

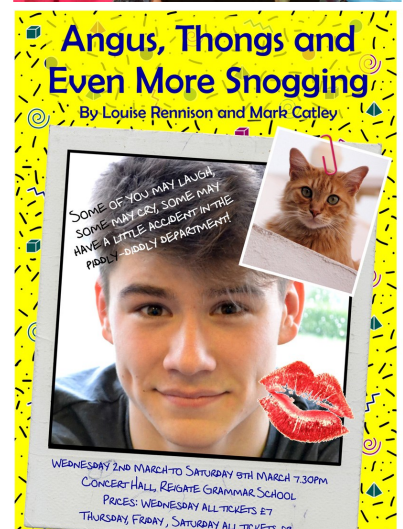


From the Headmaster

This week has seen **RGS Drama** performing yet another superb and, this time, very funny production: **Angus, Thongs and Even More Snogging**. We welcomed back former student **Naomi Petersen**—now a professional actress—who played Georgia in the original stage production of Louise Rennison's novel. Naomi is pictured on the right of **Goya Verity** who plays Georgia in the RGS production. Naomi said how fantastic it was to return to RGS where she developed the skills, confidence and self-belief to follow her dreams of acting for a living. We also remember the Angus author, Louise Rennison, who sadly passed away this week. This surreal comedy was enriched by **Daanish Smellie, Ben Silverman, Milo Stephens** and **Sam Molyneux** whose band provided all of the musical accompaniment, with the assistance of **Mr Hare**. **Miss Branston's** costumes re-created the 1990's – an era that might just as well have been Ancient Greece to the students, but to Directors **Miss Hare** and **Mr Jackson** was only a very recent memory. Outstanding comedic performances and brilliant ensemble work from Second Form pupils right up to Lower Sixth Formers were the highlight. **Ian White's** colourful, original and versatile set framed the production and his team of student technicians operated the show professionally.



On Thursday, the school was full of students and staff who dressed up in some amazing costumes to celebrate **World Book Day**. The **Literary Quiz** which took place in the library at lunchtime on Wednesday saw 45 students across all year groups testing their literary prowess in eight House teams. Students had to identify children's characters "Wily feline transforms his poverty stricken master into a marquis using only his cunning" (*Puss in Boots*); match literary lovebirds; and engage in a spot of literary maths "Subtract the answer to the Ultimate Question of Life from the number of Dalmatians in Dodie Smith's Novel" (101 Dalmatians – 42 from "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" = 59). Competition was fierce but great fun—aided by the eating of cake! **Bird House** emerged victorious as both the winning House overall and the individual winning team: **The Happy Hippos** comprised **George Beglan, Louis Chambers, Sydney Charitos, Noah Fenton, Hannah Garmston, Stella Gold** and **Jenny McKendrick**. **Williamson House** fielded three hugely enthusiastic teams and, as ever, I am grateful to the **Heads of House, Mrs Scaglione, Mr Chevalier, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Light, Mrs Lloyd** and **Mrs Chandler** for all their support.



On Tuesday the RGS Music Department, led by **Mrs Jonas** and **Mrs Daniels**, put on a fabulous evening of entertainment in the form of the **Mozart Opera Evening**. This cleverly produced show was lively and uplifting and one I very much hope will become a regular feature in the RGS musical calendar. The students were exceptionally well rehearsed and the whole event was thoroughly enjoyable.



A passport to a **Career in Journalism** was well attended and very successful as RGS linguists took part in a languages/



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journalism workshop run by **Chris Dennis**, BBC sports journalist. Chris spoke of how his language skills have taken him to the forefront of many exciting news stories and interviews. **Georgina Robinson** said: "Mr Dennis was a brilliant speaker and really highlighted the competitive advantages that studying languages at A Level or university can give in many careers. The interactive workshop was brilliant as we were able to get involved and practice reporting like a real journalist."

Fourth Form **GCSE Food Technology** students (right) were treated to a Pasta Workshop by Mandy Kirsten-Foster. Students learnt to make pasta the authentic way—by hand; and the modern way—in a food processor. Whether ricotta and spinach ravioli or beetroot pasta, tagliatelle or farfalle the enthusiasm of all who took part was evident and will certainly stand the students in good stead for their controlled assessment work next year. Many thanks to **Mrs Kirsten-Foster** for giving up her time and to **Mrs Bader** for running the workshop.



The **Digital and Technological Careers** event on Monday was another success for the RGS Careers Department. Digital enthusiasts left enlightened about the direction so many careers are moving in. Special thanks go to our guest speakers **Dominic Collins**, **Marcus Thornley**, **Ian Hood** and **Caroline McGovern** and to all the delegates and staff who gave up their time to support the evening.



At the **Sussex Classical Reading Competition**, **Riley Griffin** won the Junior Latin category, whilst **William Stinton**, **Oliver Lawrence**, **Thomas Thornley** and **Harry Armstrong** were highly commended.

Sport News

A huge congratulations to the **1st/2nd/3rd Senior Netball** teams who all beat Caterham this week. The 1stVII won 23-13 with **Jenny Strange** and **Alex Clarke** both displaying some outstanding shooting; the 2ndVII won 18-15; and the 3rdVII won 25-15. Second team captain **Rachna Patel** and 3rd team member **Jo Amey** were both voted *Player of the Match*. Well done to all players and thank you to all the pupils who came out to watch—their support was terrific!



Congratulations to the **UI3D Netball** team who won the **South Surreys Netball Shield Tournament**. RGS entered three U13 teams—C/D/E—and played several other schools from the area, including A teams. The C team also played well achieving the runners-up position; and the E team played their first netball match this term. Well done to all and good luck to the U12s who take part in their **South Surrey Shield Tournament** next week.

The **U12 Girls' Hockey** team (middle right) took part in the **Surrey Competition** with some fantastic results: The U12A team came fourth in the Surrey Cup (after last week coming 3rd in the Surbiton Cup competition); and the U12B came first in the trophy after a nail biting sudden death penalty strokes competition which means they are the best B team in Surrey! Well done to all.

The **U14 Netball** team (bottom right) reached the semi finals of the **Surrey Netball Finals** where they narrowly lost by two goals in the final minute! The girls took third place in the County which is a fantastic achievement and testament to the hard work they have put into training in recent weeks. The U12 and U13 girls also played in the Finals beating several teams including Streatham and St George's. Well done!

The **U14 Rugby** team took part in the **U14 Surrey 7's** at John Fisher. Captain **Finn Skinner** writes: "We arrived to wet weather, which made the conditions tough to play in and on top of that our minibus got stuck before we had even stepped on the field. As we couldn't get the minibus out, we left it there and made our way to our first match against the formidable Whitgift. It was a hard fought match and we played with pace and physicality but at the final whistle we had not done enough. Not a bad start but not the start we wanted. Epsom College was our next opponent and they are a very strong side. We played really positively but were

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unfortunate and lost two tries to one. Thankfully, after two tough games, we came through to win our last three games, finishing 3rd in our group. In the semis we faced Rutlishians who came third in their group so we knew it could be tough. Our confidence gave us the push to beat them which put us in the final against St John's. After being beaten by them earlier in the season, the team knew we would have to play at our best in order to win. It was an amazing game! At full time the scores were tied and we went to 'Golden Point', and what a point it was! Both teams tried their hardest to win but after a drawn-out battle, we managed to draw in their defence and capitalise on the space left on the wing. Some slick passing put **Joe Jenner** over to score the winning try and our first silverware of the year. Our celebrations were interrupted as we all had to push the minibus out before we could go home! I am extremely proud of **Owen, Nat, Will, Theo E, Joe, Theo C, Matt, Patrick, Tom, Matteo and Harrison** and hope we carry this good form into the upcoming tournaments."



Student News

- ◆ **Niamh Brown** (right) recently became the 2016 U17 National Cross Country Champion having won her race in a field of 250 runners by about six seconds. Niamh also anchored her team to gold.
- ◆ **Patrick Brown** ran a very strong race in the U13 Boys National Cross Country Competition and finished with just one shoe.
- ◆ **Owen Knowles** won two golds and one silver at the Surrey Championships last weekend and achieved a PB of 32:60 in the 50m Breaststroke placing him 12th in GB. Owen's team also won gold in both the 4x100m free and 4x100m medley and was awarded the Edgar Cup and Otter Trophy as Surrey Junior Relay Champions.
- ◆ In the Advanced Level of the UK Linguistics Olympiad **Benedict Springbett** and **Marie Sparkes** both gained a Silver Certificate and **Daniel Telford** a Bronze Certificate. Competition was tough so they have done incredibly well.
- ◆ **Toby Stewart** achieved PBs in all events with 11 Top 10 finishes, four silver, one bronze medal and won the overall Individual Age Group Rankings (U13s) Boys at the Surrey County Championships.
- ◆ **Gwen Subuh-Symons** recently gained distinctions in Grade 6 piano and Grade 5 singing.

I am looking forward to an evening of English music, performed by the **RGS Cantata Choir**, RGS students and The RGS Godfrey Searle Choristers, featuring harpist Eleanor Medcalf at **7.00pm** on **Saturday 12 March** St Mary's Church Centre. The programme contains music from the Baroque period to the twentieth century, culminating in a rousing rendition of Handel's **Hallelujah Chorus**. This is the first time RGS will perform in the beautiful new building, St Mary's Church Centre. Tickets are £7.50 (concessions £5) and are available from the RGS Box Office; there will be wine and refreshments available after this early evening concert further to enjoy the venue. Parking is available in the RGS school playground.

Please do continue to send me any news items, comments or feedback by email to headmaster@reigategrammar.org. I always enjoy hearing your news and if there is anything I can do to help, please just let me know.

Best Wishes, Shaun Fenton, Headmaster

Parents' Forum on Mental Health: Thursday 10 March. 7.00pm, PMH

Parents are warmly invited to an evening forum on the subject of Mental Health. Ilona Brenninkmeijer (who recently addressed the Fourth Form) will talk about mental health, how to identify any mental health issues and how to support your child if you have any concerns. The talk will last approximately 40 minutes; there will be an opportunity to ask questions; and refreshments will be provided.

To confirm your attendance: Please email mainschooloffice@reigategrammar.org so that we can cater accordingly. We look forward to seeing you there.
From Miss Cooper, Head of PSHEE and Electives

Important Messages from Miss Arthur

Student Absence: All student absences (including for routine appointments and exceptional circumstances) must be approved in advance via the **Student Absence Form** which is available on the Parent Portal and from the School Office. Forms should be sent by email to the Form Tutor with a copy to the School office absence@reigategrammar.org.

Student Safety: Students should not be dropped off in or collected from the car park at the front of school in the mornings or afternoons. Further, for safety reasons, pupils in the First to Fifth Forms should not use the main front entrance at any time before or during the school day.

RGS Charity 7s—Sunday 6 March 2016!

The weekend is nearly upon us and over 40 schools will be descending on RGS Hartswood for the Reigate Charity 7s sponsored by John Laing. This year appears to be the strongest tournament to date, with most schools using the Reigate Charity 7s as a final opportunity to test out their squads before the National Rosslyn Park 7s tournament in a few weeks. Special guests are Joe Simpson (Wasps & England) and Wayne Barnes (Rugby World Cup Referee). Please head down to Hartswood to cheer on the RGS teams. Please [click here](#) for important information.

An advertisement for the Reigate Charity 7s 2016 tournament. It features a large graphic of the number '7s' with a rugby ball. Below the graphic is a photo of John Laing, a bald man with a beard, wearing a yellow and black sports jacket with 'EMC' logos. The text 'REIGATE CHARITY 2016' is at the top left. At the bottom, there is a row of logos for sponsors: John Laing, justretirement, HISCOX, Oranka, BRIAN GALE SURVEYORS, spotarabia worldwide, DEVINE HOMES PLC, woodlands, and KUKRI. Below the logos is the text 'making infrastructure happen Vines of Redhill BROOKS MACDONALD DEVINE HOMES PLC Builders of Fine Homes'.

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Strength and Conditioning

Sessions with Tom Archer will run at the following times for the remainder of this term (Dance Studio):

- ◆ Monday 07:15-08:15 (Open)
- ◆ Tuesday 07:15-08:15 (Open)
- ◆ Wednesday 07:15-08:15 (Open)
- ◆ Wednesday 13:20-14:10 (First to Fourth Form)
- ◆ Wednesday 16:00-17:00 (Fifth to Upper Sixth Form)
- ◆ Thursday 07:15-08:15 (Open)
- ◆ Thursday 16:00-17:00 (Fifth to Upper Sixth Form)
- ◆ Friday 13:20-14:10 (First to Fourth Form)

IGCSE Spanish—Fridays (Rm27) 4.00pm

Extra IGCSE Spanish speaking practice continues this Friday at 4pm in Rm27. All are welcome.

CCF Update

- ◆ **Mountain Biking Weekend:** 11-13 March; Capel Curig, North Wales; 14:00-21:00.
- ◆ **RAF Flying:** 17 March; RAF Benson; 06:45-14:00. (NOW FULL)
- ◆ **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.



ACCUMULATOR CHALLENGE

Supporting the 1675 Bursary Fund

This April, the RGS Foundation is looking for 10 teams to go head-to-head with 15 days and £50 to beg, barter and borrow your way to making the most amount of profit, in our inaugural Accumulator Challenge, to raise funds for the RGS Foundation's Changing Lives campaign.

Sign up now and each team will be given £50 courtesy of our sponsor, Robert Frith (RGS 1966-73) author of 'Drive like a Real Entrepreneur', and what you do with it, is up to you. You can fundraise, have an auction, invest it, organise an event or buy and sell products. The sky is the limit, providing what's done is safe, ethical and legal. Whatever your background or experience we challenge your team to raise as much as you can from just £50 to become the Accumulator Champions!

For more information [Click here](#) or email hkc@reigategrammar.org

Back by popular demand

RGS Parents' and Friends' Association is pleased to present

Comedy Night Saturday 19th March at 7.15pm

*Featuring stand-up acts
booked by an Award-Winning
TV comedy producer*

Further details to follow. Tickets will sell fast and priority will be given to current RGS parents. The evening will include adult humour so is for over 18s.

PFA - Registered Charity No. 280394

CAREERS UPDATE

Higher Education Evening—Tuesday 15 March (CH/SH) 7.00pm: A renowned speaker is visiting RGS to address students on **Choosing University Courses and Becoming Excellent Applicants for University**. **Mike Nicholson** is the Director of Student Recruitment and Admissions at Bath University, which is consistently in the top five most popular university destinations for RGS students. Prior to his appointment to Bath in October 2014, Mike was the Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach at Oxford University. He is also a member of the UCAS Council, so it is hard to imagine anyone better qualified to speak about university admissions. In addition,

there will be the opportunity to hear from **Mr Buzzacott**, Head of Careers; **Mr Jones**, Head of Sixth Form; **Dr Carter**, Oxbridge Co-Ordinator; and the **Headmaster**. All students and their parents who are interested in hearing our distinguished speaker are invited to attend. The event will take place in the Concert/Sports Hall.

Fifth Form CV Workshops: The second CV workshop for Fifth Formers is on Tuesday 8 March from 4.00-5.30pm in the Sixth Form Centre. This event is free and there are still spaces. If you would like to attend, please contact **Mrs Wilson** via slw@reigategrammar.org.

March

- 5 Sa MUN: CLS Conference
Inter-Schools Ski Championships (*departs*)
(Les Houches, France)
Netball v Hawthorns: U12AB&C, U13AB&C (H) 09:00
Netball v St John's Leatherhead:
1st VII, 2nd VII, 3rd VII, 4th VII (A) 09:30
U14AB&C, U15A&B (A) 10:30
Foundation: Mr Aubrey Scrase Memorial Event
11:00-14:00
Rugby v St John's: 2nd XV (A) 12:00
Angus, Thongs and Snogging: Performance 5 (CH/WG/MR)
19:30-22:30
- 6 Su Netball County Finals: U15, 1st VII (A)
Rugby Reigate Charity 7s:
U18 Boys & U18 Girls (HW) 09:30
Mixed Swimming Aquathon v St Teresa's:
U12, U13 (A) 09:00
Much Ado About Nothing: Rehearsal (DS) 10:00-17:00
Rugby 7s: U16, U14 (Queen Elizabeth School, Barnet)
- 7 M Fourth Form Theology & Philosophy Conference
(Oxford)
Angus, Thongs and Snogging: Get Out (CH/WG/MR)
09:00-18:00
Staff Meeting (PMH) 16:00-17:15 * **NEW VENUE** *
Netball South Surrey Shield: U12C&D (H) 16:30
Music: GCSE Coursework Evening (M6/RR) 17:00-21:00
PFA Meeting (M2) 19:30-21:30
- 8 Tu Rugby Surrey 7s: U13 (Trinity School) 09:00
Health & Safety Meeting (Rm4) 16:00-17:15
Fifth Form CV Workshop (6FC) 16:00-17:30
- 9 W Girls' Hockey, Surrey IN2 (Reserve Day): U12 (A)
Rugby Gulliver's Sports Travel Senior 7s:
1st VII (Richmond Athletic) 08:30
Sixth Form Theology & Philosophy Conference (London)
08:30-17:00
16+ Scholarship Day 08:45-15:50
House: Golf (RHGC) 13:10-18:30
Netball v CLFS: 3rd VII, 4th VII (A) 14:30
Much Ado About Nothing: Rehearsal 16:00-17:30
Drama: AS Theatre Studies Open Rehearsal with
DAJ for feedback 16:00-20:00
Girls' Hockey v Greenacre: 2nd XI (A) 16:30
Cantata Choir: Rehearsal (RR) 19:45-21:45
- 10 Th Lower Sixth Form Geography trip to Swanage (*departs*)
(Dorset)
Boys' Hockey Surrey Trophy: U12 (A) 13:00
Careers Talk: *Life as a GP* with Dr Rawson 13:30-14:10
Boys' Hockey v Lingfield Notre Dame School:
U15A (A) 14:30
U15B (H) 14:30
Drama: AS Theatre Studies Open Rehearsal for GCSE
students with DAJ for feedback 16:00-20:00
Parents' Forum on Mental Health (PMH) 19:00
- 11 F French Exchange visiting students (*arrive*)
Mixed Swimming Bath Cup: U18 (A) 07:00
Open Morning (CH) 09:15-11:30
Rugby Surrey 7s: U12 (Wimbledon College) 10:00
Drama: Lunchtime Theatre-AS Devised Exam 13:30-14:00
CCF: Mountain Biking Weekend (*departs*)
(Capel Curig, North Wales) 14:00
Chess v Hampton: B&C Teams 16:00-18:00
- 12 Sa Boys' Hockey v KCS Wimbledon: U15A&B (A) 09:00
U14A&B (A) 10:15
1st, 2nd XI (H) 10:45
U14C (A) 11:30
3rd XI (H) 12:15
U15C (H) 12:15
Boys' Hockey v Kingston Grammar School:
U13A&B, U12A&B (7-a-side) (H) 09:30
Girls' Swimming, Rotary Swimathon (Dorking)
Netball v St George's School:
U14AB&C, U13A&B (A) 09:00
1st VII, 2nd VII, 3rd VII, 4th VII (H) 09:00
U15A&B (H) 10:00
U12ABC&D, U13C&D (A) 10:00-12:30
Swimming Surrey Individual Championships:
U13, U15, U18 (Guildford) 15:00-21:00
Cantata Choir Spring Concert (St Mary's Church Centre)
19:30-21:30
- 13 Su CCF: Mountain Biking Weekend (*returns*)
(Capel Curig, North Wales)
Lower Sixth Form Geography trip to Swanage (*returns*)
(Dorset)
Rugby Reigate Junior 7s: U14A, U12A (HW)
Much Ado About Nothing: Rehearsal 10:00-17:00
- 14 M Netball County Tournament: 2nd VII (A)
Rugby National 7s: U13 (A) 08:30
Boys' Hockey v Lingfield ND: U14C (A) 14:30
*** NEW ***
Much Ado About Nothing: Rehearsal 16:00-17:30
German Language Play (CH) 13:00-16:00
Music: Ensembles Concert rehearsals (RR) 16:00-18:00
Board of Governors Meeting 17:30-19:30
Music: Ensembles Concert (RR) 19:30-21:30
- 15 Tu Final School Boosters: Fourth Form
Netball v Dunottar: U12C&D, U13C (H) 16:30
Rugby National 7s: U13 (A) 08:30
AS Sports Studies Revision Course (Kent College)
08:00-17:00
House: Senior Quiz (CH/SH) 08:40-09:45
Boys' Hockey Surrey Cup: U15 (A) 10:30-15:50
First Form Roman Murder Mystery (SH) 14:10-15:50
Boys' Hockey v Cranmore School:
U13A&B (7-a-side) (A) 16:00
Music: Informal Concert (RR) 16:15-17:15
Careers: Higher Education Evening (**CH/SH**) 19:00-21:00

PARENTS' ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

The following trips, services and items are now available for payment via the Parents' Online Payment System.

- Cricket Tour, Jersey
- Geography, Swanage
- Golf Tour, Bryanston
- History & Politics, New York & Washington
- Netball Tour, Costa Dorada
- Senior Ski, France (2nd Deposit)
- Spanish Trip, Andalucia
- Biology, Nettlecombe Court (1st Deposit)

- Biology, Wakehurst Place
- English, Canterbury Tales
- English, King Lear
- History, Hitler on Trial
- PE AS Revision Conference, Kent College
- Physics, Science Live
- RE Oxford Conference

The link to the Parents' Online Payment system is on the school website and on Parent Portal.

If there are any queries regarding the payments listed or any other matter, please email:
finance@reigategrammar.org