



Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin

28th March 2025

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Introduction

Dear Reading School Community,

Thank you so much.

I'm not sure more needs to be said.

More important than the £135,858 raised is the remarkable way in which this we have come together, uniting 1673 donors in just 36 hours.

As a staff body we are absolutely sure of our aspirations: we want the children and young people we spend so much time with to grow into men who know what happiness is, who live with purpose and who feel fulfilled.

We have no doubt that experiencing the joy of being part of something bigger than yourself, encountering and overcoming challenges, and learning to delight in giving, are themselves stepping stones towards lives well lived.

And so, we hope that coming together in the way we have this week provides inspiration for all the truly talented young people of this school. For them, these experiences must be just the beginning of lives that are spent well, and for us, who support and nurture their journeys, these little milestones must be encouragement that we are on the right path.

I'll let the [messages from our donor wall](#) speak for themselves:

"Reading School has been a wonderful foundation for the lives of so many boys, including our three sons, thank you."

"Long and wide may the light of education from Reading School spread."

"The entire school community, including teachers, staff, and administrators, has demonstrated unwavering dedication, patience, and understanding. Your collective efforts have not only helped my son achieve academic success but also instilled in him valuable life skills and confidence."

"Proud to give back and pay forward, as an old Redingensian and current parent. The boys need a new swimming pool, a sports hall, a better Sixth Form Centre and better music and performance facilities. Let's get all this for them, the boys after them, and share it with the local community."

"Congratulations to Reading School from Finland. We have had the privilege to share some life changing experiences with the students and teachers of Reading School over the years. Cheers to the team spirit, SISU, determination and kindness of all your students and staff!"

"With overwhelming gratitude for all that the Reading School teachers and staff do for our children. Floreat Redingensis indeed!"

"Dear Reading School - I'm proud to celebrate your 900th anniversary. My time at school (1962-1969) shaped who I am today. Congratulations on maintaining tradition of academic rigor, social responsibility, and community spirit. Best wishes for future success. 'Floreat Redingensis!'"

"It is a quality of emerging leaders to take part in noble causes and contribute to the community at large. Good luck with your efforts."

"This donation is made with the hope of empowering future generations to dream, learn, and succeed."

"Reading School is a special place for me. Not only for 7 great years of education and friendship making, but also as the venue of our wedding ceremony in 2016. I hope this small contribution can combine with others to make a big difference, the school deserves it."

With humble thanks,

Chris Evans

Headmaster

Key information

All years

End of Term Arrangements – Friday 4th April

Due to lost lesson time this week and next week, we will be following a normal timetable next Friday morning, the last day of term, instead of each house having a chapel service:

End of Term Arrangements:

08:20	Tutor Time (Years 7-11)
08:30	Lesson 1
09:20	Lesson 2
10:10	Lesson 3/breaktime
11:15	Lesson 4
12:00	Lesson 5 for senior students (Years 11-13)/ junior students (Years 7-10) depart
12:45	Tutor time for senior students only
13:00	Senior students depart

Food will be paninis on the main buffet side for junior and senior break.

Boarding dismissal: junior (Y7-10) boarders to be collected from 12:15, senior (Y11-13) boarders, from 13:15.

Reading School Vacancies

Teacher Vacancy - Teacher of Spanish, starting September 2025

Please see our recruitment portal for full details: [Teacher of Spanish at Reading School](#)

Deadline for Applications - 8am on Tuesday 22 April 2025

School Community News

Celebrating Creativity and House Spirit

House Eisteddfod 2025

According to ORA (Old Redingensian Association) Archivist, Mr Ken Brown, Reading School's House Elocution competition has been running since 1927 when 40 entrants were whittled down in a preliminary round to 13, who were judged in Big School by distinguished physician and local dignitary Sir Stewart Abram. It recent times the competition has been adapted to make it more suitable for the 21st Century by turning it into '[House Eisteddfod](#)' in March 2013 by Head of English, Mr Baldock. Elocution used to be a very formal affair, happening in the evening in front of a small audience of dignitaries, and mostly senior students.

The newer format was designed to open the competition up to encourage students across all year groups to participate, and it added a creative writing aspect. Furthermore, during Covid, the competition continued to take place with video contributions being submitted and it has been an annual constant ever since.



House Eisteddfod includes all five Houses: East, County, Laud, School, West, and features over 40 performances in the School Chapel over the course of a single day, while celebrating music, poetry, creative writing, and performance. It is a student-led event that fosters House spirit, creativity, and not forgetting friendly rivalry. During our 900th Anniversary year, the chosen themes were excellence, integrity, leadership, community, participation, and celebration, and we look forward to sharing full performances very soon.

In the meantime, please enjoy an extra element to this year's special 900th Anniversary House Eisteddfod competition by clicking the links. Houses were tasked with creating a short video presentation of a poem or song lyric on the theme of 'Celebration'.



Giving Day 2025

To jump to the Giving Day Photo & Video Galley – [please click this link](#)

A snapshot of Giving Day



As part of a personal-led challenge outside of the official school Giving Day challenges, Liam G and Yaadveer G made the decision to walk 90 kilometres together in aid of Giving Day. Yaadveer shared his account of the walk with us this week:

“When we decided to walk 90 kilometres for the Reading School Giving Day, we knew it would be a tough challenge. But we also knew it would be a journey driven by purpose, determination, and a deep commitment to our school community.

Liam and I set out on this adventure with the goal of raising both awareness and funds for the school, hoping to make a meaningful impact. To prepare for the 90km challenge, we broke it down into manageable chunks, walking 15km each Sunday over the course of three weeks. Every step brought us closer to our goal, teaching us invaluable lessons in perseverance and teamwork along the way.

Our first walk took us to Bridleway Farm, just outside Reading. The flat terrain of the farm’s paths was easy to navigate, but it was more about finding our rhythm. As we set off, we began to understand the limits of our endurance. We were tired by the end, but that exhaustion filled us with confidence. Having conquered our first 15km, the thought of completing 90km no longer seemed impossible.



The second walk took us to Virginia Waters in Ascot, where the landscape was absolutely breathtaking. By the time we reached our third walk, at California Country Park, we were feeling much more prepared. The park’s scenic paths reminded us of the importance of community, and how many people had come together to support us - and, more importantly, to support the school.

Finally, on Giving Day, during the 26th and 27th we completed the remaining 45 kilometres along the picturesque Thames Path. The weather was perfect, with clear skies and ideal conditions for walking. Along the way, we bumped into teachers and friends, which gave us an overwhelming sense of camaraderie.

We are incredibly proud of what we’ve achieved, but none of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of our friends, family, and the wider community. Thanks to their generosity, we raised an incredible £850 for Reading School.”

On behalf of the Reading School Community, well done to you both.

Careers

Deloitte Early Careers Programme

A range of programmes are currently available for students across Years 9, 10 and 11 during which time students will have an opportunity to take part in developing skills and finding out more about future careers could look like through participating in workshops and hearing from those who work at Deloitte.

Full details of all available programmes are [available by clicking here](#).

RSPA

School Lottery

The RSPA invites the parent and carer community to participate in our School Lottery and help our School continue to flourish in this monumental year!

This season you'll be in with a chance to win a Home Robot Bundle that will revolutionise your Spring cleaning! Imagine strolling through nature while your Lawnmaster L12 Robot Mower mows your lawn and returning to floors freshly cleaned by your Roomba Combo J5!

For all nature enthusiasts, winners can instead opt for planting 1,000 trees, contributing to a greener future.

Alternatively, you can choose £1,000 cash to fund your own Spring projects.

Tickets are only £1 per week

Play weekly or buy one-off tickets

Please click here to play: <https://shorturl.at/LDKnr>

Buy your tickets before 29 March to be in with a chance to win these fantastic prizes.

Thank you for your support!

The Pre-loved Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be open on the following dates:

- ~~Friday 28th March from 3.30pm – 4.30pm~~ **CANCELLED**
- Saturday 29th March from 10.30am – 12.30pm

Please come along to purchase pre-loved school uniform, games kit and cricket whites. We are starting to gather stock for new Year 7s who will arrive in September 2025, and would welcome donations of the following items:

- Ties
- Macron kit
- Small size trousers -up to age 13
- Small size shirts - up to age 13
- Blazers -up to 34"
- Lab coats

In the event of a poor weather forecast the opening will be cancelled and if this happens, information will be sent out via WhatsApp groups and Classlist.

We are always looking for more volunteers to join our shop team. It is a great way to meet other parents and to find out about more about the school. If you would like to join the team, please email shop@readingschoolparents.co.uk

Have a lovely weekend, and thank you to all those who support the RSPA.

The RSPA Team

Lent Term – Week 12

To keep up to date with student life at Reading School, click the icons below to follow, be part of, and stay connected with the Reading School community.



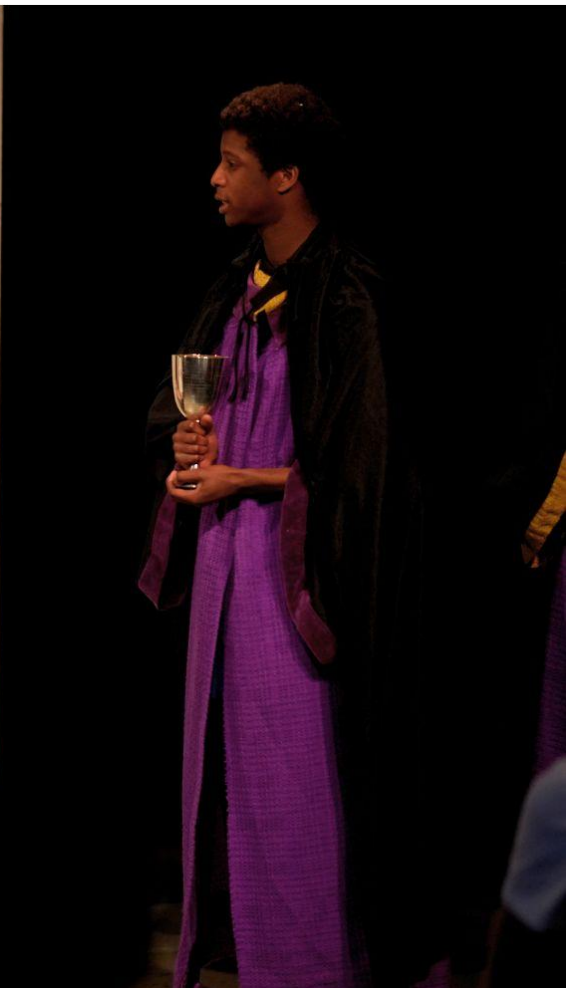
Giving Days – How it started and how it's going

Day 1

A special mention and appreciation for student photographers (in no particular order): Emlyn L-J (12ZMC), Yicheng L (11S), and Tyron A (10C)









[Click image to see more from ITV](#)





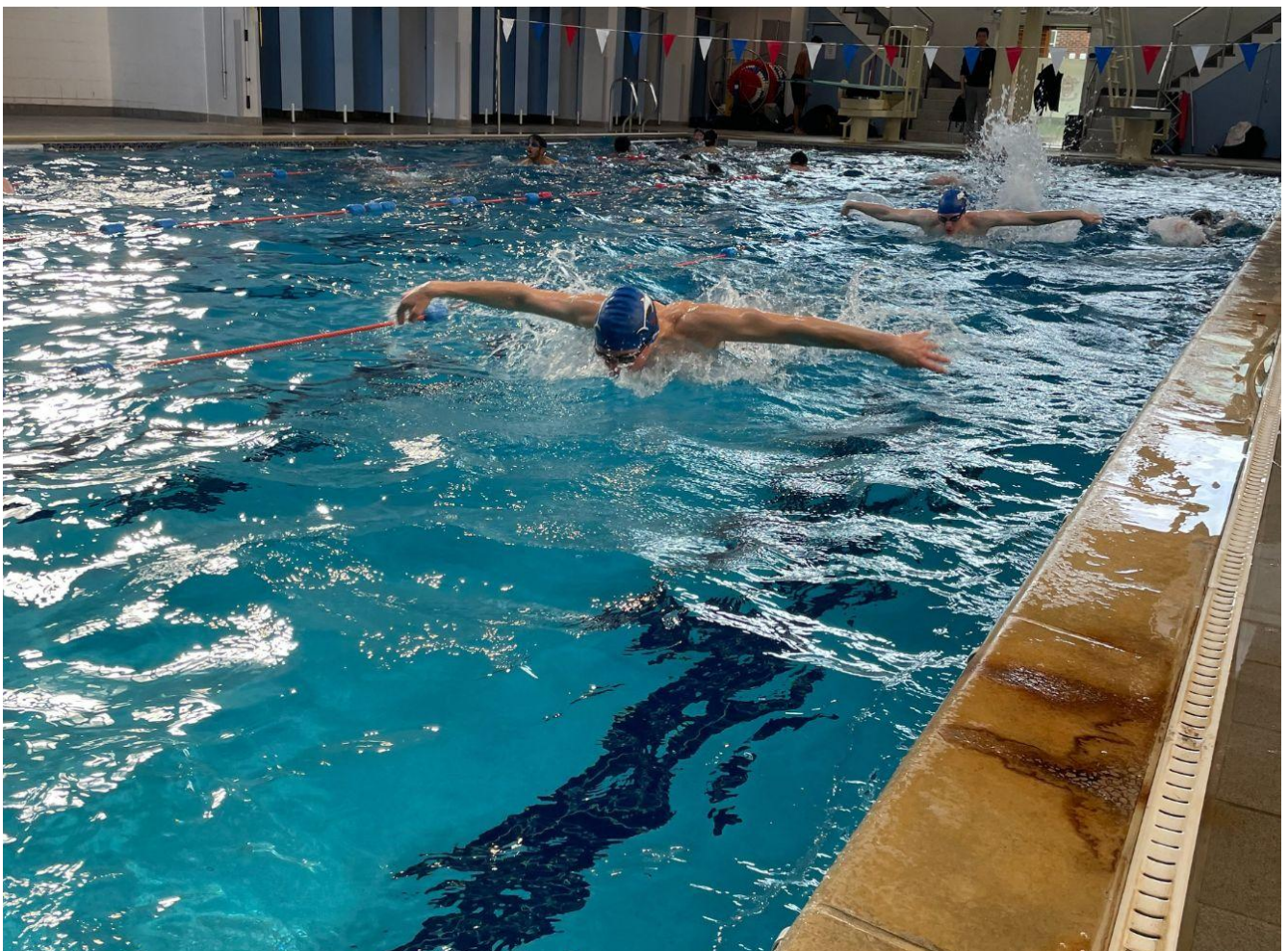
















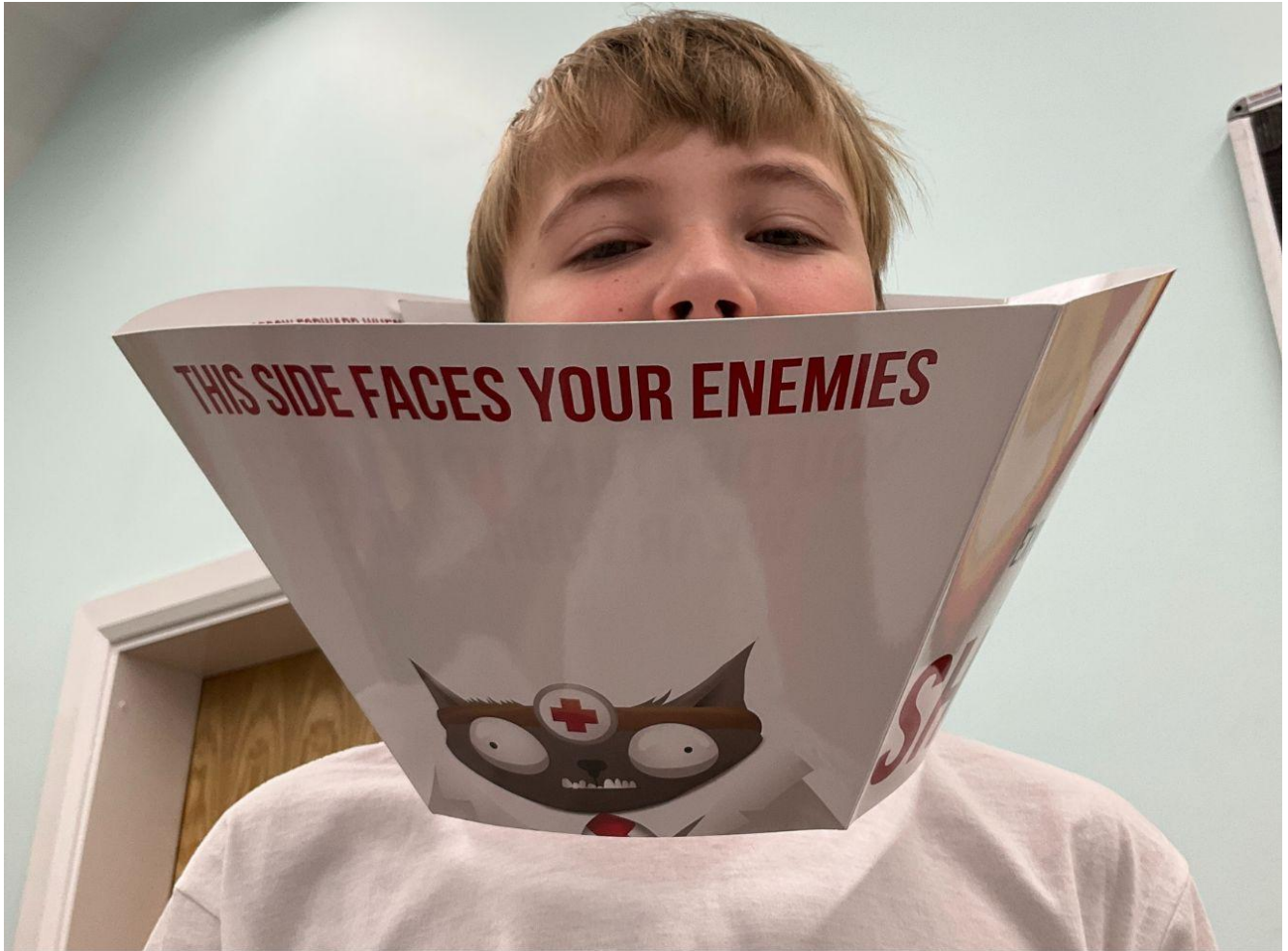


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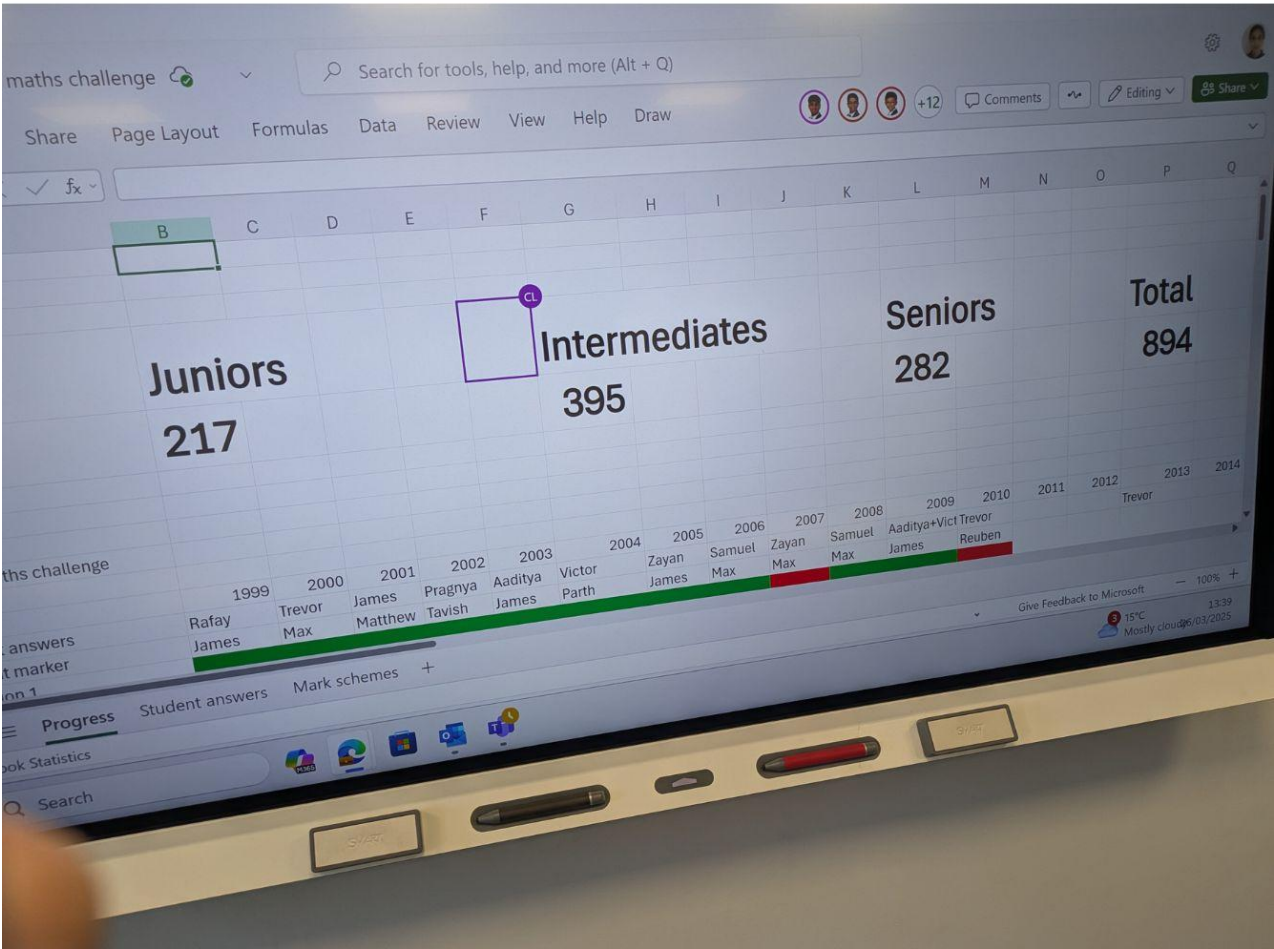








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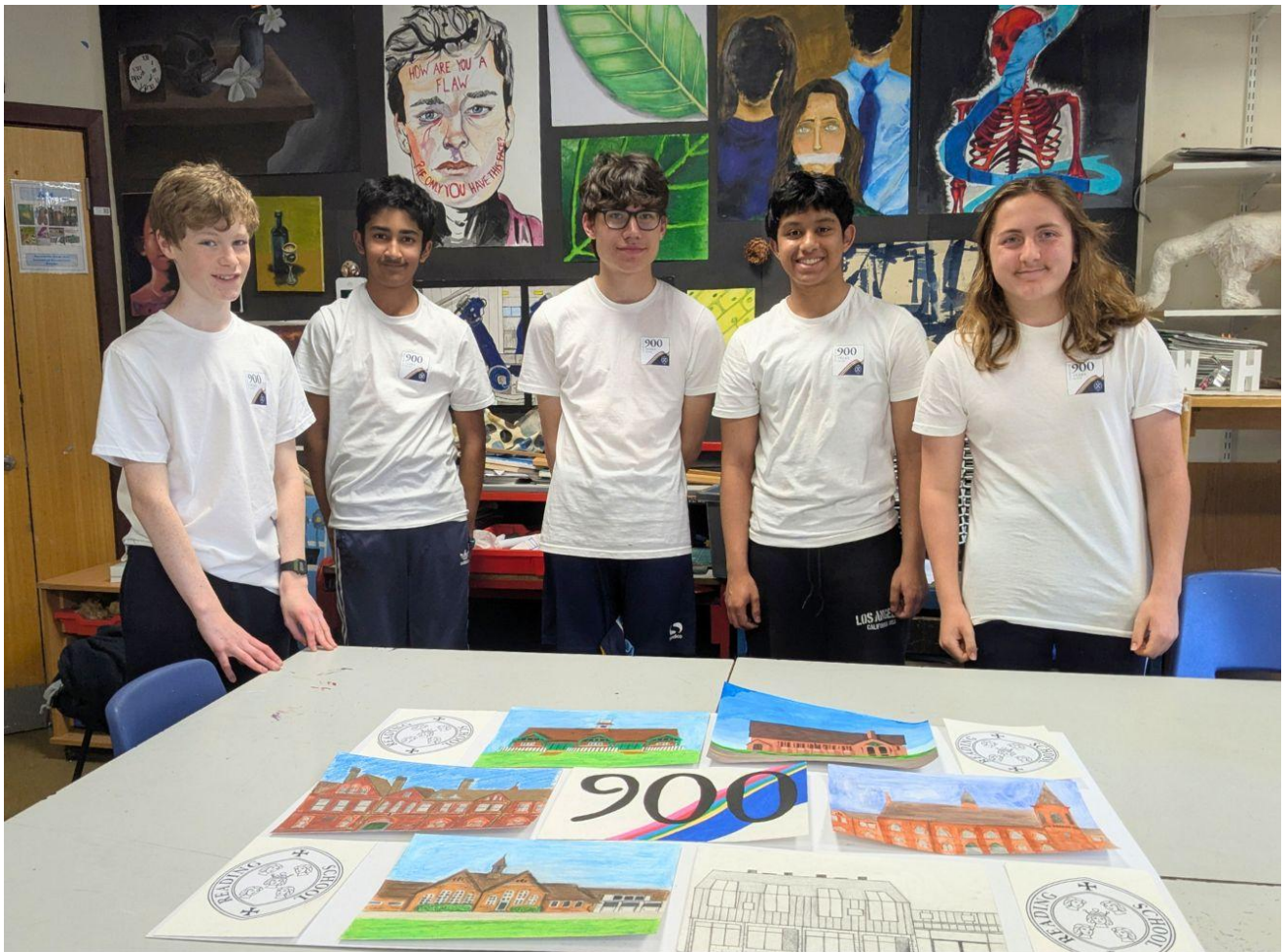






[Click image to see more](#)





Day 2

The Thank You Team busy at work in the Conference Room responding to donators.

[Click the image to view a Thank You message](#)







Click the image to hear a thank you message





We welcome parents, families, ORs and friends to be part of Giving Day





Click the image to hear from our Headmaster









[Click the image to view a slideshow](#)





Robin Oldland (OR 1941–1951)

Robin moved to Reading during the War, and he was a South House Boarder. Giving Day was Robin's first time back to Reading School since he left in 1951.



Eli C (7S)

Feedback is important to us and if you have any positive news, comments or suggestions, please contact the Community Relations Office by emailing communityrelations@reading-school.co.uk