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Round Square Weekly 3 December 2025

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Join the next RS International Service project: RSIS South Africa July 2026

Key Details:

- **Location:** Tiger Kloof Educational Institution, Vryburg, South Africa
- **Dates:** 12–23 July 2026
- **Fee:** £1,300
- **Ages:** 16-18 years
- **Applications open**

We are excited to invite students and staff to join us at Tiger Kloof Educational Institution next July for RSIS South Africa 2026.

Since 2015, Tiger Kloof has run a soup kitchen in the Huhudi settlement, just 10km from the campus, providing meals for children aged 3–6 years who are not enrolled in pre-schools and have limited access to early childhood nutrition programs. Many face malnutrition and health challenges, with few safe spaces for learning.

Over the years, students and staff from Nigel Kiboni have expanded the project to include basic literacy and numeracy classes, held three times a week.

One of the biggest challenges is the lack of shade and protection from the wind. The goal of RSIS South Africa 2026 will be to build a structure that provides shelter and a safe space, enabling the soup kitchen to offer more structured learning opportunities for the children.

Your students can apply individually to join a RSIS Project, and do not need to be accompanied by a teacher. As part of the experience, they fly unaccompanied and are met at the airport by Round Square's Project Leadership Team. You can find out more about how RSIS Projects work on the Round Square Web Site and [download resources](#) to share with your students by clicking the button below.

In the meantime, students from across the world are about to travel to India for RSIS India 2025 with Daly College, which begins on Saturday. You can follow their adventure on the [RSIS Project Team Blog](#).

Find out more about RSIS South Africa July 2026



Discovering Tenacity in Round Square schools

Tenacity is about more than momentary grit. It's the determined ability to persevere through challenges, stay committed to meaningful goals, and grow through experience. Across Round Square schools, students are discovering and developing tenacity in different

So what does this look like in practice? Here are some examples from the Round Square community:

At [St Andrew's School, Turi](#) in Kenya adventure is a structured pathway to tenacity. Students begin with local hikes in Year 9, progress to multi-day treks in national parks, and eventually lead fully self-sufficient expeditions by Year 13.

Meanwhile at [Keimei Gakuen](#) in Japan, tenacity is developed through two long-term service initiatives:

- **Stitches for Riches:** Students collaborate with Cambodian mothers to produce and sell handmade goods supporting local families and education.
- **Summer Baraza:** Students lead activities for younger peers, navigating communication challenges and recovering from setbacks.

King Constantine winners [Gevorg, Olivia](#) and [Oarabile](#) each demonstrated remarkable tenacity, whether showcasing their country, shaping school culture, or leading social change, earning their schools' King Constantine Medal for their persistence and impact.

Read Discovering Tenacity in Round Square schools

AGM Update from John O'Connor, Chair of the Round Square Board

As Chair of the Round Square Board, I am pleased to report that the following nominees were elected/re-elected to the Round Square Board with this year's AGM Ballot:

Elected:

- Celeste Gilardi, Rector, St Stithans Schools, South Africa
- Stuart Marquardt, Principal, Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School, Australia
- Zia Golam Mohiuddin, RS Coordinator, Chittagong Grammar School, Bangladesh
- Nicholas Reeves, Headmaster, Colegio Colombo Británico, Colombia
- Katrina Samson, Principal, Havergal College, Canada

re-elected.

- Lisa Moloney, Principal, MLC School Sydney, Australia
- Innes van Nostrand, Principal, Appleby College, Canada
- John O'Connor, Director, Brookhouse Schools, Kenya
- Rebecca Upham, Search Consultant, RG175, USA
- George Vance, Headmaster, Rockport School NI, UK

As part of the AGM process, we always welcome feedback, and fortunately the points raised are well-aligned with ongoing Board priorities for governance:

Board size – Historically, the Board was between 10 and 20 people, however during COVID the Board's size dropped to 8. Over the last few years we have gradually rebuilt the Board size to ensure a suitable range of perspectives, and as of the recent AGM, the Board size now sits at 16 Trustees.

Old and new voices – The Board tries to balance those with longer tenure on the Board with new members. Of the 16 current Trustees, 9 are new to the Board since 2024, while three started their tenures before COVID, so we are weighted towards newer members, while maintaining institutional memory on the Board.

Gender balance – Of the 9 new Trustees elected in the last two years, 4 are women and 5 are men. The balance on the Board overall is currently 9 men and 6 women.

Geographic diversity – The Board is aware that because several Trustees come via regional nomination and vote, there is a natural trend in voting patterns towards weighting of member schools by country. Therefore, the Board has ensured several of those candidates who come from outside the regional voting processes represent a diverse range of countries, including recent Trustees from schools in Pakistan, China, Colombia and the USA.

If you have any questions about the AGM nominations process, please contact Innes van Nostrand ivannostrand@appleby.on.ca, who chairs the Nominations Committee.

Dates in 2026	Host School	Location	Age Range	RS IDEALS Focus
27 to 31 January	Rajkumar College, Rajkot	India	10 to 12	Adventure
4 to 9 February	Elaraki School, Marrakech	Morocco	16 to 18	Leadership
8 to 12 February	CheongShim International Academy	South Korea	15 to 18	Service
13 to 16 February	Evangelical Christian School, Memphis	USA	15 to 17	Service
18 to 22 February	Singapore International School, Mumbai	India	12 to 14	Environmentalism
6 to 10 March	The Emerald Heights International School, Indore	India	13 to 15	Adventure
25 to 29 March	St George's Grammar School, Cape Town	South Africa	16 to 18	Adventure
2 to 6 April	KC Public School, Jammu	India	12 to 14	Leadership
7 to 12 April	Ballarat Grammar, Victoria	Australia	14 to 16	Democracy
16 to 21 April	Landheim Ammersee	Germany	13 to 15	Democracy
11 to 17 May	Colegio Bilingüe ANAN	Ecuador	14 to 16	Adventure
18 to 23 May	RGS Surrey Hills	UK	14 to 16	Internationalism
11 to 16 June	Beijing Concord College of Sino-Canada	China	16 to 18	Internationalism
28 June to 2 July	Hilton College	South Africa	14 to 16	Environmentalism
11 to 16 August	Trivandrum International School, Kerala	India	14 to 16	Service
28 Sept to 3 Oct	Barker College, Sydney	Australia	16 to 18	RSIC2026

Submit your Letters of Commitment for Conferences in 2026

A final reminder before the festive break to please submit Letters of Commitment (LoCs) for all student events taking place next year.

In the case of the RSIC2026 in Sydney, we are hoping to be in a position to send Mailout 1, inviting LoCs, out to you next week - please watch out for that in your Inbox.

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, Landheim Ammersee, Ballarat Grammar, St George's Grammar School and Rajkumar College, Rajkot have stopped accepting LoCs as these conferences are now full to capacity, though you can sign up to their waiting list in case additional places become available. In this case, schools on the waiting list will be contacted in the order in which they registered. All other conferences still have places available.

A purple rectangular poster with a circular cutout on the right side showing a brown horse, a black and white dog, a grey chick, and a brown rabbit. The text on the left is white and black. The Round Square logo is in the top left corner.

ROUND SQUARE

Round Square Worldwide Show & Tell

Sign up for the next RS
Worldwide Show & Tell.

Our Favourite Animal
13 Jan 2026
2pm GMT

A Genius Invention
27 Jan 2026
2am and 2pm GMT

www.roundsquare.org/hub-page/rs-study-labs

Register for upcoming RS Worldwide Show & Tell for 8-10 Year olds

Give your 8-10 year old students a chance to connect with children from across the globe in our lively RS Worldwide Show & Tell sessions this January. These 60-minute Zoom calls are designed to spark joy, confidence, and cross-cultural curiosity as young learners share their ideas, creations, and experiences in a fun show-and-tell format.

Upcoming themes:

 **13 Jan 2026 – Our Favourite Animal** (2pm GMT)

 **27 Jan 2026 – A Genius Invention from Our Part of the World** (2am & 2pm GMT)

2am GMT - we make to be 7.30am in Delhi, 10am in Hong Kong, 1pm in Sydney and 3pm in Wellington.

2pm GMT - we make to be 10am in New York, 4pm in Berlin, 4pm in Cape Town and 6pm in Dubai. Please double check the time conversion for your own location.

Download the PDF to share with colleagues who may be interested in joining, or sign up by clicking the button below

Register for RS Worldwide Show & Tell - 2am sessions

Register for RS Worldwide Show & Tell = 2pm Sessions

Register for upcoming RS Zoom Postcards



Join RS Zoom Postcard from Oxbridge Academy in USA on 10 December.

and Conservation in Florida”.

The 60-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 10 December** at **9am EST** (GMT -5) which we make to be 8am in Mexico City, 9am in Lima and Bogotá, 11am in Santiago and São Paulo, 2pm in London and Lisbon, 3pm in Madrid and Brussels, 4pm in Johannesburg, 5pm in Nairobi, 6pm in Dubai and Yerevan, 7pm in Karachi, and 7:30pm in Delhi. But please check for your own location.

Ahead of the call our hosts ask participants to upload [HERE](#) an image of a place in your community that's affected by environmental issues and answer the question: What actions (small or big) are people taking to help?

Please register by 4 December.

[Download and Share with Colleagues](#)

Register before 4 December



Join RS Zoom Postcard from Indian High School Dubai in UAE on 10 December.

Social Change".

The 90-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 10 December at 2pm GST** (GMT +4) which we make to be 10am in London and Accra, 11am in Paris, Brussels and Marrakech, 12pm in Johannesburg and Athens, 1pm in Nairobi, 2pm in Yerevan, 3pm in Karachi, 3:30pm in Delhi, and 5pm in Bangkok. But please check for your own location.

Ahead of the call our host asks participants to research and take example of one youth who has inspired the society. It can be from the school, city, region, or the country.

Please register before 4 December.

[Download and Share with Colleagues](#)

Register before 4 December 2025



Join RS Zoom Postcard from The Emerald Heights International School in India on 14 January.

Culture meets Beauty".

The 60-minute call will take place on **Wednesday 14 January at 2pm IST** (GMT +5:30) which we make to be 8:30am in Accra and London, 9:30am in Paris and Copenhagen, 10:30am in Johannesburg, 11:30am in Nairobi and Athens, 12:30pm in Dubai and Yerevan, 2:30pm in Dhaka, and 3:30pm in Bangkok. But please double check this for your own location.

Before the call, our hosts ask participants to upload [HERE](#) one “Then & Now” slide per school showing a historical natural site in your country — how it looked in the past and how it looks today.

Please register before 9 January.

[Download and share with colleagues](#)

Register before 9 January

RS Zoom Postcards also open for registration

Please click on the links below to register and / or to download and share more details of these RS Zoom postcards with any colleagues who might be interested.

Inventure Academy, India

21 January, 6:30pm IST | Ages 13-15

AI: Friend or Foe?

[Take part: Register by 15 January](#)

[Download and Share with Colleagues](#)

Palmer Trinity School, USA

21 January, 7am EST | Ages 16-18

Melting Pots and Mosaics of Culture

[Take part: Register by 15 January](#)

[Download and Share with Colleagues](#)

Thank You to our recent RS Zoom Postcard hosts

Holy Trinity College, Argentina - Theme: Challenging Ourselves Through Service Projects

Students from Argentina and India came together for a Round Square Postcard hosted by Holy Trinity College in Buenos Aires, exploring the theme “Challenging Ourselves through Service Projects.” The session opened with a short presentation by the host school on their most relevant service projects and how they feel transformed by these opportunities.

During the breakout Baraza groups, students exchanged personal experiences and reflections on the impact of service in their communities. The conversations were described as highly engaging and thought provoking by participants, highlighting the quality of dialogue across cultures.

Thank you to baraza leaders Victoria, Kaya, Donatella, Inés, Tisiana, Lourdes, Isabela, Federico, Joaquín, and Ramiro.

Stiftung Louisenlund in Germany - Theme: The Struggles of Adolescence

60 participants aged 13–15 explored the many challenges that come with adolescence. In their breakout groups, participants reflected on how relationships evolve as they grow older and how important it is to find balance amid these changes. They discussed the significant influence of technology on communication, the pressure to perform well in school, and the need to develop independence and responsibility as they navigate new expectations.

Students also explored the impact of social circles, noting how peers and families shape identity and decision-making. Conversations highlighted both the benefits and limitations of social media, as well as the value of surrounding oneself with positive influences. Many spoke about the increasing responsibilities that come with growing up and the importance of building a strong moral compass. Across groups, participants recognised that while adolescence brings pressures, it also offers opportunities to learn from diverse perspectives and shared experiences.

Accessing Student Information on the RS Web site

Following the successful relaunch of the Round Square web site at the start of this year, we will soon be closing the RS Insights site. This change will help streamline the Round Square digital platforms and free up space as we prepare for the launch of a new Round Square app early next year—an exciting step forward in improving how the network is able to connect with each other.

All of the news, stories, and information previously accessed on RS Insights is now available directly on the Round Square website. Rather than using a single generic login for the whole network, each school has its own dedicated credentials for students. This provides a simpler and more secure experience for your wider school community.

RS Coordinators: You will find your school's student login details at the bottom of your dashboard: the first page you see when you log in. These details can be shared directly with your students so they can access the information relevant to them without viewing coordinator-only resources.

Students will now use these logins to access content such as RSIS project details, RSIS team blogs, student committees information etc., just as they did on the previous site.

If you or your students experience any difficulties accessing the site, please don't hesitate to email Jason@roundsquare.org.

Join a Round Square school's 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.](#)

at any time before 5 December 2025.

- **Cheongshim International Academy** in South Korea invites Secondary Years students to join [CSIAMUN XVIII](#). The collaboration will take place on 28 January 2026. Schools should register their interest by 15 December.
- **SEK International School Ciudadcampo** in Spain invites students of all ages to participate in a [Collaborative Music Video: “We are the World”](#). Schools should register their interest by 20 December. The deadline for video submissions is 15 March.
- **Interactive European School (DES)** in Greece invites Primary Years students to join [The Eratosthenes Experiment](#), a collaborative, hands-on scientific investigation inspired by one of history’s earliest astronomers and mathematicians. This collaboration is ongoing and other schools are welcome to join at any time before 25 December 2025.
- **Redlands** in Australia invites Secondary Years students to join its [Global Collaboration on Courage, Kindness & Inclusivity](#). This collaboration is ongoing and other schools are welcome to join at any time before 31 December 2025.
- **Trivandrum International School** in India invites Early and Primary Years students to participate in [Stories Around the World](#). Schools should register interest to participate by 16 February 2026.
- **Starehe Boys’ Centre and School** in Kenya, invites Secondary Years students to join its [Summer Program](#) featuring leadership workshops, debates and community service, and adventure activities in July-August 2026. Schools are welcome to join anytime before 23 March 2026.
- **Oxley College** in New South Wales, Australia, invites Early Years and Primary Years to join its ongoing [Pen Pal Project](#) to build intercultural understanding through literacy activities. Schools are welcome to join anytime before 31 March 2026.
- **Interactive European School (DES)** in Greece invites Primary and Middle Years students who speak, or are learning, Spanish, French, or German to join [Find a Global](#)

- **Bloom KCCA Academy** in Hong Kong invites students of all ages to participate in [Care, Think, Act: School Community](#). This collaboration is ongoing and schools are welcome to join any time before 30 June 2026.

If your school would like to host a collaboration, please log onto the Round Square web site, and post the details [here](#).

Share your Gap Opportunities

A few Round Square Schools are looking for [Gap Opportunities](#). If your school has an opportunity available for incoming Gap Students aged 16-18, please share details on the RS web site. Gap opportunities are provided directly by schools. These opportunities offer graduating students the chance to learn new skills and embark on an international adventure before starting university.

- [Windermere School, UK](#) - Gap Student to assist in the life of the school e.g. sport, adventure, music, drama and boarding- starting January 2026 for one year.

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

craig@roundsquare.org if you are in Africa

ian@roundsquare.org if you are in the Americas

maryanne@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:

ceo@roundsquare.org for the Chief Executive's Office

pete@roundsquare.org on Operations and Programming

jason@roundsquare.org on Marketing and Communications

ben@roundsquare.org on RSIS Projects

florencia@roundsquare.org on RS Postcards, Show & Tell, and other online activities

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