



### From the Headmaster

I hope you and your family had a relaxing summer holiday and that your son is refreshed and ready for the start of the school year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new boys and their parents. The beginning of the new academic year and a fresh intake mark an exciting stage and I have every confidence that the new boys will make a real impact upon the School: I look forward to getting to know them individually and to observing them as they develop and flourish.

The RGS is justifiably proud of the success of our boys and, indeed, striving for excellence and ambition are admirable traits which epitomise our community; however, these are achieved in a caring and compassionate way. As I said to the boys at the first assembly of term, we take what we do seriously but we don't take ourselves too seriously. The RGS is an inclusive environment where our community and supportive ethos are at the very heart of our philosophy. Each individual at the RGS has so much untapped potential; to unlock this, the boys must be confident and happy. If you have any concerns with regard to your son, however seemingly trivial, please do not hesitate to contact the School via his tutor. Each boy has a number of members of staff he can turn to if he wants advice, support or reassurance. His tutor is likely to be his first point of contact; in addition, however, every individual also has their Head of Year, Housemaster, Personal Tutor (Fourth Form and above), the Deputy Head (Pupils), the School Nurse, and the Counsellor. By talking openly and communicating, we can help to resolve any issues as they arise.

For the benefit of those parents new to the School, the RGS newsletter, *The Bulletin*, is published electronically every two weeks. We are very proud of the efforts and achievements of our boys and this fortnightly publication provides an opportunity to celebrate the many diverse successes enjoyed by our community. I am always keen to hear news of RGS boys so that their energy, industry and achievements can be recognised; please do not hesitate to keep me informed of any such successes. As well as *The Bulletin*, the RGS website and social media – Twitter @RGSGuildford and Facebook RGSGuildford – also provide invaluable means of staying up-to-date with news from the School and gaining an insight into daily life.

The sense of community is at the very heart of the School's ethos and we greatly value the involvement and support of parents and family at school events. The *Forthcoming Events* section at the end of this newsletter highlights those events in the School Calendar which may be of special interest to parents or to which you are warmly invited to attend.

I wish your son a very happy and fulfilling year and look forward to meeting you during the course of this academic year.

**Dr Jon Cox**  
Headmaster

**Academic:** The School celebrated a record year for results as the RGS was once again ranked in the top three boys' schools in the country at both GCSE and A Level. At A Level, 79% of grades were achieved at grade A\* / A and 42% were at A\*. 30 boys gained three or more A\* grades, of these, 18 boys averaged more than 95% with **Shyam Tailor** averaging an extraordinary 99.6% across his papers. At AS Level, 72% of grades were secured at A grade and thirty boys scored full marks in one of their subjects. At GCSE, 72% of all grades were at A\* with 36 boys achieving straight A\* grades in their 10 – or more – subjects. In addition, 100 boys secured the impressive accolade of a clean set of A\* / A grades in their subjects. 96 boys took Mathematics a year early; the boys achieved 94 A\* grades and 2 A grades.

**Staff:** The RGS is delighted to welcome the following new members of staff: Luci Churchill (English); Giles Cover (Physical Education); Emma Cuthbertson (Biology); Andrew Gyford (Mathematics); Alexander Page (Mathematics); Ruth Shepherd (Art); Andrew Skitt (Biology); Karim Tayar (Religion and Philosophy); Christophe Truglio (Modern Languages); Fiona Wimblett (Mathematics); Matthew Side (Sports Gapper); Emma McQuillan (twilight Japanese); Stephanie Delfau (French assistante) and Omar Soto-Carrillo (Spanish assistant). We wish them all a very successful and enjoyable career at the School.

**Trips:** There were a number of trips, tours and expeditions over the summer holidays. These included: the Cambodia expedition; the choral and orchestral tour to Barcelona; the Scouts Three Peaks Challenge in Yorkshire; the Combined Cadet Force Adventure Training in Monserrat; the hockey and rugby tour to South Africa; and the RAF summer camp at RAF Benson.

## Sports News

[View the full sports results](#)

**Chess:** **Amardip Ahluwalia** (1C) represented England against Greece in the Under 13 category and, in the light of his performance, received the honour of being selected for the World Youth Championships.

**Football:** As part of their preseason preparation, the 1st XI drew 2 – 2 against the 2015 leavers with goals from **Jérôme Espitalier-Noël** (U6) and **Sebastian Wood** (U6).

**Hockey:** **Edward Way** (U6) represented the England Under 21 squad against Germany and was then selected to join their Development Programme with the potential to represent England and/or Great Britain at junior international level. The squad is only 35 players and includes just four Under 17/18 players.

**Judo:** **Oliver Platt** (L6) has been selected to compete in the England Judo team in the 2015 Sainsbury's School Games, competing against the other home nations and a team from Brazil.

**Skiing:** **Charlie Aldridge-Bate** (1L) is currently a member of the English Schools Ski Squad.

## Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Saturday 5 September	House rugby for the seniors, Under 16 and 15 teams
Monday 7 September	Parents' Association Committee Meeting in the Common Room
Tuesday 8 September	Barcelona Tour Reunion Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Thursday 10 September	UCAS guidance for Upper Sixth Form in the Auditorium
Saturday 12 September	Heritage Day