

December
2025



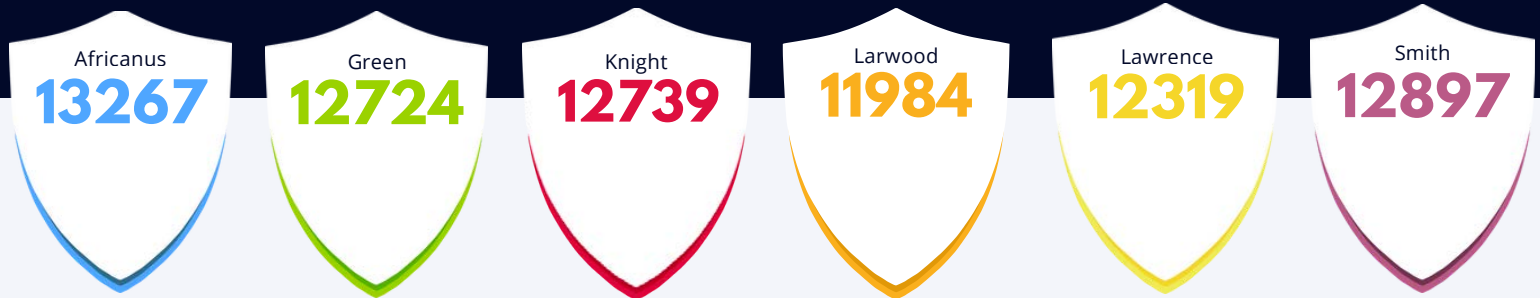
The Redhill Academy

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

2025



As we approach the festive break, I want to take a moment to reflect on what an incredible term this has been. The hard work and dedication, shown by students and staff both in and out of the classroom has been truly inspiring.

One of the standout highlights this half-term has undoubtedly been our school production of Annie. The talent and teamwork on display were exceptional—every performance was a testament to the creativity and confidence of our students, supported by the tireless efforts of staff behind the scenes. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making it such a memorable event.

Equally heart-warming has been the recent response to our Festive Foodbank Drive. Your generosity will make a real difference to families in need this Christmas. These values of hard work, engaging in opportunities and displaying kindness in the community is what makes our school so special.

As we head into the holiday season, I encourage everyone to take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year, ready for another exciting term. Wishing you all a relaxing Christmas and a happy New Year.



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

We are delighted to share that our Christmas production of Annie was an incredible triumph, with all three nights completely sold out!

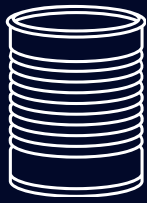
The performances, held in The Redhill Academy Hall on 10th, 11th, and 12th December, showcased the outstanding talent and dedication of our students. From the cast and crew to the technical team and staff behind the scenes, everyone worked tirelessly to bring this beloved musical to life.

A huge thank you to our families and wider school community for your unwavering support. Your enthusiasm and encouragement helped make this event truly unforgettable.

We are immensely proud of what our students have achieved and look forward to welcoming you to future productions, including our Christmas Concert at St.Paul's on the 17th of December.

Well done to everyone involved – you made this a show to remember!





FOOD BANK COLLECTION



As the festive season approaches, our school community is once again coming together to support those in need through our annual collection for Arnold Food Bank. This initiative has a long-standing tradition of making a real difference, providing emergency food packages to families who need them most during the holidays.

Last year, thanks to your generosity, we collected enough donations to create over 80, three-day food supplies. These supplies helped ensure that no one in our community went hungry over Christmas. This year, we're aiming even higher—and early signs show we're on track for our biggest collection yet!

With 1 in 5 people in the UK living below the poverty line, services like Arnold Food Bank can be life-changing. In the 2024/25 calendar year alone:

- 2,387 emergency three-day food supplies were distributed to people in crisis.
- Around 6,500 individuals benefited from the food bank's support.

Arnold Food Bank, which first opened in 2012, continues to be a lifeline for many—and we're proud to play our part.

To make this year's collection even more exciting, we're introducing the Inter-Form Xmas Challenge! Each form received a box to decorate and fill with donations for the food bank, with winners being picked based on creativity and donations.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Your kindness and generosity are what make this initiative possible. Every tin, packet, and thoughtful donation helps bring hope and comfort to families in need this Christmas.





NEW FACILITIES



At the end of last half term, we were delighted to welcome local MP and Redhill Alumni Michael Payne for a special visit to our school. Mr Payne was given a guided tour of our brand-new art block and the recently refurbished Design & Technology rooms, both of which represent significant investments in our learning environment.

During his visit, Mr Payne met with student representatives from Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form. The students spoke about how these improved facilities will enhance their learning experiences and support their aspirations for the future. It was a valuable opportunity for them to share their perspectives and engage in meaningful dialogue about education and opportunity.

The newly constructed art block officially opened in November. We are incredibly proud of the space and look forward to sharing more updates and photos of the facilities in the coming months.





STUDENT STORIES



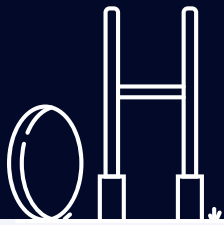
We are incredibly proud to share the fantastic achievements of one of our students, Anna, who has enjoyed an exceptional year in netball.

Anna has successfully trialled and secured a place in the U15 Nottinghamshire County Development Pathway, demonstrating impressive skill and dedication. Alongside this, she has also earned a place in the Nottingham Forest U15 Pathway, further showcasing her talent and commitment to the sport.

Her hard work doesn't stop there—Anna currently plays for Hucknall Town U16 and also competes with Hucknall in the Notts Senior League Division 2, gaining valuable experience at a high level of competition.

We are incredibly proud of Anna's achievements and look forward to seeing her continue to shine. Well done, Anna! 🌟





MELLISH RUGBY CLUB



For the first time, we are establishing a strong School-Club partnership with our local rugby club, Mellish RFC. This exciting initiative aims to connect Redhill students with Rugby Union and create new opportunities within our local community.

At the end of November, despite the rain, our Year 7 and Year 8 boys enjoyed an incredible session at Mellish RFC. They received 45 minutes of expert coaching before being welcomed into the clubhouse, where parents had the chance to meet the coaches and experience the junior rugby setup first-hand.

The following day, it was the turn of our Year 9 and Year 10 boys to take part in the program. This marks the beginning of a fantastic journey that will strengthen ties between Redhill and Mellish RFC, giving our students access to high-quality coaching and a pathway into community rugby.





HALLÉ ORCHESTRA



On Friday 17th October, a group of our GCSE and A Level Music students, along with selected Year 9 instrumentalists, had the incredible opportunity to attend a live performance by Hallé Orchestra at the prestigious Bridgewater Hall in Manchester.

They experienced 'The Orchestra Through the Ages' – a unique concert created in collaboration with music educators across the country. The event took students on a guided journey through the history of orchestral music, from the Renaissance to the 21st century, featuring pieces aligned with the GCSE and A level syllabi. Alongside the music, a compère provided fascinating historical context and musical analysis, enriching the experience for students preparing for their exams.

The students were absolutely mesmerised by the world-famous Hallé Orchestra and the grandeur of the venue. It was truly a memorable and inspiring day!

Below is a bird's-eye view from our seats – a moment to remember!





STUDENT STORIES



We are incredibly proud of Brandon and his ongoing achievements this year.

He has been working hard and playing lots of golf, and his dedication is paying off!

Last month, Brandon competed in two separate European Opens and performed brilliantly in both, earning him qualification for an upcoming prestigious event. This is an amazing opportunity, and we wish him every success as he represents himself and our school.

Adding to his accomplishments, Brandon recently won the Junior Open at Rushcliffe Golf Club and is now officially the Junior Classic Champion for 2025.

Well done, Brandon! Your hard work and commitment are inspiring to us all.





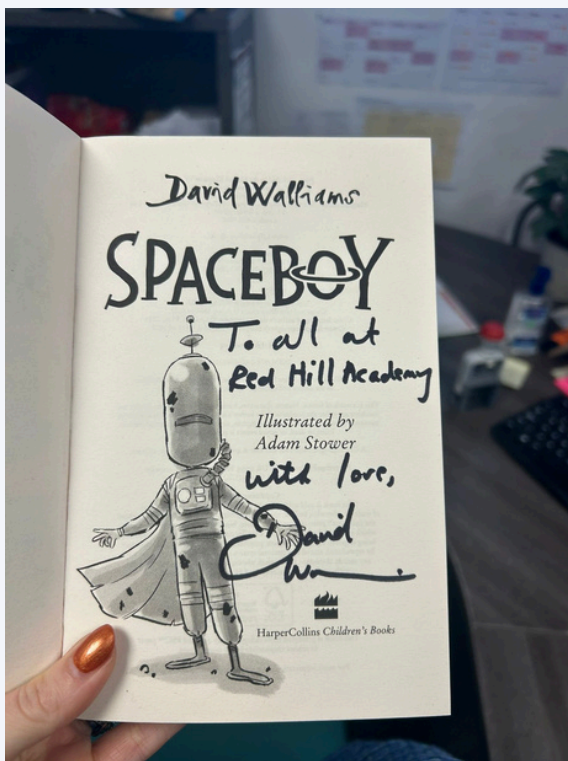
DAVID WALLIAMS



During the half-term break, Mrs Shackleton and her daughter had the wonderful opportunity to meet the much-loved author David Walliams. While chatting, Mrs Shackleton shared how much the students at Redhill School enjoy reading his books. David was delighted to hear this and made a generous promise: he would send a box of books to our school.

We are thrilled to announce that he kept his word—and went above and beyond! A box of his fantastic stories arrived recently, and each book was personally signed by David Walliams himself.

Our students are absolutely overjoyed to have even more copies of his books available in the library. These signed editions have created a real buzz around reading, and we can't wait to see the excitement they bring to our classrooms. A huge thank you to David Walliams for this amazing gift.





YEAR 7 NETBALL



Our Year 7 netball team has had an exciting start to the season!

Training sessions this week took place against a beautiful backdrop, with everyone making fantastic progress as we prepare for upcoming tournaments over the next three weeks.

In their first ever games together, our Year 7 team faced The Oakwood Academy, Hall Park Academy, and Park Vale Academy—and secured wins in all three matches! A huge thank you to our amazing female sports leaders who supported both tournaments and helped make the events such a success.

We are incredibly proud of how all our students represented the school and conducted themselves during these fixtures. We can't wait to see their continued progress in the weeks ahead!





REDHILL TRUST BOOK AWARDS



The Redhill Trust annual Book Awards have launched! Students will be voting for their favourite children and young adult books out of a varied selection.

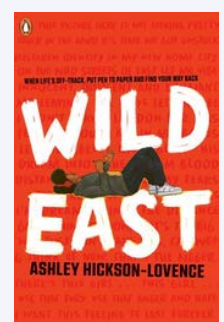
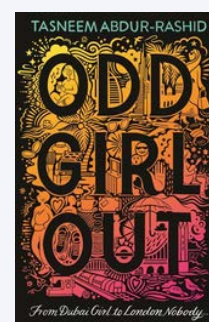
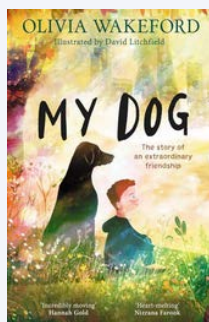
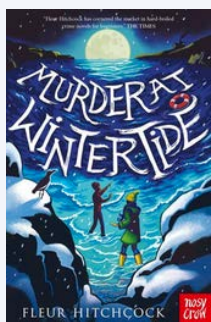
They have until February to read as many as they can and discuss them in depth at book club. There are fun activities to prompt critical thinking along the way, as well as a creative competition.

How will students be inspired by the books and will a Redhill student win against the other Trust schools? And which books will Redhill students vote as having the best cover and opening lines?

The shortlisted books are below, so get reading!

CHILDREN'S

YOUNG ADULT



STAR OF THE MONTH

LUCAS HILL

FOR STEPPING UP TO THE HOUSE CAPTAIN ROLE AND ATTENDING MULTIPLE CO-CURRICULAR EVENTS

AYAAN TULI

FOR HAVING THE MOST HOUSE POINTS AND DEMONSTRATING THE REDHILL WAY

FREYA GRIFFITHS

FOR READING OVER 4 MILLION WORDS THIS TERM.

RYAN LESTER

FOR HIS ONGOING SUPPORT WITH THE ANNIE PRODUCTION

ALEX HARON

FOR ALWAYS HAVING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND HIGH LEVELS OF RESILIENCE

AMELIA HUGHES

SHOWING COMMITMENT AND RESILIENCE THROUGH THEIR MOCK EXAMS

Most House
Points

DSJ

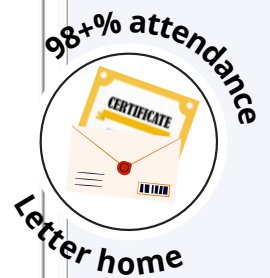
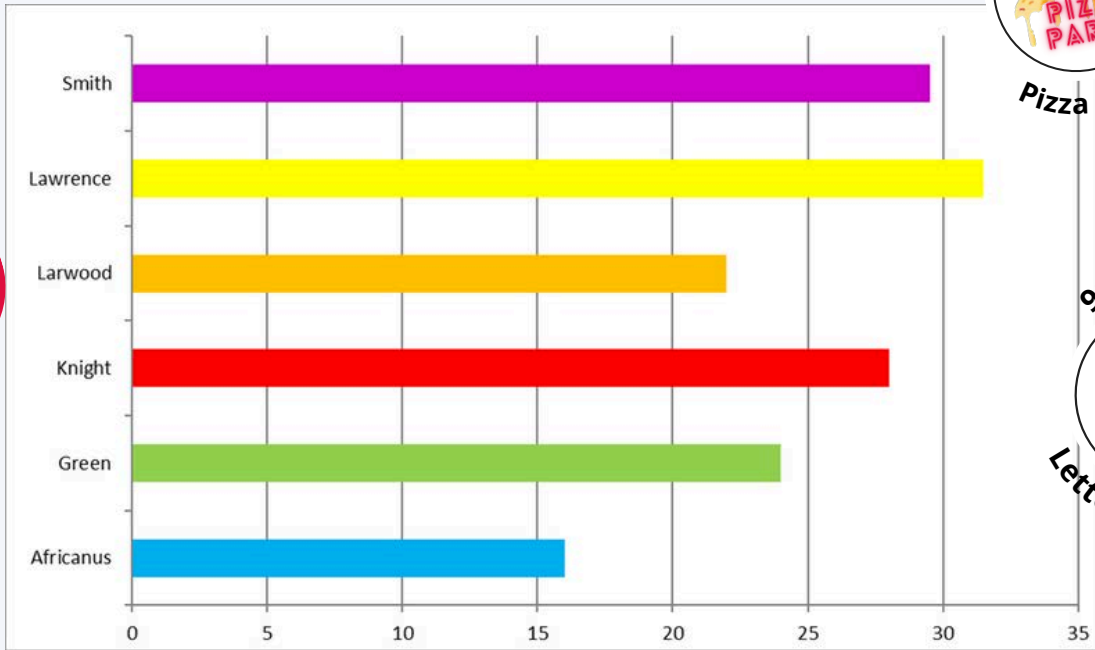
Well done to DSJ who had the most house points!

Top
Attendance

DIG

Well done to DIG who had the best attendance!

HOUSE TOTALS THIS TERM



It all starts with attendance... **BE HERE!**

Attend²Achieve

**GREATER THAN
95%
ATTENDANCE**



80% of students achieved at least 5 GCSE's including English and Maths when they attend more than 95%

**LESS THAN
90%
ATTENDANCE**



54% of students achieved at least 5 GCSE's including English and Maths when they attend less than 90%

**LESS THAN
80%
ATTENDANCE**



36% of students achieved at least 5 GCSE's including English and Maths when they attend less than 80%

As always, thank you for your continued support with attendance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday 5th January** - Start of new term
- **Tuesday 6th January** - Year 11 parents evening
- **Monday 12th January** - Inter-house maths challenge (all week), Year 13 mock exams (all week), Year 7 tutor reviews (all week)
- **Monday 19th January** - Year 13 mock exams (all week)
- **Monday 26th January** - Year 10 tutor reviews (all week)
- **Wednesday 28th January** - Intermediate Maths challenge (Years 9 & 10)
- **Monday 2nd February** - Poetry Live Trip (Year 11)
- **Wednesday 4th February** - Arts Celebration Evening
- **Monday 9th February** - Inter-house arts challenge (all week)
- **Wednesday 11th February** - Recital Evening
- **Friday 13th February** - End of half term, Art trip to London (6th form)

