



From the Headmaster

As we have been reflecting on the School's values and ethos recently, it has come into sharper focus the fact that self-respect and self-esteem in terms of physical health, emotional maturity and personal well-being are at the very heart of what will allow our students to flourish. At *TEDx Guildford*, Gareth Davies spoke about celebrating *our true glorious unedited selves*: the confidence for each one of us to have an authentic voice and established core values. And yet, for the students in the current climate, it has probably never been harder for them to be individual and at ease with who they are. External pressures and influences come not only from peer groups at school but also through the influences of social media, a global context and society at large.

The decision to incorporate Staff Inset days into the school calendar is not one which is taken lightly and we do not underestimate the impact school closure has on parents from a logistical perspective. I do believe passionately, however, that wellbeing is something which every single member of staff must reflect upon if we are to take a proactive approach and allow our students to flourish and thrive rather than simply to cope and survive. After an insightful lecture this morning, we focused on five key themes: **mind** – dealing with pressure, developing resilience and having a positive attitude; **body** – the relationship between a healthy body and a healthy mind and the impact of exercise and a healthy diet; **relationships** – the importance of positive, healthy relationships; **purpose** – the role of charity, community, volunteering and faith to overall wellbeing; and **accomplishment** – the value of fulfilment and positive participation in the broader life of the School. It has been a very constructive, thought-provoking and inspiring day and I have no doubt that, as a school and as a staff body, we are now better placed to support the boys and foster in each individual a desire to, indeed, celebrate their true glorious unedited selves.

I wish you and your family a very restful and relaxing half term and I also wish all those preparing for examinations – both public and internal – the very best of luck as they embark upon an important phase of revision. I look forward to seeing the boys refreshed and ready for the challenges of the second half of term.

Latest News

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Combined Cadet Force: The CCF was pleased to welcome Captain David Joyce (RN) as the Inspecting Officer for our MoD biennial inspection. Captain Joyce, who had links with the RGS as both his father and grandfather were OGs, inspected the tri-service guard of honour before reviewing the activities of all three services. From a number of highlights including the flight simulators and sailing at Papercourt, the cadets impressed with their communication and tactics in the forested tag rifle arena; showed discipline and understanding of the principles of marksmanship while live firing on the range; displayed some good skill development on the dismounted close combat trainer; and showed bravery, teamwork and physical fitness over the Army assault course. Having completed the inspection, Captain Joyce returned to School to report his findings to the Headmaster in the Chained Library. He was pleased with what he had seen and commended the cadets for their engagement and the staff for their enthusiasm.

Physics: **Harry Grieve** (L6) has been invited to take part in the Senior Physics Challenge, a residential course run by the University of Cambridge for the top 40 students nationally who took part in a problem-solving competition on the Isaac Physics website, chosen by answering the greatest number of increasingly difficult questions.

Politics: **Kit Edgecliffe-Johnson** (L6) was successful in winning top prize in the Corpus Christi College Bacon Essay Prize for Politics and International Relations. His essay investigated whether or not referenda are the best way to determine public policy.

Science: **Salvatore Elia** (L6) has been selected to be one of the five students on the UK team to compete at the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) in China.

Sports News

[View the full sports results](#)

Badminton: **Christopher Chong** (4P) won bronze in the final tournament of the competitive season at the Badminton England Warwickshire Under 18 Open Boys Singles event.

Cricket: British summertime was the winner as a number of matches were casualties to the rain against Reed's School. Of the four matches to persevere, RGS teams won three of the fixtures with **Fergus Middleton** (L6) with 95* for the 3rd XI and **Harry James** (4H) with 100 (retired) for the Under 15C team. In mid-week, with the sun shining, highlights included victory for 1st XI against Eltham College by 32 runs and wins in the cup competition for the Under 14A and Under 12A teams, against Glyn School and Weydon School respectively. Highlights of a tough block fixture against Whitgift School and Hurstpierpoint College included excellent wins for the 1st and 2nd XIs. From an individual perspective, **Adit Gandhi** (4P) scored 100* for the Under 15A team, while **Benji Thomas** (U6) finished with 99* for the 1st XI.

Fencing: At the British School Team Fencing Championships, the Under 18 team – **Kit Edgecliffe-Johnson** (captain), **Sam Ellis**, **Alex Humphries** and **Kenny Okoroafor** – won gold to be crowned the new National Champions. In the Under 15 Épée at the British School Team Fencing Championships, the RGS team comprising **Leo Kamstra** (captain), **Freddie Edgecliffe-Johnson**, and **Freddie Cliffe** secured silver. Many congratulations. The Under 13s also achieved silver in the foil with the team consisting of **Zed Law** (captain), **James Harper-Jones** and **Rishikesh Mistry**.

Sailing: Following the recent Optimist Sailing Selection Trials, **Ben Mueller** (3C) came 20th and was selected for the GB Development Team, one of five sailors, to represent Great Britain at the US Optimist National Championships in Florida, USA.

Tennis: An excellent first half of term has seen 36 matches played, with the Under 12 and Under 13 age groups enjoying notable success. The Under 19s acquitted themselves particularly well by reaching the quarter finals of the Rootham Shield, finally losing to a very strong team from King's College School, Wimbledon.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Monday 28 May	Half Term begins
Friday 1 June	Half Term ends
Tuesday 5 June	Market Day Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Saturday 9 June	Social Event for Fourth Form Parents in Great Hall
Monday 11 June	School Examination Week

