



RGS
WORCESTER

EXCEL

Spring 2022

Achieving the
Extraordinary at RGS



RGS WORCESTER

RGS DODDERHILL

RGS THE GRANGE

RGS SPRINGFIELD

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RGS Worcester
Upper Tything, Worcester WR1 1HP
Independent Education for children aged 11 - 18



RGS Dodderhill
Dodderhill Road, Droitwich Spa WR9 0BE
Independent Education for children aged 2 - 11
Girls only education for 11-16 years



RGS The Grange
Grange Lane, Claines WR3 7RR
Independent Education for children aged 2 - 11



RGS Springfield
Britannia Square, Worcester WR1 3DL
Independent Education for children aged 2 - 11

THE RGS WORCESTER FAMILY OF SCHOOLS
LEADING INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS IN WORCESTERSHIRE

Find out more about the outstanding education, fantastic opportunities and lifelong memories our schools provide www.rgs.org.uk

EXECUTIVE HEAD’S
INTRODUCTION



The Excel magazine is a powerful illustration of the incredible ability of our pupils at each of the RGS Schools, to achieve at an exceptional level and embrace the opportunities that all of our four schools’ offer.

Whether it is sporting fun or competition, live opera, debating success, or taking part in fundraising activities, the pupils have risen to the challenge and shown us how we can all keep learning. Above all, in all our schools, we have children and young adults who are happy and successful, who are supported and encouraged to give their best in all that they do - and they do so much!

The new Hockey Centre in Perdiswell is now open and our pupils have enjoyed using this brand new, top-class sporting facility. We have received further awards for our Digital Learning and agility, to not only prove continuity of education to pupils during the pandemic, but to share our expertise in this area with others. Our schools look better than ever with facilities to all the very best independent schools alongside excellent Pastoral Care to support pupils. We are delighted to welcome record numbers of pupils to our schools, to enjoy a fulfilling and memorable education.

The RGS Journey is the best possible start for any child; with a choice of Prep Schools; RGS Dodderhill, RGS Springfield and RGS The Grange and the offering of a Girls only Secondary education at RGS Dodderhill, there is a school for everyone at RGS. If you decide to join the ‘Journey at RGS’ your child will be given the very best preparation for life receiving the best education and opportunities available.

Thank you to everyone for your incredible commitment to our School: to the staff for their hard work and determination, to our parents for their support, to our Governors, Foundation Trustees for their oversight, and to our alumni and friends for their continued encouragement.

John Pitt
Executive Head of the RGS
Worcester Family of Schools



RGS FAMILY OF SCHOOLS JOIN
‘LET’S GO ZERO!’

We are delighted to announce that the RGS Family of Schools has joined the national campaign, ‘Let’s Go Zero!’. The campaign aims to unite pupils, teachers and parents to work together in becoming zero carbon schools by 2030.

The RGS Schools are joining forces with almost one thousand other schools from across the UK. By raising voices together, the ‘Let’s Go Zero’ campaign harnesses the power of schools and young people to drive change and spark climate action in communities across the country, reducing emissions, increasing biodiversity and safeguarding the planet for future generations.



“Sustainability is an important part of our vision for the future of the RGS Worcester Family of Schools. ‘Let’s Go Zero’ is a fantastic initiative and one to which we are committed and proud to be a part.”

Joanna Monro - RGS Family of Schools, Director of Finance and Operations



NATIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR RGS FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

The Schools are delighted to have been recognised by industry and business leaders, who have applauded our schools for their innovative use of technology, agility and response to Covid-19, sharing good practice with others and providing continuity of education for pupils.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS INCLUDE:

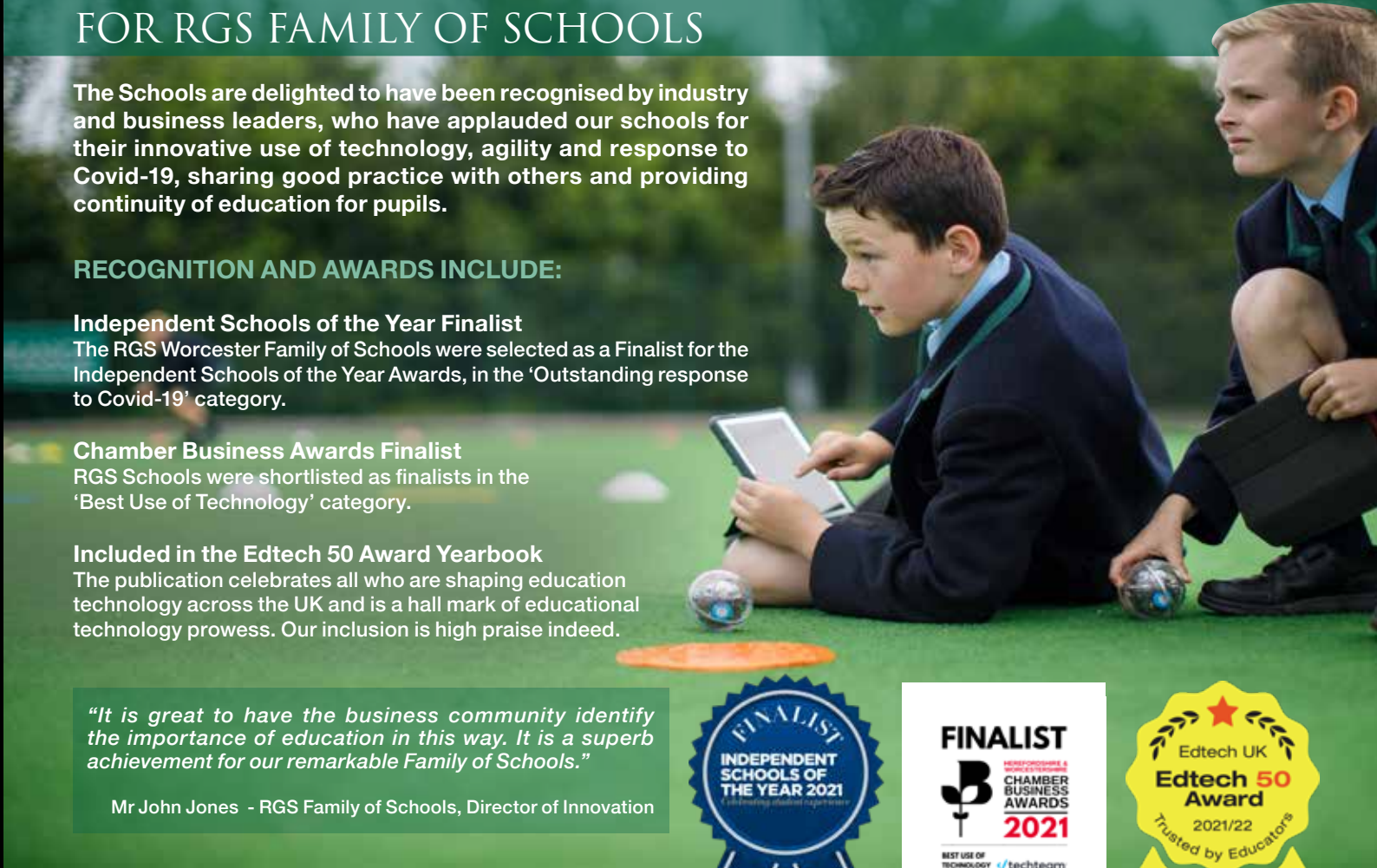
Independent Schools of the Year Finalist
The RGS Worcester Family of Schools were selected as a Finalist for the Independent Schools of the Year Awards, in the ‘Outstanding response to Covid-19’ category.

Chamber Business Awards Finalist
RGS Schools were shortlisted as finalists in the ‘Best Use of Technology’ category.

Included in the Edtech 50 Award Yearbook
The publication celebrates all who are shaping education technology across the UK and is a hall mark of educational technology prowess. Our inclusion is high praise indeed.

“It is great to have the business community identify the importance of education in this way. It is a superb achievement for our remarkable Family of Schools.”

Mr John Jones - RGS Family of Schools, Director of Innovation



HELPING SHAPE THE FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

Due to the success of The RGS Worcester Family of Schools Digital Learning Programme (DLP), our technology innovators and teachers have once again been asked to share the RGS digital story, with educators and audiences far and wide.

Director of Innovation, Mr John Jones presented at the LearnedED conference, an event led by The British Educational Suppliers Association, in conjunction with the Department for Education. Mr Jones shared knowledge and good practice with Headteachers and Senior School Leaders on how Digital Learning continues to make a positive impact in our schools, with a focus on 'culture', and its importance for successful deployment of technology.

Head of Computing & Digital Learning at RGS Dodderhill, Mrs Emma Faulkner, presented the case study 'Facilitating an inclusive classroom' at the global 'Think Ahead Accessibility Conference'.

Head of Computing & IT at RGS The Grange, Mr Matt Warne, was selected as a judge in the iStore Education, Excellence in Education Awards. These awards celebrate innovative schools and educators who are using Apple technology.

Find out more about the Schools Digital Learning here



As an approved Apple Regional Training Centre, RGS Worcester facilitates informative workshops and online seminars for the global 'Ed Tech' community. With the high-level of success of the schools' DLP and proven delivery of Remote Learning, RGS is committed to sharing its good practice and experience with fellow educators.

The RGS Worcester Family of Schools are one of only 535 schools worldwide that are recognised as Apple Distinguished Schools.



SUPPORTING PARENTS TO NAVIGATE THE DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

RGS provided a bespoke online event during Michaelmas term, aimed at advising the RGS parental community on the use of social media, screen-time and the wider aspects of parenting a digital childhood.

A panel of professionals from across the Family of Schools shared their expertise as educators and safeguarding leaders. They advised on navigating the digital landscape, and supporting pupils' wellbeing. Discussion was informative and enlightening with many practical IT solutions offered.



RGS takes pride in being at the forefront of online safeguarding for children and young people and our Schools' have been recognised for their commitment to providing safe remote education, by achieving National Online Safety - Safe Remote Education Accreditation from NOS. This achievement demonstrates our commitment to providing high-quality remote education, keeping children and young people safe online and supporting pupil wellbeing.



DONATED IPADS ARRIVE IN GHANA

We were very pleased to hear from our partner school, Tongo Senior High School in Ghana and receive photographs showing pupils using iPads donated by The RGS Schools.

The iPads were donated to the Ghanaian school to help the teaching and learning of ICT, develop digital skills and enhance connectivity for the community. This is part of an ongoing relationship between the two schools developed over recent years.

Pupils at RGS The Grange have also enjoyed talking to pupils at the Ghanaian school via video conference, providing a fantastic experience for all and an opportunity to share and learn about each other.



A BRIGHT SPORTING FUTURE

WORCESTER INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY CENTRE

The newly completed Worcester International Hockey Centre (WIHC), a partnership project between The RGS Family of Schools and Worcester Hockey Club, provides both pupils as well as the local community with state-of-the-art Hockey facilities, which both RGS and the city can feel very proud of.

There was evident enthusiasm and excitement from RGS pupils as they experienced the water-based Hockey pitches for the first time during Michaelmas term. Being able to use the facility for PE and Games lessons is a tremendous asset to the Sport provision offered at our schools, and alongside our team of dedicated and skilled Sports staff and coaches, will no doubt inspire a generation of Hockey devotees.

Since opening, the WIHC has also hosted the England Hockey Schools Tournament and it was a pleasure to introduce the new centre to Hockey teams from across the county, to play competitive matches during 'Friday Night Lights' sessions.

With the 'Grand Opening' planned for later in the year, we look forward to watching the facility continue to fast become a hub for Hockey in the West Midlands and put the future of Worcester Hockey firmly on the map.

"The Worcester International Hockey Centre is leading the way for high quality Hockey pitches in Worcestershire. Alongside a great Hockey coaching team, we now have professional standard facilities to deliver high level Hockey to all of our pupils."

Miss Sally Walton
RGS Head of Hockey Coaching and Former Team GB
Hockey player and Olympic medallist



INDOOR TENNIS AND NETBALL CENTRE

RGS Worcester has been selected by the Lawn Tennis Association to develop an indoor Tennis and Netball facility. This facility will be a Tennis hub for Worcestershire.

The Centre will also provide a significantly enhanced Netball facility assisting in developing this thriving girls' sport at RGS Worcester.



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

The RGS Worcester Family of Schools offer sincere thanks to the RGS community for supporting pupils in their fundraising activities, which bring much reward to all involved.

Being part of our local community is a valuable aspect of RGS life for pupils, teachers and parents alike. During the academic year 2020-21 alone, RGS Schools raised over £22,000 supporting various local initiatives and charitable campaigns.

FESTIVE JOY IN THE COMMUNITY

An important part of pupils' development is built around supporting others. This ethos was exemplified in December with the many activities held across the four RGS Schools to raise funds, collect donations or raise awareness for local charities such as Worcester Street Cafe, Worcester Foodbank, New Hope Children's Charity, Acorns Children's Hospice and Worcester Community Trust.

"Thanks to the students at RGS Worcester for donating an amazing 62 Christmas boxes to our children, it's a wonderful gesture and one we know the children and their families will really appreciate."

24-HOUR TENNIS MARATHON

Three keen RGS Tennis players travelled from Worcester to The National Tennis Centre in Roehampton to play an early 4.00 - 8.00am slot in the Bright Ideas for Tennis, 24-hour Tennis Marathon. RGS pupils Theo, Jonathan, Daisy and Maddi spent weeks fundraising which aimed to raise money to support the expansion of the GB Tennis disability programme.

During the Tennis Marathon, pupils had the opportunity to play against top-class, Federation Cup and Davis Cup Tennis players, Danny Sapsford, Marcus Willis and Melanie South.

The group emerged at 8.15am into a beautiful sunny Sunday morning and headed back to Worcester for a well-deserved sleep – although Daisy headed straight back out again to play a league match!



So far this academic year, the RGS Family of Schools have organised over 25 Outreach events to offer schools in our local community to benefit from the excellent expertise and facilities our schools offer.



RGS Springfield created festive bags to give out at Worcester Street Cafe

RGS The Grange fundraising included a Christmas Swim and a Reindeer Walk and Run



RGS Dodderhill in their jazziest jumpers to raise money for Save The Children.

RGS Worcester with Christmas shoe boxes for the children at New Hope Children's Charity



'LET'S SING: WORCESTER' MUSIC OUTREACH EVENT

RGS Worcester welcomed over 130 pupils from five local Primary Schools during the Lent term, to take part in an exciting musical Outreach event, 'Let's Sing: Worcester'. This vocal workshop took over Perrins Hall for the day, with two singing workshops led by RGS Teachers of Music, ably assisted by Music Scholars and pupils.

After a vocal warm up, the workshops focused on children learning the current chart-topping hit, 'We Don't Talk About Bruno' from the Disney film 'Encanto'.

By the end of the workshop, pupils had collectively recorded their own version of the song, which will be edited to create a virtual mass choir performance for all to enjoy.

WELCOME

It has been an extremely busy and eventful term at RGS Worcester as we saw the return of many RGS events, Co-curricular clubs and trips which we showcase here. Thank you to the staff for all their hard work to get everything back up and running again and to the pupils who have been really superb and embraced the many opportunities that our school offers.



There have been some magnificent concerts and performances in Drama. Highlights of the school year so far have been many; the Carol Service in Worcester Cathedral was truly wonderful, performances in the Senior School production 'Billy Elliott' were outstanding, and the Modus and Challenge Cups an exhilarating showcase of sport. It has also been joyous to welcome the return of audiences to school events and share in the many talents and tenacious spirit of RGS pupils.

With school trips back in full swing, pupils have been enriching their classroom learning with trips and celebrating their teamwork and resilience with Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

Our school motto is 'respice et precise', translating as 'Cherishing the past, Looking to the future' and embodies our approach to education. As one of the oldest schools in the country, our school is steeped in history, and we combine this tradition with our innovative Digital Learning Programme.

With leading Academic results, an award-winning Careers provision and a reputation for exceptional Pastoral Care, RGS Worcester provides an education where each pupil is cared for individually.

John Pitt - Headmaster RGS Worcester

"Welcoming, unaffected and academically on the up and up, while still valuing the breadth of opportunities outside the classroom."

THE
GOOD
SCHOOLS
GUIDE



Scan the QR code to enjoy reading the full review of RGS Worcester



NEXT STOP OXBRIDGE

Congratulations to five Upper Sixth students from RGS Worcester who have received offers from the Oxford and Cambridge Universities to read undergraduate courses next year in a broad range of subjects covering the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences.

Many congratulations to:

Freddie who received an offer to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge, James K who received an offer to read Music at Cambridge, Elizabeth who received an offer to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) at Oxford, Katy who has received an offer to read Engineering at Cambridge, James P who received an offer to read Human, Social and Political Sciences (HSPS) at Cambridge. James is also a School Captain at RGS.

"This is a considerable achievement and congratulations to all five pupils. It is wonderful to see RGS pupils flourishing in such a wide range of subjects and the number of offers this year from Oxford and Cambridge demonstrates the talents of our students, the dedication of their teachers and the academic stretch and inspiration the students receive."

Mr John Pitt - Headmaster



YEAR TEN RELISH IN A 'MATHS FEAST'

Eight RGS pupils represented RGS at this year's 'Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP) Maths Feast' held at Worcester University Arena. This fun educational challenge for Year Ten pupils is organised annually by the AMSP and tests pupils' problem-solving and teamwork skills. Teams of four pupils work together with the 'all-you-can-eat feast of problems', which this year consisted of four courses!

Many congratulations to RGS pupils and Mathematical maestro's; Sydney, Elizabeth, Jaimie and Grace whose team won the entire Maths Feast.

RGS DEBATERS REACH FINALS AT NOTTINGHAM, OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SCHOOLS COMPETITION

After the best-ever year for RGS Debating during 2021, this academic year is set to prevail with RGS Worcester topping the table at the Nottingham Schools Debating Competition, with four teams in the top eight across the whole competition and Debating team, James and Kathryn winning the Silver Final.

Following success in Nottingham, two RGS teams qualified for Finals Day at both the Cambridge and Oxford Schools competitions. This puts RGS with the very best Debating schools in the country – and indeed in the world! Being the only school in the region to qualify two teams, it is a huge achievement for RGS to be so well-represented at both events. Congratulations to finalists: Elizabeth, James, Kasia and Katy.



A SPECTACULAR EVENING OF RUGBY AT THE MODUS CHALLENGE CUP

There was much excitement as the RGS community united to support the 2021 Modus Challenge Cup, as the RGS Worcester 1st XV Rugby team played against King's School, at the Worcester Warriors, Sixways Stadium.

Both teams kept the 4,000 strong crowd of spectators on the edge of their seats, in what was a thrilling game of Rugby. Now in its 14th year, this annual fixture provides an excellent sporting opportunity and raises funds for the event's chosen charity, Wooden Spoon.



PLAYING 'THE BEAUTIFUL GAME' AT THE FOOTBALL CHALLENGE CUP

Spectators enjoyed a thrilling evening of Football, as the 1st XI RGS Football team played against King's School in the Football Challenge Cup match at Sixways Stadium.

The game was an exhilarating match from start to finish, with both teams keen to retain possession of the ball and score those all important winning goals. With the final score on the night, an even 2-2 draw, both teams were unified in their love of 'The Beautiful Game'.



SUPERBALL SATURDAY



SUPERBALL 2022

After a break of two years, spectators were thrilled to return to the University of Worcester Arena once again for the eagerly anticipated, Superball 2022. The RGS 1st and 2nd VII Netball teams played against King's School, competing for the University of Worcester Trophy. The occasion provided an excellent opportunity for both teams to showcase their skills, team spirit and positive sporting ethos.



HEAD OF NETBALL DEBUTS FOR SUPERLEAGUE NETBALL TEAM, WASPS

Head of Netball, Ellie Gibbons started off the Superleague season with her new Coventry based Netball team, Wasps. Ellie joins many of the region's best players to create a strong squad for the 2022 season.



"I am thrilled to be playing my first season for Wasps and I can't wait to see what we can achieve this year. The RGS Netball family are amongst our biggest supporters and I can't wait to share my experience of playing at Superleague level with the pupils."

Miss Ellie Gibbons - Head of Netball

COUNTY, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HOCKEY PLAYERS



We are delighted to announce that over 40 RGS Worcester pupils have been selected to play Hockey in County and Regional Hockey Squads this season.



In addition three RGS pupils were selected to represent National teams in Hockey; Alice was selected for the England Under 18 squad, Amelia was selected for the Wales Under 18 squad and Caitlin was selected for the Wales Under 16 squad. The girls have worked incredibly hard to reach this high level in Hockey and this is a well-deserved and exciting opportunity for them to play international matches.



Amelia plays for Wales Under 18 squad

UNDER 13 COUNTY CHAMPIONS

The RGS Under 13A Hockey team have played a successful season of Hockey, resulting in the team taking the County Champion title in the Worcestershire County Tournament. The team now go forward qualifying for the Midlands Regional Tournament.



ELITE ATHLETES AT RGS

EMELIA STRIKES GOLD AGAIN FOR ENGLAND

Year Eleven pupil Emelia, represented England at the 2021 Junior National Indoor Archery Championships.

This was Emelia's first appearance representing England, but Emelia showed no nerves with her winning match contributing to England's overall victory and becoming 2021 Home Nations Champions.

Emelia also competed in the Junior Championships. Though behind in the early stages, her resilience was evident, recovering lost ground and she finished the Championships by adding the UK Indoor Under 18 Ladies' title to her Master's title that she earned at the end of the summer. In doing so, Emelia became the undisputed number one Junior Girl in Archery in the country!

Emelia is now hoping to take competitive Archery to the next level, with a call-up to the GB Junior team later in 2022.



ZARA CHAMPIONING THREE MEDALS IN FENCING

We were excited to learn that Year Ten pupil, Zara achieved a Gold Medal at the West Midlands qualifying rounds at the British Youth Fencing Championships. This in itself is a serious achievement since the West Midlands is home to a competitive group of Fencers, however, two weeks later, Zara went on to qualify with a Bronze Medal for the Foil competition and completed her third podium finish, being crowned as the West Midlands Sabre Champion!



These impressive achievements put Zara amongst the best Fencers that RGS has ever seen - having qualified for the National Finals in Sheffield in May, in all three weapons and done so with two Gold Medals and a Bronze. Many congratulations to Zara for her incredible achievements in Fencing.

NURTURING SPORTING POTENTIAL AT RGS

For those pupils at RGS who are gifted and talented sportspeople, there is the opportunity to join the RGS Athlete Development Programme (ADP).

The ADP identifies and nurtures pupils' sporting potential. Athletes on the programme benefit from strength and conditioning support as well as input on nutrition, psychology, time management, game analysis and leadership qualities. They also have the opportunity to attend master classes in their chosen sport, benefit from the wisdom of a variety of guest speakers as well as support given from an individual mentor, who can help advise on reaching success and a balance in both their sporting endeavours and academic work.

LOÏC AWARDED SILVER AT BRITISH NATIONAL JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to RGS Lower Sixth student Loïc who competed at the British National Judo Championships in December, winning the Silver medal in the under 90Kg Cadet category.

As a result of his strong performance in this competition and the professionalism and hard work Loïc consistently demonstrates he has been selected to join the England National Cadet Judo squad, which is a tremendous achievement.

Loïc has had a busy term, alongside his studies he has played a key role in the success of the 1st XV Rugby team. Excelling in Rugby Loïc is pleased to have been selected for the England Rugby Under 17s Development squad.



SPORT FOR ALL

Alongside the ADP Programme, RGS offers both 'Major Sport' and 'Niche Sport' Scholarships. Scan the QR code to find out more about the Scholarships available.



RGS BASKETBALL CLUB LEAPS INTO ACTION



After a request from pupils for a Basketball Club, a newly formed lunchtime club appeared in the schools weekly calendar. Before long, pupils from all Year groups, both boys and girls were in attendance - raring to engage and learn more about the sport!

"Basketball contains hundreds of different skills. It is a game unlike any other invasion game and requires hours and hours of practice. I aim to enthuse pupils in Basketball in the hope that we could have enough players to create a School team and play local fixtures in the future". - Mr Mike Garden, Teacher of Academic PE

CROSS-COUNTRY SUCCESSES



A large contingent of 15 RGS pupils was chosen to represent Worcester District at the County Cross-Country Championships. The RGS pupils from Years Eight, Nine and Ten, tackled the course around the University of Worcester site at Top Barn and all performed admirably.

Notable successes included Noah gaining 5th place and Jonathan 7th place in the Junior race along with 6th place for Dylan in the Intermediate race. All three boys therefore qualified for the Hereford and Worcestershire teams for the National Championships - a great achievement!



FOOTBALLING FUTURE FOR GIRLS AT RGS

The new Girls Football Club at RGS has proved very popular with pupils and continues to flourish, with well over 30 girls attending regularly.



Girls Football Club members, Flossie, Lola and Ava have been nominated for County Under 14 trials at the start of the new academic year, and have since represented the County against Lincolnshire. Year Ten pupil, Sofia has been selected to play for the Worcestershire County Under 16 Football team, in the integral role of goalkeeper for the 2021/2022 season. Sofia was also selected for SR USA football trials, has enjoyed playing for the This Girl Kicks Under 16, elite football team, and looks forward to more fixtures and tours planned for 2023 with Worcestershire Schools FA, This Girl Kicks and her local Football team Droitwich Spa Belles Under 16.

TERRIFIC TABLE TENNIS: RGS TEAM REACHES REGIONAL FINALS



The newly formed RGS Worcester Boys Table Tennis A team have had a tremendous launch into playing competitive Table Tennis, reaching the Regional Finals in the Under 13 Tournament. Coming second in the Regional Finals in their debut season is an amazing achievement of which the Year Eight pupils, Jack, Sihan, Jonathan and Lucas should feel very proud.

ROWING AHEAD



The RGS Boat Club has been extremely busy, with over ninety pupils regularly rowing. Rowers have been training hard, taking every opportunity to get in the boats on the River Severn as well as developing the much needed strength and stamina, using the indoor Rowing machines in the school Fitness Suite.

RGS Rowers have also represented the School at the Wycliffe Small Boats Head, Evesham Junior Head and the West Midlands Junior Championships.



EQUESTRIAN ROSETTES FOR CLEO

Congratulations to Year Seven pupil Cleo who achieved 3rd and 4th place at the NSEA Regional Grassroots SJ Final.



RGS Worcester has a number of pupils across all four schools registered for the National Schools Equestrian Association. This governing body allows pupils to compete on their own horses or ponies in events across the country and there is the opportunity to qualify for regional and national finals as either individuals or as part of a school team.

HAVING A FIELD DAY

During Michaelmas term, pupils from all Year groups enjoyed the opportunity to enrich the curriculum with 'Field Day' trips, visiting different locations and having fun in a variety of activities. Year Seven pupils sought adventure at Oaker Wood Activity Centre, Year Eight visited animals at West Midlands Safari Park, whilst Year Nine observed the animal conservation at Bristol Zoo.

Pupils from Year Ten to the Upper Sixth were divided into their elected groups, participating in either Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions, Combined Cadet Force (Army, Navy or RAF) trips or specialist trips for EPQ and CTEC students.



A LITERARY TOUR OF GOTHIC LONDON

Members of the RGS Literary Society enjoyed a very Gothic exploration of London, bringing to life some of the haunts, backdrops and characters that can often be found in the pages of Gothic Literature.

The students started their tour with a ghoulish trip to The London Dungeons before visiting the capital's iconic Shakespeare's Globe, ending the day attending a performance of 'Measure for Measure' in the magical, Sam Wanamaker Playhouse theatre. On day two, students visited Westminster Abbey, explored the literary giants of Poets' Corner, before taking a walking tour around the vibrant area of Whitechapel. To end their gothic journey students uncovered the rich history of Highgate Cemetery and whilst English Literature students paid homage to the grave of Christina Rossetti, Art students marvelled at the architecture and the neo-gothic style of the architecture.



STRIVING FOR SILVER, GOING FOR GOLD: DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD EXPEDITIONS



CO-CURRICULAR



RGS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH GROUP

The newly formed RGS Amnesty Youth Group, has a committed and ambitious group of attendees, learning about human rights abuses all over the world, and campaigning to stop them. Pupils are encouraged to learn about both the situations in other countries and specific cases of interest to them, enabling them to understand some of the complicated human global issues, and develop a better understanding of their own sense of place and responsibility in the world.

Club members also write letters to prisoners of conscience and government officials around the world and plan to start collecting signatures more widely for campaigns they are passionate about, with the intention of delivering them to local MPs and the Government to try and accelerate change. They also plan to attend some of the national events, but paramount in all of this is generally having fun and developing great friendships and confidence along the way.



SENIOR FOOTBALL TOUR TO MANCHESTER

Under the leadership of Head of Football, Mr Leeds, 43 RGS pupils from Years Ten, Eleven and Sixth Form embarked on the Senior Football Tour to Manchester.

The purpose of the tour was predominantly pre-season preparation and conditioning, however it also provided an opportunity for pupils to experience a residential trip and adapt to a very intensive tour schedule. The fast-paced itinerary included a stadium tour and three morning training sessions at the Manchester City Football Club, three fixtures against local Football clubs, and a trip to the 'Chill Factore' snowdome.



BEING PART OF THE RGS FAMILY

CARING FOR THE RGS COMMUNITY

RGS Worcester aims to provide individualised care for every pupil and create a strong community, where everyone feels supported and part of the RGS Family. We endeavour to empower and encourage our pupils to seize the many opportunities that life at RGS offers.

Whilst we delight in seeing young people enjoying their time at school, we also realise that adolescence can bring with it challenges and pressures. We work to equip our young people with the confidence, strength and self-belief that will allow them to realise their potential and lead fulfilling lives, both during their time at RGS and beyond.

Our strong network of Pastoral Care and support includes a team of specialist, fully trained and experienced group of Pastoral leads and champions; Heads of Year, Form Tutors, dedicated Heads of Lower School and Sixth Form, fully qualified Nurses, School Counsellors and a Relaxation and Wellbeing Specialist. This dedicated team of professionals, provide timely and appropriate assistance to pupils if needed, and throughout their journey at RGS Worcester.

"To say that our daughter is loving her time at the RGS would be the understatement of the year, she is having the absolute time of her life!!! Please extend our thanks and gratitude to all of her teachers, we could not be more delighted with the education, care and support she is receiving!"

RGS Parent



SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND PREFECTS SUPPORT THE RGS COMMUNITY

School Captains and Prefects are an intrinsic part of School life at RGS performing school duties including; providing tours for visitors, assisting staff and younger pupils and running the House system. They also contribute to the Pastoral system as Pastoral Prefects. Two Upper Sixth pupils are allocated to each form, and working alongside the Form Tutor, Pastoral Prefects get to know the pupils, providing effective additional support and positive interaction between younger and older pupils in the School.



OUR HOUSE SYSTEM

We are proud to be a part of a community and the RGS House system is an important extension of our commitment to the benefits of 'belonging'. In Year Seven all pupils are assigned to one of our four Houses; Whiteladies, Wyld, Elgar or Ottley.

A crucial part of the House system is the fun had competing for the termly House Cups and the much coveted, annual House Championship! The competition is designed to provide opportunities for pupils across all areas of School to represent their House at whatever they may excel in, enjoy or just bring their enthusiasm to. This academic year, pupils have enjoyed participating in a host of fun events including: House Rowing, House Dance, House Petanque, House Pumpkin Carving and House Tug-of-war, to name but a few.



CREATIVE ARTS

DESIGNING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IN FASHION

We are delighted for two RGS pupils who achieved 1st and 2nd position in the national, 'Fashion Icon' competition. The competition challenged the exploration of the environmental impact of fashion, to inspire the design of a new and unique garment to be upcycled from a suit. Ten finalists were then given just a few weeks to make their vision become a reality and create their garment.

The two RGS pupils, Lower Sixth student, Emily H and Year Nine pupil, Grace both reached the final, with Lower Sixth student, Emily W receiving a Highly Commended award. Both Grace and Emily's winning garments are proudly on display in the Textiles Department at School, for all to admire.

RGS WORCESTER REALLY IS GREEN

As part of a range of activities to inspire RGS Worcester to become a greener and more sustainable school environment, the schools' Environment Committee and Textiles Department joined forces during the Lent term, collaborating to produce a display of pupils' work exploring the notion of 'Fast Fashion'. The display showcased repurposed fabrics which had been used to create stunning, new clothing designs and which prompted viewers to consider the impact of clothing manufacture on the environment.



'SUPERFORMANCE' AT GOODWOOD INTERNATIONAL FINALS

Members of the RGS Greenpower Racing Team had a thrilling day at the Goodwood race track to compete in the Greenpower International Finals event. This event is by invitation only and having qualified in June 2021, the RGS team were eager to race again with the schools' aptly named Greenpower racing car, 'Superformance'.

Pupils from Year Eight to Ten were in the driving seat and with the testament to plenty of hard work and tinkering on the car leading up to the race, 'Superformance' performed brilliantly, with no mechanical or electrical issues throughout the day and allowing drivers to race to their full abilities.

RGS Greenpower Racing Team finished a brilliant 8th out of 61 qualified cars which is a fantastic achievement and one of the School's best positions for a number of years in a highly competitive field.



'ASPECTS OF WORCESTER'

EXHIBITION AT WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

Talented RGS students exhibited their work at Worcester Cathedral in an 'Aspects of Worcester' art exhibition.

To represent the exhibition theme, students visited the city to find inspiration, take photographs and make observational drawings to use as a starting point for their individual artwork. Back in their studio spaces at RGS Worcester, students developed ideas to create final artwork using a wide range of media; from expressive drawings to Printmaking and Oil paintings.

RGS offers Scholarships in Creative Arts subjects; Art, Music, Drama, Textiles and Design Technology. Scan the QR code to find out more



THE FUTURE OF ENGINEERING:

RGS STUDENTS AWARDED ARKWRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to RGS students Dan and Eleanor who were successful this year in gaining prestigious Arkwright Scholarships. An Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is the most esteemed scholarship of its type in the UK, designed to inspire students to pursue their dreams and change the world as a future leader in engineering and only awarded to a small number of hard-working and promising students.

"The application was challenging but its prepared me for the future, especially for University. It definitely feels great to have this support for the future. I have my hopes set on engineering in F1."

Dan

"I am thrilled to have been selected for the Arkwright Scholarship and I am looking forward to all the opportunities, including mentoring to help guide me into a career of engineering."

Eleanor



A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

Pupils have celebrated the joy of Music and live performance, sharing their talents with appreciative audiences at frequent concerts held in the schools Perrins Hall and Performing Arts Centre.

MASTERCLASS AND CONCERT

RGS was delighted to welcome the talented, professional pianist, Edward Leung to Perrins Hall, making best use of the school's Grand Piano to share his musical expertise with pupils and inspire all with an evening Piano Concert, playing alongside aspiring young pianists from RGS Worcester.



NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA SELECTION FOR ISABELLA

Upper Sixth student and RGS Music Scholar, Isabella received the exciting news that she has been accepted onto the Royal Academy of Music Gap Year Programme to continue her studies in Music. Isabella has also been selected for the National Youth Orchestra as a violinist. This is a superb achievement and puts Isabella amongst the very best musicians of her age in the country.

AN EVENING OF OPERA

Opera Worcester and RGS perform 'Dido and Aeneas'

RGS Worcester's Perrins Hall hosted an all-day workshop and subsequent evening performance of Henry Purcell's seminal Baroque opera, 'Dido and Aeneas'. The day was attended by RGS pupils, alumni and staff as well as members of the local amateur opera company, Opera Worcester, with over 40 singers and instrumentalists participating in the event.

Initially performed by RGS pupils in June 2021, this latest concert was an opportunity to perform again, this time with local musicians. Leading the cast was RGS alumnus, Tom Ehlers who made his long awaited operatic debut as Aeneas, opposite RGS alumna Heini Hughes, who reprised her role as Dido.

The event was a highly enjoyable event and opportunity for pupils to learn more about the operatic score, share a passion for music and a reminder to all of the power music has to unite people.



BILLY ELLIOTT 'WOWS' AUDIENCES

Drama and performance returned to the Schools' Godfrey Brown Theatre once again, as RGS Worcester welcomed audiences to the latest School Production, 'Billy Elliott'.

With rapturous applause at the end of each night's performance, the School received many compliments from audience members who very much enjoyed their evening of musical theatre at RGS Worcester.

"This is a gritty tale, but it is also one of hope and transformation as Billy demonstrates how young people can rise above adversity and uncertainty, which is a very poignant message for our times. This School Production of 'Billy Elliott' is superb and showcases the outstanding talents of our pupils' high level acting, singing and dance. This is alongside the tremendous commitment required by all to deliver such an exceptional production."

Mrs Jilly Witcomb - Director of Drama

AWARDS OF DISTINCTION: 100% LAMDA

Drama is a big part of life at RGS and, alongside Academic lessons and Co-curricular clubs, pupils can take lessons in LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art). These lessons can lead to internationally recognised exams, which at the higher levels also contribute to University application (UCAS) points.



The latest LAMDA examinations, taken by RGS pupils from all Year groups and ranging from introductory Grade 3, all the way through to the Gold Medal, which is equivalent to an A Level, achieved superb results, with 100% of pupils passing with Merit or Distinction - the highest grades and three RGS pupils achieving 100%!

FROM THE WEST END TO THE MINACK

RGS Worcester Drama pupils welcomed acclaimed actor and star of the West End theatre John Barr, for an exciting Musical Theatre workshop.

John, who has appeared in West End musicals such as Oliver, Aspects of Love and Les Misérables, shared his expertise in vocal coaching and enthusiasm for the stage with pupils.



This followed the first Drama trip of the academic year, as A Level Drama students visited Cornwall; touring the atmospheric outdoor Minack theatre in Penzance, watching a hysterical improvised performance, performing their own devised play on the Porthcurno beach and a visit to Charlestown to perform the 'Parados' from 'Antigone' on the harbour wall!

SASHA STARS ON SCREEN IN 'STAY CLOSE'

Congratulations to Year Nine RGS Drama and Music Scholar, Sasha who makes her debut in a major Television series, 'Stay Close'.

Sasha filmed the series during half term, travelling on location and working alongside well-known and esteemed actors. Sasha thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to be part of such a high profile project, saying: "I feel very fortunate to meet such professional actors, and learn a few acting tips from watching them. What I enjoyed most from this opportunity was to experience the TV and film side of acting - I found it especially interesting how around four hours of filming could roll into just a few minutes!"



"WOW what an absolutely awesome production of Billy Elliott!! Huge congratulations, we want to watch it again!"

"A fantastic show and it is fabulous to be able to return to the Performing Arts Centre at RGS Worcester and enjoy live theatre again."

"How incredible that teenagers can bring me to tears! Fantastic cast, music, choreography, direction, set design - the lot. It was just wonderful watching. Bravo!"

photos by Paul Savage Photography

WELCOME



RGS Dodderhill pupils have been full of energy and embraced all the opportunities on offer, both in the classroom and Co-curricular clubs too.

Our pupils never cease to astound me with their creativity, musicality, ideas and boundless enthusiasm. Our many concerts have been outstanding, with pupils rising to the occasion wonderfully and showcasing the many talents we have here at RGS Dodderhill. As one parent commented, 'The music and performing arts at RGS Dodderhill is definitely a force to be reckoned with.' I agree, and am immensely proud of everyone who takes part in our productions, including the very passionate teachers who instil such a love of Music and performance in our pupils.

RGS Dodderhill Sports teams have also enjoyed success in both Netball and Hockey. All Year Groups have had the opportunity to try something new in PE and Sport clubs, whether that be trampolining, dance, sailing, fencing, Zumba or Kickboxing. With the link between exercise and positive mental health, it is a great chance for pupils to find a sport that suits them, supports their wellbeing and that can provide fun and enjoyment both at school and life beyond.

Sarah Atkinson - Headmistress RGS Dodderhill

SMALL BUT MIGHTY

"Given the 'small is beautiful' ethos that parents had raved about, we were surprised by the scale – seven acres with well-maintained facilities all packed into a neat campus with the jewel in the crown the main Georgian house."

THE
GOOD
SCHOOLS
GUIDE



Scan the QR code to enjoy reading the full review of RGS Dodderhill

NURSERY FOREST SCHOOL

All our pupils value the tranquil, seven-acre site which surrounds RGS Dodderhill; lovely green spaces that provide plentiful room for outdoor learning, opportunities for play and adventure in the Adventure Playground and a magical Forest School area which are all complemented by the Sports Field and outdoor AstroTurf Sports surface.

Younger pupils especially enjoy their time outdoors and in Forest School. During Michaelmas term the Nursery and Reception children have thought about the change of seasons, exploring the signs of Autumn around them through sight, sound and touch; the changing colours of leaves, plentiful array of sticks, acorns and twigs, the abundant puddles to jump in and making mud pies! This access to the outdoor classroom, complements beautifully and reinforces pupils' development in Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.



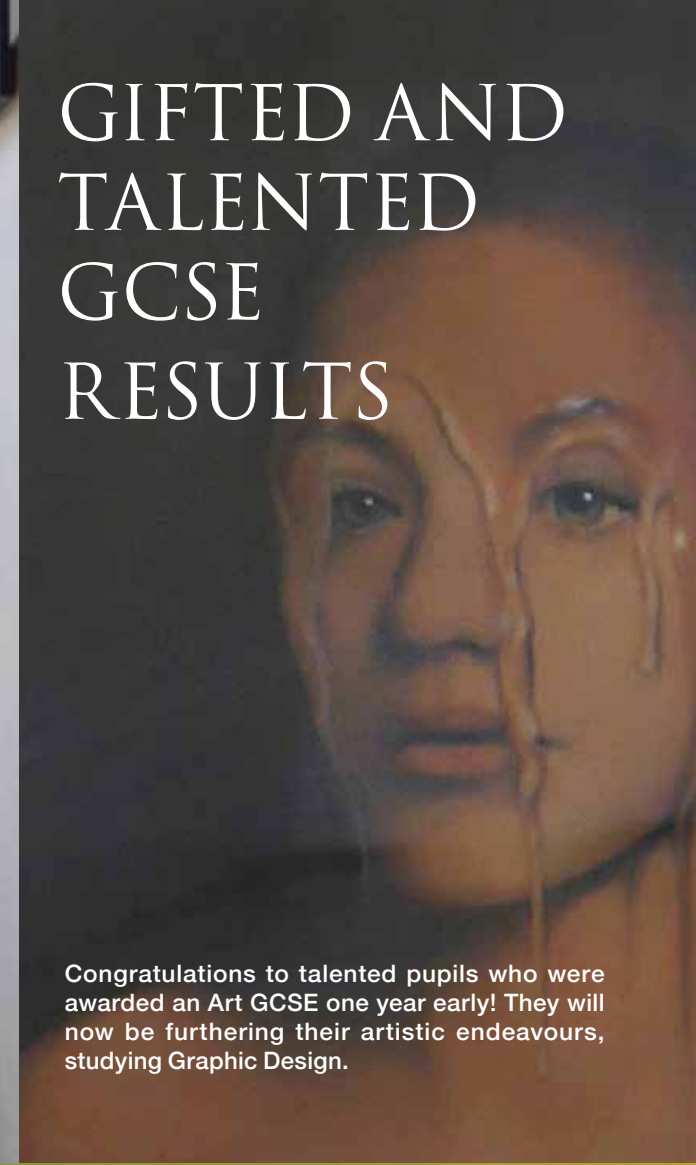
'WALKING THE PLANK' AT SAILING CLUB

Children from Years Five and Six embarked on a six week sailing course at Aztec Watersports at Upton Warren. The novice sailors had an opportunity to pretend to be pirates and 'walk the plank' to develop their water confidence - whoops of delight could be heard as they splashed in the water! Most of the pupils had never sailed before, some had never even been in a boat before, and their progress and new confidence in the water is a wonderful example of what perseverance, determination and risk-taking can lead to.



GIFTED AND TALENTED GCSE RESULTS

Congratulations to talented pupils who were awarded an Art GCSE one year early! They will now be furthering their artistic endeavours, studying Graphic Design.



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Pupils across all Year Groups embraced activities on European Languages Day. Pupils gave book reviews in German, watched movie clips in Spanish and French, sang in Dutch and French and counted in Japanese!

To further celebrate languages, Year Four also held a French market, practising their French vocabulary buying and selling 'les fruits' with excellent pronunciation. Meanwhile, Year Ten and Eleven students studying Spanish, took part in a national initiative to send words of encouragement to their peers on the island of La Palma, devastated by a volcanic eruption. The girls used their language skills to extend the hand of friendship - what better motivation could there be for language learning?



FOOD BANK COLLECTION

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our RGS Dodderhill community, RGS Dodderhill Head Girls and members of the School Council loaded up the school minibus and set off to the Droitwich Food Bank. After unloading the plentiful donations, pupils were shown around the warehouse, gaining insight into the incredible work that goes on behind the scenes. As we returned to school, it was lovely to hear the pupils discussing and reflecting upon the experience.



INSPIRING ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Inspired by the COP26 summit in Glasgow, pupils from across all year groups of the school worked collaboratively to raise awareness about climate change. Younger pupils were given the task to design and build a 'rubbish robot', drawing attention to the enormity of rubbish produced in modern society. Older pupils created a poster, devised a rap and presented their argument about what needs to be done to help stop climate change and why. All of the children then gathered together to share their ideas and creations as well as their passion about this incredibly important issue.

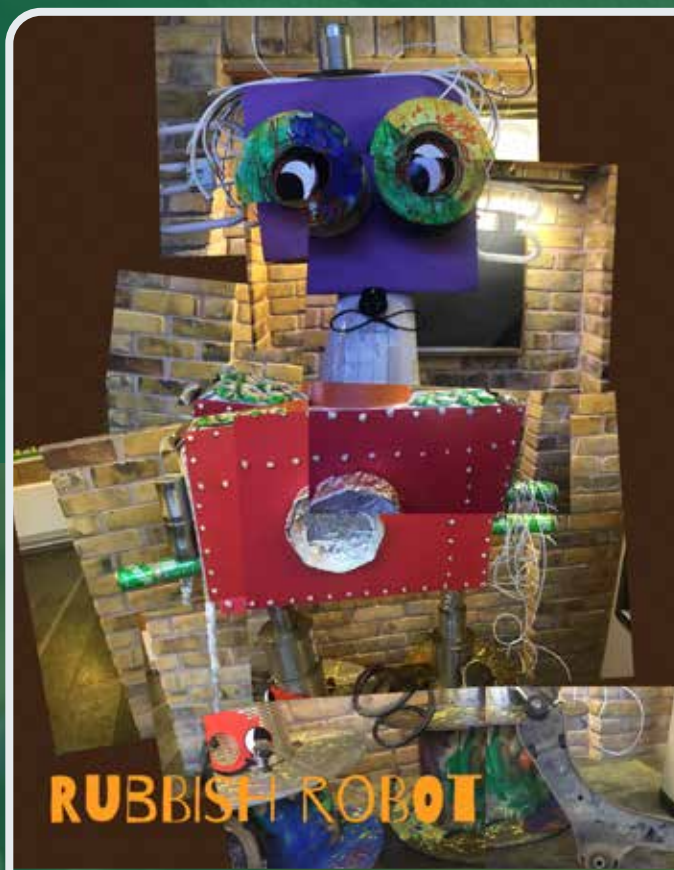
FARADAY CHALLENGE FOR YEAR EIGHT

Year Eight pupils joined teams from local schools at RGS Worcester to take part in the national competition Faraday Challenge. The brief was to design something to help make a stay at Alderhey Children's hospital more relaxing or enjoyable for patients or families. Teamwork, resilience, problem-solving and planning were used in abundance by RGS Dodderhill girls as well as performing under pressure. A fantastic opportunity to nurture STEM and put engineering skills to practice.



GRAMMAR, DIGITAL LEARNING AND APPLE CLIPS

To demonstrate understanding of changing verb tenses, grammar and vocabulary, pupils in Year Four produced some fantastic films using their Digital Learning knowledge and Apple Clips. Everyone enjoyed watching the finished films and deciding who was the best teacher in the class!



NETBALL WINNERS!



RGS Dodderhill Netball teams have had an excellent season, representing the school in many fixtures and tournaments. Competitive matches bring a sense of excitement and nurture teamwork, as well as provide an opportunity to display pupils' skills on court. How fantastic to see pupils demonstrate their enthusiasm and commitment to Netball and if the singing on the bus on the way home was anything to go by, they had lots of fun too! Our Netball players now look forward to joining a Netball weekend residential trip later this year.

UNDER 13 HOCKEY SUCCESS

RGS Dodderhill Under 13 girls finished runners up in the County Hockey Tournament. Having won all qualifying games, the final finished in a 0-0 draw, with RGS Dodderhill just missing out on the top spot, having scored one less goal over the afternoon than the winning team.

Both the Senior and Prep teams have been enjoying playing at the new Worcester International Hockey Centre on the fantastic, professional standard pitches.



FROM MUSIC TO MINDFULNESS - CLUBS FOR ALL

To accompany the wide variety of Music, Sport, Science and Creative clubs, RGS Dodderhill have had some very exciting new clubs on offer this term. Pupils have been able to learn new skills in Gymnastics, Fencing and Tennis, hone focus and strength offered in Kickboxing and try LatinFit, Beatz, Jungle Body and Zumba workouts.

To calm the mind and support wellbeing, pupils can also partake in a spot of 'Wild Reading' or visit Mindfulness Club, where an area of the school library has been transformed into an oasis, where pupils can relax and focus on being in the moment.



FESTIVITIES AT RGS DODDERHILL

The festive season started off with pupils from Reception to Year Six attending the beautiful setting of St Augustine's Church for a candlelit Christingle Service. It was a very special evening of reflection, with poignant readings from the children and a magnificent performance from the schools' Prep Choir.

Pupils from Nursery to Year Three excitedly performed their Christmas production 'The Bossy Christmas Fairy', and the Nursery children created a beautiful tableau of the Nativity, there wasn't a dry eye in the house!

The children also creatively embraced Christmas with Reception children foraging and making their own Christmas table decorations, Festive baking in the fully-equipped Cookery rooms, Christmas Fayre Poster competition and the annual Carol Service.

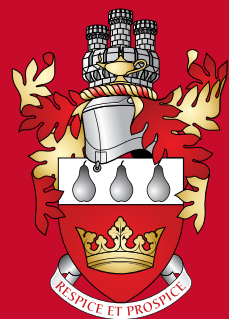


MAGNIFICENT MUSIC

The sweet sound of Music has filled the School each day, with music lessons and clubs all back in full-swing. Budding pianists attended the incredible workshop with the concert pianist Edward Leung at RGS Worcester and after giving a short recital of their current pieces, the girls benefited from Edwards expertise with feedback received.

RGS Dodderhill's purpose-built Music Department provides opportunities for every child. Choirs, Orchestra, Musical Theatre and individual instrumental lessons all make up the rich tapestry of our School.





RGS

THE GRANGE

WELCOME



RGS The Grange has had an extremely exciting term, with a rich and varied programme in operation. Each week has been packed with exciting events and opportunities; from school trips to enrich pupils' classroom learning to Sports fixtures, building teamwork resilience and confidence, plus a plethora of clubs to instil a sense of well being and contentment in our school community.

There are also lots of exciting new projects happening at school; the school orchard has been a big hit with the children, with pupils from all year groups working together to plant and care for the young saplings. Pupils have also delighted in the themed days, we celebrated Hanukkah, remembered the fallen on Remembrance Day and embraced nature on Outdoor Learning Day.

It has been amazing to be able to once again host events at school and welcome families to share in pupils' achievements. Our spectacular Christmas celebrations were most certainly a highlight and opportunity for pupils to showcase their many talents, creating happy memories for all.

Caring for the wellbeing of our school community has been a priority yet again. We are proud of being the first Independent School in the country awarded The Diana Award, with pupils and teachers trained as anti-bullying ambassadors. We aim to create a happy and caring environment where pupils feel valued for who they are and thrive, living out our philosophy that 'happy children succeed'.

Gareth Hughes - Headmaster RGS The Grange

"Pupils don't take the 50-acre site for granted - how could they with a '16-acre field' to tear about on and an extensive Forest School complete with wild garden, mud kitchen and outdoor classroom?"



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SPHERO BOT FUN

Year Five had fun testing out their 'bot' creations using our Sphero Educational Robots! The children used the Sphero hardware in Design Technology lessons to design, create and evaluate the 'bots', drawing on their Digital Learning knowledge and developing important STEM skills.



GREAT OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS

KIDSMAS

In December, RGS The Grange Chamber Choir travelled to Birmingham Town Hall to showcase their talents and perform in 'Kidsmas', a live event hosted by Barnardo's. RGS The Grange joined three schools who sang live at the event, which was shared with thousands of online viewers. The evening was an absolutely joyous celebration of seasonal songs, with all proceeds going towards Barnardo's Kidsmas Appeal to raise money for vulnerable children.



BRILLIANT BABUSHKA AND THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Year One and Two performed the Christmas production of 'Babushka' and delivered Oscar-worthy performances and singing to delighted audiences of family and friends. The Reception children were also superstars, entertaining with an all-singing, all-dancing version of the Christmas Story.



RGS THE GRANGE FILLED WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC

RGS The Grange Wind Band has returned, with the children delighted to play together once again. Music is very much part of school life at RGS The Grange, for all year groups. As well as the School Choir and Music clubs, children can also take individual lessons in an instrument of their choice, with lots of opportunities to perform in school events.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Year Four had a thrilling journey back in time, to visit Ancient Greece. The children immersed themselves in daily life, culture, gods and battles fought in ancient times. Through hands-on activities, the children's learning was very much brought to life by events such as dressing up and reenacting the Olympics.



POETRY IN MOTION

To celebrate National Poetry Day, Year Six pupils explored all things poetry. Using effective literary devices to produce powerful imagery, the children spent a lesson outside to be inspired by the natural surroundings of the schools grounds and thoughtfully pen autumnal themed poems.

ONE KIND WORD

To celebrate Anti-Bullying Week, RGS The Grange pupils celebrated what makes us all unique, by wearing odd socks!

Along the theme of 'One Kind Word', all year groups explored and discussed the importance of being kind, recognising and celebrating differences, and understanding how to be an 'upstander' to stop hurtful behaviour in its tracks.

In Kindness Club, Year Two worked together to spell 'One Kind Word' – can you guess what they are?



Answers: kind, love, care

CELEBRATING THE GRANGE RUGBY FESTIVAL

It was wonderful to welcome six different schools to RGS The Grange to take part in our annual Under 9 Rugby Festival. The schools' grounds looked amazing, with eight pitches set up for the boys to play on. After only a few weeks of learning the rules, all teams did themselves proud and showed a great deal of progress.

As well as the Rugby Festival, pupils have enjoyed playing as part of a team in Rugby fixtures and even attended a coaching session led by local Rugby legends, Worcester Warriors.



ENJOYING THE UNDER 11 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

RGS The Grange had a fantastic afternoon of Hockey at the Under 11 Hockey Tournament, hosted on the school's glorious sports grounds. The girls showcased amazing team work, determination and confidence in every match they played, achieving an overall 2nd position. The Hockey teams have enjoyed playing in fixtures throughout the term, providing them the chance to put their Hockey skills into practice.



FUN ON OUTDOOR LEARNING DAY

Inspired by the global movement to celebrate outdoor learning and play, all Year Groups at RGS The Grange enjoy and embrace time in the great outdoors. RGS The Grange, values both the academic and pastoral benefits which children gain from being outside and are fortunate to have wonderful grounds to facilitate this all year round. All of the children join in Forest School activities, working together, exploring and having fun.



LEARNING ABOUT LIFE ON THE FARM

Year One ventured out on their first trip of the year, to Little Owl Farm Park. All the children had lots of fun, getting to see, stroke and feed farm animals. The goats proved favourites, as was collecting the hens eggs too!



PLANT A TREE AND PLANT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Each class from Pre-School to Year Six have planted a fruit tree in the Schools' new orchard. All of the children worked carefully to position the tree ; stake, scoop soil over the roots, attach rabbit guards and water. In the 'Sustainability Tip Of The Week' pupils aptly learnt about how millions of trees are cut down every year to make paper and encouraged them to only use the paper they need to whilst recycling paper used.



WELCOME



It has been really fantastic to see all of the activities running at school; with children trying new clubs, school trips back in full swing and, most importantly seeing the children enjoying themselves!

I have had so many highlights so far this year in my role as Headmistress of RGS Springfield, I have had the pleasure of being 'Head Judge' at the 'Great Springfield Bake Off' and tasting the amazing bread creations made by pupils. I have also accompanied our blossoming Year Six pupils to the nearby Climbing Centre each week and seen their confidence, strength and skills develop. Of course you can't beat the simple pleasures of life and watching and hearing our pupils enjoy the fresh air, running around and playing in the School field and woodland areas, is a joy to behold.

We are a small school, a hidden gem in the heart of Worcester and described as 'the secret in the square', but our pupils continuously impress us with their big ideas and ambitions, insatiable energy, and ability to embrace the most of all the opportunities RGS Springfield has to offer. Our small class sizes lend themselves wonderfully to the nurturing and caring ethos we hold paramount and our pupils really do feel part of the RGS Springfield 'family', complete with Bumble, our resident reading dog.

Laura Brown - Headmistress RGS Springfield

"Most preps claim to be homely but it's the first time we've heard a pupil say: "I would live here if I didn't have my own house.""



A LITTLE BIT NAUGHTY... MATILDA THE MUSICAL!

Pupils from Key Stage Two have had a fantastic time, working hard rehearsing and then performing their musical extravaganza - Matilda! Adapted from the Roald Dahl classic, this show was tremendously fun and thoroughly entertained audiences during two sell-out performances in the Lent term. RGS Springfield pupils all gave outstanding and convincing performances of their sometimes, rather cheeky counterparts, with superb music accompaniment, singing and dancing throughout. The experience will create lasting memories and friendships for all involved as well as nurturing budding thespians and building confidence in public speaking.



photos by Dave Felton Photography

AUTUMN AMBLES AND WINTER WALKS

In all weathers, children from the RGS Springfield Nursery can be seen making the most of the natural setting our school grounds offer, exploring the changes each season brings, with delight and excitement.

Autumn provided much amusement, with the children exploring colourful leaves, conkers and acorns as we discussed how animals will be preparing for hibernation. Inspired by their walk, the children also created some beautiful autumnal paintings.

Winter similarly inspired joy, with children crunching their wellies along frosty grass, looking for sparkly spider webs and taking photographs.



EXPLORING CREATIVITY

After inspiration and research into popular artist, Andy Warhol, pupils in Year Six created their own self portraits. Using a variety of art techniques to create a mixed-media artwork, pupils made a line drawing of themselves, before adding vibrant colour with acrylic paint. The fun then began! They took a picture of their art with their iPads and used their digital know-how to duplicate and change colours, reminiscent of Andy Warhol's screen printed art.

The school's younger pupils also created self portraits inspired by Picasso. Using colourful dough they created their faces, honing fine-motor skills, encouraging problem solving and reinforcing knowledge of shape and colour.



KARATE KIDS

Pupils are revelling in our Karate Club. Coached by a 16-time European Champion and World WadoKai Kata Champion, the class encourages discipline, balance and even some Japanese short phrases and numbers!



THE BOY WHO CRIED WOLF

Reception class (Dragonflies) very much enjoyed finding out more about the Aesop Fable 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf'. The children had so much fun retelling the story by dressing up and performing their own version, which then inspired the most wonderful writing.



FOREST SCHOOL FUN

Nursery children were introduced to using tools during Forest School sessions. They particularly enjoyed using the bow saw and the drill on logs they found in the woodland. The pupils worked hard, concentrating carefully and following the instructions.



SPECTACULAR SPRINGFIELD ALLSTARS!

RGS Springfields' very own cheerleading troupe, the 'Springfield Allstars', have been busy practising routines and performing at a variety of local Sporting events this term. The Allstars have entertained spectators at the University of Worcester Arena at fixtures including: Severn Stars v Celtic Dragon Superleague Netball match and Worcester Wolves v Stourport Spartans Basketball match. Despite a few nerves, the troupe have performed superbly and thoroughly enjoyed the experience from start to finish.

RAINFOREST REVELATIONS

Pupils in Year Four enjoyed a day at Birmingham Botanical Gardens to support their geographical study of rainforests. They showed that they had some super knowledge about the flora and fauna found in the forests and also learned some sobering facts about how the environment is being exploited for palm oil. The children were very excited to have the opportunity to handle some of the animals that can be found in rainforests, with some leaping at the opportunity to hold snakes and other exotic animals!



CREATIVITY WITH STEM IN YEAR SIX



Year Six have shown great engineering skills using the schools new Lego Spike kits, to design and build an automatic set of Lock Gates. Based on the design of Lock Gates seen on the River Severn at Diglis, the pupils gate design needed to open at the press of a button and wait until a boat entered the area by using a motion sensor. Pupils researched all the different sensors and motors on offer, before moving on to construction and learning how to programme the different components using their iPads. Pupils showed much resilience and determination to problem solving during this project and honed Design Technology, Digital Learning and STEM skills.

MUSICAL EXPLORATION

The musical year got off to a flying start with all year groups starting new and exciting projects. Year Six investigated Victorian composers, beginning with Worcester's Edward Elgar. They tried to guess the identity of the variations in his Enigma suite before creating their own variation of the Nimrod using GarageBand.

Year Five have worked on their own musical composition inspired by Vincent van Gogh's famous painting, The Starry Night. They used a graphic score of a spiral galaxy to structure their music and had great fun using the piano in unusual ways as well as using electronic sounds from GarageBand. Year Four have been looking at performance poetry and have learnt their first poem, using actions to help them remember, whilst Year Three have been thinking about the sounds that surround us and have used their voices, bodies and instruments to recreate them.

SPORTING FUN

Pupils have had the chance to try out many different Sports this year including: Tennis, Rugby, Hockey, Netball, Football, Cross Country, Swimming and even Water Polo! Pupils have also played in fixtures against other local schools, participated in Rugby and Hockey Festivals and represented their House in sporting challenges. Children have clearly enjoyed the opportunity to try so many different Sports, improve on technique and develop skills as well as understand the importance of being part of a team.



OH YES YOU WILL, OH NO I WON'T!

Pupils and families celebrated the traditions of the festive season with some very special events during December. To welcome in the festive season, pupils sang beautifully in the annual Christmas Carol service. The Early Years children entertained a captivated audience with their Nativity performance, 'A Magical Night' and Key Stage One children presented a wonderful performance of their Nativity, 'Everyone Loves a Baby'. Not to miss out on the drama, there was much hilarity as the whole school was treated to a fun-filled performance of Aladdin from the teachers and staff of RGS Springfield. What a great way to end Michaelmas term!



AMBER DEFEATS REES-MOGG IN OXFORD UNION DEBATE

The spotlight shone on RGS alumna and current Debating Coach, Amber Warner-Warr recently as she proposed the motion in the Oxford Union's annual 'No Confidence in Her Majesty's Government' debate.

Amber was a key member of the Debating Society during her time at RGS Worcester, going on to study English Language and Literature at the University of Oxford. During her time at Oxford, Amber has continued her debating and played a significant role at the Oxford Union, while continuing to coach RGS pupils.

Amber was in much acclaimed company during the debate, with speakers alongside her in favour of the motion including; Shadow Home Secretary Nick Thomas-Symonds MP, former Secretary of State for Justice Sir Robert Buckland QC MP; and the Leader of the House of Commons Jacob Rees-Mogg MP.

Amber carried the floor with the Oxford Union voting overwhelmingly in support of a motion of 'no confidence' in Her Majesty's Government on this prestigious occasion. The motion passed with 228 votes in favour and 95 against.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be involved in such a prestigious occasion, with a chamber packed to full capacity for the first time since the start of the pandemic."

Amber retains close connections with RGS Worcester, inspiring the next generation of debaters, in her role as Debating Coach at the School and adding: *"I have full confidence in all of the debaters who have been so committed during my time as Coach and could not be prouder of everything they have achieved."*



FIRST CLASS HONOURS FOR HARRY

We were delighted to hear from Chemistry graduate and RGS alumnus, Harry Gemmill and discover more about his career in Science after graduating with an First Class Honours in MSci Chemistry at Imperial College London. Harry has spent his final year studying Photo catalysts used in sustainable hydrogen fuel production and has since co-founded a company to pursue research in the area.



Harry said: *"My time at RGS helped me to push myself outside my comfort zone and take risks by affording me the opportunity to travel and try new experiences such as participating in Outward Bound in Year Eight and later the Summer Trekking Trip to the Indian Himalayas. RGS also helped me learn how to juggle multiple commitments while participating in Senior Jazz, Concert Band, Big Band and managing 5-7 rowing training sessions a week along with my Academic schedule."*

A WINNING 'FORMULA' FOR RGS ALUMNUS



We were delighted to hear from RGS alumnus, Owen Carless and find out more about his role as Head of Mechanical Simulations for Red Bull Powertrains, Formula One power unit manufacturing company.

Owen has worked at Formula One's Red Bull Racing since 2008 and when he was at RGS, he had a clear idea that he wanted to work in automotive engineering and he said he thrived on the challenge of modelling physical components and systems with mathematical equations.



"The drive and determination instilled in me by the School went a long way towards helping me succeed in higher education. Although I didn't always enjoy it at the time, the regular series of tests at RGS helped enormously with my exam technique and meant that at university I could 'bank' good scores in formally assessed units, and concentrate on improving my scores on units which were practically assessed... I can also thank RGS for helping build a love of team sports!"

Mr Owen Carless - Head of Mechanical Simulations for Red Bull Powertrains

CELEBRATING RGS ALUMNI



TAZMIN PERFORMS AT CHINESE EMBASSY – IN MANDARIN!

RGS alumna and singer songwriter Tazmin Barnes, was invited by the Chinese Embassy in London to perform at the annual Chinese New Year celebrations for His Excellency, Ambassador Zheng Zeguang and his mission colleagues.

Supported by world renowned pianist Didi Xiao and an ensemble cast of musicians, and dancers, Tazmin performed a New Year greeting to welcome in the Year of the Tiger, and then sang two traditional folk songs - all in Mandarin! The event was organised by the Cultural Office of the Chinese Embassy with over 450 esteemed guests in attendance.

"It was an incredible experience to perform alongside such an elite and diverse range of artists. There is no doubt that the opportunities I had at RGS provided me with a really solid foundation in performing arts and I encourage all current pupils to grasp every chance they have as you never know where it might lead!"

Miss Tazmin Barnes



RGS

NURSERIES



Laughter, friendship, exploration, discovery and wellies!
This, and more, is what your child will experience at
RGS Nurseries.

Our three RGS Nurseries are located within our independent schools, which allows our nursery children to enjoy the benefits of utilising the fantastic on-site facilities and resources. Our schools are set in open, green and secure spaces allowing for the children to play safely outside in the most beautiful surroundings.



SCAN ME

Our three Nurseries are available to children from the age of two years and continue until school age.

RGS Springfield Nursery
Britannia Square,
Worcester, Worcestershire
WR1 3DL
01905 24999

RGS The Grange Nursery
Grange Lane, Claines,
Worcester, Worcestershire
WR3 7RR
01905 451205

RGS Dodderhill Nursery
Dodderhill Road,
Droitwich Spa,
Worcestershire WR9 0BE
01905 778290