



From the Headmaster

As the term comes to an end next week, so the thoughts of many of the boys and indeed their parents now turn to the impending public examinations. This marks a stage in the school year when a significant number of boys are united in their attention on, and preparation for, the challenges ahead. In this phase of the students' career those learning habits which we continue to nurture come to the fore: the tenacity to persevere; the skill of imitation to replicate exemplar material and approaches; the criticality to challenge and question; the reflection to evaluate and improve learning; the independence to plan, take responsibility and have pride in every element of preparation; and so I could go on. In fact each and every one of our Learning Habits provides students with the skill set to tackle the challenges ahead with confidence and serves to highlight just one of many reasons why, as we prepare our students for the demands of school life and beyond, we feel these are core attributes.

The boys should take reassurance from the fact that we have every confidence in them and have seen genuine potential which they undoubtedly have the ability to realise. It is not enough, however, simply to wear the RGS blazer or to put on an RGS tie; it is now time for the students to reinforce this natural ability with sustained, targeted focus and consolidation. With industry and commitment, the boys can fulfil their potential academically, and I wish them all the very best of luck over the revision period. I would also like to remind the boys that my staff are here to provide as much support as they can, both academically and pastorally. If you have any concerns about any aspect of your son's progress or well-being, please do not hesitate to contact, in the first instance, his Tutor. We will always act swiftly to deal with any concerns raised.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a relaxing Easter break and look forward to seeing the boys return refreshed and ready for the Trinity Term.

Latest News

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Concerts: A busy fortnight for the Music Department has included the joint Guildford High School and RGS choir singing Evensong at the historic Rochester Cathedral, the stunning performance of Fauré's *Requiem* by the Parents' choir in Holy Trinity Church, and the uplifting Ensembles Concert in the Auditorium.

Music: RGS musicians have enjoyed notable success at the Godalming Festival. **Samuel Jones** (5H) won both the Under 19 class and the Bach 16 and over class in the organ competition. **Callum Champion** (U6) won the Concerto Prize, making it the third year in a row for RGS pianists, and 14 boys also competed in the two piano classes. **Matthew Hawkins** (L6) sang a solo in the recording of BBC's *Morning Worship* service broadcast on BBC Radio 4 from St Mary's Church.

Quiz: Our senior team lost by the smallest possible margin in the final seconds of the Regional Final, while the junior team got off to a flying start with a convincing victory over Yateley Manor School.

Science: Upper Sixth Form students **Thomas Spackman** and **Callum Spencer** have come in the top 30 in the second round of the British Physics Olympiad. Callum has subsequently been selected to compete for a place on the British national team for the International Physics Olympiad: an astonishing achievement.

Young Enterprise: *GoBillou* was crowned West Surrey Company of the Year winning the overall competition, as well as winning best trade stand for their multi-lingual cookbook. *Zenith* with their revision guides were runners-up and took the title of best business plan. RGS won four of the six awards on the night.

Sports News

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Badminton: **Christopher Chong** (3R) won the Surrey County Smith Franklin Cup in the Under 14 boys singles tournament.

Chess: **Amardip Ahluwalia** (2C) represented the England National Junior Squad in a tournament in Paris and was the top England player. At school level all three senior teams secured victories against Wilson's School which ensured our 1st team won the Surrey County Chess Association Division One.

Cross-Country: In the Renlaugh Trophy held in Richmond Park, the mixed age team came second.

Fencing: In the south-east region Youth Épée Championships, **Leo Kamstra** (2C) came second in the Under 14 age group to qualify for the British Youth Fencing Championship. Leo has now been selected for the Great Britain fencing team to compete in Poland.

Football: The 1st XI recorded a tight 1 – 1 draw against Sutton Grammar School.

Hockey: In the block fixture against Whitgift School, the stand-out year group were the Under 14s who emerged unbeaten with two wins and a draw. Meanwhile the Under 13C team's never-say-die attitude turned around a 0 – 3 deficit to win 4 – 3 and the Under 13B team exchanged the lead a few times before settling for a dramatic 4 – 4 draw. With the School still involved in national cup and plate competitions, the 1st XI recorded a convincing 6 – 0 victory against Lancing College while the Under 16A team beat Cranleigh School 3 – 2. Against Reed's School, the 1st XI recorded an excellent 2 – 1 victory. The highlight of the weekend, however, came from the 3rd XI, arriving at the fixture on a 15-match winning streak; it came down to the last seconds for **Devon MacMillan** (U6) to score the goal to make it 16 victories from 16 games.

Shooting: Our VIII won its last shoulder-to-shoulder match of the term against St John's School, Leatherhead by 718 points to 624, firing grouping, rapid and snap disciplines; our pair also won convincingly. Our top scorer was **Thomas Randell** (4P) with a superb 93 out of 95. Our VIII has remained unbeaten against any team this term: a phenomenal achievement on what is a very competitive circuit.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Monday 20 March	Lower Sixth Form Parents' Evening in Great Hall
Tuesday 21 March	Joint RGS / GHS drama performance of <i>West Side Story</i> at GHS (for three nights)
Thursday 23 March	Junior Classics Trip to Italy departs Geography Fieldwork Trip to Tenerife departs Term ends
Friday 24 March	Staff Inset Day
Sunday 26 March	French Trip to Nice departs
Tuesday 18 April	Trinity Term begins

