



From the Headmaster

The concept of *sport for all* is an ideal which is frequently cited but rarely achieved. Schools regularly promote the importance of both widespread participation and diverse opportunity, irrespective of an individual's natural affinity for a sport or their chosen area of interest, and this is undoubtedly an admirable philosophy. The last fortnight has highlighted that far from being notional, *sport for all* is in fact a reality at the RGS. Last week, Super Tuesday provided the opportunity for every single member of the First Form to compete simultaneously in competitive hockey fixtures against Portsmouth Grammar School. 102 RGS boys were involved and ten fixtures were played, both home and away, and the matches served to highlight the value of such an initiative: irrespective of the team, boys represented the School with pride, spirit, good humour and no little skill as evidenced by the fantastic set of results which – due to the philosophy of participation rather than success – I am unable to mention! In addition, this edition alone of *The Bulletin* celebrates participation in badminton, chess, cross-country, fencing, football, hockey, judo, rugby sevens to name but a few. A number of these sports have seen boys competing at both county and national standard. It is pleasing that each individual has the opportunity to flourish and excel in their chosen field.

I do not underestimate the impact such involvement places on you, the parents, and I would once again like to thank you for your varying roles as taxi drivers, touch-line supporters and finally launderettes. The success of the extra-curricular provision is a true reflection of the combined teamwork of boys, staff and parents alike and I am grateful for the dedication and commitment of all those who devote their time so willingly to the School.

Latest News

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Drama: Set in 1644, *Pity in History* transported appreciative audiences to the English Civil War at a time when Cromwell's anti-royalist army was gaining the upper hand. Right from the opening scene, the audience was immersed in a world of human pain and suffering as the cook Murgatroyd, played powerfully and emotively by **Edward Chapman** (U6), dies loudly and angrily having been shot accidentally. Against this backdrop, the play reflects upon the position of artists and art in political society as the self-assured stonemason Gaukroger, played with confidence by **Nicholas Hall** (L6), provides a philosophical, insightful commentary to proceedings, well supported by **Harry Somerville** (L6) as his apprentice Pool. The moody, atmospheric staging, lighting and sound effects conveyed the zeitgeist perfectly, against which the play explored the function, durability and necessity of art in the world through the engaging, and often humorous, characters and sharp, tight dialogue. A demanding play produced performances of extraordinary maturity and sensitivity, none more so than the charismatic portrayal of the pent-up anger of the Puritan chaplain Croop by **James Cashman** (U6).

Mathematics: In the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge, RGS boys received an impressive 32 gold, 30 silver and 21 bronze certificates. Top scorers were **Brian Collins** (5H) and **Adam Wills** (5P) with 97 and 96 respectively; they both qualify for the Maclaurin Olympiad.

Quiz: The RGS team of **George Glover** (L6), **Harry Johnson** (3C), **William Klintworth** (L6) and **Alexander Norris** (3E) defeated Hurstpierpoint College 600 – 470 to win through to the inter-regional round.

World Book Day: The theme of this year’s World Book Day was Shakespeare, in honour of the 400th anniversary of his death. A number of staff dressed as characters from his plays, leading to such sights as Cleopatra complete with asp leading a mentoring session, Bottom addressing an outdoor assembly and Titania conducting a Chemistry demonstration. A lively workshop led by *Guildford Shakespeare Company* focused on *The Merchant of Venice*; elsewhere, strenuous efforts were made to persuade boys that Shakespeare is not just for English, as Shakespeare-themed lessons took place across the curriculum.

Sports News

[View the full sports results](#)

Chess: In an Under 14 tournament in Birmingham the junior team came third with best player prizes being awarded to **Amardip Ahluwalia** (1C), **Omeet Atara** (2P) and **James Golding** (3L).

Cross-country: **Sam Martin** (2R) came eighth out of 420 runners at the English National Championships.

Fencing: At the Surrey County Championships in the Under 18s Epée, **Peter Robinson** (U6) won gold to be crowned county champion, while **Christopher Gooding** (5V) secured silver. In the Under 16s Epée **Leo Kamstra** (1C) won gold and was also crowned county champion. Then at the British Schools Fencing Championships both the Under 15 and Under 13 teams secured bronze medals.

Football: The highlight of a busy fortnight was a 9 – 2 win for the 1st XI against Lord Wandsworth College with accomplished hat-tricks for both **Max Cooke** (L6) and **Oliver van Nederveen** (U6).

Hockey: A fantastic weekend for hockey saw the RGS secure 17 victories and one draw out of 18 fixtures against King’s College School, Wimbledon and Reigate Grammar School. Against King’s College School, 43 goals were scored and only four conceded: an extraordinary achievement.

Rugby: The Under 15 team finished winners of the plate competition in the Surrey tournament at Caterham School, while the Under 16s lost in the final of their event.

Sailing: **Benjamin Mueller** (1E) has been selected to represent the GBR optimist team at the Magic Marine Regatta in Holland: a four-day international event with around 250 attendees from 17 countries.

Swimming: At the second weekend of the Surrey County Swimming Championship, **Max Windle** (1P) added three more gold medals to his tally: 200 freestyle, 200 breaststroke and 200 individual medley. He also won silver in the 200 fly and broke a long-standing south-east regional record for the 100 breaststroke. Max has now qualified for 12 individual events in the regionals.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Tuesday 8 March Senior Piano Concert in the Rehearsal Room

Thursday 10 March Friday Timetable

Friday 11 March Field Day 3

Tuesday 15 March Upper School Parents’ Pastoral Evening in Great Hall

Wednesday 16 March Ensembles Concert in the Auditorium