



From the Headmaster

In 1919 at the end of his first term, in line with his aim to cultivate the development of the RGS, the Headmaster Arthur J. B. Green wrote that “such a school as this ought to give opportunities to all who have special talents and tastes, that they may develop them and use them to enrich the common life of the School”. Almost 100 years later, it is a source of great pride that this ethos remains at the very heart of the RGS culture. The last two weeks have illustrated how each individual has the opportunity to flourish and excel in their chosen field, irrespective of their area of passion.

Those of us fortunate enough to witness the final of RGS Musician of the Year were, once again, reminded about the extraordinary depth of talent in the School; it was a real privilege to hear a programme which was uplifting and inspiring in equal measure but all with the same exacting standards of musicianship. This week’s King’s Lecture as well as Jack Clifford’s debut for England in the rugby Six Nations Championship aptly illustrated how boys can utilise their experiences and skills nurtured while at school to make a profound impact upon the national stage. Indeed, in this edition alone of *The Bulletin* we celebrate success in areas ranging from debating and Model United Nations, to national sporting recognition to the Student Investor Challenge. This richness of experience is key to an education which stretches and challenges and I have every confidence that such a culture will persist well into the future.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy half term. I look forward to seeing the boys on their return ready and refreshed for what is a short, intense second half of term.

Latest News

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Debating: A busy fortnight for the RGS included participation in the district final of *The English-Speaking Union* (ESU) where **George Tench** (4P) won best personality award for being “thoroughly engaging, interesting and humble.” The RGS then hosted the second round of the ESU senior competition with **Thomas Hartley** (U6) and **William Heylen** (L6) dominating the night with a well-researched and highly-accomplished attack on the requirement to pass a simple current affairs test in order to vote. In the same week, the RGS also hosted the Oxford Union Schools debating competition, fielding three teams.

Economics: The RGS has maintained its recent success in the *ifs Student Investor Challenge*, with Team Mythritz comprising **Dominic Baker** (4P), **Mikel Bober-Irizar** (4A), **Philip Bowler** (4H) and **Kit Edgecliffe-Johnson** (4V), coming 25th out of over 10,000 teams to progress to the semi-finals. This is particularly notable for a Fourth Form team in a competition dominated by Sixth Form students.

King’s Lecture: The RGS was delighted to welcome back Old Guildfordian (2006) Nick Hargrave to deliver this term’s lecture entitled *Reflections from the backroom*. Since leaving the RGS, Nick has carved out an impressive political career as Head of Opposition Research for the Conservative Party’s 2015 General Election campaign, political speech writer for David Cameron and recently as an elections

consultant for a number of overseas political parties. Nick provided very honest insight into the world of politics and the varied and probing questions from the audience – boys, parents and staff alike – aptly illustrated how the lecture had been both challenging and thought-provoking.

Model United Nations: At the Lady Eleanor Holles School MUN conference, the RGS won a number of awards including Outstanding Delegation Award for New Zealand. The RGS then hosted its inaugural senior MUN conference which was a great success; special mention goes to the secretariat team led by **Thomas Rowland** (U6) who chaired six committees and an excellent meeting of the general assembly.

Music: The final of the RGS Musician of the Year competition proved to be an exquisite evening of music by the extremely talented finalists: **Michael Collis** (U6) on viola, **Joshua Powell** (5V) on oboe, **Ronan Thomas** (L6) on violin, **Alistair Baumann** (L6) on cello, **Hans Hu** (U6) on piano and **Edward Ball** (L6) on double bass. The adjudicator William Bruce – Head of Strings at the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama – admitted that he was taken aback by the sheer quality of talent on display and that any one of the boys would have been a worthy winner. In the end, however, he awarded the Steynor Prize to Edward for a performance which incorporated great technical ease, confident expression and lovely sense of overall architecture. In addition, Michael has subsequently been awarded a diploma from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music: an astonishing achievement.

Sports News

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Football: In the quarter final of the Trinity Cup, the 1st XI won 4 – 1 against Corinthian Casuals with two goals from **Andrew Parrott** (L6) to progress to the semi-final. This was then followed up by two convincing wins for the 1st and 2nd XIs against Reigate Grammar School with 7 – 1 and 8 – 0 scorelines respectively.

Golf: **Harvey Hill** (2C) has been selected to attend the Under 14 Hampshire Golf Selection Day; he has been playing in the Hampshire County Academy Programme (CAP) for three years.

Hockey: In the block fixture against St George's College, Weybridge, RGS teams secured six wins and three draws, including a tight 2 – 2 draw for the 1st XI with two goals from **Edward Way** (U6). Against Trinity School, Croydon there were eight victories, including a 7 – 0 win for the Under 16Bs which took captain **George Eves'** (5H) tally of goals to seven in two games. On an individual level, Edward has been selected for the Under 18 England hockey squad for the 2016 season, while **Cameron Morgan** (U6) made his National League debut for Guildford Hockey Club.

Rugby: **Charlie Hubbard** (4A) has been selected for the Surrey County Under 15 rugby squad, and is also now in the London Irish academy.

Shooting: The RGS VIII won Country Life matches against Lancing and Epsom College and then recorded another victory against Imperial College, London. **Alexander Jones** (L6) was top scorer in both matches.

Swimming: **Max Windle** (1P) won gold medals in the Surrey county event in the 100, 400 and 1500 freestyle and the 100 breaststroke. In the 1500 event Max swam a National Qualifying time (19.18.57).

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

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| Monday 22 February | Sixth Form mocks start (for one week) |
| Friday 26 February | AS drama examination performance in the Hansford Room |
| Tuesday 1 March | Market Day Concert in Holy Trinity Church |
| Wednesday 2 March | Fifth Form Parents' Evening in Great Hall |
| Thursday 3 March | Senior drama production of <i>Pity in History</i> (for three days) |