

The Review

2015 - 2016



The annual review of the
Royal Grammar School, Guildford



RGS GUILDFORD

FROM THE HEAD

The nature versus nurture debate, genes or environment, is one which recurs frequently when successes are celebrated. Is each individual's development predisposed and inherited or acquired through external influences? In this light, as I reflect upon an extraordinary year at the RGS, the success of Team GB at the Rio Olympics seems strangely apt. After a phenomenal level of success in a diverse number of disciplines, the media rightly reflected upon the reasons behind such achievement, especially in contrast to the underwhelming performances of other national sporting teams over the last twelve months.

“All of these achievements – required single-mindedness, dedication, even a risk of failure but, above all, passion and determination and a spirit of co-operation.



In offline and online articles, there was one word which surprisingly enjoyed little prominence, and that was the word *talent*. The focus instead was on the importance of long-term planning, of deciding what the goals should be and pursuing them, the influence of cohesion and working as a team to push each individual further. The key characteristics, rather than innate ability, were strength of character, the single-mindedness necessary to work at a consistently high level, and resilience, the ability to cope with highs and lows.

In the last twelve months, many snapshots of RGS highlights come to mind. In music, the massed ranks of choir and orchestra performing Verdi's Requiem at *G Live* was one such example. Other stand-out memories include: an array of outstanding drama productions; the amazing talent on display during Arts Festival Week; academic, sporting and extra-curricular successes; energetic and entertaining charitable and community initiatives; the emergence of a number of Old Guildfordians onto the national and international sporting stage; as well as a record-breaking year for results in public examinations. All of these achievements – and many more besides – required single-mindedness, dedication, even a risk of failure but, above all, passion and determination and a spirit of co-operation.

The Review is necessarily a highly selective insight into just some of the many aspects of the last year; however, I hope it proves aspirational and inspires each boy to continue to raise the bar of achievement. With extraordinary effort comes extraordinary results and I look forward to seeing what the next twelve months brings.

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
C Cambridge	24
D Durham	14
O Oxford	11
EX Exeter	8
BA Bath	8
L Leeds	6
UCL University College London	5
BH Birmingham	5
W Warwick	4
I Imperial	3
S Southampton	3
BR Bristol	3
ED Edinburgh	3

54% of all boys applying to Oxford or Cambridge were made an offer.

54%



88% of all boys accepting university offers are going to a Russell Group University.

344 boys have received Oxbridge offers in the last ten years.



TOP 10 DEGREE COURSES

SUBJECT	NUMBER OF RGS STUDENTS
1 Economics / PPE / Business Management	22
2 Engineering	19
3 Modern Languages	12
4 Biological Sciences / Biochemistry / Biomedical Sciences	10
5 Natural Sciences	9
6 Geography	7
7 History	7
8 Physics	6
9 Mathematics / Computer Sciences	6
10 Medicine	4

215

215 boys have received offers from Durham over the last five years.

These figures include those who made post A Level applications in 2015/16.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

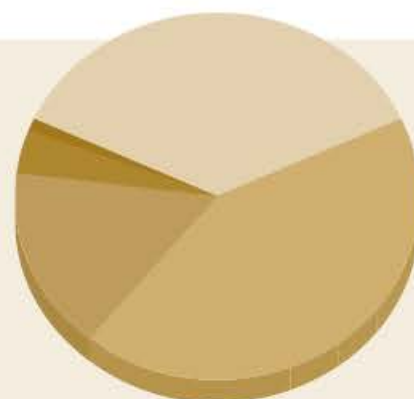
A LEVEL RESULTS

127

candidates

SUBJECTS	A*	A	B	C	D	E	Entry
Art	5	1					6
Biology	7	11	2			1	21
Chemistry	9	22	4	3			38
Classical Civilisation		2	1				3
Design and Technology			1				1
Economics	22	15	7	1			45
Electronics		4					4
English Literature	4	5	4				13
French	3	8	4				15
Further Mathematics	25	6	1				32
Geography	4	10	4				18
German		3					3
Government and Politics	1	9	4				14
Greek	1						1
History	9	8	5	1			23
Latin	2	5					7
Mathematics	35	35	15	3	1		89
Music		1	1				2
Physics	16	18	12	5	3		54
Religious Studies	9	8	2	1			20
Russian		1					1
Spanish		5		2			7
TOTALS	152	177	67	16	4	1	417

These results are accurate as of September 2016. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website for the most recent results.



- 36.5% Grade A*
- 42.4% Grade A
- 16.1% Grade B
- 3.9% Grade C
- 3.8% Grade D

100%

100% pass rate.

73 boys achieved all A/A* grades.

73

10 boys had 4 A* grades; a further 17 achieved 3 A* grades.

10

6 boys sat Chemistry Pre U achieving 2 D1, 3 D2 and 1 D3 grades.



95%

18 boys averaged over 95% across all subjects. Mark Thornton achieved 99.6% dropping just 11 marks from 2,400. Aran MacFarlane and Vincent Lim also averaged 99%.

600/600

Mark Thornton achieved 600/600 in both Mathematics and Biology; Vincent Lim did the same in Mathematics and Physics, and Ben Barnwell achieved 400/400 in Art.

The RGS was ranked third all-boys school in both The Daily Telegraph and The Times.

3rd

37 Lower Sixth boys sat A Level Mathematics a year early with 23 A* and 11 A grades.

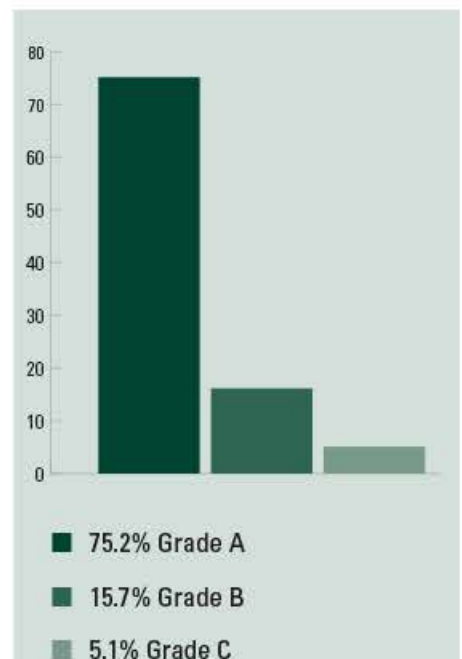
37

AS LEVEL RESULTS

133
candidates

SUBJECT	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entry
Biology	23	4	1	2	1		31
Chemistry	39	5	2	1			47
Chinese	1						1
Classical Civilisation	1		1				2
Design and Technology	1	1					2
Drama	2						2
Economics	48	10	3	4			65
Electronics	3						3
English Literature	9	1					10
French	11	2	1				14
Geography	27	2					29
German	3	3					6
Government and Politics	20	11	1				32
Greek	4						4
History	19	4	1				24
Latin	9						9
Mathematics	83	18	7	4	5	1	118
Music	1	2					3
Physical Education	1						1
Physics	46	7	5	1	1		60
Religious Studies	9	2	1				12
Spanish	10	5	2				17
TOTALS	370	77	25	12	7	1	492

These results are accurate as of September 2016. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website for the most recent results.

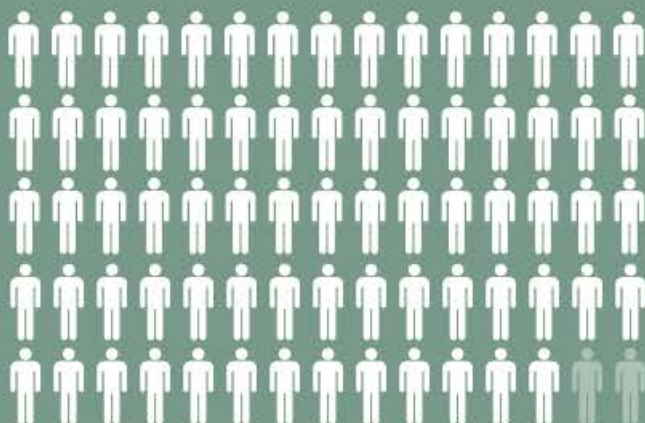


99.8%

99.8% pass rate.

73

73 boys achieved grade A in all subjects.



Callum Spencer and Ravi Desor both achieved 700/700 in Double Mathematics modules.

700
700

16 boys achieved full marks in at least one subject with Alexander Peer and Ravi Desor managing it in two or more subjects.

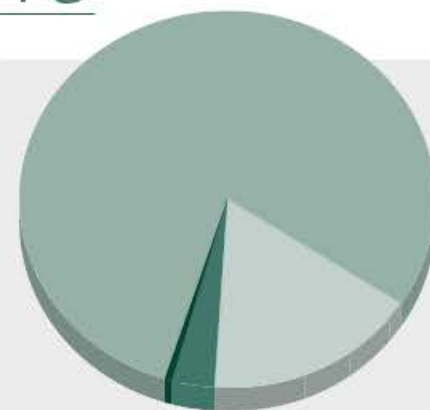
16

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

GCSE RESULTS

GCSE

149
candidates



- 79.7% Grade A*
- 16.8% Grade A
- 3.3% Grade B
- 0.4% Grade C

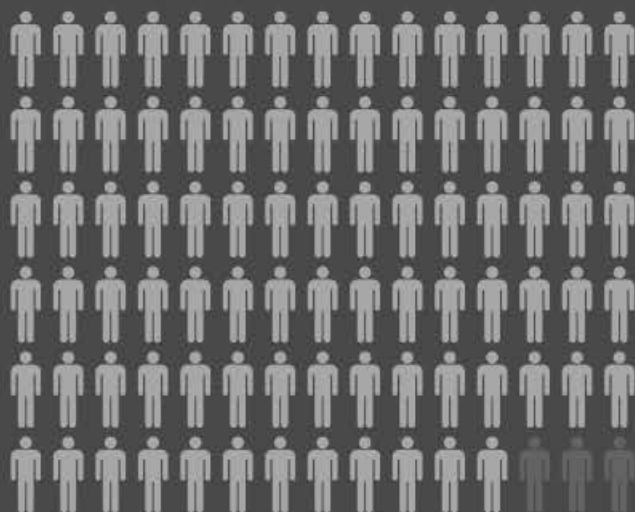
118 boys, 79% of the year, achieved all results at A or A*.

79%

SUBJECTS	A*	A	B	C	D-U	Entry
Art	9	8	1			18
Arabic	1					1
Biology	112	29	7	1		149
Chemistry	125	17	6	1		149
Chinese	1	1				2
Design and Technology	22	4	1			27
English Language	96	47	6			149
English Literature	112	30	7			149
French	82	9	2	1		94
Geography	56	27				83
German	17	4				21
Greek	7	2	1			10
History	73	15	3			91
Latin	64	8	2	1		75
Mathematics	141	8				149
Music	6	4	1	1		12
Physics	140	5	3	1		149
Religious Studies	65	12				77
Spanish	60	11	3			74
TOTALS	1192	252	47	6	0	1497

These results are accurate as of September 2016. The School continues to receive the outcome of re-marks so please consult the website for the most recent results.

87 boys took Mathematics achieving 86 A* and 1 A grade; over half the entries achieved a mark of 95% or better with 5 boys achieving full marks.



44 boys secured 10 or more A* grades with a further 35 achieving 9 A* grades.

44

12

12 boys achieved full marks in either Latin or Greek.

ACADEMIC REPORT

Academic development is much broader than grades and percentages in public examinations. RGS boys have nurtured and pursued their interests in a number of ways, including participating independently in a number of national and international competitions and events with notable success over the last twelve months.

- ★ The RGS was delighted to be ranked as the top independent school in the country in the influential *Sunday Times* Parent Power league table of university destinations. Just under a quarter of those RGS boys who left last July have now begun courses at Oxford and Cambridge and just under 90% are studying at a Russell Group university; a figure which rises to 94% when Bath, a university regularly among the top ten institutions, is added to the list.
- ★ The Independent Learning Assignment Presentation Evening showcased the finalists' presentations with topics ranging from the origins of life to criminal punishment to the French Revolution. Callum Holmes was presented the ILA Trophy for his outstanding investigation into the world of Group 11 cyanide crystals.
- ★ Peter Robinson was awarded Best Sixth Form Chemist (Thames and Kennet) Award by the Society of Chemical Industries for his CREST Gold project. 13 boys in total were awarded their CREST Gold Awards.
- ★ Our four Young Enterprise businesses entered a number of competitions through the year with notable successes. The RGS was delighted to host the Surrey Y Factor; the highlight of the evening was the e-advertising competition: RGS teams *Opprimé* and *Sigma* scooped first and second prizes.
- ★ 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 senior Model United Nations Conference.
- ★ Rufus Frew came second in the National Science and Engineering Competition Finals at The Big Bang Fair 2016.
- ★ James Miller won the national Cairngorms Nature Young Presenter Competition with his film about badgers.
- ★ The RGS team progressed to the district finals in the English-Speaking Union national debating competition; Christopher Gooding won the award for best overall chairperson. The RGS then hosted the second round of the ESU senior competition and the Oxford Union Schools debating competition.



RGS boys enjoyed a record-breaking year in the prestigious national science olympiads, achieving 19 golds in total. Mark Thornton was one of the highest-scoring gold medallists in both the Biology and Chemistry competitions; he then came 38th in the world and first out of the UK team members at the International Biology Olympiad in Vietnam.

- ★ Nicholas Hall's essay for the Connell Guides Prize on Brenda Last from Evelyn Waugh's "A Handful of Dust" won first runner-up prize. Henry Xuan's essay entitled "The rising gap between rich and poor is not just bad for society, it is bad for growth" was one of only 20 shortlisted by the Royal Economic Society for their annual Young Economist Competition prize. George Clark had an article on the EU Referendum published by *The Day*, a daily news service: it was printed, with the other winning articles, and handed in to Downing Street.
- ★ The RGS team competed in the national final of the Royal Society of Chemistry's *Top of the Bench* competition. Out of 32 finalist schools from all regions of the UK, the RGS finished sixth; the stand-out performance was by Adam Wills who received the Jacqui Clee Award for Student Achievement.
- ★ An RGS team won this year's national Student Robotics competition. After months of design, construction and programming, the RGS autonomous robot finally conquered all in a series of challenges to claim first place.



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.

Pity in History



Set in 1644, *Pity in History* transported appreciative audiences to the English Civil War at a time when Cromwell's anti-royalist army was gaining the upper hand. Right from the opening scene, the audience was immersed in a world of human pain and suffering as the cook Murgatroyd, played powerfully and emotively by Edward Chapman, dies loudly and angrily having been shot accidentally. Against this backdrop, the play reflects upon the position of artists and art in political society as the self-assured stonemason Gaukroger, played with no little confidence by Nicholas Hall, provides a philosophical, insightful commentary to proceedings, well supported by Harry Somerville as his apprentice Pool. The moody, atmospheric staging, lighting and sound effects conveyed the zeitgeist perfectly, against which the play explored the function, durability and necessity of art in the world through the engaging, and often humorous, characters and sharp, tight dialogue.



The play reflects upon the position of artists and art in political society



DNA



Right from the emotive opening, *DNA* sucked the audience into the desolate and warped worlds of a group of teenagers. Visually, the production was engaging; pools of light highlighted the tensions felt and the chaos of the dirt-strewn set reflected the uncertainty on stage. The actors conveyed the diversity of personalities – fluctuating from bravado to insecurity – with empathy and no little attitude, none more so than Richard and Mark, powerfully played by George Tench and Daniel Sampson respectively. As guilt and madness increasingly poisoned the group dynamic so self-interest, peer pressure and corruption were explored. As the play drew to a close, Dominic Baker gave an arresting performance as the victim Adam: weak, confused and staggering. The play proved to be a convincing, thought-provoking and unnervingly realistic portrayal of the power of teenage group mentality, all the more sinister for the undercurrent of black humour and the earthy grittiness of the dialogue.



Something Wicked



The ambitious double-bill junior production of *Something Wicked* saw over 50 boys involved both on stage and back stage. A talented young cast captured perfectly the spirit of *Richard III*: the power struggle, the deception and the betrayal. Among many impressive performances, Dominic Baker was effortless as he played Richard with maturity, conveying the intelligent, manipulative character with conviction. The disquieting and ominous music – which was created specifically for the plays by Samuel Cherry – as well as the excellent costumes, atmospheric lighting and staging all created a suitably dark, sinister mood. This atmosphere then segued smoothly into *Macbeth* and the destruction wrought when ambition is unchecked by moral constraints. Philip Bowler conveyed sympathetically Banquo while Jack Gamble powerfully portrayed the complexity and ambition of *Macbeth* himself.



*A talented young cast
captured perfectly the spirit of
Richard III*



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.



Verdi Requiem

A sell-out audience was treated to a thrilling performance of Verdi's *Requiem* as the 420-strong choir and orchestra, comprising students, parents and staff, took to the stage of *G Live*. Any performance of the spectacular nineteenth-century masterpiece is a significant undertaking, but the magnificent rendition by the joint forces of the RGS and Guildford High School was emotive, powerful and inspiring by turn as the astonishing maturity and technical mastery of the playing were evident. Conducted by Directors of Music, Peter White and Grayson Jones, the choir and orchestra were supported by the four soloists: soprano Claire Rutter, mezzo-soprano Susanna Spicer, tenor Matthew Sandy and bass Stephen Gadd.



Venus and Adonis

Sam Orchard directed an astonishingly impressive performance of John Blow's *Venus and Adonis* in the atmospheric setting of the courtyard in the Old Building. There were stand-out performances from James Hancock, whose warm tone and real sense of line produced an utterly convincing Adonis, and Matthew Sargent as Cupid with his amazingly secure and flexible counter-tenor voice. Other soloists, stepping forward from an extremely impressive chorus, and performing with great style and confidence included Matthew Hawkins, Ridley Hymas and Yousuf Mirza. The RGS was also fortunate to welcome soprano Bethan Thomas back to the RGS as Venus. Supported by a phenomenally talented orchestra, led by Callum Holmes, which seemed utterly at ease with the demands of the baroque style, the evening also included performances of Blow's *Ground in G minor* and his exquisite setting of Dryden's *Chloe found Amintas lying all in tears*.



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 – Edward Ball (double bass), Alistair Baumann (cello), Michael Collis (viola), Hans Hu (piano), Joshua Powell (oboe) and Ronan Thomas (violin) – performed a programme which was refined, sophisticated and engaging in equal measure. The adjudicator William Bruce, Head of Strings at the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama, admitted that despite his experience adjudicating competitions he was taken aback by the sheer quality of talent on display and that any one of the boys would have been a worthy winner. In the end, however, he awarded the Steynor Prize to the boy whose performance incorporated great technical ease, confident expression and lovely sense of overall architecture, Edward Ball. A cameo appearance from last year's winner Rory Wilson on tuba provided a fitting climax to the proceedings.



Music notes

The Joint RGS and GHS Schools' Chamber Choir became the first school choir ever to sing Evensong in the chapel at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The extraordinary orchestral concert in Holy Trinity Church proved to be one of the musical highlights of the year. A demanding programme of Stravinsky, Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, Ireland and Poulenc was tackled with sensitivity and no little technical expertise.

Alistair Baumann gained a place in the National Youth Chamber Orchestra.

The annual Concerto Concert provided the stage for some of our most able musicians to perform solos with Guildford's own professional orchestra, *Southern Pro Musica*. The standard of musicianship and technical mastery on display was quite simply astonishing.

The inaugural RGS Organ Scholarship was awarded to Nicholas Edwards. Nicholas signed the Scholars' Register in the Chained Library to mark this occasion with the Headmaster as witness.



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.



George Wedlake
GCSE



Ben and James Barnwell, Aran Macfarlane
A Level



James Whipman
A Level



Nicholas Hall
AS Level



Hans Hu
A Level

The annual Smoothey Art Competition produced a wide range of submissions 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 provided the inspiration for students to express themselves with imagination and no little technical skill and with no theme or media restriction. Among the entries shortlisted for the prize were a lively landscape with boats, wire “beasties”, evocative photographs, birds in watercolour, model food, origami, a mosaic image, a pointillist landscape, some printmaking and – the winning entry – an astonishingly assured and complex Super Mario World Hama Bead animation which was imaginative, carefully crafted and remained truly loyal to the spirit of flair and enterprise of Ronald Smoothey.



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



JUST ANOTHER YEAR



GOVERNORS & STAFF

Board of Governors

Chairman of Governors	S K Creedy, MA	
Vice-Chairman	C Critchlow, LLB, DL	
C D Barnett, MA	S G S Gimson, MSc (Def Tech)	C T Shorter, CEng, MIStructE, FConsE, FFB
C Cobley, MCIPD	J Jordan, BA	J A Smith, CEng, FCIBSE
R L Cotton, MA, DipTh	L S K Linton, MA, MB ChB, MRCP	H Styche-Patel, BSc, MBA
D Counsell, FCA *	The Mayor of Guildford	N E J Vineall, QC, MA *
B Creese, BA, MA	H J Pearson, OBE, MA, PhD, CMath, FIMA	R Weir, MA
The Earl of Onslow	P G Peel, FCA	
J D Fairley, BA	S Price, MSc, PhD, FBTS, ERT, FHEA	

School Management Team

Headmaster:	J M Cox, BSc, PhD	Southampton	Biology	2007
Deputy Head (School Development):	G T Williams, MA	Lincoln, Oxford	History	2008
Deputy Head (Pupils):	A U Woodman, BSc, MA	Edinburgh, Kings College University of London	Biology	2004
Director of Studies:	P J Dunscombe, BSc	Sheffield	Mathematics, <i>Careers and Higher Education</i>	2003
Senior Master:	J W Pressley, MA	St Hugh's, Oxford	Classics	2000
Chief Operating Officer:	R A Ukiah, MA			
Bursar and Clerk to the Governors:	K M Perceval, BA, ACA			
Assistant Head (Learning):	N S Goul-Wheeker, MA	St John's, Oxford	Classics	2010
Assistant Head (Partnerships):	T W Shimell, MChem	University College, Oxford	Chemistry	2007
Assistant Head (Teaching):	H R Wiggins, MA	Trinity, Oxford	<i>History</i>	2013
Assistant Head (Operations):	N E Wild, BA	St John's, Durham	Religion and Philosophy	2000
Assistant Head (Co-Curricular):	S J H Yetman, BSc	University College, London		2001

Academic Staff

D Amis, BA	Univeristy of Wales, Cardiff College	English	2016
S W Armstrong, MA	Lincoln, Oxford	Chemistry	2008
S J Baker, BA	Wadham, Oxford	Modern Languages	2009
A H S Barras, BA, MA, PhD	Royal Holloway College, University of London	English	2006
J A R Bass, BA, MA	Leeds; King's College London	History	2016
E T Batchelar, MChem, DPhil	Jesus, Oxford	Chemistry	2010
S E Besly-Quick, BA	Magdalen, Oxford	Classics, <i>Lower Sixth Form</i>	2014
S G Black, MMath	Keble, Oxford	<i>Mathematics</i>	2005
S K H Blair, BSc, MSc	Cardiff	<i>Economics, Fifth Form</i>	2010
J L Bodmer, BSc, PhD, MBA	Birmingham; Brunel; Henley	<i>Chemistry, Examinations</i>	2000
M C Booth, BEd	Exeter	Mathematics, Admissions	1978

C S Bradford, MPhys	St John's Durham	Physics, <i>Scholars</i>	2013
J S Braithwaite, BSc, PhD	Imperial College, London; The Royal Institution of Great Britain	Chemistry	2011
P A Brooks, MBA	Brunel	Economics	2012
M A Burbidge, BSc, BA	Birmingham; Open	Physics	1998
M P Burgin, BA	St Edmund Hall, Oxford	Religion and Philosophy	2016
E K D Bush, MA	Exeter College, Oxford	<i>Classics</i>	2006
J A Casale, BSc, MBA	Bristol; City	Mathematics, <i>Housemaster</i>	1997
D H Chambers, BMus, PCASS	Surrey; Royal Coll. Music	Music	1997
C J Clarkson, BA	Open	English	2016
G M Clements, BA	Emmanuel, Cambridge	Geography	2016
S Cooper, BA	St Anne's, Oxford	Classics	2012
G D G Cover, BSc	Brunel	Physical Education, <i>First Form</i>	2015
W D Cowx, BSc, MSc	Aberystwyth; Salford	Geography, <i>Housemaster</i>	1984
A M J Curtis, MA	St Edmund Hall, Oxford	<i>Art</i>	1993
H M Curtis, BA	Reading	English	2003
M M Creagh, BA, MSc, PhD	Exeter; Nottingham; Exeter	Modern Languages	2016
A C Dodd, BA, MA *	King's College, London	History, <i>Housemaster</i>	2006
A H Dubois, BSc	Aberdeen	Biology, <i>Housemaster</i>	1994
B Dudley, BSc	Chichester	Physical Education	2016
C George, BSc	Bristol	Mathematics	2013
N W Gough, BSc, MSc	Cardiff	Economics, <i>Upper Sixth Form</i>	2008
L R Griffiths, BA	King's College, London; Wesley College, Bristol	Religion and Philosophy, <i>Business Enterprise</i>	2014
A R Gyford, MSci	University College, London	Mathematics	2015
V L Henshaw, BA, PhD	Birmingham	History	2016
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	<i>Physics</i> , Mathematics	2010
P J Hosier, BA, MEd	University College, London	Modern Languages	1980
D M Hoyle, BEng	Hertfordshire	Technology, <i>Outdoor Pursuit</i>	2005
E J Hudson, MA, MSc, PhD	King's, Cambridge; Imperial College, London	<i>Biology</i>	2011
M R Jenkins, BSc	University College of Swansea	Mathematics, <i>Senior Housemaster</i>	1985
M J Jennings, BA	Warwick	Mathematics	1989
A W J Jessett, MMath	Bath	Mathematics	2016
J B Kelly, BA, MA, MA (RCA)	University of Wales; Royal College of Art; Kingston	<i>Technology</i>	1999
M N Kennedy, BA, DipSEN	University of London	<i>Learning Support</i>	2011
A B Kirkland, BSc	King's College, London	Mathematics	2016
K J Knight, BSc, MSc	Portsmouth	Technology	2008
W-S Lau, MChem, MRSC	Hertford, Oxford	<i>Chemistry</i>	2006
P M Leamon, BA	Southampton	English, <i>Third Form</i>	2011
R J A Lemaire, BA	Leicester	Modern Languages	2016
A R Lowe, BA	Leeds	Modern Languages, <i>Spanish</i>	2005
J Marchiafava, Lic.	Toulouse 2	Modern Languages	2013
M-L McCarter, Lic., MA	Tours	Modern Languages, <i>German</i>	2013
N C McClean, BA, MA	Goldsmiths'; Birmingham	<i>Drama</i>	2011

R B Meadowcroft, BA, MA	St Chad's, Durham	<i>Religion and Philosophy, PSHME</i>	1995
C R Mullan, BSc	Stellenbosch	Physical Education, <i>Hockey</i>	2016
P G Nathan, BA, LIB	Durham; College of Law	Classics, Politics	1998
J E Newman, AGSM, CRD	Guildhall School of Music & Drama	Music	2008
E J Newton, BA, MA	Selwyn, Cambridge; IOE, University of London	English	2014
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	<i>Politics</i>	2012
A A Page, BA, MSci, PhD	Queens', Cambridge; Leicester	Mathematics	2015
D Patel, BSc, PhD	Surrey; Reading	Physics, <i>Explorer Scouts</i>	2007
S J Perrett, BA	Open	Mathematics	2003
N C Pinhey, BSc	Birmingham	Mathematics	2008
H A L Prentice, BA *	Durham	Classics	2016
K E Price, BA, MA (RCA)	Middlesex; Royal College of Art	Art and Technology	2012
A F E Quenault, BA, MA, MA	Durham; London; Open	<i>English</i>	2008
R J Rathmell, BA	Exeter	Modern Languages, <i>Volunteering Co-ordinator</i>	2012
J J Richards, BSc *	Durham	Biology	2016
P J Robinson, BSc	Leicester	Mathematics	2016
T P Rogers, BSc	Loughborough	Physical Education, <i>Rugby, Fourth Form</i>	2010
T A J Rothwell, MA *	Homerton, Cambridge	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, Second Form</i>	2014
R F Shepherd, BA	Chelsea College of Art & Design	Art	2015
L Simpson, BA	Reading	English	2009
A J Skitt, BSc	Manchester	Biology	2015
C E Smith, BA	University of London	Modern Languages	2005
G E Spencer, BA	Nottingham	Modern Languages	2016
H K Suenson-Taylor, BA	King's College, London	Religion and Philosophy, <i>Housemaster</i>	2011
K P Tavar, BA *	Nottingham	Religion and Philosophy	2015
E R Thackrey, BMus, MMus, PhD	Sheffield; University of London	Music	2016
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
J S R Thorpe, BSc	University of Wales, Cardiff	Biology	2016
A V E Tournier, Lic.	Lyon	<i>Modern Languages, French</i>	2009
K Walker, BSc	Exeter	Biology, <i>General Studies</i>	2013
R G Waters, MA	Robinson, Cambridge	<i>Geography</i>	2012
L A Whall, BA, PhD	St John's, Cambridge; Basel	Chemistry	2014
P H White, MA	New College, Oxford	<i>Director of Music</i>	1984
D Whitehead, Btech, Rsci	Bradford	Physics, <i>Admissions</i>	1998
J P Whittaker, MA	Wadham, Oxford	English	1994

I Wilkes, BEd	College of St Mark & St John	<i>Director of Sport</i>	1998
N Wilson, BA	Open	Modern Languages	2014
F M Wimblett, BSc	Royal Holloway College, University of London	Mathematics	2015
J M Wisson, BSc, MPhil, DPhil	LSE; St Anne's, Oxford	Economics	2016
J C Witts, BSc	Southampton	Geography	2009
D J Woolcott, BA	Reading	Classics	1984
D S J Wright, BA	Nottingham	<i>Economics</i>	2012

Support Staff

Direct Support Staff

E Bahari	Lunchtime Playground Supervisor
G E Barratt	Examinations and Database Support
T F Farthing	Librarian
R Fulke-Greville	Lunchtime Supervisor
G R Furlong	Sports Professional
L H Gordon	Cover Supervisor
N L Knight	School Nurse
E Latham	Chemistry Technician
D Morgan	School Counsellor
S J Styles	Physics Technician
S R Townsend-Smith	Chemistry Technician
S Taylor	Technology Technician
D Walsh	Library Assistant
H Way	Biology Technician
P A Wells	SSI (CCF) and Health and Safety Advisor
T Whatley	Playground Supervisor & Administrator

Expedition Assistance

S Blount	Expeditions and Activities
R Payne	Expeditions and Activities
C Sayell	Expeditions and Activities

Language Assistants

E Crespo	French Language Assistant
M Spence	German Language Assistant
A Esteve Recatalà	Spanish Language Assistant

Administration

M P A Buylla	Headmaster's PA
L V Robbins	School Office Secretary
M Stylianou	School Office Reception
O L A B Timberlake	Careers and Community Partnership Administrator
J K Ward	Senior School Secretary

Admissions and Marketing

P J P Griffith	Design and Communications Manager
K L Sweet	Admissions Registrar

Bursary and Accounts

J A Brickell	Bursary Secretary
J Isaacs	HR Manager
A Mortimer	Accounts Assistant and Period 8 Assistant
J O'Grady	Accounts Officer
C A Page	School Accountant
M Scott	Accounts Assistant
C M Stevenson	Accounts Assistant

Development and Alumni Relations Office

G M Grant Haworth	Development Director
P M Green	Alumni Relations Officer
H Mack	Communications Officer
J R Rothwell	Development Executive and Governors' Secretary

Estates

R B King	Grounds Manager
W Knox	Assistant Groundsman
P Lyons	Deputy Estates Manager
A K K Poon	School Warden
M S Robbins	General Assistant
A Roberts	Estates Manager
J Roberts	General Assistant
M J Scanlon*	General Assistant
J M Tyrrell	Senior Groundsman
S Williamson	Assistant Groundsman
C R Woodyer	Maintenance Assistant

Information and Communications Technology

A Budhathoki	ICT Network Engineer
P T Crawford	ICT and AV Technician
G Elliott-Davies*	Data Manager
R James	IT Support Engineer
J K Rivers	Director of IT

AT THE RGS



MAJOR SPORTS



The philosophy of Sport for All was very much in evidence throughout the year as over 20 teams regularly played competitive fixtures against other schools on a Saturday. For the first time, Super Tuesday saw a whole year group playing simultaneously against Portsmouth Grammar School in hockey matches.

The culture of mutual support, respect & encouragement

Boys of all ages and abilities enjoyed the opportunity to represent the RGS as the School fielded 21 teams on a number of weekends, including on one occasion the RGS's first ever Under 15E fixture. The 1st XV, led admirably by Joseph Flanagan and Harry Kettle, produced a number of good performances, notably in a 45 – 3 victory against Eltham College and a 27 – 12 win against Judd School. The Under 15C team remained unbeaten throughout the season with a series of fantastic performances, while the Under 13A team won, for the third consecutive year, the Highfield 10's Tournament. Tom Rogers, Head of Rugby, noted: "In what is an increasingly competitive circuit against some of the strongest rugby-playing schools in the country, the pride that boys take in their performance is remarkable. The culture of mutual support, respect and encouragement, right from our very youngest teams, is inspiring and I am genuinely grateful to all the boys – and their coaches – who have contributed to such a successful season. I would also like to thank all the parents for their phenomenal support throughout the season, the presence of so many supporters on the touch-line made each game feel like a true team effort."



MAJOR SPORTS

THE ENJOYMENT, THE ENERGY & THE COMMITMENT OF EVERY SINGLE BOY



This season saw record numbers of RGS boys pulling on the shirt to represent the School in competitive fixtures. From the Under 12s – a number of whom had never played competitive hockey before – all the way through to the elite players representing their county or country or playing at National League level, RGS hockey flourished. Particular highlights included 17 victories and one draw out of 18 fixtures against King's College School, Wimbledon with 43 goals scored and only four conceded. In addition, the 1st XI recorded a 7 – 2 victory over Hurstpierpoint College in the National Cup while the Under 14s qualified for the quarter finals as top of their regional pool. On an individual level, Edward Way was selected for the England Under 18s and also the Great Britain Development Squad, while Joshua Powell was invited to attend the England National Age Group Academy at Under 17 level. Cameron Morgan and Benji Thomas both made

their National League debuts for Guildford Hockey Club. Matt Baggs, Head of Hockey, commented: "The RGS is fortunate enough to have some individual boys who play to an extraordinary standard technically and tactically; however, for me the lasting impression of this term has been the enjoyment, the energy and the commitment of every single boy who has represented the School."



THE EXUBERANCE AND ENERGY OF THE TEAMS

With a highly competitive fixture list, boys had the chance to challenge themselves against the best schoolboy cricketers in London and the south east. Particular highlights included the 1st XI captain, Alexander Sweet, rounding off – after four years in the 1st XI – a sparkling RGS cricket career with a succession of impressive innings with both bat and ball including a century against Hampton School and then 104 against KCS Wimbledon as well as taking 5-27 in the same match. In addition, Alastair Curran scored his maiden century of 124* for 1st XI against Trinity School. With the

ball, there were match-winning performances by Jake Sloggett who took 6 – 23 for the Under 14A team against Hurstpierpoint College, Barnaby Dunnett with 5 – 4 for the Under 13Bs against Eltham School and Eric Robert's 5 – 33 for the Under 15Bs against Reed's School. Chris Sandbach, Head of Cricket, commented: "It has been extremely satisfying to observe the exuberance and energy of the teams as they have worked upon, and put into practice, the more technical and tactical areas of the game. I would like to thank all the boys and staff for playing this wonderful sport in the right spirit all term."



INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS

The extraordinary range of sports available to boys at the RGS - and the specialist coaching on offer - allows them to find their passions and pursue their interests to the level which suits each individual. The impressive number of national and international successes highlights the fact that our boys effectively balance the demands of curricular and extra-curricular pursuits.

Badminton: Christopher Chong won gold in the England Essex Open Under 14 Boys Singles.

Chess: Amardip Ahluwalia, James Golding, and his brother Alexander, have all represented England. Amardip was crowned Under 13 British champion.

Cross-Country: In the Junior Knote Run at Sevenoaks, the individual winner was Sam Martin; he then came eighth out of 420 runners at the English National Championships.

Fencing: Leo Kamstra won a bronze medal in the Tournoi International d'épée, held in Luxembourg. Leo is the first RGS boy to win a medal in an international fencing competition.

Football: Highlights of a successful season for football included a 7 - 2 victory for the 1st XI over Caterham School in the Trinity Cup quarter final, as well as 9 - 2 and 7 - 1 wins against Lord Wandsworth College and Reigate Grammar School respectively.

Ice-Hockey: William Lawson has been selected for the England Ice Hockey Under 14 Squad.

Judo: Oliver Platt was selected to compete in the England Judo team, competing against the other home nations and a team from Brazil.

Mountain Biking: Charles Griffith won another southern region enduro mountain bike competition to lead the series.

Sailing: Benjamin Mueller was selected to represent the GBR optimist team at the Magic Marine Regatta in Holland. The RGS won the Papercourt Regatta: Nicholas Forbes and Henry Woodfine won three of their four races in the Fast Handicap class and Benjamin Mueller came first overall in the Slow Handicap and Oppy class.

Shooting: The RGS team managed to achieve a feat which has only been achieved once before in the School's history by winning both the Combined Cadet Force school small-bore competitions: the Staniforth and Country Life trophies in the same year.

Skiing: Charlie Aldridge-Bate and Toby Fitzsimmons are currently members of the English Schools Ski Squad.

Swimming: At the Surrey County Swimming Championships, Max Windle won gold in seven races, including a long-standing south-east regional record for the 100 metre breaststroke. In the South-East Regional Championships he won an astonishing three gold, four silver and one bronze medal.

Weight-Lifting: Christopher Murray participated in the Under 20 British Weightlifting Championships, winning his weight category and breaking five British records in the process. Christopher then lifted in the 62kg category at the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa and won bronze.



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.

Holland

After a depressing European Championships by England, RGS football travelled to Holland looking to set the record straight. A jam-packed trip included three training sessions from the Ajax coaches, exceptional access to Ajax's de Toekomst academy, sightings of legends such as Bergkamp, Van der Sar and Overmars, stadium tours, cultural activities and six fixtures against Dutch opposition with amazing facilities. With five victories in six matches, this was a first-class experience and a great opportunity to experience the life of a professional.



Switzerland

The RGS summer Scout camp was based at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre: the home of the permanent mini-jamboree, with up to 1,500 Scouts from all over the world there at any one time. Highlights included taking the cogwheel railway up Jungfrau, hiking down the Eiger trail, an overnight stay in a mountain hut, zooming down the mountains above Adelboden on Trotti bikes, white-water rafting along the Simme River, and a BBQ with a fully international flavour!



Barcelona

The Spanish trip immersed the boys fully in every aspect of Spanish life and culture. As well as practising Spanish in a number of different and fun ways, the boys visited the Dalí Museum in Figueras, toured Barcelona including the castle of Montjuïc, Las Ramblas and Camp Nou, and sampled tapas comprising squid dumplings, bacalao and patatas bravas. The trip finished with the boys braving Port Aventura theme park where there were amazing rides, such as the Shambhala and Dragon Khan and even a 100m vertical drop!



Berlin

In its second year running, the History Department trip to Berlin tripled in size and engaged with what is something of an established historical itinerary. During a moving and thought-provoking week boys visited Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, a former Stasi prison and the mansion at Lake Wannsee where the 'final solution' was agreed. Balance was provided with lighter visits to the Berlin Olympic Stadium, a fascinating recreation of life in East Germany and numerous currywurst outlets.



Bavaria

The Combined Cadet Force ran a thrilling and challenging expedition to the Stubai Alps in Austria. The senior cadets successfully completed the first half of the Stubai High Route before climbing Daunkogel (3,300m) and practising their work with crampons and negotiating crevasses on a glacial crossing. The August weather was variable with all conditions from sunny and hot through to the challenge of 50cm of snow falling while at one of the overnight huts located at 2,800m.



Sicily

The memorable combination of climate, culture, cuisine and countryside ensured the Classics trip to Sicily proved to be a great success. A tour of the stunning island included visits to Palermo, Monreale, Segesta and Solunto. The seaside town of Giardini Naxos provided the base for the final few days as the boys visited the Roman Villa del Casale including mosaics of bikini-clad female athletes, the archaeological park at Syracuse, the theatre at Taormina and finally a trek above the snow line on Mount Etna.



Croatia

The RGS Big Band joined forces with the Guildford High School Band for a concert tour to the Istrian peninsula in the north of Croatia. With amazing venues, fabulous weather and a great hotel right on the beach this was a fantastic trip which the boys will undoubtedly remember for years to come. There was a busy concert schedule with performances in front of appreciative audiences in Porec, Krt, Rovinj and perhaps most memorably in front of the Roman Forum in Pula.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

The exceptional range of extra-curricular activities is one of the greatest strengths of the School. Such activities are central in developing the character of the boys and in nurturing teamwork, leadership, independence and resilience.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM: *past and present.*



Raft-building on scout camp in 1969



The photography club in 1950

“Over 70 school clubs and societies take place regularly from air rifle to architecture, from canoeing to electronics, from to photography to robotics.”

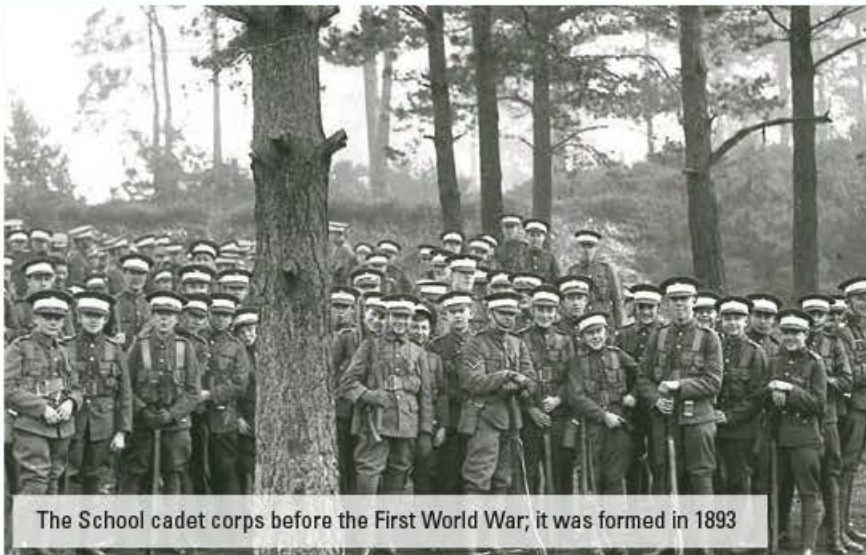


Boys sew clothes for puppets in 1959



The Duchess of Gloucester inspects the cadets in 1953

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



The School cadet corps before the First World War; it was formed in 1893



Boys prepare for climbing as part of their EXAD programme

“44 Bronze, 20 Silver and 19 Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Awards have been received by RGS boys in the last twelve months.”



The contingent stands to attention during the biennial inspection

“5 Field Days occur each year when the normal timetable is suspended and every single boy and member of staff is involved in extra-curricular pursuits.”



Boys strike a pose on a surfing weekend in Cornwall



Sian Williams presents a celebration plaque to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme



A diverse range of opportunities are on offer at the Societies’ Fair

“Every Monday afternoon, the extra-curricular life of the School takes precedence during Period 8 activities.”

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.

Nominated Charities

Over £6,300 was raised during the academic year which was distributed equally between our nominated local, national and international school charities:

Christopher's Smile: "our vision is for every child diagnosed with childhood cancer to not only survive, but to reach adulthood enjoying a good quality of life";

Prostate Cancer UK: "we fight to help more men survive prostate cancer and enjoy a better quality of life";

United World Schools: "educational opportunity for children living in the world's poorest regions".



Volunteering Fair

The annual Volunteering Fair saw a number of charities and volunteering groups visiting the School as boys took the opportunity to immerse themselves in very worthwhile community – both local and further afield – initiatives. Representatives were on hand to talk about everything from children's hospices to conservation, from animal rescue to the affordable bike project. In addition, throughout the year, a number of weekends were spent on conservation work in the Surrey countryside by groups of boys and staff.

Christmas Fair

Christmas came early to the RGS as the School enjoyed a festive make-over for the Christmas Fair. A vast number of 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.



Mufti Day

Energy and enjoyment epitomised this year's Mufti Day as the whole school united to raise significant sums of money for the School's nominated charities. After the slick and hilarious assembly from the Upper Sixth Form, a day of charitable activities ensued. As well as being a mufti day, the ample availability of doughnuts ensured that fundraising was far from a painful, stressful experience!





Fashion Show

Glitz and glamour were in abundance at the annual GHS and RGS Fashion Show. This year's theme was Fairy Tales which took the audience on a trip down memory lane and a journey through their most treasured childhood stories while the latest trends seen in fashion industry were elegantly modelled on the catwalk of Guildford. From Aladdin to Pinocchio, from Snow White to Little Red Riding Hood, the boys looked comfortably and surprisingly at ease as they modelled an array of clothing. The evening finished with prom dresses and dinner jackets being fashioned in the Cinderella Walk. The event raised significant sums of money for the Alice Ramsay Trust, a charity established in memory of a former GHS Head Girl who tragically died of a brain tumour.



Bake Off

With the Rio-inspired theme, cakes reflected colourfully the geography, culture and flavours of Brazil as well as the forthcoming Olympics. For the first time the competition was opened up to students as well as staff. The standard across the board was extraordinary as the Classics Department double-double-barrelled double act of Sarah Besly-Quick and Natacha Goul-Wheeler took first place with a Copacabana Caipirinha cake: a white rum, mint and lime-infused Genoese sponge. Other highlights included a highly decorated blueberry swimming pool and an impressive flip flop cake. In the student competition, first prize was awarded to Alejandro Scholfield Perez who impressed judges with the taste, presentation and wow factor of his football-inspired cake.



Initiatives

The boys continued to be original and imaginative in their charity initiatives. A coloured pencil collection – with over 90 sets donated – and shoebox appeal benefited a refugee camp in Dunkirk. Sponge the teacher opportunities continued to prove remarkably popular, among boys perhaps more than the staff! The most alarming event, however, which raised more than a few eyebrows in the streets of Guildford was the crazy tie competition, where a quite extraordinary array of ties emerged from households and fathers' wardrobes throughout Surrey.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In an increasingly global context to the boys' education, the RGS has forged meaningful links with organisations nationally and internationally. These partnerships with schools in Cambodia and Nepal, as well as our school in Qatar, serve to provide a global dimension and perspective.



The RGS continued to maintain close links with our partnership schools in Nepal as Ash Shakeri, Nick Gough and Tim Rothwell spent time in Janabikas government school in Chandidanda and in Bhu Pu school in Besisahar. The RGS staff were overwhelmed by the warmth of the welcome received and were physically overwhelmed by the volume of flowers offered by students and staff in the traditional Nepali welcome: flowers which had been collected individually by the students themselves during the dry season when flowers are scarce. As well as observations and various visits, the highlight of the whole trip was the Saturday, where, on their only day off of

the week, 63 teachers from 10 different schools in Besisahar climbed up to Janabikas to have a day's training from the three RGS staff. The training session – including the use of lessons filmed at the RGS which delivered technology-free teaching that was easily transferable to Nepali schools – covered the basics of planning, teaching, assessment and behaviour management and was translated into Nepali by teachers from our partner schools. The feedback was universally positive and provided inspiration for further initiatives in the future.

THE FINAL WORD

Previous school:

Yateley Manor

Three-word description:

Can't count to three

Pet hate:

Stepping on wet floors in socks

Couldn't survive without:

Phone

Sporting highlight:

Getting seven wickets in a cricket match against Tiffin School

Other proudest moment:

Winning a Spanish tongue twister competition

Most enjoyable aspect of being School Captain:

Having my name on the board of School Captains

Most embarrassing moment at RGS:

Forgetting to open the door for the Headmaster, Dr Cox, at the beginning of assembly

Favourite meal at RGS:

Burritos

First thing I'd do if I was Headmaster for the day:

Install at least one air conditioning unit in every classroom

One thing that makes you proud of the RGS:

The community spirit of the boys and their willingness to help and respect each other while getting on well

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

Leonardo DiCaprio, due to the striking resemblance

Final nugget of wisdom:

Never take yourself seriously

Duncan Ashworth

School Captain



