



ROCKPORT



# Rockport School News

INDEPENDENT BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS 3-18

## Newsletter no 25 / Spring Term / 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017



March	Time	Event
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:30-12:00	R3-R4 Trip to Tesco, Sprinhill
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup>	14:30	R8 Netball v BRA, Bangor Aurora
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Non Uniform Day U11 Mini Rugby v Andrews Memorial PS

## Headmaster's Headlines

**Founder's Day:** As I write, the driving rain is slowly softening the ground in and around the GT, creating the perfect conditions for the annual cross country race. We are also very much looking forward to our annual Founder's Day Service in the church at Glenraig, and to hearing our guest speakers. Today we welcome OR Tony Greeves, who attended Rockport during the Second World War and I know the children will love hearing his stories of mischief and daring-do which formed part of life at Rockport in the 1940s (and no doubt still do today...). We also extend a Rockport welcome to our second speaker Adrian Aylward. Adrian was Headmaster of both Stonyhurst College and Leweston Schools and was Chairman of the Catholic Independent Schools Conference. As a school inspector and educational consultant he has extensive experience of the independent schools sector and he travels regularly to Mexico to work with families who wish to send their children to study in the UK and Ireland.

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**London Calling:** Our ORs/Friends of Rockport event in London last Thursday was a great success and I think we achieved what we set out to do: just to welcome and reconnect with our alumni in a pleasant and relaxed setting. We had a really pleasing turnout at our drinks reception in the Royal Air Force Club and I am still writing to all those present to thank them for coming. I hope and trust that it will be the beginning of something much bigger.

**No Drama:** I'm sure it is always a great relief to Miss Carr when the GCSE Drama Moderation is over each year and she can then focus on the next thing(s): Founder's Day; Summer Concert; etc.; etc. By all accounts this year's practical went very well and I was especially pleased that the visiting CCEA moderators took time to convey their satisfaction in the results to me. Well done to all concerned.

**Grand National:** There was great excitement amongst the children as the Randox Health Grand National Trophy was unveiled in the Jackson Hall on Wednesday. 1 in 6 people in the UK, and 600 million worldwide will watch the world's most famous race live on Saturday 8 April and it was great for our children to have the trophy here as it slowly makes its way to Aintree. Thanks to Randox for bring it along.



**Young Arts:** Congratulations to all in the Early Years Department on the success of their Arts Week. Last week the children engaged fully in what was a great range of creative experiences through Literacy, Drama, Art, Music and Dance. Visiting artists and performers complemented our home grown Rockport talent to create a week of focus on the Arts which was really special. I suspect this is another 'one-off' Rockport event which will be on the calendar for years to come.

**George Vance**  
**Headmaster**



## **Junior Dramatic Society Performance**

The JDS performance of “Fantastic Mr Fox” will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in the Tucker Hall. Tickets will be available from the School Office nearer the time.

Each performer is responsible for providing his or her costume. This will be discussed at JDS Club next Wednesday and advice given. Back Stage workers should wear dark jeans and a dark t shirt with trainers.

All actors should be busy learning their lines and help at home is much appreciated. Thank you.

**Clare Neill**  
R5 Form Teacher/French

## **MORE Adventure@Rockport**

### **Kayaking Club- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 4.15-5.30pm**

A 4 week Kayaking club will run on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> May and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June. Mobile Team Adventure who will provide the instruction for this 4 week course will provide - boats, paddles, helmets, buoyancy aids, wetsuits and also a Paddlepower booklet, which is used to record the pupils’ skills progression through the BCU (British Canoe Union) learning scheme. The course will cost £60 per pupil.

There is space for a maximum of 12 pupils. If you are interested, please see Mrs Megarry for a consent form. [kmegarry@rockportschool.com](mailto:kmegarry@rockportschool.com)

**Katie Megarry**  
R10 Form Teacher

## Round Square Update



Applications are now invited for the Round Square International Conference 2017 ( RSIC 2017). The first half of this event will be held in the Capetown Convention Centre followed by a few days with one of three host schools in the Capetown area.

As a Global Member School Rockport are permitted to bring a delegation of up to five students and two staff, a new requirement this year is that students must be in Year 12 or above in the year of travel to conference.

Full details of deadlines and application process are contained within the Application Form and Information for Parents Letter attached to the Newsletter.

If you are too young to apply for this conference we will be recruiting in the Autumn Term for RSIC2018 Canada!



## BOARDING

### Departure Details

Many thanks to those parents who have already informed us of departure details. It is most helpful to have this information early.

Please could remaining parents contact [schooloffice@rockportschool.com](mailto:schooloffice@rockportschool.com) with flight/guardianship/departure details for their child. Advance warning allows Mrs Hamill and the Boarding Staff to effectively plan for the end of term and ensure that staff are allocated to airport drop offs.

Please note that term finishes at 12 noon on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April and the Boarding House will not re-open for the Summer Term until Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April from 6pm for arrivals.

**Dawn Toland**  
**Head of Boarding/RS Representative**



## Colour Run Crazyies

Help!!! Colour Chuckers Needed!

We have over 150 participants confirmed for the Rockport Colour Run. That's a fantastic response thank you:)



The PTA need some help pulling this off in the form of colour chuckers. We need volunteers (semi-sensible) who don't mind getting some fully washable colour on their persons to chuck the colour. We plan to have 8 colour stations and need 2 people at each station.

If you could give us a helping hand we would be very grateful. Please send the pta an email to [pta@rockportschool.com](mailto:pta@rockportschool.com)

Thank you!

### Dates for Your Diary:

**Easter Bunny visit – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**Colour Run – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**Dad's Day Out – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

**Belfast Marathon – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**School Fete – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**Speech Day – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

Thank you all for your continued support for all our events. Together we raise much needed and appreciated funds for our school that benefit each and every child.

**Carol Thompson**  
PTA Chairperson