

RS Weekly 17 September 2025

From Round Square <wmt@roundsquare.org>

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School Development <schooldevelopment.podar@pearlschool.org>

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Round Square Weekly 17 September 2025

At a glance:

Click on the links below to discover what's happening in Round Square this week:

- RSIC2025 Dubai Best wishes to our Hosts
- Submit your Letters of Commitment for Round Square Conferences in 2026
- Being an Adult Leader on a Round Square International Service Project
- Inviting Student Applications for RSIS India December 2025
- Register for upcoming RS History Labs
- Register for upcoming RS French Labs
- Host a Round Square Zoom Postcard in 2026
- Register for upcoming RS Zoom Postcards
- Thank You to our recent RS Zoom Postcard and History Labs Hosts
- Join a school's Round Square Collaboration
- No Round Square Weekly Next Week

RSIC2025 Dubai - Best wishes to our **Hosts**

In just two days' time, the Round Square International Conference opens in Dubai, and we can't wait! With more than 1,300 delegates attending from 155 Round Square schools in 28 countries, it promises to be a truly international, intercultural, and inspirational gathering.

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Wishing safe travels to everyone taking part.

Submit your Letters of Commitment for Round Square Conferences in 2026

We are delighted to invite you to submit **Letters of Commitment (LoCs)** for next year's student events, following the release of the **2026 Round Square Conference Calendar** in June.

This is with a huge thank you to our host schools, who have gone the extra mile to get the details together as early as possible. All 2026 RS Conferences through to (but not including) the RSIC2026 opened for LoCs last week. The RSIC will, as usual, be launched at the closing ceremony of this year's RSIC, and open for LoCs towards the end of the year.

Please note that Letters of Commitment will be accepted, and places filled, on a first-come, first-served basis, and some conferences may close early once capacity is reached.

At this point in time, only Landheim Ammersee has stopped accepting LoCs as this conference is now full to capacity, though you can sign up to their waiting list in case additional places become available, either through cancellations or increased capacity. In this case, schools on the waiting list will be contacted in the order they registered. All other conferences still have places available.

Find all the RS Conferences listed here

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Being an Adult Leader on a Round Square International Service Project

Serving as an adult leader on a Round Square International Service (RSIS) project is more than a professional opportunity, it's an experience that blends cultural immersion, service learning, and personal growth. For some, RSIS has become a multi-year commitment; for others, their first project has opened doors they now feel called to walk through again. Across all levels of experience, a shared spirit of responsibility, adaptability, and reflection defines the heart of this work. Read more.

Opportunities are currently still available for adults to join our upcoming RSIS Project in India, 6-18 December 2025, as:

- Project Leader
- Deputy Project Leader
- · Accompanying Adult
- Medical Support

Find out more about becoming an Adult Leader

Inviting Student Applications for RSIS India December 2025

RSIS India December 2025 is open for applications from students aged 16-18 years. Working with Round Square school Daly College, we will be visiting the Panna National Park, close to the city of Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh, where Daly College has developed a sustainable service relationship partnering with local village communities in and around the park.

Key information:

. Arrival into Delhi: 06 December 2025

. Departure home from Delhi: 18 December 2025

. Project Participation Fee: £1,300

Location: Panna National Park, Madhya Pradesh, India

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To help you promote this opportunity within your school community, we have created the RSIS Project Toolkit for Round Square Coordinators, which includes all the information you need, draft emails and posters. Please note you will need to be logged into the website to see this resource.

Register for upcoming RS History Labs

Round Square History Labs connect students across countries through the collaborative exploration of key historical topics, events, and figures. Each Lab invites students to analyse and share case study examples of the topic using a 360-degree approach - considering multiple perspectives, contested narratives, and an Algenerated overview of the topic.

The goal of the Lab is to deepen students' understanding of the complexities of historical events within a peer-to-peer learning environment that emphasises global perspectives, evidence-based analysis, and critical awareness of potential bias in Algenerated content. This encourages students to engage with diverse viewpoints and develop a more nuanced understanding of key historical topics.

On each date there are two time options: one at **4am GMT** and one at **3pm GMT**. You can sign up for either call. The topics are:

25 Sep 2025: Civil Rights and Revolutions

2 Oct 2025: Should statues fall?

9 Oct 2025: Justice through History - What is fair?

We make the time conversion for the 4am GMT calls to be 8am in Dubai and Yerevan, 9am in Karachi, 9:30am in Delhi, 11am in Bangkok, 12pm in Hong Kong, 1pm in Tokyo and Sydney (2pm for 9 Oct), 3pm in Auckland (4pm for 2 Oct & 9 Oct). But please check for your own location.

We make the time conversion for the 3pm GMT calls to be 8am in Los Angeles, 9am in Calgary and Mexico City, 10am in Bogota and Lima, 11am in Santiago, Toronto and New York, 4pm in London, Belfast and Marrakech, 5pm in Berlin and Stockholm, 6pm in Nairobi. But please check for your own location.

Please share with your History Department: <u>Download a pdf with the information</u>

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Book RS History Labs

Register for upcoming RS French Labs

Round Square Language Labs are hosted by student teams who lead conversations in their native language.

The sessions are run over consecutive weekly one-hour slots. This allows their peers in Round Square schools around the world to practice their language skills in a real-world context.

Participants are grouped by ability—beginner, intermediate, and advanced—ensuring that each session is appropriately tailored in complexity and content for every level.

9 Oct 2025: Les habitudes de la vie quotidienne (Daily Life & Routines)

16 Oct 2025: Le temps et le climat (Weather & Climate)

23 Oct 2025: Histoires, contes de fées et traditions culturelles (Stories, Fairy Tales and Cultural Traditions)

These sessions will run at **3pm GMT** which we make to be 10am in Bogota and Lima, 11am in Santiago, Toronto and New York, 4pm in London and Belfast, 5pm in Berlin and Stockholm, 6pm in Nairobi. But please check for your own location.

Please share with your French Department: <u>Download a pdf with the information</u>

Book RS French Labs

Host a Round Square Zoom Postcard in 2026

Each week, students from Round Square schools worldwide lead engaging 60- or 90-minute Zoom "postcard" sessions. These interactive, student-led conversations connect your young people with peers from up to 30 different schools, offering

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insights into everything from cultural traditions and favourite recipes to pressing global issues like climate change and social justice.

Whether sharing hobbies or discussing major challenges, these sessions provide a weekly opportunity for students to build international understanding, dispel stereotypes, and cultivate a genuine respect for other cultures.

We are now inviting schools to register to host upcoming RS Zoom Postcards until July 2026. Given the popularity of the programme, we will continue to offer two sessions every Wednesday aimed at different age groups and time zones, to offer maximum opportunity for the widest diversity of participants.

At this stage, all you need is a:

- date;
- time;
- potential theme;
- and target age group.

We will be in touch to talk through the options, share guidelines and support you with whatever you might need during your planning process. To sign up, click on the link below:

Host a RS Zoom Postcard in 2026

Register for upcoming RS Zoom Postcards

Join RS Zoom Postcard from GEMS New Millennium School in UAE on 24 September

GEMS New Millennium School invites you to register up to six students aged 13-15 and one adult <u>HERE</u> for a RS Zoom Postcard on 24 September with the theme "The Algorithm Economy: Who Holds the Power?"

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The 60-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 24 September at 6pm GST** (GMT +4) which we make to be 7am in Los Angeles and Vancouver, 8am in San Pedro Sula, 9am in Lima, 10am in Miami and Santiago, 11am in Buenos Aires, 3pm in London, 4pm in Paris, Johannesburg, and Brussels, 5pm in Nairobi, 6pm in Yerevan, 7pm in Karachi, and 7:30pm in Delhi. But please check for your own location.

Ahead of the call our host ask participants to research one real-world example where algorithms have significantly influenced an outcome and come to the call prepared to talk about it in no more than 2 minutes. Please submit one slide per student and upload it <u>HERE</u>.

Please register before 18 September and note that there's a max of 60 participants for this session and registration will close if that number is reached before the deadline.

Download a pdf of this postcard.

Register before 18 September

Join RS Zoom Postcard from The British School New Delhi in India on 1 October

The British School New Delhi invites you to register up to six students aged 9-11 and one adult <u>HERE</u> for a RS Zoom Postcard with the theme "Planet in Practice: Stories of Sustainability".

The 60-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 1 October at 11:30am IST** (GMT +5hr30) which we make to be 8am in Madrid, Paris, and Johannesburg, 9am in Nairobi and Doha, 10am in Dubai and Yerevan, and 11am in Karachi, 1pm in Bangkok, and 2pm in Beijing, 3pm in Hong Kong, and 4pm in Sydney. But please double check this for your own location.

As a pre-work our hosts ask participants to prepare together as a delegation a slide sharing examples of ways in which their school promotes (or plans to promote) sustainable practices and upload it <u>HERE</u>.

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Please register before 25 September.

Please download a pdf and share with relevant staff.

Register before 25 September

Join RS Zoom Postcard from Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina on 1 October.

Michael Ham Memorial College invites you to register up to six students aged 13-15 and one adult <u>HERE</u> for a RS Zoom Postcard with the theme "**Discovering Natural Beauty**".

The 60-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 1 October at 9am ART** (GMT -3) which we make to be 8am in Ottawa and Miami, 9am São Paulo, 1pm in London, 2pm in Johannesburg, Zurich and Madrid, 3pm in Nairobi, 4pm in Dubai and Yerevan, 5pm in Karachi, and 5:30pm in Delhi. But please check for your own location.

Ahead of the call our hosts ask participants to prepare a one slide per school with what you consider to be your country's natural beauty and upload it <u>HERE</u>.

Please register before 25 September.

Please download a pdf and share with relevant staff.

Register before 25 September

RS Zoom Postcards also open for registration:

St Andrews School for Girls, South Africa - 8 October at 6pm SAST (GMT +5.30) - Ages 13-15 - Responsible use of social media and Al. Register by 2 October. Please download and share pdf of this postcard.

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St Mildred's-Lightbourn School, Canada - 8 October at 10am EST (GMT -3) - Ages 16-18 - Wired for Change: A Circuit of Connection. Register by 25 September. Please download and share a pdf of this postcard.

Woodrige College and Preparatory School, South Africa - 15 October at 2pm SAST (GMT +2) - Ages 11-13 - How can being involved in different sports at school help us grow not just as athletes, but as people? Register by 9 October. Please download and share a pdf of this postcard.

The Cathedral and John Connon School, India - 15 October at 1pm IST (GMT +5.30) - Ages 13-15 - **Local Roots, Global Goals: SDGs in Our Cities**. Register by 9 October. Please download and share a pdf of this postcard.

Thank You to our recent RS Zoom Postcard and History Labs Hosts

First Steps School of Arts & Sciences, Pakistan – Theme: Festivals that unite us"

The session began with participants being asked to share in words and emojis what celebrating festivals is like, what it means to them and how it makes them feel. As well as naming their favourite festivals: Eid, Holi, Diwali, Halloween, Paryushan Parv, Pongal, and Easter.

After discussions in breakout rooms, participants shared their biggest takeaway; that festivals really do unite us and they are a way for us to see similarities between us as people and the festivals and moments that are important to us. Students described that festivals are moments to bring people together, foster social cohesion and to start new beginnings. The key reflection was that they were able to see similarities between the different festivals and this further supported the idea of being united, even when what we celebrate is different and based on different beliefs.

Thank you to Baraza Leaders Samyra, Shameen, Maheen, Ananya, Abdullah, Musifurah, Sunaif, Rayaan, Sahzil, Leewam, Abeeha, Kabeer, and Maham.

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RGS Surrey Hills, UK - Theme: Round Square Leaders of Tomorrow

Schools from Ghana, Perú, India, Pakistan, and the UK came together to share their thoughts on the theme of Leadership, as one of the RS IDEALS.

During the call, students reflected on inspiring leaders such as Nelson Mandela and Malala Yousafzai, before moving into baraza breakout rooms to tackle one big question: What five qualities will your generation need as leaders of the future?

Amongst many valuable ideas, the qualities most often highlighted were courage, selflessness, adaptability, fairness, honesty, innovation, problem-solving skills, appreciation for diversity, communication, and resilience.

Thank you to student leaders Volok, Lily, Rachael, Izzy, Romeo, Isaia, Jinan, Jonas and Carolina.

Pathways World School, India and Hilton College, South Africa - Theme: Should we Celebrate Historical Figures Without Question

With thanks to **Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Lucknow, India** and **Colegio de Inglaterra - The English School - Bogotá, Colombia** for hosting our recent History Labs on the theme: "War and Peace – Whose Story Do We Remember?" Across two engaging sessions, 17 schools participated, with close to 100 students exploring history from fresh perspectives.

Key Takeaways from the Labs:

- Students enjoyed learning about conflicts not covered in their own history curricula.
- Exploring multiple perspectives of every conflict reinforced the importance of considering 'the other side' and not accepting history at face value.
- Just as textbooks can carry bias, we need to remember that AI tools like GPT pull information from the web, which may also be inherently biased.
- We reflected on the idea that there may never be a single 'Universal Truth' for any historical event.

Thank you to all our participating schools and students for making these sessions so insightful and thought-provoking.

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Worldwide Show & Tell - theme: What we have for breakfast

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Worldwide Show & Tell on 9 September with the theme: What we have for breakfast. Following the call, **Oakleigh Grammar** in **Australia** shared some wonderful Breakfast poems. This is one is from Eleni D.

Pancake Day Saturday

On the kitchen table,
Laid a fresh plate of pancakes
Smelling delicious,
And didn't give any stomach aches.

I looked at the pancakes,
Waiting for a bite,
I couldn't wait anymore,
Before I knew they were all out of sight.

Oh no,
I'm in big trouble,
They were not for me,
I better make double.

Cooking in the kitchen,

Nearly done,

Wait I see my mum,

I better have at least one!

On the kitchen table,
Lied a new plate of pancakes,
One for me and my mum,
Luckily there were no stomach aches.

Saturday breakfast,
Pancake day,
Brother and dad at soccer,
That's our family way!

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Read more Breakfast poems

Join a school's Round Square Collaboration

The following collaborations are currently being offered by Round Square schools across our network. All arrangements for participating and technical hosting of any live events listed below are made and managed by the school that has initiated the collaboration. Please check with the school listed for further information. See all Collaborations.

- Oxley College in New South Wales, Australia, invites Early Years and Primary Years to join its ongoing <u>Pen Pal Project</u>. Schools are welcome to join anytime.
- Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina invites Primary Years to join <u>Banderas Nacionales</u> (National Flags). This collaboration is ongoing and schools are welcome to join at any time.
- Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina invites Primary Years to join ¿Por Qué Comemos? (Why do we eat?) This collaboration is ongoing and other schools are welcome to join at any time.
- Okinawa Amicus International School in Japan invites Middle Years students to join Round Square Ideal and Discovery Mind mapping. This collaboration is ongoing.
- LGS Stoneygate in the UK invites Primary Years students to join <u>Exploring</u>
 <u>Scandinavia</u>. Schools should register to participate by 19 September 2025.
- Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina invites Primary Years students to join <u>Little Artists in Monet's Garden</u>. Schools should register to participate by 22 September 2025.
- Aubrick Multicultural Bilingual School in Brazil invites Early Years and Primary Years students to join <u>The Sky Above Us.</u> Schools should register interest to participate by 27 September 2025.

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- SAI International Residential School in India invites Middle Years and Secondary Years students to join <u>Virtue Chronicles</u>. Schools should register their interest to participate by 30 September 2025.
- Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina invites Secondary Years students to join <u>The Earth Claims for Help</u>. Schools should register their interest to participate by 30 September 2025.
- Cadet College Hasan Abdal invites Middle Years and Secondary Years students to join <u>CCH Model United Nations 2025</u>. Schools should register their interest to participate by 15 October 2025.
- Rajkumar College Raipur, India, invites Middle and Secondary Years students to the <u>Raja Ramchandra Singh Deo Memorial Series on Environment and</u> Service on 24 October 2025.
- AKS Lytham in the UK invites Primary Years students to its <u>Christmas Around</u> the World 2025. This collaboration is ongoing and other schools are welcome to join anytime before 31 October 2025.
- Michael Ham Memorial College in Argentina invites Early Years students to
 explore themes of self-expression and creativity by making their own unique dot
 artwork in <u>Peter Reynolds</u>: <u>Dot Exchange Sharing Our Dots with the World</u>.
 This collaboration is ongoing and other schools are welcome to join anytime
 before 31 October 2025.
- The Scindia School in India invites Middle Years and Secondary Years students to School - The Living Laboratory. Schools should register to participate by 31 October 2025.
- Bayview Glen in Canada invites Primary Years students to join <u>Indigenous</u>
 <u>People Around the World</u>. This collaboration is ongoing, and we welcome schools to join us at any time before 3 November 2025.
- Redlands in Australia invites Secondary Years students to join its <u>Chinese</u>
 <u>Language and Culture Trip 2025.</u> Schools are welcome to join any time before 30 November 2025.
- Redlands in Australia invites Secondary Years students to join its <u>Global</u>
 <u>Collaboration on Courage, Kindness & Inclusivity</u>. This collaboration is ongoing
 and other schools are welcome to join at any time before 31 December 2025.

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 Trivandrum International School in India invites Early and Primary Years students to participate in <u>Stories Around the World</u>. Schools should register interest to participate by 16 February 2026.

If your school would like to host a collaboration, please log onto the Round Square web site, and post the details <u>here.</u>

No Round Square Weekly Next Week

There will be no RS Weekly next week (24 September). The next newsletter will be on 1 October 2025.

For day-to-day RS support needs, contact:

craig@roundsquare.org if you are in Africa

ian@roundsquare.org if you are in Australasia or East Asia

aimee@roundsquare.org if you are in Europe or a country on the Mediterranean

bubbles@roundsquare.org if you are in South Asia or the Gulf

For support in specific areas, contact:

<u>ceo@roundsquare.org</u> for the Chief Executive's Office <u>pete@roundsquare.org</u> on Operations and Programming <u>jason@roundsquare.org</u> on Marketing and Communications <u>ben@roundsquare.org</u> on RSIS Projects

<u>florencia@roundsquare.org</u> on RS Postcards, Show & Tell, and other online activities <u>suzanne@roundsquare.org</u> on RS Conferences and the RS Exchange Programme



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