



From the Headmaster

The last fortnight has seen two events happening at the RGS which in so many ways epitomise what we stand for as a school, values which arguably in the current climate have never been more significant. An altruistic outlook, tolerance and empathy are characteristics which, in a rapidly changing world, are going to be key to our future locally, nationally and internationally. “The Surrey bubble” is an oft-quoted phrase: we are fortunate to live in a county where for the most part we are insulated and protected from many of the issues which face others. It is in this context that perspective is all the more important as a commodity.

As a school in the heart of its community, the RGS has always been very conscious that it cannot exist in isolation; indeed, with service as one of our four aims we are acutely aware of utilising our expertise for the benefit of others. Our International Communities Week, when we welcomed our colleagues from our Nepali link schools, focused on – among other aspects – gender equality and provided an opportunity for our students to consider many sensitive and topical gender issues from a variety of angles. In an increasingly global context to the students’ education, these meaningful links with schools abroad serve to increase the students’ understanding and experience of the world as well as providing scope for educational visits and projects.

World Book Day also offered the opportunity for us to celebrate – through a range of innovative and quirky initiatives – the power of the book. Likewise, reading provides the opportunity to immerse oneself in other cultures, to consider conflicting and even controversial viewpoints, and to broaden one’s horizons. If we are to maintain an open mind and the flexibility not to pigeon-hole or judge dispassionately, the written word remains as valuable and as powerful a tool now as it ever has been.

I am proud of so many aspects of the RGS but, if we can continue to nurture a culture where our students are compassionate and tolerant, this is perhaps our greatest legacy to them.

Latest News

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Art: **Zac Harrison’s** (3P) painting in response to the *Visions of the Future* theme has reached the final of the Young Surrey Artist of the Year Competition 2017; it will be displayed at the Riverside Café and Gallery.

Mathematics: In the national Intermediate Mathematics Challenge our boys received an impressive 38 gold, 29 silver and 15 bronze certificates. Thirty boys qualified for the invitation-only, follow-up Kangaroo round. The top score was 110, achieved by **Salvatore Elia** (5V), but equally impressive was **Kush Christie-Verma’s** (3S) score of 94 as he is only in the Third Form.

Partnerships: For our annual International Communities Week – in partnership with Tormead School – we were delighted to welcome from our partnership schools in Nepal, Purna Neupane from Janabikash and Bikash Raj Paudel from Bhu Pu. With the theme of gender equality, the students enjoyed the opportunity

to consider both the language and culture of Nepal. The climax of the week was the Cambodia Ball which raised a staggering £18,000 to support Tiem Kram school in the future.

World Book Day: With the theme of detection and crime, the School embraced World Book Day with energy and enthusiasm: from the murder mystery in the library to the specifically-themed lessons and food, the day proved a great success and engaged boys of all age groups.

Sports News

[View the full sports results](#)

Badminton: **Christopher Chong** (3R) is the Aldershot and Camberley District Under 16 boys champion.

Chess: In the Area Cup Semi-Final our 1st VI won 6 – 0 against Reigate Grammar School.

Cricket: On the tour to Sri Lanka the RGS played five matches in seven days, in up to 35 degree temperatures. From a number of excellent individual performances, of particular note were **Benji Thomas'** (L6) remarkable 100 in the first game and **Alastair Curran's** (U6) destructive 71 in Colombo.

Fencing: In the British Schools' Teams Fencing Championships, our Under 18 team secured bronze medals in the boys épée while in the Under 13 boys foil, the RGS came fifth. On an individual level, **Leo Kamstra** (2C) proudly wore national stripes in his first fencing competition representing England. Finally, in épée the Under 18 team beat Charterhouse School 45 – 32.

Hockey: In a successful block fixture against King's College School Wimbledon, RGS teams scored 44 goals in eight matches and only conceded seven; highlights included the 11 – 0 win for the Under 15As and a 9 – 0 victory for the Under 14Cs.

Rugby: **Henry Paremain** (U6) was part of the winning Harlequins side at the Academy Finals day: a fantastic achievement topped off by his award of the rugby scholarship to Durham University.

Sailing: **Oliver Perkins** (4B) has been selected for the Great Britain Optimist sailing team.

Shooting: Our VIII managed to inflict only the second defeat in ten years on Wellington College in a 10-bull match by 759 – 756; the RGS was responsible for their other defeat two years ago.

Skiiing: The RGS ski race team travelled to Bormio in Italy to compete in the 2017 English Alpine Championships. Despite stiff competition, all the RGS boys were placed in the top 40 nationally in their age groups to qualify for the British Championships.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Sunday 5 March	RGS Under 16 Sevens Tournament at Bradstone Brook
Tuesday 7 March	Senior Piano Concert in the Rehearsal Room
Wednesday 8 March	Junior Classics Trip to Italy Parents' Briefing in the Auditorium
Thursday 9 March	Friday Timetable
Friday 10 March	Field Day 3
Tuesday 14 March	Careers in Engineering Seminar in the Auditorium
Wednesday 15 March	Fauré Requiem Parents' Choir Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Thursday 16 March	Ensembles Concert in the Auditorium

