



Rockport School News

INDEPENDENT BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS 3-18

Newsletter no 34 / Spring Term / 8th June 2018



JUNE	Time	Event
Mon 11 th	All week All week	Kayaking Week Scholastic Book Fair R11 Exam week continues (until Wed 13 th June)
Tue 12 th	9.30-16.00 Depart 8.30	R5 & R6 Sailing Super 8's Girls Cricket Tournament @ Friends School, Lisburn. Return: 16.00 approx.
Fri 15 th	Depart 9.15	3 School Girls Cricket Competition @ Holywood CC. Return: TBC
Sun 17 th		Duke of Ed Silver Qualifying Expedition (return: Tue 19 th June)

Headmaster's Headlines

Xerofone: Further to our recent afternoon information session with Xerofone, all parents of R11 pupils will receive a letter and permission slip (sent home today). Please return the slip early next week indicating whether or not you allow your son or daughter to participate in the pilot scheme which is designed to run for one week. Those students whose parents have not signed up to the scheme will not be permitted to carry their phones in school for the duration of the experiment.

ROCKPORT SCHOOL, Craigavad, Holywood, Co Down, BT18 0DD, UK

Tel: +44 (0)28 9042 8372 Fax: +44 (0)28 9042 2608

Email: info@rockportschool.com Web: www.rockportschool.com

Company Reg No: NI007054 Registered Charity No: XN48119

Laptops Wanted: Another reminder that we are still on the hunt for any old laptop computers for use as word processors. Any kind donations should be left in the school office.

Sports Days: Two for the price of one this year, and both on glorious days. Well done to all the children who tried so hard at every event and level, and thanks to all the staff who made both day(s) run so smoothly. A special thanks to our guest speaker, Commonwealth Gold Medallist and gymnast **Rhys McClenaghan** who inspired many of us in the hall with his key message that 'failure is merely an opportunity to improve'. Great stuff.

George Vance
Headmaster

Kayaking Kit List

- Swimwear
- Wetsuit if you have one (If not you can borrow one from Mobile Team Adventure.)
- Towel
- Sunscreen
- Wooly hat
- Footwear **that will get wet** (wetsuit feet/crocs/beach shoes or old trainers)

Pupils may attend school in their school tracksuit on the day that they are kayaking. Lunchtimes, drop off and collection times are unaffected.

Kayaking	
<p>11th June Monday 9.30am -12.30pm</p> <p>Group A R7 & R8 Pupils want 2 session</p> <p>1 Luciano Albarengo 2 Peter Anderson 3 Matthew Hanna 4 Hollie Harlen 5 Valerie Hueper 6 Eve Naysmith 7 Claudia Simms 8 Harry Stewart 9 Christian Simms 10 Samuel Wright</p>	<p>Monday 1.30pm - 4.30pm</p> <p>11th June Group C Yr 8 & 9 1 session</p> <p>1 Luke Brannigan 2 Marco Greenleaf 3 Jamie Nevin 4 Natanis Sin 5 Ronan Jordan 6 Christian Simms (2nd Session) 7 Samuel Wright (2nd session) 8 Elliana Scott Harrison 9 Ciara West 10 Jason Yates</p>
<p>12th June Tuesday 9.30am -12.30pm</p> <p>Group B R7 Pupils want 1 session</p> <p>1 Corinne Bates 2 Beth Kidd Beggs 3 Gracie Kidd - Beggs 4 Finn McCartney 5 Eve Naysmith 6 Yannis Nugent Zambakides 7 Caragh O'Sullivan 8 Charlotte Sittlington 9 Ethan Walsh 10 William Macklin</p>	
<p>13th June Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>Group A 2nd Session Yr 7</p> <p>1 Luciano Albarengo 2 Peter Anderson 3 Matthew Hanna 4 Hollie Harlen 5 Valerie Hueper 6 Eve Naysmith 7 Claudia Simms 8 Harry Stewart 9 Molly O'Hara 10 Emma Yeaman</p>	<p>13th June Wed 1.30pm - 4.30pm</p> <p>Group D Yr 9 x2 sessions</p> <p>1 Louise Leonetti 2 Josh Patterson 3 Matthew Bowman 4 Georgia McKissick 5 Katie O'Kane 6 Emily Jackson 7 John Wilson 8 Natalie Medhurst 9 Haya Yazeji 10 Charlotte Blair</p>
<p>14th June Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>Group E Yr 10</p> <p>1 Simone Bates 2 Charlotte Blair 3 Jack Calvert 4 Harriett Lovatt 5 Farrah Nixon 6 Elliana Scott Harrison 7 Yusef Shaikh 8 Yaswin Shyam 9 Ciara West 10 Ben Lally</p>	<p>14th June Thursday 1.30pm - 4.30pm</p> <p>Group D Yr 9 x2 sessions</p> <p>1 Louise Leonetti 2 Josh Patterson 3 Matthew Bowman 4 Georgia McKissick 5 Katie O'Kane 6 Emily Jackson 7 John Wilson 8 Natalie Medhurst 9 Haya Yazeji 10 Farrah Nixon</p>

Forms received late have been placed on a waiting list

Upcoming Art Exhibition

GCSE and A-Level art work will be exhibited in a public viewing in the Centenary building on Monday 18th June between 4 pm - 6 pm. Please do come along and support the young artists!



David Hamilton
R9H Form Teacher

Cookery Sessions

Due to kayaking on Monday, I have to change the groups slightly for the cookery sessions.

Groups are now as follows:

Monday 11th June: Corinne B, Evie B, Sam C, , Finn Mc, Carter R, ,Charlotte S, Beth, Gracie, Yannis, Abbie

Monday 18th June: Hollie H, Valerie H Luciano, , William, Eve, Caragh, Claudia, Ethan, Peter A, Harry S, Matthew

Pupils are asked to bring in the following items:

- 1 tub to take food home
- 15 digestive biscuits
- 15 glace cherries
- Small tin condensed milk
- 15 pink and white marshmallows – not the tiny marshmallows!
- 20 paper bun cases.

Ingredients should be brought in on the relevant Monday morning.

R12 – 14 Text books

Can all pupils please return text books to their teaching staff once their exam in that subject is complete. Thank you.

Colin Reid
Head of Faculty

Scholastic Book Fair

This year as part of our young enterprise activities our Year 11 Business Studies will be hosting our annual school Book Fair. All pupils should have received a leaflet, enabling them to see the books on offer. Other items available include stationery and the class will be running various competitions throughout the week too. We will open each day at lunchtime from 1.15 – 1.35 pm in the Jackson Hall and books can be placed on parents' bills upon request from parents. We look forward to seeing you all there.

H McBride
Head of Sixth Form

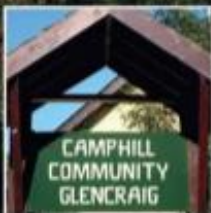


CAMP HILL COMMUNITY GLENGRAIG

SUMMER CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 16th June

11AM - 3PM



Crafts, Camp Hill Holywood bakery, bric-a-brac, origami making, green woodworking, circus games, strawberry picking and with a special concert at 2:30pm by the Ulster College of Music Chamber group, accompanied by the Glencraig Hand Bells playing Bells and Pizzicato by Lloyd Conley.

Tea, coffee, pizza and salad bar will be available throughout the day.

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Summer Scheme

Registration and booking forms for Summer Scheme have been sent home with your child. To secure your place, please return to the School Office with full payment by Wednesday 13th June.

Fun Day Out @ Fort Evergreen Family Park - Monday 18th June 2018

The Early Years children will be having their Fun Day Out on Monday 18th June. We are off to Fort Evergreen Family Fun Park in Warrenpoint. More details and permission slips will be sent home on Monday.

Speech Day - Friday 23rd June 2018

Children in R1-R4 are required to attend Speech Day on Friday 23rd June.

Playgroup and Reception

A reminder that Playgroup and Reception children **are not required to attend Speech Day** but are welcome to attend with parents. Children in Playgroup and Reception **should be picked up at 12.15pm on this day.** Daycare will not be available.

Lynn Athanasiou

Head of Early Years



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R5 & R6 Sailing at RNIYC - Tuesday 12th June, 9.30am-4pm

Many thanks to parents for the swift return of consent letters. Any pupil not participating may attend school as usual and will be advised of which class to join for the day.

Arrival and departure times will be unaffected. We will transport the children to and from school returning by 4.30pm. **Pupils should bring a packed lunch.**

Please ensure the packed lunch is wrapped in foil/cling wrap/sandwich bag and that on this occasion drinks containers are disposable. **The whole lunch should be tied into a named plastic bag.** Lunches will be collected from the children upon arrival at RNIYC and transported to their picnic destination in a RIB, then distributed. Please name your child's lunch clearly to make this process straightforward.

Pupils should wear warm outdoor clothing - a waterproof coat is essential as there may be spray. A sunhat and a wooly hat should be brought to cater for all weather conditions. It is recommended that you apply day long sunscreen to your child before school and send sunscreen with them. A change of socks and shoes should be brought and it may be prudent to pack a towel and change of clothes just in case they are needed. If a pupil has their own buoyancy aid, they may bring it (please name it) but RNIYC can provide for those who do not have one of their own.

Hopefully the fine weather will continue and R5 and R6 will have a lovely sailing adventure on Tuesday in either Helen's Bay or Carrickfergus... the wind will determine their eventual destination!

Dawn Toland

dtoland@rockportschool.com



York

All current R4 and R5 pupils have received an initial information letter about our forthcoming Ice-breaker Trip to York in September. I've been delighted with the very positive response from pupils and parents alike. I would now ask that any remaining deposits and permission slips be forwarded to me by Monday morning so that I can begin finalising the necessary arrangements.

Art Club

Regular attendees of Art Club should report to the studio at 4.30pm on Tuesday afternoon for what may well be the final session of the term.

Suzanne McCartney
Head of Upper Juniors

RDS Primary Science Fair

Our question of the day.. is it science or is it magic!? We had a brilliant trip on Thursday to the RDS Science Fair in Belfast. A day filled with lots of fun and fascinating experiments from 'Accidental Science' to 'The Rocketeers'. We even had time for a drumming lesson in between our workshops! ...Did you know? Velcro may never have been invented if it hadn't been for a naughty dog running through cockle-burs out on its walk!



Rebecca Breen
KS2 Science Teacher

R7 Busy Bees

R7 have a very busy week ahead with much to remember and all sorts of gear/equipment needing brought in on different days.

Half the class are in a cookery session on Monday, some are kayaking during the first few days of the week and all will be parents of flour babies for the entire week.

Pupils have already received all the necessary information about each activity but, as always, we would greatly appreciate your support in terms of helping to get them organized each evening before school.



Suzanne McCartney
Head of Upper Juniors

Declamations

Well done to all 14 finalists! They delivered their poems with wonderful confidence and were rewarded with really spot-on feedback from our adjudicator, Dr Joy Alexander. There can, however, be only one winner and this year the cup was awarded to R7 pupil Evie Brammer who quite frankly BECAME Isabel in her delivery of "Adventures of Isabel" by Ogden Nash. Super work!

Sophie's arrival in Fiji

Sophie Ennis headed off on Saturday 2nd June on her long flight to Fiji. Sophie has arrived safely for her 3 weeks of work placement where she will be involved in various projects which are reaching out to disadvantaged children in Fiji. We wish her all the best and hope to document her progress over the next few weeks away.



Darren Clarke School of Golf Placement

This week we have the first of our Year 13 students out on work experience. Johnny has enjoyed finding out how this business operates and has participated in many of the events taking place. Johnny has been working the office, taking bookings as well as creating short videos and promotional materials for social media. Johnny has been making the most of the great golfing weather by playing in various competitions and improving his skills throughout the week.

Year 12 Choices

We are currently right in the middle of the GCSE exams in school but our year 12 pupils have been thinking ahead to their A Level choices and making enquiries about their options. I have met with many of the pupils to discuss these options and would encourage parents to carry on with these discussions at home. I would ask if parents could have a chat with your son or daughter and help us prepare for their future in Sixth Form at Rockport. You will receive information by post on the 17 A Level subjects available along with a selection form. We would ask that you select 3 or 4 subjects and return the form to school. We realise this may change on GCSE results day but it would allow us to fulfil the needs of our students in preparation for Sixth Form in September.

Heather McBride
Head of Sixth Form

More talented pupils at Rockport!!!

Dechlan Carr-Robinson, in R6, is competing in the Irish National Championships under 12 in the sport of Modern Pentathlon (short version) on the weekend June 16/17 at Punchestown, Co. Kildare. There are three phases and points are gained for performance in each phase:

1. swim for 2 minutes
2. run 1km
3. ride over 20+ cross country fences including water, ditches, banks etc at 80cm in height.

Dechlan has been training very hard and has recently achieved a personal best of 5 laps (125m) in 2 mins for the swim. His run has also improved with his last start clocking in at 3min 58 secs for 1km. His riding has also improved, gaining confidence to be able to jump optional fences to gain extra points. All of Rockport want to wish him good luck for next weekend! Go for it, Dechlan!

Super 8's Girls U13 Cricket Tuesday 12th June 2018

Georgia McKissick
Molly O'Hara
Emma Yeaman
Abi Toland
Emily Jackson
Louise Leonetti
Shannon Foster
India McNellis
Clara Waterworth
Saorla Van Heerden
Tabby Allen

Staff - GH/HC
Depart @ 08.30
Return @ 16.00

U13 & U15 girls 3 School Cricket Tournament Friday 15th June, 2018 @ Hollywood Cricket Club

Anna Beattie
Georgia McKissick
Tabitha Sweeney
Molly O'Hara
Lucia Garcia
Emma Yeaman
Haya Yazeji
Abi Toland
Abigail Morrison
Emily Jackson
Elliana Scott Harrison
Louise Leonetti
Anna Thomson
Shannon Foster
Charlotte Blair
India McNellis
Natalie Medhurst
Clara Waterworth
Katie Webb
Saorla Van Heerden
Melissa Stanfield
Tabby Allen



Staff - HMcC/HC
Depart @ 09.00
Return @ tbc

What you need to bring:
Whites & Blazers (wear into school)
Packed lunch & sensible snacks!
Water bottle
Sun cream
Rockport Baseball cap

Gail Holland
Head of PE & Personal Development

The Saucy Bap

What a fantastic day Sports Day was; the back lawn was filled with participants eager to take part in their event and supporters ready to cheer on their friends, sons, daughters, grandchildren, and house representatives. I noted that the children looked very smart in their “Whites” and blazers with “Whites” being sparkling white as Miss Holland’s directive of “Whites must be white and not grey” had been strictly adhered to.

As the afternoon went on a few of the parents discussed next year. Suggestions of a Prosecco bar by Sharon Bremner for a little bit of sparkling refreshment. Colin Reid said he didn’t mind pulling pints all afternoon...one for you, two for me:) My husband and his friend Stephen Hill discussed the possibility of a burger van, giggling like schoolboys over possible names for it....really.

I think it’s safe to say we all thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. From our Minimus’s to our Maximus’s(?), our children beamed with pride as they collected their trophies, but what was truly special was the way their school friends were genuinely so proud of them. Camaraderie and sportsmanship is something Rockport School has in spades which was evident for all to see on Tuesday. Now that is something that every parent, and child, can be proud of.

Rockport’s Facebook Page has lots of great photos from Tuesday...my favourite being little Vela receiving her well deserved Minimus Victrix Ludorum cup and holding it proudly above her head!! Go Vela!!

Speech Day – 22nd June

Speech Day is one of my favourite days of the year. It is very proud day for the whole school and I get a lump in my throat the second the opening bars of Heather Small singing “Proud” booms out over the speakers as the reel of photographs of all our children having fun, learning, exploring, achieving, is projected onto the screens. It is a day you won’t want to miss.

Afterwards the PTA will have the BBQ ready on the front lawn with bouncy castles, face painting, ice cream van, a donations bar, children’s refreshments and sweet stall. We would love to see you all there.

If anyone fancies helping us out on the day manning the BBQ, bar, or children’s stall, please drop me a line to pta@rockportschool.com All your help is greatly appreciated!

Dads' Day Out – 28th 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 approx

Places are limited so please contact the office to put your name down or email 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

Speech Day – 22nd June – change of date

Dads Day Out – 28th September

Carol Thompson
PTA Chairperson