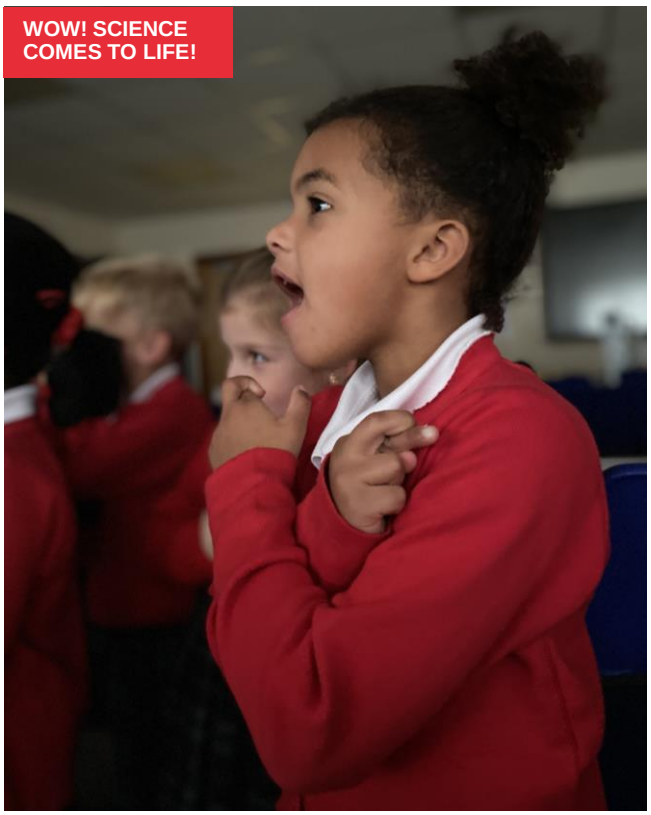
ROUGEMONT TIMES

10.10.25 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 205



WOW! SCIENCE COMES TO LIFE!

PUPIL VOICE BUILDS CURIOSITY IN INFANTS

Our Rougemont Milestones are making a significant impact on our pupils' learning right from the start of their school journey.

Pupils in Year 2 demonstrated their curiosity of ***Magical Chemical Mixtures*** this week.

Our *'I see, I think, I wonder…'* approach allows our pupils to pose thoughtful questions around their Topic, encouraging independent thinking and lessons that are built around Pupil Voice.

Scroll to read more about this week's *magical* lesson in the Senior Science Labs.

Rougemont School Accelerates into the Greenpower F24 Challenge.

PUPIL VOICE BUILDS CURIOSITY IN INFANTS

Curiouser and curiouser!

At the start of the Topic, Year 2 pupils had a chance to share what they wanted their learning outcomes to look like and one pupil shared that they wanted to learn about chemical mixtures in 'the big school science classrooms'.

As a School for Life, that request was easily granted and Mrs Langford, Head of Chemistry was delighted to welcome Year 2 to her lab to learn more about their Topic *Magical Chemical Mixtures.*

Our pupils' enthusiasm to learn more about chemistry showed their growing curiosity and independence in their learning.

The visit to the Senior Science Labs was a fantastic opportunity to receive subject specialist teaching from our Senior teachers who love to engage with the younger key stages to share the excitement of STEM learning across the School. Well done, Year 2!

JUNIOR HOUSE MUSIC
17th OCTOBER

LUCY TAKES TO THE STAGE

Year 7 Performing Arts Scholar, Lucy performs on national opera tour.

In May, the Welsh National Opera announced open auditions for a part in the children's chorus of their upcoming production of *Puccini's Tosca*. I've never been an opera fan, but I love singing so thought the audition would be a good experience.

I attended the auditions at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff on the 17th June and sang *Schubert's Seligkeit*, which at the time I was learning for my grade 4 singing exam. I wasn't expecting to be chosen for one of the fifteen roles as there were hundreds of children there with amazing voices. However a week later, I received confirmation that I had been successful, I was so excited!

We rehearsed all throughout July and August at the Wales Millennium Centre. It's been so much fun, and I've made some brilliant new friends! It has been such a privilege to sing with the Welsh National Orchestra, they are so brilliant! I've also been lucky enough to work every day with some amazing people such as Gergely Madaras (Conductor), Edward Dick (Director) and Maxine Braham (Choreographer). Not to mention the show's super talented singing stars - Natalya Romaniw and Fiona Harrison-Wolfe (Tosca), Andrés Presno (Cavaradossi) and Dario Solari who plays the 'baddie' Scarpia, he is actually really kind and funny! Everyone in the team has just been so lovely and they've all taught me so much!

We performed 4 packed out shows in the Wales Millennium Centre in September and last weekend performed at The Mayflower Theatre in Southampton. We're performing next in Llandudno on 11th October and finally at the Bristol Hippodrome on 18th October. It's been really good fun travelling and performing with my friends and I don't want it to end!

I've now joined the Welsh National Youth Opera and would recommend it to anyone who enjoys singing. We meet every Saturday morning at Wales Millennium Centre and as this year is the 80th anniversary of the Welsh National Opera, we have lots of exciting events coming up, including working with experts to compose and perform an original bilingual song ahead of the premier performance of *The Flying Dutchman* in April 2026. I can't wait!

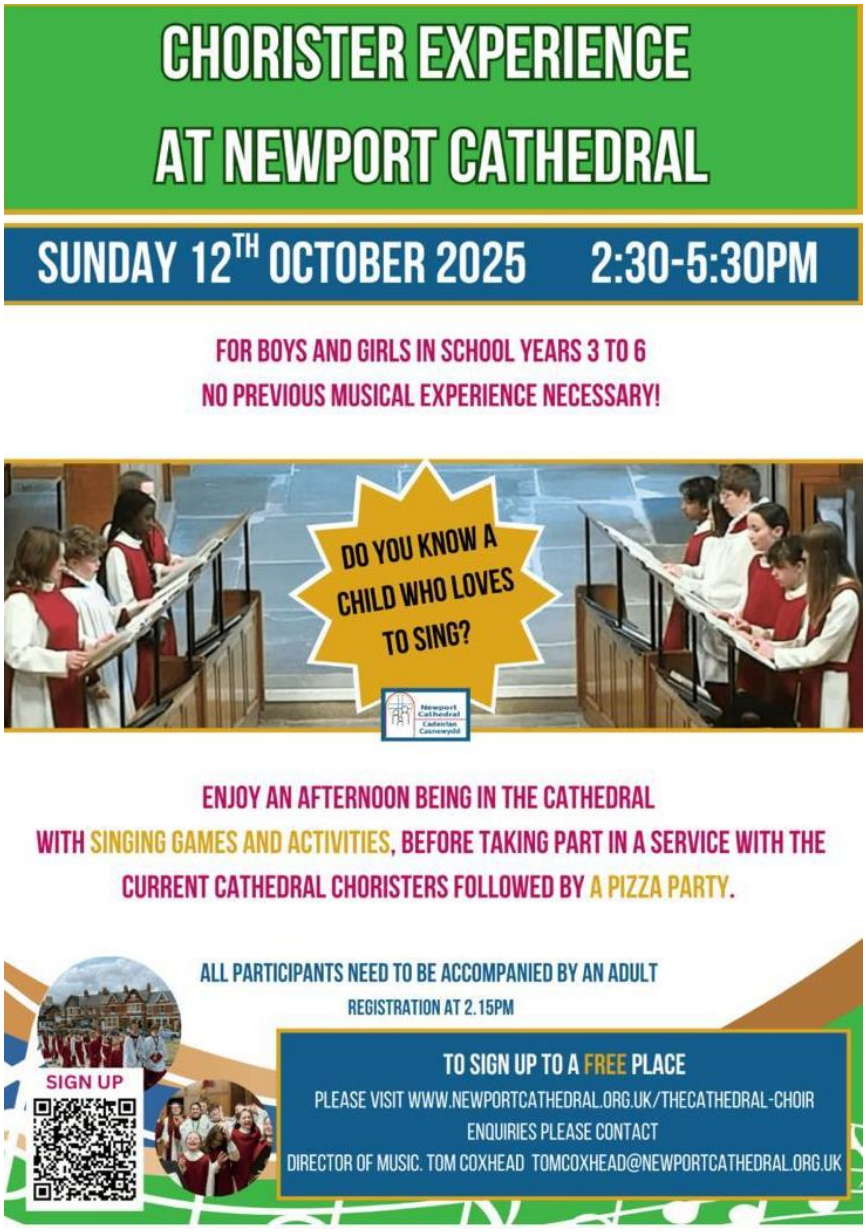
Before I learnt about opera I thought it was really boring but now I love it - I watched three in one week! It is so dramatic and exciting, the music is beautiful and the singing is just crazy amazing! I would recommend it to everyone!

Lucy C, year 7 Performing Arts Scholar

AN INVITATION

Many Rougemont pupils have enjoyed the experience of being a chorister at Newport Cathedral.

A warm invitation is extended to all pupils in Years 3 to 6 to join the Taster Day this Sunday.



SPOTLIGHT SERIES

Year 11 pupil Zion performs this week.

YOUNG ENGINEERS

Year 10 Engineers take on the challenge with Mr Cording

Rougemont School Accelerates into the Greenpower F24 Challenge

Rougemont School is thrilled to announce its participation in the Greenpower F24 Challenge—a national initiative that empowers young people to design, build, and race electric cars

This exciting project will be led by our Year 10 pupils, who will take on the challenge of engineering a sustainable vehicle to compete in regional and potentially national races.

The Greenpower F24 Challenge is more than just a race. It's a hands-on STEM experience that encourages innovation, teamwork, and environmental responsibility. Students will work collaboratively to design and construct a single-seat electric car, applying principles from science, technology, engineering, and maths in a real-world context. The project also aligns with Rougemont's commitment to sustainability and our Eco School goals.

We're inviting parents to get involved in this journey. Whether you have expertise in engineering, design, marketing, or simply a passion for supporting student-led initiatives, your input and encouragement will be invaluable. There will be opportunities to assist with the build, help with logistics, and support the team at race events.

In addition, we are actively seeking sponsorship to help fund the car's development and race entry. Sponsorship will not only support the technical aspects of the project—such as materials, tools, and transport—but also provide a platform for local businesses to engage with a forward-thinking educational initiative. Sponsors will be acknowledged in school communications, on the car itself, and at race events, offering great visibility and community impact. The team will begin work this term, with the goal of entering their car into a regional heat next April. Along the way, students will document their progress, share updates with the school community, and inspire younger pupils to take part in future sustainability and STEM projects.

This initiative is a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop practical skills, explore careers in engineering and environmental science, and contribute to a greener future. We're incredibly proud of their enthusiasm and commitment, and we look forward to seeing their ideas take shape—on the drawing board and on the racetrack.

If you're a parent or local business interested in supporting the project, please get in touch with Mr Rhodri Cording, Head of Year 11, who is coordinating the initiative.

Let's race toward sustainability—together.

A WEEK IN PICTURES

News from across the School

Strength and Conditioning club in the gym at 8.00am is proving very popular with our Seniors.

Golf club is welcoming plenty of members who enjoy practicing their swing in our golf bays next to the astro.

Year 1 pupils carried out an egg-speriment this week! Pupils put eggs into different liquids to see what happens to the eggs over time and to think about how these liquids would also affect our teeth!

FUTURE FOCUS

Our Library is the venue for our Future Focus seminars.

FUTURE FOCUS

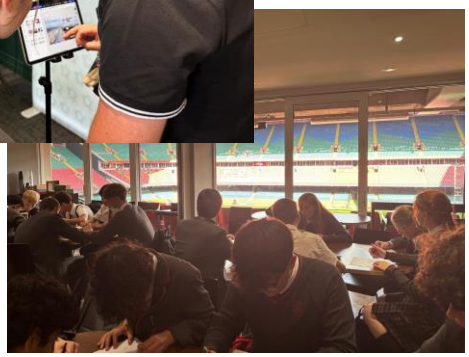
Expert careers guidance for our pupils as they develop their pathways for the future.

During this week's **#FutureFocus** morning, we welcomed Adam McCullough from Mansfield Engineering. Adam spoke about career opportunities in Engineering as well as a synopsis of his career.

We also welcomed Dr Natalie Chaston to our Future Focus programme this month as she shared her pathway into medicine.

Dr Chaston's talk was so popular, it was standing room only for pupils in Years 9 to 13 who were interested in learning more about a career in medicine.

The next Future Focus session will be on careers in finance on 20 November.



ICG ENGINEERING AND SUSTAINABILITY EXPEDITION

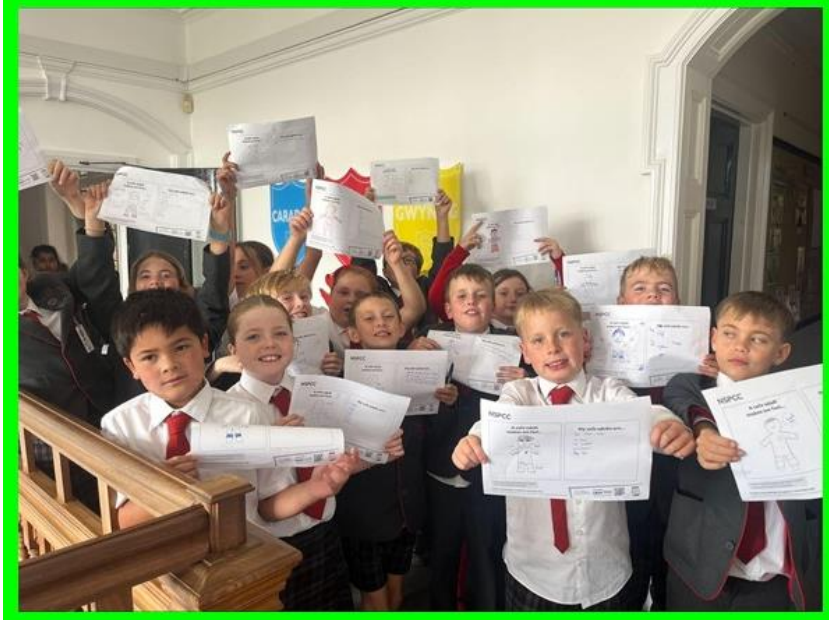
More exciting pathways opportunities for our pupils.

Last week, our Engineering, D&T and Physics pupils attended the ICG Engineering and Sustainability Expedition at the Principality Stadium.

Pupils took part in an interactive presentation and Q&A session with the leads from Amazon, Google and ICG regarding careers in STEM, and finally group workshops where they coded, learnt about AI and data transfer!

SPEAK OUT STAY SAFE

Pupils across the Prep engaged in the NSPCC national programme SPEAK OUT STAY SAFE this term.



As part of our PHSE curriculum, pupils in the Prep School have been engaging with 'Buddy' the NSPCC led speech bubble who encourages children to *Speak Out and Stay Safe!*

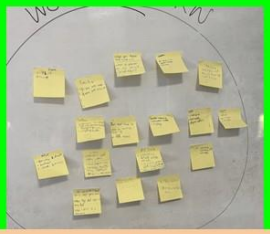
Speak out Stay safe is a safeguarding programme that aims to equip a generation of children with the knowledge they need to stay safe.

Pupils participated in a workshop which supported them in knowing how to share their worries in a safe way.

During the sessions, pupils identified their 'safe spaces' and 'worry spots' with a safe adult helping them to unstick and understand their worry spots.

To learn about the NSPCC's Speak Out Stay Safe programme, visit their website here: https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe

5 KW Stay Safe Speak Out



Our 3 worries unstuck by a Safe adult in our lives.

ROUGEMONT SAILORS

Our pupils take to the waves with superb results!

Saturday 13th September saw five sailors from Rougemont School compete in the RYA Cymru Wales 2025 Welsh Youth & Junior Championships at Plas Heli National Sailing Academy.

With Storm Amy sweeping in from the Atlantic, there was a stiff south-westerly breeze with 24 knot gusts and rough swell. In tough conditions, more than 80 young sailors demonstrated skills and resilience on the sea near Pwllheli.

Zoe M (Year 10) was first girl in the ILCA 6 class, Sam B (Year 8) secured 4th in the Optimist class. Rowan M (Year 6) came 2nd in the Topper 4.2s. Elle B (Year 5) finished 4th in the coached Optimist fleet.

Freddie F-C's event unfortunately was cut short by injury. He was presented with 1st Boy in the Regatta Fleet for the South Wales Dragon Racing series.

The Youth and Juniors Champs was one of several selector events for Welsh Sailing. Zoe, Rowan and Sam are all delighted to have been selected for 2025-26 Welsh squads.

They all sail at Llandegfedd sailing club https://www.llandegfedd.org.uk – just 5 miles from school, where there is training for beginners in the summer term and holidays. It would be great to welcome more Rougemont families there!

AN IMPRESSIVE WIN FOR OUR BOYS

OUR FIRST EVER SATURDAY RUGBY FIXTURE A

Rougemont Rugby is on the up!

Rougemont's Year 7 and 8 rugby team had their first ever Saturday rugby fixture against a well drilled Clifton College side. The boys came away with an **impressive win** after an awesome team performance.

THOM SHOTS TO SUCCESS!

YEAR 12 PUPIL THOM PLAYS FOR WALES

Congratulations to Year 12 pupil Thom who has been selected for the Basketball Wales U17s National Academy.

Thom had a very successful summer playing and training in Seattle, USA, as well as successfully trailing for the Cardiff Met U18s National Team.

Well done, Thom. We look forward to reporting on your successes.

SPORT NEWS

Follow @RougemontSport for live updates and more news

Year 3 and 4 girls enjoyed their hockey fixture at home against St John's Dean Close.

Year 3 displayed some super skills as they showcase the skills they have been learning in hockey over the past few weeks.

Year 9 Boys journeyed to Monmouth for their fixture against Monmouth Comprehensive earlier this week.

SPORT NEWS

Follow @RougemontSport for live updates and more news

Later in the week, it was the turn of Years 5 and 6 for their hockey fixture.

A great afternoon of hockey at home versus St John's Dean Close.

Well done to all pupils who played in Prep fixtures this week.

SPORT NEWS

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Our Cross Country team ventured to Risca this week for the South East Wales Cross Country Championships.

Tom (Year 11) and Elijah (Year 7) came 1st place in their age-group categories.

Elis (Year 8) came 2nd and Poppy (Year 11) came 7th.

Excellent performances, Team Rougemont!

SPORT NEWS

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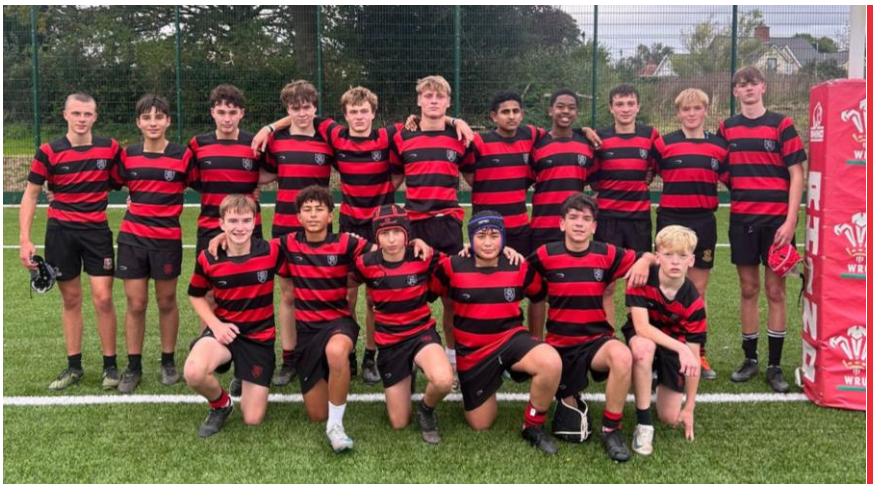

Year 10 narrowly lost after Bassaleg scored a try in the last minutes of the game. They now turn their attention to the Newport Plate competition.

The Year 7 and rugby team scored a huge win against Cwmbran this week – 54-17!

Well done to the whole team for a superb performance demonstrating growing skill and teamwork.