

TERM 4 AT RGS 2026



A busy term packed with trips, enrichment, careers events and celebration — please see below for a round-up of everything that has been happening since February.



TRIPS, VISITS AND WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

It has been an exceptionally busy term for trips and visits across the Post 16 community.

Geography students headed to Temple Quarter to carry out first-hand study of urban regeneration in Bristol, while History students attended a conference at the University of Bristol exploring the Tudors.

Year 12 Physics students visited the University of Bristol for a Particle Physics Masterclass. Emma from Year 12 shares her experience:

"We began with talks from professors about the basics of particle physics and its real-world applications, from radiotherapy to volcanology. We then analysed actual data from the Large Hadron Collider, before designing our own particle accelerators – balancing costs and specifications to meet our detector's aims. We also had a Q&A with two PhD students currently working at CERN, and got to hear what life is really like working there with scientists from across the world. Overall, it was a fantastic experience and all of us thoroughly enjoyed it!"

Congratulations also to Evelyn in Year 12 who had her work published in the University of Bristol French Department's magazine "La Depeche".



TRIPS, VISITS AND WIDER OPPORTUNITIES (CONTD)

Year 12 students also attended a Healthcare Careers Day at the Bristol School of Anatomy, gaining hands-on experience across a range of medical fields – from ultrasound and dental workshops to a lecture-style dissection and medical disease diagnosis. A particular highlight was the focus on the many different pathways into healthcare, including routes that don't require going straight from sixth form into medical school.

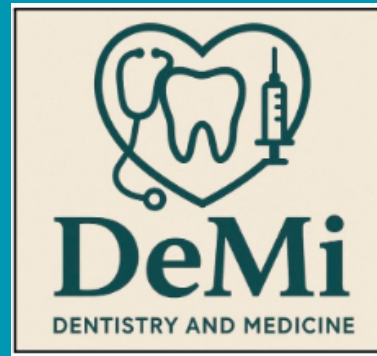
Ten Year 12 students took part in an overnight HEplus residential visit to Trinity Hall, Cambridge. They visited a range of colleges and departments, met current students, and gained an excellent all-round understanding of life at Cambridge University.

A Level RE and Philosophy students attended a conference at Badminton School. Iris from Year 12 shares her experience:

"We were discussing a number of questions around the topic of death; euthanasia, the death penalty and animal killing. We were debating the pros and cons and the morality of decisions in relation to this. Badminton School presented facts, gave questions, allowed us time to discuss and reflect in groups, then people voluntarily gave their opinions on the topic, often sparking debate."

Over 150 Post 16 students travelled to Exeter for a UCAS Convention, meeting staff from a wide range of universities and apprenticeship providers – a fantastic opportunity to explore their options and gather valuable information for their next steps.





FUTURES - NEXT STEPS

DeMi – our student-led Dentistry and Medicine Society – welcomed a visit from local dentist Ceri, who led a wide-ranging discussion covering everything from essential skills and the role of AI in dentistry, to specialisations such as periodontics and endodontics, and his own journey to running his own practice. Earlier in the term, DeMi members also put their engineering skills to the test building towers out of spaghetti and marshmallows!

We are especially delighted to share that one of our students has secured a place on a **degree apprenticeship in Engineering at Airbus** – an incredibly competitive programme, with around 150–200 successful candidates selected from over 10,000 applications every year. A truly outstanding achievement. Well done also to students who completed work experience placements at the **BBC**, and to others navigating apprenticeship interviews across a variety of disciplines.

Year 13 students who sent off UCAS applications earlier in the year set a **record-breaking total**, and those still considering their next steps are reminded that one-to-one appointments with our careers coach remain available via Post 16 reception.

A representative from the University of Exeter worked with Year 12 students to prepare for the UCAS Convention and spoke to Year 13 students about student finance. A recording of the online Exeter University student finance session for parents has been shared – please do take a look if you weren't able to join live.

Up to date careers opportunities are shared regularly [here](#).

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT

This term has seen outstanding student-led activity. Post 16 students organised a fantastic programme of events for the whole school to mark **International Women's Day 2026**, including music in the Atrium, and a treasure hunt around the school celebrating inspirational women, and a special IWD-inspired motion for the debating society semi-final. We are very proud of the students who put this together.

The **Anthony Nolan Hero Project** was a highlight of the term. Year 12 students attended an inspiring assembly about stem cell donation, and a follow-up donor registration event in the Atrium was a tremendous success – a **record number** of our Post 16 students signed up to join the stem cell donor register.

Empathy Week was marked through tutor time activities and prompts, encouraging students to reflect on the importance of empathy in everyday life and future careers.

The debating league reached a thrilling conclusion this term. Congratulations to **Sammi, Scarlett and George**, who triumphed in the final on the motion: *"Winning is the most important thing."* In a brilliantly ironic twist, they won by arguing – convincingly – that there are more important things than winning. Nearly 50 students came along to support the finalists, making for a lively and thought-provoking occasion.

The semi-final, held during IWD week, debated the motion: *"Is chivalry sexist?"* – another brilliantly argued contest.



ACADEMIC PREPARATION AND STUDY SUPPORT

Year 12 mock examinations were held from 27th March to 2nd April. They were very well attended and went extremely smoothly – well done to all students for their focus and preparation. Results will be used to help students reflect on their revision strategies and plan effectively for the weeks ahead.

Year 13 students are revising in earnest, with Business and Economics students attending revision sessions delivered by Tutor2U at Cribbs Causeway. All Year 13 students are reminded of the academic support available via Upgrade and the Academic Mentors.

WELLBEING AND SUPPORT

Student wellbeing has remained a central focus throughout the term. Resources and guidance have been shared regularly through tutor time and student emails, including exam stress guidance from Mind, and advice for students fasting during Ramadan from YoungMinds. Our Post 16 counsellor Freya continues to be available for students who need support.

If you need urgent support during the half term break, we can recommend the following services:

- Kooth – real-time, online support An online counselling platform for young people aged 11-18.
- Childline – 0800 1111. 7:30am – 3.30am Helpline and webchat where you can talk about anything that's on your mind.
- CAMHS Crisis Line – 0800 953 9599. Open 24/7 365 days a year Immediate emotional and practical telephone support for young people aged 17 and under.
- Shout – text 85258. Open 24/7 365 days a year text support for young people in crisis.

As ever if a student has any worries about themselves or one of their peers, or have experienced or witnessed any form of discrimination in school they should pass this on to a member of our safeguarding team or use Whisper - our anonymous reporting tool. Safeguarding concerns can also be sent to safeguardingalert@redlandgreen.bristol.sch.uk

REMINDERS AND KEY DATES...

- Students should wear their identification lanyards at all times when on site
- Term 5 begins for students on Tuesday 21st April 2026 (Monday 20th is an INSET day at both RGS and Cotham). It will be **week B** when we return
- Year 13 celebration assembly will be on the afternoon of Friday 8 May (lessons 1-4 will be as normal) and A/AS level exams begin on Monday 11 May.

We wish all students and parents a very restful break.

