

11th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the end of another long term and it is good to see that the sun is finally coming out. Please note that the Summer Term starts on

Monday 28th April at 8.35am

Year 11 Important Notice

Holiday study is on the website under the "Curriculum" tab and then "Homework".

Please see the letter from Ms Creedon on how we and parents / carers can support your child's learning beyond the classroom.

All Year 11 should be revising ready for the formal GCSE exams which begin on 1st May 2025. Please see the website for the summer timetable and exam regulations.

Spring Term Highlights

Here at Rockwood we have been working hard as usual to deliver the best education for our young people.

Highlights of this term include:

- **Parent Workshop** on the impact of technology on young people
- **Pupil Workshops** on the impact of technology in their lives
- Introduction of **Chat and Chai** – parental information support on young people's Mental Health
- Development of **The Base**, our new Inclusion Hub that supports young people to remove the barriers to academic success (Behavioural, Attendance, Welfare or Mental Health)
- 1 of our pupils joined others from the CORE Education Trust to perform for **His Majesty The King** at Buckingham Palace in January at a **Holocaust Memorial event**
- All pupils took part in a **Loudmouth** Workshop, supporting young people to keep themselves safe
- Our magnificent Languages department have led on a series of events including:
 - **Fútbol Lingo Webinar (Years 9 & 10) – 12th March**
This exciting event supported our drive towards the International School Award (Foundation Certificate) and engaged students through their love of football
 - **Global Challenge: Year 10**
Our students had the opportunity to visit the Open University and take part in a simulation of a real business proposal, using their language skills
 - **"Where Can Languages Take Me?" Webinar (Year 8) – 18th March**
A fantastic opportunity to expose Year 8 to the future possibilities that languages can open up for them

- **Year 7 Pen Pal Project**
Students wrote and sent letters to a school in Málaga—a meaningful way to bring language learning to life
- **Picasso Workshop (Year 10)**
A brilliant fusion of language, art, and culture
- The **Student Council** continues to be a really important aspect of school life. For example: we have now constructed a new rewards programme based on the voice of students
- Year 11 have **organised a range of fund-raising events** including a Bake Sale, a Football match and Culture Day

Free School Meals Voucher

We are going to issue all FSM students a £25 voucher for the Easter holidays to support families. Pupils will be issued with the voucher at the end of term to bring home.

I would like to wish every family a restful Easter break and we look forward to seeing you all in the new term on **Monday 28th April at 8.35am.**

Online Safety

As you may be aware, young people's use of devices and social media can be problematic, leading to an array of issues that can leave them unsafe and upset. What often complicates the identification and investigation of these issues is the use of emojis, which make up a whole new language that our young people understand. The poster below provides an explanation of the most common emojis used, categorised into six main areas: Drugs, violence, sex, self-harm, extremism, incel culture and hearts.

As parents it is vital that you monitor your child's use of devices and social media, as the level of harm that they can be exposed to is significant and long-lasting. Children allowed to use devices freely, without proper supervision or monitoring are at risk from cyber bullying, exploitation, gang-related issues and damage to their self-esteem. All mobile phones and tablets can have parental control apps installed that allow you to monitor and control your child's device use and ensure that they are being safe online, as well as track their location, should they be outside of the home. I urge you to do this on all of your child's devices and read the poster below, to keep them as safe as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.






















Mr R Reeve
Headteacher











EMOJI'S EXPLAINED

FROM SECRET SLANG TO CODED MESSAGES, EMOJIS ARE OFTEN USED TO CONVEY MEANINGS THAT PARENTS MIGHT NOT RECOGNISE. UNDERSTANDING THESE HIDDEN MESSAGES CAN HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN GENERATIONS AND ENSURE OPEN, INFORMED CONVERSATIONS.




















DRUGS RELATED

 Cocaine	 Cocaine	 Cocaine	 Cannabis	 Cannabis	 Cannabis	 Joint
 MDMA	 MDMA	 Heroin	 Heroin	 Meth	 Mushroom	 Ketamine
 Gassed	 Lit	 Dealer	 Dealer	 Dealer		








VIOLENCE

 Weapon	 Weapon	 Weapon	 Crime	 Crime	 Murder	 Murder
		 Threat	 Locked Up	 Snitch		







SEX

 Penis	 Penis	 Genitalia	 Bum	 Vagina	 Vagina	 Nudes
 Porn	 Orgasm	 Orgasm	 Oral Sex	 Lust	 Lust	 Anal Sex
 Intercourse	 Fingering	 Playful	 Horny	 Lets Hump		

















SELF HARM

 Cutting	 Cutting	 Burning	 Trapped	 Sad	 Down	 Anxious	 Not Eating
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EXTREMISM

 Neo Nazi	 Neo Nazi	 Neo Nazi	 IS Extremist	 IS Extremist	 Far Right
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INCEL CULTURE

 Red Pill	 Black Pill	 Hopeless	 Emotional Detachment	 Men are kings	 Extreme Masculinity	 Power	 Older woman
 Lone Wolf	 Incel	 Incel	 Incel	 Incel	 Anti-Women	 Anti-Women	 Anti-Women

HEARTS

 Love	 Horny	 Friends	 Interested	 Loyalty	 Platonic	 Pretty	 Trust
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