

6 November 2020



NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Rockport School

The graphic is a vertical rectangular panel. On the left side, there are several stylized red poppies with white centers and thin black outlines, arranged vertically. In the top right corner, there is a small version of the Rockport School crest. The main text is centered on the right side of the panel.

We remember.

Rockport
Remembrance
Service

11.11.2020

Headmaster's Headlines

School Magazine: Thanks to Mrs Thompson for coordinating (and to Investec for their generous sponsorship of) the publication of our 2019-2020 school magazine, a copy of which is winging its way home to you soon, if it hasn't done so already. Putting this together in such a year of upheaval was no mean feat and although there may not be as many pages as usual, this is also reflected in the knock-down price of £5 per family. Also, this year's pandemic edition is surely a one-off and is bound to be a collectors' item in years to come. At least let's hope so.

King Lir: Congratulations to Sixth Former Oli Whiting who, after a year of busy weekends, has successfully graduated from The Lir Junior Academy at Ireland's National Academy of Dramatic Art this week. Part of Trinity College Dublin and with close links to RADA, the junior academy recruits only 12 students from many applicants following a rigorous audition process. Great effort, Oli.

Rockport Remembers: On the morning of this year's Armistice Day (Wednesday) in place of our annual remembrance service we will instead pipe a virtual remembrance event into each classroom so that the children can observe the two minutes silence at 1100. The event will begin at a time (yet to be confirmed) via a link, available in advance so it will be accessible to parents and other relatives and friends of the school online, via the school's YouTube channel. As I will point out in my introduction on Wednesday, 23 Rockportians died in two world wars, a terrible rate of attrition for such a small school. Our excellent remembrance booklet can be found on the school website or [here](#) but I also reprint the names of the fallen below.

Bell, John Mercer Grimshaw (John)

Inglis, James Malcolm (James)

McBride, William Wilson (Wilson)

Noyes, Claude Robert Barton (Claude)

O'Rorke, Daniel (served as O'Rourke, Daniel)

Patterson, Alexander (Alex)

Adams, Kenneth Duncan (Kenneth)

Campbell, Ian Alexander Calthrop (Ian)

Carr, John

Cutler, Robert Henry (Tabby)

Harrison, Richard John Michael (Michael)

Haslett, Colin William Horner

Henderson, Hubert

King, Neville Stuart

Lorimer, Robert Lawrie (Lawrie)

Rothwell, Brian Thomas Stewart

Scott, Robert Norman Cecil (Robin)

Shillington, Thomas (Tom)

Sinton, Arthur Buckby (Arthur)

Steele-Nicholson, John Edwin Charles Averell (John)

Thompson, Robert Arnold

Weir, James Kenneth

Young, Robert Neville Desmond (Desmond)

We will remember them.

**George Vance
Headmaster**



General News

November Assessments R8-R11

From Monday 9th November until Friday 20th November, students from R8 to R11 will be completing a series of class tests which are known as November Assessments. These are informal, in-class assessments, which test the work covered from the start of term until now. The tests may take a variety of forms, from the traditional exam-type test, to open-book application of knowledge tests, to presentations in front of the class assessments. While we want our students to do their very best and some revision would be helpful in that regard, we do not wish them to become overwhelmed by what is merely a snapshot of their learning at this stage in the year. Form teachers have compiled dates for assessments for their form classes, so your son/daughter should know what is coming up each day. Results from the assessments will be published on the next set of reports which will go out just before Christmas, in the form of an Assessment Report.

Remembrance at Rockport

Due to Covid, we cannot participate in our usual Remembrance Day Service at the church at the top of the road. However, this year we have been busy putting together a short video to mark the occasion instead. At 1100 on the 11th November, we plan, as always, to honour Rockport's fallen, by observing a 2 minute silence which will coincide with the Remembrance video, which will be streamed live into all classrooms at that time. Parents, Old Rockportians and Friends of Rockport are very welcome to watch along too – the link will be made available on all of our social media platforms for you to share. Please be aware that the video will start between approx 1030 and 1040, in order for the 2 minute silence to coincide with 1100.

Poppies will be distributed to all of the students next week and a contribution will be made on behalf of the school, to the Royal British Legion. Additional poppies, Royal British legion goodies (e.g. rulers, wristbands etc.) are available in the school office and suggested donation amounts are noted on the box. The Royal British Legion will be very grateful for all of our donations, as they are unable to collect from door to door this year, due to the current situation, so please do pop in to support this very worthwhile cause.

Flu Vaccinations

We have had some questions regarding the flu vaccinations/nasal sprays and can confirm these will be taking place in school towards the end of this month for pupils from R1-R8, should you wish your child to receive it. More information will be sent from the school nurses soon.

Hot off the press, Rockport's 2019-2020 magazine!

This week, the eldest child in each family has been given a family copy of the Rockport Magazine for 2019-2020.

This year, due to the very generous sponsorship provided by Investec, we are able to bring the magazine to you at a much reduced rate of £5 per family, which will be added to your extras bill.

The magazine, although shorter this year, due to the fact that virtual schooling took over from March until May, is, I am sure you will agree, a great way to mark the year and provides a lovely journey through another special year at Rockport. Thank you to Mrs Emma Thompson who devoted so many hours into putting the magazine together – a real labour of love! Thank you also to Investec for sponsoring the production of the magazine this year.

Mrs Rhonda D. Palmer
Deputy Head

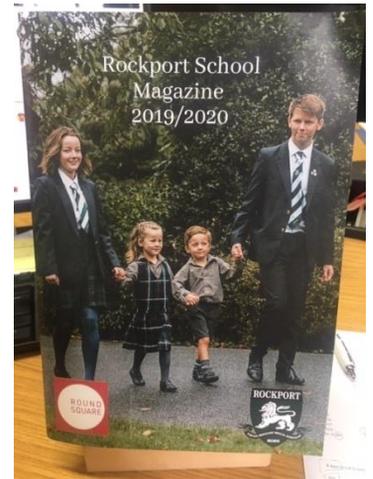
R11 – R14 Mocks

Attached to the newsletter is the Mock timetable for R11 – 14. R11 pupils will only have a Mock in the subjects in which they have a GCSE Module at the end of Year 11.

Pupils will return to normal classroom teaching as marked on the timetable.

Pupils may come in only for exams, but if they have both a morning and afternoon exam they must stay in school through the mid-morning period and there will be supervised revision available. Any queries please contact creid@rockportschool.com

C Reid



Well done!

Well done to Year 14 A-Level student Anna Beattie, who today delivered a lesson to R7 about healthy eating habits. A great example of LFLW and Health & Social Care courses complementing each other, as well as a lovely reflection of how our older and younger students learn from each other.



Congratulations also to Year 13 pupil Oli Whiting who graduated from The Lir Junior Academy, at Ireland's National Academy of Dramatic Art this week.

Oli was one of only twelve students and the only successful audition from Northern Ireland to be selected after a rigorous process in Dublin. The year-long course curriculum included training in voice, movement, dialect, acting, ensemble work and Stanislavski's system. Oli travelled to Dublin every weekend to take part, alongside studying for his GCSEs.

Early Years

This week we have been delighted to welcome Mrs Hunt back to the Early Years Department to cover Mrs Brennan's maternity leave. We wish Mrs Brennan all the best and cannot wait to hear of the arrival of Baby Brennan.

Positions of Responsibility

We are so proud to introduce our R4 pupils who have been awarded positions of responsibility this year!

Congratulations to our Prefect, Diane de Belloy de Saint Lienard and House Captains, Catherine Pringle and Myla Parker, who will have a key role in motivating and supporting the younger children in our Early Years Department.

Congratulations also to our 'Green Team' of Theo Haigh-Aragao, Stella Brannigan, Emily Lynas and Isobella Cordner, who are responsible for ensuring we are recycling and saving energy in school and that we are caring for our environment.

Well done boys and girls.

Lynn Athanasiou

Head of Early Years

