the English language papers and is run by our SLE, Jane Luck, ably supported by our SENDCO Ben Middleton and our HLTA for English, Jo Walker. The sessions are run in our conference room for 2 hours. It is an intensive session given before the mock exams and again in the summer before the real exam. We supply exam papers, expertise, guided practice and feedback.

A kind parent took the time to write in to Jane Luck, which was much appreciated:

*Can I just say thank you for ..... The English support class this morning.  
He said it was a great lesson and feels like it was a great help running up to mocks.  
Many thanks for the support.*

**Parent of Year 11 SEND student involved in study skills**

## Supporting students with ASD/ADHD

We continue to offer 6 week programmes led by Mrs Haxell and Mr Hodges. These are listed on the SEND section of the website. The aim is always to support neurodiverse students to understand ASD/ADHD and how it may affect them. We also look at strategies and tools that can help a student to self manage in school.

## Learning Support Football

This runs after school every Wednesday. All are welcome, please contact Mr Rosmini for details.

## SEND Study Club

Currently, there is a waiting list for the club. We are trying to build more capacity whilst we prioritise Year 11 ready for their exams. Mrs McIntosh and Mrs Walker offer a SEND homework drop in club in room 59 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school if support or a place to work is needed. Please contact your child's form tutor who will talk to your child about where to go and when.

## **Parent/Carer course for children with ASD**

Two members of staff have been trained to run the Teenlife Course, developed by the National Autistic Society.

The course will largely run during the school day in the Summer term. It is six 2.5 hour sessions. Our staff trainers have been hugely impressed with the quality and scope of the material to be delivered and thoroughly recommend the course.

To express an interest please email [vicki.walsh@redborne.com](mailto:vicki.walsh@redborne.com)

## **APDR Cycle 2 online review meetings - 18th & 19th March**

A 10 minute online meeting to review the second APDR cycle will be held during the school day on Monday 18th March and Tuesday 19th March. Details on how to book will be sent out in due course.

As always, for all SEND queries, the first port of call for parents is with their child's form tutor.

**Ms Nikki Brennan**  
**Assistant Headteacher: Learning Support**

## **Would you like to offer additional financial support to disadvantaged students?**

We offer a range of trips and visits to support the learning of students. Many of these trips, although hugely beneficial, are not cheap and are often prohibitively expensive for families in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

We receive additional funding to support the education of these students, and although some can be used to fund a percentage of the cost of trips and visits, there is always a significant shortfall.

Over the last few years, many parents and carers have contacted us offering to donate funds to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds accessing these trips, but beyond a contribution to the school fund, which is used for a whole range of purposes, there has not been the facility to specifically donate to a trips fund for these students.

If you wish to make a small donation, we have added to each trip information letter, an option to add a donation to the fund we use for disadvantaged students. It is entirely voluntary and a Student Support Fund option has been set up within the trips and visits section on the Wisepay dashboard should you wish to donate. Any amount you feel able to contribute could be the difference in a student accessing an opportunity that we would otherwise be unable to offer them.

Please be assured this money will be ring fenced for disadvantaged students and we will be able to account for funds spent.

Thank you in advance for your support.





## Careers Fair

We were delighted to have over 55 guests with us at our Careers Fair on 17th January, representing 32 different organisations. Every single one said “yes, very much” when asked if they had enjoyed attending and all said they would be happy to attend again.

Bedfordshire Police told us they had been “very impressed with all year groups”, Niftylift said that all our students had been “very polite” and Kier singled out our Sixth Formers for extra praise, commenting that they had enjoyed “really good conversations with everyone we spoke to”.

Well done to all students and our sincerest thanks to all those who supported this important annual event.



## Girls in Data Workshop

Twenty eight Year 9 girls had an enjoyable day on the 22nd January when they attended the 'Girls in Data' workshop. Through the charity 'Women in Data' four female staff members of TUI ran the workshop which highlighted the range of 'data careers' that girls and women are being encouraged to explore. The girls enjoyed some fun with cryptography & data visualisation, Scratch advanced coding (see picture) and discussed AI ethics and design. They rounded the day off with a Dragon's Den 'pitch' for a new product, won sweets and were served a well-deserved hot chocolate for all their great work!





## Languages Faculty



### The importance of Foreign Languages within the sports industry

The Languages Faculty held a special assembly led by Steve Eadon, a representative of [mingalaba.co.uk](http://mingalaba.co.uk), who worked at Arsenal Football Club for many years. Through talking about his work at the football club, students in Year 9 were able to experience a behind-the-scenes look at the role of languages in the global football and sports industries, including the communication needs of players, coaches and staff in the business.



### Years 10 - 13 Spanish Immersion Visit to Málaga, Spain: 5-9 March 2024

Students are very much looking forward to the Spanish immersion visit to this area of the Costa del Sol. The itinerary will include a guided visit to Málaga's historic centre and a day excursion to Ronda. There will also be a visit to a local secondary school to meet and integrate with local students, as well as flamenco dancing classes, a tapas in a local restaurant and free time for shopping. *Buen viaje!*





## A Level Spanish trip to the Theatre Cervantes in London

Sixth form Spanish students had the amazing opportunity to attend the Theatre Cervantes in London where they were able to gain more of an insight into the play that they are currently studying, *La Casa de Bernarda Alba*. Being able to watch the play purely in Spanish as well as speak to the director was an invaluable experience. Here is an account from George Brady (13AC):

*"Watching the play was a great opportunity for us to see the language we study in a different context. After having studied the play in class, taking the words off the pages and onto the stage allowed for us to experience the play with greater emotional attachment to the language in a way that I hadn't experienced before."*



## Languages Breakfast – Year 9

During the week commencing Monday 29th January students in Year 9 were invited to a languages breakfast where they could drop in to have a chat about French, German, Spanish and Latin at GCSE. This proved to be an excellent opportunity to talk to subject teachers and current KS4 language students about the courses, as well as learn about the importance of languages in university applications and careers.







## French Trip to the Opal Coast



The trip to The Opal Coast took place last term. The itinerary included a visit to a glass factory and the Boulangerie Escoeuilles as well as a town trail in Lille. Evening activities included a campfire activity and a silent disco.

Student comments about the trip include:

*The French trip was truly such an eye opening experience. Getting the opportunity to indulge in the French culture was really something to remember. An unforgettable experience! It has really helped us prepare for our speaking and writing exams!*

*Naz Henries, Matilda Edwards and Erin Monaghan*



# Languages Study Club and Reading Club

## Year 10 and 11 – homework study club



### Languages Homework Study Club

Language learning goes beyond the classroom

**MONDAY**  
3:30-4:00  
Room 26

Short, regular homework tasks are essential to your success at GCSE

### Redborne Values:

#### ASPIRATION

Become a better linguist  
Engage in tasks outside of the classroom



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Manage your homework tasks  
Use materials in the department to help you



### Languages Reading Club

**Mondays 3:20-4:00, room 26**

Did you know that reading in a foreign language..

- ...helps you think differently
- ...improves your fluency
- ...develops your vocabulary?

So, why not read a book, magazine or comic for your own enjoyment and attend the Languages Reading Club?

### Redborne Values:

#### ASPIRATION

Aspire to be a better linguist  
Aspire to challenge yourself



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Be responsible for your own independent reading  
Be responsible for choosing books which interest you

## Year 11 – GCSE sessions after school

**Year 11 FRENCH AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS**

TUESDAY	FRIDAY
LISTENING & READING	WRITING & SPEAKING
15.20-16.00	15.15-16.00
ROOM 26	ROOM 25
MRS CROSSLEY	MRS SHAW

### Redborne Values:

#### ASPIRATION

Become a better linguist

Engage in tasks outside of the classroom



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Extend your learning

Practise key exam skills with a teacher

**Year 11 SPANISH AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS**

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
LISTENING & READING	WRITING & SPEAKING
15.30-16.00	15.30-16.00
ROOM 20	ROOM 20
MISS BENNETT	MR BASTIDA
	MRS CRESPI

### Redborne Values:

#### ASPIRATION

Become a better linguist

Engage in tasks outside of the classroom



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Extend your learning

Practise key exam skills with a teacher

**Year 11 GERMAN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS**

MONDAY	THURSDAY
LISTENING & READING	WRITING & SPEAKING
15.30-16.00	15.30-16.00
ROOM 24	ROOM 27
MRS ESLER	MRS ABERY



### Redborne Values:

#### ASPIRATION

Become a better linguist

Engage in tasks outside of the classroom



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Extend your learning

Practise key exam skills with a teacher

## Student Feedback:

These sessions have really helped my exam skills in listening.

These sessions have really helped my exam skills in listening.



# Latin News



## Looking forward to our trip to Italy!

On March 22nd, we set off on our four-day tour of Roman historical sites. We will be visiting Pompeii and Herculaneum, towns which were engulfed by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD, and which have many well-preserved buildings and streets which really show what life was like in a Roman town - we will also climb up Vesuvius and gaze down at the towns below.

Then we go to Rome and visit the Colosseum and the Forum, imagining ourselves as Gladiators and emperors (and definitely not slaves). We will also visit the Vatican and see Michaelangelo's famous Sistine chapel ceiling - it's not ancient history but you can't go to Rome and not visit the Pope!



# Design Technology News



## Digital Media Virtual Masterclass with ILM

The Year 12 and 13 Digital Media students were very fortunate to be able to attend a virtual masterclass run by London Design and Engineering UTC. The special guests were Industrial Light and Magic (responsible for the visual effects in many films such as Star Wars and Avatar), and Escape Studios (one of the UK's leading animation, games and VFX training and teaching institutions).

This gave a fantastic insight into the many different career pathways in the Digital Media industry with hints and tips on how to create an effective e-portfolio.

## BETT Show 24 - London ExCel Centre - 25th January 2024 Year 13 Digital Media Students Promethean Presentation

In conjunction with London Design and Engineering UTC our Year 13 students were able to present some of their work on the Promethean stand.

This was a fantastic experience for students and they were able to present in front of a live audience.

Mr J Culley CTO from the UTC commented on how professional our students were and was impressed with the quality of the students work.

Our students found this really useful for preparation of their next unit “delivering a pitch”.





The autumn term was very productive for the Food Technology department!

Year 9 students have enjoyed a term of Bake Club, making a range of different bakes over the weeks which concluded in making and decorating individual Christmas cakes.

Year 10 Food Prep and Nutrition students competed in a Yule Log competition judged by the Senior Leadership Team.

Level 3 Hospitality and Catering students enjoyed baking and serving refreshments at the School Production and the Christmas Concert at the end of the term.

Thank you for supporting the Food Department.



## Music News



The music department continues to be a lively and busy place, with lots going on! On Friday 2 February we enjoyed our latest A level tea concert, with all our A level music students performing to an audience of friends, parents and teachers. The tea and cake added to the event, helping to ensure the concert is the highlight of everybody's week!

On Wednesday 14 February, we enjoyed this year's Redborne Calling (our annual battle of the bands). Six bands took part: Black Tie, Greensands, Fruit Salad, Knork, Inline and Whiplash. Our judges from Grand Chapel studios decided they would like to hear Knork, Greensands and Whiplash perform again, then eventually selected Greensands as the overall winners. Congratulations to Jimmy, George and Jake, and of course to all of the students who took part (including the sound and lighting teams, refreshment sellers and Elizabeth and Jaya, the hosts for the evening). We're incredibly grateful to Grand Chapel studios for their support this year, not only leading the judging of the event but also in providing a recording session for the winning band. One band from Redborne Calling will also go on to represent Redborne at Bedfordshire Battle of the Bands at the Stables (Wavendon) on Thursday 7 March.

On Thursday 15 February we hosted Beds Band Factory (Bedfordshire Key Stage 3 Battle of the Bands), which meant Knork got to perform again as they are our resident Year 9 band. Due to publication dates for this newsletter, at the time of writing we don't know how they got on... Fingers crossed!

Our next concert is on Thursday 14 March; the Community Concert will be a chance for school ensembles and soloists to perform. We will be joined this year by choirs from Alameda and Woodland middle schools, who will be joining with our choir and orchestra to perform a stunning medley of tunes from Les Miserables. Tickets are on Wisepay now!

As we move towards the end of term, Year 13 A level music and Year 11 GCSE music students are preparing their final recitals and ensemble performances. Best of luck to all the students preparing a performance; we'll be alongside you all the way!

If you would like to know more about music department extra curricular groups or events, please email [music@redborne.com](mailto:music@redborne.com).





# PE News

## Netball News

Our U15 and U19 netball teams have both reached the Sisters N Sport national quarter finals.

### U15 results

**Round 1:** Redborne 34 - 3 Vandyke

**Round 2:** Redborne 49 - 16 Samuel Whitbread

**Round 3:** Redborne 42 - 11 Berkhamsted 2nd VII

**Round 4:** Redborne 44 - 9 Beaconsfield

**Quarter final:** Redborne 43 - 30 Queen Anne's

### U19 results

**Round 1:** Redborne 54 - 22 Queenswood

**Round 2:** Redborne 23 - 15 St Margaret's

**Round 3:** Redborne 41 - 19 Queen Anne's

**Round 4:** Redborne 35 - 27 St Edward's

**Quarter final:** Redborne vs. Barking Abbey

Our U19 girls are also Bedfordshire County Champions, and as such represented the county at this year's Netball East Regionals Championships. They finished in 5th place, our highest ever finish. An amazing achievement to place so highly out of all schools (state and independent) from Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and East Essex.

### Year 9 B Team

We're thrilled to spotlight the Year 9 B team for their outstanding dedication and priced demonstrated on the court so far this season. Their commitment to the team, and enthusiasm to represent the school, are truly commendable. These pupils have showcased remarkable progress and success throughout the season, playing against other schools' first teams.

#### Results:

Redborne B 27 - 2 Pix Brook Academy

Redborne B 20 - 12 Henlow

Redborne B 32 - 9 Harlington

Redborne B 17 - 13 Sandy

We wish all our teams the best of luck as their season comes to an exciting end!

### Mr D Day - PE Teacher



## Cross Country

The North and Mid Bedfordshire District Cross Country Race was a challenging yet rewarding experience for our school's 14 representatives, including 11 newcomers to the athletics team. Negotiating a tough and undulating course, the students displayed unwavering support for each other, fostering a strong sense of camaraderie.

Remarkably, Redborne pupils secured victories in two out of the six races. Finley Bent emerged triumphant in the Junior Boys category, while Daniel Smith claimed victory in the Senior Boys category. Their achievements not only showcased individual excellence but also underscored the collective strength and teamwork within our school community. 10 pupils will go on to represent Redborne in the next round.

Congratulations to all participants for their outstanding efforts, and a special acknowledgment to Finley Bent and Daniel Smith for their well-deserved wins!



## British Basketball Cup Finals 2024

Students in Years 9 - 11 attended the highly anticipated British Basketball Cup Finals at the end of January. This year saw record numbers in the crowd at Birmingham's prestigious Utilita Arena and Redborne students made sure their voices were heard as they cheered for their favourite players. Students were fortunate enough to meet players from both the Women's and Men's teams, including the winner of the Slam Dunk competition who was lucky enough to feature in selfies with the Redborne fans. All students on the trip were a credit to the school in the way they interacted with others and conducted themselves throughout the day - great Ambassadors for the PE Department and School!

### Mr W Scutt - PE Teacher






## English News

In November, Year 12 English Literature students enjoyed a trip to the National Gallery and the British Library. Along with future Literature students from Year 11, students learned about the history of Literature through art and artefacts.


2) Valencian Fishermen, Sorolla (Room 43)



This stunning painting reflects how Victorians were preoccupied with class. Their society was changing so much that they were clinging on to a very rigid class system even as it changed around them and became defunct. Sorolla painted working class people with as much beauty as the aristocracy had formerly been painted, introducing ideas of social reform and equality to the audience.

3) Umbrellas, Renoir (Room 41)

The tightly-packed 'busy-ness' of this painting reflects increasing urbanisation.



The audience's gaze is led towards the woman without the umbrella – her plain appearance contrasts with the middle-class people around her. Her basket shows her as a working-class woman. Renoir encourages us to admire her beauty in a rather superficial way. Notice the admirer behind her, who is noticing her too!

ROMANTICS

1790-1830

Romantic poets wrote about nature, imagination and emotion. They resisted institutional power such as the government, monarchy or church.

The industrial revolution began during this period and Romantic writers were horrified by the destruction of the natural environment.

1) Rain, Steam and Speed, Turner (Room 34)



Look at how Turner has used colour to present the train rushing towards us. The reds and blacks might remind you of diabolical imagery used to describe devils and objects linked to hell in Literature.

*We caught an early train into London and headed towards Trafalgar Square and the National Gallery. There, students embarked on a self-guided tour using their bespoke booklets to learn about Art History and observe its connections to literary history. Students had the opportunity to analyse mediaeval altarpieces, compare Picasso's abstract art with post-modern poetry and learn about extraordinary female artists who challenged sexism through art. After having lunch in the bustling St Pancras station, we proceeded to the Treasures exhibition of the British Library. We were very excited to see Shakespeare's First Folio, extracts from the Magna Carta and manuscripts from Jane Austen, Ted Hughes and more!*

*After a busy day of learning about art, history, Literature and the relationship between all three, we made it safely home again.*



## English Public Speaking and Debate @ Redborne

On Saturday 27th January, Daniel Atherton and Laura Cretu represented Redborne in Cambridge Schools' Debating Competition. Organised annually, the competition is one of the biggest and most prestigious in the world of competitive debating. This is the first year that the Redborne 6th form debating society has entered and our first experience of parliamentary debating. With motions released and just 15 minutes preparation, teams plan to structure a response and are not allowed any additional resources with which to research. It was an intense day, with Laura and Dan participating in four debates on a number of different issues. Our team were not daunted by the regal setting of the Cambridge Union debating chamber or their more experienced competitors, taking first place in their first debate. The winning streak continued throughout the day and I am delighted to say that Redborne placed 4th (out of 57 teams) and will go on to participate in Finals day in March, where they will compete against the top teams from across the UK.

On 6th February at Bedford School, Ruby Memi, Erin Mongahan and Nathaniel Newby were part of our previous winning team to compete in round 2 of the ESU Churchill Public Speaking competition. We were supported by our posse and had an engaging evening listening to speeches regarding "Democracy is a sham", "There should be no such thing as banning books", "Public transport should be free", "Prisoners should have the vote" and our very own Ruby whose title was "Money is the root of all evil".

Indeed after Ruby's speech there was a moment of silence as it was incredibly philosophical and thought-provoking. Many other school representatives there stated that the speech was fantastic!

Erin received best Questioner of the evening which was a fabulous achievement.

Nathaniel was nervous but quietly brilliant to chair the "bout".

Unfortunately, we did not make it to the next round of the regional finals this time. Bedford School & Bedford Free School went through (courtesy of a previous Redborne teacher - Mr Garwood)

Please see below our team and congratulate them on their representation of the school so wonderfully. Although the outcome was not the desired and earnt one, I remain very proud of them all.

### REDBORNE TEAM:

**Ruby Mehmi - Speaker**  
**Nathaniel Newby - Chairman**  
**Erin Monaghan - Questioner**

### REDBORNE GUEST LIST:

**Jane Murdoch - Leader**  
**Oliver Dawe - Support**  
**Emily Teevan - Support**  
**Jonathan Acheampong - Support**

There's always next year so come along on a Thursday after-school to English rooms 74 & 75!

**Mrs J Murdoch - English Teacher**



## Redborne Environmental Group

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, Dr Sutton's views on the impact of climate change on insect populations in the UK were documented in *The Times* newspaper and later recorded, with photographs and observations, in the November issue of *British Wildlife* magazine.

In between the appearance of these two publications, Dr Sutton was invited to give a lecture at the Natural History Museum in London on 8<sup>th</sup> November on the same subject, and spoke about the extraordinary pace at which new species, including impressively large bush-crickets, have been able to fly across the English Channel from France and the Netherlands and successfully establish themselves as naturalised residents in southern England.



Dr Sutton speaking about the impact of climate change at the Natural History Museum.

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, members of the Redborne Environmental Group: Isabella Moss, Olivia Harley, Justin Milne and Tom Killeen, accompanied by Mrs Bassett and Dr Sutton, represented Redborne Upper School at the Bedfordshire Natural History Society conference on *Freshwater Life In Bedfordshire* at the Forest Centre in Marston Vale.



They produced two excellent displays to represent the environmental work that the group has undertaken, including their award-winning contributions as 'Environmental Champions' in the Greensand Trust region, and trips that have been arranged to observe the natural history of the Flit Valley and Great Ouse catchment area. Dr Sutton then gave a talk about the aquatic insects of Bedfordshire, including the two impressive species of water scorpion that can be found in the Flit Valley.

The students, and the Redborne Environmental Group, were highly commended by the delegates at the conference for their commitment to environmental work, including efforts to highlight the conservation of biodiversity and habitats in Bedfordshire, and their valuable participation in a previous climate change conference held in the county.

**Redborne Environmental Group**