

THE REGISTER

The termly newsletter of the Royal Grammar School, Guildford

ISSUE 25 MICHAELMAS 2017



RGGS

GUILDFORD



SONGS OF PRAISE

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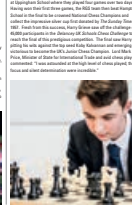
TRIED AND TESTED



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KINGS OF THE CASTLE



THE HEADMASTER WRITES ...

Criticising young people and looking at the past through rose-tinted spectacles are unhealthy preoccupations of the media. Whether it is to censure examination performance or etiquette, or to inveigh against obsession with technology or political apathy, we are nowadays quick to decry the youth of today. And yet as I reflect on this last term at the RGS the picture I see is far from this negative depiction.

I believe that the students whom I encounter on a daily basis display, as never before, the maturity, motivation and desire to make an impact upon the world and not to merely accept the established *status quo*. Today's students are committed – in a way which previous generations simply were not – to taking responsibility, to the celebration of

diversity, to championing equality, to the importance of environmental sustainability, to tolerance, to opening their minds to well-being and mindfulness, to social mobility, to political change, in essence to making a difference. At the RGS we see this at work in so many different walks of life: the energy and entrepreneurialism of *Young Enterprise*; the compassion and understanding of *Model United Nations* delegations; the student-led societies such as *Sceptics Society* which – without dogmatism or controversy – challenges preconceptions in a balanced way; the proactive *Environmental Group*; the dynamic community and charitable initiatives, the yoga groups; and so on.

I have mentioned before that we have to prepare our students for jobs which do not yet exist and yet the fundamental skills such as flexibility, resilience,

humanity, communication, leadership, resourcefulness will remain as critical as ever. As I read through this edition of *The Register* it gives me great hope. I genuinely believe that this is an exciting time and an exciting generation and I have every confidence that our students of today have the potential to achieve more than perhaps any of us think possible. And that is something to celebrate.

John



SONGS OF PRAISE

The RGS was honoured to be one of the first major events held in Guildford Cathedral since the extensive renovation project which set out to transform this unique site of modern heritage and secure the long-term future of an iconic Grade II* listed Guildford landmark. With 1,100 guests comprising boys, staff and governors, the School united to welcome those new to our community and to celebrate and give thanks for the School's founders and benefactors. The service provided the opportunity to highlight the rich diversity of our 500-year history and to remember all those whose generous gifts of money, time and expertise provided the foundations for the RGS of the twenty-first century. With an uplifting service of rousing hymns and with addresses from the Headmaster, Dr Jon Cox, and the sermon from Old Guilfordian The Reverend Dr Tim Norman, the service proved to be an inspiring way to reflect on the rich tradition of which current members of the RGS are now a part and to mark the start of the school year.





A CONCERTED EFFORT

With amazing venues, fabulous weather and appreciative audiences, the 70-strong joint RGS and Guildford High School Chamber Choir and Orchestra enjoyed a memorable six-day tour of Italy. There was a busy schedule of concerts and services with performances in Verona, Lazise, Mantua and Venice, including the atmospheric and historic setting of St Mark's Basilica. The quality of musicianship was, as always, astounding as a diverse, challenging programme was put together. The orchestra performed Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture* and Haydn's *Symphony 104* with skill and a real sense of style while the Chamber Choir impressed with Parry's *Blest Pair of Sirens*, Stanford's *Magnificat in B Flat* and Todd's *The Lord is My Shepherd*. The choir also thrilled audiences with their renditions of Wood's *Hail Gladdening Light* and Holst's stunning setting of the *Nunc Dimittis*. As concerts took place in the evenings, the days were free to relax by the hotel pool and to enjoy life as a tourist; highlights included a boat trip across Lake Garda and sightseeing in Verona, Mantua and Venice.

NOTE-WORTHY

The joint Chamber Choir of the RGS and Guildford High School sang evensong at St Paul's Cathedral in London. In the past, the choir has performed at both Winchester and Chichester Cathedrals as well as Merton College, Oxford, but this was undoubtedly the most prestigious and high-profile venue that the choir has ever visited. Peter White, Director of Music, commented: "Dating back over 1,400 years, St Paul's is overwhelmingly awe-inspiring: the cavernous space and famous echo, notoriously difficult to cope with for all but the most accomplished choirs. Under the direction of Sam Orchard, however, the Chamber

Choir rose to the challenge magnificently and a very large congregation was treated to singing of the very highest standard." The repertoire was well chosen for the building and the soaring lines of Howell's beautiful *Collegium Regale* setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were particularly effective in the enormous acoustic. The intonation of the choir and their dynamic variety was impressive throughout. Of particular note were Sixth Form students Yousuf Mirza and Ridley Hymas who were tenor soloists and Nicholas Edwards who both accompanied the choir on the organ in part of the service and played the voluntary.





SARGENT MAJOR

The ninth annual Independent Learning Assignment Presentation Evening impressed and bewildered in equal measure as the boys delivered presentations with an extraordinary level of sophistication and complexity. In front of boys, parents and staff, the finalists presented to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Governors, Sarah Creedy and Chris Critchlow respectively. Subjects ranged from social inequality to breach of contract, from modelling water to Islamic religion, from translation of literature to whether the ancient Greeks, given a rocket, could have reached the moon. Director of Studies, Peter Dunscombe commented: "The level of scholarship, in-depth research and diversity of subject matter were notable and the engaging presentational skills and commitment to their topic meant that the judges were hard pressed to select a winner." That accolade, however, after lengthy deliberation from the judges, went to Matthew Sargent for tackling the complex issue of Pericles' rule and its perception with extraordinary fluency, confidence and passion. A thoroughly inspiring evening served, yet again, to highlight to an appreciative audience the astonishing independence and maturity of our students.



UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

School holidays provide a welcome break from the unwelcome early morning alarm calls and it is unlikely that many RGS students are up and about at 6.00am during the months of July and August. That is, apart from the third Thursday in August which sees the annual nerve-wracking wait for recent leavers as they wait for an email from the school confirming their A Level results. The good news is that this year, once again, it brought plenty of cause for celebration. In addition to 28 boys heading to Oxford or Cambridge, 10 or more students were each heading to Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Durham or Exeter. These seven universities together with Imperial, Leeds, Nottingham, UCL and Warwick account for over 80% of RGS student destinations in the last five years. The same dozen places also feature amongst the fifteen universities most targeted by graduate employees according to *The Times Top 100 Graduate Recruiters* survey.

THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE

The King's Lecture series prides itself on nurturing innovation, thinking outside the box, challenging individuals to think afresh and differently, and reassessing opinions in the light of others. This philosophy has been achieved in recent years through politicians, media moguls, industry leaders but – for the first time this year – it was realised through the medium of a puppet, or as Russell described him, *a hitman in pants*. After his phenomenal success when speaking at *TEDx Guildford*, Old Guildfordian Russell Dean made a welcome return as he delivered a talk entitled *The Capital of Imagination*. Russell explored the power of our imagination,



likening it to doing a dot-to-dot without numbers as we make connections from all our senses to create a story infused with our own experience base. By way of illustration, his three talented puppeteers introduced the puppet Mikey who captivated the audience as he climbed imaginary wall bars and embarked upon a slow-motion trampolining scene while all the time chatting to the audience. In a world dominated by screen-time, where boredom is increasingly an unknown quantity for young people, the talk served to highlight and remind an appreciative audience of the powerful and exciting world of imagination.

SCHOOL REPORT

Chemistry: Jack Xia was invited to attend the Cambridge Training Camp as a result of his Roentgenium Award in the *Cambridge Chemistry Challenge*. He was one of the top 55 students out of 7,056 participants.

Model United Nations: RGS teams both junior and senior have continued to impress on the national circuit. Highlights have included a Highly Commended award for juniors representing Ethiopia at Croydon High School and a highly

successful weekend at Wycombe Abbey School where the RGS were the writers of the only resolution to be passed as well as receiving a Highly Commended Delegation Award.

Music: Philip Bowler and Ridley Hymas have both been invited to join the nationally-renowned, prestigious *Rodolfus Choir*.

Organ Scholarship: Nicholas Edwards has been awarded an Organ Scholarship to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he will be reading German and Russian.

Technology: In the field of Artificial Intelligence, Mikel Bober-Irizar entered a world-wide competition entitled *YouTube-8M Video Understanding Challenge*. His team was competing against 650 other teams to develop the most accurate algorithm capable of tagging *YouTube* videos and won a gold medal by developing one of the top 10 solutions.

Young Enterprise: RGS team *EduNow* won the *Young Enterprise Dragons' Den* with their professionally-produced and impressive online GCSE revision guide.

MAKING THE GRADE

In 2015, the RGS launched its 16 indispensable learning habits which we want every student to have acquired by the time they leave the RGS. They were designed to help students take greater responsibility for their learning, prepare them for higher education and help them to understand how they learn best for the longer term. Of course, they were also designed to help RGS boys achieve their academic potential during their time at the School and with the recent news that, for the fourth successive year, the RGS has featured in the top 15 in the prestigious *Sunday Times Parent Power* guide which uses public examination results to determine position, it is clear that, in this particular aim, they are having the desired effect. At A Level, the results were remarkably similar to those achieved in 2016 with 38% of all grades at A* and 79% of grades at A* or A. 78 boys achieved a clean set of A* or A grades with 27 achieving three or more A* grades. Our Fifth Form also confirmed their potential with 92% of all passes being at A* (68%) or A (34%). 85 boys from a cohort of 142 achieved all A* or A grades of which 35 achieved 10 A* grades.



CREST OF A WAVE

A record 26 Upper Sixth Form students have been awarded CREST Gold Awards: the British Science Association's flagship programme and the only nationally recognised accreditation scheme for STEM project work. Each project involved spending up to four weeks undertaking original scientific research in a number of universities including Cambridge, King's College London, Imperial College, Oxford, and University College London. Topics studied included artificial intelligence in vehicles, gene expression, high-temperature superconductors, enhancing nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and the organic synthesis of compounds to treat malaria. Wai Shun Lau, Head of Chemistry, commented: "The breadth of research was very impressive and spanned the

whole of science. The boys demonstrated remarkable dedication and commitment for their scientific research." From a number of highlights, Ciaran O'Toole's research was submitted for publication, based upon research at the Royal Brompton Hospital on cystic fibrosis and also recommended for presentation at the Royal College of Paediatrics' annual meeting and the European Cystic Fibrosis Conference in Serbia. As one of the supervisors noted in commenting about another RGS student: "He showed great maturity and ability to manage his workload. He has completed an extensive project which required many skills, the sum of which I would not be demanding of an average final-year BSc student."



THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD



The whole community joined together in an act of remembrance as the School united in memory of those who have lost their lives in warfare since the First World War. The service was particularly poignant as the RGS welcomed a number of eminent and decorated Old Guildfordians to attend the service. Laurie Weeden (OG 1938) laid the wreath on behalf of the Old Guildfordians while the current School Captain, James Dickinson, lay the wreath for the staff and boys of the School. The addresses then provided an insight into the act of remembrance from different perspectives. Two Third Form boys – George McGrath and Michael McNally – read out beautiful poems which they had composed on aspects of remembrance. This was followed by an address by Head of History, Mr Bass, who spoke on the value of pausing and reflection. A moving and very personal service of remembrance proved thought-provoking and emotive for boys, staff and Old Guildfordians alike.

FUN AND DANDY



With two gangsters well and truly scrambled by splurge guns within the first couple of minutes, the audience was whisked into the – one moment gritty, next moment glamorous – world of 1920s Chicago mobs and street life. There was just the right dash of knowing humour and infectious sense of fun among the wisecracking mobsters with their oversized suits, smart accents and penchant for taking out their enemies with splurge and custard pies. John Gray as Bugsy, Ishan Nathan as Fat Sam and Gabriel Levesque as Dandy Dan sold their roles with all the sizzle and razzle dazzle that you would expect, supported admirably by an utterly convincing performance from the knuckle-cracking Joseph Field as Knuckles. Among a host of colourful, charismatic cameo roles from the young cast, the double act of Max Birtley and Toby Perryman brilliantly conveyed the comedy and slapstick absurdity of O'Dreary and Smolsky. The well-known songs were joyfully delivered, augmented by slick choreography and phenomenally talented musicianship, none more so than the stunning rendition of *I'm feeling fine* by wannabe singer Blousey, Zoe Canham. The flamboyant costumes, industrial-style set and staging, moody lighting, colourful props, all contributed to creating an authentic slice of America in the heart of Guildford. As the last strains of the final number reverberated – and the levels of splurge began finally to subside – Bugsy had certainly provided the perfect pre-Christmas pick-me-up, feel-good experience.





A BLINDING PERFORMANCE



For Greek tragedy to be effective, Aristotle claimed that a play should be emotive, evoking fear and pity in the audience. Despite being first produced almost 2,500 years ago in Athens, the 21st century production in Guildford of Sophocles' *Oedipus the King* was certainly no less evocative. Right from his opening words, Matthew Sargent conveyed powerfully the torture and internal torment of Oedipus: wilful and proud, his obstinacy leading to his ultimate downfall. The gradual revelation and subsequent increasing anguish were portrayed with conviction by Matthew who not only gave a well-nuanced, intense performance but also masterminded and directed the play himself. Supported by a committed cast there were a number of excellent performances, none more so than a sparkling cameo performance by Patrick Merritt as the blind prophet Teiresias capturing in his own idiosyncratic way the barb in his words, his unflinching beliefs. The chorus of Theban elders, as they slipped seamlessly between English and the original Greek, reminded the audience of the ancient roots of the play and yet the tangled web of corruption, of stubborn obstinacy, of self-harm, of guilt strangely seemed as resonant today as ever.



YOU'RE HAVING A LAUGH

For a location which has housed public examinations, academic interviews and erudite lectures, the Auditorium showcased its lighter side as an evening of comedy saw laughter – and often hysteria – reverberating around the walls. For the first time, a Comedy Night came to the RGS raising money for the School's nominated local, national and international charities and also supporting *Cancer Research's Stand Up to Cancer Week*. With those brave, or foolish, enough to sit on the front rows it proved to be a particularly uncomfortable evening as no-one was saved from the razor-sharp wit of the comedians. A stellar line-up was fronted by Old Guildfordian Paul Kerensa, a writer for BBC1's *Miranda* and *Not Going Out* and one of the few individuals to have appeared both at London's *Comedy Store* and on Radio 2's *Pause For Thought*. He was supported by other acts including Rob Thomas and George Egg, who has recently been the support act for Lee Mack, Micky Flanagan and Jack Dee. The event proved to be a great success, with the subject matter ranging from the inappropriate to the highly inappropriate to the unmentionable, and served to raise just under £1,000 just by having a laugh!



DOWN TO THE WIRE

The annual Smoothey Art Competition produced a wide range of submissions in various media from students throughout the School. The spirit of Ronald Smoothey MBE, a former pupil and art master from the 1940s, remains very much alive in this competition as the energy, creativity and innovation – and, indeed, eccentricity – which epitomised Ronald provides the inspiration for students to express themselves with imagination and no little technical skill and with no theme or media restriction. Despite an astonishingly high standard of entry, the overall winner was the impressive and intricate wire dragon sculpture created by David Tudor. David's eye for detail and vision were very much in evidence in this original and carefully crafted piece which remained truly loyal to the spirit of flair and enterprise of Ronald Smoothey. In addition, Joseph Bryant's mixed media composition and Alex Yeend's spray paint composition were 'Highly Commended'. There were also three commended works by Parthiv Naidu for his guitar made from thread and nails, Stanley Lawrence for his digital composition and Alex Mitchell for his witty map of the Un-United States of America!





REAPING THE BENEFIT



36 boys spent the whole of July in Cambodia undertaking a fantastically varied, multi-phase expedition. The clear highlight was the week spent teaching in schools in remote villages in the north-east of the country, including Tiem Kram, the school built by the RGS in 2010. Other memorable moments included, through sign language and demonstrations, getting 100 kids to do the Macarena, Cha-Cha Slide and line dancing. As one of the RGS students Joe Ruddy commented: "The key moment was as we left the school, the children were in tears, boys and girls alike. This was so touching, as we are just a bunch of untrained school kids with mediocrely planned lessons and yet we can impact these kids so much. I think this realisation of the effect we had is unforgettable and even now I think back and am touched. I will never forget those faces." Other highlights included the jungle trek, which provided plenty of opportunities for swimming in and over waterfalls during torrential monsoon weather, as well as some close encounters with the local wildlife, including a wild seven-foot python. In addition, haggling in the markets of Siem Reap and Phnom Penh, visiting the temples of Angkor Wat, and experiencing the recent turbulent history under the Khmer Rouge regime at the S-21 prison and the killing fields, all provided lasting memories.





WIGHT SPIRIT

Anxious, nervous and tearful, the departure from Guildford for the annual RGS invasion of the Isle of Wight is traditionally an emotional scene. Fortunately, the boys were on hand to provide comfort and reassurance to their parents and avoid them indulging too excessively in their melancholy! The trip is now a well-oiled routine and the logistics of transporting over 100 First Form boys, prefects and staff across the Solent were seamless

as always. The sun shone as the entire First Form enjoyed three days of bonding, team-building and physical and mental challenges on the annual adventure weekend. After some successful – and unsuccessful – crab hunting, pebble skimming and stone castle building, a varied and dynamic programme started with *Ambush*. Abseiling, Aeroball, Dragon Boat Racing won by Austen House, Jacob's Ladder and Zip Wire all proved as popular and

competitive, as ever; the Giant Swing continued to be far more daunting and intimidating than it sounded. Ian Wilkes, Head of First Form, commented: "The boys threw themselves into each and every challenge with energy and good humour; the spirit of camaraderie and teamwork was notable as they enthusiastically rallied around and supported each other. I was particularly impressed by the kindness of our boys and their positive attitude."





SCUBA-DO

The warm, clear waters of the Maltese Islands were the perfect location for the Combined Cadet Force summer expedition. For those new to the sport, basic dive skills and an introduction to the equipment from professional instructors were refined in the reassuring depths of a few metres in a swimming pool before progressing to the reef and wreck dives in open water. The more experienced divers went straight to the ocean and built upon their diving experience, slowly building up to a dive reaching nearly 40 metres on the *Um El Faroud* wreck, a 10,000-ton tanker which traditionally attracts squid and barracudas. The novice divers all gained their Open Water qualification, as well as becoming experts in fish identification, coral and aquatic life. The more experienced divers qualified as PADI Wreck and Deep Divers as well as, for those who did not already have it, their PADI Advanced Qualification. The highlight for all was diving the Blue Hole on Gozo and experiencing the new crags, valleys and swim-throughs created by the collapse of the Azure Window, the iconic setting which has featured in films including *Clash of the Titans* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* as well as a wedding scene in the TV series *Game of Thrones*. Relaxation on an exhilarating trip came from activities including stand-up paddle boarding and a visit to the walled city and capital, Valletta.

DISCERNING TRAVELLERS

The, now traditional, Sixth Form Physics trip to Geneva in Switzerland provided the opportunity for the students to combine in just one experience the intellectual stimulation of physics, politics and chocolate, to name but three. A packed itinerary included visits to the History of Science Museum, the General Assembly of the United Nations and historic *Palais de Nations* as well as the facilities at CERN, including the extraordinary antiproton decelerator in the *Antimatter Factory*. The students then experienced at first hand one of the most famous chocolate manufacturers in the country in Versoix: the *Favarger Factory* where seven generations of the Favarger family have made chocolate since 1826. The tour continued by travelling into the heart of central Switzerland and visiting the high-alpine atmospheric observatory and research station on the Jungfrauoch: the stunning Sphinx Observatory is located at 3,571 metres and commands breath-taking views of the surrounding mountain ranges. The students also ice skated, cycled in Interlaken, had an impromptu mountain dip in Lake Brienzensee,



and visited the *Einstein Museum* in Bern which is built into Einstein's rooms from when he lived in the city. A fantastic trip provided

further insight into the real-world application of Physics, as well as the allure of Swiss chocolate!



KINGS OF THE CASTLE



After an outstanding season at school level all three senior teams secured victories against Wilson's School which ensured the 1st team won the Surrey County Chess Association Division One. Building on this, the RGS Under 19 team headed to the final of the England Chess Federation School Championships. This competition, founded in 1957 – 58 and now in its sixtieth year, saw a total of 130 teams from 92 schools entering the competition. Sixteen teams travelled to the finals at Uppingham School where they played four games over two days. Having won their first three games, the RGS team then beat Hampton School in the final to be crowned National Chess Champions and collect the impressive silver cup first donated by *The Sunday Times* in 1957. Fresh from this success, Harry Grieve saw off the challenge of 45,000 participants in the *Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge* to reach the final of this prestigious competition. The final saw Harry pitting his wits against the top seed Koby Kalvannan and emerging victorious to become the UK's Junior Chess Champion. Lord Mark Price, Minister of State for International Trade and avid chess player commented: "I was astounded at the high level of chess played; the focus and silent determination were incredible."



TRIED AND TESTED

Rugby continues to flourish at the RGS with current levels of participation suggesting the game is more popular than ever. Over 450 boys represented one of our 25 teams in competitive fixtures this season. The level of interest in the current First Form remains unprecedented; 100 boys from the year group have played competitively with a staggering 90 boys attending training on a weekly basis. At senior level, a record number of boys opted to continue playing rugby in the Sixth Form this season. The 1st XV have shown glimpses of their significant potential, most notably in beating Caterham 38 – 0 to reach the last 16 of the Champions' Trophy and a 29 – 17 victory over eventual Champions' Trophy semi-finalists St John's School, Leatherhead. The Under 15A team responded brilliantly to their early exit from the *NatWest Cup* to record impressive victories over Cranleigh School and Epsom College. Ben Dudley, Head of Rugby, commented: "Seeing the commitment and enthusiasm our boys apply when taking to the field is truly inspiring. Irrespective of the team and level, it is apparent that our students derive a great sense of pride from representing the RGS. The efforts of our boys, the tireless work of our coaching staff and the unwavering support of parents on the touchline week in week out are the very essence of RGS rugby. I look forward to improving our rugby programme still further in 2018."





GRANDSTAND OCCASION

After a fantastic end to the 2016 – 17 hockey season for the RGS 1st XI, the boys from the Lower Sixth and Fifth Forms topped it off in the sweltering humidity that is South East Asia. From temples, towers and night markets to being chased by monkeys in botanical gardens the RGS hockey team had a great trip. The boys were fortunate enough to play at some of the best hockey venues in the world against some excellent opposition including the Singapore National Under 18 team against whom the RGS drew 2 – 2. Craig Mullon, Head of

Hockey, commented: "Some of the spectacular stadiums the RGS boys were able to enjoy included the Seng Kang Hockey Stadium, the KPM Stadium and the legendary 10,000-seater Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Stadium in Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia. It is the permanent venue of the *Sultan Azlan Shah Cup* which is an annual international hockey tournament of which Great Britain men are the 2017 winners. Such inspiring venues only served to raise the standards and the boys responded magnificently."

SPORTS SHORTS

Basketball: Findlay Laffan has been selected for the Under 15 South East England Regional 2017/18 Basketball Training Programme.

Cross-Country: The junior and intermediate teams qualified from the county round of the English Schools Cross-Country Cup to qualify for the South-East England finals.

Eventing: Joseph Lethbridge and his horse, Mr Madagascar, won the BE100 class at the Wellington Horse Trials against many professional international riders. The event involves dressage, show-jumping and cross-country riding and is an impressive title to have won at such a young age.

Fencing: Leo Kamstra and Freddie Edgecliffe-Johnson are members of the Under 13 England fencing squad; in addition, Leo has been selected for the Under 15 England squad having finished ninth in the England ranking with 2,555 points.

Hockey: Joshua Powell was selected to represent England at the Under 18 hockey at the UK National School Games; the England team beat all opposition to win the Tournament Hockey Cup and gold medal. Edward Ferguson has been selected for the England Hockey Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence programme run by England Hockey and Loughborough University.

Karate: Alexander Jackson, who achieved his black belt in karate a year ago, won the gold medal in a prestigious karate competition in Hemel Hempstead.

Rugby: Eleven boys are currently training with county squads. Jack Doyle has been selected for the London Irish Academy; Luke Wyllie, Daniel Aldwinckle and Alasdair Bulman have been selected for the Harlequins Elite Player Development Squads.

Shooting: Our shooting team bade a fond farewell to the No8 .22 service rifle, which has of this month been withdrawn after seventy years' service, by achieving their highest team score for twenty years in their victory over St John's School, Leatherhead.

Skiing: The Under 18 and Under 16 teams both came third in their age groups, picking up bronze medals, in the Surrey Schools' annual Ski Race event.

Swimming: After success in the Surrey Schools Team Relay Championships, our junior team qualified for the national finals of the English Secondary Schools Association Team Relay Competition at the London Aquatic Centre at the 2012 Olympic Park. The Freestyle Team performed superbly to come in a very close fourth out of 30 teams on the day, missing out on bronze by 0.06 seconds, and silver by 0.45 seconds in a nail-biting finish.

Tae Kwon Do: Despite only taking up Tae Kwon Do in January of this year, Dimitri Perricos won a silver medal in sparring at the British Open Championships.

Tennis: Jamie Diack has been selected to participate in a national training camp at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton.

AND FINALLY ...



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Nov 17

#RGSGFieldDay

RAF leadership tasks at RAF Northolt as the cadets challenge themselves @RGSGACTIV.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Sep 17

#RGSGuildford

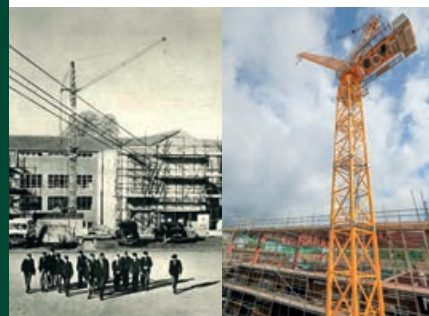
Great atmosphere at the Clubs & Societies Fair where the extraordinary diversity of opportunity was on display @RGSGACTIV



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Nov 15

#RGSArchive

Cranes old and new: a photograph from 1959 as the Main Building nears completion alongside its 2017 counterpart.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Nov 10

#RGSHockey

First form hockey is underway on the AWTA @RGSGHockey @RGSGuildford



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Nov 25

#RGSAcademic

The MFL staff don hi-vis jackets and helmets to have a tour of the stunning MFL rooms on the newly-created 2nd floor of the Main Building.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Oct 2

#RGSGFieldDay

The lifesaving group ready to make waves in Newquay @RGSGACTIV



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Sep 25

#RGS Rugby

Concentration on preparations by U12s ahead of the match against @StPaulsSchool at Bradstone Brook this afternoon.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Oct 20

#RGSGuildford

Today we sadly say goodbye to RGS legend Julie. Thank you for being simply lovely & wonderful for 19 years. We will miss you.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Sep 12

#RGSImages

... sometimes it's simply best not to ask why ... #AlwaysPartofRGS





RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Apr 19

#RGSImages

Team photographs taking place today
in beautiful sunshine in the Old Building
& on the Headmaster's Lawn.



RGS Guildford @RGSGuildford
Jun 17

#RGSCCharity

Just another day as a teacher: the
anticipation followed by the reality
#spongeateacher