



From the Headmaster

This week provided the opportunity for the School to acknowledge our debt to those, including Old Guildfordians, who served in the World Wars. The whole community came together in an act of remembrance as the School united in memory of those who have lost their lives in warfare. At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the School joined in a two-minute silence, the beginning and end of which were marked by the cannons fired in the castle grounds which houses the Memorial Arch, first unveiled in 1921.

The service was particularly poignant as the RGS welcomed a number of eminent and decorated Old Guildfordians to mark the occasion. John Downham (OG 1943), our oldest School Captain, laid a wreath in memory of the old boys, while School Captain, Duncan Ashworth, laid a wreath on behalf of the staff and pupils of the School. Two addresses, which are attached to this edition of *The Bulletin*, then provided an insight into the act of remembrance from varying perspectives. Old Guildfordian Sir John Allison, who left the School in 1961, provided a very personal recollection of war through an anecdote involving his father fighting for control of Hill 60 on the front line in Belgium just south of Ypres. This was followed by a powerful and thought-provoking address by Upper Sixth Form student Angus Higgins.

It is, of course, right for us to be proud of our history and reflection on our past is important, yet as a school we must live for the present and the future. In this light, the words of Rupert Fitzsimmons (OG 2015) who gave last year's address still resonate: "It is all very well that we have this affinity with a number of boys that fought in that war a hundred years ago but simply recognising this will do nothing to show our gratitude. We could live our own lives in the free country that they sacrificed either their youth or their lives for, dully and boringly, or, we can embrace the freedom they have provided for us. We can live to the fullest extent possible, because they could not. We can live out their dreams because we share the same ambitions. The greatest way for us to say thank you to those old boys is to grasp the legacies they left behind with two hands and live out the lives they could never enjoy."

Latest News

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Charity: £1,694 was raised from mufti day for the three chosen school charities and also £631 was raised for *Macmillan Cancer* from the Krispy Kreme doughnut sale.

Trips: An extremely busy half term included the following trips and expeditions: the Geography field trip to Dorset; the Biology field trip to Pembroke; the Spanish trip to Granada; the Duke of Edinburgh training expedition to the Brecon Beacons; the Physics trip to CERN in Geneva, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, which is the world's largest particle physics lab; and the History trip to Berlin. In addition,

this week the Sixth Form Economics students visited the MINI Plant in Cowley, Oxford: the birthplace and heart of MINI production.

Young Enterprise: Two of our four Young Enterprise businesses, *Mercury* and *Opprimé*, entered the first of the Young Enterprise competitions, held at the Guildhall in Guildford. The competition took the form of a Dragons' Den and they competed against 16 other Young Enterprise businesses. Both teams presented a clear business strategy with confidence, detail and passion, responding well to the tough questioning from the Dragons; however, *Mercury* represented by Lower Sixth Form boys **Joshua Bell**, **George Glover**, **Evan Hynes** and **Theo King** gave a formidable presentation taking first place and a cash injection of £100 for their business for the exciting product, the *Peteca*, a hand shuttlecock.

Sports News

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Chess: The 2nd and 3rd VIs both recorded wins against Reigate Grammar School by 4½ – 1½ and 6½ – 5½ respectively.

Cricket: The RGS is honoured to have been listed in *The Cricketer* magazine as one of the top 100 cricketing schools in the country.

Rowing: **George Wedlake** (5P) won the J16 single sculls at the Weybridge Silver Sculls, then came second at the Kingston Small Boats Head.

Rugby: In the eagerly anticipated block fixture against Cranleigh School, the boys responded with performances which epitomised the cohesion, spirit and determination of RGS boys. Out of 15 fixtures, the RGS recorded ten victories and one draw. From a number of outstanding matches, the highlights included a nail-biting 5 – 0 win for the Under 16A team and 7 – 5 win for the Under 16C team. The junior boys enjoyed a block fixture against London Oratory School and again the touch-line parents suffered a tense experience as the Under 13C team emerged with a 17 – 15 victory.

Sailing: In the annual Solent Cup, a school keelboat racing competition, the RGS team competed in the demanding National Independent Schools Sailing Championships event involving three long races around the Solent. After convincing wins in each of their races, the RGS deservedly won gold.

Shooting: In the fixture against St John's School, Leatherhead the RGS VIII won the 5-bull match convincingly by 773 points to 750, our top scorer being **Alfie Hellings** (5A) with 99. In addition, the RGS pair won its match by 192 to 177. The RGS also impressed in the first round of the Staniforth Challenge Trophy with a score of 772 which should secure progress to the final round. **Nick Lehrter** (U6) and **Vishnu Satkunabalan** (L6) both achieved 99 out of 100.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Monday 16 November	Media Seminar in the Auditorium
Tuesday 17 November	Junior Piano Concert in the Rehearsal Room
Wednesday 18 November	Fourth Form Parents' Evening in Great Hall Digital Safety Talk for Lower School Parents in the Auditorium
Thursday 19 November	Upper School Parents' Pastoral Evening in the Auditorium
Monday 23 November	Fifth Form A Level Options Evening in Great Hall
Tuesday 24 November	Lower Sixth Form Higher Education Evening in Great Hall
Wednesday 25 November	Ensembles Concert in the Auditorium