



From the Headmaster

The end of the Easter term at any school is a time of change: senior students are nearing the end of their school careers and are working hard towards their A Level and GCSE exams in the summer whilst younger students and teachers are also preparing for assessments. It is consequently a time for the Upper Sixth Form to relinquish their student leadership posts and hand over to the new team. I am delighted to announce the following appointments for 2016-2017: Head Girl—**Megan Woods**; Head Boy—**George Elliston**; Senior Prefects—**Alexandra Clark, George Colvin, Katerina Davidson, Clara Grinyer, Sophie Gunning, Charles Lee, Alexander Pangalos, Alexander Skinner, Laurel Spiers** and **William Tuckwell**.



I am also delighted to announce the House Captains and Vice House Captains for next year.

Bird: Captains—**Luke Jones & Ailie McGilligan**;

Bird: Vice Captains—**Billy Elliston, Jon-Joe McGrath, Amelia Norton, Srikant Santosh**.

Cranston: Captains—**Ciaran Nestor & Madeline Newman**;

Cranston: Vice Captains—**Ben Adey, George Blackburn, Megan North, Elise Teale**.

Hodgson: Captains—**Joanna Amey & James Ingram**;

Hodgson: Vice Captains—**Lucy Simpson; William Triggs; Emily Tzanis; Joseph Wills**.

Williamson: Captains—**Kirsty Allan & Henry McCann**;

Williamson: Vice Captains—**Georgina Robinson, Thomas Rowell, Alice Timmons, Sean Watters**.

The outgoing Heads of School, **Miranda Harding** and **Hugh Blayney** (pictured above) write: “A whole year has passed since we were appointed as Heads of School and it has been a privilege to have the opportunity to work with both our peers and teachers. Whilst there have been challenging moments, we’ve not only been stretched as students, but also as members of the Reigatian community. We have enjoyed representing the school at events such as the House of Commons “Changing Lives” Foundation event, and also being able to contribute more to different aspects of school life, in more of a leadership capacity. This would not have been possible without the opportunities given to us, and the key support network offered by the school, and for that we are very thankful. We encourage students to integrate themselves at all levels of school life, taking advantage of the great variety of activities on offer, in order to give yourselves a rounded school experience which we firmly believe will be invaluable in later life. So again, thank you to the school for giving us a school experience that we are not likely to ever forget.”



Newly appointed Heads of School **Megan Woods** and **George Elliston** are excited to be taking on the helm and are looking forward to continuing Miranda and Hugh’s good work: “Being appointed Heads of School is a great honour and we hope to follow on from the great work carried out by Hugh, Miranda and the rest of the Senior Prefects this year. Since arriving in the First Form, RGS has helped to shape us into the young adults we are today and we both want to help build the school community so that the younger students are able to get as much out of school life as we have. Our year group is made up of fantastic individuals who have excelled in all areas of life and we look forward to representing such a successful year that can, and undoubtedly will, act as excellent role models for the rest of the school.”

RGS biologists are enjoying particular success at the moment! In the **British Biology Olympiad**, **Maria Ionescu** and **Tom Schlaefli** both finished in the top 150 students after the first round of 7,200 entries. Following the second round Maria is just one of five girls nationally to have made it into the final 16 students nationally. The GB team selection takes place at Warwick University during the Easter break and, if selected, Maria will be heading to the final in Vietnam this summer.

A team of Sixth Form pupils fought their way to the **SATRO Problem Solving Challenge Grand Final** at ACS Cobham International School on Thursday 17 March where **Jenny Strange, Charly Earnshaw, Catherine Brumwell, Luke Jones** and **George Cull** were faced with a Ski Lift Challenge. Given a range of equipment such as card, elastic bands, a motor and cello tape, the students needed to plan and construct a ski lift to lift as many polos as possible to the top of their ski lift. Points were awarded for number of polos lifted as well as the height and horizontal distance lifted. The RGS team skilfully created one of the tallest ski lifts and lifted all 23 polos with their first attempt. They scored 670 points—well beyond any other school—working brilliantly as a team, planning their design carefully, tweaking it to overcome obstacles with a continued determination to the end. Well done team RGS!

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Theology and Philosophy students recently welcomed members of staff from **St Catherine's Hospice** into their lessons to talk about palliative care and Christian responses to death and dying. Pupils were able to hear about the amazing work that the hospice does and took part in a question and answer session on topics including charity, end of life and euthanasia. A huge thank you to the team at St Catherine's for delivering such an interesting talk.

Earlier this week, the students on the **French Exchange** really enjoyed their visit and activities near Lille, especially Koezio on Tuesday where they were challenged to a variety of challenging mental and physical tasks with their French partners. They learnt a lot about the French school and its huge differences with life at RGS. Many of our students were treated to tastings of French foods including foie gras, snails and frogs legs which they really liked. Inevitably there were some teary goodbyes at the station but promises to keep in touch and some plans to see each other in the summer. Bravo à tous!

RAF cadets attended **RAF Benson** last Thursday and enjoyed a splendid morning's flying in near perfect weather conditions. For eight cadets, this was their first flight in a Grob Tutor. Those pictured are first timers **Lucia Dunn-Flores, Kirana Carter Shaw** and **Harry Verity** just prior to going airborne.

Mr Dan McGrath, RGS parent, **composer** and **sound designer** for media, visited the school on Tuesday with his musical collaborator, **Mr Josh Phillips**. The pair have had huge success with their music for television credits, most notably *Strictly Come Dancing*, *Take Me Out* and the *Jonathan Ross Show*. RGS academic musicians and composers were introduced to the world of production for TV in a fascinating talk about issues such as tight deadlines, creative approaches to musical problems, and copyright! Dan and Josh also showed their *Take Me Out* theme on software in the music department and explained its genesis, which gave a great insight into their work. Third Form composers worked in more depth after the lunchtime talk, gaining valuable extra advice on their own compositions – this was a very practical and also inspiring extra perspective for everyone involved. I am enormously grateful to all those who made it happen.

RGS took six students to the **Haileybury Model United Nations** conference—the largest of its kind in the UK with over 600 participants from Taiwan, Kazakhstan and Ohio and from schools around the UK. The team representing Venezuela—**Aaron Gilchrist, Benedict Springbett, George Beglan, Jasmine Hull, Rachel Buchan** and **Tom Rowell**—did fantastically, with all the delegates regularly speaking in their committees. Special congratulations must go to George who received a highly commended delegate award on the elite Security Council, and to Benedict who was one of three distinguished delegates on his 60-strong committee. Overall, the Venezuela delegation triumphed over 130 other teams, winning one of only two distinguished delegation awards. Congratulations to all.

Pictured below is just a selection of over 50 RGS students who have been called up to **represent their country**. Well done Team RGS! Sports include hockey (boys and girls), rugby (boys and girls), golf, swimming, squash, badminton, cross country and athletics along with less well-known sports such as ultimate frisbee and climbing. National representatives include **Niamh Brown** who was selected as part of the GB Team in the Great Edinburgh Cross Country Competition.



FROM THE HEADMASTER

Nearly 90 pupils from Reigate Priory Junior School took part in the **RGS Outreach Hockey Tournament**. The event was a huge success and Hartswood was buzzing with spectators. Thank you to **Mrs Wickham** who spearheaded the programme and also to all the student **Hockey Leaders** who worked with the children and helped organise the teams—they were polite, smiling and helpful whilst umpiring and enthusing the young players about hockey. Thank you.



Eight Lower Sixth Form teams have taken part in the inaugural **Acorn Enterprise Challenge**. Students had been set the challenge six months previously, been given £100 “seed money” and in response had come up with a variety of business ideas ranging from face painting to online selling and bath bombs to party organisation. The judges commented on the confidence and business acumen of the groups. Members of the yet to be announced winning team have each won a work placement to gain an insight into a real life business. Many thanks to the Fredericks Foundation (www.fredericksfoundation.org) for setting the challenge, providing the seed money, offering advice, choosing the winning team and organising the work placements.



Student News

- ◆ **Thea Bridges** recently represented Surrey U18 rugby against Kent U18 winning 24-17.
- ◆ **Lucy Broderick's** (pictured right) Cross Country ambitions have gone from strength to strength this season capped by winning the Inter-Counties match in Hampshire at the weekend. Running for Surrey, Lucy led from the start to win her race. Full results are available [here](#).
- ◆ **Ellie Green** has been selected for U15 regional rugby
- ◆ **Luke Jones** finished as runner up in the U18 Epée section of the South East regional championships at the weekend. He was narrowly beaten in the final 15-11 after a hard fought match.
- ◆ **Theo Lewis** ran in the Surrey U14 Boys Cross Country Team and finished 33rd. [Correction: Last week's entry should have read Theo Lewis not Theo Ellis.]
- ◆ **Charlotte Thompson** came fifth in the Floor and Trampoline County Gymnastics Championships.
- ◆ **Imogen Turner** has recently auditioned for the National Youth Ballet at the Royal Academy of Dance in London.

Sport News

RGS had a very successful weekend at the British Schools' Biathlon Championships. All students came in the top 100 in their age groups which is a fantastic achievement in a national competition. Many congratulations to **Clara Alston, Annalise Hansen, Gemima Potter, Machayla Dewdney, Ashleigh Smith, Georgina Robinson, Thomas Denece, Sam Cobb, Tomos Knowles, Lakith Gabrielsen, Henry Mortimer** and **Theo Lewis**. A special mention to Tomos, Lakith and Henry as their combined scores made them the fourth team nationally.

There is another group of the RGS community I would like to thank—the **PFA**—who work tirelessly behind the scenes to arrange events at RGS to raise money, or simply to put on a good night out. The PFA's new Facebook account has recently been set up and can be found at **Reigate Grammar School Parents' and Friends' Association**. A selection of photos has been uploaded from various PFA sponsored events and pages will be updated on a regular basis.

These last couple of weeks have been incredibly busy not least with the **ABRSM music examinations** that took place at school last Saturday. I know how hard students work to prepare for these and I look forward to hearing how everyone got on. If you have any results from ABRSM or Trinity Board exams that you have taken outside school, please do let me know. Please also continue to send me any news items, comments or feedback by email to headster@reigategrammar.org. I enjoy hearing your news and if there is anything I can do to help, please just let me know.

Finally, Easter is upon us and I hope that you have a chance for a restful break.

With my Best Wishes
Shaun Fenton, Headmaster

*Senior Sports Dinner Award holders
at Denbies Vineyard
on Tuesday 22 March*



PFA Nearly New Sale: 23 April

The PFA is seeking donations for the Nearly New Uniform and Sports Kit Sale on Saturday 23 April. Instructions are available on the Parent Portal and labelled items may now be left with at the Porters' Desk.

RGS Cycling Club First Meet: Sunday 17 April

Meet in the PMH car park at 8.20am and cycle to *Maison Du Velo* to meet guides at 8.30am. Open to Sixth Form students and parents; all abilities are welcome. If you are interested in joining this ride please contact **Mr John Haskey** via jth@reigategrammar.org.

CCF Update

- ◆ **Mess Dinner:** 16 April; RGS PMH; 19:00-23:00.
- ◆ **Weapons Handling Test Day:** 23 April; Broadfield House; 09:00-16:00.
- ◆ **Outdoor Range Day:** 24 April; Pirbright; 08:00-17:30.

Please direct any queries to **Fg Off Rusbridge** via sar@reigategrammar.org.

RGSweather

Easter weekend: unsettled, windy, some heavy rain at times. Changeable theme continues through early April. Visit www.rgsweather.com and follow @rgsweather for local weather updates.

Saracens v Harlequins: Saturday 16 April 2016



We are delighted to announce our partnership with **Saracens** for their forthcoming fixture against **Harlequins** at Wembley on Saturday 16 April 2016. Tickets are only £20 per adult and £7.50 for junior under 16. In addition to this, our very own **Changing Lives** campaign will receive £5 for every adult ticket and £1.50 for every junior ticket purchased, so you will also be doing your bit for a very worthy cause!

To buy tickets, [Click here](#).

Easter Holiday Staff and Family Swim:

All sessions run from 1.30-3.00pm

Wednesday 30 March

Thursday 31 March

Friday 1 April

Sunday 3 April

Monday 4 April

Tuesday 5 April

Wednesday 6 April

Thursday 7 April

Friday 8 April

From the Library:

First Form Lucky Dip Winners Announced

This term the First Form has participated in a "lucky dip" project during their English library lessons. Each student picked a number from one of four coloured boxes, corresponding to two books written by the same author. Their task was to read both books and produce a poster exploring the characterisation, plot and presentation of the books as well as including research about their author and a critical comparison of the two titles.

Prizes were awarded for the most creatively designed posters and for posters with the most outstanding written content. For weeks the library has been awash with glitter, coloured paper, a variety of construction material and enthusiastic students! The overall standard of work produced was very high and judging has been extremely difficult but eventually the overall winner for *Design* was **Lakith Gabrielsen** (PRM) and the overall winner for *Content* was **Sucharita Pal** (RSE). Congratulations!

Winners for individual form groups were also selected:

Form Design

HWC *Laura Hatch*
GCD *Elliot Summons*
RSE *Annalise Hansen*
MDH *Katie Cassin/Charlotte Chinery*
PRM **Lakith Gabrielsen**
DAP *Ellie Trimlett*
RAP *Genevieve Hamilton*

Content

Tally Sims
Charlotte Thompson
Sucharita Pal
Lucy Mendall
Jemima Potter
Anton Plotnek
Kathryn Boyd

From Mr Buzzacott: Student Finance

To: All Upper Sixth Form Student and parents

You are now able to apply for student finance via:

www.gov.uk/studentfinance

If your application is completed and sent off by **Tuesday 31 May**, your student finance should be in place by the start of the course. It is possible to apply for student finance even if you have not committed to your *Firm* and *Insurance* choice, although you would have to complete more paperwork at a later date if you changed your mind about your *Firm* choice.

To calculate exactly what financial help you are entitled to claim visit: www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator.

It is also worth checking university websites to see whether there is any likelihood that you are entitled to a bursary or scholarship. There are sometimes scholarships available that are not linked to financial need.

Further help is also available on:

- ◆ www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/student-finance
- ◆ www.studentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

Gap Year students will apply next year.

DIARY DATES

Changes from the published calendar are in **BOLD**

March

Easter Holidays

29 Tu Rugby U14 Tour (Biarritz, France) (*departs*)
Senior Golf Tour (Dorset) (*departs*)
RGS Hockey Camp (HW)

30 W RGS Hockey Camp (HW)

April

1 F Senior Golf Tour (Dorset) (*returns*)

3 Su Rugby U14 Tour (Biarritz, France) (*returns*)
Senior Netball Tour (Barcelona, Spain) (*departs*)

6 W Fourth Form Spanish Exchange (A Coruña, Spain) (*departs*)

7 Th Senior Netball Tour (Barcelona, Spain) (*returns*)
EVO-RGS Hockey Camp (HW)

8 F EVO-RGS Hockey Camp (HW)
Drama: Edinburgh Festival rehearsal (DS/BH) 10:00-17:00

9 Sa Cricket v Dulwich College: 1st XI (A) 12:00

11 M Pre-Season Tennis Training
Cricket v Sevenoaks: 1st XI, U15A (A) 14:00
U14A (H) 14:00
Fourth Form Spanish Exchange (A Coruña, Spain) (*returns*)
Drama: Edinburgh Festival rehearsal (DS/BH) 10:00-17:00

Summer Term

12 Tu **Term starts 08:30**
South Surrey AGM: RAAS
Girls' Tennis Trials: U12 16:00-17:15

13 W Cricket v Wilson's: 2nd XI (H) 14:15
Girls' Tennis Trials: 1st 16:00-17:15
Drama: *Much Ado About Nothing* rehearsal (BH) 16:00-17:30

14 Th RSM Year 5 Scholarship Assessments 08:45-15:50
Girls' Tennis Trials: U13 16:00-17:15

15 F RSM Year 5 Scholarship Assessments 08:45-15:50
Girls' Tennis Trials: U14&U15 16:00-17:15
First and Second Form Disco (PMH) 19:00-20:30
Student Leadership Event (London) 19:00-23:00

16 Sa Cricket v CLFS: U13B (A) 09:30
2nd XI, U15B, U14B (H) 09:30
1st XI (A) 11:30
U15A, U13A (A) 14:00
U14A (H) 14:00
Cricket v Trinity: U12A&B (A) 09:30
CCF Mess Dinner (PMH) 19:00-23:00

17 Su

Parents' and Friends' Association

If you are interested in helping at any events or becoming involved in any way, please email pfa@reigategrammar.org.

April

23 Sa Nearly New Uniform Sale (PMH) 10:00-11:00

18 M Second Form English Chaucer trip to London
RSM Year 5 Interviews 08:45-15:50
Drama: *Much Ado About Nothing* rehearsal 16:00-17:30
GCSE Drama: Technical Rehearsal for MGH Set 16:00-19:30

19 Tu Spanish Language Play (CH) 08:30-13:00
Golf v Bede's School: (Royal Ashdown Forest GC) 14:30
GCSE Drama: Technical Rehearsal for DAJ Set 16:00-19:30
RSM Year 6 Parents' Drinks Reception (Library) 19:30-21:00

20 W GCSE PE Moderation (Hurst)
Regional Final of First Form Foreign Languages Spelling Bee (University of Brighton)
Open Morning (CH) 09:15-11:30
House Swimming: Seniors 13:45-15:50
Cricket v Kingston GS: U17 Cup (A) 14:30
Drama: *Much Ado About Nothing* rehearsal 16:00-17:30
Mixed Swimming v Christ's Hospital: U14 (H) 16:15
Boys' Tennis v Trinity: U15, U13 (A) 16:30
Cantata Choir (RR) 19:45-21:45

21 Th First Form Geography fieldwork (River Tillingbourne) 08:40-15:50
RSM Year 5 Interviews 08:45-15:50
GCSE German Oral examinations 09:00-15:50
GCSE Spanish Oral examinations 09:00-15:50
Golf v Charterhouse: 1stVI (RHGC) 14:30
Girls' Tennis v Reeds: Seniors (A) 16:00

Drama: Edinburgh Festival rehearsal (BH) 16:00-18:00
Drama: Shakespeare Slam (DS) 16:00-20:00
Boys' Tennis v Trinity: U14, U12 (H) 16:30
Rounders v Sutton High: U14A&B, U13A&B (H) 16:30
Girls' Tennis v Priorsfield: U15B, U12 (A) 16:45
DoF Awards Presentation Evening (PMH) 19:00-21:00

22 F Music: Duet Philharmonic Auditions (MS)
RSM Year 5 Interviews 08:45-15:50
GCSE German Oral examinations 09:00-15:50
GCSE Spanish Oral examinations 09:00-15:50
House Cricket: Fourth, Fifth, Sixth Form (HW) 16:00
First Form Charity Film Night (CH/Rm7/Rm8) 16:00-18:30

23 Sa AS Spanish: Speaking Revision Session 09:00-12:00
CCF: Weapon Handling Tests Day (BH) 09:00-16:00
PFA: Nearly New Uniform Sale (PMH) 10:00-11:00
Cricket v Cranmore: U13A&B (H) 09:30 * NEW*
Cricket v St John's: 1st XI (A) 11:00
2nd XI (H) 11:00
U15A&B (A) 14:00
U14A&B (H) 14:00

24 Su CCF: Outdoor Range Day (Pirbright) 08:00-18:00
Girls' Rugby 7s: U18 Warlingham Festival Cup (Warlingham RFC) 12:00-17:00

25 M RSM Year 5 interviews 08:45-15:50
Cricket v Lingfield ND: U14A&B (H) 14:00
PSHEE: First Form E-Safety 14:15-15:50
Drama: *Much Ado About Nothing* rehearsal (DS) 16:00-17:30
Boys' Tennis v Lingfield ND: U15, U14 (H) 16:30
Governors: Estates & Premises Committee Meeting 17:30
Parents' Forum: E-Safety 19:00-20:00
PFA Meeting (M2) 19:30-21:30

For all sports news, fixtures, results, venues etc. please visit the RGS Sports pages: [link](#).