

# WORCESTERIAN

2015 | 2016

# RCGS

Pupils are well educated in accordance with the school's aim of developing character, fitness, physical well-being and aesthetic sense within a scholarly community.

Worcesterian Head



CHERISHING THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

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The editorial team wish to extend their thanks to all those who helped make this magazine possible.

DESIGN  
PFD Limited  
01905 759812





In the space of a few days towards the end of the Trinity Term 2016, RGS Worcester became National Champions in Rounders, won an Award at a major Design Technology World Championships (The Land Rover Challenge), held a world premiere of a piece of music written by a nationally renowned composer, hosted an International cricket match, and won a Chamber of Commerce Award for the second year running. Such a string of successes in a very short space of time gives a snapshot of the range of events and activities as well as the high level that we are striving for at RGS Worcester.

From academic achievements to drama productions and concerts, and from sporting events to debating, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and CCF, this magazine proves the breadth of an RGS education. Above all, I hope The Worcesterian reveals the enjoyment of our pupils of all ages as they participate in events and activities that provide an education for life.

The academic year saw many changes at RGS with a significant expansion of our Careers provision, even greater engagement with the community in Outreach projects and development of the Sixth Form Team. There were new events such as the Concert to commemorate the Battle of the Somme which saw Perrins Hall decked out in magnificent poppies organised by the Art department. Work on the buildings and grounds was completed and is bringing out the magnificence and history of our site and Flagge Meadow became the reserve ground for Worcestershire County Cricket Club. New Alumni events included an Armed Services Dinner, the first for a number of years, and our first reunion events held in London.

At the end of the academic year, we marked the departure of a number of highly experienced staff whose expertise will be sorely missed. The Worcesterian records their commitment to RGS Worcester over many years and, on behalf of the hundreds of pupils who have benefited from their teaching, guidance and support, I would like to thank them.

I hope that you enjoy reading The Worcesterian 2015-2016 and that it provides a fitting tribute to a very successful year. Our challenge is to continue to build upon such strong foundations in providing the very best independent education for our pupils at RGS Worcester.



**John Pitt**  
Headmaster

## WORCESTERIAN INTRODUCTION (2015-16)



The task of  
The Worcesterian is to  
celebrate all that goes on  
across the academic year  
and the 2015 - 2016  
edition does this in style



# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS & SENIOR SCHOOL PRIZES



## YEAR PRIZES

### YEAR NINE PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Isaac Baker	Elizabeth Fearon	Alexander Peake	Emily Caldwell	Ella Gray
Brandon Sarfo	Samuel Chamberlain	Lily Jenkins	Amelia Shaw	Aodren Clemit
Jemma Moseley	Edward Smith	Lydia Faizey	Alexander Owen	Sophie Thompson

### YEAR NINE PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC PROGRESS

James Aikman	Ellie Jones	Eleanor Reed	Tazmin Barnes	Eleanor Ledger
Angus Rees	Thomas Bonham	Emma Little	Isabel Roberts	George Caldwell
Anna Pickerell	Adam Smith	Nicholas Fearon	Oliver Punton	Benjamin Walker

### YEAR TEN PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

James Allison	Felix Haynes	Fraser Sparks	Samuel Churchill	Patrick Lawton
Imogen Still	Gemma Collins	Beth Rabjohn	Joshua Warner	Joseph Corlett
Amy Rogers	Amber Warner-Warr	John Dennis	Imogen Sinclair	

### YEAR TEN PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC PROGRESS

George Beardmore	Seth Lewis	James Phillips	Thomas Berry	Helena Morgan
Harriet Rimell	Charles Devereux	Elle Mortimer	Will Saunders	Robert Hallam
Amy Murphy	Antonia Wittkop			

### YEAR ELEVEN PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Francine Bath	Francesca Crawley	Edward Platts	Alec Berry	Benjamin Elgar
Ruby Potts	Eve Boyle	Emma Hill	Samuel Punton	Tabitha Bradley
Catherine Horsburgh	Nicola Ralph	Alice Caldwell	Wilfred Jenkins	William Reading
Eleanor Carey	Edward Lawson	Darcy Simon	Angelina Cham	Heloise Messervy-Whiting
Mia Suma	Holly Chance	Anand Patel	James Thomas	Nadiath Choudhury

### LOWER SIXTH PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Elizabeth Adcock	Harry Gemmill	Benjamin Nichols	James Allen	Kevin John
Thomas Peake	William Allison	Hannah Keene	Callan Price	Richard Burman
William Lee-Anglin	Haocheng Qian	Xiaotian Cao	Rhys Leonard	Lauren Rogers
Anya Critchley	Alice Little	Iwan Thomas	Jacob Dodd	Yiyun Lu
Benjamin Thomson	Lydia Edwards	Ella McCoshan	Jayden Watson	Yeping Ge
Eloise Morgan	Jacob Withington			

## SCHOOL PRIZES

NAMED PRIZES AND CUPS CELEBRATE THE CONTRIBUTION MADE TO THE SCHOOL BY THE NAMED PERSON. THE PERSON AND THE DATES OF ATTACHMENT TO THE SCHOOL ARE GIVEN WHEN KNOWN.

### COMBINED CADET FORCE AWARDS

THE HARVEY CUP FOR THE SENIOR ARMY CADET

IN MEMORY OF LT HENRY BURNETT HARVEY, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1908-1911) - KILLED 1918  
**Kieran Garrattley**

THE WITCOMBE RAF TROPHY

TIMOTHY JOHN WITCOMBE, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1979-1986)

AND PHILIP RUSSELL WITCOMBE, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1981-1988)

**Oliver Lord**

THE SEAMANSHIP CUP

CAPTAIN H M SPRECKLEY, CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS, RGS (1950-54)

**Joseph Dottore**

THE HEMMING CUP

CAPTAIN FRANCIS W HEMMING (1899-1906), KILLED IN THE 1914-18 WAR

**Lewis Hammond**

### ACTIVITIES AWARDS

THE GLYN PLANT PRIZE FOR ADVENTURE TRAINING

IN MEMORY OF MARTIN GLYN THEODORE PLANT, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1955-1963)

**Anna Dowty and Henry Durie**

THE EDYNBURY CUP FOR BEST MALE ACTOR  
FORMER PUPIL, MARK EDYNBURY, RGS (1981-1988)  
**Charles Day**

THE KIRSTY CUBBERLEY ROSEBOWL FOR BEST FEMALE ACTOR  
FORMER PUPIL, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL (1981-1987)  
**Olivia Cox**

THE WOODWIND CUP  
**Hannah Sutton**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR JAZZ  
**Tobias Messervy-Whiting**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR OVERALL CONTRIBUTION TO MUSIC  
**Tobias Messervy-Whiting and Sarah Draper**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR BRASS  
**Nicholas Humphries**

THE CATHERINE COWTON PRIZE FOR STRINGS  
FORMER PUPIL  
**Georgina Hamilton**

THE STEFAN PORTER PRIZE FOR MALE VOCAL SOLOIST  
FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1996-2006)  
**Evan Goss**

THE STEFAN PORTER PRIZE FOR FEMALE VOCAL SOLOIST  
FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1996-2006)  
**Sarah Draper**

### GAMES AWARDS

THE INDIVIDUAL SPORT PRIZES WERE AWARDED AT THE SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING.

THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' PRIZE FOR  
SPORTING EXCELLENCE  
**Danielle Lawson and Kieran Garrattley**

THE REYNOLDS CUP FOR TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR (MALE)  
FORMER PUPIL, DEREK REYNOLDS, RGS (1938 - 1945)  
**Joahua Nott**

THE REYNOLDS CUP FOR TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR (FEMALE)  
FORMER PUPIL, DEREK REYNOLDS, RGS (1938 - 1945)  
**Amelia Jones**

THE BELDING CUP FOR ALL ROUND SPORTSWOMAN  
FORMER PUPIL, PHILIPPA BELDING, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL (1974 - 1978)  
**Holly Chance**

### PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTION

THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' ARTS PRIZE  
**Amy Vickery**

THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' PRIZE FOR  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY  
**Hannah Sutton**

THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' PRIZE FOR  
CREATIVE WRITING  
**Freya Poel**

THE ERIC ORTON PRIZE FOR ACHIEVEMENT  
FORMER HEAD OF MODERN LANGUAGES, RGS (1947-1979)  
**Laura Curtis**

THE RGSPA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE  
**Charles Day**

THE SCHOOLTOGS AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE

**Evan Goss**

THE MAYOR'S PRIZE FOR ALL-ROUND CONTRIBUTION

**Lauren Broome**

THE SCHOOL AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE

**Tobias Messervy-Whiting**

THE RGSPA PRIZE FOR GENERAL MERIT OR ACHIEVEMENT

**Hollie Lunn**

THE W D WILLIAMS PRIZE FOR ALL-ROUND CONTRIBUTION

**Angus Thomas**

THE CHAIRMAN'S PRIZE

**Annabelle Elcock**

THE GORDON WALKER CUP FOR CHARITABLE WORKS  
FORMER GOVERNOR, RGS (1985-2012)

**Alex Myerson**

### UPPER SIXTH NAMED SUBJECT AWARDS

THE VICTORIA WRIGHT PRIZE FOR SCIENCE

FORMER PUPIL, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL (1994-2006) AND RGS (2006-2008)

**Thomas Elgar**

THE HILLARD PRIZE FOR PHYSICS

FREDERICK ARTHUR HILLARD, HEADMASTER, RGS (1899-1928)

**Adam Goldney**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR BIOLOGY

**Lois Beaumont**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY

**Wei Jiang**

THE PULLINGER PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS

HENRY ROBERT PULLINGER, HEADMASTER, RGS (1928-1950)

**Abigail Collins**

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS

**Wei Jiang**

THE EMILY JORDAN PRIZE FOR ECONOMICS

IN MEMORY OF EMILY JORDAN, FORMER PUPIL

THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL (1997-2004)

**Ella Wilson**

THE CARTER-DOWNS MEDICAL PRIZE

INCORPORATING THE NAMES OF DR G E DOWNS, RGS (1900-1905)

AND HEAD OF SCIENCE AND SECOND MASTER R J CARTER, RGS (1906-1942)

**Georgina Hamilton**

THE CLAINES PRIZE FOR APPLIED PHYSICS

IN MEMORY OF GORDON PACKMAN, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1939-1946)

**Abigail Collins**

THE BENJAMIN LEADER PRIZE FOR ART

FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1841-1845)

**Amy Vickery**

THE LEA & PERRINS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR BUSINESS STUDIES

**Natasha Bratton**

THE WILDE PRIZE FOR DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

MICHAEL GEORGE WILDE, CHIEF DESIGNER OF CONCORDE (1935-42)

**Joseph Young**

THE BREWER PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY

FORMER DEPUTY HEAD, QUENTIN BREWER, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL

**Eve Bberlin**



## THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR TEXTILES

**Edward Jones**

## THE STALLARD PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE

COL WILLIAM STALLARD, SIX MASTER &amp; CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS (1893-1916)

**Katherine Fellows**

## THE MARGARET MOORE PRIZE FOR CLASSICS

FORMER HEAD OF LATIN, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL

**Elizabeth Platts**

## THE MARGARET SPURLING PRIZE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

FORMER HEADMISTRESS, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL, (1912-1934)

**Eleanor Muckle**

## THE MISS CORMACK PRIZE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

FORMER HEAD OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL

**Samantha Wilson**

## THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Joshua Nott**

## THE MALCOLM YOUNG PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY

IN MEMORY OF JOHN MALCOLM JAMES YOUNG, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1949-1954)

**Edward Welch**

## THE JANET PEARSON AWARD FOR HISTORY

FORMER SENIOR MISTRESS AND HEAD OF HISTORY, THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL (1988-2006)

**Angus Thomas**

## THE J AND M BURTON HISTORY PRIZE

JAMES BURTON, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (2001-2007)

AND MARK BURTON, FORMER PUPIL, RGS (2007-2012)

**Laurence James**

## THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR POLITICS

**Oshani Fallows**

## THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR MUSIC

**Georgina Hamilton**

## UPPER SIXTH PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

## THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE

**Annabelle Elcock and Amelia Jones**

## THE THOMAS BLASSON PRIZE

LEGACY GIFT TO THE SCHOOL FROM A FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1922-1928)

**Adam Goldney and Thomas Elgar**

## THE CHARLES MYTTON SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE

LEGACY GIFT TO THE SCHOOL FROM A FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1922-1928)

**Abigail Collins and Edward Jones**

## THE STANLEY WILLIS PRIZE FOR THE PAST SCHOOL CAPTAIN

FORMER PUPIL, RGS (1914-1916), SIX MASTER, CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS, RGS (1954-1967)

**Nicholas Humphries**

## THE ALICE OTTLEY MILLENNIUM PRIZE FOR THE HEAD GIRL

**Laura Curtis**

## SPORTS PRIZES

## RUGBY AWARDS

THE YEAR SEVEN RUGBY CUP

**Ben Gaubert**

THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO RUGBY

**Ben Williams**

THE YEAR EIGHT RUGBY CUP

**Timothy Haggitt**

THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO RUGBY

**Ben Hallam**

THE YEAR NINE RUGBY CUP

**James Aikman**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO RUGBY

**Oliver Witcomb**

THE YEAR TEN RUGBY CUP

**Joe Neale**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO RUGBY

**Tom Berry**

THE YEAR ELEVEN RUGBY CUP

**George Mann**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO RUGBY

**Jacob Williams**

THE COX CUP FOR RUGBY

**William Hawkeswood**

THE TIMMINGTON RUGBY CUP

**Angus Thomas**

## HOCKEY AWARDS

THE SALLY-ANNE SMITH HOCKEY CUP

**Maddie Shaw**

THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO HOCKEY

**Amelia Lane**

THE YEAR EIGHT HOCKEY CUP

**Issy Nott**

THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO HOCKEY

**Lottie Atkinson**

THE YEAR NINE HOCKEY CUP

**Sophie Thompson**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO HOCKEY

**Evie Beardsley**

THE YEAR TEN HOCKEY CUP

**Imogen Sinclair**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO HOCKEY

**Lauren Beardsley**

THE YEAR ELEVEN HOCKEY CUP

**Nicola Ralph**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO HOCKEY

**Cerys Dolloway**

THE MACKICHAN HOCKEY CUP FOR GIRLS

**Lydia Edwards**

**CROSS COUNTRY AWARDS**

THE YEAR SEVEN GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY CUP

**Jodie Ruane**

THE YEAR EIGHT CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR GIRLS

**Lottie Atkinson**

THE YEAR EIGHT CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR BOYS

**Philip Darbyshire**

THE YEAR TEN CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR BOYS

**George Beardmore**

THE YEAR TEN CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR GIRLS

**Helena Morgan**

THE CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR GIRLS

**Nixie Turner**

THE CROSS-COUNTRY CUP FOR BOYS

**Lewis Sternkopf****NETBALL AWARDS**

THE ANNIE FITCH CUP FOR YEAR SEVEN NETBALL

**Madeleine McLeod**

THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO NETBALL

**Lucy Newton**

THE YEAR EIGHT NETBALL CUP

**Issy Nott**

THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO NETBALL

**Lizzie Rhoden**

THE YEAR NINE NETBALL CUP

**Hannah Middleton**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO NETBALL

**Jemma Moseley**

THE YEAR TEN NETBALL CUP

**Emma Brinkley**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO NETBALL

**Abigail Marsh**

THE YEAR ELEVEN NETBALL CUP

**Amy Beasley**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO NETBALL

**Holly Chance**

THE SARAH GARNHAM NETBALL SHIELD

**Hollie Lunn**

THE CURTIS NETBALL CUP

**Honor Jeavons****FOOTBALL AWARDS**

THE YEAR SEVEN FOOTBALL CUP

**Jack Hodgson**

THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO FOOTBALL

**Oliver Nixon**

THE YEAR EIGHT FOOTBALL CUP

**Darian Moore**



THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO FOOTBALL

**Guy Duffy**

THE YEAR NINE FOOTBALL CUP

**Sam Chamberlain**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO FOOTBALL

**Tom Godwin**

THE YEAR TEN FOOTBALL CUP

**Will Saunders**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO FOOTBALL

**Harvey Munro**

THE YEAR ELEVEN FOOTBALL CUP

**Padraig Wheeler**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO FOOTBALL

**Louis Dear**

THE MOUNTJOY CUP FOR FOOTBALL

**John-Jo Parkinson-Allsopp**

THE O'SULLIVAN CUP FOR FOOTBALL

**Edward Welch**

### ROWING AWARDS

THE YEAR NINE ROWING CUP FOR BOYS

**Ben Walker**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR BOYS

**Edward Smith**

THE YEAR NINE ROWING CUP FOR GIRLS

**Nellie Ledger**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR GIRLS

**Ellie Jones**

THE YEAR TEN ROWING CUP FOR BOYS

**Felix Haynes**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR BOYS

**Guy Milton**

THE YEAR TEN ROWING CUP FOR GIRLS

**Beatrice Price**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR GIRLS

**Harriet Holyhead**

THE YEAR ELEVEN ROWING CUP FOR BOYS

**Alec Berry**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR BOYS

**Matthew Hill**

THE YEAR ELEVEN ROWING CUP FOR GIRLS

**Francine Bath**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROWING FOR GIRLS

**Darcy Simon**

THE PULLINGER BOAT CLUB PRIZE FOR SCULLING

**Alex Thorburn**

THE TOM CRAWFORD-CLARK PRIZE FOR ROWING

**Ashley Nock**

## THE PACKMAN SHIELD MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION ROWING

**Ben Thomson**

## THE ROWING CUP

**Aysen Naylor**

## ROUNDERS AWARDS

## THE YEAR SEVEN ROUNDERS CUP

**Katy Marsh**

## THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROUNDERS

**Lucy Ball**

## THE YEAR EIGHT ROUNDERS CUP

**Issy Nott**

## THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO ROUNDERS

**Lizzie Rhoden**

## THE YEAR NINE ROUNDERS CUP

**Evie Beardsley**

## THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO ROUNDERS

**Alexandria Smith**

## THE YEAR TEN ROUNDERS CUP

**Imogen Sinclair**

## THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO ROUNDERS

**Eleanor Allsopp**

## THE SENIOR ROUNDERS CUP

**Lizzy Adcock**

## ATHLETICS AWARDS

## THE YEAR SEVEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR BOYS

**Jack Hodgson**

## THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR BOYS

**Scott Mortimer**

## THE YEAR SEVEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR GIRLS

**Jodie Ruane**

## THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR GIRLS

**Abi Timmington**

## THE YEAR EIGHT ATHLETICS CUP FOR BOYS

**Darian Moore**

## THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR BOYS

**Tim Haggitt**

## THE YEAR EIGHT ATHLETICS CUP FOR GIRLS

**Lottie Atkinson**

## THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR GIRLS

**Ella Waites**

## THE YEAR NINE ATHLETICS CUP FOR BOYS

**Sam Chamberlain**

## THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR BOYS

**James Aikman**

## THE YEAR NINE ATHLETICS CUP FOR GIRLS

**Beth Rutter**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR GIRLS

**Jemma Moseley**

THE YEAR TEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR BOYS

**James Dipple**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR BOYS

**Thomas Baker**

THE YEAR TEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR GIRLS

**Harriet Rimell**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR GIRLS

**Emma Brinkley**

THE YEAR ELEVEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR BOYS

**James Harris**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR BOYS

**Ben Hughes**

THE YEAR ELEVEN ATHLETICS CUP FOR GIRLS

**Ria Pedlingham**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO ATHLETICS FOR GIRLS

**Holly Chance**

THE COX CUP FOR TRACK FOR BOYS

**Kieran Garrattley**

THE BROWN CUP FOR FIELD EVENTS FOR BOYS

**Oliver Williams**

THE SCHOOL CUP FOR TRACK FOR GIRLS

**Nixie Turner**

THE SCHOOL CUP FOR FIELD EVENTS FOR GIRLS

**Amy Vickery**

### CRICKET AWARDS

THE YEAR SEVEN CRICKET CUP

**Jacob Morgan-Iqbal**

THE YEAR SEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**Joseph Hallowell**

THE YEAR EIGHT CRICKET CUP

**Ben Sutton**

THE YEAR EIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**Sam Ford**

THE YEAR NINE CRICKET CUP

**Niall Southwick**

THE YEAR NINE CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**James Mann**

THE YEAR TEN CRICKET CUP

**Benn Llewellyn**

THE YEAR TEN CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**Joe Corlett**

THE YEAR ELEVEN CRICKET CUP

**Will Reading**



THE YEAR ELEVEN CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**Ben Selby**

THE WOODCOCK CUP FOR BEST ALL-ROUNDER

**Suleyman Shah**

THE TASTER CUP FOR BOWLING

**Amar Jawanda**

THE GOODYEAR CUP FOR BATTING

**Rhodri Williams**

THE TIM CURTIS CUP (OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE)

**Amar Jawanda**

### TEAM CONTRIBUTION AWARDS

THE YEAR SEVEN TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR BOYS

**Jacob Morgan-Iqbal**

THE YEAR SEVEN TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR GIRLS

**Grace Rhoden**

THE YEAR EIGHT TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR BOYS

**Jude Rees**

THE YEAR EIGHT TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR GIRLS

**Emily Seymour-Perry**

THE YEAR NINE TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR BOYS

**Thomas Godwin**

THE YEAR NINE TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR GIRLS

**Sophie Thompson**

THE YEAR TEN TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR BOYS

**Harvey Munro**

THE YEAR TEN TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR GIRLS

**Imogen Sinclair**

THE YEAR ELEVEN TEAM CONTRIBUTION PRIZE FOR BOYS

**Ben Hughes**

THE YEAR ELEVEN BELDING CUP FOR ALL ROUND SPORTSWOMAN

**Holly Chance**

JANET GREENE AWARD FOR BEST CONTRIBUTION TO SPORT FOR BOYS

**Sam Hughes**

JANET GREENE AWARD FOR BEST CONTRIBUTION TO SPORT FOR GIRLS

**Francesca Morgan**

THE GREENWAY CUP FOR ALL ROUND SPORTSMAN

**Amar Jawanda**

THE WOOTTEN CUP FOR ALL ROUND SPORTSWOMAN

**Laura Curtis**

THE REYNOLDS CUP FOR TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR FEMALE

**Millie Jones**

THE REYNOLDS CUP FOR TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR MALE

**Josh Nott**

**THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' PRIZE FOR SPORTING EXCELLENCE****THE AOOE'S PRIZE FOR SPORTING EXCELLENCE FOR GIRLS****Danielle Lawson**

PUBLIC SCHOOLS SENIOR WOMEN'S EPEE CHAMPION

**Ranked second in GB at U20****THE AOOE'S PRIZE FOR SPORTING EXCELLENCE FOR BOYS****Kieran Garrattley**

ENGLAND QUALIFYING STANDARD U20 AT 60M

**Bronze medal National Relay Championships****SENIOR SPORTS COLOURS****RUGBY****GOLD - Josh Nott (reaward)****SILVER - William Hawkeswood, Angus Thomas, Jack Richards, Sam D'Arcy, Oliver Paley-Battersea, Nathaniel Nott****FOOTBALL****John-Jo Parkinson Allsopp, Tom Beardmore, Edward Welch, Charles Day, Nicholas Humphries, Jonathan Morris  
Oliver Saunders. Suleyman Shah, Oliver Sinclair, Robbie Watts****CRICKET****Robbie Watts, Thomas Elgar, Oliver Saunders, Robert Wilson, James Ridge, Josh Nott, George Cook, Matthew Niel****HOCKEY****Lydia Edwards, Ria Pedlingham, Nicola Ralph****NETBALL****Laura Curtis, Millie Jones, Honor Jeavons, Hollie Lunn, Holly Carson, Francesca Morgan, Grace Hewitt,  
Madlene Silvester, Amy Beasley****ROWING****Joshua Crump, Joseph Essery, Ashley Nock, Harry Gemmill, Alex Thorburn, Aysen Naylor, Lois Beaumont****ATHLETICS****Kieran Garrattley, Laura Curtis (reawarded), Amy Vickery (reawarded), Oliver Paley-Battersea, Robert Aikman****JUNIOR SPORTS COLOURS****RUGBY****Seth Lewis****FENCING****Abi Watkins****SPORT****Emma Brinkley, Hannah Middleton, Jemma Moseley, Evie Beardsley, Alex Smith****ATHLETICS****Darrien Moore****FOOTBALL****Seb Thompson**

## DESTINATIONS FOR LEAVERS

Name	Surname	University	Subject	
Ashton	Felix	Liverpool University	Sociology and Philosophy	2016
Baker	Madeline	Leeds University for Art Foundation		
Beaumont	Lois	Leeds University	Sports Science and Physiology	2016
Bedborough	Peter	Nottingham Trent University	Business Management and Entrepreneurship	2016
Bonham	Alice	Swansea University	Physical Geography	2016
Braddock	Edward	Gap year		
Bratton	Natasha	Exeter University	Management with Marketing	2016
Brewer	Hannah	Reading University	English Literature and Theatre	2016
Broome	Lauren	University of East London	Fashion Design	2016
Cattle	Lily	Nottingham Trent University	Fashion Management	2016
Collett	Annabelle	Gap year		
Collins	Abigail	Imperial College London	Biomedical Engineering	2016
Cook	Georgia	Liverpool John Moore's University	Marketing	2016
Cox	Olivia	Bath Spa University		2016
Curtis	Laura	Queen's College, Cambridge	Modern and Medieval Languages	2016
Cusack	Robin	Southampton University	History	2016
D'Arcy	Samuel	University College Worcester	Physical Education and Sports Studies	2017
Day	Charles	Falmouth University	Acting	2016
Dickinson	Marcy	Southampton University	Geography	2016
Done	Eleanor	Gap year		
Downes	Elliot	Oxford Brookes University	Engineering with Foundation	2016
Dowty	Anna	Reading University	Geography (Human and Physical)	2016
Draper	Sarah	Edinburgh University	Sociology	2016
Durie	Henry	Cardiff University	Mechanical Engineering	2016
Eberlin	Eve	Gap year		
Elcock	Annabelle	Durham University	Anthropology	2016
Elgar	Thomas	Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge	Natural Sciences	2016
Elliott	Madeleine	Nottingham Trent University	Psychology	2016
Fallows	Oshani	Manchester University	English Literature and American Studies	2016
Fellows	Katharine	Nottingham University	Law	2016
Fereday	Owen	Warwick University	Philosophy	2016
Fernihough	Rebecca	Manchester University	Social Anthropology	2016
Fernihough	William	Bath University	Economics	2016
Fox	Isobel	Applying for Next Year		
Gardner	Kate	Cardiff University		2016
Garrattley	Kieran	Birmingham University	Pharmacology	2016
Goldney	Adam	Southampton University	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	2016
Goss	Evan	Edinburgh University	Geography	2016
Greening	Danielle	Nottingham Trent University	Marketing	2016
Hamilton	Georgina	Bristol University	Medicine - MBChB Standard entry (5 years)	2016
Hammond	Lewis	Cardiff University	Business Economics	2016
Hawkeswood	William	Nottingham Trent University	Business Management, Accounting & Finance	2017
Hope	Lucy	Durham University	Natural Sciences	2016
Humphries	Nicholas	Nottingham University	Law	2016
Hyslop	Oliver	Oxford Brookes University	Business and Management	2016
James	Laurence	Jesus College, Oxford	History	2016
Jan Riaz	Nora	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Jawanda	Amar	Cardiff University	Economics and Management Studies	2016
Jenkins	Peter	Keele University	Computer Science	2016
Jiang	Wei	Imperial College London	Mathematics	2016
Jones	Amelia	Leeds University	Natural Sciences	2017



Name	Surname	University	Subject	
Jones	Edward	University for the Creative Arts	Fashion Atelier	2016
Lawrence	Emma	De Montfort University	Interior Design	2016
Lawson	Danielle	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Lord	Oliver	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Luke	Samuel	Applying for Next Year		
Lunn	Hollie	University of Surrey	International Hospitality Management	2016
Mathers-O'Donnell	Sebastien	Swansea University	Business Management	2016
Messervy-Whiting	Tobias	Durham University	History	2017
Middlebrough	Emerald	Royal Agricultural University	Real Estate	2017
Middleton	Thomas	Nottingham University	Physics with Theoretical Astrophysics	2016
Morris	Jonathan	Swansea University	Business Management	2016
Muckle	Eleanor	Loughborough University	Geography and Management	2016
Naylor	Aysen	Oxford Brookes University	International Hospitality Management	2016
Niel	Matthew	Bristol University	Economics	2016
Nott	Joshua	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
O'Hara	Andrew	Cardiff University	Business Economics	2016
Patel	Kiran	Swansea University		
Platts	Elizabeth	Southampton University	Archaeology and Geography with Year Abroad	2016
Poel	Freya	Birmingham University	English and Creative Writing	2016
Richards	Jack	Gap year		
Ridge	James	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Robertson	Callum	Liverpool University	Bioveterinary Science	2016
Saunders	Oliver	Swansea University	Business Management (Marketing)	2016
Shah	Suleyman	Imperial College London	Medicine	2016
Silvester	Janina	Oxford Brookes University	Philosophy	2016
Silvester	Madlene	Gap year		
Sinclair	Oliver	Swansea University	Sport and Exercise Science	2016
Smith	George	Southampton University	Biochemistry	2016
Su	Hu	Warwick University	Mathematics	2016
Sutton	Hannah	Bristol University	Medicine - MBChB Standard entry (5 years)	2016
Sykes	Ben	South Africa	Game Ranger Course	
Tabram	Millie	Sheffield University	Education, Culture and Childhood	2016
Thomas	Angus	King's College London	History	2016
Thorburn	Alexander	Nottingham Trent University	Business	2016
Turner	Nicola	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Vaughan	Julia	Gap year		
Vickery	Amy	Oxford Brookes	Art Foundation	2016
Walden	Jemma	University of Gloucestershire	Business Management (3 years full-time)	2016
Wang	Tianruo	Imperial College London	Biomedical Engineering	2016
Ward	Lucy	De Montfort University	Business and Marketing	2016
Watson	Alexander	Manchester Metropolitan University	Biomedical Science	2016
Watts	Robbie	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Welch	Edward	St Anne's College, Oxford	Geography	2016
Weston	Abigail	Nottingham Trent University	Fashion Communication and Promotion	2017
Whitefoot	Scott	University of Worcester	Law	2016
Williams	Oliver	UWE Bristol	Architecture	2016
Wilson	Ella	Leeds University	Management with Marketing	2016
Wilson	Robert	Southampton University	History	2016
Wilson	Samantha	York University	History	2016
Wong	Thomas	Swansea University	Civil Engineering (with a Year in Industry)	2016
Young	Joseph	Applying to UCAS for 2017		
Brereton	Sacha	University College London	Comparative Literature	2016



# ENGLISH FACULTY

# ENGLISH FACULTY

## READING IS POWER

These were the words of one pupil in Year Seven describing the importance of reading on World Book Day held in March. A series of exciting events was organised across the School, and both students and staff had the opportunity to reflect on the place of reading in their lives. Displays, quizzes, special assemblies all added to the fun whilst Film Club shared book trailers and Lower School Book Club entered a national competition to design a new book token. It truly was a day to fire the imagination!

## TRIPS AND STUDY DAYS

Sixth Formers benefited from a visit to Stratford to see 'Hamlet' with Paapa Essiedu in the title role. This acclaimed production provided an accessible and imaginative interpretation, which certainly enhanced our students' appreciation of the complexities of the play. This visit was followed up by a Study Day on the play given by the Royal Shakespeare Company. Upper Sixth students also enjoyed a similar day, this time on 'Antony and Cleopatra.'

## LITERARY SOCIETY

Studies in English benefit from efforts beyond the classroom, and the Literary Society provides a forum to extend literary interests into areas that may only be briefly touched on in lessons. A wide variety of lecture and seminar sessions were held this year, intended to provide wider background for Sixth Formers. Mr Phillips gave lectures on 'Jerusalem', Shakespearean Tragedy, 'The Great Gatsby', the Context for the Renaissance and 'Antony & Cleopatra'.

## MACBETH

At the end of the Trinity Term, pupils in Year Seven once again performed their interpretation of 'Macbeth', in a workshop production which is the climax of their study of the play, as part of the Year Seven English curriculum. As James Preece put it: 'To be standing in the spotlight, addressing a large crowd of people, and performing a scene from a play as famous as 'Macbeth' was inimitable. It was a great performance and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part.'

## PASSPORT TO READING

The Lower School Reading Passport has continued to inspire pupils in Year Seven and Year Eight to develop their tastes in independent reading. Spurred on by the prospect of gaining reward certificates, more than half the year received these acknowledgements of their progress in special assemblies. Five pupils completed all of the Reading Passport: Darcy Chambers, Lyra Hancock, Isabel Pepperall, Elizabeth McCabe and Imogen Holmes. This fantastic achievement means that they have read 18 books from the selected list and completed a task on each one, and for this they each received a special award.

## A PERFECT DAY

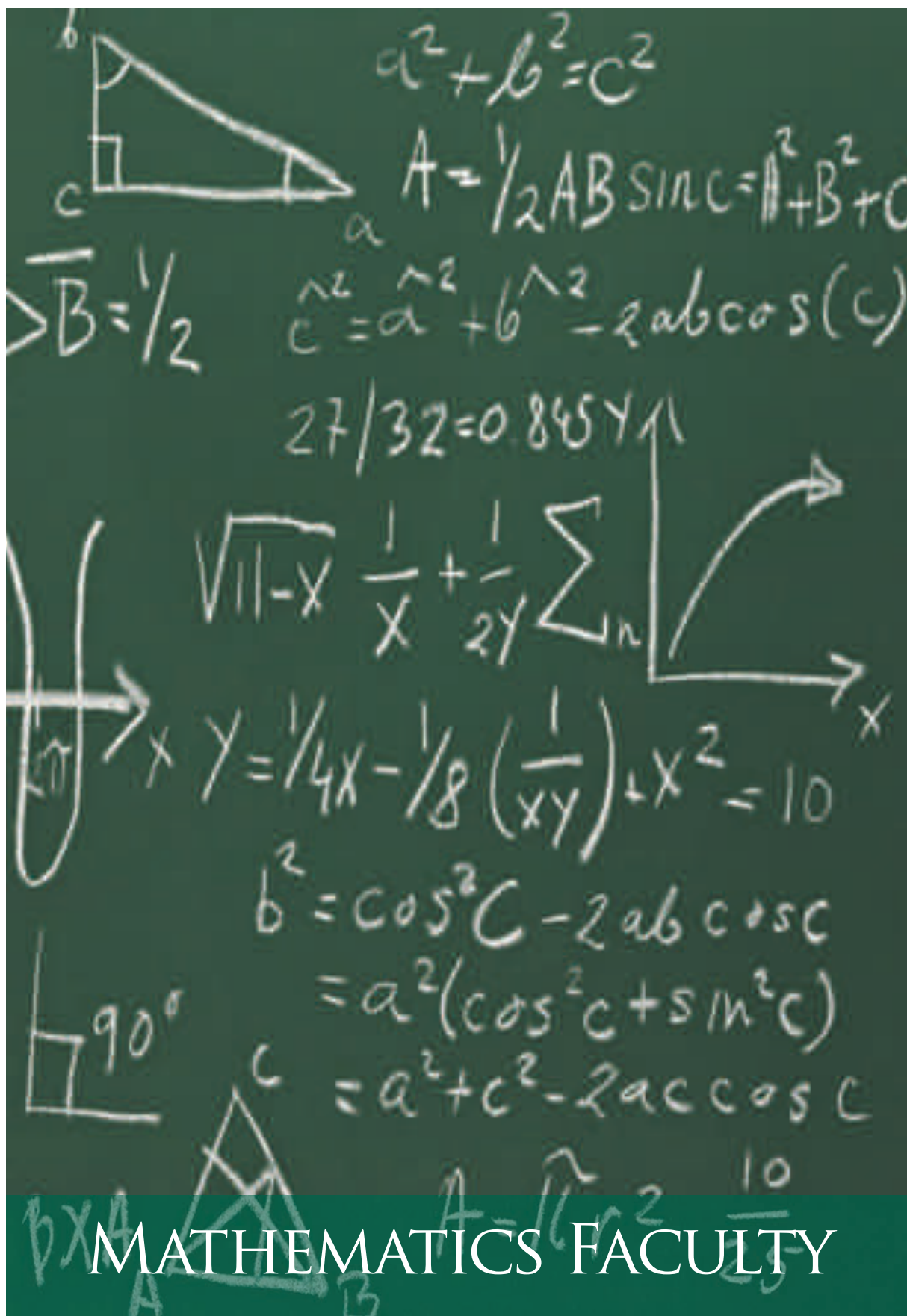
'A Perfect Day' was the subject for this year's House Creative Writing Competition, which again attracted a large number of entries. Most chose to write a prose account, though poems were popular amongst senior entrants. The most effective writing was clearly based on personal experience carefully recounted and shaped though varied sentences and rich vocabulary. Competition for the final places was intense. Wylde House came top of the Senior entries with Elgar winning both Junior and Intermediate. The overall winner was Elgar House closely followed by Otley.

## LOWER SCHOOL BOOK CLUB

Lower School Book Club has gone from strength to strength with over fifty students attending at various points during the year. A new Year Eight Book Club also ran on Friday lunchtimes and members of both clubs have had the opportunity to join lively discussions and debates, take part in quizzes and games as well as enter a National Competition to design a new Book Token. In the final term, the focus shifted to shadowing the 2016 CILIP Carnegie Medal. RGS students enthusiastically read the eight shortlisted titles before reviewing the books. An RGS winner was decided based on the scores awarded. Our winner this year, One by Sarah Crossan, was also the official Medal winner. It was described as "an admirable and affecting tale of conjoined twins" and was a very popular choice at RGS.







# MATHEMATICS FACULTY

# MATHEMATICS FACULTY

The Mathematics Faculty continues to work hard to provide opportunities for pupils to experience this subject in as many different forms as possible and saw some fabulous Mathematics in operation through the year. Our pupils continued to improve their results in the full range of the Mathematics Challenges provided by the United Kingdom Maths Trust and we were delighted to see the questioning and thoughtful approach of our pupils.

In December we took Year Eleven and Lower Sixth students to a series of lectures and workshops at Warwick University. This was a fascinating day, which explored the subject beyond the A Level courses. Of particular interest, was an insight into the development of mathematical thinking and the historical aspects of Fermats Last Theorem. Johnny Cotterell, Lower Sixth wrote the report below:

Fermat was a Lawyer by trade but he enjoyed working at Maths in the evening and in particular the work of the Greek mathematician Diophanti. He developed one problem over the years into a theorem that would be ever associated with the story of his controversial proof. He wrote in margin of his workbook "I have a great proof of this theorem but the margin is too small too contain it". He died before having the opportunity to detail this proof and for hundreds of years Mathematicians battled to find a proof. We then looked at the lengthy process pursued by Andrew Wiels in order finally to produce a rigorous solution and this emotional rollercoaster made a great impression."

The UKMT competitions produced some excellent results. We were delighted that all the Upper Sixth pupils gained an award and there were some very promising results from the younger age groups with Year Ten and Eleven pupils picking up awards. A remarkable eleven students were invited to compete in the follow on rounds and this was a clear demonstration of the excellence at the top of these year groups. Meanwhile the team competition again saw us win the regional competition and this took the team through to the National finals in London.

We were fortunate to be able to take a group of Year Nine and Ten pupils to a Maths in Action day and this was another really well organised and inspirational day. Felix Haynes wrote the report below:

"During the event we took part in three workshops, focusing on different areas of the surprisingly vast world of maths, before being treated to an entertaining and thought-provoking talk on the history of numbers. The lectures took us far beyond the reaches of the GCSE course; ranging from balancing bodies and making art with equations, to performing mathematical magic and discovering the truth of gambling. A particular favourite was 'Peg Solitaire', a game, almost unknown to our generation, with the aim of removing all but one marble from a board. After finding out it was much harder than originally thought, we were taught the fine art of 'purging', which showed us how advanced principles can be used to win even the simplest of games. Overall, we had an enjoyable and eye-opening day, which showed us the possibilities a maths A-Level can give you. So, although we found no conclusive answer to the origin of number, we did answer another question. What are the limits of mathematics? There aren't any!"

The Intermediate and Junior Mathematics Challenges produced results that were very impressive. At the intermediate level we achieved a record breaking 91 awards and Amy Rogers produced a performance strong enough to receive an invitation to the National Training Camp in the summer. Meanwhile the Juniors produced a very impressive 16 Golds, which is a big step up from previous years.

The Mathematicians in School are very strong and it has been a great pleasure to see the students taking on the challenges that we provide and it is clear that they have pushed themselves hard to take on the academic hurdles with relish.





# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES FACULTY





The MFL year always starts very positively with the International Week of Languages with visiting Careers speakers, pupils have taster lessons in Portuguese, Italian, Greek and Esperanto and Year Eight to Ten undertake the 'Languages Challenge'. Activities during the week, including Handball, Cha-Cha dancing, themed lunches and a Year Seven Pétanque tournament. These were really popular and well attended. The week had a real "buzz", with pupils appreciating a new perspective on languages and their importance in everyday life.

At Christmas there was a trip to Cologne, with Cathedrals and chocolate as the highlights. 32 students went on the trip and Lillie Heyburn, Year Seven, reports: "My time in Germany was absolutely amazing, I got to experience a new culture for a weekend and we had a fair bit of fun while we were there. Visiting the markets was probably one of the most fun things I ever did. Going from stall to stall with four other Year Seven friends was a real treat (and so was the hotdog that went with it!) The next morning we arose nice and early to climb the Cathedral tower. 1066 steps doesn't sound much until you have climbed them!!"

Cologne also featured in the German Exchange which took students to Kleve once again. Guy Milton, Year Ten reports: "A day out to Cologne, a beautiful city with millions of attractions, from the world famous cathedral to the Lindt Chocolate museum. As the day came to a close we packed our things ready for the journey home the next day. We had our last German meals and said our farewells. A truly wonderful experience."

There were also exchange visits to France and Spain, to Nantes and Zaragoza respectively and we welcomed students from those cities back to Worcester.

Senior students also had the opportunity to undertake work experience in France; Georgina Hamilton and Alice Little spent a week Worcester's twin town of Le Vésinet, near Paris, improving their language and learning hospitality skills.

Another busy and enjoyable year in the Modern Foreign Languages department from where we wish Mr Vetch a very happy retirement.

# MFL FACULTY

## A ZEST FOR ZARAGOZA

Year Ten travelled to Zaragoza at Easter for the second leg of their Spanish Exchange. This time Mr Sykes travelled with sixteen pupils who had already hosted their Spanish friends in an action packed week in England and were very excited to see them again.

The pupils relate their experiences:

Imogen Still writes:

"My partner and I have become good friends and we had some amazing memories together. The weekend spent with the families was fun and filled with activities. Overall, the trip has introduced me to a new, interesting culture and has boosted my confidence to speak to Spanish people. I never thought I would make so many new friends during the exchange."

Joe Neale comments:

"I was nervous about going on the exchange but as soon as I met my partner I knew I was going to have a fun week ahead of me. For the first couple of days I was worried that I wouldn't be able to communicate with my partner. If you are worried about the communication, then I can assure you is fine because they all speak fantastic English!"

Sam Rattue said:

"The Spanish exchange was such an enjoyable experience and I'm really happy I went. I loved the people, especially my exchange, Jorge. We went to all kind of interesting places like the Palacio de la Aljaferia, El Monasterio de Piedra and El Museo de Goya. My only regret is that I didn't get to stay longer."

Eleanor Niel comments:

"The Spanish exchange was such an enjoyable experience and I am really glad I went. I loved the food, especially the paella I had with my family in the village. It was a great trip, I only wish it could have been longer!"

We are looking forward to next year as it will mark the Tenth Anniversary of this wonderful project.

Mrs Luz Kettle, Head of Spanish







It has been a good year for Science discoveries. Gravitational waves were observed for the first time, and dwarf planets Pluto and Ceres were visited by spacecrafts also for the first time. A new human-like species, *Homo naledi* was described and Chemists finally got around to proposing names for the last four elements in the Periodic Table.

Whilst our pupils are not yet ready to make such discoveries or participate in the research teams that do, they already show a curiosity which suggests that one day they might.

## CHEMISTRY



Pupils who have followed a Chemistry course this year can again be proud of their efforts. At both GCSE and A Level, pupils exceeded expectations and performed very well indeed.

Chemistry can be entertaining and it is pleasing that many of our students take a keen interest beyond the limits of these. The Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad competition is one such place where our students have excelled in recent years and this year was no different with pupils from RGS achieving highly. Questions ranged from the synthesis of the drug Addyi to carbon dating the body of King Richard of York. Scott Jiang and Ben Su achieved Gold Awards, whilst Tom Elgar and Jack Wang received Silver Awards for their efforts in this competition which are just rewards for their efforts.

The Sixth Form had the opportunity to attend A Level Science Live in Birmingham where they heard a variety of lectures: Dr Peter Wothers, who had previously given the Royal Society Christmas Lectures, spoke on how Spectroscopy can be a useful tool in chemical identification, whilst Professor Andrea Sella, who has presented scientific documentaries on BBC2, discussed the Rare Earth Metals and their uses in the modern age of technology.

## PHYSICS



The Sixth Form gained much from the experience as they improved their understanding of the importance of how Chemistry can be used to help shape the world that we know and in which we live.

This year saw great success for RGS Worcester in the British Physics Olympiad, a competition designed to challenge the top 10% of A Level Physics students across the country. Abigail Collins and Scott Jiang achieved Gold Awards, with Silver Awards going to Jack Wang and Lucy Hope. Ben Su, Yunie Lu, Tom Elgar, Adam Goldney, Yeping Ge and Luke Qian received Bronze Awards. In the AS Challenge, students earned one Gold, two Silver and six Bronze Awards. Alec Berry and Wilf Jenkins both achieved Bronze Awards in the GCSE Challenge.

Our A Level students had opportunities to be inspired by top scientists this year, firstly by attending an Institute of Physics lecture about gravitational waves at Huntingdon Hall. Later, at the Science Live event in Birmingham they heard Jim Al-Khalili discuss Philosophy and Physics, and Helen Czerski lecture about Ocean Science.

A group of dedicated astronomers braved the winter weather to venture out to the Observatory throughout the Michaelmas and Lent terms, where we had the opportunity to observe the beautiful Orion Nebula through binoculars. Students also studied the features of the moon and learned how to use Orion, Pegasus and The Plough as pointers to find other stars and galaxies. The British weather was certainly not in our favour this year though, and we hope for a more productive Astronomy season next year.

Teachers have been busy preparing the new courses for GCSE and A Level, which Lower Sixth have been following for the first time this year. We have very much enjoyed the new approach to practical work, with students recording their planning, results, analysis and evaluations in a university-style laboratory book, which we hope will prepare them well for further study of Science.

# BIOLOGY

**Anatomy club:** Year Eight to Eleven enjoyed the return of the Anatomy Club to the Biology Department this year; an after-school club aimed at enriching pupils' knowledge of the evolution of the major organ systems, whilst simultaneously honing their dissection skills. With up to 12 students in attendance, we examined the comparative anatomy of a range of animals including starfish, squid, fish, frogs and rats. The students were able to see first hand how the heart gained its chambers.

**Biology Live:** In the Lent term, Lower Sixth students were taken to "A Level Biology Live" in Birmingham to enjoy a series of lectures delivered by scientists working in a range of disciplines within this field. Sir Robert Winston lectured on human reproduction technology, Professor Steve Jones lectured on human origins and Dave Goulson gave a fascinating discussion on the rise and fall of the bumblebee. By far, the most popular lecture was that by Professor Sophie Scott; her subject "the science of laughter" had the audience in hysterics!

**Medics:** The Biology Department offers a range of support to pupils considering a career in Medicine or Veterinary Science. In the Michaelmas term Year Eleven and Lower Sixth began a program of mentoring and interview preparation with the return of two ex-students (Katie Stevens and Alex Tan), currently studying Medicine, who gave a talk about life as a medic and the application process.

Upper Sixth medics were busy through the Lent term undergoing interview practice and university interviews, with three quarters of those applying receiving offers. Our thanks go to Dr Parry for her assistance in the interview rounds.

**Biology Challenge:** Fifty of our Year Ten students were entered into the Biology Challenge competition - a National online competition for schools organised by the Society of Biology. Standards are extremely high with questions covering GCSE material not yet covered in class, as well as some basic A Level standard topics. A record breaking nine students won Gold medals, eight won Silver medals and seven won Bronze. A further 22 gained commended or highly commended certificates. A superb result for a hardworking set of students. A new record for the Department!

**Somerset Fieldwork Trip:** Lower Sixth attended an Ecology fieldwork trip in Somerset for three days, in the stunning countryside around Taunton. As well as learning grassland sampling techniques, they studied mollusc distribution up the shoreline of Helcombe bay, and practised systematic kick sampling of invertebrates along a stream in the remote Exmoor National Park. Evening activities including statistical analyses of the data and a practical activities. Thankfully the weather held out and the students bonded well, managing to play hard as well as work hard!





## NASA

During the October half term, Science pupils and staff visited Florida. First stop was the Universal Studio's Theme Park, Islands of Adventure for our 'behind the scenes' tour. It was fascinating to see how the cars and simulators worked and were lucky enough to go on the rides before anyone else arrived. After that we had a whole day to explore the amazing theme park before heading to Hard Rock Cafe for dinner.

The following day we went to the Kennedy Space Center! In the morning we were free to explore the wonders of space travel with loads of fun interactive exhibits including a space shuttle launch simulator. At lunch we ate with the astronaut, Jack Lousma, the man who took the call from Jim Lovell, Commander of Apollo 13, when Jim Lovell said 'Houston we have a problem'. It was really interesting to listen to him describing his experiences in space, which includes the International Space Centre, the Shuttle and the original orbiting station 'Skylab'.

By Imogen Hill and Carys Gaynor-Smith

## SCIENCE CLUB

It has been a particularly exciting year for the Lower School Science Club this year as we have been tracking the progress of Tim Peake on the International Space Station and learning more about the structure of the ISS by building a 3D model. In other space news, unfortunately the day was too cloudy to directly view the transit of Mercury across the sun in May but the event was easily observed online and gave plenty of scope for the study of planets and orbits.

Other activities have ranged from the scientifically rigorous testing of ideal elastic band firing conditions and factors affecting rates of chemical reactions, to the more ridiculous microwaving of soap to make sculptures and building a range of contraptions to protect eggs from high speed collisions and drops. Year Seven and Eight pupils blasted off air-powered rockets across the lawn, emblazoned with Space Agency logos of their own design, for the concluding Science Club of 2016. We look forward to another cosmic Science Club for 2017.

## CHELTENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL

On the 8 June, Year Seven headed out for Cheltenham to the annual Science Festival. The day was packed with a range of exciting activities as pupils learned how the Internet was created put together and had a go at building their own mini world wide web. We received a glimpse behind the science of superheroes and acted out being a neuron in the body sending messages. The day was enhanced by ice cream, large coloured inflatables and a casual encounter with Lord Robert Winston, but the real highlight was predictably the set-up in the Town Hall where many companies and institutions had stands offering career ideas, challenges and new, exciting technologies to try. Virtual Reality was a particularly exciting draw this year and it was encouraging to hear the mature discussions Year Seven pupils were having after experiencing the Google cardboard simulation of suffering from dementia. From using electric shocks to control human muscles, to controlling a model of the Mars Rover, there was something for everyone to learn, (including the teachers!).





# HUMANITIES FACULTY



# HUMANITIES FACULTY

## INTRODUCTION

Over the year a number of shared events showcased the best that the Humanities Faculty has to offer. Our identity is based on a set of values, encapsulated in the key words Sustain, Communicate, Inspire, Respect, Share. We picked two dates on the United Nations Calendar to celebrate these ideas.

The first was Earth Day or, as we called it, Blue Dot Day. We used the famous “Pale Blue Dot” speech by Carl Sagan about the fragility of our earth to educate pupils and staff about Human Rights. The highlight of the day was certainly the release of hundreds of blue balloons, inscribed with messages of hope, by Year Seven pupils. Many lessons featured the idea that, since the Earth is so small, we should all try our best to get along.



Our second outing as a Faculty was Earth Day. This day was held worldwide to promote environmental protection. With the historic Paris Agreement being signed on the same day, the Faculty focused on the issue of sustainability. The Geography Department naturally led the way, with Ms Deval-Reed’s inspirational video, streamed over the School website, reminding us of the fragility of our planet. The Geography department’s enlightening lessons on the environment were taken up by History, Classics, Religious Studies and the ever-reliable Debating Society. Students were reminded to build a healthy, sustainable environment, try to address climate change (even in a small way), and protect the Earth for future generations. Springfield pupils provided artwork reflecting their own concern for their planet.

The Religious Studies’ part was led by the inspirational Ms Marsh, who created a mandala (which means “circle” and is a spiritual and ritual symbol representing the Universe) with students’ thoughts on sustainability and our place on the planet. A Lower School assembly featured the inevitable balloons, this time in green. Students considered how we may be eating our way through our annual planetary resources too enthusiastically for it to last. From outside the Faculty, tutors used various platforms to help students express their concerns and hopes for the future. In all, the day proved a healthy reminder of how reliant we are on our precious ecosphere. The Faculty gathered recyclable clothes to donate to charity.

Our third Faculty event was aptly named Humanities Day. As part of the School’s outreach and orientation programme, it featured a Classics-inspired lunch, orienteering by Geography and lessons by Religious Studies. History and Politics provided a Medieval Scrap-Heap Challenge, which involved visiting Year Five students building fearsome armour out of cardboard boxes and plastic bottles (all, of course, recycled afterwards).

The Faculty looks back upon a busy and productive year.

## CLASSICS

It has been another year of opportunity and expansion for the Classics department, with more students studying Latin or Classical Civilisation than ever before!

## TRIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

On Field Weekend, 26 intrepid archaeologists and ancient historians of the future explored Hadrian’s Wall from end to end. Working East to West, we looked at how it has been archaeologically explored over the centuries and what the finds can tell us about the people who lived in the area, both military and civilian, Roman and barbarian.

We explored a series of forts, as well as extant stretches of Wall and associated civilian and religious sites: Arbeia, Segedunum, Housesteads, Chesters, Carrawburgh Mithraeum, Vindolanda. Native Northumbrian Mr Tanner (Head of Classics) endeavored to impart a holistic sense of the history and human geography which surrounded the sites. Students were struck by the contrast between the residential and post-industrial contexts of the Eastern end of the Wall, and the rural remoteness of the middle and Western sections.





## POLITICS

The EU Referendum and 2016 American Election provided a topical and interesting backdrop to an eventful year in the Politics Department.

During assemblies held on the EU Referendum, students were excited about the magnitude of the decision that the country faced, despite the fact they were mainly under the voting age. The students were asked to consider 'Why Britain should stay in or leave the European Union?' The issues discussed included the economy and trade, immigration, British sovereignty and the cost of EU membership. It was clear that students were quite split on the issues, but they were confident to debate with their peers on this exceptionally complex and important issue.

Sixth Form Politics students took great interest in the American Election. Once the results are known our students will begin to use their political knowledge to predict what political changes will be introduced and how it will affect the overall political landscape. Trump v Clinton was set to be the most exciting American election in decades and our students are eagerly awaited the results of the Electoral College votes in November and, like everyone, were shocked when it happened.

The Politics department ran a trip to the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court. Our tour started in the House of Commons where experienced guides focused on the function and composition of the House of Commons. We then visited the public gallery in the Lords to watch an actual debate. Our students were quite shocked to see only 30 out of 800 Lords present and questioned the health of our democracy. To round off our tour we headed into the Supreme Court. Students were offered the opportunity to observe part of an appeal hearing and to learn about some of the most constitutionally important recent cases. The Upper Sixth students visited the Rothermere Institute in Oxford University and heard from two ex-Congressmen in the hugely successful 'Congress to Campus' programme. It really helped to highlight the workload of Congressmen and how US elections work.



## GEOGRAPHY

This year we have continued to provide a wealth of activities in the field for all of our pupils. In Year Eight we had a great day looking at the local area giving us a taste of Worcestershire. We looked at aspects of the residential and economic developments at Warndon before moving on to examine the role of the market town of Evesham. After a picnic in Broadway we were able to look back along our route and make a field sketch and take photographs of the main features of the



Severn Plain. This was the first time that we had used iPads in the field as a part of the DLP. All pupils had electronic versions of the work booklet, and one boy got to play the piano in the market square!

Year Nine went on a field trip to Stratford-upon-Avon where we looked at the impact of a changing population and tourism on land-use in the town centre. A most instructive and enjoyable day was had by all who took part.

## GEOGRAPHY

The Lower Sixth visited the urban and industrial environment of Sheffield as a part of their AS course. All of the Lower Sixth spent five days on the annual Field Course to North Wales. They stayed in Llandudno and from there they were able to visit the magnificent Nant Ffrancon valley and Snowdonia. They also visited Anglesey for analysis of a sand dune ecosystem and coastal management, and a study of the catchment and management of the River Conwy.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies at RGS is the subject where we think about thinking. Debating topical issues is a typical day in the world of RS. Our key focus involves philosophical questions, ethical issues and the different religious beliefs that try to answer these questions. "The unexamined life is not worth living" is the famous quote from the philosopher Socrates from his trial for 'corrupting the youth' by asking them to question everything and to think independently. We agree with Socrates - in RS lessons, examining existence and its wonders are positively encouraged and that is exactly what we have been doing this year; getting our pupils to question, think and debate!

This year, Year Seven have been discovering the History of God, from the Ancient Egyptians, Norse Gods and Monotheism, to Buddhism and the secular beliefs of Humanism. Year Eight has dived into the world of Ethics, discussing the issues of discrimination, poverty and war.

Year Nine has considered difficult philosophical issues such as 'Can we trust our senses?', 'How do we know what is real and what is not?' and whether we can have good in the world without evil! Our GCSE groups examined Bioethics including stem cell research and genetic engineering.

The Sixth Form attended the Gloucestershire Philosophy Conference in February, where Professors Barry Smith and Patrick Haggard debated neuroscience's link with moral responsibility; covering neuro-imaging and its use in courts of law. Dr Michael Lacewing also had our students questioning: 'How can a wholly good God allow evil to happen?'

Miss Marsh and Mrs Cooper held engaging seminars for the Billingham Society and new members of staff joined the department this year.

## HISTORY

The History Department has been living through a busy period of important commemorations. This year saw the seventieth anniversary of the end of World War II and, of course, the centenary of such First World War battles such as Second Ypres, Loos and the infamous Verdun. Over the summer, we contemplated the terror and sacrifice of the Battle of the Somme. As such, our Year Nine First World War lessons assumed a special poignancy. We were reminded of the School's losses by the new and updated board in Perrins Hall (itself now a century old) listing the names of the fallen. In Central Hall, we walked past a display of old team photos dating from the early Twentieth Century. Each pupil who lost his life is identified by a simple poppy over his chest, and in some cases, many faces would not return to see their alma mater. We could only imagine the frantic concern of those who remained at The Alice Ottley and the Boys' School, and sympathise with their attempts to help friends and family at the front by making bandages and preserves, volunteering as nurses and taking care of the necessities of daily life. Another display in Central Hall reminded us that Worcester kept going, with new, often female faces in the factories, on the buses and delivery carts.

On a different note, we took our Year Seven pupils to their annual "pilgrimage" to Tintern Abbey and Raglan Castle. I can scarcely remember a more jovial year group – a

pleasure to work with. The Department also paid homage to the Tudors (Hampton Court), and visited Oxford. Further trips took pupils to the Somme and Verdun, Normandy and the United States. Many historians graced the Debating Society, and we are proud of our excellent batch of Oxbridge applicants.

Our eStream and iTunesU collections testify to the enormous benefits of the Digital Learning Programme for our subject, and we will continue to link past and future in an engaging and incisive manner.





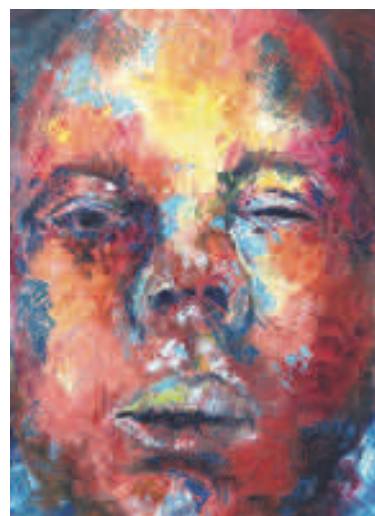


# CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY

# CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY

The year opened on a high in the Creative Arts Faculty. Impressive summer public examination results provided a real boost for those starting courses in September and an exciting year lay ahead with many new initiatives planned.

The culmination of a year of hard work was exhibited in the Creative Arts Faculty Evening. This event demonstrated all that the pupils and staff achieved along with rewarding those who had performed exceptionally well over the year.



## TEXTILES

The Textiles department enjoyed a number of creative projects throughout the year. The Lower School work included iPad covers and duffle bags. The Middle School pupils made bomber jackets, printed textiles using Photoshop and produced a wide range of Controlled Assessment coursework pieces.

The skilful AS 'Classic Jacket' project was a triumph with students drawing on their first-hand experience of Savile Row to inspire the final pieces that they produced. Yet again, our talented Upper Sixth combined a whole host of high level skills within the practical pieces they created, including wearable technology, sublimation printing and laser cutting fabrics.

Concept Furniture kindly donated a range of fabrics to the department, inspiring a 'Batch Production' project for Year Ten pupils. Mrs Gray from Concept Furniture judged the products made by each team and commented on the professionalism that the students showed through their work ethic. She remarked that the final 'Clutch Bags' produced would not look out of place in a high street store.

Both Lily Dugdale and Beth Rabjohn also went on to represent the School at the Fashion Icon competition at the Fashion, Embroidery and Stitch Show at the NEC. There were ten finalists selected to make a 'Japanese Street Fashion' piece to exhibit alongside other students, many above their age group.

Edward Jones, winner of the AS category at The Young Fashion Designer UK 2015 competition, presented his 'Vintage Fashion' collection of six pieces at the Fashion, Embroidery and Stitch Show as part of his first prize opportunity, courtesy of the Inkberrow Design Centre. He will also exhibit this collection at The Clothes Show Live in December, for which we wish him well.

The Art and Textiles trip to London included a wide range of inspiring exhibitions and visits, including the historic collections at the V&A, the Liberty prints exhibition at the Fashion & Textiles Museum and the behind-the-scenes tour of Savile Row. Visits to Westminster University and University of East London provided an insight into fashion & textiles beyond the classroom.

On 25 June, RGS Worcester hosted the Young Fashion Designer UK 2016. It was a fantastic day the finalists coming from schools across the country to showcase their GCSE, AS and A2 entries and be judged by industry professionals. We were lucky to have two AS students in the final with their classic jacket and coat designs - Georgia Peters who came second and Beth Treneer who was highly commended.

The Textiles Department presented their annual Fashion Show at the Creative Faculty Evening. The students modelled the garments they made this year from bomber jackets to glamorous dresses. We also showcased work from our Textiles Scholars, Ed Jones, Darcy Simon and Emma Little.



## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

It was a busy year in the workshops and some excellent work was produced for both GCSE and Advanced Level Design Technology. The project work produced for A2 has been outstanding and it was a pleasure to work with the pupils and see sketches and drawings turned into ambitious pieces of coursework.

Henry Durie tackled the problem of transporting a kayak over land when on a camping expedition. He designed a folding trolley with removable wheels that can be stored in the kayak. Ben Sykes made a mini bike and Elliot Downes tackled the problem of servicing large wheeled vehicles. He designed and made a hydraulic jack to remove and replace lorry wheels and tyres. His solution makes the process safer and removes the need to lift the wheel and tyre using physical strength. Joe Young made a lovely pair of laminated chairs with a linking table. They are designed to be used outdoors and will quickly disassemble into component parts for easy storage during the winter months.

For GCSE Resistant Materials some of the best pieces of design work were a skittles game made by Euan Hardy, a storage box for toys made by Ellie Carey, a coat and shoe rack made by Ed Lawson, a bedside unit by Emma Hill and two nesting tables by Matthew Hill.

GCSE Systems and Control projects included several based on the exam board's set theme of music. Stereo amplifiers were made by George Mann, William Magnay, Jacob Williams and Charlie Hollingworth. Faiz Ibrar and Alex Berry designed and made one octave organs for use by the disabled.

Under the topic heading of lighting, several solar lights were produced by Oliver Johnson, Tom Oram, Daniel Ballinger, James Harris and Emily Furniss. Jordan Barnes made a very effective light for a study or bedroom, Julia Bell made a "Wall-e" lamp for a child's bedroom and Jack Farmer made a replica railway carriage light.

A group of Year Eleven pupils, known as 'Team Ascent' were incredibly successful in the highly acclaimed and fiercely competitive Land Rover 4x4 Technology Challenge this year, beating hundred of teams to win the Regional and National Finals and going on to be placed fifth out of 21 teams worldwide. They also received a special award in recognition of their Research and Development.

The Challenge was to build a radio controlled four-wheel drive vehicle that could successfully navigate and complete obstacles on an off road test track and emulate the capabilities of a full size 4x4 vehicle.

Congratulations to Alec Berry, Jack Beet, George Mann, Harry Smith, Ed Lawson and Faiz Ibrar.

Team Ascent were rewarded for being the top British team with the prize of a trip to Portsmouth to see the Land Rover Ben Ainslie America's Cup Team.





## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education Department had a busy and successful year, along with the usual fixtures, tournaments and tours, we raised money for various charities through events from the World Marathon Challenge to Sports Relief. The introduction of Sports Ambassadors was a positive step in hearing pupils' views and will hopefully result in the first RGS mascot being revealed in the future.

A Level students took part in a number of trips, one of the most enjoyable being the National Sports Careers Roadshow, where they saw many opportunities available to them from the ever growing Sports Sector. A trip to Rugby School to learn about the history of sport opened

their eyes to what life is really like in a boarding school environment and also gave them the chance to stand exactly where Prince Harry had done in the opening scenes of the Rugby World Cup.

The Community Sports Leaders Award saw a number of pupils visit local primary schools to run coaching sessions to inspire those who are not as fortunate as RGS pupils.

The staff also had a busy year representing RGSW in a netball matches, with tough competition from Springfield and the Grange. It has been a great year.

## ART

It has been an exciting and successful year in the Art Department. Pupils have produced better results in both examinations and class projects. We forged links with other schools and the wider community through 'The Big Draw' weekend.

The 2016 Summer Art Exhibition provided a showcase for examination years to display their work, making a bold splash of colour from a year with notable strong painters at every level.

The Bevere Art Awards were presented to Indira Creedmiles for GCSE and Evelyn Eberlin for A Level.

From the 2015 graduation it is noteworthy that Tereza Horacek has progressed to study Fine Art at The Slade (UCL) alongside Laura Adcock reading History of Art at UCL. We will eagerly follow the progress of Amy Vickery and Eve Eberlin from 2016.



There were several exhibitions of pupils' work to celebrate the prowess of RGS artists.

A selection of current GCSE work was displayed at the No 8 Art Centre in Pershore. It was a great achievement for Year Eleven pupils to see their work in a public context, usually reserved for professional artists. The confident use of oil paint by such promising artists as Joe Thomson, points to a bright future for Art at RGS.

As part of 'The Big Draw' National Festival of Drawing, the Art Department in collaboration with the Bevere Gallery created a pop up art studio in Perrin's Hall for a weekend in October. Sixth Form artists led the way for others by creating some beautiful watercolours of well-known examples of ceramics from around the world. The studio walls were lined with over a thousand pot designs on the theme 'Every pot tells a story'. The event brought out the imaginative and creative talents in a very diverse range of visitors, all unabashed to try their hand. It was a great atmosphere with everyone working together to produce enough work to fill Perrin's Hall. An outreach morning for local schools attracted young artists to a dynamic morning of making art.

In June, the Art Department was tasked with preparing Perrins Hall for a concert to commemorate the First World War, featuring a world premiere of the song-cycle by nationally acclaimed composer Ian Venables. Artists in Years Seven, Eight and Nine created bursts of poppies to provide a suitable setting for the performance.

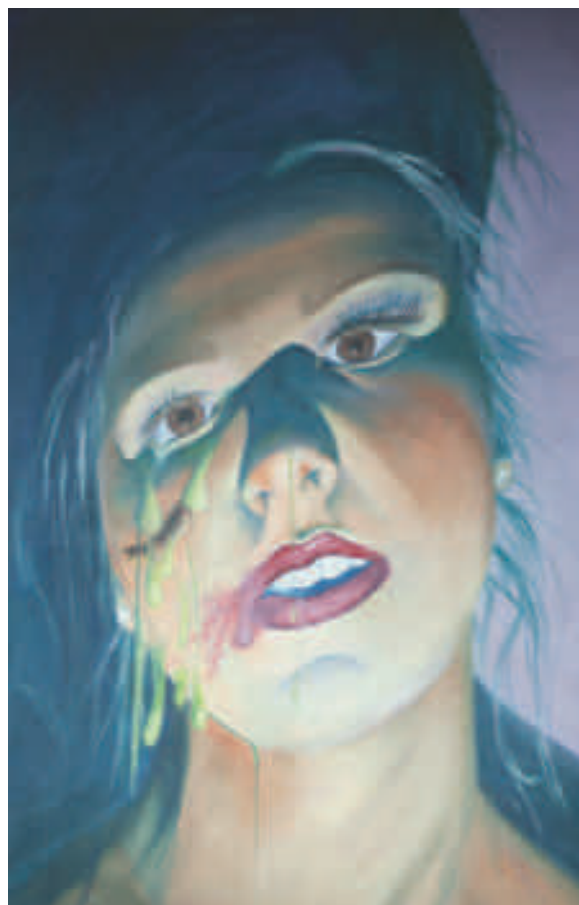
Ahead of the opening of a new state of the art swimming pool in Perdiswell in 2017, pupils in Year Seven have worked with the artist Erick Klein Veldermann on the theme of movement and reflections, to create a design for a permanent work for the building.

Alongside exhibition and opportunities, there were many art trips. Year Eight visited Coventry to reflect on the blitzed ruins of the old Cathedral and gain inspiration from St Michael's – The New Cathedral. They also visited the Herbert Read Gallery to view the work John Piper made in response to the bombing in 1940, which subsequently informed their studies.

Year Ten artists sketched along the banks of the River Severn and visited Worcester Cathedral as the starting point for their summer's studies that culminated in some large-scale mixed media work.

Artists in Year Eleven enjoyed a study day in the Oxford museums at the start of their examination year to inspire their work. The Lower Sixth site visit explored the architecture, commerce and museums in Birmingham at the onset of their course work component.

One highlight in the Art department calendar was the annual residential trip that inspired subsequent examination work. Sixth Form artists joined with Textiles students, guided by Mrs Bishop, Mrs Matthews, Mrs Hunt and Mr Gilbert, in a visit to London to soak up the museums and galleries. The highlights included some live drawing 'en plein air' in Trafalgar Square, a bracing and lively outdoors studio if ever there was one, the Saatchi Collection, Savile Row and Brick Lane.







## MUSIC

Chamber Choir sang Evensong at Christ Church Oxford and also led the 'Lights Of Love' service at Worcester Cathedral in aid of St Richard's Hospice. The other School ensembles and choirs all performed at the Autumn Concert, which also featured the department's newest ensemble; our brass band. The concert ended, memorably, with a spirited rendition of Pharell Williams' HAPPY by senior choir. Our Big Band and Senior Jazz ensembles had their own concert shortly afterwards, reflecting the strong tradition of jazz ensemble playing at School.

The Music Department also provided the band for this year's show, 'Guys And Dolls'. With the exception of Messrs Hamilton and Adlington, the band was made up entirely of RGS pupils; extremely rare for any School show.

The School Carol Service started with the candle lit Introit and procession. The service continued with some superb singing from Chamber Choir, Senior Choir and Junior Choir. Mealar's carol 'I pray', juxtaposing his music over 'Silent Night' sung by Junior Choir was a real highlight. This was followed by the beautiful final choir carol, Lauridsen's 'O Nata Lux', a final rendition of 'O Come All Ye Faithful' and exit for all into the Christmas holidays.

The first major concert of the Lent Term is now the Senior Piano Concert, which this year featured the Belarusian pianist Maya Irgalina as the guest soloist. This concert has become a real highlight of the year, with a parade of senior pianists of at least grade 6 standard (and more often well past that level) performing beautiful repertoire in Perrins Hall.

Cabaret, as ever, featured the Big Band and Senior Jazz ensembles providing the backdrop to a number of outstanding vocal soloists, including a new composition by Carys Selvey and a performance by a new Junior ensemble behind Tazmin Barnes.

The Annual Choral Concert in Worcester Cathedral this year featured Rutter's 'Gloria'. Many hours of preparation in all three RGS Schools were brought together on the day and fitted over the orchestral parts. There were three memorable aspects to the performance that evening; the haunting, lonely solos for solo winds and solo vocal group, the magnificent brass section sound and the whole choir moving through several time signature changes as the final movement drove its way to the climactic ending. The concert had a particular highlight in Quantz's Double Flute Concerto. Our two Upper Sixth soloists, Toby Messervy-Whiting and Andrew O'Hara played beautifully over a really super chamber string orchestra put together especially for this event.

The Trinity Term sees the focus fall more onto Lower School with tea time concerts, highlights of which were incorporated into the June Summer Concert. This resulted in memorable solo performances from Isabella Hulbert (Year Eight), Liam Leonard (Year Eight) and Megan Wang (Year Nine). Liam Leonard received the Lower School Music Prize this term, when he played Debussy's 'Arabesque No1' at the awards ceremony. Chamber Choir made a return visit to Worcester Cathedral to sing Evensong early in the term before the whole school returned on 28 June for the annual Commemoration Service. This year's musical offerings included Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' alongside an arrangement of Coldplay's 'Hymn for the Weekend' and Piazzola's 'Oblivion' from our Senior String ensemble with Ellie Morgan joining them as solo flautist. This event was just part of one of the busiest weeks for music we have ever had here. On 29 June we had 'Jazz on the Lawn' from our Jazz ensembles as part of the annual creative Arts Faculty Evening, followed by a first for RGS Worcester on 30 June; hosting a world premiere of a work 'Through These Pale Cold Days' by the composer Ian Venables in Perrins Hall. This new work was a song cycle of settings of First World War poetry for tenor (the BBC young artist Nick Pritchard), piano and viola. It was an absolutely mesmerising performance of starkly beautiful, dramatic music from this nationally acclaimed composer of English songs. The Music Department's contribution was to open the concert with a repeat of the Piazzola 'Oblivion' and Senior Strings playing an arrangement of the 1st movement of Mozart's Symphony No 25, the ensemble led by their outgoing leader, Georgina Hamilton.



# DRAMA

The department went on a large number of theatre trips through the Michaelmas Term, clocking up one every two weeks, ranging from the hard hitting '1984' in Bath to 'Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' at the Lowry in Manchester.

The GCSE Drama performance evening was a collaboration of both Year Eleven Drama classes performing very challenging material to another packed audience. We are very proud of what they achieved and it was a fantastic evening. The same weekend saw Team Drama yet again changing the stage ready for the A Level exam evening. A restricted, strictly 16+ audience were privileged to witness the darkness of Sarah Kane's '4:48 Psychosis', John Godber's hilarious, yet poignant 'Shakers' performed by the Lower Sixth, and the Upper Sixth's creative adaptation of Anthony Burgess' novel 'A Clockwork Orange' ...another evening of great theatre!

In January, Lent Term trips began with A Level Drama & Theatre Studies students going to 'The Rocky Horror Show' at the New Birmingham Alexander, where it was plain to see and experience the cult following for which this show is famous. We were even lucky enough to sit with a member of The Rocky Horror Show's UK fan club who knew all of the audience script! The next day we had the opportunity for our Sixth Formers to be led through a practical Theatre Lighting workshop.

In March we took a number of Years Seven and Eight pupils to see Hetty Feather at the Birmingham REP, followed by the Year Ten trip to see DNA & The Red Helicopter at the Crescent Theatre. This was all rounded off by a fantastic workshop from Worcester's Vamos Theatre who led Year Eleven pupils in a fantastic Mask workshop.

The Drama department went Stateside for five days over the summer to sample Broadway. The group was led by William Ilkley from Drama Arts Productions, who has just started a National Tour in 'The Full Monty'.

Residing in Queens, we participated in stage workshops focusing on dance and the opening number from 'The Producers'. We also sampled NYC's glitz and glamour as we went to Radio City to see the Rockettes in the New York Spectacular. We then went on to experience the raw passion, emotion and power of 'The Color Purple', led by Britain's very own Cynthia Erivo.

We followed the tourist trail, visiting the traditional sights such as Central Park, the Rockefeller Centre, 5th Avenue and Coney Island, as well as Times Square. We saw two auditions at the world famous rock and roll Ellen's Stardust Diner and visited Grand Central Station and the Statten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty. This was all in stark contrast to the gravitas of Ground Zero, where we were all struck by the atmosphere and the perfect tribute to those unfortunate lost souls.

It was a true pleasure to travel with such a fun and engaging group of students who represented RGS admirably.

Mr Dan Morgan, Drama





## FILM CLUB AND RGS ANNUAL FILM MAKERS' FESTIVAL

Film Club ran every week through the year, with pupils working hard to prepare their own films, to air in front of an audience at the second Annual RGS Film Makers' Festival in May.

When the occasion finally arrived, budding film-makers from Year Seven through to the Upper Sixth arrived at the glitzy Godfrey Brown Theatre in their finery with the hope of claiming one of the seven awards up for grabs. Films had been entered into categories such as Music Videos, Mini-Feature Films, Novel to Screen and Silent Movies, as well as Special Effects and the Randoms. A near-capacity GBT experienced laughter and tears as RGSW's answer to the BAFTAs, witnessed LEGO animations, horror films and countless Music Videos, which ranged from pop to the bizarre.

As the audience voted online, popularity swung numerous times across all categories finally settling on their favourites. Nicholas Holden, Toby Messervy-Whiting and Kate Gardner claimed the Novel to Screen prize with their look at the Potter, Grainger, Weasley love triangle of 'Harry Potter: Love on Top'. Next up was the Benny Hill inspired 'Untitled' Silent Movie of Ed Smith, Ben Walker and Harry Nelson. Then came the very entertaining Junior Music Video category which saw 'Bloodstream' by Anna Berry, Abbie Whiteley, Isabella Hulbert and Kasia Czyrko take first place.

For the 'Special Effects' category, the very creative Ciara Cronin-Brown took an inspiring 93.85% of the vote with 'Cracks'. Ciara then returned victorious in the 'Random' category with the hilarious, and complicated 'Stranger Danger'. We moved on to a very closely fought Senior Music Round, which was won by Katie Lawson's 'Madhatter'. Finally, the evening came to a close with the 'Mini-Feature Film' category where Oliver Bailey was victorious with his epic LEGO stop-frame animation 'Star Wars: The Bomb'.

The evening was a huge success and was enjoyed by all and a huge Film-Making 'thank you' should go to all of those who entered films, and supported the evening.

## SIT DOWN YOU'RE ROCKIN' THE BOAT...

There was definitely no sitting down for the cast and crew of the Senior School Musical 'Guys and Dolls' as Broadway came alive on the GBT stage. It all began before the summer holidays and culminated in a five show sell-out run.



This fantastic musical comedy, with a vast array of characters who sing and dance their way through crap games in sewers, bar brawls in Cuba and a Mission meeting just off Broadway, was a production of distinction. Fast paced, energetic and full of vitality, the performance quickly absorbed the audience into the contagious atmosphere of downtown New York.

From the start a pace was set by the sixteen-piece band of mostly pupil players conducted by Mr Hamilton: throughout the performance the band set the tone of great precision and dynamism. The cast showed their versatility as they alternately danced, sang and acted their way through the story. Transitions between set pieces and spontaneous dialogue were unobtrusive and the moods of the scenes faded delicately into one another. There were some finely choreographed dances from Sarah Thompson and some spectacular chases. There was humour and there were sentimental moments. The audience laughed, marvelled, applauded... and also had their heart strings pulled.

Hanna Sykes was outstanding as Sarah Brown, ably complemented by Ben Hughes as Sky Masterson: together their performance showed that elusive chemistry of an unlikely couple finding themselves in love.

The quality of this production is testimony to the overall controlling vision of its Artistic Director, Mrs Witcomb. In choosing the score and casting the characters, as well as motivating the support team of individuals too numerous to mention here, she achieved another triumph for Drama at RGS.



## ROMEO AND JULIET

The RGS Theatre Company's production of 'Romeo and Juliet' was a timely reminder of Ben Johnson's comment that "he was not of an age but for all time". Set on a beach, the production brought out both the youthful energy that animates the early scenes and the tragic consequences that darken the second half of the play.

The set design was particularly ingenious: three individualised beach huts provided a variety of levels, entrances and exits that allowed seamless transitions between locations. A seascape projected behind the set, not only contributed to the setting, but also served as a poignant reminder of the unpredictability of fortune in determining the fate of the characters. Music underlined key moments in the development of the action.

Catherine Lunn was a convincing Juliet, and her impressive interpretation of the role complemented Charlie Day's powerful Romeo, whose moods varied as the tragedy unfolded. Their relationship was subtly defined throughout the performance.

In her programme note Mrs Witcomb said that 'Romeo and Juliet' was her Shakespeare directing debut. For many of the pupils involved this was also a first – the opportunity to perform a play that they had studied earlier in the School. All involved – cast, director and crew - deserve to be congratulated on an evening that delighted the audience and brought Shakespeare to life in a new and challenging way.





## WONDERING IN GRAMMARLAND

This year's Lower School Production 'Alice's Adventures Through Grammarland,' directed by Mr Morgan, was a truly memorable and unique theatrical experience.

A promenade performance, it was set in a variety of locations within the School and featuring several different interpreters of Alice. The audience was invited to choose a particular Alice to follow and then encountered the various characters of the book.

The Cheshire Cat was located in the bell tower above Clock Block, the Red Queen played croquet on the Headmaster's Lawn and the final trial scene took place in Main Hall. The characters replayed their scenes with different Alices and groups of the audience visited them.

The Mad Hatter's Tea Party was a magnificent highlight with virtually every character present and taking an individual part, flanked on all sides by the entire audience, it was spectacular and mesmerising as each young performer confidently played their part.

The committed design and technical team created costumes and settings that transformed both individuals and locations into that significant other which is the basis of Lewis Carroll's own vision.

Max Collins, who played the White Rabbit said, "I feel very lucky to have been part of the School's first promenade play. The beautiful RGS grounds were a great backdrop for Alice's weird and wonderful adventures. The whole cast displayed an enormous amount of enthusiasm and I absolutely loved being The White Rabbit (Steampunk style!)"



## COMPUTING AND IT

It has been another exciting year, with a range of activities for each year group. Year Seven pupils enjoyed a full term programming. They learned how to develop an idea, plan and then code a multi-level game using Scratch (photo 14). The results have been fantastic, with some great innovation and technical competence - we are excited to see some very talented coders emerging in Year Seven.

Year Eight pupils proudly waved the RGS banner as they participated in their first ever Lego Mindstorms competition. Having learned to code the Lego Robot (EV3) in Coding Club, the pupils were put to their test and attempted to beat other teams from established clubs. The team showed determination and teamwork, as they progressed through the stages of the competition, each making a personal contribution to the team and celebrating each other's achievements.

As we prepare for the next Lego Mindstorms competition (Photo 12), we were pleased to welcome a number of pupils from Year Seven to the Coding Club. They learned how to code and control the EV3 Robots, with the guidance of pupils in Year Eight, who were able to offer their wise counsel from last year.



Over the course of the academic year, each year group was introduced to a range of programming languages. This was challenging for Year Eight pupils, but by learning to code web pages using HTML and style the page using CSS, we achieved some great independence and innovation. Through learning to code drawings and animation using Javascript, our pupils gained a far wider awareness of different uses for programming in the real world.

Year Nine pupils produced some very effective systems using the Arduino board, and enjoyed learning how to code using the Arduino language. Having the opportunity to experiment with physical components such as LED lights, Piaggio device and temperature and tilt sensors, they experienced how technology can be used to interact with everyday objects and how embedded computers can be programmed to perform specific routines, such as controlling traffic lights.

A well-established trip to The National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park enabled Year Nine and Sixth Form pupils to associate the theory of Computing and Mathematics with important innovations of the past, which have influenced the modern use of technology. It is not every day that one of our pupils gets to control the world's oldest working computer.

Year Ten pupils reached the finals of the national BIMA Digital Day competition (Photo 15) and came an impressive 21st place out of 200 schools. It was a very good indication of the team work, creativity and application that the team deployed during a very intensive day.





# SPORT

## ATHLETICS

The RGS Athletics season started with matches for Year Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten against King's School Worcester. The Girls won the Year Seven and Nine Competitions but drew the Year Eight and Ten events. The Boys won the Year Seven and Ten competitions but lost the Year Eight and Nine events. Considering it was the start of the season there were some great performances the highlights of which were Darian Moore in the Year Eight 100 and 200 metres and a school record for Jodie Ruane in the Year Seven Girls 1500 metres.

As the season progressed we moved into the City Championships and as in previous years RGS was the dominant force with thirteen girls and eighteen boys being able to claim the title of City Champion. Among these Champions there were double wins for Lottie Atkinson and Darian Moore in the Long Jump and 200m, Tim Haggitt in 300m and Discus, Amy Vickery in the Discus and 400m and Ria Pedlingham in 100m and Shot. All these athletes would now progress to the County Championships later in the term.

The Under 14 and Under 16 Boys and Girls competed in the English Schools Track and Field Cup at Nunnery Wood and all athletes from all teams performed superbly and for the first time in 5 years all teams progress to the regional A final in Tipton on 20 June where they would compete for the chance to go to the National Track and Field Cup Final. It was a wet day at the regional final and all athletes did their best to run faster, Jump higher and throw further. When the scores were announced we were delighted to learn that the Junior Girls had managed to beat all the teams in the Midlands to win the event and keep local rivals Bromsgrove in second place in the process. The Girls were now in the National Final to be held in Bedford on the 2 July.

As well as the City Championships and English schools competition we have had a number of friendly fixtures culminating in our home fixture at Nunnery Wood Athletics track on the 18 June. We hosted eight schools across three age groups and, with the sun finally shining, there were some superb performances. It was the last chance for the senior Athletes to represent the School Senior Girls Athletics Captain Amy Vickery led the way winning the 400m, Discus, High Jump and the Senior Relay - a truly magnificent performance from a fantastic Captain.

Other top performances of note this season came from Darian Moore, Year Eight who now holds the Under 14 and Under 15 boys 200m record with 23.9 seconds and the Under 14 Boys Long Jump record with 5.75 metres. Seb Thompson also in Year Eight broke the Under 14.80m Hurdles record with 11.9 seconds. For the Girls Jodie Ruane broke and re-broke the Under 13 Girls 1500m record with a time of 5 minutes 8 seconds and the Under 13 800m record with 2 minutes 34.9 seconds. Emma Brinkley now hold the Under 16 Girls 4kg Shot Put record with 9.58 metres.

As the regular athletics season drew to a close the Junior Girls were looking forward to their English Schools Final in Bedford. We set off at 7.30am from School and when we arrived there was plenty of excitement and some nerves as the girls saw how big the event was. This event was far different from anything they had experienced before. Before each track event the girls had to register 15 minutes prior to the start, warm up on the indoor track and then in true Olympic style they were paraded in front of the stands to their start line and each assigned a kit person to look after their kit and take it to the finish line for them. The field events were also incredibly professional with no coaches allowed inside the track and all distances and heights for each competitor being shown on a scoreboard for the crowd to see. The girls knew that the competition was going to be tough as they were going into the final in 13th place out of 13. This was actually great news as it meant there was no pressure, we were already in the top thirteen in the country so it was all about the experience and trying to improve our individual performances and increase the team total. The conditions were good and every girl gave it their all, there were too many individual performances to mention them all but they knew they had worked hard and as we sat down for the results we felt confident we had improved our score and possibly our position. We were right we had increased our points total from 338 in Round 1 to 352 in the final, a massive points jump which also pushed us into 11th place nationally. A fantastic performance by all involved, well done girls!!



## CROSS COUNTRY

Twenty-four pupils represented the School in the first round of the ESAA Cross Country with the best performance coming from the Inter boys who finished fourth out of eight teams. George Beardmore and James Dipple finished fifth and sixth respectively. The best individual performance overall came from Jodie Ruane, Year Seven, who finished third in the Junior Girls.

In the City Championships, the Year Seven girls' race was won by Jodie Ruane with Holly Fox coming fifth. Oliver Nixon finished Seventh in the Junior Boys with Alex Shaw ninth. The most notable other performances came from George Beardmore who finished second in the Inter Boys, Beatrice Price and Imogen Still who came fourth and fifth in the Inter Girls and Rees Bonham who came sixth in the Junior Boys.

George's performance qualified him to run in the County Championship and subsequently at the National Championships where he joined Nixie Turner and Lewis Sternkopf who were running in the Senior Events. All performed creditably with Nixie achieving the highest placing of 129 out of 307 competitors.

The annual RGS Spring Relay Cross Country event took place at The Grange on Friday 4 March with teams from RGS The Grange, RGS Springfield and the Senior School competing in four different races against teams from eight other schools. RGS The Grange won both the Under 11 races whilst the Senior School finished second in the Boys Under 13 and third in the Girls Under 13 competitions. Philip Darbyshire ran an exceptional 5.29 third leg to help the Boys team of Bradley Roberts, Tim Haggitt and Olly Meredith to second place, whilst the fastest lap of the day in any race was recorded by Jodie Ruane whose 5.22 final lap lifted the Girls team, including Lottie Atkinson, Ella Waites and Emily Seymour-Perry from sixth to third place.

Jodie's performance in the Spring Relay was one of many exceptional performances during the year which saw her become Under 13 Girls Worcestershire County Cross Country Champion, winner of the West Midlands Young Athletes Cross Country League and the Junior Series Triathlon Championship. Perhaps she will go on to emulate Jenny Nesbitt who won a Gold medal as part of the GB Under 23 team at the European Cross Country Championships this season.



## FENCING

Fencing remains as vibrant as ever at RGS, with the new Year Seven able to follow the excellent examples in the years above. Once again, Danielle Lawson performed on the international stage. She finished last year as the top ranked Cadet (Under 17) Woman Epeeist in Great Britain: this year, moving into the Junior category (Under 20) she quickly moved into the top four. She finished the year ranked second in Great Britain at Under 20 and an amazing twentieth at Senior level. She also has an international ranking at Under 20: she is currently 90th in the world, which is an amazing achievement. She leaves the School this year and the club said a fond, if somewhat sad, farewell at the end of the Trinity term.

With such a lead to follow, it is unsurprising that the younger fencers excelled too. Abi Watkins, Year Nine, started the year as part of the Welsh National team at Cadet level and had amazing success. She has been fencing regularly in the Leon Paul Junior Series and is currently ranked 2nd at U15 for Girls Epee. She is also ranked 19th at Cadet (Under 17) and 24th at Junior (Under 20) Women's Epee in Great Britain. Will Osborne in Year Eight is also pushing his way up the rankings. He has been fencing regularly in the Leon Paul Junior series and is currently their top ranked Boys' Epeeist at Under 15. This position places him 39th in England at Under 15 Boys' Epee.

Will is not alone in Year Eight. Jon Edgson, Tom Ehlers, Tom Hislop, and Ben Wastie are all fencing regularly and they joined Danielle, Abi and Will at this year's Public Schools' Fencing competition in Crystal Palace. All performed well, with Abi taking fifth place in the Girls Mount-Haes (U14) Epee and Danielle retaining her first place (which she won last year) in the Girl's Senior (U18) Epee.

In Year Seven, we have a number of keen fencers looking to join the team at Crystal Palace next year and we have high hopes for further success (particularly as all the boys will still be fencing in the same age group).

Looking at their enthusiasm and determination, all our fencers look set to continue Danielle's impressive legacy.



## CRICKET

After a cold and wet start to the season, all sides from the Juniors to the Seniors produced some excellent cricket. Indeed, encouraging cup runs from the 1st XI, the Under 14s and the Under 12s are evidence of the enthusiasm for the game of cricket in the School.

The 1st XI Captain Amar Jawanda took the lead right from the start of the term, taking a magnificent 7 wickets for 24 runs against KES Birmingham and Rhodri Williams scored a superb century in the rain-affected game against Monmouth. Then followed some very good t20 wins in the National KO only to be denied in the regional semi-finals by a strong Shrewsbury team. The victory over King's was our 16th against them since 2000 with only 3 losses. A poor end to the season reduced the win:loss ratio to 11:9. As they leave, Amar Jawanda, Suleyman Shah, Robbie Watts and Ollie Saunders can all be proud of their 1st XI careers.

The 2nd XI have not fared too well this year, losing several fixtures to the weather but also losing matches due to the lack of runs. Rhodri Williams was lost to the 1st XI and a decent bowling attack has not been supported by runs from the bat.

The 3rd XI almost won their only fixture of the term chasing a mammoth 217 from Warwick. James Kimberley, with 93\*, took them to within 10 runs of victory!

The Under 15s have played some excellent cricket but it has not been consistent. A tremendous victory over Warwick suggests there is sufficient talent in this side to become a very good team. Benn Llewellyn and Joe Corlett have worked very hard on their batting, Tom Matthews can produce devastating bowling when he gets it right and Paddy Lawton's work in the field has not gone unnoticed.

The highlight of the season for the Under 14s must be their excellent win over Malvern College in the semi-final of the County Cup. An attack spearheaded by Niall Southwick was augmented by some very promising spinners in James Mann and Tom Godwin. Consistency with the bat will make this side much better in the future.

The Under 13s had a very good start to the year but have struggled a little since half-term. However, there are some talented players in Ben Sutton, Sam Ford and Jude Rees amongst others.

Winning 7 and losing 4, the Under 12s have had a good season, reaching the County Cup Final. Jacob Morgan-Iqbal has ability with both bat and ball – he took a hat-trick against Sir Thomas Rich's, and William Godwin scored an excellent 47 in the rain-affected match against Monmouth. The B team also had a good season, the highlight being a last ball victory over King's.





## HOCKEY

Lydia Edwards led the 1st XI team with pride and passion throughout the season. The season's pinnacle moment was beating Malvern College. The team also had an outstanding result against Pate's Grammar School, winning 7-0. This season has also seen its share of lows and losses, but the nature of this team means no one ever dwelled on that for long and they continued to work hard in every game. Goal scorers were plentiful in the senior squad, with eleven first team players scoring goals throughout the season. The 2nd XI had a challenging season, but captain Lucy Darby kept spirits high and they had a good win against Princethorpe College and twice drew with King's.

Year Seven girls started their RGS Hockey career successfully, with the A team winning 10 of 13 matches and being crowned County Champions before going on to become Regional Champions. Maddie Shaw was crucial in this success as top goal scorer whilst newcomer to hockey, Grace Rhoden, worked her way up into the A team only a few weeks into term.

In the Under 12 B team County Tournament the girls played well to reach the semi finals, but sadly went out on shuffles. Every Year Seven girl represented RGS in Hockey, with A to F teams playing throughout the season. The results were mixed, but all the girls made excellent progress and thoroughly enjoyed taking part.

The Under 13 A team were victorious at both the Seven and Eleven-a-side County Championships, as well as winning the prestigious Cheltenham Ladies College Tournament. In the seven-a-side Regional Finals the girls stormed the group stage. However, this winning streak came to an end when knocked out by Trent College in the final seconds of the semi finals. This team's results reflect a consistently high quality performance, particularly from Lottie Atkinson and Issy Nott, who scored over 50 goals between them.

The Under 13 B team were runners up in their County Tournament. A great reflection of this team's progress, led by captain, Lyra Hancock, was the result against Bromsgrove School in their final game of the season, a 4-1 win, compared to losing 0-1 at the beginning of the season.

The Under 14 team made an excellent step up to eleven-a-side, hockey, qualifying from the County Tournament to the Regional Zones, then on to the Regional Finals. They showed flair and composure in the group stages at Regionals, winning all of their games, with exceptional performances from Sophie Thompson, Lucy Hawkes and Grace Francis, before going out in sudden death flicks. For the first time at RGS we fielded an Under 14 B team. They were undefeated in the four games they played, beating King's School Worcester twice.

The Under 15 team started the season on a high with wins against The Chase and Malvern St. James. After some challenging games and great resilience led by captain Abigail Marsh, they were then delighted to finish Michaelmas term with a win against King's. Their season concluded with an outstanding performance against Edgbaston High School for Girls, winning 3-0, all three goals scored by this team's top goal scorer, Imogen Sinclair.

Our indoor programme was expanded this year with consistent weekly training and competitive fixtures leading up to the Under 18 and Under 16 County Tournaments in which we demonstrated the ability to compete with more experienced teams. Off the pitch, girls from the Senior and Prep schools visited the Wembley Arena for the England Hockey Indoor Finals in January and Champions Trophy in June. We concluded our season in March with an evening of celebration, speeches and awards in a packed Main Hall.



## NETBALL

2015-16 has been another fantastic season for RGS Worcester Netball, characterised by success in every age group. September saw the addition of Mrs Atkins to our experienced coaching team. She has proved a real asset and has introduced a number of positive innovations over the course of the year.

RGS fielded six teams at Under 12 level for the first time this season, providing an invaluable opportunity for every Year Seven girl to play Netball competitively. The Under 12 A-F teams produced some high quality Netball and scored 410 goals. Highlights include the Under 12B team losing only once and finishing runners up in their Worcester City Tournament whilst the U12A team won both the Worcester City and Worcestershire School Games tournaments.

The Under 13s also had a brilliant season winning the Under 13 Worcester City Cup and finishing as runners up in the Worcestershire County Tournament. The Under 14s only lost two games and were also crowned Worcester City champions. At Under 15 level impressive performances saw a number of notable victories recorded. The Under 15A team were successful against Malvern College (30-12), Hereford Cathedral School (14-4) and Solihull School (20-4) and the Under 15B team enjoyed wins over Pate's Grammar School (15-10), King's High School For Girls (12-6) and Solihull School (12-2).

Not to be outshone by their Junior counterparts, the Seniors had another remarkable season finishing as Worcester City Champions at Under 16 and Worcestershire County Champions at both Under 16 and Under 19 levels, as both teams progressed to the Regional Finals for the second year in a row. The number of girls enjoying their netball continues to rise and the School regularly fielded four competitive teams at Senior level. To confirm the ever-increasing strength in depth of RGS Netball the 2nd VII lost only 3 out of 16 games.

Other season highlights include the first Alumnae Netball Tournament, which saw two teams of past RGS Netballers taking on the current First and Second teams in a closely contested competition that I am relieved to say was won by the current 1st VII. It was great to see so many familiar faces returning to play and hear their tales of life after RGS Worcester.

In a new venture designed to inspire a passion for and increased understanding of the game, 50 RGS Worcester netballers made their way to the Genting Arena on the 30 January for the inaugural Vitality Netball Superleague Super Saturday. They witnessed an action packed day of netball as the 2016 season started with a bang.

Concluding a remarkable year, on Saturday 19 March 2016, over seven hundred RGS Worcester spectators poured through the doors of the University of Worcester Indoor Arena hoping to see the 'Girls in Green' defeat King's and lift the University of Worcester trophy for the second year in a row. Both teams played with skill, dynamism and commitment and momentum shifted more than once during a keenly contested contest, before RGS's superior tempo and precision saw them pull away in the final quarter to record an impressive 44-25 victory. Supporters enjoyed a fantastic event celebrating the success of Girls' sport and when RGS Worcester Captain Laura Curtis lifted the trophy the applause was deafening.

Without the support and encouragement from parents, staff and supporters, this year's achievements would not have been possible. I would like congratulate and thank all team members, parents, supporters and coaches who have given so much time and energy to RGS Netball this season and produced such a fantastic season.

To conclude it has been another outstanding year for RGS Netball and it has been a pleasure to be a part of such an enthusiastic and passionate RGS Netball community. I look forward to the future with eager anticipation.









## ROWING 2015-16

We started off the 2015/16 season with a mini-training camp and a win for the J17-18 Boys' coxed four at Ross Regatta. Ashley Nock, Joe Essery, Josh Crump and Ben Thomson were delighted to be presented their winners' cups by double Olympic Gold Medallist, Andrew Triggs-Hodge MBE.

We were blessed with good weather and low water levels throughout Michaelmas term, which meant our new J14 and J15 rowers had plenty of water time before the winter closed in. It was time well spent when our annual sprints against King's in early May resulted in 11 wins for our Boys' and Girls' quads.

There were some good performances in the Michaelmas term with a win for Ben Thomson in Novice Men's single at Worcester Autumn Head, and a win for the J18 boys' quad (Harry Gemmill, Alex Thorburn, Josh Crump and Ashley Nock) at Marlow Long Distance Sculls. With Joe Essery subbing in for Josh Crump, the crew also picked up a Bronze medal at Pangbourne Junior Sculls.

The Lent term was marred by frequent floods, which meant water time was very limited. The J14s and J15s competed at the South of England Indoor Rowing Championships where Alex Owen was awarded Gold and Ben Walker Silver in the J14 boys' four-minute sprint. J15 boys, Blake Parker, Felix Haynes, Josh Warner and Harry Chaplin, rowed their socks off in the 2k team and picked up a well-earned Bronze medal – just a second off Silver.

Back on the water, our crews competed at Head of the Severn, Avon County and Gloucester Spring, where there were two wins for Senior Girls and Boys. The J16 girls' crew of Francine Bath, Elodie Williams, Olivia Sparks and Darcy Simon, coxed by Hannah Goldney, won the Women's Novice coxed four event, while the Boys' quad of Ben Thomson, Josh Crump, Alex Thorburn and Harry Gemmill, won the Intermediate 2 coxless quad event.

There were further wins at West Midlands Rowing Championships with Gold for Ashley Nock and Ben Thomson in the J17 double and Bronze for the J16 coxless quad crew of Alec Berry, Jordan Barnes, Harry Smith and Matthew Hill.

Our main event of the Lent term was the Schools' Head of the River Race, over 6,800 metres on the River Thames. The J18 quad came 15th of 30, the J16 quad came 9th of 15 and the WJ16 coxed four came 6th of eight. All enjoyed the experience and were pleased to have beaten crews that had previously beaten them.

Our first regatta of the season was at Birmingham where our J14s raced for the first time on the water. There was a Gold medal for the J14 double of Ben Walker and Alex Owen. Our next regatta wins came at Worcester in May with Alec Berry and Jordan Barnes winning J16 double, Harry Smith winning J16 single and Alex Thorburn and Ashley Nock winning the J18 double.

We sent 28 rowers to National Schools' Regatta, our biggest entry for several years. In the Championship Double Ashley Nock and Alex Thorburn achieved 19th place – our highest Championship placing for a number of years. At the younger end of the age range our J15 boys' quad – Felix Haynes, Fraser Sparks, Harry Chaplin and Blake Parker (coxed by Guy Milton and Robert Aitchison) – came tenth in the B quad event and raced a semi-final that put them into the B Final, where they were placed fifth.

Our last regatta weekend of the season saw RGS Worcester picking up four wins. At Stratford the double of Darcy Simon and Francine Bath won the Women's Novice event, while the Novice Coxed Four crew of Alec Berry, Harry Smith, Jordan Barnes and Matthew Hill (coxed by Tabitha Bradley) took the win after beating Monkton Combe.

At Thames Valley Park Regatta the Senior Boys quad (Harry Gemmill, Ashley Nock, Ben Thomson, Josh Crump) produced a win after beating Wallingford by half a length. Harry and Ashley then jumped into the double where they waltzed through the semi-final and then raced one of the closed races of the day to win by three feet against St George's and Hinksey.

With lots of talent coming through the younger age groups I am looking forward to reporting many more wins next year!



Francine Bath, Elodie Williams, Olivia Sparks, Darcy Simon and Hannah Goldney, winners of the Women's Coxed Four at Gloucester Spring Head



Winners of the IM2 coxless quad at Gloucester Spring Head Ben Thomson, Josh Crump, Alex Thorburn, Harry Gemmill

Jordan Barnes, Matthew Hill, Tabitha Bradley (coxswain), Alec Berry and Harry Smith, winners of the Men's Novice Coxed Four at Stratford Regatta



Medallists at South of England Indoor Rowing Championships 2016



Easter Rowing Camp 2016 participants



Josh Crump, Joe Essery, Ben Thomson, Ashley Nock collect their Ross Regatta winners' pots from double Olympic gold medallist Andrew Triggs-Hodge



Francine Bath and Darcy Simon win the Women's Novice Double Scull at Stratford Regatta



## RUGBY

RGS Rugby has continued to grow and improve this season. With over 95% of boys in Year Seven representing RGS on the rugby field, there was a friendly and welcoming atmosphere amongst the new intake. Overall results across all years have also improved and at the end of the season RGS had three teams ranked in the top ten in the National School Rugby league table.

The wealth of talent in Year Seven has led to plenty of movement between teams with boys who started in the C team progressing right through to the A team. The Year Seven A team has only lost one match against Warwick and only by 5 points showing the determination and talent within this group of players. The B and C teams have developed over the season and it was great to watch the C team get a well-deserved draw against Pate's Grammar School.

The Year Eight boys have had a tough season and struggled to find their momentum but a good win against Old Swinford Hospital School help to spur them on and they achieved a respectable 50% win ratio. The Under 14 boys A team have only lost two matches with a positive points difference of over 200. The Under 15 A and B teams have proven themselves to be the strongest teams in the school, although the Under 12 boys have run them close. The Under 15A team have had a 20 match unbeaten run from Year Nine into Year Ten, only losing to Warwick in the NatWest Cup in the last match of the season. The B team are the only unbeaten team in the School this year and have trained and played with a level of skill most schools would love to see from their A teams.

In Senior rugby the Under 16 and 3rd XV combined this season to allow greater movement of players throughout the Senior sides. Although it has been a tough season for the 3rd XV, the team has performed admirably under the leadership of Wilf Jenkins. The 2nd XV have flourished this season under the coaching of Mr Andrew Brownhill and have been the most successful 2nd XV at RGS in recent years. Elliot Downes has lead from the front having proved himself as a tough and dynamic player on tour in South Africa and continued in the same vein of form, earning himself numerous appearances for the 1st XV this season. The 1st XV have had a much improved performance on last season and have demonstrated they are able to maintain composure into the dying moments of matches and be clinical in their finishing. Players' Player of the year Rob Aikman has joined us this season from Heathfield School and added a powerful penetrating edge to our back line. Rob scored in the first match of the season at KES Birmingham and cementing his position in the team. Josh Nott returned to RGS and played a pivotal role at Fly-half, running the game and making key decisions. Gus Thomas has been a passionate Captain and always given 100% for the RGS cause.

As we look back and cherish a successful season we also start to look forward to next season and how we can further improve the RGS Rugby brand and continue the pride and passion felt by all the players and parents who are part of this RGS Rugby Family.





## FOOTBALL

Our Year Seven and Year Eight sides were unbeaten in the term. The Year Seven team are blessed with ability and quality across midfield, where the combination of Dylan Griffiths, Jack Cheney, Jacob Morgan-Iqbal and Oliver Nixon dominated the opposition in every game. They also have in Jack Hodgson a natural goalscorer. In Year Eight, in addition to the quality of the three Midlands ISFA representatives, Jude Rees, Seb Thompson and Tommy Edwards, they have the pace, power and finishing of Darian Moore. In Year Nine, Sam Chamberlain was the outstanding defender, Tom Godwin, with five goals in seven games the focus of the attack. Tom also set up Ollie Witcomb for their goal of the season at Monmouth. Year Ten had a staccato term, with long breaks between games, however they also had their best moment of the term at Monmouth where they scored in the last 10 seconds to secure a 4-4 draw. It is no coincidence that all of our teams played their best football at the end of term, with the benefit of preparation earlier denied to them by the dreadful weather.

At the Senior end of the School both First and Second XIs were made up of a mixture of youthful energy with a smattering of experience. The seconds were also unbeaten, helped by the experience of Ollie Saunders, Nick Humphreys and Robbie Watts, plus the energy of Cameron Hall, Ollie Trobe and Louis Dear. The First XI had a statistically disappointing term, losing six out of seven games. Of the defeats, all but one were by one goal and our inability to defend set pieces – because of a lack of physicality – cost us. I look forward to watching the group next year, bigger, stronger and with additional experience. I confidently expect the outcome in 2017 to be very different.



## ROUNDERS

The Under 16 Rounders team concluded a remarkable, undefeated season by becoming the National Champions in a tournament held by England Rounders at Leicester University.

The highly skilled team demonstrated determination and composure throughout a fiercely contested tournament and were an absolute credit to the School. They were awarded medals and a golden bat in a ceremony at the end of the tournament.

Following the event, the team was invited to a brunch with the Headmaster to celebrate their success. The Headmaster commented, "I would like to personally congratulate all the members of the team and the coaches for this superb achievement. We are extremely proud to be National Champions."

The team consisted of Abigail Marsh, Georgia Padbury, Issue Eberlin, Beth Hill, Imogen Sinclair, Eleanor Allsopp, Even Beardsley, Lauren Beardsley, Eleanor Niel, Alex Smith, Elizabeth Wilkinson. In addition to this, three pupils represented England Rounders Squads, - Evie Beardsley, Alex Smith and Imogen Sinclair.

The Rounders season had many other highlights. The Under 15 A team had a great season, winning every match bar one, with the most notable victory over Cheltenham Ladies College with a score of 29.5 to 8. The B team also had some excellent matches, including an exciting win against King Edward's, Birmingham, with a final score of 9.5 – 7.5.

The Lower School had a strong start to the season with several notable successes. Firstly the Under 13A team won against King's 16-5, followed by a nail-biting match between the Under 13B team and the Malvern St James' Under 14 team which was won 17.5-17. The Under 12A team convincingly beat Hereford Cathedral School 12-6.5 and the Under 12B, not to be outdone, beat the same team 12.5-6.5.

The U14A team completed the season unbeaten. They showed great team work, with the phenomenal bowling skills of Evie Beardsley and backstop Alex Smith, preventing most batters from getting past Gemma Moseley at first post. A particular highlight of their season was the convincing win over local rivals King's 21-7. Not to be outshone by the A team, the B team also performed to a particularly high standard and came away with a convincing 15.5-9 win against Kings.



## GOLF

The season started with a close match against Dean Close School, which took place at the neutral course of Puckrup Hall. Emily Furniss and Rebecca Whitehouse had comfortable wins and George Cook fought hard, winning on the last. Alfie Cook and the Captain Jack Wrehitt played out an intriguing half against their opponents concluding that RGS won their first match of the season, three against one.

A highlight of the season was against Malvern College in a format known as a 'Fourball better ball'. Here, players play as a pair with the better score of the two counting towards the result of each hole. In the front match, Captain Emily Furniss and Rebecca Whitehouse halved the match with Emily calmly holing a 35-foot putt to level the match on the 18th green. Following on from this Tom Beardmore and Alfie Cook won 3 and 2, playing superbly as a team and both playing well under their handicaps. In the last match, debutants Matt Hammond and Louis Dear scored a famous victory, prevailing 4 and 3. Therefore the match finished with RGS claiming victory by two and half points to a half.



To conclude the year, the popular annual "Parents vs Pupils vs Staff" competition took place for the first time at Bransford Golf Club, moving from the traditional Boughton Park venue. This proved a popular move to a course known for its treacherous bunkers, long fairways and endless water; it was going to be a test for all of the players. It ended in a convincing win for the staff. The parents, winners in 2015, took the Wooden Spoon this year, with the pupils a close second place.





# CAREERS, DEBATING AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT



# CAREERS

After a very successful first year, The Careers Department has been going from strength to strength. Pupils from all ages have now become accustomed to the Careers Library space and are happy making appointments at lunchtime to discuss all manner of issues from where to gain work experience to the benefits of becoming a member of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society. The Careers Library has become an integral part of our community; a space to drop in and ponder the future. I have been particularly impressed that the younger years are using the space as much as the Sixth Form. It is imperative that RGS pupils are enthused about their futures early on, in order that they have a genuine goal for which to strive.

Our objective this year has been to develop and expand our new initiatives. The programme of monthly Careers seminars continued throughout the academic session and included speakers from Thursfields Solicitors (Law), Malvern Instruments (Chemical Engineering) and the Police Force. We extended our offering to the wider Worcestershire community and invited pupils from other schools to attend the seminars, along with our own pupils.

The Department organised numerous trips for different age groups such as to the Worcestershire Skills Show, Malvern Young Generation Innovators and a STEM lecture by Aston Martin. We were invited to tour our pupils around Mazak and now we are working with them to pilot the first-ever Girls Only Industrial Cadets week.

The most exciting event this year was our Careers and Higher Education EXPO, which was held in March. It was the biggest Careers event in Worcester and we had over 120 delegates present. The list of local and national companies included JLR, Bosch, Triumph Motorcycles and Speller Metcalfe. RGS pupils were rubbing shoulders with engineers, orthopaedic surgeons, sculptors, graphic designers, computer analysts and the list goes on.

Over 30 UK Universities were represented in Cobham Hall, alongside agencies that can advise on the next step in Apprenticeship Levels. All pupils and parents were invited to attend with several other secondary schools in Worcester. The buzz and excitement was a sight to behold and it was wonderful to see so many former pupils coming back to RGS to offer to their advice and support to the next generation.

Perrins Hall was taken over by the international contingent of Universities and we played host to The Student World Midlands Tour. RGS pupils got to talk to representatives from the LA Film academy or learn about studying in the Netherlands amongst many other opportunities. It was a highlight of the year for the Department and truly showcased the diverse opportunities that exist for our pupils.

It was a tremendous success for the Department to receive the Chamber of Commerce Award for Best Education and Business Partnership for Herefordshire and Worcestershire, and then in the Regional Awards. As a School, and as a Department it is essential that all our young people get the opportunity to engage with the wider world and particularly look to fill the skills gap which exists in the UK Business community. Ours is a unique approach; we aim to give our pupils the best from education and engagement here in school while also, wherever possible, inviting the wider community to events. The Head of Department in conjunction with the UCW Business School, has been in consultation with other educationalists and together we are working to develop stronger communication between schools and the business community; thus creating the opportunities for our young people.

The Department is gathering momentum and I look forward to working with the University of Worcester on a Sixth Form Enterprise and Employability course in the new academic year, along with a bigger and better EXPO.



# DEBATING

The 2015-16 debating season continued to build on the successes of the last few years, when the RGS pair of Nick Humphries and Toby Messervy-Whiting, were crowned as the Regional Winners for the West in the English Speaking Union (ESU) Mace. We have been fortunate again this year to have the opportunity to work with Thursfields Solicitors, who have supported us in our competitions as well as through visits and input into our debates by Lauren Hartigan-Pritchard of Thursfields.

The season started auspiciously with victory again in the Turner Cup in October. Nearly 30 debaters from RGS Worcester, King's Worcester, Bromsgrove School and Malvern St James competed in a close-fought competition across four tables with RGS winning by two points from King's. This was mirrored by early success in the regional Mace competition for Year Eleven, the Taylor Trophy, won for RGS by the Year Eleven pair of Nadiath Choudhury and Jane Thurgood.

The season then began to hot up, with teams from Year Eleven to the Upper Sixth competing in National competitions, such as Birmingham and Warwick Schools, Durham Schools and the Oxford and Cambridge Union competitions. Our pairs came sixth at Birmingham University Schools and seventh out of 76 teams at Warwick, both times missing out on the final by a single point. Sam Wilson and Lucy Hope also reached the prestigious Oxford Union finals, one of only eight teams

from the Midlands to do so, while Katy Fellows and Scott Whitefoot made it through to the ESU Mace Regional Finals.

The Junior and Middle years have also grown and developed this year, with over fifty students involved on a weekly basis, and the Middle School pupils taking part in the International Competition for Young Debaters and the ESU Public Speaking competition. House debating dominated the second half of the Lent Term. Ottley was victorious in the Junior competition, while Whiteladies won the Middles and Wylde the Seniors.

The year finished with the black tie Debating Dinner. Around fifty Senior debaters gathered in Main Hall for a feast of magnificent food, witty speeches and the thoughtful after-dinner contribution of Mr Craig McDonald, a debater from the University of Cardiff who spoke to us about the benefits and skills involved in debating.

It has been another hugely enjoyable year of debating, with all three Societies increasing in strength and skill. Nick Humphries with the Upper Sixth competition debaters did a great job on committee, and we look forward now to welcoming Tom Peake and his new Committee in 2016-17.

Miss J Waller, Head of Debating



# ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

## THE BILLINGHAM SOCIETY

Named after the School's distinguished alumnus, Dr John Billingham, the Billingham Society was launched towards the end of the Michaelmas term for all students in Years Seven to Eleven.

This year, the Society has held seven or eight lunchtime or after-school meetings and events each term, exploring a range of topics and different disciplines. In the Michaelmas term, students investigated Human Rights at lunchtime, while the first after-school meetings of the Society looked at 'Anthony Gormley - The Body as Art-Form' and used the microscopes in Science to look at mini-beasts.

Further sessions have followed over the year on topics as diverse as 'The Geography of Other Planets', 'How NASA went to the moon' and 'Do animals have rights?' There were also more hands-on sessions on, for example, up-cycling plastics as well as a fish dissection during the Trinity term.

## SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT

As well as sessions run by individual departments, Sixth Form Enrichment is delivered through a weekly timetabled lesson. A number of students embarked on a one year Level 2 Community Sports Leadership Award or Extended Project Qualification, the latter worth half an A Level, with 93% of students who completed the EPQ achieving Grade A/A\* last summer. Students interested in applying for Oxbridge have also had the opportunity to attend targeted sessions during this time.

The majority of the courses, such as Astronomy, Politics, Economics, Ancient Greece and Printmaking, are five weeks in length, led by specialist teachers with the Sixth Form taking part in four each year. There have also been a number of events with, for example, the Sixth Form debaters leading a hugely successful EU referendum debate in June, while speakers have addressed the Sixth Form on topics such as Nineteenth Century Literature, NASA and the relevance today of the poetry of Walter de la Mare.

Miss Jane Waller, Head of Enrichment







# HOUSE REPORTS

COLBY CHILDS (RGS 1930 - 1936)  
SCHOOL CHURCHMAN COLBY CHILDS

# HOUSE REPORTS

The reigning champions Wylde began the year in a determined and confident mood. An experienced House Leader and a highly motivated set of Wylde students made them the bookie's favourites. After having spent her first year as House Leader learning the tricks of the trade, Miss Waller had her own plans for Whiteladies.

Mr Morgan became the new House Leader of Ottley. They won competitions over a range of activities: Cricket, Athletics, Football and Hockey. The winning Dance routine of their Juniors was dazzling. Ottley will be back next year with the benefit of experience.

Elgar dominated the Tennis, Golf and Creative Writing competitions as well as winning a range of sporting competitions.

Wylde have won more than their fair share of House competitions, in all areas: Athletics, Badminton, Dancing, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rowing and Debating.

The House Art and House Dance competitions have been running for several years. The standard has soared, presenting the judges with the difficult job of differentiating between excellent works.

The Year Seven pupils joined the House system in January and brought enthusiasm to their competitions. The volume of cheering from the spectators at the inaugural Tug-of-War competition was deafening. Wylde won most of the Year Seven House competitions.

After a gap of two decades House Drama is once again on the agenda. The accomplished thespians of Wylde became the first winners in this new era.

The whole School came together for the culmination of the House Competition on Sports Day. A warm dry day provided ideal conditions for cheerful, energetic competition. It was great to see students enjoying themselves, trying to outrun, out jump or throw further than rivals, amidst great encouragement and interest from the crowd.

At the end of the first term, Whiteladies led Wylde in the table by a clear 11 points. After an energetic Lent term, Wylde managed to cut this down slightly. A relentless string of Whiteladies victories in the first half of the Trinity term guaranteed them the Championship well before the starting gun was fired on Sports Day. There has not been such a large winning margin in recent years.

The contribution of all eight House Captains was a significant factor in the success of the House System over the last year.

Mr Mark Ralfe, House Co-ordinator





## ELGAR HOUSE

Elgar was determined to improve on the results achieved in 2015 and we set our sights high at the beginning of term. It took some time to record our first win and gain momentum, indeed we had to wait for the final weeks of the term, when all of a sudden, like buses, three wins in succession were celebrated. Congratulations to our Year Ten Hockey girls who won all their matches comfortably. Lizzie Platts, our ever-reliable House Captain, won the Christmas Card competition, surprising even herself with undiscovered artistic talent, and James Harris scored a 75 minute try in the Senior Rugby to win the competition for the House.

At the end of the Michaelmas term, Elgar held a close third place, only two points behind Wylde.

A particular strength in the Lent term was the quality of our Netball. Ably lead by the Silvester twins, Madlene and Janina, we stormed to victory in the Senior Netball and our Year Eight Netball players, inspired by this, also secured a fine win. We hope Elgar Netball will be equally dominant next year! In a nail-biting finale, our Junior General Knowledge squad of Robert Aitchison, Ben Sutton, Edward Kirby, Emily Caldwell, George Oates and Gemma Collins snatched a victory and were very impressive with the depth of their knowledge from a variety of subjects. The Lent term concluded with Elgar retaining third place, but with Wylde extending their lead over us and Ottley closing the gap behind, it was clear that the final term would be a close battle between Ottley and Elgar for third and fourth place.

In the Summer term, the Golf competition was played on the challenging Ravens Meadow Golf course, where Elgar entered two experienced players; Emily Furniss and Tom Beardmore. The pair achieved a memorable win.

The Year Ten Rounders team won all their matches and the Year Seven and Eight teams also won their Tennis competitions with good performances from Jack Cheney, Isabel Pepperall, Josh Wares and Brandon Sarfo.

As a result of the summer activities, going into Sports Day, we had a slender lead over Ottley, being ahead by just three points! Whiteladies and Wylde were unassailable, but with 40 House points on offer, it was going to be a nerve-racking finish to ensure we secured third place.

Sports Day was blessed with beautiful weather and there were many exceptional performances on display. With great team work and imbued with Elgar House spirit, Year Seven girls and the Senior boys were the stars. Lewis Sternkopf won the 800m and then the 1500m immediately afterwards.

Year Seven pupils were fired up for their first ever House competitions and the boys' team loudly announced their arrival by winning a number of events; Brad Roberts won the 1500m, Philip Darbyshire won the 800m and Seb Thompson won the Long Jump and the Hurdles, breaking the school record for hurdles in the process. (11.26s). As a result of this incredible effort, Elgar won one more House point than Ottley and were delighted to avoid the wooden spoon and finish on the podium in 2016.

However, even with the Sports Day successes, Elgar had not done quite enough to overtake Ottley in the House table and had to be content with 4th place overall.

Overall, this was a fantastic first year for Elgar and it is clear that the House is full of talent. Ambition and endeavour are clearly evident across all year groups and there are many positives to take into the new academic year in September.

Mr Jon Friend, Head of Elgar House





## WHITELADIES HOUSE

This has been a magnificent year for Whiteladies. Led by the inspirational and fabulous Ollie Lord and Annabelle Elcock, we were hoping to go one better than last year and win the annual House competition.

We started strongly: throughout the Michaelmas term, we came first or second in every competition, bar two, winning Year Eight, Nine and Ten Rugby, Junior Chess, Art, Senior General Knowledge and Year Eight Hockey. By the end of Michaelmas, we were already eleven points clear at the top of the table.

The Lent term proved to be one of defence with Wylde in particular pushing us hard. However, wins in Intermediate Debating and Year Eight football as well as a lot of second places meant that we only yielded a point of our lead over the term.

The Trinity term was amazing. Not only did we defended our lead, but we were victorious in Year Seven, Eight, Nine and Senior Cricket, in Year Seven, Eight and Nine Rounders, in Shooting and Maths, in Year Nine/Ten Tennis and in Year Eight and Ten Boys' Athletics and Senior Girls' Athletics. These wins assured us of the championship with a 26 point lead over the other houses. It also meant that the Year Eight Boys were undefeated all year!

This would not have been possible without the support of the Whiteladies staff and the incredible participation of the Whiteladies students who have been consistently fantastic, always turning up for events and giving their absolute best.

It is the contribution of every single member that makes the winning difference and I thank all pupils for their involvement. I wish the House good luck as they enter a new era with Miss Binner taking the reins for 2016-17. Leading Whiteladies has been a pleasure and an honour, and I am so thrilled that the Whiteladies has achieved this thoroughly deserved success.

Miss Jane Waller, Head of Whiteladies House



## OTTLEY HOUSE

Henry Ford once said that “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” Nothing could be more true for Ottley House where we find that we are still coming together. As the year has progressed, we have worked together well, which is promising for the future.

The Otters of Ottley have had a mixed year, with mixed fortunes. We had a successful innings with House Cricket, and impressed with Dance and Football. We were also strong in Debating, and the final Sports Day.

The fight for places in the House League has been intense with both Elgar and Ottley trading places throughout the year for third and fourth places, only to fall into fourth place by a mere four points. Congratulations must go to Elgar, for a strong end of the year, having trailed Ottley for the majority of the year. We will learn from this and come back stronger.

Participation has been at an all time high with a majority of the House representing Ottley with passion, energy and drive which is the perfect building block for the oncoming year. I am immensely proud to have led Ottley for the year, and to take them on for a second where we can build on this start.

A huge thank you, must go to our House Leadership team which was steered with expertise by Ed Welch and Amy Vickery. We also welcome this year's Captains of Rob Aikman and Ploumy Coutsiouri who I am confident will take up the challenge.

I will sign off with Churchill's words of wisdom; “Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

Lutra Esse Malo

Mr Dan Morgan, Head of Ottley House



## WYLDE HOUSE

This has been a rather inconsistent year for the House of Wylde – we have been absolutely brilliant in many events such as the Senior Dance and Badminton and not so good in others. I must say though, the leadership displayed not only by the House Captains Hollie Lunn and Gus Thomas but also by a very strong Upper Sixth contingent has been tremendous. At no time during the difficult year was there any question of doubt that we would eventually prevail over Whiteladies. Historically strong means little at times for in September all Houses start with the same number of points.

In the Michaelmas term, we started very strongly with wins in Badminton and Chess. Statistically speaking our statisticians were confident of 'giving' the opposition an eight point lead at Christmas and then coming from behind in the next two terms. Historically we were strong in Netball and again reaped an above average score for these events. By the end of Michaelmas, we were eleven points behind but still confident.

The Lent term was an attritional term. When we did well, Whiteladies matched us and when we did not do well, Whiteladies maximised in those events. It was a very hard term and morale was quivering. It needed a Charlie Day soliloquy to rouse the House. It worked and we stealthily closed in on Whiteladies... one point at a time. The question was 'Would we get there in time?' as the number of events was running out.

The gap at the start of the Trinity term was ten points and we knew it was going to be even tougher now, as history tells us that the House that is leading into the Trinity term always prevails. We were going to have to rewrite the record books to win the House Championship this year. We started with Cricket – not one of our strong events, which was then followed up by mediocre Rounders and Tennis results. We were going to leave the big push to the end and trust that we could come up with the goods in the Athletics. And so it happened. We came good in winning the Year Seven Boys and Girls, Year Nine Boys and Year Ten Girls Athletics competitions.

Unfortunately it was not enough and we had to concede defeat to the 'black socks'. Hearty congratulations to Whiteladies – it was well deserved. But next year Wylde House will be back.

I finish by thanking everyone who has contributed to the determination and the will to succeed this year. The 'Spirit, Commitment and Loyalty' shown has been tremendous.

And remembering that 'One swallow does not make Summer' means that we shall be back to try to reclaim the prize next year.







# COMBINED CADET FORCE

# COMBINED CADET FORCE

## ROYAL NAVY SECTION

I have been writing these reports for many years now and over those years I have always taken great pride in the Royal Naval Cadets and their achievements. This is due in a great part to the fantastic enthusiasm and quality of the A.Bs (Able Seamen) in the Section. With a small group of nine bristling new recruits and the high quality Senior Rates that we possess it has been a great year. The Cadre of the Lower Sixth has set the tone and the character of the Section; they have carried the burden of responsibility extremely well.

It was pleasing to see further commitment and loyalty to the Section as the vast majority of the ODs completed and passed the A.B. exam. The new Year Nine students have also laid down a positive marker for attitude and enthusiasm with a superb Activities Week – indeed it is with great enthusiasm that Year Nine have put into everything they have done in the Trinity term that has furthered the rejuvenation of the Section.

### EXPEDITIONS

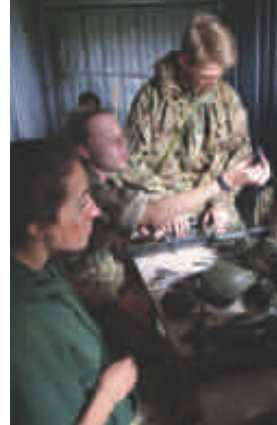
We visited HMS Raleigh in Plymouth for another week long RN Acquaint course. Here the cadets excelled at fire fighting and performed admirably on the obstacle course. Highlights included the team tackling HMS Chaos – the Plymouth DRIU (damage repair instructional unit) equivalent to HMS Havoc in Portsmouth. As befitting such a trip it was good to see the cadets improve upon their standard of dress and drill as all eyes were potentially upon them. Another highlight of the year was the three days adventurous training during Activities week where the cadets practised all manner of skills involved in the outdoors water life. Whether it was coasteering or Sea Kayaking or surfing it was all done very professionally and with great smiles on their faces. The Section also went to HMS Excellent on two occasions during the year and responded well to the challenges of sleeping on board HMS Bristol and then claiming successes on board HMS Havoc.

Cdr Jon Shorrocks



## ARMY SECTION

Two of the key principles of the CCF are to promote resilience and leadership in pupils. There is no better arena to improve in these two areas than by attending the Cadet Leadership Course. During the Easter break, four of the Army Sections leading cadets attended a week long leadership course at Nesscliff Army Training Area. Below are extracts from Corporal Rory Nelson's experiences on the course.



On joining our fellow cadets we were all stripped of our rank and mixed up to form two platoons, which we remained in for the duration of the week. We pulled "straws" for which rank and job we would be undergoing each day. I drew a Lance Corporal rank slide which meant I would be acting as Section Commander the following day.

Over the next 36 hours we were trained in the additional skills that we would need to use to successfully complete the course successfully. We were thrown into an intelligence gathering scenario which also involved aspects of defense and hostile aggression against enemy forces.

After we deployed into the field, we honed our military skills: house clearances, hostage rescues, casualty rescue and evacuation, ambushes and section attacks. Each activity naturally lead into the subsequent one, with more information gained each time eventually led on to a platoon attack to confront enemy forces. The training we received during the week had not been wasted. Effective and decisive decisions needed to be made at a moment's notice in order to achieve our objective. Despite our depleted energy levels, we managed to make the right decisions and the designated outcome.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the leadership course. I learnt that jumping into situations is not always the wisest option, and that stepping back and evaluating my options is a better course of action. I also learnt that by pushing myself beyond what I thought were my limits I achieved more than I thought was possible.

Corporal Nelson attended the Easter leadership course with Corporals Ria Pedlingham, James Harris and Nicola Ralph.

In the last week of term, the Army Section travelled to Nesscliff Army Training Area for their summer camp and were joined by nearly 200 cadets from other contingents. The training was extensive and the hours were long. Breakfast at 0600 became the norm, but the experiences gained by the cadets were worth it!





## RAF SECTION

We began the year joining the Army and Navy Sections for the poignant First World War visits to Belgium and France. For many of us it was a time to pay our respects to all the young soldiers who lost their lives there and, in particular, to those who had attended the School. We all found the experience very moving.

As the year progressed, Year Ten continued with their flying lessons at RAF Cosford in spite of the notorious English weather. This was an incredible opportunity for the young cadets to learn how to fly in the Grob Tutor. This aircraft has great visibility and is agile enough to allow it to perform full aerobatics, which all cadets enjoy! In the Trinity term Year Nine joined the lessons too.

For the Field Day in March, we were given the opportunity to visit the base of RAF Brize Norton and we were not disappointed! Ever mindful of safety, cadets began to climb high ropes in a very exciting session. Most of the cadets tackled all of the obstacles and some were far outside their comfort zone, which tested their courage and trust in each other. We also learned how to marshal a Land Rover and how to use a large forklift. One of the highlights of the day was a visit to 47 Squadron Engineering and the opportunity to look around the flight deck and hold of a Hercules C130J. We finished with a visit to Air Traffic Control where we learned about the role of the Tower as well as criss-crossing the base whilst planes were landing and taking off.

In the summer, Year Ten cadets joined the Royal Naval section during Activities Week whilst Year Nine led by Mr Friend, went to the Forest of Dean for their annual camp. One of our cadets was also able to attend the Cyprus RAF Summer Camp which was an excellent experience.







# DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

This year the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme celebrated its Diamond Anniversary. To mark this milestone, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh hosted a garden party at Buckingham Palace. The Headmaster and I were privileged to attend, joining representatives from all the other Award Schemes from around the United Kingdom. A number of young people received their Gold Awards from HRH The Duke of Wessex and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh whilst being supported by family in the company of a host of celebrities from all walks of life. During the afternoon we exchanged an RGS plaque in return for a DofE Diamond Anniversary plaque to mark the involvement of the thousands of pupils from RGS, who over many, many years have been part of the DofE Award Scheme.

I am delighted to report that over the many years I have been involved in the DofE Award Scheme, the enthusiasm and appetite to commit has never diminished. At RGS we give our students a genuine choice. They are given an option to do a walking, canoeing or sea kayaking expedition. This year, as now seems to be the norm, all our students have chosen to participate in a water based expedition.

First mention this year must go to the eight brave and intrepid soles who ventured with me up to Scotland for their Sea Kayak training. The wind proved too strong for us to venture to the Outer Hebrides, as was our original plan, hence we stopped short at Skye. We did some training out of Plonkton and then a practice expedition around Raasay and Rona. We all joke about the Scottish weather, but the trip this year was undoubtedly the wettest of any trip I have ever led. Hence my congratulations go to the group for their continuously optimistic outlook. It was certainly not a trip to be forgotten! Meanwhile Mrs Nichols took over a dozen Lower Sixth Form pupils down the Tay. They enjoyed the delights of sunshine and a much drier forecast.

The Upper Sixth canoe group successfully completed an expedition down the Wye. Following on from this, another Upper Sixth Group organised and completed an expedition around the Stockholm Archipelago in Sweden.

Staff who lead DofE trips from other schools often ask "So what makes your (RGS) trips different?"

"It is not formulaic" I reply. "The students organise everything themselves." The answer lies in a recent trip where, due to staff illness, I found myself unexpectedly packing a bag with 24 hours' notice and heading off to Stanstead with an Upper Sixth group.

The group of intrepid students was well prepared, well equipped, fit, as well as all being able paddlers and navigators. The expedition was a great success and, as we sat around a camp fire on the final night, the assessor shared his thoughts on the group and the trip. He was keen to highlight how comfortable he felt about the way they had handled the paddling, in such a safe and effective way. He quickly moved to comment how he appreciated the toll that five days, camping wild and being self-sufficient can take and how living outdoors is a challenge in itself. Learning to be a useful and helpful member of the group at all times is paramount. He commented on the group's appreciation of the difficulties faced when tired, hungry, cold or stressed and they stepped outside their comfort zone. He said that all the participants had acknowledged at one time or another they had been tested. They had been pressed outside their comfort zone and they were the better for it, and as such they had learnt something about not only others in their team but, more importantly, something about themselves.

That is really why we offer the DofE at RGS: to allow our students to learn something about themselves. I ask only one thing of pupils who do DofE at RGS and that is to be kind to each other, look after each other, help each other. I was privileged during the course of this trip to observe RGS students doing exactly that.

The Lower Sixth group are striving for a sunny and warm location to complete their Upper Sixth expedition, post their Raasay experience. Croatia has been muted. I hope they enjoy planning their trip during the course of the coming academic year, and I look forward to receiving an invitation!







# DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

# THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The year was busy, productive and enjoyable with a number of alumni events held, some for the first time, as well as significant fundraising initiatives taking shape.

In September the 20/20 Bursary Campaign was launched with the goal of delivering an additional 20 bursary funded places by the start of the 2020 school year. Currently, the Governors are able to offer 45 bursary-assisted places and the Campaign will provide additional bursaries through donations from alumni, parents and friends of the School. The alumni community has responded positively to this request for support and the intake of pupils in September 2016 will include those who are benefiting from one of the new 20/20 Bursary places.

A number of parents of the Class of 2015 chose to donate funds to have the faded First World War Alumni memorial upgraded in Perrins Hall. In Spring 2016 two brass plaques were installed which was fitting for the year that marks the centenary of the Battle of the Somme where RGS former pupils were killed.

In October the Development Office welcomed reunion visits from the AOS Classes of 1994 and 1998. The ladies were delighted to see their old school in such good shape and particularly enjoyed the tea and iced buns that rounded off the tour, as well as getting the opportunity once again to sing the AOS school song together, *Candida Rectaque*, on the apse in Main Hall.

The Development Office's inaugural alumni golf day took place at Worcester Golf Club in October when players

battled it out for the Biggs-Rodway Quaich. Tom French (1974-81) was the winner with Andy Baker from the same RGS vintage a very close runner-up. Guests managed a quick turn-around to get to Sixways Stadium for the annual RGS v King's rugby match. RGS alumni were welcomed into a dedicated hospitality suite for the evening.

Perrins Hall in November was the venue for the Alumni Armed Services Reunion Dinner where former pupils who had joined the military following RGS were welcomed back to the School. The last such event was held in 1987 so this was long overdue. The Bursar, a former Navy Commander, was in the Chair and welcomed guests back to what was a most entertaining evening. The Navy slightly edged the Army in the representation stakes on this occasion.

Springtime in London saw RGS alumni gather for an informal drinks evening at Stefan Porter's (1999-2006) wine bar. The following day saw RGS alumni lunching at The East India Club. These two events brought together former pupils whose years at RGS spanned 1946 to 2014 and it was great to welcome RGS alumnae to the drinks reception, a sign of the future for alumni gatherings.

The year was rounded off with an alumni weekend celebrating 130 years of cricket being played on Flagge Meadow. A very entertaining dinner was held in the pavilion and was followed on the Sunday morning with a T15 tournament. Players flew in from China and the USA to play such was the appeal.

Mr Scott MacDonald, Development Manager







## STAFF JOINERS AND LEAVERS



# STAFF JOINERS



## MR TUKI ROUNDS

Mr Tuki Rounds joined RGS Worcester as Assistant Head (Co-Curricular) from Colston's School, Bristol where he was Head of Religious Studies as well as a sports coach and Head of Outdoor Education and International Expeditions. He is a former 1st XV Rugby player, 2nd XI Cricketer, Cross Country Runner, CCF member, Drama Lead (in Joseph) and singer.

His mantra is, 'The more a person does, the more a person is – do more, be more' and encourages everyone to make the best of what they can be. He says that RGS is well placed to offer something to everyone and believes that co-curricular activities delivered effectively, are beneficial to academic and social progress.

Half Fijian and a Bath Rugby supporter, he is looking forward to the annual Modus Cup and describes the opportunity to play at a stadium like Sixways as "rare and fantastic". He wants all pupils to have a 'Modus Cup moment' during their time at RGS and his ambition is to drive a stimulating co-curricular programme, which leaves students with simply too much to fit on a UCAS form by the time they come to apply to University.



## MISS GRACE WILLIAMSON

After the retirement of Angela Park in July 2015, the helm of the Religious Studies Department has been taken over by Miss Grace Williamson. Miss Williamson graduated from Durham University with a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Music, and then started her teaching career at Felsted Preparatory School in Essex before moving on to Gordano School in Bristol as Head of RS.

Miss Williamson has thrown herself into life at RGS Worcester with energy and enthusiasm, singing with the Chamber Choir at the Carol Service, on Open Mornings and at Evensong in the Cathedral. Music is a passion for her – she plays the piano and has sung in choirs all of her life. Most notably her female acapella trio sang at Downing Street for the Royal Wedding of William and Kate, and at the 2012 Olympics in London. She also loves a good debate and has quickly become involved in the Debating Society as well. With Miss Williamson in charge, exciting times are ahead for the RS Department.



## MRS DEBORAH EARLE

Mrs Deborah Earle has joined the English Department, initially to cover Mrs Davis' maternity leave. Originally trained as a nurse at Guy's Hospital, London, Mrs Earle studied with the Open University and did a PGCE as a mature student. Before joining RGS, she worked in Stourbridge at Ridgewood High School as Head of English. Mrs Earle's spare time is taken up with three children and five grandchildren. She is a keen photographer and theatregoer, and she also trains with British Military Fitness.

# STAFF LEAVERS



MISS SARAH JOHN

Miss John joined the Science Faculty in 2011 to lead the Physics department after a period of significant change in staffing. She led the department from the front, significantly improving results in the process. She has overseen the successful implementation of three new specifications; two at GCSE and one at A Level and was the driving force behind the Billingham Observatory which was constructed at RGS The Grange. Supra-curricular Physics has also been incredibly strong during her time as Head of Department. The GCSE Astronomy course was introduced during Sixth Form enrichment lessons and has been keenly attended, GCSE, AS and A Level Physics Olympiad results have been excellent and the Engineering Education Scheme has been incredibly successful over the last few years. All who have been taught by her have benefitted: her lessons were always engaging and enjoyable.

Sarah has also been a valued member of the Duke of Edinburgh family, assisting with the Silver Award. Her no-nonsense approach to life will be missed and we wish her well in her new job.



MR GREG NICHOLAS

Mr Nicholas joined the Physics department in 2010 after a career in Engineering. During his time at RGS he was heavily involved in the co-curricular life of the School. He oversaw the Under 14B Rugby team, assisted with and then ran the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, helped with Athletic fixtures and organised Physics residential trips to CERN. He was also instrumental in the construction and then setting-up of the Billingham Observatory and assisted with the teaching of Astronomy during Sixth Form enrichment lessons. His relaxed style made him very likeable to both peers and pupils, and he was incredibly helpful to staff who shared his passion for cycling. We wish him well in his new job.



MR PAUL O'SULLIVAN

After 28 years of sterling service to RGS, Paul O'Sullivan has retired gracefully this year. Whether delivering inspirational and insightful Geography lessons, managing and administering the School's Football 1st XI or latterly acting on behalf of the staff as Chairman of the Common Room, Paul has always been a committed professional. This loyalty to the School and the passion to see it be successful over a long period of time, could possibly be due to the fact that he has been part of the community not only as a member of staff since 1988 but also as an Old Boy (1969-76), 35 years in total!

The staff, pupils and alumni all wish Paul the very best for his retirement.

# STAFF LEAVERS



## MR TIM CURTIS

Mr Curtis has been an integral part of RGS Worcester for well over 40 years. He joined RGS in September 1970 as a fresh-faced 10 year old (he was a year ahead academically). He played Cricket for the 1st XI when he was 13 and went on to Captain the 1st XI and the 1st XV as well as being Head Boy for two years before going on to study at Durham and Cambridge Universities. Whilst being a professional cricketer with Worcestershire he taught English and Games in the two winter terms from 1984 to 1997 and then, after a very successful career in Cricket, captaining the County side and playing for England, he retired as a professional cricketer and took up a full time post at RGS in 1997.

Mr Curtis quickly established himself as a passionate teacher of English as well as passing on his vast knowledge of Cricket, Rugby and Football on the games field. In 2005 he became Director of Sport and over-saw the introduction of girls' sport as well as establishing a strong coaching team across all sports. Much of the success we see on the RGS sports field is down to his meticulous organisation and commitment.

Passionate, intelligent, erudite and highly competitive – we hope these qualities of Mr Curtis's will not be lost to RGS in the future as we wish him a long and happy retirement.



## MR MIKE VETCH

Mr Vetch left RGS at the end of the Trinity term after 30 years of dedication to teaching French, Rowing and a host of other activities including his involvement in the School's Bridge Club. Throughout his time, Mr Vetch has shown enormous commitment to every aspect of school life. He has dedicated many hours to the Department's Language Laboratory and shown admirable commitment to the teaching of literature at A Level and to the promotion of grammatical awareness, even when trends in language teaching have been moving away from such approaches. The recent reintroduction of compulsory literature at A Level, and a more rigorous grammar-based approach at GCSE at a national level, have fully supported his approach.

The French Exchange in particular enabled him to bring the French language to life for generations of Year Nine students, who would always return with renewed enthusiasm for the language and culture of France.

Mr Vetch has been very successful in communicating his love of Bridge to younger players, who faithfully attended Bridge Club every week. Pastorally, he has been a particularly engaged Form Tutor, who worked tirelessly with weaker students to raise their performance. Unsurprisingly he is a teacher whom students always remember warmly, even many years after they have left the School.



## MRS PAULINE CROSS

Mrs Cross has been a kind, reassuring and successful teacher in Learning Development over the last four years. Being a Psychology graduate, as well as an experienced, specialist teacher, has given Mrs Cross the ability to clarify situations with perspicacity. Her wide knowledge of EAL students has been invaluable in successfully supporting our Chinese students. Her counselling skills have soothed many a troubled pupil and sadly for RGS she is needed elsewhere now – she has become a grandmother for the first time and wishes to help out her family. As she lives next door, we will still see her around and keep in touch. We wish her the very best for the future and a long and fulfilling retirement!



# STAFF LEAVERS



## MRS VANESSA JAMES

After completing her degree at Oxford, Mrs James embarked upon a successful career in banking; it was only once her sons Dominic and Laurence were attending RGS The Grange that Mrs James applied to join the Classics department part-time. Since then, she has seen plenty of change at RGS, and she has always striven to put the success of her students first.

A captivating teacher, Mrs James had her students hanging on her every word when teaching her beloved literature in Latin and in Classical Civilisation. She produced definitive revision resources, especially for the GCSE Classical Civilisation courses, and has led very successful trips in the UK and Italy.

Beyond the department, Mrs James was integral to the Oxbridge successes of recent years. She was a Sixth Form Tutor for a time, and even helped to run school archery. Her dedication, drive and boundless generosity with time and wisdom will be sorely missed by all.



## MR STEVE ALEXANDER

Mr Alexander cruises off into the sunset and his retirement having delivered a sterling service to RGS, and the Geography department in particular, since 1992. In latter years, as Head of Geography, he has led the department with professionalism, dedication and an unfailingly positive manner. Many students have benefitted from his unparalleled subject knowledge and unique style of delivery in the classroom; his sharp wit and dry, deadpan sense of humour have made him somewhat of a legend to those who have had the good fortune of being in one of his teaching groups.

Mr Alexander will be greatly missed not only by the Geography staff, the Common room as a whole but certainly, and most importantly of all, by the pupils who hold him in the fondest of regard.



## MRS NATALIE DAVIS

Mrs Davis joined the English department three years ago from Cheltenham College. She taught English across the full age range and students at all stages enjoyed her dynamic teaching and well-prepared lessons. Mrs Davis recognised the vital role of film and new technology as a means of harnessing interest, but this never undermined her key objective, which was the stimulation of enjoyment of good books and challenging literature from all genres.

Mrs Davis was an enthusiastic netball coach and in the summer, she both coached and accompanied participants to many Athletic events. She was also an officer in the CCF. At lunchtimes she helped to run the Junior Debating, where her kindly, supportive approach encouraged many reserved younger pupils to voice their own tentative opinions on the issues of the day.

Whilst her enthusiasm, commitment and warm-heartedness will be missed, we also thank her for her significant contribution while at RGS and wish her every happiness in her time at home with her new baby.

# STAFF LEAVERS



## MR DAVE COTTERILL

For the past 37 years Mr Cotterill has been one of the School's most passionate teachers, with far-reaching achievements. He embarked on his career at RGS as teacher of Art, Technical Drawing and Woodwork in 1979. He was soon promoted to Head of Department and his passion in the role helped to secure a budget of one quarter of a million pounds for a whole new Craft Design and Technology (CDT) block in Little London.

Mr Cotterill has continually inspired his students to produce some of the most innovative project work in the country. The first major competition success was the BP Build-a-Car Competition in 1988 followed by the Machine Tool Technologies Association (MTTA) design and build competition in 1994. Under his guidance, pupils have made an impressive number of wins in the Young Engineer for Britain competition, the Technology Design and Innovation Challenge and the Young Inventor competition. In all, there has been success in at least 30 major awards!

Incredibly, 42 of his pupils have secured the coveted Arkwright Scholarship Award since 1997 - quite possibly more than any other school in the country.

In 2010 his outstanding contribution to the teaching of Design and Technology was recognised by the Design And Technology Association (DATA), who awarded him the 'Mathematics and Design and Technology Award'.

Mr Cotterill has always been a space enthusiast and in 2008 he got close to achieving his dream when he earned a six week sabbatical to North America where he travelled around various NASA establishments studying manned moon landings.

His next project was an aluminium, battery powered racing car. It was ready for the start of the 2010-11 Greenpower F24 racing season and gained first place three times, and a third and fourth place. Development and racing of the car continues to this day and is a legacy that will no doubt continue well into the future.

Mr Cotterill attributes some of his success to the few changes there have been to departmental staffing over the last 37 years. Conversely, the small change in staffing should be attributed to his leadership; always efficient, organised and with good direction. He will be sorely missed by students and staff alike.

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Sharon Griffiths and Christina Scales joined us in September 2015 and were with us for one academic year. We would like to thank them for their contribution to the School.



# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION AND CHARITIES



# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION AND CHARITIES

## CHARITIES

Again this year, the Year Eights stole the show with a magnificent £4,517.22 raised with their 'Flourishing Fivers' fundraising for St Richard's Hospice. Year Eight was RGS's smallest year group this year, which made this even more commendable.

As a School, the total raised for the year was £15,688.29. This included Year Seven raising over £2,000 for the NSPCC. Many small, local charities doing incredible work with severely handicapped young people benefitted eg Worcester Snoezelen, The Myriad Centre, New Hope School and Acorns Children's Hospice.

We raised over £600 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal and £1,560 for Sport Relief.

Our School also supported charities in ways other than raising money. The Lower School sent their Harvest Festival donations to Maggs Day Centre, which also benefitted from the Humanities Department's clothing collection as did many charity shops in the city. 166.7kg of food donations were sent to Worcester Foodbank following a whole school appeal.

This was a very successful year in terms of fundraising and huge thanks go to pupils, parents, staff – indeed, the whole School community - for all their efforts. It is very much appreciated.

Mrs Margaret Sturdy

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The RGS Parents' Association is a friendly and welcoming group. Its dual purpose is to support the School in fostering a strong sense of community whilst organising events designed to raise money – the benefits of which are spread around many different areas of the School.

Throughout the year, the RGS PA has supported the School by providing a charity bar and refreshments facility at many events including Guys and Dolls, Romeo and Juliet, Cabaret Night, Film Night, Alice in Grammarland and Creative Art Evening. In addition, the PA has a very able team manning the second hand uniform shop on a regular basis and providing a great service. In total, over £2,800 was raised by the PA over the academic year.

Funds raised have been spread across various projects in School, including the Land Rover 4x4 Challenge and the expedition to the Himalayas. In addition, £1,000 was donated to Guy's Footprints, a very worthwhile charity which provides support for bereaved children.

The School extends heartfelt thanks to the Parents' Association Committee for their continued hard work and commitment throughout the year, in particular to Catrina LePoel and Kellie Darby who have now stepped down after many years.

The Committee are looking for new members and also parents to help at ad hoc events as and when they may be able to do so. It is a great way to meet new people from the School community and to involve yourself in the many varied events which occur throughout the year.





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