

Review

RHSC Carol Service

This took place on Tuesday 10th December at St. Mary's Church in Reepham. As in previous years, it was a joy to welcome students from the High School and College on both the Monday and Tuesday to rehearse. They all worked so hard, together with the staff who teach and support them. The service itself was at the amazing standard we have come to expect at Reepham.

It was a service of comings and goings, with Mr Croucher being welcomed to his first RHSC Carol Service whilst it was also my last service



as I prepare to move in January to Debenham High School in Suffolk.

Thank you to all of the students for their amazing hard work and thanks to all of the staff who were in any way involved and made this happen.

Rev' Keith, RHSC Chaplain

Farewell To Our Chaplain

Since 2017, Rev' Keith has been a steadfast presence in our community. Starting as our vicar and moving to the role of Chaplain in 2018, he has woven himself into the fabric of our school, touching the lives of pupils and staff alike in countless ways.

Keith has embraced every aspect of school life with open arms and an open heart. Whether trudging through muddy fields on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, teaching CPR to the masses, delivering Soul Space online during Covid or supporting the carol service and leading us in solemn reflection at Remembrance services, Keith has always gone above and beyond, especially with our German and Belgian partner schools, hosting the Belgian teachers on numerous occasions.

All of these activities exemplify his commitment to fostering connection and understanding. His visits to Ypres, walking the battlefields and exploring the tragedies of war with our students, will be etched in the memories of all who accompanied him.

Keith will be remembered for his way with words and mentoring and also his exceptional Christmas cake. We thank him for being a calming, supportive presence and wish him all the luck in the world in his new post.

Ms Reid



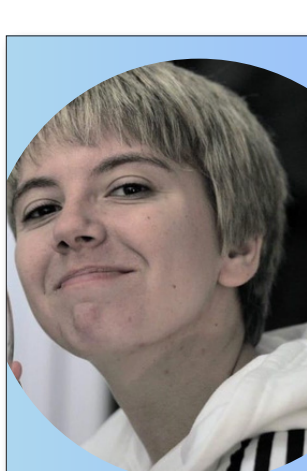
New Member of the Team

My name is Bonnie Wilson, and I work as a Youth Mission Enabler for the Diocese of Norwich. This means I help start, lead and enable youth groups to happen between Reepham and Great Yarmouth.

I have been working along side the church in Reepham to get a youth group started here in Reepham. In October we hosted a silent disco in the church, then in November we hosted a bonfire with low noise fireworks.

In December I have been DJing at Wellbeing Wednesdays with Ms Reid, and we held our Christmas party on 14th - keep an eye out for more details of upcoming events.

It has been great to meet people in the community and connect with young people here at Reepham High School and College.



Soul Space

This year, Soul Space continued to be a much-loved retreat for our pupils - a haven where they could explore spirituality, reflect on their lives, and discover ways to combat anxiety. The space offered a wide range of activities designed to inspire creativity, promote relaxation, and encourage mindfulness.

Among the highlights were the rocking chairs, bracelet-making stations, and the ever-popular Still Tiger, complete with beanbags, twinkly lights, and the addition of huge, cuddly tigers that provided a surprising but effective source of de-stressing!

Pupils particularly enjoyed the thought-provoking task of imagining what our world might look like in the future and considering what role they might play in shaping it. Gratitude was another key focus, as pupils created Playdoh models to represent what they were most grateful for. Family, pets, and food were recurring themes, with grandparents and beloved pets frequently honoured on our memory tree.

Throughout the week, pupils were introduced to a variety of relaxation strategies to help manage anxiety. From calming breathing techniques and art therapy to puzzles, riddles, and mindfulness exercises, the activities empowered pupils with tools they can carry with them beyond Soul Space.

It has been heartening to see how much the pupils valued this opportunity for reflection and connection. Soul Space continues to be a vital part of our school life, reminding us all of the importance of pausing, grounding ourselves, and finding moments of calm in a busy world.

Ms Reid



College News

Reepham's Got Talent went up a notch this year, and after weeks of practicing we were treated to an amazing array of 'talent'. A massive thank you to all our tutors and students for taking part with so much enthusiasm.

The 2024 winners were Mr Hadden's tutor group and Mr Hull's tutor group with their original performances complete with live musicians.

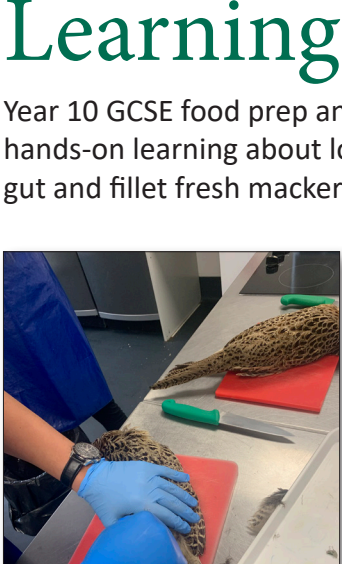
Mrs Almond's tutor group were a close second with a fantastic rendition of Abba's 'Gimme, Gimme, Gimme'.

A massive thank you to Tim, Courtney and the catering team who prepared a fantastic Christmas lunch, served to students by the College Team.



Learning About Our Food

Year 10 GCSE food prep and nutrition pupils have had a busy fortnight with some hands-on learning about local traditional foods. We have learnt how to prepare, gut and fillet fresh mackerel to showcase in a final dish.



Dan from Naked Fish in Thetford generously supplied our pupils with quality fresh mackerel from Billingsgate market at cost price, despite the rough seas at that time.

Following on from this, pupils learnt how to pluck, gut and dress local pheasant and partridge thanks to the generosity of Kirsty Prior-Fisher of Norfolk Countryside's club in North Elmham.

Both of these sessions provided an excellent opportunity for our GCSE pupils to experience and learn something out of the ordinary and discuss sustainability. We are so lucky to have such wonderful local people and produce on our doorsteps for the pupils to experience, thank you.



Mr Baxter and Mr Williams

Decorate a Door Competition 2024

Our annual Decorate a Door competition has once again brought a wave of creativity, camaraderie, and festive cheer to the school! This year's challenge was a wonderful team-building exercise, encouraging tutor groups to come together, reflect on the highs and lows of 2024, and think about the true meaning of Christmas.

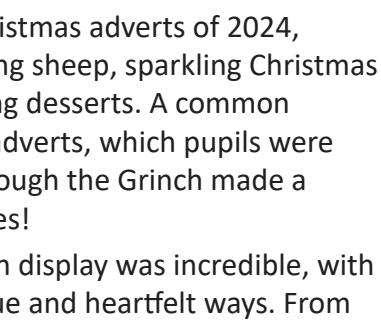
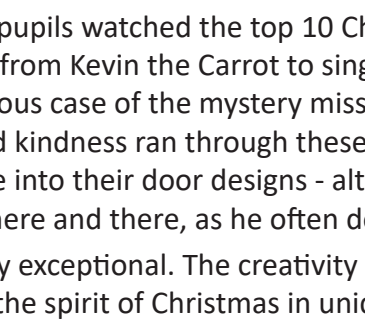
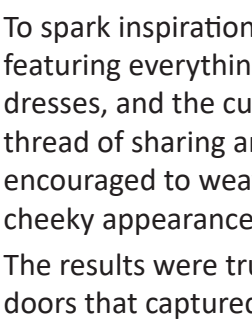
To spark inspiration, pupils watched the top 10 Christmas adverts of 2024, featuring everything from Kevin the Carrot to singing sheep, sparkling Christmas dresses, and the curious case of the mystery missing desserts. A common thread of sharing and kindness ran through these adverts, which pupils were encouraged to weave into their door designs - although the Grinch made a cheeky appearance here and there, as he often does!

The results were truly exceptional. The creativity on display was incredible, with doors that captured the spirit of Christmas in unique and heartfelt ways. From glittering displays of generosity to humorous nods to the year gone by, the



designs brought warmth, joy, and plenty of Christmas spirit to our school hallways.

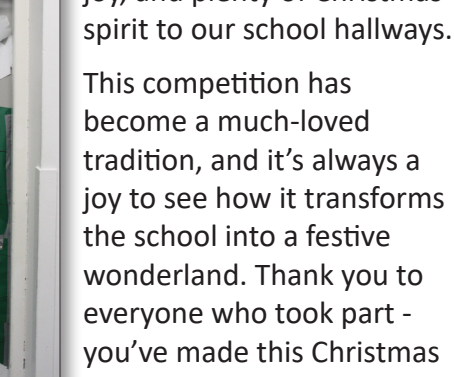
This competition has become a much-loved tradition, and it's always a joy to see how the school into a festive wonderland. Thank you to everyone who took part - you've made this Christmas extra special!



Police Assemblies 2024

Every year Hazel Tampin, Youth Engagement Officer for the Norfolk Constabulary's Children and Young People's team, presents sessions on topics such as online safety, drugs and the law, and respecting others:

- Online Safety Awareness, a session for Year 7 that discussed online bullying, harmful content, and sexting
- Drugs and the Law, a session for Year 8 that discussed the law around purchasing alcohol and vapes, and possession and supply of drugs
- Respecting Others and Keeping Safe, a session for Year 9 that discussed respecting others and the implications of violent, threatening, and abusive behavior
- Respectful relationships, a session for Year 10 and Year 11 on the signs to look out for in abusive relationships and where to go if help is needed. This session for Year 11s also focused 'moving on' and the responsibilities our young people face when it comes to following the laws around consent, messaging and harassment.



Netball Success

Well done to our Year 11 netball team who recently qualified for the county round of the National School Netball Competition held on Saturday 30th November at UEA.

They played really well and came third in their pool, just missing a place in the semifinals.

Mrs Masdin, PE teacher



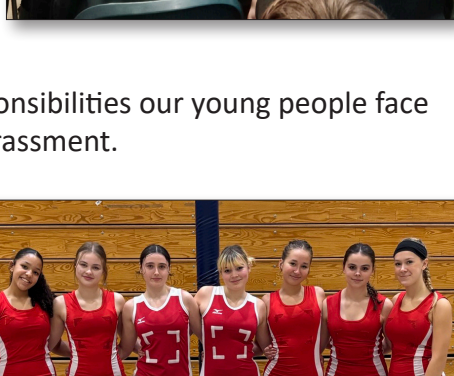
Careers and Work Experience

As the school's Careers Adviser, I am busy planning for the next careers event in the RHSC calendar, this time for our Year 10 students, on Thursday 16th January. The aim of the activity is to help students understand some of the skills they will need in the workplace and to help them meet the expectations that employers may have. Students will attend six workshops hosted by external speakers and school staff on topics such as confidence building, the use of social media in the workplace and communication skills.

Many of our Year 10s have now secured a placement for work experience and logged the details on Unifrog. If your child is having difficulty and needs support, please email me.

There is a wealth of information available on the school website's Careers Advice page:

<https://www.reephamhigh.org.uk/for-pupils/careers-advice/>



The updated Careers Directory is a great way to see how the subjects being taught in school will link to a future career. Students can use this guide to start to explore different career options and also to see how the topics they are learning now really will help them in the future.

I am meeting with all Year 11 pupils for one-to-one careers guidance interviews to help them plan their next steps. It is always lovely to hear about the aspirations that our young people have, to help those that need support and guidance and to learn about how their time and experiences at school have helped them to develop and grow and see where they will fit in the world of work.

All Year 11 students are advised to have a Plan A and a Plan B in place for Post 16 asap. If you have any queries or need support, please get in touch: eedgill@reephamhigh.org.uk

Emma Edgill, Careers Adviser and Work Experience Co-ordinator