

MICHAELMAS TERM 25

VOL. 01

RISHWORTHIAN

CELEBRATING
EVERY SUCCESS

— MAGAZINE



The Spirit of Rishworth,
Captured in Print

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



As we approach the end of the calendar year, I have been reflecting on my first 15 months as Head of Rishworth and all that we have achieved together. It has been a year of progress, renewed ambition and growing momentum, and as Christmas approaches, it feels the right moment to pause, reflect and look ahead with optimism.

This year has seen meaningful developments academically, pastorally and culturally across the school. One of the most positive changes has been the renewed energy in our extracurricular programme. From Karate Club to Funk Band, participation has grown and enthusiasm across campus has been infectious, helping students develop confidence, creativity and character alongside their academic studies.

A key milestone has been the introduction of the ILM Level 3 Award in Leadership and Management, making Rishworth the first school in the region to offer this internationally recognised qualification. This reflects our commitment to preparing students for life beyond school. Our 2025 ISI report captured this ethos perfectly, noting that

“pupils are valued as individuals and their wellbeing is at the heart of the school’s decision making.”

I am also grateful to our PTA for bringing our community together through events such as Grease and the Christmas Fayre, and to our families for their continued trust and support.

Despite wider challenges across the sector, Rishworth continues to grow and strengthen. I am immensely proud of our students, thankful for our staff, and excited for what lies ahead in 2026.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Jessica Sheldrick



A WONDERFUL BEGINNING: FOUNDATION STAGE'S FIRST DAY AT RISHWORTH

There were big smiles, a few brave waves, and plenty of excitement as our youngest learners arrived for their first day in Rishworth's Foundation Stage in September. For many, it was their first step into school life, and our caring Nursery and Reception staff were ready to make it a magical beginning.

From the moment the children stepped through the doors, classrooms were filled with curiosity and laughter. Carefully prepared learning zones such as story corners, construction areas, and creative play spaces, invited little ones to explore, discover, and imagine. Each child was warmly welcomed, helping them to settle quickly and feel at home in their new environment.

Outdoor learning is a huge part of Foundation Stage life, and the children embraced it enthusiastically. From splashing in water trays and digging in the mud at Forest School, to racing around the adventure area, every moment was filled with energy and joy. These experiences foster confidence, communication skills, and a love of learning.

By the end of the first week, friendships were forming, routines were familiar, and the children proudly showcased their first masterpieces. The Foundation Stage is truly where the Rishworth journey begins, with curiosity, care, and creativity at its heart.

A CONFIDENT START: YEAR 7'S FIRST WEEK AT RISHWORTH

Excitement filled the air as our new Year 7 students arrived for their Induction Day at Rishworth, alongside our Foundation Stage children, ready to begin the next chapter of their school journey. For many, it was a completely new experience: a bigger school, new subjects, and the chance to make lifelong friends.

The day began with warm welcomes from tutors and senior staff, followed by students meeting their tutor groups for the first time. Any nerves quickly disappeared as pupils explored their new environment. A guided tour introduced them to science labs, the art studio, the sports facilities, and the beautiful grounds.

A highlight was their first ever Senior Rishworth Inter-Team Challenge with Mr Joyce, where students had to build paper towers. This encouraged teamwork, communication, and friendly competition, as teams completed fast-paced challenges, setting the tone for a year of collaboration and community spirit.

During the first week, Year 7 embraced Art, Design Technology, Music, and PE, settling quickly into lessons and routines. By week's end, new friendships were flourishing, confidence was growing, and the cohort had already begun to demonstrate the values that make Rishworth so special: kindness, courage, and a passion for learning.

Their journey started brilliantly, and we look forward to seeing them thrive.



**VIEW YEAR
7'S FIRST
WEEK HERE**

BAKING A DIFFERENCE: RISHWORTH'S MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING HITS THE MARK

Rishworth School's annual Macmillan Coffee Morning returned this year with heartfelt purpose, generous spirit, and a record-breaking result, raising an incredible £1,820.82 in support of Macmillan Cancer Support.

This year's event was held in loving memory of Dr Anthony Wilkins, a much-loved colleague and friend to many at Rishworth, who sadly passed away in June. His warmth, dedication, and kindness left a lasting mark on the school community, and it was only fitting that this year's fundraising efforts were dedicated to his memory.

Donations poured in from across the school, with students contributing an array of homemade bakes, shop-bought treats, and generous monetary donations. Staff, parents, and visitors turned out in full force to enjoy a morning of connection, conversation and cake, all for a vital cause.

Driven by the dedication and teamwork of our Sixth Formers, the morning was a true display of community in action. From setting up tables to serving cake and welcoming guests, our students ensured everything ran smoothly, with professionalism, positivity, and a few impressive barista skills on show!

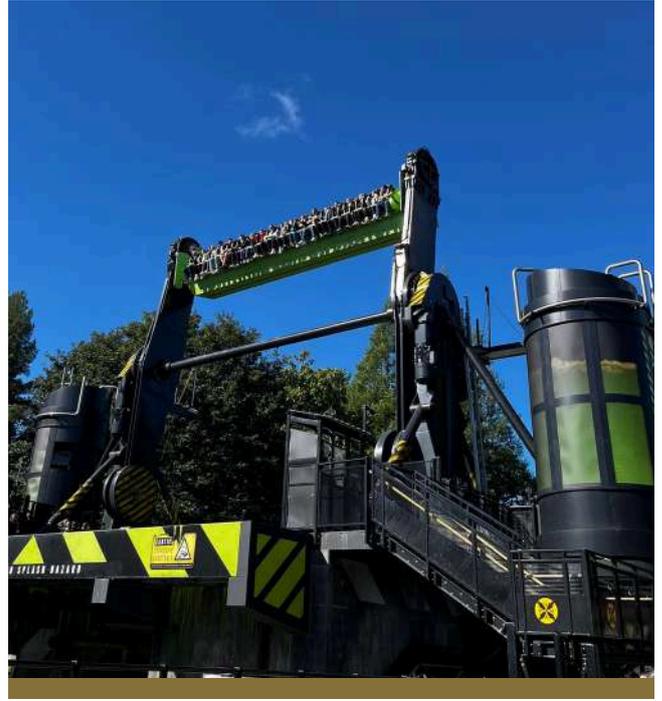
Macmillan's work touches so many lives, and the Rishworth community once again showed just how powerful small acts of kindness can be. Thank you to everyone who baked, donated or simply came along, your support made this a truly meaningful event.





Rishworth School's boarders enjoyed an exciting day out at Alton Towers in September, making the most of thrilling rides, shared laughs, and great company. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to take a break from their studies and bond outside the classroom.

A TRIP AWAY: OUR BOARDERS EXPERIENCE THE BEST OF ALTON TOWERS



From adrenaline-pumping rollercoasters to gentler attractions, there was something for everyone to enjoy. The group tackled some of the park's most popular rides together, creating unforgettable memories and strengthening friendships along the way.

Staff accompanied the boarders throughout the day, ensuring a safe and fun experience for all. The trip showcased the vibrant spirit and camaraderie of the Rishworth boarding community, highlighting the importance of balance between work and play.

Overall, the Alton Towers excursion was a fantastic success, a day full of adventure, laughter, and moments that will be talked about for years to come.

YEAR 7 EMBRACES THE OUTDOORS ON WHITBY RESIDENTIAL



Our Year 7 students embarked on an exciting three-day residential trip to Whitby in October, filled with exploration, learning, and plenty of fun. The coastal town provided the perfect backdrop for a memorable experience beyond the classroom walls.

During their stay, the students immersed themselves in a variety of activities designed to build teamwork, confidence, and a deeper appreciation of nature and history. Highlights included coastal walks, beck scrambling, and visits to local landmarks, where they learned about Whitby's rich maritime heritage.

The trip was not only an opportunity for outdoor adventure but also a chance for the Year 7 cohort to strengthen friendships and develop independence.

We look forward to more adventures like this as our students continue to grow both inside and outside the classroom!

RISHWORTH OPEN DAYS ATTRACT BUZZ AND NEW FACES ACROSS PREP AND SENIOR SCHOOLS

Rishworth School's Autumn Open Days for both Prep and Senior School were a fantastic success, drawing in many new faces and prospective families eager to explore what makes the school so special. The events were buzzing with energy from start to finish, reflecting the vibrant community spirit that defines Rishworth.

A highlight of both events was the involvement of many of our current students, who enthusiastically helped out by leading tours and running classroom activities alongside teaching staff. Their warm welcome and first hand insights truly brought the school experience to life for visitors.

Food also played a starring role. Our talented kitchen staff prepared delicious taster meals, offering guests a flavourful glimpse into the quality and care that goes into Rishworth lunches. Meanwhile, at the Senior Open Day, a Coffee Van kept visitors refreshed as they explored the campus.

The Art Department added a creative twist with an engaging Sculpture Trail, allowing families to enjoy an interactive art experience throughout the school grounds, a delightful way to combine education with exploration.

The success of the Open Days not only showcased Rishworth's academic excellence and welcoming atmosphere but also highlighted the strong partnership between students, staff, and families. These events truly captured the essence of Rishworth, a place where education, community, and creativity thrive together.



AHOY, MATEYS! FOUNDATION STAGE CELEBRATES PIRATE DAY



Our Foundation Stage turned into a crew of cheerful buccaneers for an exciting Pirate Day adventure, a day full of imagination, storytelling, and swashbuckling fun!

Children arrived dressed as mini pirates, complete with hats, eye patches, stripes, and even a few fearsome foam swords! The classroom was transformed into ship decks and treasure islands, setting the perfect scene for a day of themed learning and play.

Throughout the day, the children enjoyed a range of pirate-themed activities, including reading adventurous pirate stories together and learning some new vocabulary. There were plenty of giggles during group story time as they followed the tales of mischievous pirates and their daring escapades on the high seas.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the treasure hunt, where the young pirates followed clues, searched high and low, and worked together to discover hidden “booty” around the school grounds.

Pirate Day was a wonderful opportunity to combine creative play with storytelling, teamwork, and exploration, making learning fun and memorable. The excitement and joy on the children’s faces said it all. It was a day they’ll be talking about for a long time!

We can’t wait to set sail on our next themed adventure soon!

RISHWORTH HOSTS INDONESIAN LAB SCHOOL



We were delighted to welcome the annual visit of students from the Lab School in Indonesia to Rishworth this year. Over the course of a week, our international guests fully immersed themselves in British school life, forging meaningful connections and embracing the vibrant spirit of our community.

Each Indonesian student was paired with a Rishworth buddy, shadowing their full school timetable. This unique experience allowed them to participate in a variety of lessons including English, PE, Food & Nutrition, Art, and more. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were truly inspiring as they engaged with new subjects and school routines with open minds.

One of the standout moments of the visit was a stunning performance of a traditional Indonesian dance by the Lab School students during our whole-school assembly. Their graceful display was not only a celebration of their rich cultural heritage but also a wonderful reminder of the diversity and unity within our school community.

The visit was a valuable opportunity for cultural exchange, fostering friendships that crossed continents and enriching the experience for both our visiting and host students. It's always a privilege to host the Lab School from Indonesia, and we eagerly look forward to their return next year to continue this wonderful tradition of global learning and friendship.



**VIEW THEIR
VISIT HERE**

RISHWORTH PREP CELEBRATES HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Rishworth Prep Harvest Festival was a joyous celebration filled with heartfelt songs and warm community spirit. Pupils eagerly took to the stage, singing a delightful selection of harvest-themed tunes that brought the whole school together in a festive and uplifting atmosphere.

A key part of the festival was the generous collection of food donations from families, which were shared with local charities to support those in need. This act of kindness perfectly reflected the spirit of the harvest, sharing and giving back.

The festival provided a fantastic opportunity for the Prep community to come together, celebrate the changing season, and express thanks. With smiles all around and hearts full of gratitude, the event was a true highlight of the school calendar.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils' enthusiasm and the generous support from families that made the Harvest Festival so special.



HISTORY COMES ALIVE: YEAR 5'S TRIP TO STOCKPORT AIR RAID SHELTERS



As part of their immersive World War II topic, Year 5 embarked on an unforgettable trip to the historic Stockport Air Raid Shelters. This hands-on visit gave students a vivid glimpse into what life was like during the war, exploring the underground tunnels where families sought safety during air raids.

The trip brought their classroom learning to life, allowing the children to experience firsthand the sights, sounds, and stories of wartime Britain. Guided tours through the shelters highlighted the courage and resilience of those who lived through challenging times.



Students asked thoughtful questions, engaged with the history, and reflected on the impact of the war on everyday life. The visit was a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering history and the bravery of those who came before us.

This memorable experience has enriched the Year 5 WW2 topic, deepening students' understanding and appreciation of the past in a truly meaningful way.

SPOOKTACULAR FUN AT THE PREP HALLOWEEN DISCO

Our Prep School Halloween Disco was a frightfully fun evening filled with music, laughter, and spooky celebration! Organised by our fantastic PTA, the event was a fantastic couple of hours of fun that had something for everyone.

Children arrived in a brilliant array of costumes, from spooky skeletons and witches to cheeky pumpkins and mini vampires, ready to dance the night away. The disco was buzzing with energy, as pupils showed off their best moves under the disco lights and enjoyed plenty of Halloween-themed tunes.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Halloween-themed photo spot, where children posed with their friends for instant Polaroid pictures. The best part? They got to take their photo home as a fun keepsake from the night! To round off the evening, everyone received a Halloween goodie bag, adding an extra treat to an already fantastic event.

While the children partied, parents had the chance to browse the pre-loved uniform sale, hosted by the PTA, making great use of the time before pick-up.

Huge thanks go to our amazing PTA for organising such a well-run, fun-filled event, and to everyone who came along and helped make the evening so special. We're already counting down to next year's spooky celebration!



THIS TERM IN SPORT: FIXTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Under 13s Football

Our Under 13s football team showed incredible composure as they clawed their way back into a game they were initially losing. Goals from Rupert, Patrick and George helped the team defeat Denshaw College and secure a place in the quarter finals of the ISFA Bowl. A brilliant team effort and a great reward for their resilience.



Junior Swimming

A cracking afternoon saw our Junior Swimmers take on a strong Oldham Hulme team. The students delivered outstanding performances, both individually and as part of their relay teams. Their dedication and hard work in the pool have made everyone incredibly proud.



Netball

Our girls' netball team finished the term in style with an amazing performance against Brooksbank School, winning 25-12. A huge shout-out to the Year 10 girls who stepped in at the last minute to fill the team due to illness. A fantastic way to round off the term and a perfect setup for a full netball season in January.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS OF THE TERM

Zac (Y8) competed in the World Biathlon Championships in South Africa, tackling a tough course of soft sand and heat. He qualified for the individual final in 8th place and delivered a strong race to win bronze. Zac and his GB teammates also won team silver, capping an incredible year that included titles as British Schools Biathlon Champion, National Biathlon Champion U13, British Triathlon Champion U13, and European Biathlon Champion U13.



Emily and Evelyn (Y4) had a fantastic performance at the Nationwide IDTA Championships at the Empress Ballroom in Blackpool. After six competitive rounds, they made the finals in freestyle pairs, finishing 6th out of 57. They then danced with their teammates to secure 1st place, making them Nationwide champions for the second year running.

Scarlett (Y9) has been showing her musical talent this term and achieved a fantastic result in her Grade 6 piano exam, earning a merit. She also regularly plays harp at weddings, sharing her music and skills beyond the school stage. A true example of dedication and passion for music.



BEYOND RISHWORTH: STORIES OF SUCCESS

We're delighted to share the recent achievements of three outstanding Rishworth alumni, Jake Thomas, Tom Ward and Charlotte Wadcock, whose post-school journeys are a true reflection of the values and spirit nurtured here at Rishworth.

A huge congratulations to Jake Thomas, who has graduated as an Officer from RAF College Cranwell. Jake's journey began at Rishworth Prep back in 2008 at just four years old, and from his first day to his last in 2021, he displayed the leadership, commitment, and ambition that have carried him to this remarkable milestone.

We're also incredibly proud of Tom Ward, who has been named Student of the Year at Leeds College of Building. Since leaving Rishworth, Tom has shown immense determination and adaptability, thriving in a dynamic college environment. Now specialising in electrical installation, he's already excelling in his Level 2 course and showing huge potential in his chosen field.

From joining Heathfield aged 3, Charlotte Wadcock threw herself into every opportunity provided to her at Rishworth School, with that grit and determination we instil into every student. Her Law studies have taken her to one of the top 10 law firms in the country, where she is now working as a solicitor.



CELEBRATING LAMDA SUCCESS



This term, we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our talented Prep students in a special assembly dedicated to the LAMDA Awards. From Reception to Year 6, every student who took part received either a Merit or a Distinction, a remarkable accomplishment that reflects their confidence and dedication to the performing arts.

The LAMDA programme at Rishworth encourages our children to develop not only their performance skills but also vital qualities such as self-expression, teamwork, and communication. Watching our youngest performers grow in confidence and take pride in their work is truly inspiring.

A huge thank you goes to Wild Things Performing Arts, whose passion and expert guidance continue to nurture their love of drama and performance. This celebration was a wonderful reminder of the talent, enthusiasm, and hard work that shines through every aspect of Rishworth life.

YEAR 12 TAKE ON THE LAKE DISTRICT



Adventure, teamwork, and personal growth were at the heart of Year 12's residential trip to the Lake District. Set against one of the most stunning backdrops in the country, the trip offered students the perfect opportunity to challenge themselves, strengthen friendships, and embrace the spirit of adventure that defines Sixth Form life at Rishworth.

From kayaking across calm waters and scaling rugged rock faces, to testing their aim at archery and trekking through the breathtaking Cumbrian hills, every activity encouraged pupils to step outside their comfort zones. It was a week filled with laughter, determination, and a shared sense of achievement.

Beyond the physical challenges, the residential also gave Year 12 the chance to bond as a year group and build the supportive community that will carry them through their Sixth Form journey. By the end of the trip, students returned more confident, resilient, and united, ready to face the year ahead with renewed energy and purpose.

The Lake District trip was more than just an adventure; it was an experience that will be remembered for years to come!



**VIEW YEAR
12'S TRIP
HERE**



YEAR 3 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF QUENTIN BLAKE



Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic day at The Lowry in Salford, immersing themselves in the imaginative world of Quentin Blake as part of their English and Art studies. They had the unique opportunity to see Blake's original draft drawings for beloved stories such as Matilda and The BFG, gaining insight into the creativity and skill behind some of the most iconic children's books.

Alongside exploring his work, the children learnt about Quentin Blake's life, discovering how he became one of the world's most celebrated illustrators. This inspired them to pick up their own pencils and brushes, creating original pieces in his distinctive, playful style.



The visit perfectly combined learning and creativity, encouraging Year 3 to engage with art in a fun, hands-on way. Laughter, imagination, and curiosity were everywhere, making it a truly memorable and educational experience. It was a day that not only celebrated art but also inspired our young learners to explore their own creative potential.

**VIEW YEAR 3'S
TRIP HERE**



IN CONVERSATION WITH: HEAD STUDENT'S ALFIE AND RHIANNA

What was your reaction when you found out you'd been selected as Heads of School?

Rhianna: I was emotional when I was being told I was selected to be Head of School simply because of how much Rishworth has meant to me from Year 3 to now. I'm excited to be able to give back to the school that has done so much for me.

Alfie: It's an honour to have your commitment to the school recognised, and it's a privilege to be able to hold a position of responsibility in the Sixth Form and the school.

What are you most looking forward to achieving in your roles?

Rhianna: I'm looking forward to leading the prefect team with Alfie to deliver the best educational and extra-curricular experience for all students at Rishworth.

Alfie: I feel that in a position like this, we're set out as role models to other students in the school, and so, being able to build bonds and work as a mentor to younger students, both academically and in wider aspects of school life, is something that I'm really looking forward to over the next year.

Rishworth is known for its supportive and nurturing environment — how has the school helped shape you into the person you are today?

Rhianna: At Rishworth, I found my confidence grew year on year through the support of peers and teachers, but also because of the opportunities given to me to help me jump out of my comfort zone.

Alfie: Rishworth has gone out of its way to both encourage and support my involvement in school sport, drama, music and academics throughout my last six years here.

What does being a student at Rishworth School mean to you?

Rhianna: Being a student at Rishworth means being seen, being known and acknowledged for your strengths and supported for your weaknesses. We are all part of a supportive community who all thrive to be the best versions of themselves.

Alfie: I've been at Rishworth for nearly fifteen years, and so the school means a lot to me; it's somewhere that has demanded hard-work and commitment, but also somewhere that is so close-knit that I feel I am able to talk to every member of staff, and every student. It is a school that I am proud to attend.

What is the best thing about being part of the Rishworth community?

Rhianna: Rishworth is like a home away from home. I am grateful that I get to be part of a school where the teachers know you personally and not just as one of many in a classroom.

Alfie: I think the fact that all of the students and staff are so friendly and approachable makes it easy for new students to settle to the school.





MEETING OUR PREP HEAD STUDENTS

At Rishworth Prep, students value friendship, teamwork, and a welcoming community. Poppy explains how she supports her peers: "I just try to be friends with everyone. It can make people feel less alone." Small acts of kindness like this make a big difference in creating a supportive environment where everyone feels included.

Teamwork is another key part of life at Prep. Ellie shares, "It's good to be in a team and work together. When it's just one person, you have loads of jobs. Teamwork is crucial." She even points out how cooperation has shaped history, noting that it helped win the world war. From classrooms to playgrounds, students learn that collaboration not only makes tasks easier but also builds lasting friendships.

When asked to describe Prep as an emoji, Layla-Jay chooses a castle or smiley face, highlighting both the impressive school building and the friendly atmosphere. She even suggests a party hat, reflecting the joyful celebrations that bring the community together!

Why choose Rishworth Prep? As Poppy says, "Everyone will be welcome. It's a great place to learn." With its emphasis on friendship, teamwork, and inclusion, Prep offers a nurturing environment where every child can thrive.

GCSE & A-LEVEL STUDENTS EXPLORE THE FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING



Our GCSE and A-Level students had an inspiring day at the National Manufacturing Showcase Event in Brighthouse in October, immersing themselves in the latest technologies and career opportunities within the industry. From watching virtual welding machines in action to exploring 3D printers, the event offered a hands-on insight into the future of manufacturing.

Students also met representatives from a wide range of apprenticeship companies, learning about the pathways available after school and the skills needed to thrive in the modern workforce. Interactive games and challenges added a fun element to the day, allowing pupils to apply their knowledge in practical ways.

A special congratulations to Alex, who triumphed in the LEGO trust-building challenge, winning a £50 gift card for assembling the fastest structure!



**VIEW TRIP
HERE**



HIGH-FLYING ACTION AT THE INTERTEAM CATAPULT CHALLENGE

Three lunchtimes of ingenuity, teamwork, and engineering brilliance in the Design Technology workshop all came down to one epic test firing... and what a showdown it was! In October, students from across Rishworth's four houses created catapults and put their creations to the ultimate test, aiming for maximum distance, precision, and, of course, bragging rights! Every team member had a chance to launch their creation, earning house points with every fling. Along the way, there were plenty of laughs, clever designs, and, as always, sweat and tape!

When the dust settled, Baitings claimed first place, followed closely by Ringstone in second, Scammonden in third, and Boothwood in fourth. Special applause goes to our enthusiastic Year 7s, tackling their very first workshop challenge with gusto, and to the brilliant Year 8s, who guided them with patience and skill. Together, they made this Interteam Catapult Challenge a memorable celebration of teamwork, problem-solving, and high-flying fun!

SPREADING WARMTH ACROSS CALDERDALE: OUR COMMUNITY PROJECT IN ACTION

This term, our Community Project students have been busy taking part in not one, but two truly heart-warming initiatives to support those feeling isolated or vulnerable in our community.

Through our partnership with Huddersfield-based charity 'Give a Few Words...', students wrote letters full of kindness, encouragement, and connection for people feeling lonely. Each message was crafted with care, showing just how much a few heartfelt words can brighten someone's day.

In addition, students took part in a VSI in Halifax, helping to fill tote bags packed with essential winter information for elderly and vulnerable residents across Calderdale. From practical resources to small comforts, these bags provide vital support to members of our community during the colder months.

We are incredibly proud of our students for embracing these opportunities to make a real difference. Through thoughtful letters and practical support, they have spread warmth, compassion, and a sense of connection, proving that small acts of kindness can have a huge impact.

This season, our Community Project students have shown that empathy, creativity, and teamwork can touch lives in more ways than one, reminding us all of the power of giving back.



GIVING BACK: OUR COMMUNITY PROJECT VISIT TO ST AUGUSTINE'S



Our Community Project students also visited St Augustine's Centre in Halifax, a charity that welcomes and supports refugees and people seeking asylum. The centre provides a safe space, practical help and a sense of community for individuals and families starting new lives in the UK.

Our students volunteered their time to assist with activities, help staff around the centre and support members of the community who rely on St Augustine's services. They learned about the centre's work, from language support and food provision to social groups and advice services, gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges people face when arriving in a new country.



The visit was a valuable and eye-opening experience, and the students were praised for their maturity, empathy and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented the school and supported a charity doing such important work.

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF BUSINESS



Last week, our Sixth Form students enjoyed a brilliant and inspiring day at the Manchester School of Business. The visit offered an exciting opportunity to dive into a wide variety of industries, with each session sparking new ideas and uncovering career paths that bring together creativity, communication, and business insight.

Throughout the day, students engaged with interactive workshops, heard from industry experts, and explored how business knowledge can be applied in the real world. They had the chance to see firsthand how classroom learning connects to career opportunities and gain practical insight into different industries.



Experiences like this help our students think critically, build confidence, and explore future ambitions. We are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form students for their curiosity, engagement, and ambition throughout the day, qualities that will serve them well as they take the next steps toward exciting and rewarding careers.

**VIEW TRIP
HERE**





In November, our Year 6 visitors had an exciting opportunity to step into the shoes of a Year 7 student for the day, experiencing what life is like at Rishworth School. From the moment they arrived, the day was packed with fun, learning, and new experiences that gave them a real feel for school life.

STEPPING INTO YEAR 7: A TASTE OF LIFE AT RISHWORTH



Students got creative in Art, explored the wider world in Geography, dove into the richness of English literature, and investigated the wonders of Biology. Each activity offered a hands-on taste of what awaits them next year, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm at every turn.

The Year 7 Taster Day was a fantastic way for our visitors to see the variety of subjects, meet new friends, and get a sense of the vibrant, engaging learning environment at Rishworth. We can't wait to welcome them as Year 7s next term!

VIEW THEIR
DAY HERE



FESTIVE FUN AT THE RISHWORTH PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE

What a fantastic turnout at the Rishworth PTA Christmas Fayre in November! The event was alive with festive cheer as students, families, and members of the community came together for an evening filled with celebrations and Christmas spirit. It was wonderful to see so many people joining us to kick off the festive season.

From real reindeer and Santa's Grotto, to the seasonal excitement of our Christmas Funderland, there was something for everyone. Visitors enjoyed a brilliant variety of stalls and local businesses, with favourites including the teddy tombola, the Grinch Café, and plenty of festive treats to indulge in.

A huge thank you goes to our incredible PTA, along with the many staff and student volunteers whose enthusiasm and hard work helped bring the fayre to life. We are also grateful to our generous sponsors for their support in making the event such a success. It was a magical start to the Christmas season, and we can't wait to do it all again next year!



**VIEW THE
EVENT HERE**



FOUNDATION STAGE

EXPLORE EUREKA



In November, our Foundation Stage pupils set off on an exciting adventure to Eureka, and what a day it turned out to be! Every room, exhibit, and activity opened the door to new discoveries, making the museum the perfect playground for young, inquisitive minds.

The children explored early science concepts through interactive stations designed to spark imagination and inquiry. Whether experimenting with simple mechanics, observing cause and effect, or engaging with sensory activities, they were constantly learning through doing. The hands-on nature of Eureka helped transform abstract ideas into memorable, tangible experiences.

Beyond science, the trip also offered wonderful opportunities for the children to develop essential problem-solving and communication skills. Working together, sharing ideas, and navigating new challenges through play helped them build confidence and collaborate with classmates in meaningful ways.

By the end of the visit, our pupils had not only gained new knowledge but had also created lasting memories. This trip to Eureka truly encapsulated the magic of learning, where exploration, play, and education come together.

YEAR 12 VISIT A-SAFE TO EXPLORE INDUSTRY FIRST-HAND

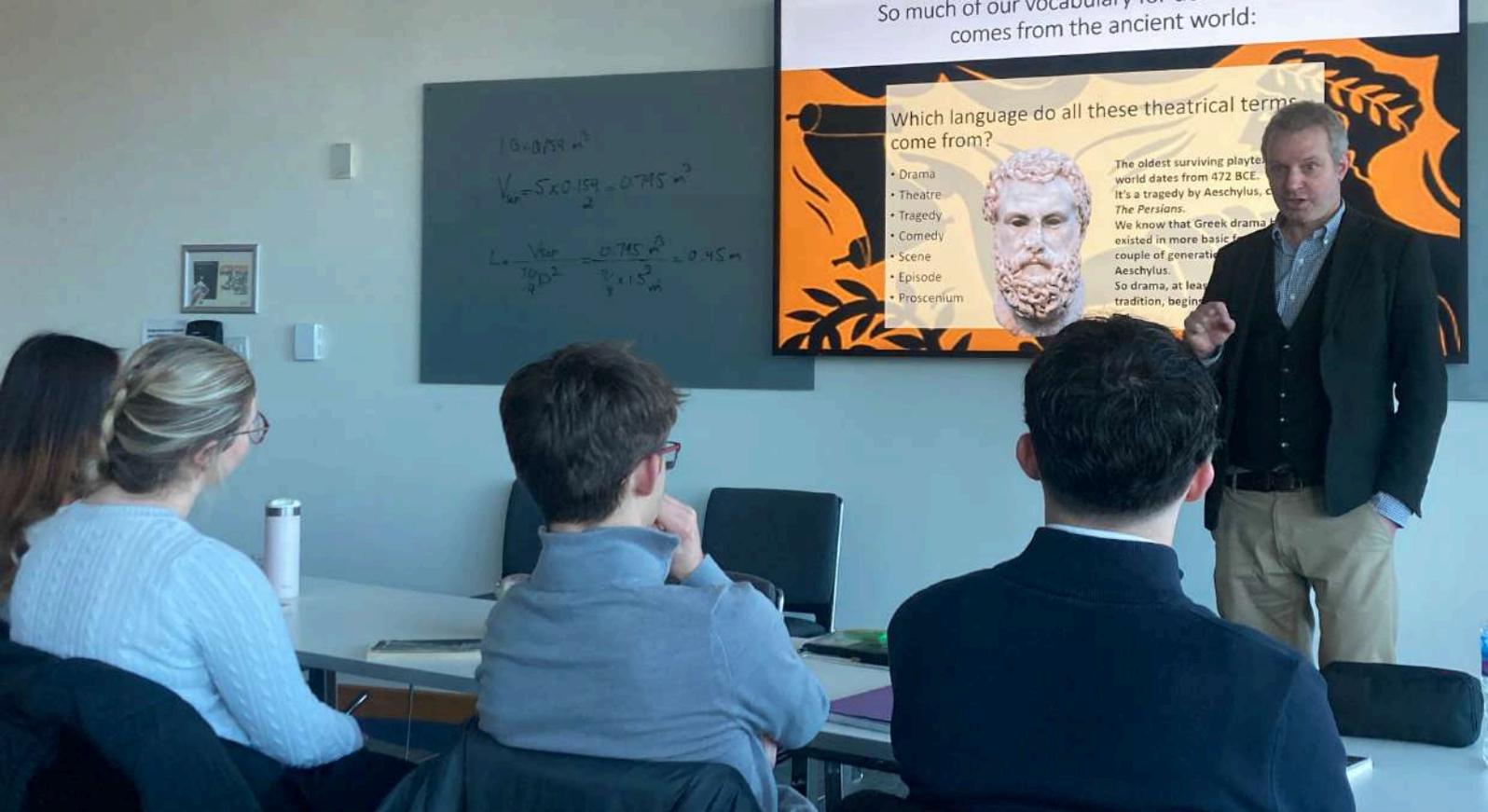
This term, our Year 12 students were given an incredible opportunity to step inside the world of industry during their visit to A-Safe engineering works in Elland. The trip offered a unique behind-the-scenes look at how a global company operates, providing students with valuable insights into engineering, manufacturing, and business on an international scale.

During the visit, students were taken on a full factory tour, where they observed cutting-edge processes, innovative technology, and the meticulous craftsmanship behind A-Safe's renowned safety products. Seeing the production journey up close helped bring classroom learning to life, deepening their understanding of engineering principles and industrial operations.

In addition to the tour, students took part in a series of interactive workshops. These sessions challenged them to think critically, solve problems, and explore the teamwork required in a thriving global organisation. Each workshop highlighted a different aspect of the industry, enriching their knowledge and broadening their career horizons.

A highlight of the day was the presentation from CEO Luke Smith. His talk, followed by a thoughtful Q&A session, offered authentic insight into leadership, innovation, and the future of engineering. We are extremely grateful to him for dedicating his time and expertise to our students.





YEAR 13 EXPLORE UNIVERSITY LEVEL LITERATURE AT HUDDERSFIELD

Huddersfield University opened its doors to our Year 13 English Literature students in December, offering an inspiring glimpse into academic life beyond sixth form. The visit centred on two focused sessions led by university lecturers, each exploring key A Level set texts: *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Feminine Gospels*.

Throughout the day, students engaged with fresh perspectives on Tennessee Williams' dramatic masterpiece, delving into its themes of desire, illusion, and identity through the lens of higher-level literary theory. In a second session, they unpacked Carol Ann Duffy's *Feminine Gospels*, examining the collection's powerful depictions of womanhood and storytelling, and considering how context shapes Duffy's poetic voice.

The lecturers encouraged students to think more critically and confidently about the texts they will soon be analysing in their final exams. The sessions not only deepened their understanding of the literature, but also offered a taste of university style learning: interactive, thought provoking, and intellectually stretching.

These enriching experiences are invaluable as Year 13 prepare for the next steps in their academic journeys, and the day was made even more memorable through photos capturing their engagement, curiosity, and enthusiasm.

RISHWORTH SHOWS ITS SUPPORT FOR MOVEMBER



In November, the Rishworth community came together to support an important cause: men's health. A big shoutout went to our dedicated teachers Mr Donlan, Mr Whitlam, and Mr Lewis, along with student participant Year 10's Cahal, who all took part in Movember to raise awareness and contribute to the vital work the movement does.

Movember focuses on key issues affecting men worldwide, including mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer. By growing moustaches and championing conversations around these topics, our participants helped break down stigma and encouraged open discussion within our school.

Their commitment to this meaningful cause was truly inspiring, and we were proud of the positive example they set throughout November. Whether it was sparking conversations in the corridors or raising funds through sponsorships, their involvement made a real difference.

As their moustaches grew, so did our appreciation. Well done to our Rishworth role models for supporting such an important mission and reminding us all of the power of awareness and community spirit.

YEAR 3 CELEBRATE SUCCESS WITH A TRIP TO TEMPO



After weeks of earning stars, trading them for treats, and adding gem after gem to their class jar, Year 3 finally filled it! Their hard work, teamwork, and perseverance had paid off, and they were treated to a well-deserved whole-class reward by Mrs Bannerman.

The class hopped on the minibus and headed to our local café, Tempo, for a cosy celebration. The children enjoyed warm drinks, delicious cake, and plenty of happy smiles, reflecting on their achievement and enjoying time together outside the classroom.



This special trip recognised the positive values the children demonstrated throughout the term. Their kindness, effort, and collaboration shone through, and celebrating while supporting a local business made the experience even more meaningful. Well done, Year 3, your dedication truly deserves to be celebrated!

**VIEW THEIR
TRIP HERE**





Our Foundation Stage children melted hearts with their incredible performance of Christmas Counts, showcasing their enthusiasm and confidence on stage. Meanwhile, our KS1 superstars brought the story of Bethlehem to life with their lively and memorable production of Busy Busy Bethlehem. Every child shone brightly, delivering performances full of energy, joy, and festive spirit.

FOUNDATION STAGE AND KS1 SHINE IN FESTIVE NATIVITIES



We would also like to extend a huge thank you to our amazing teachers and support staff, whose hard work, creativity, and care made these productions possible. Their dedication behind the scenes ensured that every child could shine and that the shows ran smoothly and successfully.

A big thank you also goes to all the parents and families who joined us to watch the performances. Your support and encouragement added to the magic of the events and made them truly special. The nativities were the perfect start to December, filling our school with festive joy, laughter, and a wonderful sense of community.

RISHWORTH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2025

Rishworth School's annual Christmas Concert lit up the hall with festive spirit, outstanding talent and a sense of community that could be felt from the very first note. This year's event was nothing short of spectacular, bringing together students, staff, families and friends for an evening filled with warmth, joy and musical brilliance.

From the moment the curtains opened, it was clear the audience was in for something special. Our choirs, bands, ensembles and soloists delivered performances that showcased not only their exceptional skill, but also the dedication and passion they've poured into their music throughout the term. Each group brought its own unique sparkle to the stage, from powerful choral harmonies and polished instrumental pieces to energetic ensemble numbers that had the audience captivated.

One of the most unforgettable aspects of the night was the overwhelming support from our school community. The hall was packed, buzzing with excitement and brimming with festive cheer. The applause, smiles and encouraging energy from the audience created an atmosphere that made the evening truly extraordinary.

As the final notes rang out and applause filled the hall, it was clear this year's Christmas Concert was one of our most magical yet. A huge well done to our talented performers, and thank you to everyone who joined us and filled the night with warmth, love and festive spirit.



**VIEW THE
CONCERT HERE**





YEAR 3 AND 4 ENJOY A FESTIVE AFTERNOON AT HUDDERSFIELD TOWN STADIUM

In December, our Year 3 and 4 pupils had a truly magical festive outing as they visited Huddersfield Town Stadium for a special screening of Elf. The excitement was sky-high from the moment they arrived, ready for an afternoon packed with fun, laughter and Christmas cheer.

The children settled into their seats with complimentary popcorn in hand, creating the perfect cosy cinema experience inside the stadium. Giggles, smiles and plenty of festive spirit filled the room as they enjoyed the much-loved Christmas classic together.

But the highlight of the trip was a surprise visit from none other than Terry the Terrier! Huddersfield Town's beloved mascot greeted the pupils and made the experience even more memorable by giving each student a personalised letter from Santa Claus himself. The joy on their faces said it all.

It was a wonderful afternoon that brought festive magic to life and created memories the children will cherish all season long.



This term, the school celebrated the outstanding achievements of our pupils with a very special Rewards Red Carpet Event. Students in the top 10 percent of credit earners in their year, alongside those specially recommended by their Heads of Year, were invited to join this exclusive celebration.

The Performing Arts Centre was transformed into a cosy cinema, complete with a red carpet entrance, comfy seating, festive decorations, and plenty of snacks for everyone to enjoy. Pupils were treated to a Christmas film in style, celebrating their hard work and commitment throughout the term in a relaxed and exciting environment.

It was wonderful to see pupils enjoying themselves, sharing laughs with friends and basking in the well-deserved recognition of their success. The event was a perfect way to round off the term, leaving students with festive cheer and a sense of pride in their accomplishments.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS ON THE RED CARPET

SIXTH FORM FUNDRAISER DAY



Our Sixth Form pupils organised a fantastic Fundraiser Day filled with games, treats and activities, all in support of their new Sixth Form building. Students from across the school enjoyed a day of exciting challenges and a chance to get involved in the fun.

The Sixth Formers set up a tuck shop stocked with delicious treats, ran games like Stick the Nose on the Snowman, and organised a dress down day for all students. Laughter and excitement could be heard throughout the school as pupils tried their luck at the games, picked up some tasty snacks, and enjoyed spending time with friends.



It was a wonderful way for Sixth Form pupils to take the lead, demonstrating initiative and creativity while raising money for an important cause. The day was a huge success, combining fun, community and fundraising in one memorable event.

The Sixth Form Fundraiser Day was a great way to finish the term, leaving pupils with smiles on their faces and a sense of pride in supporting their school.

A FESTIVE FEAST TO END THE TERM AT RISHWORTH SCHOOL



Rishworth School celebrated the end of term in true Christmas spirit with our much loved annual Christmas dinner. The atmosphere was filled with excitement as students and staff came together to enjoy one of the most anticipated meals of the year.

Our amazing catering team pulled out all the stops, preparing a delicious traditional Christmas lunch complete with all the trimmings. From the beautifully roasted mains to the festive desserts, every plate showcased their hard work, care and creativity. Laughter, conversation and plenty of festive cheer filled the dining hall, making it a warm and joyful occasion for everyone.

It was the perfect way to round off the term, with great food, great company and a wonderful reminder of the vibrant community spirit at Rishworth School.



The festive season came to life at the Prep as pupils enjoyed a cosy Christmas movie morning, complete with blankets, popcorn and all the holiday spirit. Laughter and excitement filled the room as children settled in to watch their favourite festive film, enjoying a relaxed and joyful start to the morning.

SANTA VISITS THE PREP FOR A FESTIVE SURPRISE



Just as the movie was underway, a magical sound interrupted the screen, sleigh bells jingling! Santa himself appeared, spreading cheer and delight across the classroom. The pupils were thrilled to meet Santa in person, and each child received a special gift from him, making the moment even more memorable.

It was the perfect way to round off an amazing first term, celebrating the hard work, achievements and friendships that have flourished since the start of the year. Pupils left the Prep buzzing with excitement, festive joy and wonderful memories to carry into the holiday season.

Santa's surprise visit reminded everyone of the magic of Christmas, leaving a lasting smile on the faces of all the children and staff alike.

BUDDIES COME TOGETHER FOR A CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's Christmas celebrations gave both our Foundation Stage pupils and their Year 6 buddies a wonderfully festive morning to enjoy together. The Year 6 classroom was transformed with seasonal sparkle, creating a warm and welcoming space for a variety of fun activities.

Pupils from both year groups enjoyed face painting, where Christmas characters came to life with colourful designs and plenty of giggles. At the arts and crafts tables, buddies worked side by side to create festive cards, decorations, and small keepsakes to take home, each one made with creativity and care.

The morning continued with cheerful games, bringing out teamwork, excitement, and lots of laughter as the children played together. A cosy photo booth area offered a chance for quick festive snapshots, capturing happy smiles and the special bond between buddies.

The celebration was a heart-warming reminder of the strong connections across our school community. Both Foundation Stage and Year 6 pupils left with full hearts, festive spirits, and memories of a magical morning shared with friends.





RISHWORTH
SCHOOL



MERRY
Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Thank you for your support this year
at Rishworth and for an amazing first
term. We're excited for 2026 at
Rishworth School.

