



AUT DISCE AUT DISCEDE

From the Headmaster

The RGS remains proud of its 500-year history and its grammar school roots which have provided the foundations for so much of school life to this day. The traditional rigour and many of the fundamental approaches to education remain as applicable today as they have always been; indeed, the inscriptions on the walls in School Room provide a daily reminder for our boys of these core values and approaches. Many of these Latin maxims still resonate and the messages behind *work conquers all things* and *the diligent man is busy even in leisure* (translated from the Latin) are as pertinent today as they were in the sixteenth century.

The last ISI inspection and the independent learning review, which was recently conducted, have both served to highlight how impressive our students are: engaged, motivated and curious. We are acutely aware, however, that the realities of a challenging, fast-changing, stressful modern lifestyle which will face our boys at university and in the work-place demand a range of skills in addition to strong examination results. Grades undoubtedly open doors but the habits and attitudes nurtured at school are going to be fundamental in allowing our boys to continue to flourish once they leave the RGS. In this light, as a school we have been reflecting on the learning habits which will allow us to remain loyal to our ethos and high standards while developing resilient, resourceful and reflective students who can approach the future with confidence whatever it holds. Perhaps, therefore, we need to concede that not all the inscriptions on show in the Old Building have quite the same relevance today: *aut disce aut discede* - *either learn or leave* - is not a sentiment at the heart of our learning habits!

Latest News

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Charity: The whole school community was involved in the selection of charities for the RGS to support this year. With a phenomenal response of 721 votes to the online poll from boys and staff, the following charities were selected: *Christopher's Smile* (local) - "our vision is for every child diagnosed with childhood cancer to not only survive, but to reach adulthood enjoying a good quality of life"; *Prostate Cancer UK* (national) - "we fight to help more men survive prostate cancer and enjoy a better quality of life"; and *United World Schools* (international) - "educational opportunity for children living in the world's poorest regions".

Economics: **Henry Xuan's** (U6) essay entitled *The rising gap between rich and poor is not just bad for society, it is bad for growth* has been one of only 20 shortlisted by the Royal Economic Society for their annual Young Economist Competition prize, from a record entry in excess of 2,100 essays.

Music: **Adam Wills** (5P) has been awarded his diploma (Dip. ABRSM) on the recorder.

Senior Prefects: The RGS is delighted to announce six new appointments to the Senior Prefect team: **Ben Barnwell, James Barnwell, Angus Higgins, Pravin Nelli, Peter Robinson and David Vaughan.**

Volunteering: The annual Volunteering Fair saw a number of charities and volunteering groups visiting the School as boys took the opportunity to immerse themselves in very worthwhile community – both local and further afield – initiatives. Representatives were on hand to talk about everything from children’s hospices to conservation, from animal rescue to the affordable bike project.

Sports News

[View the full sports results](#)

Basketball: **Findlay Laffan** (1L) has been playing basketball regularly with Guildford Goldhawks which has led to selection for both the Surrey and South East England Regional squads.

Chess: The RGS hosted the Russell Trophy Chess Tournament; of the twelve teams competing, our 1st team came second, just narrowly losing out by half a point to the eventual winners.

Football: The 1st XI followed up a 2 – 2 draw against Gordon’s School with a 3 – 1 victory against Lingfield Notre Dame School in the ISFA Boodles National Cup Preliminary Round.

Ice Hockey: **William Lawson** (2E) attended the England National Ice Hockey Training Camp and has subsequently been selected for the England Ice Hockey Under 14 Squad for 2015/2016, one of only 22 boys.

Rugby: The opening block fixture of the term saw the RGS teams welcoming Hampton School and Claremont Fan Court School. There were a number of excellent team and individual performances with the B teams taking the plaudits as the Under 12, 14, 15 and 16 teams all emerged victorious. Special mention also goes to all those boys who represented the School for the first time. The stand-out result, however, came from the Under 14B team who overturned a 0 – 12 half-time score-line to win 19 – 17. During the week, the 1st XV played against Eltham College in the first round of the Champions Trophy; in wet and windy conditions at Bradstone Brook, the RGS team produced a convincing performance to win 45 – 3.

Weightlifting: **Christopher Murray** (L6) participated in the Under 20 British Weightlifting Championships in Wembley, winning his weight category and breaking five British records in the process. Christopher then lifted in the 62kg category at the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games which this year took place on the Pacific island nation of Samoa with almost 1,000 14 – 18 year olds competing across nine sports. Despite the level of competition being of the very highest calibre, he won the bronze medal: an extraordinary achievement.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Friday 18 September	First and Second Form House Rugby at Bradstone Brook
Saturday 19 September	Parents’ Association First Form Dinner in Great Hall
Thursday 24 September	Speech Day: no afternoon school Senior Prizegiving in Great Hall
Saturday 26 September	First Form Adventure weekend on the Isle of Wight (three days)
Monday 28 September	Field Day 1
Tuesday 29 September	History Trip to Berlin Parents’ Information Evening in Great Hall