

7<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **PA Raspberry Pi Competition 2026**

Following our earlier announcement that Team MediSend had reached the national finals of the PA Raspberry Pi Competition 2026, I am absolutely delighted to share that the team went on to win the top prize in their age category at the National Finals held at Google London, Pancras Square. The team received the prestigious Inspiration Award and secured a £1000 cash prize in recognition of their outstanding project and presentation.

Team MediSend consists of Leo McCarthy Malone, Finlay Lowles, Ethan Hatchett and Jacob McNab, all of whom represented Richard Hale School exceptionally throughout the competition. Competing against schools from across the country, the boys impressed judges not only with the technical quality of their work, but also with the maturity, compassion and confidence they demonstrated during their presentation and interviews.

Their project, MediSend, was designed to tackle a significant global healthcare issue: the waste of vital medicines in some areas while nearby clinics face serious shortages. Using Python, Kivy and SQLite, the students created a practical system that allows pharmacies and clinics to log and share medication stock locally, helping surplus medicines reach the places where they are needed most before expiry.

Mr Veli said that what made the achievement especially rewarding was seeing the personal growth of the students throughout the process. For a group that would normally describe themselves as quite shy and reserved, they rose magnificently to the occasion, speaking confidently with judges, guests and industry professionals across the day. It was a genuine pleasure to watch them blossom in such a prestigious environment.

The students also had the opportunity to meet Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock during the event, making the day even more memorable and inspiring for the team. This continues Richard Hale School's strong record in national STEM competitions and is another fantastic example of the impact of our extra-curricular provision.

A huge congratulations to Leo, Finlay, Ethan and Jacob on this outstanding achievement.

### **Reading for Pleasure**

Please find below the latest Bookdrop Newsletter, created in partnership with UK's children's publishers and the Open University Reading for Pleasure team. Bookdrop is a FREE half-termly digital newsletter that's perfect for supporting reading for pleasure in school and at home:

[Bookdrop Newsletter - authorfy](#)

### **Year 7 Bude**

Just a reminder that the deadline for the room information is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May and for those who were unable to attend the information evening, the presentation has been added to the boys' Google Classroom.

## Secondhand Uniform Sale: Saturday 16th May

There will be a secondhand uniform sale on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May between 9.30am and midday. The sale will take place in the Drama Studio (near the tennis courts) and all proceeds will go to the parents' association to fund school projects and improvements.

If you have any pre-loved blazers, ties, jumpers, PE kits or games kits to donate, please leave them in a bag in the main school reception any day next week. Thank you for your support.

Ian Hawkins  
Headteacher

## May 2026 Calendar

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	A Level Exams start
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	BTEC Exams end Year 10 Geography Field Trip 1 – Epping Forest
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Treasure Hunt
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	French Language Trip to the 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Geography Trip, Bath to the 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term Week

## June 2026 Calendar

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Return to school
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 10 History Trip – Tower of London
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10 Parents Evening
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10 & 12 Geology Trip, Cornwall to the 12 <sup>th</sup>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	GCSE Exams End Year 10 MFL Mock Speaking Exams week
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	D&T Rotary Club Competition
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10 English Exam
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	A Level Exams End Year 10 DofE Practice Expedition to the 21 <sup>st</sup>
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 7 Trip to Bude to the 26 <sup>th</sup>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sixth Form Induction
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sixth Form Induction
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	District Athletics
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Biology Field Trip – Day 1
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 New Parents Evening HPV Vaccinations Biology Field Trip – Day 2

## July 2026 Calendar

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Biology Field Trip – Day 3
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 Tutor Meetings

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 10 Geography Field Trip 2 – Stratford
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Concert Art Exhibition – Private view
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Art Exhibition
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Intake Day Year 8 Work Shadowing
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Work Experience Week
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Production
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Uniform Day Academic Year ends and school finishes at 12.30

### Weeks

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Week 1
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Week 2
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Week 1
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Week 2
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term Week
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Week 1
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Week 2
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Week 1
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Week 2
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Week 1
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Week 2
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Week 1