



From the Headmaster

The concept of teamwork and the intrinsic importance of the whole community working together towards a common goal have been apparent in recent weeks. The success of so many events, and the high standards achieved in the process, would simply not be possible without this shared commitment and mutual co-operation. When I reflect upon some of the recent highlights of the school calendar: from the grand scale with the 420-strong RGS and Guildford High School choir and orchestra performing the *Verdi Requiem* in *G Live* to this week's 12-strong cast of boys from the junior through to the senior parts of the School performing *Le Petit Prince*, collaboration has been at the very heart of each challenge. Indeed, the pride and spirit of the boys representing the School at all levels at cricket already this term has been very much in evidence as they have stoically faced sunshine, hail, snow and sleet often within the same innings!

As the attention of the School starts to turn towards the end of the academic year, this strong sense of community could not be more important. The next few weeks mark an intense period for all our boys as they prepare to face the challenges of internal or public examinations. All the staff, both support and teaching, are united in helping the boys at this key stage. As well as academic input, we strive to provide a reassuring environment conducive to performance at the highest level and boys should never hesitate from airing their concerns, however trivial they may seem to be, as there is always an attentive ear ready to provide advice. United as a community we can achieve extraordinary results and we have every confidence in the boys' ability to fulfil their considerable potential.

I wish the boys all the very best of luck for what I hope proves to be a fulfilling and successful term.

Latest News

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Art: **Joseph Gibson** (2C) has won first place – and a trip to America – in the Schools category of the prestigious worldwide Glass Prize competition with a fused glass Captain America's shield.

Biology: **Mark Thornton** (U6) has been selected for the UK International Biology Olympiad Team to compete in Vietnam as one of the top four biologists in the country. In addition, **Rufus Frew's** (U6) CREST Gold project on *Identification of Genes Responsible for Selenite Reduction In Pseudomonas Putida KT2440* reached the final of the National Science and Engineering Competition and his work was showcased to more than 70,000 people in the Big Bang Fair in the Birmingham NEC. His research was awarded the second overall prize.

Drama: Comedic and emotive by turn, *Le Petit Prince* captured effortlessly the childlike fantasy and the deeper moral and spiritual nuance of this renowned play through a talented cast of actors of all age groups. From the confident opening scene by the aviator, **Nicholas Hall** (L6), the audience was whisked around the planets as The Little Prince, **Oliver Jansen** (2P), reflected upon a succession of eccentric and

idiosyncratic characters encountered on other planets, all knitted together by the narrator, **Matthew Sargent** (5V). Highly effective costumes, lighting and sound further evoked an atmosphere of other-worldly fantasy. As the play drew to a close, the arrival of the fox, **Benjamin Banks** (2P), highlighted many of the central themes of human relationships, including loneliness and friendship. With confident, fluent pronunciation and intonation, the boys deserved the sustained applause for a fantastic production.

English: **Nicholas Hall's** (L6) essay for the Connell Guides Prize on Brenda Last from Evelyn Waugh's *A Handful of Dust* won first runner-up prize. The prizes were awarded by novelist Robert Harris.

Science: **George Tench** (4P) was one of the winners of the *Step into STEM* competition run by Nestlé and my Kinda Future: an online science challenge.

Trips: Over the Easter holidays, trips included: the Classics Trip to Sicily; the Geography field trip to Tenerife; the French Exchange in Lyon with girls from St Catherine's School, Bramley; the Modern Languages trip to Normandy; the annual Combined Cadet Force advanced field craft training exercise, Easter Warrior, on Hankley Common; the tennis and surfing trip in Cornwall; and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award assessed silver expedition training and leadership training on Exmoor.

Sports News

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Athletics: In the Gomme & Goddard Trophy, the following boys won their events: in the seniors **Daniel Allchurch** (U6) won the 400m; in the intermediates **Edward Robinson** (4A) won the 800m, **George Eves** (5H) the 100m and **Oliver Hurdle** (5V) the 1500m; and in the juniors **Henry Spence** (3R) won the hurdles.

Badminton: **Sam Baker** (1L) won the Surrey Under 12 and 14 Closed Badminton Doubles competitions.

Chess: **James Golding** (3L) and his brother Alex, who will be joining the Second Form in September, have been invited by the English Chess Federation to represent England in the European Youth Chess Championships 2016 in Prague.

Cricket: On the opening weekend of term against Hampton School, highlights included a two-wicket win for the Under 12A team in their first competitive fixture for the School. In addition, captain of cricket **Alexander Sweet** (U6) scored 101 for the 1st XI to cap an impressive start to the term with the bat, so far totalling 172 runs for the 1st XI in just three fixtures. With the ball, **Alexander Bridle** (3E) took 4 – 20 for the Under 14B team and **Oliver Laxton** (1P) finished with figures of 4 – 7 for the Under 12As.

Mountain biking: **Charles Griffith** (5B) won the first round of the 2016 Southern Enduro Series.

Shooting: The RGS VIII won the Clayton Challenge, beating nine other schools including Cheltenham, Epsom College, Marlborough and Wellington. This was only the second time in memory that the School has won a fullbore competition. Our top score was 64/70 from **Miles Horton-Baker** (4V) who was firing in the VIII for the first time.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Monday 2 May	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Tuesday 3 May	Market Day Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Wednesday 4 May	Concerto Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Monday 9 May	Staff and Parents Prayer Meeting in the Staff Common Room
Thursday 12 May	<i>Life after the RGS:</i> Reception for Upper Sixth Parents in Big School