



From the Headmaster

In 1908 a cadet corps was established at the RGS for the first time by the Headmaster John Honeybourne; this was part of a national trend in reaction to the perceived threat of war. He had been considering this as early as 1893 but lack of money had made such an initiative impossible and it was only a donation of £50 from Major Coates, a local MP, which allowed the corps to be established. As a result the RGS formed a troop of 70 boys under an Old Guildfordian, Captain Alfred Moon, which had co-operation, loyalty and service at the heart of its ethos and provided one of the most important corporate aspects of school life.

Over a century later the Combined Cadet Force remains a vibrant part of the School's extra-curricular provision and still epitomises so many of the core values of the School: service, personal development and opportunity, to name but three. The biennial inspection, which took place on Field Day 4, provided a chance to showcase the diversity of experience as the RGS welcomed Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Turner CBE to inspect the Contingent. Cadets from all three sections were involved in activities including a night navigation exercise, leadership and teamwork tasks, flight simulators, shooting, laser tag rifle, field craft, a battlefield simulation exercise, an assault course and water-based activities at Papercourt Lake. It was testament to the boys and staff that their dedication and conduct were particularly noted.

The inspection also proved how far the CCF has come. The historian Nigel Watson notes that in the 1920s the corps headed off each year on summer camp, with members of staff including a gentleman named Bill Bowey acting as non-commissioned officers. He comments that a variation of a traditional route marching song was often vigorously chanted by cadets: "We are Bill Bowey's army; No blinking good are we; We cannot fight; We cannot shoot; We cannot do PT...!" It is, therefore, reassuring to know that our current boys are far more proficient! Indeed, it was impressive to see at first-hand how accomplished the RGS cadets are and, for this, all the staff who devote their time and expertise so willingly are to be congratulated.

I wish you and your families a very happy and relaxing half term.

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Mallison Library: Author Sam Hepburn gave an engaging interactive presentation to the First Form boys. As well as writing novels, Sam produces programmes in the Middle East for the BBC and her fascinating talk included discussion of peer pressure, religious beliefs, extremism, refugees, loneliness, self-worth, common humanity, education, as well as insight into being an author and how to write a book.

Mathematics: In the national Junior Mathematics Challenge, from approximately 200,000 entries, Second Form boys received an impressive 44 gold, 36 silver and 27 bronze certificates. Top scorer was **Ben Watkins** (2L) and he now qualifies for the Junior Olympiad, along with **Ellis Baker** (2C), **Charles Bird** (2C) and **Angus Norbury** (2E).

Music: The inaugural RGS Organ Scholarship has been awarded to **Nicholas Edwards** (5N). Nicholas signed the Scholars' Register in the Chained Library to mark this occasion with the Headmaster as witness.

Scholarships: The RGS is delighted to announce the following awards for September 2016. King's Academic Scholarships are awarded to **Ferdinand Al-Qassab** (Lanesborough) and **Thomas Hemsworth** (Ripley Court). Academic Scholarships are awarded to **Henry Benett** (King's House), **Kush Christie-Verma** (Danes Hill), **Edward Eves** (Cranmore), **Charles Goldring** (Hoe Bridge), **Salvatore Nigrelli** (Cranmore), **James Smyth** (Danes Hill), **Shaoyon Thayanathan** (International School of Geneva), **Kasper Wiltshire** (St Andrew's) and **Luke Wyllie** (Cranmore). The King's Music Scholarship is awarded to **Cole Powell** (Cranmore); in addition, music scholarships are awarded to **Evan Amiss** (Lanesborough), **Benjamin Edwards** (Greenfield), **Thomas Fitchie** (Lanesborough) and **Salvatore Nigrelli** (Cranmore). Sports Scholarships are awarded to **Finn Cooper** (Cranmore), **James Robinson** (2L), **Jamie Stratford** (2L), **Henry Turrell** (2L) and **Luke Wyllie** (Cranmore).

Sports News

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Cricket: In the block fixture against Reed's School, the RGS won five and drew three matches. Highlights with the ball included **Devon MacMillan** (L6) with 4 – 13 for the 3rd XI, **Eric Roberts** (4B) with 5 – 33 for the Under 15B team, and **Freddie Howse** (3T) with 4 – 9 for the Under 14B team. With the bat, performance of the day came from **Aman Ashfaque** (2P) who scored 73* for the Under 13A team. The final weekend of this half of term was a rain-affected set of fixtures against Hurstpierpoint College. Of particular note were the Under 15 and Under 14 teams who were unbeaten with five wins and one draw; **Harry Dennis** (4H) scored 85 for the Under 15A team. The bowlers again impressed with two hat-tricks: **Oliver Grieveson** (4N) with 3 – 12 for the Under 15Bs and **Jake Sloggett** (3P) with 6 – 23 for the Under 14A team. It was in the Under 15C match, however, where the bowlers really took centre stage: **Harrison Twine** (4V) with an extraordinary 3 – 1 and **Sebastian Hockley** (4A) with figures of 4 – 12.

Badminton: **Christopher Chong** (2P) won gold in the England Essex Open Under 14 Boys Singles.

Swimming: **Max Windle** (1P) competed in the South-East Regional Swimming Championships. He continued his recent good form and won gold medals in the 400m Individual Medley and 100m Breaststroke and won silver in both the 200 Freestyle and 200 Breaststroke. All of these events were swum by Max in personal best times.

Tennis: In the Surrey Pairs Tennis Festival at Under 19 level, **Oliver Duckworth** (U6) and **Jérôme Espitalier-Noël** (U6) played beautifully to progress to the semi-finals where they were unfortunate to be drawn against a nationally-ranked pair from Reed's School.

Forthcoming Events

[View the School Calendar](#)

Monday 6 June	A2 and school examinations begin
Tuesday 7 June	Market Day Concert in Holy Trinity Church
Thursday 9 June	First and Second Form examinations end
Friday 10 June	Third Form examinations end First Form Activity Day Second Form Trip to the Black Country Museum
Monday 13 June	Fourth Form examinations end Lower Sixth Form return to school
Friday 17 June	Fourth Form Physics Trip to Dinorwig departs