



ROCKPORT



MCMVI

# Rockport School News

INDEPENDENT BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS 3-18

**Newsletter no 36 / Spring Term / 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018**



JUNE	Time	Event
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	15.30	R4 Parent Meeting: Induction to Upper Juniors
Tue 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 - lunch	ABRSM Exams, Centenary Building Colours and Medals Assembly R8 at Ulster University, Jordanstown
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	19.00	Summer Concert 18.15 Canapés, Front Lawn
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	R5 – R14 Fun Day Out
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	End of Term

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## **Break Up Supper – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

Break-up Supper is a lovely tradition when the Boarders get the opportunity to say goodbye to the staff. This event is “by invitation only” and pupils are expected to arrive at 5.45pm, dressed in their **formal** school uniform (white shirts/blouses please). They should assemble outside the dining hall, where they will accompany the staff in to dinner at 6.00pm. Following after-dinner speeches, pupils should be collected at 7.30pm.

## **Summer Concert – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm**

A reminder please that uniform for Summer Concert is the same formal uniform as Speech Day – white shirts/blouses please. All pupils are expected to attend and should assemble in the Jackson Hall at 6.30pm. If pupils need to stay for supper, they must ensure that they inform their form teacher on Wednesday morning. Parents are all invited to enjoy canapés and fizz on the front lawn from 6.15pm prior to the concert starting at 7.00pm.

## **End of Term – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 12.30pm**

Pupils are reminded that full school uniform is required for the final day of term, as final assembly is a formal occasion. Following the presentation in the Sports’ Hall at 11.00am, pupils will assemble, weather permitting, on the front lawn at approximately 12.00, in order to sing the traditional “Auld Lang Syne”. This is a lovely Rockport tradition and one which is guaranteed to require a few Kleenex, if past years are anything to go by! Please remind pupils to remove all belongings from form rooms/changing rooms prior to leaving the premises. Have a lovely summer and enjoy the well-earned break!

## **R12 & R14 Textbooks**

Now that examinations are over, R12 and R14 pupils are reminded that they should return all textbooks to their subject teachers. Please do so from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you.

**Mrs Rhonda D. Palmer**  
**Deputy Head**

## **Catering Arrangements**

**Due to Break Up Supper on Monday night, there will be no supper for day pupils on that day.** Apologies for any inconvenience.

## **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June Fun Day**

- R5 – 7 Tayto Park

Buses are leaving for Tayto Park at 8.40am. Casual clothes – please dress according to the weather. Apply sunscreen if necessary. No packed lunch required as it is provided at Tayto Park. Pupils may bring their own spending money but they will be responsible for their own money. Bus due to return to school between 4pm and 4.30pm. Please pick your child up at that time.

- R8 – R14 Portrush

Buses leave for Portrush at 8.40am. Casual clothes – please dress according to the weather. Apply sunscreen if necessary. Pupils can bring packed lunch if they wish or have money to buy a lunch in Portrush.. Pupils may bring their own spending money but they will be responsible for their own money. Bus due to return to school between 4pm and 4.30pm. Please pick your child up at that time. Any queries [creid@rockportschool.com](mailto:creid@rockportschool.com)

## **Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition**

Congratulations to Tabitha, Anna, James, Miles, Jack, Katie, Melissa and Nicola in Year 11 who completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition in the Mourne. They had a very challenging three days as they had to cope with a demanding route and at times difficult weather, but they showed great resilience and persevered to the finish line. For the first time they camped in the wild instead of a campsite and to my surprise some of them said that they preferred it! The Silver expedition is a big step up from Bronze so the group should be very proud of themselves for completing it. They now just have to finish the rest of the award in order to get the qualification. Going for Gold is an option for them to consider as their next challenge!



**Katie Megarry and Sophie O'Hara**  
**Silver Duke of Edinburgh Leaders**

## GCSE & A-LEVEL ART EXHIBITION

Thank you to all those that came to our annual GCSE and A-level Art exhibition this week. This show marks the end of two years of very hard work and dedication for the pupils and they receive a great boost to see others appreciate their efforts at events like these. Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and best wishes for the future for those who are leaving us to go off to further study in their chosen fields!

**David Hamilton**  
**Teacher of Art & Design**



Megan Ashcroft R12



Cameron Alexander R12



"Rockport Beautifcation Project No. 13"  
Phoebe Wright R14  
Needlefelt and embroidery



"Crowd Scene"  
Timothy Li, R14  
Chalk Pastel on Paper

## Summer Concert

The Summer Concert will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June. **All children from R1-R4 are required to attend.** The Early Years Choir will be performing. Children should meet in the R3 classroom at 6.15pm.

### *Uniform Requirements for Summer Concert :*

<b>Boys</b>	White polo shirt, blazer, grey shorts, grey socks and shiny black shoes.
<b>Girls</b>	Summer dress, blazer, plain white ankle socks and shiny black shoes. Long hair should be neatly tied back ( <i>regulation hair accessories only</i> ).

## Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 12pm

School finishes for the summer on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June. Parents are invited to join us for the singing of Auld Land Syne on the front lawn at approximately 12pm. Children should be collected from classroom following this. **There will be no afterschool supervision available.**

Early Years Staff would like to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your family a lovely summer break.

**Lynn Athanasiou**  
**Head of Early Years**

## Upper Juniors Presentation

Any Early Years parents who would like to know more about the Upper Junior section of the school may be interested in attending an information afternoon on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm in the Centenary Building. There will also be an opportunity to meet the Key Stage 2 staff.

**Suzanne McCartney**  
**Head of Upper Juniors**

## **R5 – R7 Tayto Park – Fun Day**

Buses leaving for Tayto Park at 8.40am. Casual clothes – please dress according to the weather. Apply sunscreen if necessary. No packed lunch required as it is provided at Tayto Park. Pupils may bring their own spending money but they will be responsible for their own money. Bus due to return to school between 4pm and 4.30pm. Please pick your child up at that time.

**Colin Reid**  
**Head of Faculty**

## **School books**

Please ensure that your child has returned all school textbooks and class library books by the start of next week. These will be needed for next year's pupils.

## **New Trophies**

We would like to thank the PTA for donating 4 lovely new trophies to the Upper Juniors section of the school. These have been awarded today for the first time, for 4 very special reasons to 4 deserving pupils. We appreciate being given the opportunity to be able to do this.

## **Achievement**

Well done to all those pupils who received prizes today in recognition of their achievements during this academic year. Unfortunately, not everyone gets an opportunity to walk across the stage and be applauded for their successes and it is a tough lesson to learn that we cannot all be winners all of the time. However, I would like all the R5, R6 and R7 children to know that every one of them have achieved a great deal this year and, in my eyes, they ARE all winners!

**Suzanne McCartney**  
**Head of Upper Juniors**

## Upper Junior Graduates

The R7 class will soon be preparing to leave Upper Juniors and begin a big new adventure in the senior school of their choice. We are really pleased that the vast majority of the class have opted to continue their education at Rockport. I will no longer be teaching them but our paths will certainly cross many times around campus.



For those who are leaving Rockport, the prospect may seem a little daunting at first. Rockport has been their second home, for some, only a short time, for others, almost 9 years – that's a very big part of an 11 year old's life! So, it will be a case of small steps towards brave new horizons and of course they'll always be part of the Rockport family. We hope they'll keep in touch and let us know how they are getting on.

I'll leave you with the class of 2018. Each one of them has achieved so much and each one has much to offer. We've worked hard, we've played hard and together we've shared huge belly laughs along the way. Treasure the memories guys and keep aiming high!



Rockport School, R7 Class, 2017-2018

**Suzanne McCartney**  
**Head of Upper Juniors**

**ABRSM exams**

Singers: please bring folders into school on MONDAY for rehearsal

Violinists: Please bring violin and music into school on MONDAY for rehearsal with Mrs Hunter.

**Summer Concert**

Please ensure all costumes for R5 and R7 dances are with Miss Carr by Monday morning at the latest. Named and in a bag.

**Melanie Carr**

**Teacher in Charge of Music and Drama**

**Outstanding Music Fees**

Please make sure that all outstanding music bill s are paid by Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Work Shadowing

This week our Year 13 students have been continuing with their work placements, including Grace Martin who spent a week in Gentle Dental on the Lisburn Road and was able to sit in with many different treatments. Grace enjoyed this chance to find out more about being a dentist. Ben Beaumont spent a week in Bangor Golf Club and is keen to work there over the summer months.



Sophie Shiel is currently carrying out her second week of placement within the Banana Bunch Playgroup in Whitehead. Sophie also spent last week in Whitehead Primary School along with Jordan Booth. They each spent their time with different age groups. Sophie enjoyed her time with P3 and Jordan with P6. Well done for all the hard work put into your placements and we are proud of your achievements within each of the different industries.

Rockport School logo

To all Year 12 Pupils

Sixth Form

Decide on the accompanying forms to assist with the school's planning and if the granddaddy of the school to reduce your stress and complete the relevant forms for A level in the table below. You may choose either three or four subjects (there will be a column for each choice).

The form is not your final choice for Sixth Form. The information will be used to send subjects to the relevant departments.

Heather McBride  
Head of Sixth Form

Name: _____	
I intend to return to Rockport to complete my A level (Please tick one box)	
I do not intend to return to Rockport to complete A level	
I am unsure and will follow an option	
Art & Design	Spanish
English Literature	Geography
Film Studies	History
Music	Politics
Religion	Health & Social Care (Single Award)
Physics	Business Studies (BTEC)
Mathematics	Sociology
Digital Technology	Physical Education (PE/EC)
French	Other (Please specify the subject that you wish to consider for A Level)

Year 12 Options

Last week our Year 12 parents received an information pack about the subjects on offer at A level. We would like to plan ahead in terms of teaching and resources for the next school year. We would be grateful, if you haven't already, to please return these to the school office with the desired A level choices for your son/daughter. I understand this may change after GCSE results day.

Heather McBride  
Head of Sixth Form

**Dads' Day Out – 28<sup>th</sup> September – Field of Dreams**

An afternoon of fun, jest, and competitiveness (for some) waits at Field of Dreams. Clay pigeon shooting is for the accomplished and beginner with all dads, granddads, uncles, and friends welcome. All training and equipment will be provided on site so there's no need to head out and spend a fortune on unnecessary kit...unless you want to 😊

Thank you to those who have already booked their spot. Further details of cost will be available towards the end of June.

Shoot cost £40 approximately.

Places are limited so please contact the office to put your name down or email [pta@rockportschool.com](mailto:pta@rockportschool.com).

As in previous years the Dirty Duck in Holywood will be booked for a post shoot toast to your achievements. This is not included in the shoot price.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Dads Day Out – 28<sup>th</sup> September

**Carol Thompson**  
**PTA Chairperson**