

The Review

2014-2015



The annual review of the
Royal Grammar School, Guildford



RGS GUILDFORD

FROM THE HEAD

It is an oft-used cliché of modern-day reality television programmes that the contestants have been on a journey: individuals have matured along the path and come of age as they peak on their final performances. As I hear, throughout the year, the school hymn being sung this cliché seems particularly appropriate. Although John Bunyan's stirring words pre-date such shows as the *X Factor* by approximately 400 years, the sentiment strikes a very similar chord.

The academic year starts and ends with rousing renditions of the hymn and a number of flagship events in the School Calendar in the intervening period also have *To be a pilgrim* as an intrinsic part of the ceremony. As I reflect upon the elements which



“The determination and pride of RGS boys are notable ... in an increasingly competitive world

have made the last twelve months at the RGS so distinctive – many of which are included in this publication – the sentiment underpinning the words of the school hymn feel particularly apt. The successes and achievements of the boys would not be possible without the perseverance, dedication and industry which John Bunyan champions, *He'll labour night and day*; setbacks and obstacles will always provide challenge *come wind, come weather* and yet, as long as there is an innate desire *his first avow'd intent*, each set-back will only strengthen the resolve and not *daunt his spirit*. The determination and pride of RGS boys are notable and in an increasingly competitive world, the successes are all the more remarkable and should rightly be celebrated.

I congratulate all the boys who are mentioned within this publication and yet this only provides a highly selective overview. For each individual in the School, the year will have their own highlights which will produce pleasure and satisfaction in equal measure: involvement in volunteering or charity work, mentoring one of the younger students, or perhaps just a word or two of reassurance to a friend which made a real difference. The RGS is an exciting journey for us all and I hope that at the end of the year every boy can reflect on, and be proud of, his own personal highlights.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, likely belonging to Dr Jon Cox.

Dr Jon Cox
Headmaster

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



University destinations

UNIVERSITY	NUMBER OF RGS STUDENTS
O Oxford	19
D Durham	18
C Cambridge	18
BR Bristol	15
I Imperial	10
E Exeter	9
BA Bath	8
N Nottingham	6



Over 99% of all leavers in recent years have gone onto Higher Education continuing their studies at the leading universities

STATS & FACTS



110 boys met their firm offer and were accepted by their first-choice university

Top 12 degree courses

SUBJECT	NUMBER OF RGS STUDENTS
1 Mathematics / Computer Science	18
2 Economics	15
3 Engineering	13
4 History	11
5 Modern Languages	10
6 Finance and Management	10
7 Physics	8
8 Biological / Biomedical Sciences	7
9 Medicine	7
10 Natural Sciences	7
11 Politics / International Relations	6
12 Philosophy / Theology	5

This year, RGS boys have been accepted to study 26 different courses at university ranging from Architecture to Classics, Geophysics to PPE, Law to Veterinary Medicine.



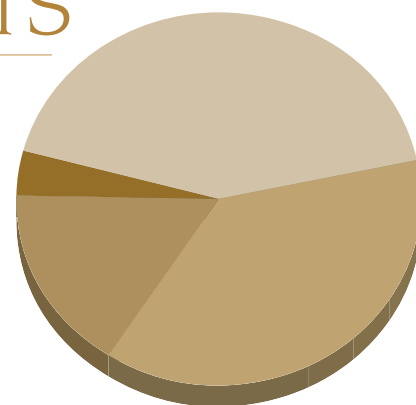
341

In the last ten years RGS boys have received 341 offers from Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

A Level results

145
candidates



42.1% Grade A* 16.0% Grade B
37.1% Grade A 3.8% Grade C

100%
A Level Pass Rate
2014-15

42% of the
grades were
at A*

64 boys
achieved
two or more
A*s

SUBJECTS	A*	A	B	C	D	E	Entry
Art	3	1					4
Biology	8	11	7	2			28
Chemistry	9	17	10	1			37
Classical Civilisation	1	1	3	1			6
Design and Technology		3					3
Drama and Theatre Studies	1	1					2
Economics	11	26	13	3			53
Electronics	2	1	1				4
English Literature	11	2		1			14
French	5	7	4				16
Further Mathematics	30	6	2				38
Geography	7	11	4				22
German	1	2					3
Government and Politics	9	3	3				15
Greek	1	1	1				3
History	4	11	3				18
Latin	7	10					17
Mathematics	45	33	12	4	1		95
Music		2					2
Physics	25	13	9	4	3	1	55
Religious Studies	9	9	4				22
Spanish	11	5		2			18
TOTALS	200	176	76	18	4	1	475

These results are accurate as of September 2015. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website, www.rgs-guildford.co.uk, for the most recent set of results.

88 boys secured
a clean set of
A* or A grades

of the
grades at A*
or A

79%

STATS & FACTS

100
100



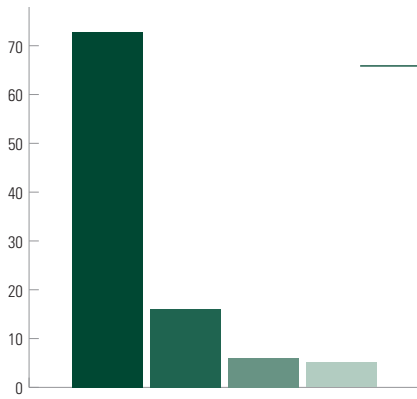
Eight boys achieved full marks in their full A Level: James Hand (Geography); Samuel Jelley (History), William Johnson (Mathematics), Callum Lau (Mathematics), George Shorthouse (Further Mathematics), Daniel Sutton (Latin), Shyam Tailor (Mathematics and Chemistry), Oliver White (Mathematics).



In addition, five boys secured full marks in the papers they took in the Upper Sixth: Jack Bell (Politics), James Fairley (Religious Studies), Timothy Foster (Religious Studies), Oliver Northover Smith (Mathematics and French), Marcus Solarz Hendriks (English).



18 boys achieved an average A Level mark of 95% or higher across all their subjects. Shyam Tailor averaged 99.6% across his subjects and dropped just ten UMS out of 2,400; he also achieved a D1 (Distinction Level 1) in Pre U Chemistry.



72.8% Grade A 6.0% Grade C
16.1% Grade B 5.1% Other Grades

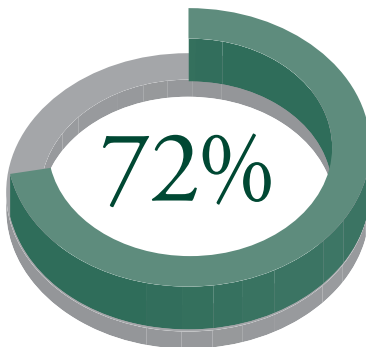
AS Level results

128
candidates

SUBJECT	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entry
Art	7	2					9
Biology	17	4	2	1			24
Chemistry	36	6	2	3	2		49
Classical Civilisation	3	1	1				5
Design and Technology		2					2
Economics	33	15	5	1			54
Electronics	5						5
English Literature	12	6	1				19
French	17	5					22
Geography	21		1				22
German	3	1					4
Government and Politics	11	4	1	1			17
Greek	3						3
History	17	8	1				26
Latin	10						10
Mathematics	81	13	4	4	1	1	104
Music	2		1				3
Physical Education		2	2	2	2	1	9
Physics	51	5	7	1			64
Religious Studies	21	2					23
Spanish	6	3	1	1			11
TOTALS	356	79	29	14	5	2	485

These results are accurate as of September 2015. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website, www.rgs-guildford.co.uk, for the most recent set of results.

100%
Classical subjects secured 100% A grade success with ten Latin and three Greek students all achieving A grades



72% of all the grades were at A grade

Mark Thornton dropped just four UMS out of a possible 1,300; Jae-Yeon Lim was not far behind dropping only 14 UMS.

1296
1300

STATS & FACTS

- 26 boys have already achieved an A* in Mathematics at A Level.
- 23 boys achieved full marks in at least one subject with seven managing it in two or more subjects.
- The Barnwell boys achieved almost identical results in the same subjects with Ben gaining 1,084 out of a possible 1,100 and James 1,058 out of 1,100. Both boys achieved full marks in Art.
- 11 boys achieved full marks in Mathematics.

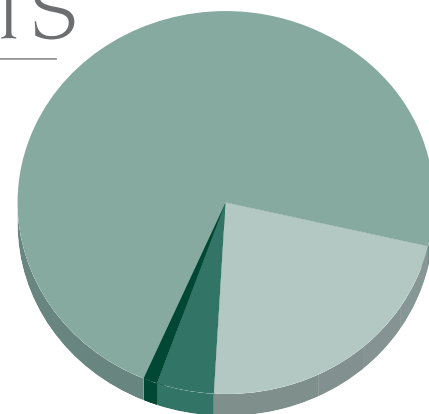
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

GCSE results

GCSE

138

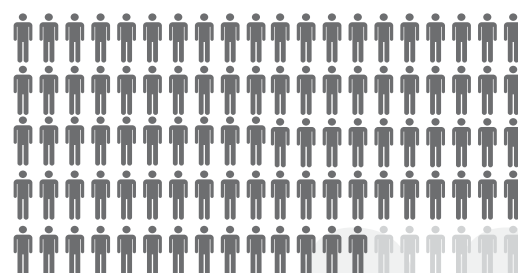
candidates



A
RECORD BREAKING
year at the RGS

SUBJECTS	A*	A	B	C	D-U	Entry
Art	7	7		1		15
Biology	107	22	5	1		135
Chemistry	95	29	7	3		134
Chinese	1		3			4
Design and Technology	15	7	9	3		34
Double Award Science		3	3			6
English Language	82	51	5			138
English Literature	65	61	10		1	137
French	62	4				66
Geography	57	19	1		1	78
German	20	6	2			28
Greek	6	2				8
History	64	16	5			85
Japanese	1					1
Latin	60	17	1	1		79
Mathematics	125	13				138
Music	5	5	1			11
Physics	111	19	4		1	135
Religious Studies	60	14				74
Spanish	57	13	2	2	1	75
TOTALS	1000	308	58	11	4	1381

These results are accurate as of September 2015. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website, www.rgs-guildford.co.uk, for the most recent set of results.



95% of the grades
were at A* or A

STATS & FACTS

- 96 boys took Mathematics a year early gaining 95 A* grades and one A grade.
- 32 boys gained full marks in one of their GCSE examinations.
- Henry Bowler, Cameron Gibson and Alexander Peer all achieved 11 A* grades.

100 boys
secured
straight A*/A
grades

40 boys
achieved
straight A*
grades in their
ten or more
subjects

72% of all grades at A* grade

ACADEMIC NEWS

Academic development is much broader than grades and percentages in public examinations. RGS boys have engaged independently in a number of national and international competitions and events with notable success over the last twelve months.

- ★ The Independent Learning Assignment Presentation Evening showcased the finalists' presentations with topics ranging from the human lifespan to contemporary US politics to Franco's censorship. Daniel Sutton was presented the ILA Trophy for his outstanding investigation into slavery in the ancient world.
- ★ RGS boys continued to establish an enviable reputation in Model United Nations Conferences throughout the year winning a succession of outstanding delegate and delegation awards; notable success came at the Benenden, Haileybury and Lady Eleanor Holles conferences. The RGS also staged its very first Model United Nations Conference on the topic of terror.
- ★ An RGS team of Oliver Northover Smith and Daniel Sutton competed for the first time in the final of the Oxford Union Schools Debating Competition. The boys tackled debates on issues as diverse as immigration, women's magazines, payday loans, and torture. William Heylen won Best Speaker in the English-Speaking Union's Schools Public Speaking competition.
- ★ In the Online Cambridge Chemistry Challenge RGS boys dominated the top ten positions in the world at Under 18: Peter Robinson, Piers Cole and Martin Dibb-Fuller regularly held the top three places.



An RGS team, for the third year running, progressed to the semi-finals of the iFS Student Investor national competition. The NINJA investors, comprising Matthew Alderton, William Ashworth, Tobias Fitzsimmons and Evan Hynes, made in excess of £37,000 over the three months of trading and finished eighteenth nationally out of 8,720 teams.

- ★ In the science Olympiads, the School achieved record-breaking results with 26 gold awards (awarded only to the top 5% of participants), and 77 silver and bronze awards.
- ★ William Sampson was awarded a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship for engineering and technical design. James Eggington became the tenth RGS boy in the last eight years to be awarded a Deloitte Scholarship.
- ★ Jack Bell won the renowned John Locke Institute Politics Essay Prize for his essay on the philosophy of government of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau.
- ★ James Sweetland won the IF 2015 Youth Manifesto Competition with his essay on youth manifesto, and was one of three winners in the inaugural Orwell Youth Prize with his essay investigating tribunal fees.
- ★ Daniel Sampson qualified for the UK finals in the annual Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) World Championships after finishing in the top five in the Microsoft Word competition.
- ★ After William Pinhey's success last year, James Hancock and Charles Spence had their plays long-listed for the National Theatre New Views Playwriting Competition.



26
gold awards

DRAMA



AN EXCITING YEAR FOR DRAMA SAW A DIVERSE RANGE OF PLAYS BEING STAGED — FROM TRADITIONAL CLASSICS TO ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS — WHICH ALLOWED BROAD PARTICIPATION BOTH ON AND BEHIND THE STAGE BY BOYS OF ALL AGE GROUPS.



Grease



Right from Vince Fontaine's — Enrico Cadoux-Hudson — opening greeting over House of Waxx radio, the audience was transported back to 1959 and teenage dramas at Rydell High School. A huge cast of GHS and RGS students produced an electrifying performance that gave the audience chills that multiplied until they struggled not to lose control and start dancing in the aisles; this was in no small part down to the backstage live band led by Director of Music Peter White. The sharp choreography had the cast shakin', rockin' and rollin' across the stage and the costume department pulled off a number of magic changes, with Frenchie's *Beauty School Dropout* dream sequence a particular highlight. By the end of the show Sandy's lightning fast transformation into a bad girl managed to convince Danny, played by Daniel Parker, that they went together like chang chang changitty chang shooobop.



... an electrifying performance that gave the audience chills that multiplied until they struggled not to lose control

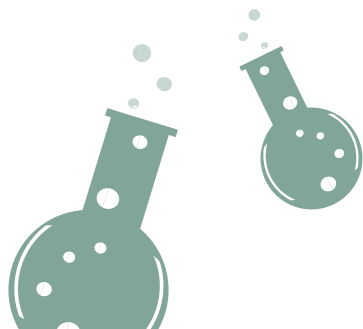


The Marshmallow Men



Rarely have marshmallows enjoyed such high profile at the RGS but, for one night and one night only, Cameron Finlay and William Pinhey elevated this humble item of confectionery to legendary status. The play written, directed and performed by the boys was expressionistic in style – bold and exaggerated characterisation, comedy, multimedia and musical elements – and created an allegorical tale about CEO Dale Firolth's (Adolf Hitler) Confectionery Company and his demand for the perfect white marshmallow (the Aryan race). The play revealed that despite Hitler's abhorrent use of medical scientists to conduct inhumane and unethical research on real people captured and imprisoned under the Nazi regime, many of those scientists were subsequently recruited by the US with their crimes conveniently ignored. Nancy McClean, Head of Drama, commented: "The play juxtaposed high comedy and absurdism with the darker, sinister historical truth to great effect: it was a tightly scripted, imaginatively staged and impeccably performed show."

The play juxtaposed high comedy and absurdism with the darker, sinister historical truth to great effect



The Merchant of Venice



As the winter months descended upon Guildford, audiences enjoyed some escapism as they were transported away from dour December to the sights and sounds of the flourishing Republic of Venice. The production of one of Shakespeare's most iconic plays, *The Merchant of Venice*, highlighted how the underlying message is still as relevant today as it presents an honest, raw insight into humanity. As Roger Meadowcroft, the director, noted: "Nobody is without flaw, nobody unredeemable." The talented cast displayed real maturity in conveying the depth and range of characters. Matthew Sargent brought great energy and charisma into his depiction of Shylock, while Dominic Baker proved to be a convincing Portia as he brought real sensitivity and understanding to the role. Philip Bowler portrayed the lead role of Antonio with intensity and emotion; Henry White provided an entertaining, comedic element to proceedings. As the appreciative audiences emerged back into reality, Venice was once again a distant dream but a long-lasting memory.



Music

Another inspiring year for music at the RGS incorporated performances in settings from the intimate to the grand scale, from local to international. The quality of musicianship impressed appreciative audiences and further cemented the School's established reputation for musicianship at the very highest level.



Piano Recital

A spontaneous standing ovation is not a common occurrence but every so often a talent emerges which fully justifies every single one of the plaudits. Michael Lan in his final few days as an RGS student gave a recital which was a pertinent reminder of just how much he will be missed and was further proof that he is one of England's most talented pianists, a talent which has flourished under the exceptional tutelage of Head of Keyboard, Jan Newman. Michael began learning the piano at six years of age; after achieving Grade 8 Distinction, he has gone on to win a variety of major piano prizes at local music festivals, most recently winning the Concerto Award at the Godalming Music Festival. He also won RGS Musician of the Year in 2014. Michael has now secured a place to continue his piano studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Those privileged enough to be in attendance at his Piano Recital enjoyed an evening of astonishing depth and talent. A programme of stunning complexity included pieces from Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Rachmaninov and Ravel. The long and heart-felt applause and ovation at the end confirmed that the audience had experienced one of the finest RGS musicians of recent times.

Chorister of the Year

Second Form student and Head Chorister at Guildford Cathedral Tom King was crowned BBC Radio 2's Young Chorister of the Year. Tom was one of two choristers from the diocese to make it through to the final which was broadcast on Radio 2 on Tom's 13th birthday. In the final Tom sang the hymn *Christ Triumphant* and sacred song attributed to JS Bach *If thou art near* and his performances were regarded as "immaculate". As well as his trophy and birthday cake - which was presented to him by the BBC - Tom received lessons with an established singing coach, as well as appearing on various programmes on BBC Radio including BBC Radio 2's *Good Morning Sunday* and *The Sunday Hour*, and BBC Radio 4's *Daily Service* and *Sunday Worship*. Peter White, Director of Music, commented: "This is a huge achievement for Tom and testament to his dedication and hard work; we are all immensely proud of him. Tom is an extremely talented singer and he has a very exciting future ahead of him."





Musician of the Year

The final of the RGS Musician of the Year competition proved to be an exquisite evening of music which had the appreciative audience captivated by the extraordinary talent and diversity of the boys. The finalists Michael Collis on viola, Callum Lau on piano, Frederick McGee on violin, Oliver White on harp, Alistair Baumann on cello and Rory Wilson on tuba performed a programme which was uplifting, delicate and surprising in equal measure but all with the same exacting standards of musicianship. The adjudicator Joy Farrall – one of Britain's most successful and highly respected wind soloists – had the unenviable task of picking a winner. She admitted she was taken aback by the sheer quality of talent on display but in the end awarded the Steynor Prize to the boy whose performance and energy ensured he stood out, Rory Wilson. His first piece *Fnugg*, with elements from the Australian Aboriginal repertoire for didgeridoo as well as Norwegian folk music, included a percussive lip-beat section, the likes of which the Rehearsal Room had not experienced before.



Music notes

The Concerto Concert at Holy Trinity Church provided the opportunity for boys to perform with the professional orchestra, *Southern Pro Musica*, under the baton of Director of Music Peter White. From Albinoni to Mozart, from William Walton to Vaughan Williams, the evening culminated in Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No. 2* given by Michael Lan: a truly masterful performance that had the audience captivated from the opening chords to the virtuosic final cadenza.

A first for the RGS saw the opera *The Judgement of Paris* performed in the historic courtyard of the Old Building, a performance which was, by turns, atmospheric, powerful and intimate.

The Junior Choir performed in the Guildford Choral Society's 175th Anniversary Concert in the Royal Albert Hall, accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.



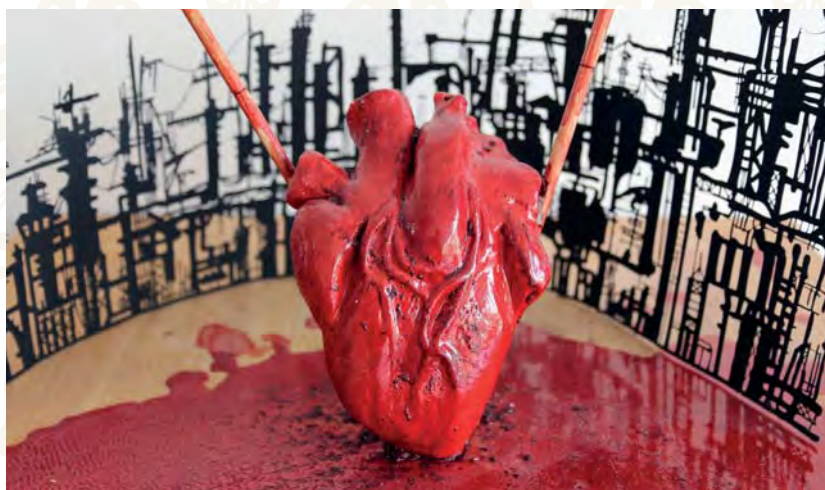
ART

The Art Exhibition, in the stunning setting of the Art School, provided a fitting culmination to the academic year. A wide range of style and media from GCSE, AS and A Level students was very much in evidence as work of quite extraordinary quality, innovation and maturity was displayed.



Aran Macfarlane
Expressive Landscape - AS Level

That most important outcome of artwork, self-expression, is best achieved for boys through a training in technical skills and they are encouraged to work as ambitiously as possible



Hans Hu
Heart - AS Level



James Chaumeton
Self-Portrait - A Level



Aran Macfarlane
Fruit and veg - AS Level



Daniel Churchlow
Cornish Landscape painting - A Level



Daniel Churchlow
Cornish Landscape sketch - A Level



Sebastian Chaumeton
Self Portrait- A Level



TEAM SPORT



The philosophy of Sport for All was very much in evidence throughout the year as the School regularly put out over 20 teams on a Saturday. As well as the major sports, boys had the opportunity to participate in a rich array of other sports.

ANOTHER EXCELLENT YEAR OF HOCKEY



The 23 hockey teams represented the School with distinction. The 1st XI enjoyed some excellent performances, notably beating Cranleigh School 5 – 1 and Wellington College 4 – 1, as well as progressing to the final of the Surrey Cup and finishing as

runners-up. The Under 16 and Under 14 teams were runners-up in their respective county tournaments. Throughout the term RGS teams impressed at all levels with the block fixture against King's College School Wimbledon particularly noteworthy as

the RGS recorded ten out of eleven wins. The School also enjoyed considerable success on the representative front at national and county level: more than 20 boys received county honours for both Surrey and Hampshire.

RGS RUGBY AHEAD OF THE GAME

More than 20 teams, over a third of the whole school community, regularly represented the RGS with A to E teams in some age groups. Despite a genuinely competitive circuit including fixtures against traditionally very strong rugby schools, RGS teams contributed to a successful season. The 1st XV's cup run in the newly-founded *Champions Trophy* proved to be one of the highlights: after two impressive away victories, the 1st XV were pitted against The Grammar School at Leeds, only losing narrowly 24 – 15. The Under 15A team also enjoyed considerable success in the NatWest Cup. At an individual level, four RGS boys are currently involved with the Developing Player Programme at Harlequins and large number of boys continue to represent Surrey at age group level.



TEAM SPORT

IT'S WIN WIN WIN FOR THE CRICKET TEAM



The rolling Surrey countryside of the picturesque Bradstone Brook bore witness to some fantastic block fixtures, most notably against Hampton School where the RGS recorded seven wins including two ten-wicket victories; eight wins against King's

College School Wimbledon; and seven wins against St George's College, Weybridge. The 2nd XI also enjoyed an excellent season winning the South London Schools League for the second time in three years. On an individual level, there were seven centurions

and with the ball, there were six fivers. The season finished on a high as the 1st XI was crowned winners of the RGS Festival, the seventh time in the last thirteen years, after recording in just one week five out of five victories against the other Royal Grammar Schools.

FOOTBALL RESULTS IMPRESSIVE

Over 70 senior boys represented the School in more than 35 fixtures. The 3rd and 4th XIs only lost a combined three matches, scoring over 25 goals this season. The 1st XI, captained by Matthew Lopez, had a hugely impressive season, losing only four of their nineteen games and scoring a remarkable 57 goals.

MORE ROWING MEDALS

Oliver Lucas, Matthew Sargent and George Wedlake won bronze at the British Rowing Championships in the Junior 14 coxed quads, and then won silver in the Junior 15 coxed fours at the National Schools' Regatta.

GUS COCKLE RACES AHEAD

Gus Cockle achieved the fastest time for 3000 metres in the UK at Under 17 level and was also crowned the English Schools and British Schools Champion over 3000m. Gus competed for England at the Lotto Crosscup International Under 20 event in Brussels where he came in as the first England runner. He is also currently the Surrey Under 20 cross-country champion. George Gathercole recorded a notable victory, winning the 40th Knoles Run at Sevenoaks, a prestigious run which attracts the best athletes in the south.

ON TARGET - SHOOTING VICTORY FOR RGS

The 1st VIII won for the eleventh time the prestigious Country Life competition, the main cadet small-bore competition of the year. On an individual level, Rupert Fitzsimmons and William Johnson were selected to represent England A in the British Schools' Home International matches.

RGS SAILORS WIN SOLENT CUP

The RGS team won the Solent Cup at the UK National Independent Schools Sailing Championship. In addition, Patrick Croghan and Thomas Goodbourn competed in the 29er RYA Youth Nationals against 60 other boats. Thomas finished sixth overall and was first in the Under 21 category. Patrick finished sixteenth overall in his first appearance at the youth nationals, as well as getting two top five finishes in a very competitive Gold Fleet.

CHESS TROPHY WON

In the Surrey Schools League, the RGS 1st team won all their league matches to secure the Surrey Schools Division 1 trophy.

Individual Highlights



Football: Joseph Crolla was selected for the Under 15 National Independent Schools Football Association squad to play at the Manchester United Festival and then was selected for the England Independent Schools' Under 16 squad.

Ice Hockey: William Lawson represented South West England at the English Ice Hockey Associations Conference Tournament and, subsequently, was invited to attend the England Under 14 National Team Training Camp.



Fencing: After fencing for only two years, Peter Robinson represented Great Britain at the European Under 17 events at Bonn and Copenhagen. He then fenced in the final European Cup Épée event in Bratislava.



Badminton: Christopher Chong won gold in the Surrey County Badminton Association at Under 12 and silver in the England National Circuit Hampshire at Under 13.



Sailing: Patrick Croghan was selected for the Royal Yachting Association UK Youth Squad, recognising his potential to progress within the British Sailing Team.



Rugby: Henry Paremain has continued to make an impact in rugby outside the RGS and was selected for the Harlequins Elite Player Development Group.

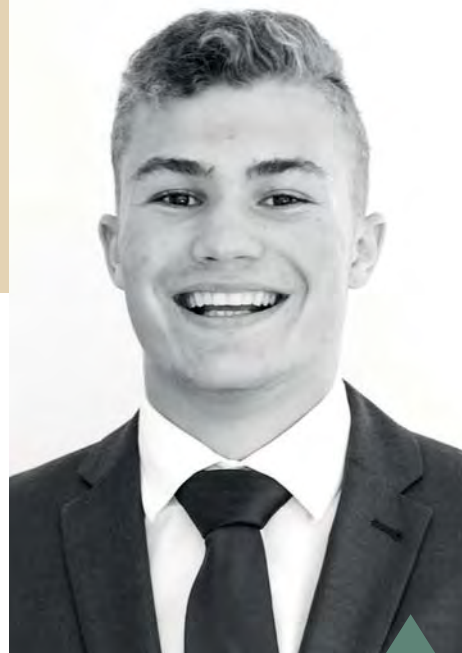
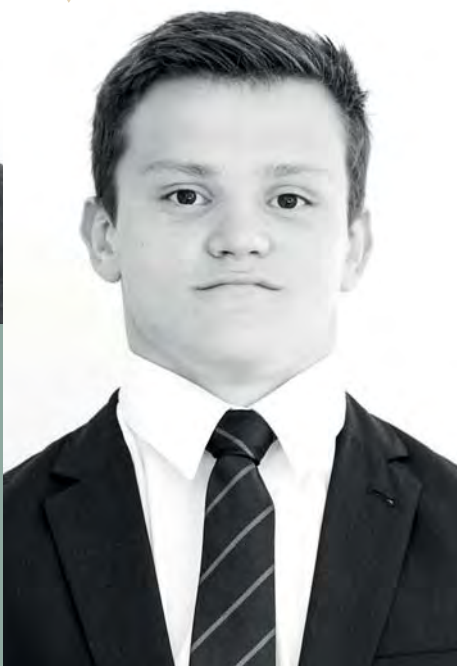


Chess: Harry Grieve represented England in the World Youth Chess Championships, probably the most prestigious world junior chess event.



Hockey: After making his competitive debut for Surbiton Hockey Club Men's 1st XI in the NOW: Pensions English Hockey, Edward Way represented England in the Under 18 European Championships, played for the Under 21s and has been selected as part of the senior Great Britain development programme.

Weightlifting: Christopher Murray competed in the Under 20 British Weightlifting Championship in Crystal Palace and broke five British records. He then travelled to Samoa to represent England at the Commonwealth Youth Games where he won bronze in the 62 kg category.

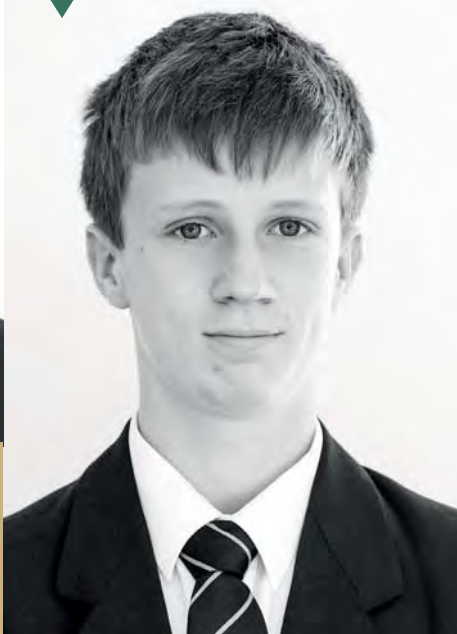


Judo: After a succession of top five finishes in national ranking events, Oliver Platt represented England in the Sainsbury's 2015 School Games where he won the individual section as well as the team section as part of team England.



Mountain Biking: Charles Griffith took part in the final race of the PORC Downhill Mountain Biking Series and won the championship in his age group.

Taekwondo: Charles Dorkins participated in the Global Taekwondo International (GTI) British Open Championships and won a bronze medal in the sparring event.



Sailing: James Dickinson competed in the Mirror World Sailing Championships in South Africa. In the African Championships, he achieved fourth place overall and was the second placed British boat.

JUST ANOTHER YEAR



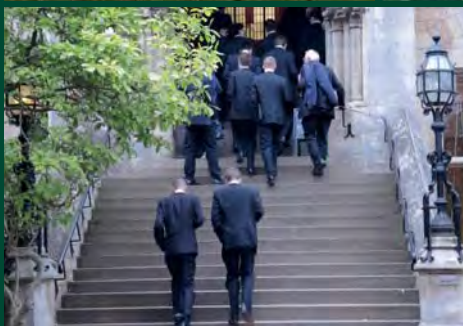
Over 70 school clubs and societies



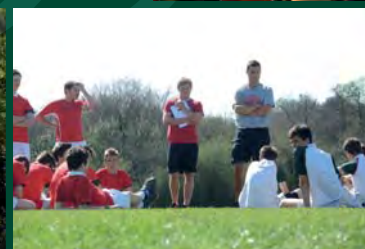
Just under a half of all boys doing Period 8 activities are involved in the Combined Cadet Force, Outdoor Pursuits and Explorer Scouts.



AT THE RGS



66 Bronze, 27 Silver and 9 Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards to RGS boys in the last twelve months



TRIPS



One academic year. Over a hundred trips. Academic, adventurous, cultural, sporting. All year groups. All corners of the globe. All unforgettable opportunities and experiences. The following are just a few, very selective highlights.



United States of America

One of the most extraordinary and ambitious school trips in recent memory saw 53 boys and four staff making the ultimate sacrifice of leaving behind the rainy 100C conditions of the UK for the sunny 310C Florida coastline and NASA's Kennedy Space Center. The trip proved fascinating on many levels: seminars with astronauts on the astro-biological challenges of spaceflight; the rocket building engineering challenge; observing the resting place of the last operational shuttle; the visit to the famous Apollo moon-landing exhibition; the simulated sky diving centre and, of course, Cocoa Beach!



Montserrat

17 boys from the CCF flew to the volcanic island of Montserrat in the Caribbean to carry out a twelve-day adventurous training and cultural expedition. The boys completed their Advanced Open Water diving qualification as well as camping for a night in the rainforest in order to capture and survey herpetiles. They also had a meeting with the His Excellency The Governor of Montserrat and visited the volcano observatory. An exploration through houses within the recently opened exclusion zone was a unique chance to visit an area which had been untouched since the eruption twenty years previously.



Italy

The tempting allure of pizza, pasta, ice-cream and, of course, breath-taking classical sites proved to be irresistible as the biennial Junior Classics trip saw 89 boys and ten staff visit Rome and the Bay of Naples. An action-packed itinerary embraced the classical and perhaps, more rustic fare. The iconic Colosseum, the imposing Baths of Caracalla, the beautifully preserved streets of Herculaneum, the haunting expressions of the plaster-casts in Pompeii and the stunning beauty of Capri were real highlights.



China

Any school trip which includes kung fu, acrobats, rickshaw rides and meeting a man who keeps crickets in his armpit must be noteworthy and the China trip did not disappoint as it delivered all of these and more. The boys travelled to Beijing and Shanghai to experience a taste of China and see for themselves the sheer scale and pace of change. They walked (some of) the Great Wall, learned Tai Chi, visited the tomb of Mao, scaled the Pearl Oriental Tower and made lasting impressions with the locals along the way.



Cambodia

24 intrepid explorers continued to enhance the education of others as well as themselves by teaching at educational summer camps at the RGS Partnership School at Tien Kram Ratanakiri province, in the northern reaches of Cambodia. The experience was enhanced further with jungle trekking. A life-changing expedition for the boys, including cultural aspects and a project phase, also inspired over 350 Cambodian children to attend school for what proved to be an extraordinary experience for all those involved.



Sri Lanka

Beach cricket, street cricket, back-yard cricket: the passion for the sport was evident on every street corner as the RGS went on tour to Sri Lanka. The typically friendly and hospitable Sri Lankan welcome and the opportunity to play at international and first-class venues provided a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the tourists. The RGS won the three one-day matches as well as enjoying a number of cultural visits, including the Temple of the Tooth, an elephant orphanage and the Galle Dutch Fort.



South Africa

62 boys and eight staff travelled to South Africa for the biennial hockey and rugby tour. The squads spent the first few days acclimatising on safari in the Pilanesberg Game Reserve before playing eight rugby and twelve hockey matches against sides from Johannesburg, Stellenbosch and Cape Town. The boys experienced ferocious opposition and performed extremely well in testing and sometimes intimidating environments. Other highlights included watching two prides of lions and their cubs, excursions to see the penguins and whales of the Southern Cape and the overwhelmingly generous welcome of our South African hosts.



COMMUNITY AND CHARITY

RGS boys and staff continued to make an impact upon the world outside the RGS as they seized the initiative to involve themselves with humour, energy and enthusiasm in community and charitable events as well as volunteering and conservation projects.

Fashion Show

Glitz and glamour were in abundance at the annual GHS and RGS Fashion Show as the high-energy evening included themes ranging from Beyoncé to Kate Middleton to Jess Ennis to Coco Chanel. The catwalk held no fears as the boys proved that the time spent refining their dance moves and perfecting their strut had not been in vain. Significant sums of money were raised for the Alice Ramsay Trust, a charity established in memory of a former GHS Head Girl who tragically died of a brain tumour.



Charity Day

Energy and enjoyment epitomised this year's Charity Day as the whole school united to raise significant sums. After the slick and hilarious assembly from the Upper Sixth Form, a day of charitable activities ensued. As well as the pre-requisite availability of doughnuts, events ranged from the alarmingly competitive boys against staff dodgeball match to the equally combative staff sumo wrestling match. The highlight for many, however, was the inaugural House Music Video Competition where all boys in each house were involved in producing a music video from *Parklife* by Blur to *Our House* by Madness.

Global Community Week

The week of events to celebrate RGS Global Community Week was designed to recognise our responsibilities as citizens in a global community. All students were offered the chance to sign up to a pledge for the week, ranging from conserving electricity, food, paper or water to learning about our global heritage. As well as the involvement of our Nepalese visitors Khila and Chandra, there was a global focus in lessons, kabaddi matches, international cuisine and Question Time when boys had the opportunity to hear, question and explore some of the concerns raised about global issues.



In the calendar year 2014, the money raised for charity by RGS boys exceeded £20,000.

Bake Off

The inaugural Great RGS Bake Off captured the competitive imagination of the staff with the theme of *Best of British*. For just one day, the Staff Common Room was liberally decorated with castles, wreaths, books, maps of Britain, cricket pitches, vinyl records, Union Jacks, to name but a few. The judges, including the Headmaster, had the equally enviable and unenviable task of determining the top awards. After deep debate and a couple more samples just to be sure, the winning rosette was presented to Head of Drama Nancy McClean for her intricate roast dinner cake, including rare beef and Yorkshire Puddings.



Christmas Fair

Christmas came early to the RGS as the School enjoyed a festive make-over for the Christmas Fair. Over 40 stalls, as well as RGS Young Enterprise companies, provided the perfect inspiration for Christmas shoppers with stylish, innovative gifts on sale. In addition, Father Christmas, as well as an elf or two, kindly agreed to attend and Santa's Grotto proved to be a popular attraction throughout the day, as significant sums were raised for the School's charities.



World Book Night

For the third year running, RGS staff signed up to be World Book Night volunteers and, for the first time, Upper Sixth Form boys from the Volunteering Society also took part. Over 250 special edition books, supplied by *The Reading Agency*, plus a few extras donated by the Mallison Library were divided up and distributed by teams of boys and staff to Guildford Action day centre, Number Five night shelter, Vaughan House hostel, the York Road Project in Woking and Guildford YMCA.



Cambodia Ball

The charity black-tie ball held at the Radisson Blu Edwardian hotel transported guests back to the 1920s. A sumptuous three-course meal, casino, raffle, disco, and auction all helped to raise money for the link schools in Cambodia; the highlight for many, however, was the slick magic act by the comedy duo Thomas Phipps and Garth Williams. Approximately £7,000 was raised towards, among other projects, repairing the roof of Tien Kram School and restocking the library.

This year the School's nominated charities were: Treloars School (local); Cardiac Risk in the Young (national); and Isigalo and our International Partnership Schools in Cambodia and Nepal (international).

GOVERNORS & ACADEMIC STAFF

Board of Governors

Chairman of Governors	Mrs S K Creedy, MA	
Vice-Chairman	H H J Critchlow, LLB, DL	
	C D Barnett, MA	The Mayor of Guildford
	M Brett-Warburton MA (RCA), MA (UCB), RIBA	H J Pearson, OBE, MA, PhD, CMaths, FIMA
	Mrs C Cobley, MCIPD	P G Peel, FCA
	The Revd Canon R L Cotton, MA, DipTh	Ms P S Powell, BA
	D Counsell, FCA*	Professor S Price, MSc, PhD, FBTS, ERT, FHEA
	B Creese, BA, MA	C T Shorter, CEng, MIStructE, FConsE, FFB
	The Earl of Onslow	J A Smith, CEng, FCIBSE
	J D Fairley, BA	N E J Vineall, QC, MA *
	Mrs J Jordan, BA	Mrs R Weir, MA
	Dr L S K Linton, MA, MB ChB, MRCP	
Bursar and Clerk to the Governors	R A Ukiah, MA	

Members of Academic Staff

Headmaster:	J M Cox, BSc, PhD	Southampton	Biology	2007
Deputy Head (Staff):	G T Williams, MA	Lincoln, Oxford	History	2008
Deputy Head (Pupils):	A U Woodman, BSc, MA	Edinburgh, Kings College University of London	Biology	2004
Assistant Head (Curriculum):	P J Dunscombe, BSc	Sheffield	Mathematics, Careers and Higher Education	2003
Assistant Head (Marketing and Communication):	J W Pressley, MA	St Hugh's, Oxford	Classics	2000
Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)	P J Bridges, BSc	Birmingham	Economics	2011
Head of Upper School and Head of Sixth Form:	T W Shimell, M.Chem	University College, Oxford	Chemistry	2007
Head of Lower School and Head of Third Form:	N E Wild, BA	St John's, Durham	Religion and Philosophy	2000

Academic Staff

S W Armstrong, MA	Lincoln, Oxford	Chemistry	2008
M F Baggs, BA	Oxford Brookes	Physical Education, Hockey, Dep. Head of Sixth Form	2010
S J Baker, BA	Wadham, Oxford	Modern Languages	2009
A H S Barras, BA, MA, PhD	University of London	English	2006
E T Batchelar, M.Chem, D.Phil	Jesus, Oxford	Chemistry	2010
Mrs S E Besly-Quick, BA	Magdalen, Oxford	Classics	2014
S G Black, MMATH	Keble, Oxford	<i>Mathematics</i>	2005
Miss S K H Blair, BSc, MSc	Cardiff	Economics, <i>Fourth Form</i>	2010
J L Bodmer, BSc, PhD, MBA	Birmingham; Brunel; Henley	Chemistry, <i>Examinations</i>	2000
Mrs M C Booth, BEd	Exeter	<i>Head of Admissions</i>	1978
CS Bradford, MPhys	St John's Durham	Physics	2013
J S Braithwaite, BSc, PhD	Imperial College, London; The Royal Institution of Great Britain	Chemistry	2011
Mrs P A Brooks, MBA	Brunel	Economics	2012
M A Burbidge, BSc, BA	Birmingham; Open	Physics	1998
E K D Bush, MA	Exeter College, Oxford	<i>Classics</i>	2006
J A Casale, BSc, MBA	Bristol; City	<i>Mathematics, Housemaster</i>	1997

Academic Staff

D H Chambers, BMus, PCASS	Surrey; Royal Coll. Music	Music	1997
Ms L Churchill, BA	Southampton	English	2015
Mrs S Cooper, BA	St Anne's, Oxford	Classics	2012
G D G Cover, BSc	Brunel	Physical Education	2015
W D Cowx, BSc, MSc	Aberystwyth; Salford	Geography, <i>Housemaster</i>	1984
A M J Curtis, MA	St Edmund Hall, Oxford	Art	1993
Mrs H M Curtis, BA	Reading	English	2003
Miss EL Cuthbertson, BA	Merton, Oxford	Biology	2015
A C Dodd, BA, MA *	King's College, London	History, <i>Housemaster</i>	2006
A H Dubois, BSc	Aberdeen	Biology, <i>Housemaster</i>	1994
C George, BSc	Bristol	Mathematics	2013
N W Gough, BSc, MSc	Cardiff	Economics	2008
Miss N S Goul-Wheeler, MA	St John's, Oxford	Classics, <i>Fifth Form</i>	2010
C J Grace, BA, MA, LTCL, AMusLCM	Birmingham; Surrey	Modern Languages	1980
Mrs L Griffiths, BA	King's College, London; Wesley College, Bristol	Religion and Philosophy, <i>Young Enterprise</i>	2014
A R Gyford, MSci	University College, London	Mathematics	2015
Mrs K Handley, BSc	Sheffield	Mathematics	1996
Mrs F A Hobbs, BSc	Imperial College, London	Mathematics, <i>Teacher Training Mentor</i>	2010
L M Holland, BSc	Birmingham	Physics, <i>Electronics</i>	1986
J P Hood, MA, MSci	Selwyn, Cambridge	Physics	2010
P J Hosier, BA, MEd	University College, London	Modern Languages	1980
D M Hoyle, BEng	Hertfordshire	Design and Technology	2005
E J Hudson, MA, MSc, PhD	King's, Cambridge; Imperial College	Biology	2011
M R Jenkins, BSc	University College of Swansea	Mathematics, <i>Senior Housemaster</i>	1985
M J Jennings, BA	Warwick	Mathematics	1989
J B Kelly, BA, MA, MA (RCA)	University of Wales; Royal College of Art; Kingston	<i>Design and Technology</i>	1999
Miss S Kendell, BSc	Manchester	Mathematics	2001
A F Kettle, BA	Exeter	English	2014
G M Knight, BA	Exeter	Modern Languages	1984
K J Knight, BSc, MSc	Portsmouth	Design and Technology	2008
W-S Lau, M.Chem, MRSC	Hertford, Oxford	<i>Chemistry</i>	2006
P M Leamon, BA	Southampton	English, <i>Second Form</i>	2011
A R Lowe, BA	Leeds	Modern Languages, <i>Spanish</i>	2005
M O Macfarlane, BSc, MSc	Loughborough	Physical Education	2014
J Marchiafava, Lic.	Toulouse 2	Modern Languages	2013
Miss M-L McCarter, Lic., MA	Tours	Modern Languages, <i>German</i>	2013
Ms N C McClean, BA, MA	Goldsmiths'; Birmingham	<i>Drama</i>	2011
J C McHardy, BMus, LRAM, PG Dip, ARCO, ARAM	Edinburgh; Royal Academy of Music	Music	2014
R B Meadowcroft, BA, MA	St Chad's, Durham	<i>Religion and Philosophy, PSHME</i>	1995
P G Nathan, BA	Durham	Classics, <i>General Studies</i>	1998
Miss J Newman, AGSM, CRD	Guildhall School of Music & Drama	Music	2008
Miss E J Newton, BA, MA	Selwyn, Cambridge; IOE, University of London	English	2014
Nrs N L Odhams, MEng	Newnham, Cambridge	Physics	2015
S J Orchard, BMus, MMus	University of London	Music	2009
T J J Owens, BA	Collingwood, Durham	Politics	2012
A A Page, BA, MSci, PhD	Queens', Cambridge; Leicester	Mathematics	2015
D Patel, BSc, PhD	Surrey; Reading	Physics, <i>Explorer Scouts</i>	2007
Mrs S J Perrett, BA	Open	Mathematics	2003
N C Pinhey, BSc	Birmingham	Mathematics	2008
Miss K E Price, BA, MA (RCA)	Middlesex; Royal College of Art	Art and Design and Technology	2012
Mrs R J Rathmell, BA	Exeter	Modern Languages, <i>Volunteering Co-ordinator</i>	2012
T P Rogers, BSc	Loughborough	Physical Education, <i>Rugby</i>	2010
T A J Rothwell, MA *	Homerton, Oxford	Geography	2014
A N Rozier, BA	West Surrey College	Art	1987
C J L Sandbach, BA	Oxford Brookes	Physical Education, <i>Cricket</i>	2012
J R Saxton, MA	Hertford, Oxford	History	1987
R E J Seymour, BEd, FRGS	Leeds	Geography	1972
A J Shakeri, BA	Corpus Christi, Oxford	History, <i>International Links Co-ordinator</i>	2014
Mrs R F Shepherd, BA	Chelsea College of Art & Design	Art	2015
S B R Shore, BEd	Loughborough	Physical Education	1977
Miss L Simpson, BA	Reading	English	2009
A J Skitt, BSc	Manchester	Biology	2015

Academic Staff

A F Smith, BA, MA, MA	Durham; London; Open	<i>English</i>	2008
Mrs C E Smith, BA	University of London	Modern Languages	2005
Mrs H K Suenson-Taylor, BA	King's College, London	Religion and Philosophy, <i>Housemaster</i>	2011
K Tayar, BA *	Nottingham	Religion and Philosophy	2015
Mrs P A Thomas, BSc, MSc, FRGS, MSB, Dip. Counselling	University of East London	Geography	2008
A J W Thorn, MA	Queens', Cambridge	Mathematics	1971
S G Thornhill, MA, DPhil	Magdalen, Oxford	Physics	1990
Miss A V E Tournier, Lic.	Lyon	<i>Modern Languages, French</i>	2009
C J-M Truglio, Lic	Nice	Modern Languages	2015
Mrs K Walker, BSc	Exeter	Biology	2013
Mrs R G Waters, MA	Robinson, Cambridge	<i>Geography</i>	2012
L A Whall, BA, PhD	St John's, Cambridge; Basel	Chemistry	2014
C J White, BA	Nottingham	Religion and Philosophy	2013
P H White, MA	New College, Oxford	<i>Director of Music</i>	1984
Mrs D Whitehead, BTech	Bradford	Physics, <i>First Form</i> , Deputy Head of Admissions	1998
The Revd J P Whittaker, MA	Wadham, Oxford	English	1994
H R Wiggins, MA	Trinity, Oxford	<i>History</i>	2013
I Wilkes, BEd	College of St Mark & St John	<i>Director of Sport</i>	1998
Mrs N Wilson, BA	Open	Modern Languages	2014
Mrs F M Wimblett, BSc	Royal Holloway College, University of London	Mathematics	2015
J C Witts, BSc	Southampton	Geography	2009
D J Woolcott, BA	Reading	Classics	1984
D S Wright, BA	Nottingham	<i>Economics</i>	2012
S J H Yetman, BSc	University College, London	Geography, <i>Director of Activities</i>	2001

italics denote Head of Department

* denotes Old Guildfordian

Support Staff

Teaching Support

Mr JK Rivers	Director of IT
Mr A Budhathoki	ICT Network Engineer
Mr P Crawford	ICT and AV Support Manager
Mr G Elliott-Davies	Data Manager
Mr R James	ICT and AV Support Engineer
Mr PJ Griffith	Design and Communications Manager
Mrs TF Farthing	Librarian
Mrs DG Walsh	Library Assistant
Mrs GE Barratt	Exams and Database Support
Mrs G Eyles	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs LH Gordon	Cover Supervisor
Mrs H Hardy	Chemistry Technician
Mrs S Ingham	Art Technician
Mrs MN Kennedy	Head of Learning Support
Mrs D Morgan	Counsellor
Mrs L Pickering	Integrated Science and Electronics Technician
Mrs SJ Styles	Physics Technician
Mrs SR Townsend Smith	Chemistry Technician
Ms H Way	Biology Technician
Mr PA Wells	SSI (CCF) and Health and Safety Advisor
Mr S Taylor	Technology Technician

Language Assistants

Miss S Delfau	French Language Assistante
Ms M Spence	German Language Assistant
Mr O Soto-Carrillo	Spanish Language Assistant

Administration

Mrs MP Buyla	Headmaster's PA
Mrs LV Robbins	School Office Secretary
Mrs M Stylianou	School Office Receptionist
Mrs KL Sweet	Admissions Registrar
Mrs OL Timberlake	Careers and Community Partnership Administrator
Mrs JK Ward	Senior School Secretary

Accounts and HR

Mr RA Ukiah	Bursar
Mrs J Brickell	Bursary Secretary
Miss D Bromley	HR Administrator
Mrs A Mortimer	Accounts Assistant and Period 8 Assistant
Ms J O'Grady	Accounts Officer
Mrs CA Page	School Accountant
Mrs CM Perceval	Deputy Bursar
Mrs M Scott	Accounts Assistant

Development and Alumni Relations

Ms GM Grant Haworth	Development Director
Mrs PM Green	Alumni Relations Officer
Mrs J Misselbrook	Development Manager
Mrs JR Rothwell	Development Executive

Estates

Mr A Roberts	Estates Manager
Mr M Bowler	Senior Maintenance Assistant
Mr K Garwood	School Warden
Mr RB King	Grounds Manager
Mr W Knox	Assistant Groundsman
Mr P Lyons	Buildings Manager
Mr MS Robbins	General Assistant
Mr J Roberts	General Assistant
Mr JM Tyrrell	Senior Assistant Groundsman
Mr S Williamson	Assistant Groundsman
Mr CR Woodyer	Maintenance Assistant

THE FINAL WORD

Previous school:

Ripley Court School

Most enjoyable aspect about being School Captain:

Talking to boys in the lower years

Most embarrassing moment at the RGS:

Having to write a speech on the spot for Senior Prizegiving last year and almost freezing mid-speech

RGS Sporting highlight:

Scoring two goals in hockey for the Under 15A team in a 3 – 1 victory against Whitgift

Other stand-out moment:

Involvement in Charity Day Assembly, hopefully the starting sequence will be remembered for a long time

Favourite RGS meal:

Macaroni cheese and ham

Favourite RGS tweet:

Well done to the 1st XV on an outstanding 14 – 12 victory against Cranleigh School; the boys played with real pride and passion

Choice of famous actor to play you in a film of your life:

Will Smith

Advice for the next School Captain:

The year passes very quickly, so keep organised and do everything with a smile on your face

Life philosophy in a few words:

Become the strongest version of yourself

Final nugget of wisdom:

Work hard, respect others, be healthy

Calvin Ngwena

School Captain



