

TRSS Update



11 October 2024

News

Our big annual event in the early days of autumn term is our **Open Evening**. It seems to creep up on us with alarming speed and it is one of the highlights of the year for me personally. We are so fortunate that we have increasingly more and more families that are interested in what we are doing and choose to take the time to visit. We had many students give up their time to help us on the evening with such things as faculty support, tour guiding, information giving and just representing their school with pride. Many of those who returned were Year 7 students who wanted to help after a short time at school! Two of those were Ruby and Simran who spoke to our prospective families, alongside me in the hall. Our head students, Tosan and Jemimah also talked about the place our virtues play in our school community. The evening began with our school musicians and school band who gave an outstanding performance. I am hugely grateful for the way that all our students represented The Royal Sutton School. For me, our school came alive brilliantly on the evening and showed what we stand for, how we value education for our community and the values and culture that are part of our DNA. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and good luck to all those families with the decisions they will make about where to send their children in September 2025.



There have been lots of events taking place in school that I want to share with you. I will start with the **Macmillan Cake Sale** which was organised by Miss Smart, Mr Smikle and Mr Pursey. We are pleased to announce that we raised £180. Thank you to everyone who contributed by bringing cakes into

school for sale and those who bought cake to eat.



On the same day, we supported the **European Day of Languages**. Thank you to everyone who participated and baked a themed cake. Congratulations to Freddy in Year 7 on the winning entry. I love this day and the reminder that language is so important because the world is changing and our need to communicate brilliantly has never been more important. Languages matter!

In other events, a number of our Year 10 students went to **Make UK** to find out about apprenticeships. They were able to speak to different providers and have hands-on experiences learning about technology such as robotics. Days like this help to broaden minds and horizons to what is possible beyond school and that is why we continue to provide as many opportunities as possible to bring the future to life for our students.

Speaking of the **future and the ambitions** of our young people, we were visited by Hunor an ex-student who is now studying medicine at Oxford. He talked about the process of applying to university, how to choose your course and the importance of working hard and planning your revision in achieving your goals. The presentation was received brilliantly. It is an exciting time for our Year 11's and I really believe that our students are shaping the future for us and those in younger years. Long may that continue.


Key Dates for your diary

Wednesday 16 October	Year 7 'The Year Ahead' Evening – Presented by the Leadership Team @ 5:00pm
Tuesday 12 November	Odd Socks Day
Thursday 14 November	Year 8 Parents Evening
Friday 15 November	'Children in Need' Chocolate tombola
Tuesday 19 November	Year 11 'A Christmas Carol' at the Birmingham Rep
Friday 29 November	Training Day – School closed
Thursday 5 December	Year 9 Parents Evening
Tuesday 10 December	'Christmas Concert'
Thursday 12 December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Accessory Day
w/c Monday 16 December	Assessment week
Thursday 19 December	Last day of Term

Sparx Study club

There is a direct link between the time you spend practicing maths questions and the grade you achieve in assessments and exams. Based on analysis, those who complete their weekly sparx homework between 90-100% of the time, will achieve a grade **above** what they are expected to achieve. We want every child who attend The Royal Sutton School to be successful in mathematics.

The maths team welcome all students to attend a Sparx Study Club every Tuesday lunch time.



Sparx Maths

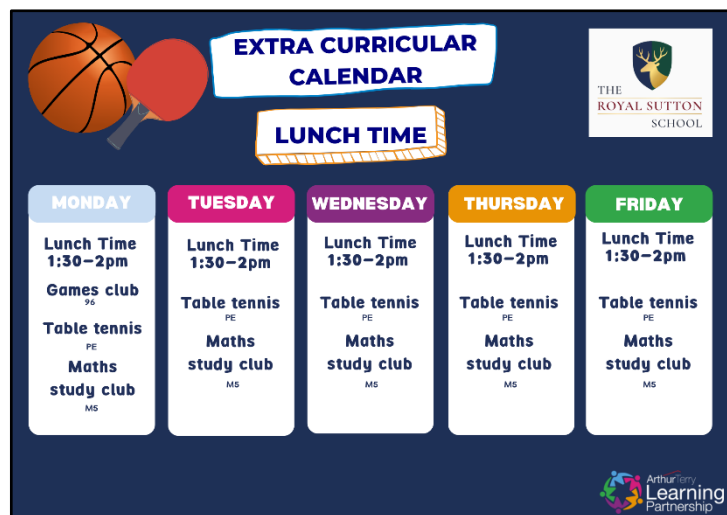
SPARX study club

When?	Every TUESDAY lunch time
Time?	1:30pm – 2pm
Where?	Maths (M5)
Why?	Support with homework

If you have any queries, speak to Miss Rindi (Room 47)

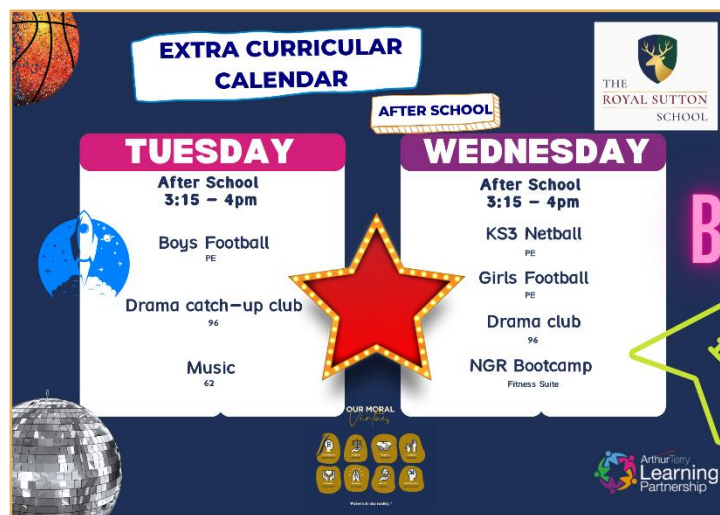
Extra-Curricular

Our extra-curricular activities have launched and the timetable will be shared on Showbie. There are a number of different activities at lunchtime and after school. It is really important for students to participate in an extra-curricular activity throughout the year. Extra-curricular activities allow individuals to pursue interests outside the classrooms to foster a love for learning and help them to discover new passions that can shape their future careers and personal fulfilment. They play a vital role in shaping well rounded, resilient individuals who are prepared to face the challenges of life with confidence and character. We would like to challenge all students to demonstrate commitment to participating in an extra-curricular activity this year and receive additional commitment points.



EXTRA CURRICULAR CALENDAR
LUNCH TIME

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch Time 1:30–2pm	Lunch Time 1:30–2pm	Lunch Time 1:30–2pm	Lunch Time 1:30–2pm	Lunch Time 1:30–2pm
Games club <small>95</small>	Table tennis <small>PE</small>	Table tennis <small>PE</small>	Table tennis <small>PE</small>	Table tennis <small>PE</small>
Table tennis <small>PE</small>	Maths study club <small>M5</small>	Maths study club <small>M5</small>	Maths study club <small>M5</small>	Maths study club <small>M5</small>



EXTRA CURRICULAR CALENDAR
AFTER SCHOOL

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
After School 3:15 – 4pm	After School 3:15 – 4pm
Boys Football <small>PE</small>	KS3 Netball <small>PE</small>
Drama catch-up club <small>96</small>	Girls Football <small>PE</small>
Music <small>62</small>	Drama club <small>96</small>
	NGR Bootcamp <small>Fitness Suite</small>

Useful Attendance Reminders:

In the rare event that your child is unable to attend school, please remember to notify us every morning of their absence, **before 8:30am**. You can: login to the Studybugs app (free download and signup, using your email address and follow their steps to report absence or email: attendance@jws.bham.sch.uk / telephone: **0121 378 6564**


Please ensure that you clearly state your child’s name, Tutor group and the reason for absence. Thank you if we do not receive a reason for absence, we are required to record this as unauthorised absence.

Our Attendance Team are here to support with any barriers to regular attendance.

- Holidays in term time cannot be approved
- Written proof of medical and dental appointments must be provided
- Students should attend school even if they have a cold or feel slightly unwell

Virtues and Virtues Champions

Each week our heads of year nominate a ‘Virtues Champion’ - a person in their year group who has gone above and beyond to demonstrate our virtue of the week. Thank you to our Virtues Champions for leading the way, focusing and practicing: -

	Year 7 Champion	Year 8 Champion	Year 9 Champion	Year 10 Champion	Year 11 Champion
 Respect	Lewie H	Keme A	Jack R	Laison W	Yandel G

‘Potential into Reality’

Assessment Week

Our Autumn term assessment week will commence Monday 16 December – Thursday 19 December. During this week students will follow an exam timetable. It is vital that all students attend during this week so that they do not miss their exams. The purpose of our assessment week is for students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of topics they have studied this term. Students will be informed about the revision they will need to do in preparation for this week. Timetables will be uploaded to Showbie before half term. Year 11 will be having a focused coursework intervention during this week as they will have completed their mocks. Please note that students will be dismissed at **2.30pm** during this week and we will endeavour to ensure that school buses arrive at this time.

Children In Need

Please note we will be fundraising for Children in Need on Friday 15 November by holding a chocolate tombola at break and lunch time. Students will be able to bring money into school on this day. We are asking for chocolate donations, please could these be sent in with students to main reception by Tuesday 5 November.

Odd Socks Day

We are encouraging all students to participate in Odd Socks Day to celebrate anti bullying week and to promote individuality, acceptance and inclusion. This will be held on Tuesday 12 November.

Work Experience

A reminder that all of year 10 will be participating in Work Experience from Monday 19 May - Friday 23 May 2025. Students will need to seek out their own placements and return the consent forms by Thursday 28 November 2024. Work experience will allow students the opportunity to experience real world skills, such as confidence, independence and organisation.

We would also be grateful to hear from you if you are willing to offer work experience to any of our students, please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk.



Class Charts

Be sure to have your child's timetable, rewards, homework, attendance and sanctions at your fingertips! Thank you for all of the positive feedback about Class Charts and how it is helping you support your child. If you still need your parent code, please do email your child's Form tutor

Year 11 Spotlight!

Thank you to those parents who attended our Year 11 Support Evening, all materials including a recorded version of the presentation can be found [here](#). After school revision will start on the week beginning 14 October and targetted morning revision will start in the same week.

There is a strong, direct correlation between student outcomes and focused revision. To further support this we are bringing forward the explicit teaching of our 9 chosen revision strategies into form time from next week:

REVISION BEGINNING WB 14th October WEEK 1	REVISION BEGINNING WB 21st October WEEK 2
TUESDAY ENGLISH	TUESDAY HUMANITIES (HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY/ RE)
WEDNESDAY SCIENCE	WEDNESDAY FRENCH
THURSDAY MATHS	THURSDAY OTHER OPTIONS

Flashcards	Mind Maps	Highlighting
Flow Charts	Mnemonics	Reading Aloud
Cornell Notes	Post Its	Exam Questions

Miss Casey, our Examinations Officer has provided lots of revision materials for our Year 11 students as they prepare for examinations, and these can be collected from the Head of Year office. After half term Miss Casey will also be supervising Room 34 at lunchtime for those Year 11s who wish to complete work and revise.

Safeguarding

As we start the new academic year, we ask all our students to identify two trusted adults in school that they will feel comfortable in approaching if they have any concerns or worries about themselves or someone else. We will be talking to them in school about this, but you may wish to explore this with your child at home.

They will be provided with stickers to place in their planners where they can write down the names of their trusted adults as a reminder of where they can get help.

Please [click here](#) to view some important parental safeguarding information. If you have a concern that any student is being harmed or is at risk of harm, you can contact school reception and ask for a **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**. Alternatively, or in the case of school being closed, if you are worried about the safety or welfare of a child or young person you can contact **Birmingham children's advice and support line** on **0121 303 1888**. The emergency out-of-hours number for **CASS** is **0121 675 4806**. If you are concerned, always call **999**.

Online safety

Please see this [link](#) for advice about keeping your child safe online. We also have other online safety advice that can be found on our website [here](#) and other additional useful links and support [here](#).

The SHARP system

You can report any incidents of concern within the school or local community using the SHARP system which is located on the school website. Help and support for children and adults click [here](#) to view support and guidance services.

iPad Devices

We have begun giving the iPad devices to students who were absent for the first roll-out. All students have been asked to join their Year groups on Showbie using the following class codes:

Y7: 6JACP Y8: 9HKNM Y9: CDFRF
Y10: J3CPH Y11: 3BUAA

Please view [here](#) the behaviour expectations for all students with an iPad and consequences for misuse of an iPad, that is aligned to our Praise and Behaviour Policy.

Managing Anxiety

Cherished have announced a podcast called 'Connection Counts'. It offers advice about how to connect with a child with anxiety. Cherished have collaborated with Jennifer Wyman from the organisation 'Bridge the Gap', on what anxiety looks like, how it can be displayed in the classroom, and some easy wins for supporting well. They have lots of other helpful podcasts, so please take a listen!

Here's the link to the podcast on

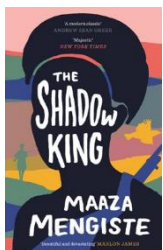


Apple <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/connection-counts/id1694897376>



Spotify <https://open.spotify.com/show/7BSiALohnG9JiZyZk2NfHb>

Reading Recommendation



Based on a true story, 'The Shadow King' shines a light on the African women who went to war during Italy's 1935 invasion of Ethiopia. The main protagonist, Hirut, inspires other women to take up arms. Shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 2020, Mengiste's book explores female power and what it truly means to be a woman in conflict. The Booker Prize judges said it was a "beautifully constructed historical fiction" that was both "meticulously researched and lyrical".