WORCESTERIAN



"An education at RGS Worcester is inclusive, challenging and academically stimulating."








CHERISHING THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE




















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Worcesterian Introduction
(2021-22)



It has been so enjoyable to see the freeing up of restrictions during the academic year 2021-2022 as we have come out of the Pandemic and learned to live with Covid-19 nationally. As a result, we have seen the full Academic and Co-curricular programmes at RGS with some exceptional opportunities provided for the pupils. They have really enjoyed returning to something like normality and have recorded superb achievements academically, on the Sports field, in Music and Drama performances and in all of the other activities available at RGS Worcester.

The Arts have really 'bounced back' at RGS and we saw a superb musical, some wonderful plays and excellent concerts. Our Creative Arts Festival in the Trinity Term demonstrated the strength of the Arts at RGS. In Sport, we have seen five pupils represent England and Great Britain and some exceptional levels of performance, alongside a desire to involve the pupils in sport for all and just enjoy participating again. The House system has continued to be hotly contested and the return of trips and expeditions has brought back fantastic opportunities, culminating in Sports Tours to Canada for Rugby, Barbados for Hockey and Netball, and a Drama trip to Boston and New York.

More than anything else, we have seen the strength of the RGS community. With the crisis caused by the war in Ukraine, The RGS Family of Schools raised over £10,000 in the Lent Term and three members of the Support staff travelled to the Romania/ Ukraine border to provide direct aid to a hostel supporting children refugees there. RGS offered free places to Ukraine pupils to join all four Schools and the whole community rallied to provide school uniform, sports kit, iPads and school lunches. We organised 'get-togethers' for displaced Ukrainian families and their hosts from across Worcestershire which attracted press attention. The whole experience of supporting people in need has been humbling and emotional - the response from the RGS community has been exceptional.

The School ended the academic year in an extremely strong position. Our reputation was enhanced during the Pandemic due to the care and support for pupils and the strength of our educational provision in part thanks to our Digital Learning Programme. We are seeing record numbers of prospective families visiting the School and we look forward to a bright future when we can offer our pupils even more opportunities both in and outside the classroom.

Thank you to everyone who has supported RGS during what has been a challenging period of time with the Pandemic. It has been an outstanding team effort and, as a result of everyone's efforts, we have emerged stronger than ever. Thank you also to those pupils and staff who have contributed to this Worcesterian which includes so many events and achievements.

We remain determined to continue to develop RGS Worcester to make our School the very best it can be for our pupils, who constantly excel and demonstrate that there are no limits to the heights they can reach in all areas of school life.

John Pitt
Headmaster, RGS Worcester
Executive Head, The RGS Worcester Family of Schools



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The Royal Grammar School Worcester - Family of Schools offers our deepest condolences to The King and the Royal Family following the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

In this article we reflect upon our Royal links and dedicate these pages to The Queen's extraordinary duty and service to the United Kingdom and The Commonwealth.

Thank you, Your Majesty, for the example you set to us all.



'Royal' Grammar School Time Line

1561
School received its first Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth I

1575
Queen Elizabeth I visited Whiteladies

1843
Second Royal Charter received from Queen Victoria

1869
Grant of Royal title by Queen Victoria

1922
Perrins Science Building opened by HRH The Duke of York

1961
Visit to the School by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, to name Eld Hall and to open Hillard Hall and extensions to the Science Building

1991
Princess Anne visits RGS Worcester to celebrate the School's Seventh Centenary

2011
The visit of The Princess Royal to RGS Worcester commemorated the 450th Anniversary of the granting of the first Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth I

2012
The Queen's final visit to Worcester was in 2012 as part of her Diamond Jubilee tour, where Her Majesty landed via helicopter at the RGS St Oswald's sports field.

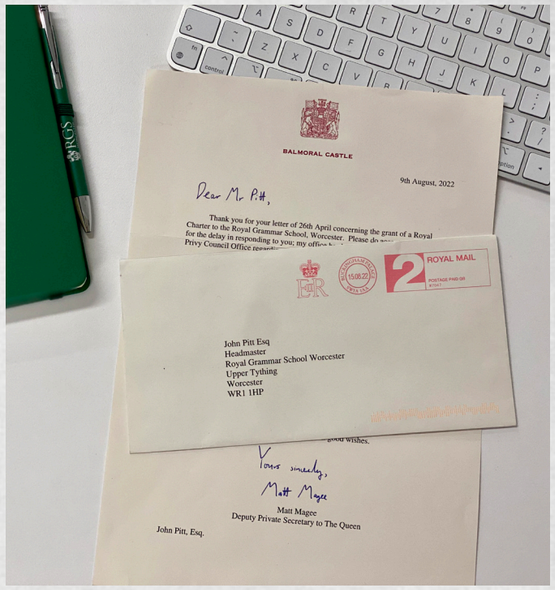


'ROYAL' MAIL

Earlier in the year, Mr Pitt, Executive Head of the RGS Worcester Family of Schools, wrote to Queen Elizabeth II to congratulate Her Majesty on her Platinum Jubilee. Whilst offering congratulations on behalf of the four schools, Mr Pitt also took the opportunity to highlight the two Royal Charters we already hold and enquire about the chances of a third Royal Charter to commemorate the occasion.

We were delighted to receive a reply in August from Balmoral Castle and the Privy Council Office. They took the time to explain the Royal Charter process had changed considerably in the modern day and could no longer offer this option to schools - even more reason to cherish such a wonderful achievement to hold two historic Royal Charters.

The Deputy Private Secretary to the Queen signed off with Her Majesty's "warm good wishes", a delightful way to start the new academic year!



THE SCHOOL'S ROYAL CHARTER

In 1561 the School received its first Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth I. Some 15 years later, in 1575, Her Majesty visited the School.

The School's second Royal Charter was received in 1843 from Queen Victoria, who granted the School its Royal title in 1869.





VISIT FROM KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH 1922

The Science Block, built in 1922, was opened by the HRH The Duke and Duchess of York, who later became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.



THE ROYAL VISIT 1961 BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN MOTHER

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother made her second visit to the School in 1961, when she named Eld Hall and formally opened the newly built Hillard Hall and extensions to the Science Building, as well as commemorating the anniversary of the Schools first Royal Charter of 1561.



Her Majesty watching a Science experiment demonstration in the School's new Science Building extension



Well-wishers gather on Upper Tything in 1961 to welcome Her Majesty the Queen Mother to RGS Worcester

WE WELCOME THE PRINCESS ROYAL, 2011

In 2011, the School welcomed The Princess Royal to RGS Worcester to commemorate the 450th Anniversary of the granting of the first Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth I.



Princess Anne during her visit to RGS Worcester

'HER MAJESTY'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND'

This May, pupils from the RGS Worcester Gardening Club, had the pleasure of meeting The Princess Royal at the Royal Horticultural Society's Malvern Spring Festival 2022. HRH Princess Anne spent time talking to the group about their Royal Jubilee inspired Show Garden, aptly named 'Her Majesty's Adventures in Wonderland'.





DIGITAL LEARNING PROGRAMME







The Digital Learning Programme (DLP) came into its own during Covid-19, helping teachers to deliver lessons remotely throughout each 'lockdown', ensuring that learning continued for all our pupils. We are pleased to report that momentum has continued and the 2022-23 academic year has seen the DLP go from strength to strength, including in December, our inclusion in the UK's 'EdTech50'. The group consists of the top 50 schools, people and businesses from across the UK who are shaping the EdTech World. The RGS Worcester Family of Schools were one of only two independent schools in the UK represented, verifying our position at the forefront of innovation in education.

Projects that have been underway throughout the academic year provided further justification for our growing reputation as a global edtech hub. We welcomed education pupils from the University of Worcester to a series of lectures that demonstrated the strategy behind our DLP and the significance digital education has in an increasingly technological world. They saw how our culture of innovation meant we are able to integrate disruptive technologies such as Virtual Reality and Artificial Intelligence into our curriculum where they add meaning and value.

We took over thirty pupils to present at The BETT Show in London, Europe's biggest edtech show that welcomes over 50,000 guests and 500 exhibitors. Our pupils presented on the Albion stage, sharing their experiences of Computing across the curriculum. They did themselves, and The RGS Worcester Family of Schools; proud and received many favourable comments and plaudits.

We also hosted the first in-person Apple RTC leadership academy, welcoming practitioners from all over the UK to RGS The Grange to see how change management, professional development, research and collegiality are all key factors in a successful digital adoption. It was great to hear positive feedback from the delegates who were impressed with the vision behind our award winning Digital Learning Programme.

Each Term we publish our digital publication, 'innovatED' which showcases some of the best pupil work from all four schools. Every issue has been published on Apple Books and normally receives in excess of 300 downloads each. The range, quality and depth of digital work at The RGS Worcester Family of Schools is testament to the skill, creativity and willingness of our staff to embrace technology and use it effectively across our incredible Schools.

ENGLISH FACULTY











It has been an enormous relief and a great pleasure to return consistently to the classroom once again this year and to see the resumption of English clubs and activities taking place elsewhere other than on screen. It has been particularly welcome to see trips start again.

One of the great successes of this year has been the growth of Junior LitSoc. This has been incredibly popular, with over fifty pupils attending at times. As well as the usual weekly talks, there was a trip to see 'Jekyll and Hyde' at The Swan Theatre and a Trinity Term picnic. Throughout the year, members of Junior LitSoc have produced an array of original creative writing and several members are very keen and talented poets. Many pupils are now writing regularly beyond the classroom and are entering competitions and joining in with online writing workshops.

Senior LitSoc goes from strength to strength and the regular Monday meetings have continued their customary flow of erudite talk, supported by tea and copious amounts of cake. The Christmas London Tour was perhaps the best yet and highlights included a trip to the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse to see 'Measure for Measure' by candlelight. There was also the visit of Ade Couper, Worcestershire Poet Laureate and RGS alumnus. This event really generated interest in performance poetry and was also attended by pupils from Dodderhill.

A Level students enjoyed a study day at the Pre-Raphaelite manor house at Wightwick, where they attended a seminar on Victorian poetry given by Dr Serena Trowbridge from Birmingham City University. In May, pupils visited the Bronte Parsonage at Haworth which helped to deepen their appreciation of Gothic Literature.

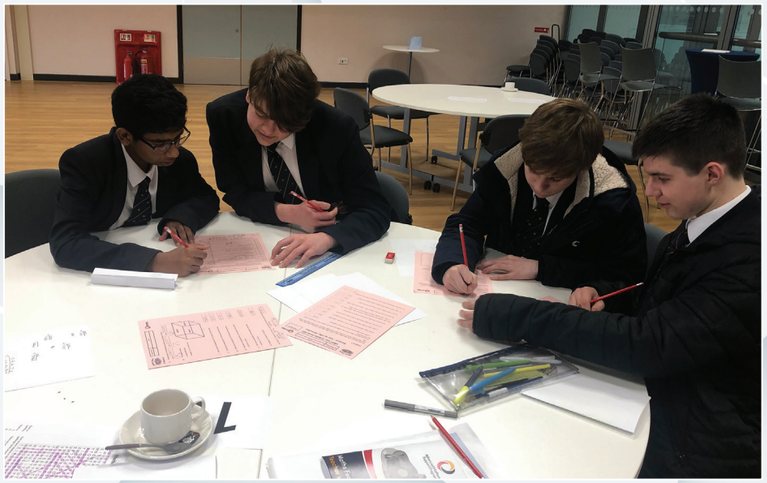
This year has also been incredibly busy for the School's Year groups. Our regular book clubs resumed in-person and there was the usual array of quizzes and competitions, including World Book Day Bingo, Shelfie Photo Challenge, iMovie Book Trailers. Most impressively, this year saw a record number of pupils entering and winning prizes in the Twisted Tales Young Writers Awards. The winners were: Thomas Pound, Cooper Collins, Immi Sharp, all in Year Eight, and Anna Wardle Grifoll, Mirin Hutchings, Cameron Henry, Adam Faci, Audrey Hargreaves and Erin Docherty, Year Seven.

Huge thanks are due to the staff and pupils who have made all these events so enjoyable and have helped to nurture a love of reading, writing and creative engagement with literature.

MATHEMATICS FACULTY

This year saw the gradual return of the pre-Pandemic Mathematics activities that were once a staple of the academic year. We made our first foray into a Maths Team Challenge for over two years when eight Year Ten pupils were selected to represent RGS at this year's AMSP Maths Feast held at Worcester University Arena. This was a fun educational challenge for Year Ten pupils organised by the AMSP that tested pupils' problem-solving and teamwork skills. Teams of four pupils worked together with the all-you-can-eat feast of problems, which this year consisted of four courses. Certificates were awarded for the winning team of each round and then the overall winner. RGS took a clean sweep in Round 2 with one team comprising of Toby Alexander, Dan Foster, Sam Taylor and Vikassh Vijithan being joint winners with our second team of Sydney Blanchenot, Elizabeth Crookall, Jaimie Lee and Grace Williams. This latter team then also put in an amazing performance in the final round to end up as overall winners of the entire Maths Feast. Many congratulations go to both teams who not only showed exceptional mathematical thinking but also displayed strong teamwork and communication skills throughout the afternoon, with a generous helping of good humour.

The pupils had one of the School's best years in recent memory in the Maths Challenges with over two hundred pupils achieving awards across the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Challenges, including four pupils qualifying for the Senior Kangaroo round, nineteen pupils for the Intermediate Kangaroo round and twelve pupils qualifying for the Junior Kangaroo round. The standout performance was probably from Sihan Fu in Year



Eight who scored an incredible 125 marks out of a possible 135 marks in the Junior Maths Challenge and qualified for the Junior Mathematical Olympiad, which is a tremendous achievement.

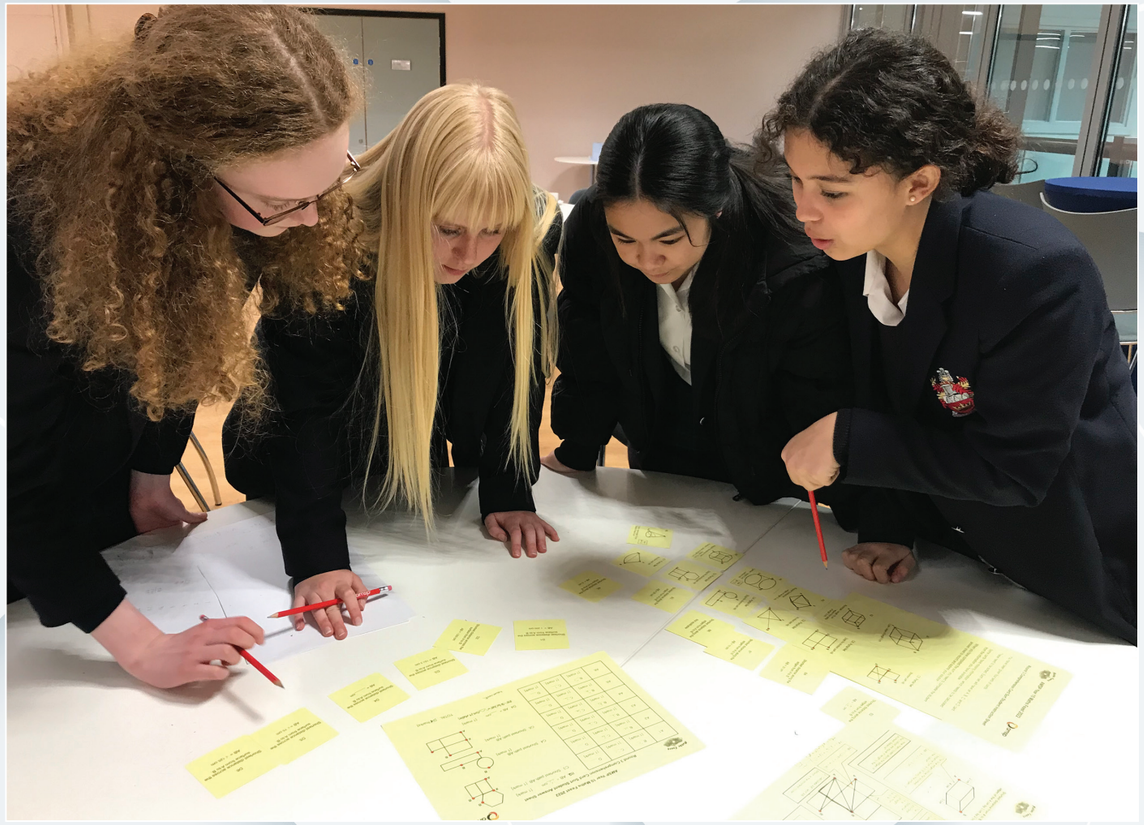
Monday 14 March 2022 also marked the 35th celebration of Pi Day across the World and RGS pupils could not let the opportunity pass without playing their part in this important day in the mathematical calendar. Pi Day is now annually celebrated on the 14 March, due to the fact that the first three digits of Pi are 3.14 – exactly how the date is written in America. Some Year Ten pupils entered fully into the spirit of the day by competing in a special Pi Day competition, which involved solving some of the top-tier GCSE questions that involve calculations involving Pi. In addition to putting their mathematical skills to the test, Year Ten pupils also brought to their lesson culinary efforts that celebrated the wonder that is Pi, along with a chance to demonstrate how many digits of Pi they could memorise. Keira Higgins thoroughly impressed when she was able to recite correctly 66 digits!

This year sadly saw RGS say goodbye to one of the stalwarts of the Maths Department, Mr Gibson, who retired after twenty six years of service in the School including ten as the Head of Department. His passion for the subject, dry sense of humour and overall contribution to the Department will be greatly missed by both the pupils and teachers alike.









MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES FACULTY

"Speak up! I'm listening!"

Churchill is reputed to have said, "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen." No truer words were said for pupils of a foreign language and we have continued to focus this year on the all-important skills of speaking and listening.

The start of the year saw pupils return to the Language Lab, our computer room, and use the recently updated Sanako software. As soon as pupils put on their headset, they take on the role of translators, interpreters or journalists. The Sanako software allows pupils to talk to one another in the target language whilst teachers join in to individual discussions to provide feedback, tips with grammar or pronunciation or simply provide an item of vocabulary. The many new functionalities of this software, also used by universities and schools around the globe, allows participants to video-call one another, complete vocabulary tests, message the teacher or other participants to mention just a few options. There is no doubt that the experience in the language lab gave pupils renewed confidence to speak in the target language and facilitated the other opportunities mentioned further below.

Whilst travel restrictions were still in place, pupils were able to speak to native pupils and travel virtually. Indeed, for the second year running, we maintained our link with our partner schools in Spain and Germany via the online platform Flipgrid. Whilst our pupils studying German found out about Christmas traditions in Germany, the pupils studying Spanish discussed the differences between Schools in Spain and the UK.

Lower School pupils studying French also managed to travel to France virtually. After learning key vocabulary about shops and holiday activities, pupils carried out group research about cities in France such as Brest, Toulouse, Paris or Lyon. Then, stepping into the role of foreign correspondent working for a news channel, pupils gave an account of their visit abroad using green screen technology. Being able to speak with fluency and confidence after studying the language for only one year was a real achievement for our Year Seven pupils.







Developing knowledge of a broad range of vocabulary through listening skills is an effective way to develop pupils' general language proficiency. MFL pupils across the board have used the website 'thisislanguage.com' to complete listening tasks in an engaging and interactive way. Our linguists have been inspired by the videos featuring young native speakers talking about their own lives and with whom our pupils can relate.



As usual, the MFL Department has continued to run competitions throughout the year to motivate and encourage pupils to develop their linguistic skills further.

After the excitement of European Week of Languages where all Houses competed for the Pétanque trophy, in December, Year Seven pupils took part in an inter-class Christmas Carol singing competition. Despite the brave efforts of green screen technology in French, subsequently banned for detracting from the heart of the competition, a choreographed dance to Feliz Navidad and stunts to embellish Tannenbaum, it was the candle-lit singing skills and crisp, clear pronunciation of Stille Nacht which dazzled the jury, made up of the pupils themselves! All groups should be commended for their efforts and enthusiasm.



In March, French and Spanish students had the opportunity to take part in the Flash Fiction competition run by the University of Oxford. The judging panel received many entries and were impressed by the creative and inspiring texts in a foreign language produced by our students. This year, RGS students did not make it onto the podium but we are incredibly proud of the entries which were sent and we would like to congratulate all students for their hard work and ambition.

Finally in May, a class of Year Seven pupils took part in a singing competition which required them to create a song in French on a topic of their choosing and have a chance to win prizes and compete for the national Francophonie UK School Music Awards. The class wrote their own lyrics based on the topics that we had learnt this year. The song describes what pupils enjoy at School and in their free time. With the help of two Sixth Form Music Scholars, we were able to add a rhythm section and turn the lyrics into a rap song. This activity, in turn, allowed pupils to consolidate their already very good French pronunciation. Though our video was not selected by the regional jury it is still on for the selection of three 'coups de coeur' and three 'French Pop Video Competition teachers of the year'. We warmly congratulate all pupils who took part in the competition.

Amidst the verb endings, adjectival agreements, infinitive phrases and subordinating conjunctions, language learning must be about the fun and creativity of self-expression. It is through listening and speaking, be it in a language lab, classroom, online video forum or song, that those attributes are best brought to life.

SCIENCE FACULTY

In a Jubilee year, it is worth considering how far Science has advanced over the last 70 years. In 1953, Coronation Year, Watson and Crick deduced the structure of DNA, but only after Rosalind Franklin provided the essential X-ray crystallography data, nuclear power had not be safely harnessed, polio was still rife amongst children although a vaccine was in sight and the average life expectancy was 65 years. Norgay and Hillary also ascended Everest. But what other heights have been climbed since?

Nuclear power, although controversial, has been harnessed and now supplies about 20% of the United Kingdom's electricity supply. The human genome has been completely mapped which will give humanity a greater understanding of our evolution whilst also opening the door to medical discoveries in neurodegenerative conditions, cancer and heart disease. Humankind has walked on the moon, retired from this endeavour, and now is actively seeking to revisit and Everest has become a tourist destination for those willing to attempt the climb. This is also mirrored in the embryonic low earth orbit experiences offered by fledgling space companies.

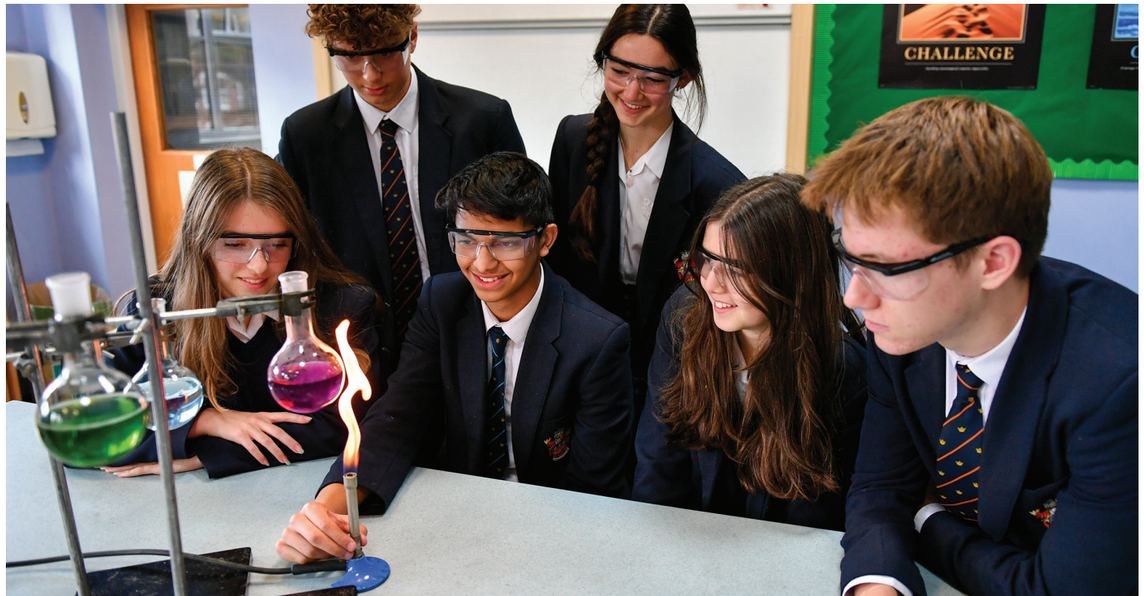
There are many more scientific discoveries that have led to changes, too many to mention here, but it is worth considering in your own lifetime, what changes have you seen and, more importantly for the younger generation yet to embark on their educational journey, what scientific discoveries will you make?

CHEMISTRY

It has been another busy year for the Chemistry Department. We continued with our outreach programme with CSI Worcester, hosting over 150 pupils from both local primary schools and our Prep Schools, where they were able to solve a crime through deduction and experiment, and we continued our involvement when the Department supported the Scholarship Day, where pupils were able to get hands-on experience in the laboratories.

The Lower Sixth chemists joined the Upper Sixth chemists in entering the Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad in January, achieving a similar level of success in a much tougher paper compared to last year in which the Olympiad was performed remotely. Topics included E10 petrol, calculations of equilibria in lateral flow tests, and the synthesis of the platonic solid Cubane. Eight of our Lower Sixth chemists achieved Bronze awards whilst Adrian Fok and Mar Poyser from the Upper Sixth achieved Gold Awards. Well done! These achievements are well deserved and their problem-solving skills will be put to good use as they embark upon their Undergraduate courses.

The Lower Sixth students have had another opportunity to test their skills in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in June. Questions ranged from antiperspirants to structure determination. We eagerly await the results and are confident they will match the success of the Olympiad. Well done to all!



BIOLOGY

The Biology Department continued to thrive in the remote teaching world that has been created by the Pandemic. To slightly change the words of Charles Darwin, teachers and pupils have had to adapt to succeed in the changeable and uncertain circumstances we have all experienced recently. And adapted they did, as 87% of pupils obtained at least a Grade 7 in our subject, with almost a third of the cohort achieving the prestigious and elusive Grade 9. At A Level, over half of our students achieved a Grade A or A*. A huge congratulations to both our A Level and GCSE pupils, and my deepest thanks to Kirsty Ashford, Becky Briggs, Deborah Harkness, Teresa King and Hugh Sykes for their unwavering support and dedication to their students, which facilitated such impressive examination results.

Outside the classroom, the Lower Sixth students had the opportunity to compete in the Biology Olympiad. We also took them on the first Biology Field Trip since the Pandemic started, returning to the great outdoors in order to learn about Ecology, sampling techniques and conservation out in the field. Becky Briggs, Kirsty Ashford and Teresa King took thirty-five pupils to Nettlecombe Field Studies centre near Taunton in Devon for two nights where the pupils got to learn about grassland, woodland and rocky shore ecosystems. Within these activities, the pupils got to try sampling using a transect; kick-sampling in a stream to identify freshwater invertebrates; using a mark-release-recapture technique to estimate the population size of snails; and even the chance to see mice, voles and shrews up close through using small mammal traps. These are all activities that would simply not be possible in the science laboratory.

Rob Henderson pulled out another specimen of his 'Mystery Dissection' hat for the Billingham Society and this year it was a pheasant. The pupils got to see the anatomy of the pheasant and birds in general; discuss the physiology and adaptations of the bird; and compare it to mammalian physiology. With the easing of restrictions, this 'Mystery Dissection' was able to be in person which gave the pupils a chance to get up close and personal with the specimen.

In October RGS grasped the opportunity to inspire future engineers by hosting one of the Institute of Engineering and Technology's (IET) Faraday Challenge Days. Three teams of RGS Year Eight pupils had a fantastic day competing against teams from Nunnery Wood, Christopher Whitehead Language College and RGS Dodderhill to design, prototype and present their solution to a real challenge faced by the healthcare industry, sponsored by the Institute of Healthcare Engineering and Estate Management (HEEM). The event was organised by Miss Deborah Gold, Teacher of Physics and Chartered Engineer to show pupils how their creativity, innovation, problem-solving and team work skills can be used in the exciting and rewarding careers of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). As well as being a thoroughly enjoyable day, the pupils showed great ingenuity, teamwork and resilience whilst gaining insight into the life of a real engineer.









PHYSICS

We had a successful year in Physics with an array of outstanding achievements by the pupils. A notable highlight has been receiving offers of places from Cambridge for Mar Poyser to read Engineering and Freddie Davies to read Natural Sciences. Well done to both of them.

The newly formed Rocket Club has attracted substantial interest from both Lower and Upper Sixth Form Physics students. This academic year has been used to construct two solid fuel powered rockets. Both of the rockets have two stages and are capable of achieving altitudes of over 500m. One of the rockets has been adapted to carry a payload which includes a camera and programmable data recording of sensors to capture the flight statistics for subsequent analysis. These two rocket building projects have been pupil led enabling them to develop their creative and problem-solving skills as well as working together collaboratively as a team.

Students have performed exceptionally well with tremendous success in the Physics Olympiad Competitions this Year. In the Senior Competition a total of 20 awards were achieved by Lower Sixth Physics pupils with Commendations for Chris Adams and Lucas Hancock, Bronze Medals for Ben Atkins, Eleanor Fawcett, Ben Koutrouki, Ryan McDonald, Aden Sharp, Felix Silvey, Matthew Smith, George Stephenson, Menna Sutton, Stephanie Taylor, Shivani Thukral and Dan Varughese, Silver Medals for Tobey Butler, Jack Pitt, James Robinson and Dave Varughese, with Raiwin Lewis and Will Selby both achieving prestigious Gold Medals. Turning to the Junior Competition, there was a staggering list of achievements with 10 Gold Medals, 21 Silver Medals, 92 Bronze Medals and 30 Commendations, altogether making a stupendous grand total of 153 awards. All the more fantastic considering many of the RGS pupils were in Year Nine tackling a competition intended for Year Ten. The Gold Medal winners were from Year Ten Ben Fisher, Abigail Crabb, Daniel Foster, Ivan Innocent, Tom Li, Lucas Reid and Sam Taylor, and from Year Nine Hannah Agoston, William Berry and Jacob Hartley. Thank you to all the pupils that attempted the Olympiads and congratulations to those who achieved awards.



COMPUTING AND IT

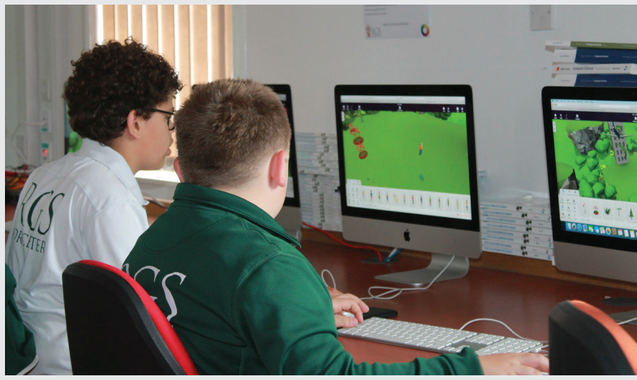
In the Lower School this year, pupils have continued to focus on how computers work by studying hardware as well as coding their own programmes, using block-based programming and industry-standard text-based languages. Year Seven pupils discovered that computers are embedded into a range of everyday objects, with the increased availability of smart devices connected to the Internet. Year Eight pupils have also had the opportunity to gain a nationally-recognised qualification at RGS working on the iDEA (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) programme. This has involved exploring and completing badges relating to the use of technology to understand the role we all play as responsible digital citizens, as well as how computers play a key role in modern business.

In the Middle School, an increased number of pupils are opting to study Computer Science. Year Nine pupils have created algorithms and applied computational thinking to code programs, as well as developing their technical understanding of computer networks and cyber security. For the first time, there are two Year Ten GCSE Computer Science classes who have studied data representation, covering the binary number system and how image and sound compression allows for digital storage. Year Eleven computer scientists have developed their understanding of programming theory, including databases and SQL, as well as studying the legal, ethical and environmental impacts of computers in society.

At A Level, Lower Sixth students have learnt about implementing programme design and have also completed supplementary CISCO networking courses, including achieving industry-recognised networking and cybersecurity qualifications. Upper Sixth A Level Computer Science students have completed real-world programming assignments, once more achieving in the top mark band for their impressive NEA projects.

Lower School Code Club has continued this year with pupils exploring a range of programming environments through Half-Termly challenges which have demonstrated a high level of creativity and technical skills. We have also provided a range of activities throughout the academic year, including the Government's Cyber Discovery competition to promote careers in cybersecurity and the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. During Code Week in December, pupils took part in class programming activities, culminating in the Cipher Challenge House competition for Year Seven and Eight. RGS Worcester was once more recognised as an official supporter of the annual international Safer Internet Day event in February, with the Department delivering the message of our shared responsibility to be safe and positive online during lessons and in assembly.





HUMANITIES FACULTY

CLASSICS











We marked the end of the academic year 2021-22 in the Classics Department with a trip to Greece for Years Eight, Nine and Ten. This is the first residential trip we have been able to run since the onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic, and it is also the first time we have opted for Greece instead of Italy. It has been a real shame not to have been able to get away for our bi-annual sortie to Rome, the Bay of Naples, and Pompeii during the Pandemic; this year, in an effort to shake things up and to begin the post-Covid era with somewhere new and exciting, we opted for Greece. Over the course of 7 days, staff and pupils visited the ancient sites of Athens, Dephi, Olympia, Mycenae, Epidauros, and Corinth, taking in as much as possible of the Greek mainland.

Almost fifty excited pupils and five equally excited teachers departed on the 7 July for Athens, and spent that evening watching the sunset at Cape Sounion, where we visited the Temple of Poseidon. Pupils got the chance to explore Athens, learning about the cradle of democracy, and taking selfies by the Parthenon. A particular highlight was our visit to the Acropolis Museum, the top floor of which is set up in parallel to the Acropolis above it, so that visitors can walk around the frieze whilst looking at the real thing. After Athens, a flurry of destinations in the Peloponnese and elsewhere followed: pupils enjoyed a foot race in the running track used during the ancient Olympics, with olive oil amphorae prizes, they re-enacted scenes from Greek tragedy at the theatre in Epidauros, and they hiked to the top of the Acrocorinth, a huge hill overlooking the gulf of Corinth, to take in spectacular views. The trip was a fantastic way to end the year, and we were very excited to have managed to get abroad again!

Summer 2022 marks the end of a busy, eventful year for the Classics Department. We remain popular in the twitterverse; @RGSClassics and the Department now reach over 1,600 followers. The Department has also enjoyed welcoming Miss Benns to RGS this year; her enthusiasm, energy, and sense of humour have been appreciated by students and staff alike. Her stewardship of the Lower School Classics club has seen interest in the ancient world increase amongst the younger members of School.

The Grades our students received in the summer of 2021 were very strong, and as a department we have been building on our academic successes each year. Our Year Eleven Latin set achieved some outstanding Grades, with 100% of students achieving at least a Level 7, and 73% of these at Level Nine. Our A Level Latinists received 100% A*, whilst the A Level Classicists achieved 100% A*-B. Now that new specifications have bedded in, we are constantly looking for new ways to make the content of the courses come alive. In this vein, we are thinking about the future and considering trips to Bath for our GCSE cohorts, to the British Museum, for those studying the Parthenon frieze at GCSE, and a return to Italy.

POLITICS



It has been a fascinating year in Politics with the fallout from 'Partygate', the cost-of-living crisis and the energy crisis. Politics is certainly never predictable and current crises are not easy to solve!

In March, Politics students attended a talk by ex-Liberal Democrat Leader Sir Vince Cable. Vince Cable spoke about how tribalism is encouraged by the First-Past-the-Post voting system which causes British politics to take on the quality of being extremely polarised. This is an issue, Cable argued, which could be solved through the introduction of an Additional Member voting system as is used in the German and Scottish parliaments. Ultimately, the talk was incredibly informative and offered perceptive insights into politics for those students intending to become politicians in their later careers.

Covid-19 restrictions have once again prevented a tour of the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court. Instead, we took the opportunity offered by Parliament to take part in an online workshop. We were first treated to a 'how Parliament makes laws' workshop, and then discussed where power lies in the British political system. The purpose of this was to revise the Parliament topic and to gain insight from experts who are involved in the committee system in Parliament. Next year should see the Department attend more events with the 'Congress to Campus' scheme being brought back. This involves two former members of Congress – one Democrat, one Republican – attending the University of Oxford Rothermere Institute. They will discuss American politics and government with local school and university students, sharing their real-life experiences as candidates and office-holders. We look forward to attending this event as well as visiting Parliament and the Supreme Court in the Michaelmas Term.

HISTORY

This has, once again, been an exciting year in local, UK and world history.

In assemblies and through a weekly review of key Worcester events, we have been celebrating the 400th anniversary in 2021 of Worcester gaining a new charter from King James I. This granted the city rights, including having a Mayor for the first time. Across the UK in June, the country reflected on the incredible achievement of Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, while the world has had to deal with the continued fallout from Covid-19 as well as the devastating news of war in Ukraine. As our Year Nine historians learn about the two world wars in Europe in the twentieth century and our Year Ten gear up to study the Cold War, it feels so sad to see peace in Europe impacted in this way once again.

The Department is delighted, though, to be starting to reinstate trips that have not run due to Covid-19.

In June, all Year Ten historians had the fantastic opportunity to visit the Staffordshire Regiment Museum and Cannock Chase.

The day began at the museum, where we looked at the range of weapons, medals and other artefacts before exploring their outdoor replica of a trench system. This was very eye-opening and helped us visualise World War I, and the problems that this structure would cause for treating the wounded. Of particular interest was the replica of a Regimental Aid Post, the first part of the evacuation route that moved the wounded away from the front line. We were all surprised by how small it was!

The day was interspersed with talks from our two guides on topics such as the causes of the war, the types of illnesses and wounds, and gas attacks. Some people even tried on the uniforms of the nurses and soldiers!

The day concluded with a visit to Cannock Chase, where we visited two World War graveyards. The first had over 4000 German graves, and the second was run by the Commonwealth War Graves. This provided a fitting ending to a memorable day.









GEOGRAPHY

This academic year has seen the much-awaited return of residential fieldwork following the Pandemic. The Lower Sixth students were the first to benefit from more normal times, with the large cohort travelling to Slapton Sands in March where they had the opportunity to stay and study in the Slapton Field Studies Centre, alongside top universities and other schools. The course was excellent in offering a breadth of areas of study and involved a wonderful coastal path walk around the whole of Start Bay. The students gained essential fieldwork skills as well as the opportunity to collect data for their Non-Examined Assessments.

The Year Eleven pupils have also had the opportunity to complete fieldwork this academic year. Although the need to complete fieldwork was removed from the final examinations the RGS staff felt that it was essential that the pupils have the opportunity to explore fieldwork techniques to help develop their understanding of data collection and to help prepare them for the A Level course, for those who wish to continue with their studies. We travelled to Bishops Wood on the outskirts of Worcester where we worked alongside staff from the Field Studies Centre. The pupils completed an introduction to fieldwork course; pond dipping was a particular favourite out of the activities as pupils had the chance to see rare newts.

The Lower School pupils have been working hard throughout the year and were given the opportunity during the summer Term to enter the Young Geographer of the Year competition for 2022, which was on the topic of 'where, how and why'. Following the Pandemic, the Royal Geographic Society are aiming to get pupils to start widening their geographical horizons by thinking about places they would like to travel to, how they would get there and why that place is meaningful. This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to be involved in a fun activity whilst expanding their geographical knowledge and showing off their poster making skills.







PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

After such a tumultuous year of Covid-19 'lockdowns', there was great promise of a more normal year ahead and the team certainly approached the year with new energy and hope. We had a lot to do. Everyone had adapted and made such progress during the last two years under the Covid-19 restrictions but it still left gaps in our pupils' knowledge and a lack of confidence. As well as this, many of our plans to develop the Department had been put on hold, but we were determined to change this.

Goal one was to launch Philosophy A Level. To offer our pupils the best range and most appropriate pathway in their learning we wanted to be able to offer pure Philosophy as well as Religious Studies in the Sixth Form. Few departments in the country have the expertise in their staff to deliver both of these disciplines and it is fantastic that we have such a strong team that can teach across all areas to the highest levels. The first ever Philosophy class at RGS was introduced to moral philosophy by Mr Martin and Mr Breffit took on the epistemology units from the course. The cohort taking this are absolutely absorbed by it and it has been a pleasure to teach and to get to know the pupils involved.



On the theme of philosophy, we decided it was time to overhaul our provision in Year Nine. To give our pupils the very best of what Philosophy has to offer and to give them a flavour of the application of ethical theory we started the year with an ambitious unit on medical ethics, covering surrogacy, organ donation, euthanasia, care for the elderly, priority of care in the NHS, genetics, IVF and abortion. This was followed in the Lent Term with a look at a broader range of issues from the 21st Century, including issues surrounding fake news and misinformation, artificial intelligence, the mind, drones and automated weapons and gender. Pupils relished the chance to learn about these topics and debate the ethical issues surrounding these concepts and the technology that enables them.

Outside the classroom, as restrictions lifted, the Department also arranged a trip to Worcester Cathedral for our Year Seven pupils for a guided tour and workshop to see the application of what they had learnt in the classroom. Following their unit of work on Christianity, crucifixion and the resurrection, pupils gained a better understanding of how these beliefs influence the practices and day to day lives of over two billion people. As we look to the future, we are hopeful of more trips and excursions to even further enrich our pupils' understanding of philosophy and religion.

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Last Summer saw the latest cohort celebrate an excellent and much deserved set of Economics and Business results through the Teacher Assessed Grades. Despite the challenges that Covid-19 had brought, it was pleasing to see the students awarded the Grades that they deserved from the various examination boards. Of particular note was the first student to complete the new Cambridge Technical Course in Business (CTEC).

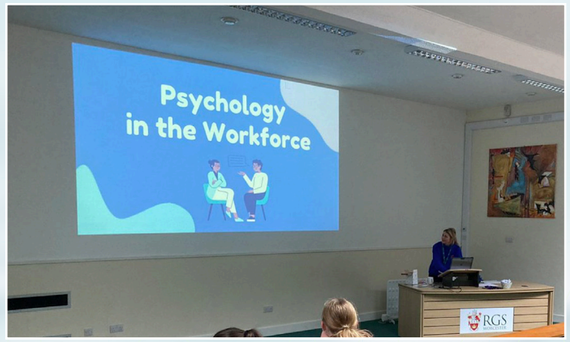


The Michaelmas Term began with a fresh cohort of students on all three of the Department's courses, as well as with the continuation of the extra Co-curricular Investment club which runs alongside them. It was fantastic for the students to meet up on a weekly basis and discuss a range of markets and analyse them as well as discussing underlying economic and business trends and theory.

The Lower Sixth Cambridge Technical cohort were able to take full advantage of the opportunity to visit Bristol Zoo in September. This was the setting for their Unit 4 non examined assessment module. Students were able to see first-hand how the zoo communicated with its customers as well as analysing the brand and customer service. Consequently, the students gained an invaluable insight and supported them as they have gone on to complete a range of written tasks and presented their ideas through presentations.

As a result of the growth and popularity of courses in the Department we have been pleased to welcome Mrs Burt. She has brought considerable expertise in Finance as well as experience in delivering the Cambridge Technical Course which has helped to further strengthen the strong teaching team.

PSYCHOLOGY



The Psychology Department are extremely proud of the results awarded to our first ever cohort in the summer of 2022. Notable achievements include those of Bethan Standing, Emma O'Hara and Isabella Hulbert, who scored top marks across all papers.

Our Lower Sixth students took advantage of the opportunity to carry out research projects in the Trinity Term, with ideas ranging from analysing mental health in the media to correlating attractiveness ratings across couples to test the matching hypothesis of attraction.

Other exciting endeavours include the 'egg baby project', which saw Lower Sixth students adopting an egg to look after whilst exploring the topic of attachment.

In addition to this, the Digital Learning Programme has been fully integrated into the psychology schemes of learning and students have confidently explored the brain through augmented reality, as well as practiced systematic desensitisation as a therapy for treating phobias, using virtual reality spiders. Students have demonstrated excellent digital skills through producing play dough stop motion animations which display key psychological studies and concepts, such as the 'Strange Situation' experiment and the process of neurotransmission.

We have been treated to interesting and informative psychology-based talks during the academic year. This includes learning about cognitive behavioural therapy, positive psychology and psychological career pathways from visiting speakers such as Kirsty Locker (Educational Mental Health Practitioner) and Nikki Ayles (Lecturer, Worcester University). Students were inspired by these talks and many of our Upper Sixth leavers have gone on to study Psychology at University.

Finally, the Psychology Department has been involved with helping to shape the PSHCE Sixth Form curriculum, devising interactive resources based upon insights into sleep hygiene and mental wellbeing.

CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY



ART

Ever resilient, the RGS artists have continued to be creative, individual and inspired this academic year. Upper Sixth and Year Eleven pupils have missed the challenge of examinations and the excitement and opportunity to produce final outcomes to their portfolios, but they have been inventive and explored materials in new and exciting ways.

Year Seven and Eight pupils took part in 'The Leaves of the Trees' project in response to Peter Walker's installation in the city. Each pupil decorated a leaf and composed their own message of hope in response to a challenging year.

In class, Year Seven explored the formal elements and showcased their skills in drawing and painting, while Year Eight explored Mexican art, working in a variety of media from print making to designing and constructing masks.

Year Nine built on their skills from gestural seascape studies to three-dimensional figurative work based on Giacometti and worked from digital drawings to create landscapes inspired by David Hockney.

The Lower Sixth artists' site visit to Worcester early in the Michaelmas Term has now become an annual event to source visual material for their forthcoming exhibition. Pupils had the opportunity to explore areas of the city that may have been previously unknown to them and it was refreshing to see how they gathered information from all aspects of life. The Sixth Form students had the Cloisters of the Cathedral and the exhibition was well received by many visitors during their Spring Festival.

In January, the Art Scholars were invited to attend a workshop at the Museum of Royal Worcester with professional artists who had been commissioned to create a public work of art to celebrate the museum collection. The drawings produced in the workshop from RGS pupils alongside pupils from other schools in Worcester will be used to inspire the formation of the commissioned art work which will then stand proudly in The Courtyard.

We are proud of the achievements of all our pupils in another challenging year and we look forward to continued success in the next academic year.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

















Although Covid-19 has become more of a memory this academic year, its legacy has remained. Examination boards took the decision that Year Eleven and the Upper Sixth Form did not have to manufacture their designs as part of their coursework/non-examined assessment (NEA). This has been disappointing for those pupils involved, as the manufacture is often the highlight of their Design and Technology experience. Once again, our pupils have taken this in their stride and produced some excellent solutions to a whole variety of issues. Everything from solving portability issues faced by the elderly, home entertainment and a garden wall for wellbeing has been designed. Creativity has abounded even if manufacturing has been curtailed. Throughout, the pupils have shown a real enthusiasm for all things Design and Technology.

Greenpower has continued to enthuse and inspire the next generation of budding engineers. Although events were significantly hampered by the Pandemic, the team finished 8th out of 64 at the Finals event back in October 2021. Current Year Seven pupils have now taken up the mantle finishing 6th out of 87 teams at Goodwood in May 2022. Both were excellent achievements demonstrating skill and teamwork. Older pupils have been involved with the design of a completely new car. They have designed and made various parts already along with a trip to Mazak to see the more complex parts being made. These parts were designed using Computer Aided Design (CAD) in school, before programming the machinery to shape their creations.



The School's Arkwright Scholarship uptake was very positive in Year Eleven with a healthy number being called for interview for these prestigious, national scholarships. Eventually Eleanor Fawcett and Dan Varughese went on to be successful and were awarded one of 700 scholarships across the whole of the United Kingdom.

On a calmer note, the Gardening Club was also able to start up again and preparations began early in the year for the Club's entry to the RHS Malvern Show in May. The given theme: the Queen's Jubilee, was interpreted by a proactive group of Year Seven to Ten pupils, into 'Her Majesty's Adventure in Wonderland'; an exquisite garden incorporating Alice Ottley's link to Lewis Carroll and Alice in Wonderland was created and was awarded a Highly Commended by the RHS judges. Pupils enjoyed talking on BBC Hereford and Worcester radio, but the highlight was talking at length with Princess Anne who commended them all for their efforts.

The Department continues to thrive and looks ahead to exciting and new problems to solve in 2022 and beyond.



TEXTILES

Pupils have enjoyed a wide programme of events this year including trips and visits, the return of our school Fashion Show and even successes in national competitions.

Our Lower School Lunch Club created a number of Origami fashion sculptures inspired by the artist Richard Sweeney and exhibited these at The Cathedral as part of the Take Flight Concert.

Pupils in Year Nine enjoyed a varied project this year using the theme 'Kaleidoscope' to inspire a wide range of fabric techniques that they have applied to their sweatshirt designs; they enjoyed exhibiting these as part of the Fashion Show at the Creative Arts Evening. They have also taken part in the national Young Fashion Designer UK competition; researching and designing ideas inspired by aspects of sustainability in fashion design using a range of digital applications to present their work.

Year Ten pupils took inspiration from their visit to The Hive to present photographs and sketches that they developed into a range of fabric prints and design ideas for the 'Architecture' project.

A residential trip to London provided an array of research opportunities for our Lower Sixth Form students. Investigating the couture work of Alexander McQueen at the Untold Stories exhibition, as well as the impact of sustainability in fashion design at Christopher Raeburn, were particularly inspiring.

















We are delighted that our pupils have received recognition for their own work in sustainability with entries for the national Fashion Icon competition. Emily Weller received a Highly Commended award for her design using a recycled suit to create an updated fashion piece. Grace Horrocks and Emily Harper were both invited to exhibit their pieces on the catwalk at the Fashion, Embroidery and Stitch show at The NEC and were awarded first and second place respectively; each received an individual prize and Grace was also presented with a Janome sewing machine for the school. Congratulations to them both and to all our fantastic pupils and students who have shown such creativity and enthusiasm this past year.





MUSIC



Pupils have travelled back in time and across the world in Music lessons this year, working collaboratively to make and study music from a variety of genres and traditions. Having undertaken a year's Covid-induced hiatus, the forming of a Class Band by each Year Seven and Eight form has been joyfully reinstated, with a collection of ukuleles joining the rhythm section, recorders and other instruments in each ensemble. Year Eight pupils have enjoyed a tour of the world with their study of Latin American Samba Batacuda and South-East Asian Gamelan music, before composing their own multi-layered pop song on GarageBand using their iPads. Year Nine have learnt about musical styles such as Minimalism, Traditional Indian Music and The Blues, composing and recording their own pieces in these styles. They have also made whole-class recordings of popular songs such as 'I Feel Good' and The Beatles 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds'.











GCSE musicians have enjoyed studying new set works in the form of the spritely Rondo from Mozart's much-loved Clarinet Concerto and three songs from the 1980s horror comedy musical hit 'Little Shop of Horrors', performing these pieces together to learn practically how they are constructed. A stimulating selection of compositions were completed as coursework. These ranged from A Level harmonisations of hymn tunes in the style of J S Bach to works in Sonata Form for violin and French horn, virtuosic piano solos and instrumental pieces to be heard at a stargazing event at an observatory. Strong solo performances were recorded for GCSE and A Level covering pieces by Poulenc, Einaudi, Finzi, Mozart, Saint-Saens and an electric guitar anthem by Metallica. Our A Level Musicians, alongside Music Scholars in the Upper Sixth, also gave a superb lunchtime recital in Worcester Cathedral in March in preparation for making their A Level recordings.

CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC

It has been a very welcome return to 'business as usual' this year with our truly jam-packed concert schedule combining live opera, concerti, jazz, choral and pop music, and much more. Solo performances have been enjoyed in each year group's informal concert, with further solo opportunities given to our senior singers, at February's inaugural Vocal Recital evening, and pianists at the Piano Concert in October. The second half of the piano concert was given by visiting professional pianist Edward Leung, whose virtuosic playing dazzled both the evening audience and Year Seven in a lunchtime performance.

Our major ensembles have performed in the Autumn Concert in Perrins Hall, as well as in two short ensembles concerts in Main Hall during the Creative Arts Faculty Evening. The choirs took centre stage in a beautiful Christmas Carol Service in Worcester Cathedral, where reworked versions of well-known carols were enjoyed alongside old favourites. The Cathedral was also the location of the Chamber Choir's annual performance at St Richard Hospice's moving and uplifting 'Lights of Love' Service, where choral works by Laloux and Eric Whitacre were performed exquisitely.

The Chamber Choir sang two Evensongs this year, in Worcester Cathedral in October and St Paul's Cathedral, London, in April, when the choir enjoyed a day trip to the capital and performed to a sizeable congregation. Following its first RGS performance in June 2021, a special reprise performance in February of Purcell's opera 'Dido and Aeneas' saw members of the current Chamber Choir being joined in Perrins Hall by recent alumni and members of the local amateur opera company Opera Worcester. It was a great experience for our singers to complete a day's workshop alongside their adult counterparts and present a stylish and polished evening performance.

Indeed, outreach and performances at many local events have offered great opportunities to our young performers this year. The Flute Ensemble and soloists Amelia Wood and Sasha Penlington performed at Pershore Abbey in November, whilst our chamber musicians played at the Holocaust Commemoration Event and the Mayor's Charity Dinner in The Worcester Guildhall. Our Wind Band gave a performance to Year Two pupils from Cranham Primary School, whilst a new project called 'Let's Sing - Worcester' brought together pupils from five local primary schools for a morning's choral workshop in February.

The Lent Term saw our musicians 'Take Flight' in a concert of bird-inspired music in the Cathedral. Isabella Hulbert opened the concert with an incredibly-mature performance of Vaughan William's 'The Lark Ascending' accompanied by the RGS orchestra; a sequence of choral works followed, and then Vivaldi's 'Goldfinch Concerto', with Amelia Wood as soloist, before a mass choir of 250 singers from all four RGS schools ended the concert with Mendelsohn's impressive 'Hear My Prayer'. The Cabaret evening a few weeks later put jazz centre-stage, with senior vocal soloists backed by the Big Band in a superb array of jazz hits.

Everyone will have their own highlight of RGS Music this year, but a common thread through them all will be the joy and thanks we all feel, post-Pandemic, to be able to enjoy live music-making once again.



















DRAMA









It was with absolute delight that we were able to get back to a full academic timetable at the beginning of the school year. Despite pupils being so creative in 'lockdown' with their study, being face to face and on stage for practical and in the studio for theory was so much better! Year Seven and Eight started with their physical theatre units, working in groups to display superb performances of 'The Jabberwocky' and emotive movement pieces telling their stories of 'War'.

Year Nine's three larger option groups studied Frantic Assembly and produced duologues, and then had their first attempt at answering a set of GCSE style questions. This was followed by Stage Combat training and performances, and fantastic Devised pieces created by themselves under the themes of 'Witchcraft' and 'The Arrival', which they performed in front of an audience of friends and family.

Year Ten were introduced to a variety of performance styles and skills through their first unit, looking at the theories of Stanislavski, Brecht and Artaud, before beginning their Devised Component 2 Unit to the themes of 'The Titanic' and 'The Elderly'. The classes are now exploring the text 'Blood Brothers' in preparation for Component 1, Section B, and enjoyed a full day practical study with actor Mike Southern, who played the role of Sammy for 11 years. Year Eleven finished their course in December with Component 3 monologue, duologue and group performances from various texts, and, in preparation for their final examinations, put extracts from their set texts of 'The Crucible' and 'Noughts and Crosses' onto stage.

The A Level cohort visited Cornwall on the first weekend of Term to support their study of 'Antigone' and prepare for their Devised and scripted performances using the practitioner Kneehigh. It was a fabulous study weekend and involved a tour and watching a live production at The Minack, as well as devising on Porthcurno beach. The Lower Sixth's devised piece was excellent and would not have been out of place at The Edinburgh Fringe festival, as would the Upper Sixth's adapted performance of 'Adolphus Tips'. The Lower Sixth students completed both their Component 3 Extract 1 and 2 performances in Trinity Term and the Upper Sixth took their last steps on the boards of the RGS stage with powerful performances of 'Antigone' and 'Metamorphosis'. It has been a fabulous academic year in Drama and we wish all our students taking their examinations the very best of luck and deserved success.

CO-CURRICULAR DRAMA











The long awaited 'Billy Elliot' finally started to take shape at the beginning of the academic year with a full day pre-season read and sing through. All cast members were excited after the long wait enforced by 'lockdown'. The cast then workshopped the production with visiting practitioner, Jonny Barr, who developed their characterisation in both acting and singing. It was a delight to have him back at RGS sharing his wealth of experience from the West End and film. As November arrived the superb cast performed a six-show run to sold-out audiences and received standing ovations each time.

The DIY Drama Company, this year with a record number of scholars, met for their audition afternoon in early December, and this led to the cast of 'Private Peaceful' being announced. A particularly poignant piece of theatre especially with the situation in Ukraine, and one audience member commented 'You made us reflect on the absurdity of war and the fragility of peace. You have given many people hope that the young people today are able to work together to create wonderful things' - a true testament to what the company stands for.

The year ended with the Summer production, Kneehigh's 'The Bacchae', which demonstrated the skills of our younger performers under the direction of Mr Morgan and the Lower Sixth Drama students. In true Kneehigh style it entertained through its creative style of telling a story and enjoyed a three-night run.



As well as productions, the Department visited the theatre in Birmingham to see 'Everyone's talking about Jamie' and 'Heathers, The Musical', and then streamed a live production of Emma Rice's adaptation of 'Wuthering Heights'. In January, there was a return trip to Birmingham to watch the fully puppeteered production of 'Animal Farm'.

The A level Drama students took part in the annual Cornwall residential in September and also joined with Lower Sixth English students on a trip to Haworth in Yorkshire to explore Brontë country for their study of Polly Teale's 'Brontë' and Gothic Literature.

At the end of the Trinity Term we ran our third international residential to Boston and New York, which was a fitting farewell to Mr Morgan's eight years in the Drama Department, and this brought down the curtain on another very busy Co-curricular year for Drama.







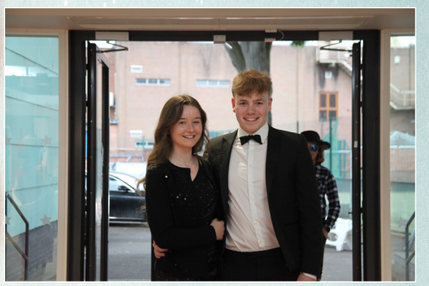
FILM MAKERS' CLUB

With the Pandemic having put a stop to the Film Makers' Festival last year, there was hope that Trinity 2021 might be the next opportunity. Unfortunately this was not to be the case, but, with a group of determined young Spielbergs and seeking new opportunities, the Film Makers' Club continued. As well as the Sixth Form Film Enrichment classes, we also saw Film Making introduced into the House Calendar. With two years' worth of student films already assembled, 2021/22 was to be the year when RGS Worcester could finally roll out the red carpet and get the popcorn popping once again.











With a considerable number of films already amassed since 2020, Mr Morgan was intent on gathering more content to ensure that the Performing Arts Centre in Trinity 2022 would play host to the biggest Film Makers' Festival in the School's history. By March 2022 we had Marketing Films and short Original Movies created by our Sixth Form Enrichment Classes, as well as films about our NHS Heroes and films which used Movie Magic for the House Competition. Our Film Makers' Club also saw entries in categories such as Music Videos, Environmental Awareness Campaigns, Original Shorts and Animation.

In total, 58 movies, each made by our creative students, were able to be premiered at the Film Makers' Festival. The film makers and their VIPs posed for photos in their finery on the red carpet before being offered popcorn, drinks and burgers by our wonderful catering team.

A huge thank you to all involved, and indeed all RGS Film Makers from the past eight years, who have made the Film Makers' Club such a success. I wish you all the best of luck as you continue to make films and hope to return to next year's Film Makers' Festival.

This is Mr Morgan, signing out.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The year began with the Physical Education Department recording a brilliant set of Summer examination results both at A Level and BTEC. The A Level course had a good year with the return of live moderation and the GCSE course having their first ever moderation. RGS was pleased to be able to host both these days and in so doing, allow other schools in the locality to benefit from our resources and expertise. In addition to completing numerous Triathlons, Basketball games and even getting married, Mr Garden trained as a GCSE moderator which also gave us great insight into the process. The GCSE practical assessment was modified to take into account the impact of Covid-19 and our pupils were assessed in a wide range of activities from Hockey and Rugby to Table Tennis, Golf and even Skiing. Our pupils flourished on the day, with some particularly impressive Athletics scores. The Upper Sixth A Level group attended a revision day at Malvern College to consolidate their learning and prepare them for their final examinations.









Lower Sixth BTEC Sport students had a head start to the course by undertaking online bridging activities in the Summer Term. The academic year then started with a combined Lower and Upper Sixth Form trip to Top Adventures, allowing the students to participate in a range of outdoor activities and challenges, developing teamwork and leadership skills throughout. This experience provided a good foundation for the variety of units they were to go on to study, such as Skill Acquisition, Psychology and Business in Sport. Our recent BTEC Sport alumnae students have demonstrated how successful this academic pathway is by completing and gaining places on degree courses, as well as gaining jobs in the sports industry.

We wish all our public examination groups the very best of luck for when their results are published, but particularly for our first ever cohort of GCSE pupils: may they set the bar high for future groups!

SPORT
RUGBY







In the first year back from the Pandemic, Rugby has managed to play more than 100 matches during the Michaelmas Term, which was complemented by a successful Lent Rugby 7s Term. Over the course of the Rugby calendar there were some tremendous results and performances. The Under 12s demonstrated great promise and determination with their first experience at representing RGS Sport, with two of the sides ending with unbeaten seasons. The Under 13s had a positive season, which was great to see with the talented Year group having the ability to field 3 sides. The Under 15s managed to progress through to the last 32 of the National Schools Plate Competition, which was the highlight of their season.

The three Senior Squads had a very successful season with historic wins against Dean Close, Malvern College and Solihull School, which has not been achieved for several years. Over 40 students have represented the 1st XV this season, finishing the season with a 64% win percentage (9 from 14), the highest for 16 years. This was supported by the 2nd XV gaining a 55% win percentage (5 from 9), which has been their highest for 15 years, highlighting a true Senior Squad effort.

During the Rugby 7s season the decision was made to combine certain year groups, fielding Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Senior teams. This was done to promote training and learning experiences with new teammates and coaches, which created a really competitive environment. The Under 14s had a steady 15-a-side season with their results, but had an extremely successful 7-a-side season, culminating in reaching the second day of the Rosslyn Park National 7s Schools' Tournament. The team went through two group stages unbeaten, only to miss out through points difference. This was complemented by the first ever RGS Girls Under 18 7s team, who progressed to the Quarter-Finals of the Plate Tournament, an unbelievable result for their first experience of competitive rugby, led fantastically by their captain Lucy Ball.

Players across the School have also achieved well-deserved representative honours in the forms of the Worcester Warriors DDP - Liam Chadwick, Charlie Blunt, Oscar Richardson, Harvey Shaw at Middle School level; Worcester Warriors Junior Academy - Joe Callow, Daniel Halkon; Worcestershire and North Midlands Under 17 - Ben Atkins, Will Oates, Ben Chadwick, Harry Hollingworth, Oliver Blunt; Worcester Warriors Under 17 & 18 - Loïc Keasey, Joe Whitbread; and England Under 18 - Loïc Keasey. This really does highlight the true standards, potential and future of Rugby at RGS.





FOOTBALL

We approached the new Football season with much enthusiasm and optimism, buoyed by a very successful pre-season Senior Tour to Manchester City FC in January. A tour party of 55 pupils trained at the City Academy and played three matches at Under 15, Under 16 and Under 18 levels against strong opposition. We had the exciting introduction of Girls' Football and Boys' Hockey in the Lower School, the resurrection of Saturday block fixtures, the annual Challenge Cup against King's School at Sixways Stadium, the Alumni Football tournament being held for the first time in three years, and strong representation at County and ISFA trials for both boys and girls. As we came out of the Covid-19 era, the challenge was to rejuvenate Co-curricular and representative Sport.

Our RGS Football ethos continues to focus on key fundamentals and core elements namely: creating space, receiving, passing, dribbling, turning and 1v1 defending. For those boys in older Year groups whose technical ability is more advanced, the focus was on possession, positional play out of possession and transitions.

Senior and Middle School teams pitted their talents against very competitive opponents including Malvern College, Cheltenham College, Princethorpe College, Bristol Grammar School, King's School, Monmouth and St Edward's Oxford, to name just a few. The popularity and standard of Football is ever improving and we were able to field four Senior teams on many occasions throughout the Term and our Under 15A and Under 14A teams were unbeaten. Striking a balance running both boys' Hockey and boys' Football in the Lower School was the focus and there were some really strong performances against The Downs, Bishop Perowne, Princethorpe, Nunnery Wood, The Chase and King's School.

The Term ended with the Annual Alumni 6-a-side tournament held on a glorious morning at Flagge Meadow. Over 120 Alumni returned to catch up, reminisce and play some Football. The staff team ended up victorious, highlighting their playing ability, as well as coaching prowess!









GIRLS' HOCKEY

















The Hockey season opened with the newly formed Senior 1st XI playing the RGS Alumnae team, a combination of experienced players including three England Hockey pathway players.

Our current 1st XI was put through their paces to set high standards for the season ahead in which they went on to have one of the most successful seasons to date. Having only lost two out of sixteen games played, scoring 47 goals and making it into the England Hockey National Outdoor Plate Semi Final after a long run in the competition, they narrowly lost in a thrilling game against Eastbourne College who went on to win the Final.

Another highlight for the 1st XI was a win in the local 'varsity game' against King's School, played under lights at our new International Hockey Centre in front of a large crowd of spectators. The Senior squad also had a successful Indoor Hockey season, winning the regional zone, a tournament hosted at RGS in Tom Savage Hall, and finishing as regional runners up behind Repton School, who are well renowned for their national schools' titles.

The Senior 2nd XI qualified for the England Hockey Tier 4 Regional tournament and won the majority of their games this season, playing with high enthusiasm and energy. The Under 16 team was a combination of Year Ten and Eleven pupils who had a long run in the England Hockey National Plate competition, eventually going out to a strong Blundell's team in the Quarter Finals in an exciting and tense game. It has been a challenge making selection for Year Ten teams with so many girls performing well and committing to training; this has allowed us to play Under 15A and Under 15B fixtures for the first time at RGS. We have also had Under 14A and B teams play at county tournaments, stepping up to the eleven a-side game after the Covid-19 break, providing a challenge for this age group but the A team still qualified for the regional zone and onto the regional final, where they finished runners up in the group.

At junior level we have fielded Under 13 and Under 12 A-F teams to provide opportunity for all to be involved. The Under 13A had a good win over Nottingham High School in the Independent Schools Cup, but later went out of the competition to Ipswich School.

The junior county Hockey tournaments were played in the Lent Term with our Under 12 and Under 13B teams both making huge progress in competitive matches. Our Under 12A and Under 13A teams both qualified from the county tournaments to compete in the England Hockey Midlands Regional Finals, providing the players with the opportunity to play a full day's tournament against some of the best Hockey schools in the region.

As we look forward to the Senior Hockey and Netball tour to Barbados this summer, we value the opportunity to prepare for next season, not only on the pitch but for the squad to develop their core visions, values and behaviours ahead of what is set to be another positive season.

Outside of RGS we had thirty-six pupils representing Worcestershire County Hockey across various age groups, seven pupils in the England Hockey Regional Performance squad, and receiving international honours we had Alice Atkinson play for England Under 18, Amelia Lane for Wales Under 18 as Captain and Caitlin Lane for Wales Under 16.

WORCESTER INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY CENTRE
RGS Worcester & Worcester Hockey Club









BOYS' HOCKEY



Hockey for the boys got off to a positive start in its first year at the School with many pupils experiencing Hockey for the first time. Year Seven and Eight have both had a full programme of Games afternoons and competitive Saturday fixtures during the Lent Term. A focus on core skills and developing a base level of technical ability was reinforced with small-sided games to allow lots of touches and opportunity to get involved. The boys were able to access a large number of coaches to help improve these skills, which meant lots of individual feedback.

Both the Under 12A and Under 13A squads qualified in their very first season for the Regional Finals at Wolverhampton's Aldersley Stadium, which saw the boys compete against some tough opposition. All were able to gain valuable experience to take forward into the years to come, especially on the tactical elements of the game that will come with more experience.

A competitive Saturday fixture list against some strong boys' Hockey schools, such as Warwick, Solihull, Bromsgrove and King Edward's Birmingham saw mixed results, but invaluable learning to take forward into next year! There were massive improvements made over the course of the Term and we saw some real rising stars.





GOLF

The RGS Worcester Golf Team entered the annual Independent Schools' Golf Association (ISGA) competition this season. Their regional group included Abingdon, Bloxham, Malvern, Radley, Monmouth and St Edwards, Oxford. We were drawn against a very strong Radley College side in the first round, playing at Frilford Heath Golf Club. Losing this fixture meant that we entered the Plate Competition and played Bloxham School. The team of Josh Griffiths, Will Dancox and Eleanor Dicken produced a combined score of 90 stableford points which was enough to beat the opposition and progress to the next round. Despite scoring more points in the Area Cup Final (96), RGS were beaten by St Edward's, Oxford.

In the Trinity Term, the Senior team of Josh Griffiths (Captain), Sydney Blanchenot and Eleanor Dicken entered the HG Trophy held at The Warwickshire and acquitted themselves very well.

RGS Worcester also continues to grow our Junior provision. A total of 15 pupils in Years Seven and Eight signed up to Junior Golf Club, which took place weekly at Worcester Golf & Country Club in the Trinity Term. The pupils worked on their putting and short game, progressing to full shots on the driving range. The enthusiasm for the sport is evident and we hope to enter Junior events in 2022-23 to give the pupils a taste of competition.

NETBALL











2022 has been a year for reigniting Netball at RGS Worcester after a slight hiatus, and we have been inspired by the passion our pupils have displayed since getting back onto the court. We are incredibly proud of the progress and great character displayed in competitive fixtures and throughout games sessions across the Lent Term. We were lucky enough to be joined by some real Netball experts, having had both Lucy Harris, of Netu fitness, and Michelle Drayne, of Severn Stars and a Northern Ireland international, hosting workshops throughout the Term.

We witnessed success across all age groups, with the Under 12s reaching the Worcestershire School Games final, where they finished as runners up, as well as the Under 13s being crowned District Champions. Our younger pupils have been led by our brilliant Senior section who have acted as fantastic role models to our younger athletes - it has been so pleasing to see so many of our older pupils volunteering to assist with coaching the Lower and Middle School teams, sharing both their knowledge and support - a true display of our RGS Charter and values. Our 1st VII, led by the leadership team of Georgia Hill (Captain), Grace Rhoden (Vice Captain) and Lucy Newton (Vice Captain), have worked tirelessly this year. Notable highlights of the season were the squad progressing through to the Regional Finals by winning our Semi-Final in extra time, as well as putting on a thrilling display of Netball at Superball in March, narrowly missing out on a victory by just one goal.

A number of our pupils were successful in being selected for Under 17 franchise hubs for both Severn Stars and Wasps, as well as reaching the County Academy. These were: Polly Fisher-Edwards, Isabelle Thompson, Teyah Farmer, Eden Williamson, Ella Goddard, Jessica Lowe, Abigail Haldane, Katie Reynolds and Maddie Lavoipierre. We are very proud of the achievements of these pupils and look forward to supporting them as they progress with their Netball journey.

We now look ahead to our upcoming Senior tour to Barbados and are all incredibly excited to round off what has been a successful year with some absolutely unforgettable experiences for our pupils, both on and off the court.















CRICKET

Some of the highlights of the season were the impressive standards of play exhibited in the Lower School with Charlie Taylor (who has already represented the 1st XI, the first Under 12 to do so in 23 years at RGS) and Ciaran Hession-Wilson leading the way for the Year Sevens culminating in winning the County Cup final against The Elms School. In Year Eight, Charlie's elder brother Edward, Sam Berry and George Heywood were very prominent. Charlie and George have recorded centuries and Sam scored 99* against Kings' as well.







In the Middle School the Year Nines were well led by Ellis Williamson and have also had George McMillan and Aryan Peddareddy represent the First Eleven. The stand-out Year group, however, were the Year Tens who exhibited a keen fighting spirit and camaraderie and had no less than seven players play in this season's First Eleven (an amazing achievement and one which augurs really well for the future), they were: Tom Odell, Freddie Ammonds, Harvey Shaw, Arjun Jawanda, George Hallam, Fionn Baker and Tristan Dawes.

The 1st XI season was marked by close finishes; with narrow losses by one and two runs respectively against Bromsgrove and Dean Close along with conversely tight wins against KES Birmingham, Warwick and the Gents of Worcestershire. The RGS Cricket festival was, similarly, a tale of close games but ultimately too often an inability to defend totals that were also lower than desirable. The side was led admirably, and competitively, by Will Godwin and along with fellow departing Year Thirteens Ben Reynolds and Oscar Silvey they epitomised the RGS spirit. The stand-out player of the season was undoubtedly Ben Whitton who batted with confidence and power and scored two hundreds against Warwick and Bromsgrove and I am sure he will be looking to finish his RGS career with stellar performances, as well as contributing to the leadership group under next year's skipper, Ben Allen. The overall win/loss ratio was ultimately disappointing, but with so many players returning next season who have gained experience in 2021, brighter times lay ahead. This will certainly be enhanced by the February tour to India, which I am certain will toughen and galvanise the squad.

GIRLS' CRICKET

The RGS Worcester Girls' Cricket programme has progressed successfully during the 2022 year, with participation levels increasing as well as the number of fixtures. As of mid-May, there were more fixtures played than all of last season. This is testament to the progress that the girls are making and we are now playing hardball matches in every age group up to Year Ten. The hope next season will be the creation of a Senior 1st XI!

Well over 150 pupils have participated in Cricket in Games lessons, with a high proportion attending after- school club training sessions, demonstrating the popularity of the sport.

The season actually started earlier than normal, with winter nets taking place from January and the Under 13 and Under 15 age groups competing in the Lady Taverners' Indoor Tournament. Both teams narrowly missed out on qualification for the Regional Semi-Finals of the competition, but this was fantastic preparation for the season ahead and the girls did themselves proud.

The season started well with good wins against Wycliffe College for both the Under 15A and B teams, as well as the Under 14B team. Two hardball victories against Solihull for the Under 15A and B teams, which included some of our Year Nine pupils, showed the depth of talent and potential. Both the Under 12 and Under 13 teams competed in the Abberley Hall Cricket Festival, with the Under 12s competing well and winning 1 game out of 3, and the Under 13s going one better, winning 2 of their 3 games to finish second overall.







A number of players have had the opportunity to play not only in their own Year group teams, but also for the boys' A teams where appropriate. This, combined with an increase in club participation, will only help develop their skill level and experience. Girls' Cricket is a very fast-growing sport not just in the UK but worldwide, so it is our ambition to engage as many girls as possible in the sport, and to develop players of county age group standard with the ambition to seek higher honours.

Maintaining the number of participants, as well as encouraging the players to play hardball Cricket has been a big focus of the programme and will continue to be so moving forwards. The girls are becoming more confident and are learning the intricacies of the sport quickly. There is a lot of talent in the School's programme that will continue to grow and develop in the years to come.

Thank you to all the pupils and parents for their commitment to the Schools' girls' Cricket programme and we look forward to developing it further in 2022-23.

ATHLETICS

It has been a very successful Athletics season this year with multiple competitions occurring across various age groups. The season got off to a good start with healthy numbers at pre-season training, leading nicely into the competitions. The Year Seven to Nine Year groups had the opportunity to develop their technique and performances within PE lessons and also had an after-school club to attend. In Years Nine and Ten, Athletics was a Games option for those athletes wanting to take their performances to the next level.

The first competition of the year saw our Year Ten and Eleven Year groups head to Nunnery Wood for their Under 16 District Championship, where they competed against the best local schools across Worcestershire. This competition saw Jacob Bunyan winning his 800m and Dylan Teasdale winning his 1500m. The Girls' team secured 1st and 2nd in the 800m through Sarah Dudley and Sophie Gebhardt, and Rowan Towers enjoyed a good win in the 200m.

Our Year Nine team took part in the Under 14 District Championships at Nunnery Wood. There were some great individual performances as well as our Boys and Girls teams both winning their relays. Izzy Yarwood and Tallula Gregory took 1st and 2nd respectively in the 100m. Noah Dunnett also had a great run winning his 1500m.

Our Years Eight and Nine atheletes then travelled to the other side of the river to compete against King's School as a way of practising for the upcoming Regional competitions. The weather held off on both days and saw some great performances from both Year groups. Many athletes came close to County standards in a variety of events. Isla Goold ran an exceptional 800m race, narrowly missing out on the School record, and Maxwell Moses produced a fantastic long jump performance with 5.25m.

Years Seven to Nine pupils also competed at Bromsgrove in the first round of the English Schools' Track & Field Cup. The Junior Boys' team placed 3rd with 269 points, the Junior Girls' team placed 4th with 250 points, the Inter Boys' team placed 5th with 144 points, and the Inter Girls' team placed 5th with 151 points.

Over 50 Year Seven and Eight pupils competed at Stourport for a competition hosted by Abberley Hall. The Year Eight boys had a 300m race to themselves with Ed Taylor, Lucas Jones, Theo Houston and Mik Ashton battling it out. Javelin was a close competition with Dan Kilby-Tyre and Max Kilby taking first and second place, and Bill Wilesmith produced a great run to win his 1500m race.

Performances in both the Under 16 and Under 14 District Championships meant that 18 pupils from RGS qualified for the Hereford & Worcestershire County Schools Championship and so have a chance to represent the County team at the Masons Trophy and the English School Athletics Championships later in the season.















FENCING

Fencing has returned to something more normal this year, with a huge intake of new Year Seven and Year Eight pupils joining our more experienced fencers.

Perhaps the best indicator of normality was the return of the RGS Gala in December. With 58 fencers in action over the course of the day, it was not our largest event, but we still ran six different competitions. The day, as always, relied on the support of volunteers for which we were extremely grateful. In the Lent Term, several RGS fencers attended the King Edward's School, Edgbaston for their Foil and Epée competition. Six of our younger fencers attended and did very well, the stand out result being Cooper Collins finishing 9th in the Junior Epée. Our older fencers also did well, with Will Fallows winning the Senior Epée and Matthew Fallows taking 5th place.

The Gala is very focused on our less experienced fencers, our more experienced fencers were in action at a number of larger and some Open competitions. The Cocks Moors Wood Epée Championships and the West Midlands Senior Epée Championships were the best attended, but Lucas Hancock and Zara Martin-Green in particular have been active in Open competitions this year, with Zara gaining valuable experience against adult opponents and Lucas now 27th on the British Cadet (Under 17) Epée Rankings.

The Lent Term brought the West Midlands Age group competitions. Across three separate competitions, five RGS pupils qualified for the National Finals: Matthew Fallows, 6th place in the Under 16 Boys' Epée, Lucas Hancock 5th place in the Under 18 Boys' Epée, Edith Wise 7th place in the Under 16 Girls' Epée. Joseph Kington qualified twice for the Under 14 Boys' competition: 6th in the Sabre and Bronze Medal in the Epée. Zara Martin-Green qualified for all three weapons in the Under 16 Girls' competition: Bronze in the Foil and Champion at both Foil and Epée. We could not find a record of anyone else achieving this! Once the qualifiers got to the Finals in May, they all fenced well, with top 16 finishes for Lucas Hancock (13th in the Under 18 Epée), Zara Martin-Green (12th in the Under 16 Epée) and Joseph Kington (7th in the Under 14 Epée).

The Sixth Form students attended the Public Schools' Fencing Competition, fencing just the Epée event, with Jack Pitt finishing 37th, Will Fallows finishing 19th and Lucas Hancock finishing 10th. These are very good results and all in the top half of the field. They also fenced in the West Midlands Senior Epée Championships, with Will Fallows managing 10th place and Lucas Hancock 15th and Jack 25th. RGS Alumnus and Oxford Varsity fencer, Will Osborne took 2nd place in the competition.

As we moved into June, Joseph and Zara were still competing, this time at the English Youth Championships, with Joseph finishing 27th in the Under 15 Boys Epée.

It has been excellent to see so much Fencing again and all of our fencers have stepped up and competed well. Thanks to efforts of coaches Nick Chapman and James Harris, ably supported by Shawn Jones from the Geography Department and Tom Ehlers from the Administration Team, Fencing at RGS is in a very strong position.





ROWING

The year started by welcoming a large Year Nine group to the Boathouse for the start of their Rowing journey. This, coupled with the return of the other Year groups, set the scene for a productive year of Rowing. The Boat Club Captains were selected with Lottie Bond and Freddie Davies taking the positions of Girls' and Boys' Captains, and Zara Povey and James Robinson taking the positions of Vice Captains. Menna Sutton has also supported the Captains throughout the year.

It was great to see the rowers at their first event since the Pandemic and prepared to experience racing at Evesham Junior Head in October. 15 crews from Year Ten to the Upper Sixth raced against local clubs and schools. With our first event completed, we started to map the route of improvement and development. Following this theme Zara Povey and Menna Sutton were selected for the British Rowing Development days and represented the School at a number of training days throughout the year.

With winter training in full swing, the Boat Club took a fully loaded boat trailer to Wycliffe Small Boats Head. The rowers came away with a number of good results. Flooding prevented the Christmas Mince Pie Head Race but we returned to the water just in time for Wycliffe Head in early February. The focus for this event was coxless quads and, despite the appalling weather, the rowers coped very well.

Two weeks later the rowers raced on their home stretch of water at Worcester Head. This provided the first win of the season in the Women's Novice Quad event with the crew of Zara Povey, Menna Sutton, Saffron Crump, and Lottie Bond.

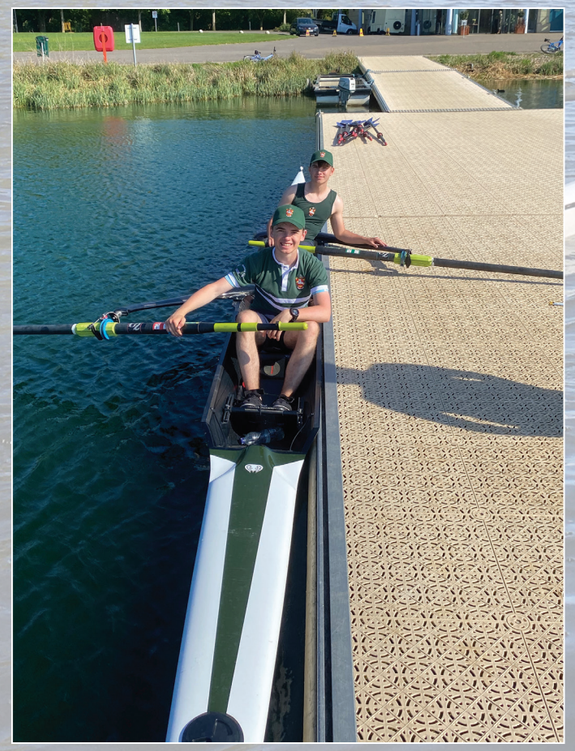
To round off the winter, House Indoor Rowing returned to the Performing Arts Centre and entertained the crowds over a lunchtime of racing, resulting in a House four way tie. Indoor Rowing forms an important part of Rowing at School with a committed group of Year Eight and Year Seven pupils Rowing indoors regularly at School throughout the year.

During the holidays the rowers travelled to Eton Dorney for the Easter Training Camp. The rowers spent the camp practising on the Olympic rowing course and OE Tom Dyson MBE spent time with the pupils discussing his experience as a pupil, rower and coach.

The next competition was Evesham Regatta, with 47 rowers racing in 25 events over the two days and securing two wins. The first for Freddie Davies in the Open Junior 18 Single Sculls and the second for Zara Povey in the Women's Junior 18 Single Sculls. The sprint regatta was the first event for the Year Nine pupils and they all performed extremely well.







The rowers continued their success into the next regatta with four wins at Worcester Regatta in:

- Open J14 Coxed Quadruple Scull Band 2 sculled by Freddie Feilding, William Cartwright, Will Simpson coxed by Charlie Towe
- Womens J18 Double Scull of Menna Sutton and Zara Povey
- Womens J17 Double Scull of Charlotte Griffiths and Poppy Pinfield
- Op J18 Double Scull of Matthew Smith and Oliver Giles

At the National Schools in late May we sent three boats, all producing extremely promising performances. The final events were the Stratford Upon Avon Junior Regatta and the British Rowing Junior Championships, which concluded a brilliant season for the rowers.

The mission at the Boat Club is to ensure that the rowers are prepared to continue enjoying the sport after their time at School. The rowers have performed with courage and determination throughout this season and we look forward to tracking their progress in the future.

TRIATHLON CLUB











For the second year running, the Triathlon Club returned on the agenda of the Trinity Term. During the course of the Term, pupils attended two sessions at the pool aimed at perfecting their stroke technique. This was also an opportunity to practise transition at the end of the swim which the girls managed to master much quicker than the boys. The club also attended two cycle sessions at the cycling track in Stourport. The sessions provided an excellent opportunity to develop bike cornering technique and transition two into a run.

During the second session, the group completed a Duathlon; a five hundred metres run followed by a six kilometres cycle and then a two kilometres run to complete the set. Bill Wilesmith (17.05 minutes) and Claudia Barker (17.08 minutes) took the first two places, making an impressive debut in their Triathlon journey.

The sessions in School focused on running gait and pace, as well as introduction to fuelling and triathlon specific training. The pupils were hoping to enter a triathlon race which was unfortunately cancelled. Mr Garden and Miss Gidon would like to congratulate all pupils who took part in the club.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Throughout the course of this year RGS pupils have shown a strong commitment to representing the School in Cross-Country competitions and performed impressively across the age groups.

Following the hiatus in races due to the Pandemic, the new season began with the Under 13 teams getting their first chance to represent the Senior School in the Abberley Hall races. Shortly afterwards, pupils in the older age groups were also able to dust off their trainers and spikes to take part in the first round of the ESAA Cross-Country cup at Bromsgrove School. Our teams ran strongly, with top-two places for the Junior Boys', Intermediate Girls' and Intermediate Boys' teams, qualifying them for the Regional Finals. These were held a few weeks later at the same venue, but on a slightly different course, and against tough competition from across the West Midlands. The standout performance was the Junior Boys' team who finished in seventh place – a great team effort!

Towards the end of the Michaelmas Term attention switched to the individual Cross-Country competitions, with a superb turnout of 33 runners taking part in the District Championships held at RGS The Grange. This saw RGS pupils secure victories in three of the races by Dylan Teasdale (Year Ten), Noah Dunnett (Year Nine) and Claudia Barker (Year Seven). The Intermediate Girls' team also put on a dominant performance in securing five of the top seven places! Thirteen pupils ran well enough to qualify for the County Championships. Following on from these, Jonathan Abbotts, Dylan Teasdale and Noah Dunnett were then selected to represent Herefordshire and Worcestershire in the National School's Cross-Country Championships in March - an excellent achievement!

The race calendar concluded with the ever-popular Abberley relays, which once again demonstrated the tenacity, teamwork and enjoyment of running which have been hallmarks of all the RGS Cross-Country teams throughout this season.









SPORTS TOURS

Nearly 100 students had the opportunity to travel to Canada and Barbados, taking part in our Sports Tours.



Rugby Tour

CANADA
July 2022

RGS WORCESTER We are committed to the idea that the more someone is willing to try, the more potential they have to become.

"The boys have had a fantastic tour, on and off the field. Canoeing and Dragon Boat racing down the River Brand, attending a Blue Jays Baseball game, visiting CN Tower and touring Toronto and Guelph Universities' impressive sporting facilities, including being able to play Basketball and American Football at tremendous arenas.

On the field there have been competitive, physical and confrontational fixtures which have really challenged the players' resolve. Both the RGS Development and 1st XV squads have won all six fixtures, which included opposition such as Oshawa RFC, Ontario Under 19 and Under 17 Blue, Ontario Under 17 and Under 16 White, and Eastern Ontario Under 17.

It has been a true team effort and it has been my pleasure to tour Canada with such a respectful, hardworking and enjoyable group."

Mr Robert Lewis - Head of Rugby

"The girls had an amazing time in Barbados and we were so proud of their behaviour as they really were a pleasure to take on tour.

After a Jeep safari around the island the newly formed 3rd XI opened against a Barbados all-star team and, after getting to know each other, secured a 3-0 win. The winning streak continued with the 2nd XI winning 2-1 and the 1st XI securing a 6-1 win.

Netball fixtures, with the A and B teams playing at Clapham and the C and D's having an adventure to find their court and getting a glimpse of the Bajun time frame. All four games exposed the girls to a different style of Netball, where they held their own and won their matches.

It was lovely to see the new friendships established across all year groups and we hope the girls have created lifelong memories."

Miss Leanne Bennett - Head of Hockey

Girls Sports Tour

BARBADOS
July 2022

RGS WORCESTER We are committed to the idea that the more someone is willing to try, the more potential they have to become.







CAREERS

It is with a huge sigh of relief we have been able to return to a more normal programme of Careers coming out of the Pandemic. We were delighted to be able to plan and host the first Careers EXPO since 2019 for all of our students, as well as welcoming students from other Secondary Schools within Worcestershire. This year, although many companies and organisations were unable to commit due to Government guidelines, approximately 70 delegates came into RGS towards the end of the Lent Term.

The event created quite a buzz around Cobham, Main Hall and Central Hall, with the many meaningful conversations between pupils, delegates and parents. It was a great opportunity for our pupils to engage with delegates and have these key interactions in person. Over 30 representatives from universities throughout the UK provided valuable insights into Higher Education for our pupils. Pupils in Years Ten and Eleven benefitted from talks by the University of Bath and Stirling before the main EXPO to start them thinking about the range of opportunities on offer within Higher Education and factors to consider when choosing where to study and when deciding a subject area.

Occupational areas, represented by local and national employers included Law, Engineering, the Armed Forces, The Police, a range of healthcare providers including Neuroscience, Surgery and Nursing, the hospitality industry, financial organisations, Veterinary Science and Architecture. Unfortunately a few of the big employers we had lined up had to cancel at the last minute due to Covid-19, including Jaguar Land Rover, GE, LIPA, Mazak and BIMM but we look forward to welcoming them next year. Malvern Panalytical, Borwell, Harrison Clark Rickerby, Kendall Wadley were some of the more local employers who came to the RGS EXPO for the first time and thoroughly enjoyed attending. Many of the delegates commented on the ability of pupils to engage in conversations and ask relevant questions, as well as how much they enjoyed being at a school Careers Fair following the Pandemic.

From the Google Evaluation Report pupils completed following the EXPO, pupils enjoyed speaking with Rolls Royce, the young Law Associate, The Army, the NHS, Gazzard Architects, the Police, Norland Nannies, the Neuroscientist, Malvern Panalytical, the Cookery School and EY. Everyone found it easy speaking with the delegates, commenting on how friendly and approachable they found them.

The favourite Universities from EXPO ranged from the Creative Arts of Falmouth University, Winchester and Hereford College of Art to those from the Russell Group universities including Imperial, Exeter, Birmingham, Warwick, Nottingham, Sheffield, Newcastle, Liverpool and Cardiff. From feedback, many students asked for Oxbridge to attend and we will try again to entice them along to RGS next year.





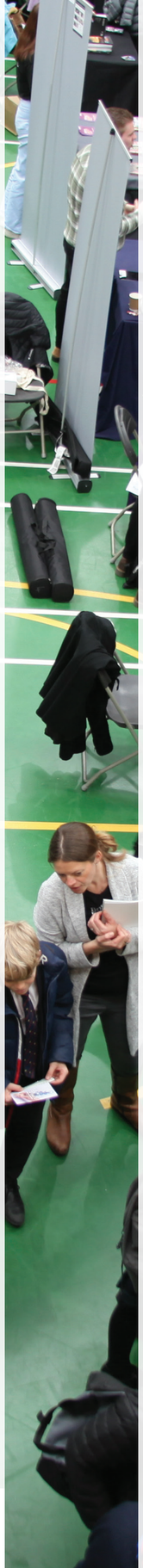








CAREERS — RGS WORCESTER — WORKING TOWARDS "THE QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD" — The Quality in Careers Standard CSW Investor in Careers



In the Careers world, increasing numbers of pupils are considering the Degree Apprenticeship route. The Navy, Harrison Clark Rickerby, Rolls Royce, The Police, The Army and EY were present to discuss Degree Apprenticeships with our pupils and parents. Many of you spoke to these exhibitors during EXPO perhaps without knowing the Degree Apprenticeships they have to offer combining valuable work experience alongside working towards a Level 6 qualification. Gap Year provider GVI and NGTU highlighted the range of experiences on offer in the UK and across the globe.

From last September, a combination of remote and face-to-face interviews have been on offer to all of our Year Eleven pupils. As restrictions have lifted, I have been relieved to return to in-person interviewing for these valuable consultations. Many of our Sixth Form pupils have been interviewed in person in the Careers Room in Main Block to help explore their ideas and put plans in place.

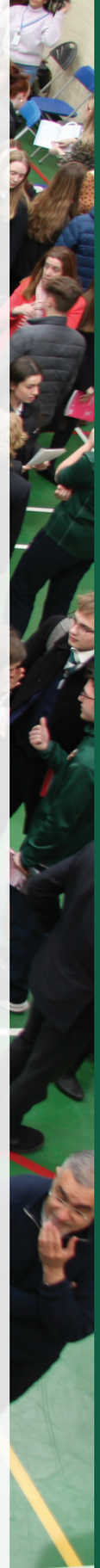
The Careers Department have also been supporting the Sixth Form Enrichment programme. Our first whole year trip was an adventure to the NEC to speak to Higher Education and Degree Apprenticeship providers in March. Careers have supported the Medics and Vet Enrichment programme, practising MMI interviews, inviting an experienced A&E Consultant and Fifth Year Medic from Birmingham University into RGS to speak to students about 'life in the Medical field'. Supporting the writing of personal statements, preparing a CV using the Unifrog platform are some of the key areas. I have been offering support and guidance on a one-to-one basis to many of our Upper Sixth pupils who were undecided about their chosen pathway beyond RGS along with supporting students with work experience.

We are pleased to be working towards Stage 2 of the Quality in Careers Mark.

Again, as restrictions have lifted, we have seen the return of our monthly Careers Seminars, topics have ranged from Employability Skills by Investing, Journalism, Apprenticeships, a local Barrister, Degree Apprenticeships the Army, The RAF and EY.

The Careers Bulletin and the Careers noticeboard in School are used to advertise the various careers activities on offer for pupils. Many organisations and employers have discovered they like reaching a wider audience via webinars. Fantastic virtual work experience has been available for many sectors from Law, Medic Mentor and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham to Accountancy and Banking to list a few. Many of our pupils have been encouraged to visit universities now they have re-opened their doors and are welcoming prospective pupils back during Open Days to see the campus, attend subject talks and visit departments, to view sports facilities and accommodation to help with their decision-making.

Looking ahead we will be developing our employer engagement within departments. We already have a superb line up of interesting speakers visiting RGS in the Michaelmas Term. We aim to introduce Unifrog to all our pupils from Year Seven to support them in their RGS journey.



EPQ

The annual Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) presentation fair was an excellent opportunity to showcase the achievements of our Lower Sixth entrants.

The EPQ involves students choosing their own independent research title, culminating in the production of a 5000-word essay or an artefact which demonstrates their findings.
We have had a rise in our submission numbers this year, with 27 students successfully completing their projects on a range of interesting topics.

Students presented confidently, showing great maturity and ownership over their work, as they explained and analysed the complexities of their project to the audience. There was a genuine academic buzz in Perrins Hall, as younger pupils were inspired by browsing the presentation fair at lunchtime.

Examples of EPQ titles chosen by some of this year's cohort include:

'Which film, 'Good Will Hunting' or 'Troubled Child', has a more accurate portrayal of reactive attachment disorder?'

'To what extent has poor Argentine treatment of their black population shaped Argentina and Brazil's footballing rivalry?'

'To what extent can brain injury after cardiac arrest be efficiently and ethically managed?'

We would like to congratulate all students on their work this year and we look forward to seeing the depth and breadth of the EPQ submissions grow over the coming years.



OUTREACH

The appointment of Mrs Victoria Heath as Outreach Coordinator in September demonstrated RGS Worcester's desire and commitment to relaunch our very successful outreach programme; a programme that had been inevitably halted due to the Pandemic. The outreach programme offers a chance for the RGS Family of Schools to work with local schools and the local community. As Worcester's School, RGS takes it role within the community very seriously and the programme seeks to offer state schools and their pupils opportunities to support and develop their curriculum along with the chance to share our superb specialist facilities and teachers.

In the academic year from September 2021 to July 2022 RGS hosted in excess of 40 events on site as well as visiting schools to support in a range of diverse activities: from Year Five Athletics to an RGS Year Ten pupil playing the Last Post at a very moving Primary School Remembrance Service. In total we have welcomed some 32 different schools and higher education establishments to RGS, with over 1,400 pupils/ students (ranging from Year Two to Undergraduates) benefitting from our outreach programme.

events included Hockey Skills Workshops at our state-of-the-art Worcester International Hockey Centre, a 'Let's Sing' event with local Primary Schools, the return of our ever-popular Eggstravaganza event (STEM), MFL experience days and an Art, DT and Textiles morning. In addition, and with a view to the future, RGS has also hosted a series of seminars and lectures for Students from Worcester University to support their digital learning proficiency in the classroom. Beyond the world of education, RGS has been very proud to be able to support local Ukrainian refugees with both the provision of school places for children, and also by running regular support group meetings for the refugees and their host/sponsor families.

The aim in September was to relaunch the outreach programme to pre-Pandemic levels. As the academic year draws to a close, it is clear that this objective has been reached and quite clearly surpassed. Our thanks go to Mrs Heath for her brilliant work in coordinating all the activities and to all the wonderful RGS staff (Support and Teaching) who have given so much this year to support our friends, colleagues and their children beyond the walls of RGS.



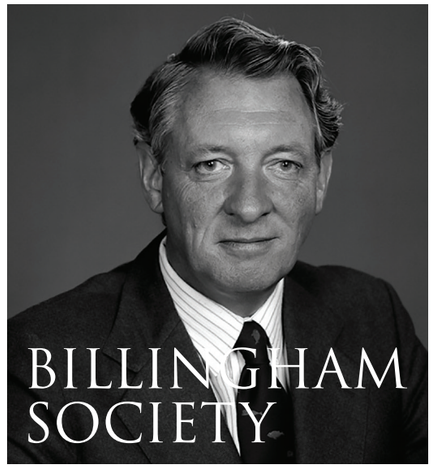












ENRICHMENT

It has been another splendid year for the Billingham Society. Interested pupils had the chance to sign up to 18 different presentations by members of the teaching staff and wider School community. These talks were attended by 92 different pupils from all seven Year groups, who chose which topics interested them the most. One particular highlight of the Michaelmas Term was Mr Philips' passionate presentation about 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight', a sparkling lecture on Middle English language and changing notions of chivalry. In the Lent Term, Mr Henderson's traditional dissection session drew a large crowd of pupils from across all years. None of these brave souls were deterred by the slightly gory sight of the opened up pheasant, and took note of the different parts of the bird's digestive tract.

In the Trinity Term, the Billingham Society welcomed back Miss Marsh, who had retired the previous year. She gave us a personal and insightful presentation about her experience of having a stroke and living with the rehabilitation afterwards. Her infectious, positive nature and vivid descriptions really illustrated this rather abstract medical condition for the pupils, and the in-depth question session that followed showed how much the pupils had engaged with her personal account.

I would like to thank all pupils who attended sessions over the course of this academic year. Their lively interest and enthusiasm makes Billingham what it is. I would also like to thank all speakers for kindly giving up their time to prepare and lead sessions after-school, the pupils so appreciate your wide-ranging expertise and interests.









DEBATING

In May, nearly 60 debaters, past and present, gathered in Perrins Hall for the 2022 Debating Society Dinner.

This was a fabulous occasion, giving us the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the Debating Society, not just in the 2021-22 season but over the last nine years. Presidents and debaters from almost every generation since 2013 attended, with speeches from Mike Atkinson (President 2014-15), Nick Humphries (2015-16), Felix Haynes (2018-19) and James Preece (2021-22). It was fantastic to see in-person so many of the debaters who have defined our success - Oxford and Cambridge finalists, ESU champions, and champions from one day competitions such as Birmingham, Bath, Nottingham and Warwick.

The current Upper Sixth generation have epitomised everything that is so wonderful about RGS debaters, with remarkable competition success since Year Eleven and a great sharing of skills and ideas amongst peers and in their training of younger debaters. This has been spearheaded by the outgoing President and Vice President, James Preece and Elizabeth McCabe, themselves Quarter Finalists at Oxford in 2021 and key coaches for the Middle Society. This year, our debaters have been quarter-finalists and novice finalists at Durham and two pairs qualified for both the Oxford and Cambridge Finals Days. In one-day competitions, RGS debaters were Open Finalists and Silver Champions at Nottingham; Silver, Bronze and Novice Finalists at Warwick; as well as regional finalists in the ESU Mace and Public Speaking.

Further down the School under the guidance of Mr Hawking, James and Elizabeth, the Middles have had an excellent year with some strong debaters emerging from Year Nine and Ten. The Year Tens competed in the International Competition for Young Debaters and, with only about 30 teams reaching Finals Day at Oxford, Sam Taylor and Dan Foster qualified, with Sam debating in the Final remotely from Mexico! The Juniors led by Mr Ager have been busy learning the skill of debating and it has been wonderful to see them progress over the year, leading two debates with RGS The Grange, RGS Springfield and RGS Dodderhill Year Five pupils.

The dinner was also a time to say goodbye to our incomparable coach, Amber Warner-Warr, who has been such an integral part of our success, both through her own debating with Felix and via her phenomenal work with the last three generations of RGS debaters. Her adjudication is always insightful, incisive and constructive – much more terrifying to the students than mine! With Amber moving on, this also seems a good moment for myself to take a step back and let a new Head of Debating take the reins. I have felt immensely honoured to work with so many talented students in debating over the last few years: their intelligence, dedication and commitment have taken our School to incredible success. This has been particularly remarkable given our relative size and resources compared to the large public schools like Westminster or Eton with whom, I feel, we have increasingly competed on more and more equal terms. Thank you!

Miss Jane Waller- Head of Debating







HOUSE REPORTS

Michaelmas 2021/22 started strongly in what was to be a stellar year in the House Competition, with there being a sense of 'normality', and it was lovely to have the contest go fully live once again. The new academic year saw over 50 competitive events in the House Calendar and it was fantastic to see so many pupils getting involved, with new events being introduced and existing events being revamped. There were a number of highlights this year with the ever-popular Petanque, Dance, Rowing, Pumpkin Carving, Debating, Tug of War and Lego Builders to name but a few.

As always, it proved to be a tight contest with Whiteladies winning the Michaelmas Trophy, then Elgar taking the Lent trophy, leaving it all to play for in Trinity 2021/22. A packed final term started with another new event coordinated by the Eco Council – the inaugural House Litter Pick saw pupils and staff doing their bit by submitting entries of themselves improving their local areas. There were excellent participation levels in Cricket, Mathematics and Sports Week competitions. Despite pressure from the other Houses, Whiteladies stormed to victory for the term and indeed overall, defending their title from the previous year.



It has been a bumper year for the House System as the contest continues to grow with each House taking its fair share of victories. Simply put, it would not work without the pupils putting themselves up for the events, as well as staff getting involved. Indeed we hope to increase staff participation by opening more events to them this year.

It is also important to thank all the staff who have led events, giving up their time to prepare, lead and score these events, which help to make our House System as rich as it is.

I would also like to give special thanks to all of our House Captains and House Leaders who lead and organise our four Houses, particularly when they bring that spark of friendly rivalry. On the note of rivalry, we must thank Mr Scanlon, who stepped down as Head of Whiteladies last year, and we welcome Mr Joyner as Head of Whiteladies from September 2022. Special thanks also to Mr Leeds who has entered the RGS record books as the only member of staff not only for leading two rival Houses, but also for doing so in the same year.

As I step down to move on to my new challenge in Somerset, may I take this opportunity to say a special heart-felt thank you to everyone for your continued support in the House System, and I hope that you give the same support to Mr Webster, as he takes over as Senior House Leader from September. I am sure that he has lots of ideas on how he can build the House Contest, and if you have ideas, please do let him know.

Thank you for your participation, enjoyment and support.
Mr Dan Morgan - Senior House Leader



ELGAR HOUSE

This was to be an exciting year for Elgar. Firstly, we welcomed two new House Captains - Scott Mortimer and Summer Green. Scott, being a keen sportsman and excellent motivator, and Summer, with her drama skills and levels of organisation, made a formidable pairing. As a result of their leadership skills, Elgar soon had competition for places for many of the House events. With pupils queueing up to enter House Poetry, Chess and Drama, these were all events where Elgar scored maximum points. While traditionally some Houses can find it hard to get competitors to enter, perhaps due to their somewhat niche nature, these events played beautifully into Elgar's hands. Rugby and Hockey teams were also very successful, particularly in the Middle Years, and Elgar's creativity again came through in some stunning Pumpkin Carving designs carved during the Half Term break.

Moving into the Lent Term, Elgar took the hotly contested Bismark Model-Making competition. Held over a week of lunchtimes the three contestants: Aayush Nilak, Cooper Collins and Yousrey Masoud showed resilience, creativity and consistency, cruising to victory. School Captain George Oates took responsibility for the House Music team and, while they finished in a commendable second place, it should be noted that the highly esteemed Director of Music, Mr Soman, had ranked them first. With the Netball, Football and Debating teams putting in solid performances across all year groups, Elgar won the Lent Term, and Scott and Summer proudly collected the Lent Term Cup in the Final Assembly of Term.

The Trinity Term's goal continues to be to try to put pressure on Ottley and secure second place before pushing on to overtake Whiteladies. At the time of writing, the Lego Builders and Spelling Bee were enjoyable, as was Cricket, but it will be the Athletics on the Sports Days that will ultimately determine where Elgar finish. As always, it is all to play for but Elgar are right in the mix and traditionally tend to finish strongly, so the other Houses are right to be nervous.

Mr Jonathan Friend - Elgar House Leader

WHITELADIES HOUSE

After retaining the House Championship in the 2021 competition, Whiteladies were cautiously optimistic approaching 2022, although wary that other teams were gunning for them. The excellent new House Captains, Kathryn Shaw and Aaron Lad, set the standard early on, ensuring that all events had a strong Whiteladies contingent and delivering engaging assemblies to the Year Seven that made the new Whiteladies members assured they had joined the best House.

The first event of the year, Senior Badminton, set the tone for what to expect from the House competition. After 54 matches, the overall result came down to Whiteladies' last match and, after a stunning win by our Year Ten pairing, the travelling Whiteladies supporters erupted into joyous scenes of celebration that could be heard all over The Tything. A string of second places helped Whiteladies take top spot in the overall standings by Half Term, with highlights including victories in Junior Badminton, a joint first place in Pumpkin Carving and a thoroughly enjoyable week of Tug of War. The second half of the Michaelmas Term started with a bang in Senior Dance with our seven accomplished dancers, and Will Godwin, performing a dazzling repertoire of dances from the music of Grease. The Year Sevens made great contributions too in Chess, Poetry and the Cipher Challenge. Further victories in Benchball, Senior and Inters Netball and Inters Rugby meant that Whiteladies finished with the Michaelmas trophy again, but with the other Houses snapping at our heels.

Whiteladies made a solid start to the Lent Term with a joint second place in Bismarck Model Making. This was followed by an excellent first place finish in Shooting with the two Joes and Max establishing an early lead which the other Houses were unable to catch. The next event, Junior General Knowledge, produced a nail biting finish with Whiteladies emerging victorious in a closely fought contest. The Junior Dance continued Whiteladies improvement in performing arts events with the Year Seven dancers coming second. The highlight of the Lent Term was arguably the Music competition. After last year's 'lockdown' entry, it was great to get back to live performances and, after being superbly organised by Toby Alexander, Whiteladies defied the odds and pipped Elgar to first place, with Ridhima Canchi's vocal performance swaying the judges. Another strong showing in the team sports, with victories for the Senior and Intermediate Netball teams, meant that, although Elgar won the Lent trophy, Whiteladies retained the lead in the overall House Competition.

The Trinity Term started with a closely fought victory in Litter Picking and, with strong performances in Cricket, Lego Building and Rounders, Whiteladies entered the Sports Week in a strong position. Nevertheless, with so many points still up for grabs in Athletics and Tennis, nothing was guaranteed.

Mr Brendan Scanlon and Mr Gary Leeds - Whiteladies House Leaders











OTTLEY HOUSE

It was a slow start to the year for Ottley who struggled to make an impression in the early rounds of the 2021/22 House competition. However, our enthusiastic Captains Molly O'Connell and Robbie May epitomised the key characteristics of an otter by rallying those around them. This resulted in the inaugural victory coming in Tug of War followed by a big contribution to a joint first place for Pumpkin Carving. They were also integral to the Senior Dance victory with their choreographed routine for the event's movie soundtrack theme. Then came a series of second-placed finishes in the Michaelmas Term in Senior General Knowledge, Benchball, Cipher Challenge and Poetry – with some notable entries by new Year Seven otters who joined in October and quickly made their mark. Wins in Junior Hockey and Senior Rugby resulted in Ottley just missing out on the Michaelmas trophy.

Our wonderful members of staff continue to show their commitment to the cause by stepping up to do their bit and represent Team Ottley by seeing off all-comers in both Tug of War and Rowing after Christmas. An incredible series of Debating performances, with a win for the Inters and strong performances in the Junior and Senior competitions, resulted in special recognition by an impressed Mrs Waller. Lower School pupils, motivated and inspired by Mrs Newport, took on a Beatles medley to take the win in a hotly contested Junior Dance competition, securing the coveted Dance double for Ottley! The Term ended with hard-fought second place finishes in Junior Hockey and Senior Football, with sights firmly set on challenging for the top-spot as the competition culminates in the Trinity Term.

The Trinity Term also saw victories in the Lego Builders and Junior Cricket and a strong second place in Mathematics. In what was a fine finish to the year for Ottley, notably with excellent results in Lower School Sports Week and an overall win once more in Tennis, we again secured the overall runners-up place for the academic year.

Mr Andrew Webster - Ottley House Leader

WYLDE HOUSE

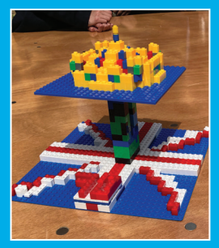
As always, Wylde's House spirit and determination has been on show this year, with impressive participation and support across the year. Mia Andrews and Lucy Newton have ably led the House, providing motivation and support for younger pupils, in particular those in Year Seven and leading the assemblies for this year group.

Wylde made a particularly strong start to the year, performing incredibly well in the first events of the Michaelmas Term. After placing second in Senior Badminton, we took first place in Petanque and Senior Chess, continuing our recent dominance in the latter event. This was followed up later in the Term by second place in Junior Chess, including really positive contributions from some Year Seven pupils who had recently joined the House. First place in Senior General Knowledge was also a highlight of the Term.
The House got off to a slow start in the Lent Term, initially struggling to find our feet but we were soon able to secure some strong results, taking second place in the House Shooting Contest. Junior Debating was a highpoint of the Lent Term, as our young debaters secured victory for the second year in a row, which is particularly promising for our future potential in this event. The Term was rounded off by a fantastic victory in House Football for the Seniors.

Though Trinity is a short Term, there have been many House events to take part in, and lots of points to be won. Both the Juniors and Seniors have stepped up to represent Wylde, with our Seniors securing victory in House Rounders and our youngest members winning the House Spelling Bee. Hannah Agoston deserves special praise for the latter event for a particularly impressive performance. House Maths was a notable triumph, as our team, made up of Sihan Fu, Anya Wood, Isla Goold and Alfie Ross, achieved full marks, the first time this has ever happened in the history of the competition. Huge well done, and thank you to everyone who has taken part in an event this year.

Dr Abigale Davison and Mr Gary Leeds - Wylde House Leaders






COMBINED CADET FORCE

THE ARMY SECTION

Normal operating protocols resumed for 2021-22. September saw the Section visit Nesscliff for the first time in two years. Due to a shortage of 24-hour ration packs, the Section had to suffer feeding in the mess for the duration of the trip. Hot food and drinks twice daily was hard to endure but we adapted and overcame this hardship!

A rota of activities was designed to up-skill the Cadets in areas of training that were absent during what I will describe as the Covid-19 years. Cadets learnt how to give and receive orders, how to camouflage and conceal themselves, read a map (orienteer) and undertake a recce patrol and construct a map of their findings. The final exercise was a night recce. Cadets had to covertly manoeuvre towards an enemy position, taking details of their strength, morale and equipment. It was great fun, especially viewed through a night scope!

March saw the Section return to the Isle of Man for leadership training. The island had only opened up to visitors without quarantine the previous month, which was very fortunate for us. As always, the centre provided excellent tuition and support. Activities ranged from abseiling down a 160ft sea cliff, gorge walking, canoeing and kayaking, high ropes and obstacle course, air rifle shooting, archery, axe throwing and the end-of-trip group competition, which was keenly fought and only 1 point separated the three teams at the conclusion of the event.

THE ROYAL NAVY SECTION

It's been an excellent year for our merry band of Senior Rates who have carried the burden of responsibility well. W/O Preece has led by example and in C.P.O's Oates, Powell and Flinders, he could not have had a better support team. Lest we forget, can I also add L/S Oldnall, brothers B & C Holland and Gaubert. Many thanks for all the good times and support that you have given to the RN Section over the past four years.

It was pleasing to see further commitment and loyalty to the Section from the three 3* Cadets, who gained the necessary qualifications to become L/S next Term, although I feel they will have to work hard next year to match the quality of the current Senior Rates. It will be interesting to watch their development next year. The vast majority of the Year Eleven Cadets completed and passed the 2* exam and all Year Tens passed their 1* badge. Night Exercises are back on the menu and with Sailing and Kayaking at Top Barn also being accomplished – the future looks exciting.

For the record we must thank our C/Sgt Parkin for helping us develop over the years and wish him well in his new posting. Thanks too must go to S/Lt Still, for manning her post this year, and to the unflinching support from the Contingent Commander Major Smith, who works tirelessly behind the scenes.

EXPEDITIONS

Coming out of Covid-19 restrictions, the Field day at HMS Raleigh was a highlight of the year. It was great to see all of the Section on the water in a variety of powered craft. So much was enjoyed from that day, that five Cadets have chosen to go on Power Boats courses during the Summer vacation.



THE ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

The RAF CCF Section has gone from strength-to-strength this year with a new OIC appointed, Pilot Officer Webster, and the School receiving compliments from visiting Squadron Leader Roger Taylor. Many of the key events, activities and trips returned, beginning in September with the section venturing to Top Adventure in Stottesdon. The first Field Day of the year provided Cadets with the opportunity to participate in a range of team-building and leadership activities, including laser tag and kayaking.



In early Spring, a group of Year Ten Cadets took to the skies at RAF Cosford on a beautiful afternoon, with most even taking the controls to perform a number of breath-taking manoeuvres including barrel-rolls and loop-the-loops! Although the weather wasn't quite as favourable for the March Field Day residential trip to Inskip, Cadets joined with another RAF Section to participate in team events including climbing, shooting, paintballing and problem-solving tasks. The feedback from the Test Sergeants overseeing the course was incredibly positive and many future leaders for the section were identified.



Our Senior Leaders, Sergeant Katy Marsh and Sergeant Kathryn Shaw, signed off this year by once more leading by example and handing over to their successors by assisting our Senior Cadets in preparing practical sessions to deliver to their younger peers. It is most pleasing that several Year Ten Cadets too have started to take on these responsibilities by completing their own theoretical training and now developing presentation skills in order to help with these leadership roles in the future. An influx of new Cadets following a successful recruitment event has seen numbers remain at record levels for the RAF section which bodes well moving forward.









STORIES FROM THE PAST

In the 70 years Queen Elizabeth II has been on the throne, there have been a number of Contingent Commanders. Looking back through the history books (Royal Grammar School Worcester by A.R. Wheeler - a really excellent book written in good humour) provides an excellent insight into the early years of the CCF during her reign.

The School has always maintained an Army Section, which evolved from the OTC. The Air Force Section was formed in 1948 but it was not until 1954 that the Royal Navy Section was founded by Sub Lieut. SN Robertson who served the Contingent until his retirement in 1987, by which time he had been the Contingent Commander for twenty years and attained the rank of Commander. He was awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's birthday honours of that year for recognition of this service.

Although the CCF had always been a voluntary organisation, few pupils were not members until the end of National Service. After the cessation of this, there was a gradual shift of emphasis away from specific military training towards the more general adventure training and an inculcation of self-initiative. Thereafter 'non-combatant' numbers steadily increased.

The initial alternative 'occupation' was gardening, whilst in the sixties and seventies a greater emphasis was placed on the school community, with the cobbling of the quad one example. Records indicate there were also several unofficial and unauthorised surveys of the coffee bars of Worcester undertaken during parade time. It would seem escape and evasion is prevalent in both CCF and non-CCF activities! In the 1960s, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme was first introduced, and by the mid 1980s was flourishing under Mr R.H. Savage. The two schemes, DoE and CCF, now form the cornerstone of personal leadership development within the RGS community at the Senior School.



W.R.G.S. C.C.F. 1960



The presentation of the British Empire Medal
To S.S.I., A.C. Russell
by Major-General W.G.S. Mills C.B.E

C.C.F. CAMP, 1956

The Army Section spent their annual camp this year at Kinmel Park, near Rhyl, Flintshire. The commanding officer of the camp was Colonel P. H. Graves-Morris, D.S.O., M.C., who was formerly of the Worcestershire Regiment.

The advanced party which consisted of two sections—a road and a rail party—left Worcester on 30th of July. The tasks which they perform in readiness for the arrival of the main party were considerably minimized this year as a result of the previous preparations by the camp staff. The main party followed the next day, having heard that the N.A.A.F.I. tent at Kinmel Park had been blown down over the week-end. The rain for the rest of the week followed a similar plan and proved the Welsh weather true to form. The camp was pitched on a gentle slope and although the tents kept the rain out from above, the water tended to seep underneath them. The situation was overcome by the Marshall-Baylis nationalized canal which drained the water from the tents but managed to flood the nearby ablutions.

Conditions were so wet that the first day of the training programme was spent in the Globe Cinema watching training films. In the afternoon there were two lectures, one about Korea and the other about officer cadets. The camp was not spoilt by the extreme weather conditions, for during the rest of the week training could go ahead as planned. This year there were three cadre courses open to senior cadets which included an Artillery, a Signals and a Potential leaders course. The remainder of the contingent was divided between two battalions as an advanced platoon and an elementary platoon. The training was interspersed with numerous demonstrations which were given by the

DARTMOUTH TRAINING SQUADRON, 1962

On Wednesday, 25th July, L/S Evans, Quarrell and Rowley and A.B.s Boulton and Hale set off for Plymouth with the happy thought of escaping two days' school in order to spend a week aboard H.M.S. *Vigilant*, an anti-submarine frigate of the Dartmouth Training Squadron.

On arrival in the ship we were first issued with various essentials and then settled into our mess which to say the least was a little crowded. It took some time for us to find our way around the ship and for those who had not had the pleasure of being in one of Her Majesty's ships before to grow accustomed to the routine.

The value of this week aboard was of course to practise and see performed those operations which we cannot do at school. We were shown many interesting things including a light jackstay transfer, the firing of the Mark IV Anti/Submarine Mortars (the ship's main A/S armament) and the twin 4 in. gun. We also had the opportunity of hoisting and lowering a seaboat both in harbour and at sea.

On Thursday, 26th July, the squadron left Plymouth for Fowey to meet the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, with H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh aboard, in order to escort the Queen to Plymouth. Members of the C.C.F.'s aboard provided a piping party and were represented by L/S. Rowley, L/S. Quarrell would also have been included but for his lack of stature.

The following day the squadron again escorted the Queen, this time to Dartmouth. A Royal Guard was provided by the C.C.F. and Lieutenant Robertson was Guard Commander. The remainder of cadets aboard manned and cheered ship which was a most impressive sight.

We left Dartmouth on Friday evening after a close turn in the Dart when we cleared the banks by ten yards only, and headed for Morgat, France. The cadets had the opportunity to stand a middle watch (2400-0400) and worked as lookouts, seaboats' crew and helmsman, etc. We also spent a couple of hours in the Operations Room operating the radar sets.

We arrived in France and anchored. During the time we were there pulling and sailing regattas were held for C.C.F. cadets. Quarrell brought credit to the School by coxing the winning pulling crew and winning a cake. He also took part in the sailing dinghy race which on aggregate of the two boats competing, our ship won with ease.

On the following day the squadron held their pulling regatta for the prize of cock-ship of the squadron. This was an extremely close and tense competition and our ship was beaten to victory by a mere half point.

We thoroughly enjoyed our stay aboard and our trips ashore in Morgat and our only regret was that the trip could not last longer. This was in no small part due to the help and good humour all the week of the officers and ratings of H.M.S. *Vigilant* to whom we express our sincere thanks.

R.A.R.

R.A.F. SECTION

During the Winter Term the Section visited R.A.F. Gaydon for Field Day. Seven ... of the Section were honoured to appear on the Guard of Honour for the visit ... November.

... was spent at R.A.F. Little Rissington. Many of ... afternoon section N.C.Os. visited the ... for .303 shooting. ... Suffolk. ... Denmark

1954-1958	Major K.H. Wheeler
1959-1967	Major J.C. Elgood
1967-1987	Commander S.N. Robertson OBE
1987-1990	Commander N Cooper
1990-1996	Wing Commander B Hunt
1996-2000	Major Barnes
2000-2009	Commander S Osmond
2009-2018	Commander J Shorrocks
2018-present	Major H.S Smith



R.A.F. SECTION EASTER CAMP

... p this year was spent at Royal Air Force South Cerney from April 10th ... erney is situated some two miles south of Cirencester on the Swind... ... of the R.A.F.'s Central Flying Schools. The station is equipped wi... ..., and two Chipmunks were available to supplement the Provosts ... experience for cadets. Accommodation was provided in huts, and o... ...e Kingstone G.S. and Wolverhampton G.S.

...horning was spent in a visit to British Railways' works at Swindon, wh... ...own round by a guide, and given some idea of the way in which a lo... ...tructed.

...ing programme was full, varied and interesting, and was often of a v... ...ire. The Fire Section gave cadets a little practice in using various type... ...nd in putting out small petrol fires with foam; hoses were also used... ...re was so strong that one was forced backwards by the reaction. ... ...ction, where we were somewhat mysteriously informed that we should ... ...s dangle', was remarkable for the speed and efficiency with which ... ...cked the parachutes. Apparently any pilot who pulled his ripcord with... necessity was subjected to a fine of 2s. 6d., which went to the packer. "Fair's fair."

A number of films were shown ...



W.R.G.S. C.C.F. 1976.

10

R.N. SECTION REPORT

During the year the Naval Section has continued to flourish under the able command of Sub.-Lt. S. N. Robertson. The number of cadets in the Section is steadily increasing, and the present strength is nineteen.

The examination results for the year have been extremely satisfactory: seven cadets passed Admiralty Part I, whilst Leading Seamen H. R. C. Owen and A. P. Watson were successful in Admiralty Part II.

As always, the highlight of the year was Easter Camp. The Camp was spent at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Keyham; which is near Plymouth. Contingents from Malvern College and Radley College were also at Keyham, making a total of approximately fifty cadets. Visits were arranged to the Naval College at Dartmouth, Manadon Engineering College, the aircraft carrier H.M.S. *Ark Royal*, and to H.M.S. *Tactitum*, one of the latest streamlined submarines. Apart from these visits, the contingent enjoyed an afternoon's flying with the Fleet Air Arm, a Royal Marine Commando assault course, a day at sea in the fleet minesweeper H.M.S. *Mutine*, and a whole week-end was spent sailing. Petty Officer M. A. Guise and Cadet M. C. S. Thompson were privileged to spend two days in the ocean racing yacht *Galahad*, which was captured from the Germans during the last war. On this trip the yacht sailed up the Channel and visited the picturesque wooded anchorage of Newton Ferrers.

Also during the year the Section has spent several days on H.M.S. *St. David* at Cardiff.

In general, it must be said that the Naval Section has experienced a very successful and extremely enjoyable year.

M.A.G.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Michaelmas Term expedition season started in earnest with the Gold Award participants heading to the Menai Straits in North Wales, whilst those doing the Silver Award travelled to the Long Mynd in Shropshire. The Silver Expedition saw fifty Year Ten pupils and thirty Year Eleven pupils embark on training and practice expeditions in very favourable weather conditions. All groups had the opportunity to develop and apply a range of skills in beautiful conditions on the hills.

A mixture of expedition training sessions and focusing on eDofE sectional activities occupied the dark winter months leading into the challenging weather conditions that dominated the March 2022 expeditions in Wales.

Stormy conditions with gale force winds and heavy rain battered our Gold and Silver groups as they aimed to complete their practice and assessed expeditions. All groups were really tested and showed remarkable character and resilience. Due to gale force winds in coastal areas, the Gold groups ventured more inland to Llanberis reservoir and a local river, and also completed their weekend with a daunting but fascinating trip deep into one of the local slate mines. Our Silver groups skirted the Black Mountains near Hay Bluff, south-west of Hay-on-Wye.

All pupils across the three Award levels have shown great independence organising and beginning their choices with much enthusiasm. Some examples for service, skills and physical activities have included: children's liturgy, charity shops, community village stores, mentoring siblings, online environmental projects, learning sign language, baking, climbing, windsurfing, learning a new language, music, drama, and caring for animals.

The expedition season was completed with some fantastic assessed trips for Gold to the River Spey, between Fort William and Inverness in Scotland, and for Year Ten Silver to the Black Mountains in Wales. The new Year Nine Silver cohort was also able to enjoy some outdoor skills and team building more locally.

Many thanks to all our staff and volunteers for giving up so much time and sharing their expertise and enthusiasm throughout the year.













THE FOUNDATION







Through the Foundation Office, the School is delighted to maintain active contact with so many of its alumni community. The easing of the Covid-19 restrictions enabled alumni events to resume and it was wonderful to welcome so many former pupils from across the Year groups to a range of gatherings. Reunions and events form a large part of the calendar, however there are also opportunities to tour the School and also to benefit professionally from the diverse alumni network. We are in turn, hugely grateful to the many of our alumni community who support current pupils here in School: philanthropically, and in offering advice and mentorship, inspiring the next generation of former pupils.

The Class of 2011 celebrated its ten year reunion in Perrins Hall in October. There was a strong turnout from the cohort with old classmates delighting in seeing each other and some of their former teachers.

The Modus Challenge Cup match is always a popular gathering for alumni from across the generations with over 100 former pupils congregating in the dedicated RGS alumni suite at Sixways Stadium. Each year alumni travel from across the UK to swell the ranks of the 'Green Army' to show their support for those pupils following in their footsteps and their pride in the School.

The annual six-a-side alumni football tournament made its triumphant return to Flagge Meadow in April. 14 squads comprising 120 players made this the largest event to-date with teams ranging in vintage from 1995 to the most recent leavers from the Class of 2021.

Perrins Hall was the venue in May for the alumni association's annual dinner. The dinner is a black tie occasion open to alumni from across all eras of the School. This year included a contingent of former Whiteladies boarders from 1967-74, a gathering from the Class of 1990, and an Alice Ottleian celebrating her 80th birthday.

RGS alumni debaters returned to their alma mater in May for the annual Debating Society Dinner. This event enables former pupils to connect with current RGS debaters and the staff who coach them. This year the event was extra special because it was a chance to celebrate the contribution made by Miss Waller ahead of her stepping down as Head of Debating. Alumni debaters were also able to see the newly installed Debating Society Nameboard in Main Hall, which was actually made by an RGS former pupil.

The year was rounded off with the ever-popular Alice Ottley Alumnae Summer Gathering. More than 100 former pupils gathered in Main Hall to enjoy visiting their old school rooms and to see how things have evolved since the merger with RGS in 2007. Some of those present are now RGS parents!



David Rodway

















CHARITY





With fundraising able to return to some kind of ‘normal’ following Covid-19 ‘lockdowns’, we have had a successful year raising money for various charities. Our Charity Committee, so ably led by Aaron Lad and Kathryn Shaw this year, has been consistently enthusiastic and hard-working. Their commitment and reliability have been much appreciated.

Much of our efforts have been directed at raising money for the Ukraine Appeal, with some Year Seven pupils in particular raising hundreds of pounds towards our total of over £10,000. A large map of Ukraine, created by the Art Department, was filled with coins, a member of staff ran 100k, programmes were sold at a Drama production of ‘Private Peaceful’, a raffle was held in ‘Joe’s Cafe’, and the Charity Committee organised a ‘Bleep Test’ and held a cup-stacking competition, amongst many other events.

The Sixth Form chose ‘New Hope’ as their charity this year, and the Lower School supported Maggs Day Centre with their Harvest Festival donations. RGS supported the Worcester Foodbank with two van loads of food and toiletries donations, and supermarket vouchers to the value of £290.

Two Non-Uniform Days were held, the first for BBC Children in Need in November 2021 which raised £2,110, and the second in March 2022 for Comic Relief, for which a total of £2,500 was split between Comic Relief and the Ukraine Appeal.

Mrs Witcomb and a dedicated group of RGS pupils raised £2,431. 25 for ‘Bright Ideas for Tennis’ by taking part in a 24 hour tennis marathon and a sponsored Skydive.

At £695.62, the money collected for the Royal British Legion’s Poppy Appeal was the largest amount raised for several years. We have also supported Acorns Children’s Hospice, Worcester Snoezelen, Macmillan Cancer Support, Wooden Spoon, and Help for Heroes.

The help and support of parents, pupils and staff is invaluable, and we could not raise the large sums of money we do without you all. Our sincere and grateful thanks to everyone.

acorns Your local children's hospice · The Myriad Centre Worcester · BBC Children in Need · YOUNGMiNDS fighting for young people's mental health · worcester snoezelen · HELP for HEROES SUPPORT FOR OUR WOUNDED · ROYAL BRITISH LEGION · BREAST CANCER NOW The research & care charity · Wooden Spoon The children's charity of rugby · NHS CHARITIES TOGETHER

RGS COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

Pupils, staff and parents at The RGS Worcester Family of Schools have been looking at ways to support the people of Ukraine during this extremely difficult time.

The RGS community has so far raised over £10,000 in the Ukraine Appeal. In order to maximise the impact of this support on the ground, staff at the school linked up with a charity that provides shelter, medical help and education to disabled children and displaced families fleeing Ukraine.

RGS Support Staff volunteered to make the 1,750 mile journey out to the Ukraine border so that the right items could be purchased and the funds raised could be put to good use directly where it was needed.

Local car company PJ Nicholls Ltd supported the expedition by generously providing the fully insured SsangYong Musso Saracen Pick-Up vehicle for the trip. The School would like to thank Mr Nicholls for his superb support which made the trip possible.

The three staff, Steve Bradley, Keith Breese and Paul Green, were overwhelmed by the experience of being able to help people in their time of great need.

PUPILS FROM UKRAINE JOIN RGS FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

The RGS Worcester Family of Schools also welcomed new pupils who have left their homes in Ukraine to seek refuge in the UK.

Pupils have joined The RGS Family of Schools across different Year groups and are staying with host families locally. RGS is offering educational provision for the pupils as well as support with uniform and equipment, with the help of the Parents’ Association.

To support pupils in their transition into school and also life in the UK, we have been grateful for assistance from the RGS community with language and translation skills. We were also privileged to welcome Ukrainian University student Polina to RGS, to assist and support pupils in their studies and integration into school life.

Polina was in her First Year at university in Ukraine, before leaving her home to join a host family in Worcestershire. Polina worked with all the new pupils across the RGS Worcester Family of Schools, assisting with language translation, but also helping to interpret some of the different learning approaches found here in the UK which differ to those in Ukraine. One such difference is the use of calculators in Mathematics which is forbidden in a Ukrainian classroom!

Polina said: *“The RGS team have all been so kind and welcoming. The teachers are amazing and very supportive towards me and the pupils and the lessons are so interesting – I am really grateful that I can go to school again!”*

The four RGS Schools continue to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal and look for ways to help further.





“It has been very moving to see how the RGS community has rallied round to support the people of Ukraine at this time. We are doing all we can to support by raising funds, having a direct impact on the ground, assisting those with relatives caught up in the conflict, and providing education to those displaced. It is an important message to send that our community will help those in need and it was extremely heart-warming to hear from Steve, Keith and Paul and see the difference we can make.”

John Pitt
Executive Head of the RGS Worcester Family of Schools

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

RGS welcomed new members of Teaching and Coaching staff for this Academic year.

ANNELIESE APPLEBY



Mrs Anneliese Appleby joined RGS Art Department at the start of the academic year, having most recently taught at Malvern College followed by an Artist in Residency with The National Trust at Snowshill Manor. Li is an accomplished print-maker and was previously awarded a QEST (Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust) Scholarship allowing a continued period of study to master the arts of Hand-Printing Wallpaper and Traditional Letterpress Printing. She has run numerous printmaking workshops for all ages and has exhibited at various galleries and printmaking events within the UK. She has already made her mark re-populating the printing supplies cupboard and keeping the printing presses in motion. When she's not at RGS, Anneliese Appleby can be found wild swimming, walking and endeavouring to tame her garden.

TAMSIN BENNS



This year, the Classics Department has been delighted to welcome Miss Tamsin Benns to the RGS Community. Miss Benns joins the department having studied Classics at Brasenose College, Oxford. She completed her PGCE with King's College London, and has previously worked at Bishop Thomas Grant Roman Catholic School. Miss Benns has a particular expertise in Latin love elegy, which she has brought to her A Level. This year, she instituted a Lower School Classics Club, which has seen keen interest amongst the Year Seven and Eight pupils, and has been an invaluable mechanism for bringing alive the ancient world. Beyond her academic pursuits, Miss Benns is a keen traveller, and particularly enjoys visiting ancient sites across the Mediterranean.

SARAH BURT



Mrs Sarah Burt has joined the Business and Economics Department after being at a range of Independent Schools, most recently at Bromsgrove. She has enjoyed a variety of posts including working as National Curriculum Leader of an online teaching platform and as a Boarding Housemistress. Sarah has been able to bring her enthusiasm and expertise to the classroom helping to enhance further the provision that the Department has to offer. Her experience of the Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate has also been significantly valued by students and colleagues alike. In her spare time Sarah enjoys spending time with her young son and being a part of a local running group.

MIKE GARDEN



Mr Mike Garden came to RGS in September 2021 having taught in Cyprus at a school on a UK Military base for the previous four years. Prior to Cyprus, he worked in a comprehensive school in West Hertfordshire. Mike represented Essex (captain) and South East England in Basketball as a student. He also played National League Basketball for Hertfordshire Warriors. Mike is also a keen athlete; he represented Essex for Pole Vault at English Schools where he was placed 8th in England. In moving to Cyprus, he began to take triathlon more seriously and completed an 'Ironman' last summer in Nottingham in a very impressive time of 11 hours and 15 minutes. Mike's academic profile is impressive and he has already had a tremendous impact on our GCSE, A Level PE and BTEC courses. Mike enjoys most things sporty and helps out with the DofE, amongst a range of other sports clubs.

DOMINIC JAY



Mr Dominic Jay joined RGS as a Teacher of Mathematics in September 2021. Following an undergraduate degree at Balliol College, Oxford, Mr Jay attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and completed a Short Service Commission with the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Upon leaving the Army, Mr Jay completed a PGCE while teaching at a school in challenging circumstances and joins RGS having spent the last six years teaching A Level Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Statistics at a sixth form college. Following on from his military adventurous training experience, Mr Jay holds the Mountain Leader Award and has been involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award since his first teaching appointment. He has also led numerous overseas youth expeditions including to the Peruvian Amazon and Borneo. Mr Jay is looking forward to taking on the roles of Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Coordinator and Assistant Head of Year (Sixth Form) from September 2022.

SHAWN JONES



Mr Shawn Jones originally trained as a graphic designer working in advertising and marketing before a transition into print and publishing industry where he was a production manager for a large magazine printing company with global publications such as Time, News Week and Gardeners World; he successfully launched Delicious Magazine with the top chefs in the country and then undertook building computer software MIS systems to improve efficiencies and production, before changing career and completing a BSc in Geography and a PGCE at the University of Worcester. Mr Jones joins us from Priory in Edgbaston where he taught for five years before joining RGS. He was a member and the chairman of the Worcester Fencing Club, and has welcomed the opportunity to become involved in the School's Fencing programme, and having a passion for motorsport he is excited to be joining in with the Greenpower team. He has an outside interest in mountain walking in the Lake District and Cairngorms, which will hopefully be utilised to assist the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

EMILY KINGSTON-LANE



Mrs Emily Kingston-Lane joined the Chemistry Department in September from Droitwich High School, where she was responsible for Teaching and Learning in the Science Department. That is only one of the main strings to her bow, as she has also previously been Head of Department. Her knowledge and enthusiasm have been greatly appreciated by both students and staff alike. Emily has embraced the Co-curricular opportunities and helps coach the J14 rowers, where she is able to share her own experiences from her time rowing for City of Bristol and competing at Henley Women's Regatta. She is also an accomplished musician playing both piano and violin.

SAM OAKEY



Mr Sam Oakey joined the MFL Department, teaching Spanish and German. After achieving a Joint Honours Degree in Spanish and German, Sam decided to immerse himself in the culture of the languages he studied. Whilst living in Spain, Austria and Germany, his confidence and passion for travelling grew and he subsequently spent four and half years travelling and working abroad. Australia, New Zealand and Asia were some of the destinations on the list. Upon returning to the UK, Sam completed his PGCE at the University of Worcester. An all-rounder, Sam will also join the PE department and provide his expertise as a qualified Personal Trainer by leading Strength and Conditioning sessions. A self-taught music producer, students in the gym might hear his Electronic music which was recently played on Radio One. Sam will also be sharing his passion for hiking and community work with the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award students.

ALASDAIR STUART



Mr Alasdair Stuart joined the Design and Technology Department from Leighton Park in January 2022. Alasdair has a wealth of experience in a host of different fields having rowed at international level, taught Computer Science, assisted with STEM and undertaken an aircraft engineering apprenticeship. He has therefore worked with a vast array of different materials, processes and techniques. Alasdair has thrown himself into the Department taking on a number of the Engineering classes. His software skills have been put to the test already and have been instrumental in helping model a new Greenpower car which is being made in school. His practical, methodical and friendly approach has had a positive impact and we look forward to working with him further over the coming years.

DR MARIA STUART



Dr Maria Stuart is an exciting and academically brilliant addition to the Science Faculty, joining us from the prestigious, all boys, Hampton School in London. Although originally from Denmark, Maria came to the UK to study for a Masters' Degree (Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry) at Reading University, which was awarded First-class Honours on completion. Dr Stuart then embarked on her DPhil in Organic Chemistry under Prof. Michael Willis. During her time in Oxford she met her husband, Alasdair Stuart, who has also started at RGS. Dr Stuart's initial love for Chemistry was initiated by a single inspirational teacher during her time on a student exchange to the United States. She continues to love travelling and in pre-Pandemic times has enjoyed adventures on safari in the Serengeti, snorkelling in the Maldives and climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. She also is an avid fan of Formula 1 and will have no doubt been enthralled by the most recent world championship climax.

CLAIRE SUTTLING



Mrs Claire Suttling is a wonderful addition to the Learning Development team this year. Growing up in the Potteries area, she studied Classics at Nottingham, before becoming a primary teacher leading Upper KS2, co-ordinating English and Assessment. Along the way, she has also tutored English A Level, lectured undergraduates at Manchester Met, been a Teaching Assistant and become an Autism Awareness Mentor, so she's no stranger to education! Claire has three children (four if you include Sherlock the dog) and she is skilled at gardening, embroidery and making miniature creatures. She loves singing, and without doubt one of her many strengths is helping nervous children to blossom.

ISABEL TUDSBERY



Miss Issy Tudsbery completed her undergraduate degree in Mathematics at Cardiff University, achieving a First class degree. After graduating she spent time travelling around Asia and Oceania, where she first gained experience teaching English and Mathematics in Fiji. During her travels she also developed a passion for scuba diving, and has since gone on to complete her PADI Divemaster, the first level of professional qualifications. Seeing the natural world from this perspective has given Miss Tudsbery a greater appreciation for the world around us and she has as a result become involved with the School's Environment Club.

AUDREY WILLIAMS



Mrs Audrey Williams, our new Head of Careers, who took over from Mrs Nicholls, joined in November 2021 from her previous Careers Adviser roles at King's School, The Chase in Malvern, and Worcester County Council. She is delighted to be part of the RGS team and is looking forward to developing the Careers Department further at RGS. Since her start she has already provided one to one Careers Guidance for all Upper Sixth and Year Eleven pupils, and has engineered the superb Careers and Higher Education EXPO that took place in the Lent Term where hundreds of exhibitors from all professional sectors and educational institutions came to engage with RGS pupils. Audrey studied Geography at Aberdeen University before undertaking her postgraduate qualification in Careers Guidance. After working in Reading, her career took her back to Aberdeen before spending four years living in Northern Germany, working as a Careers Adviser in British Forces Schools. Audrey enjoys walking in and around Malvern with her family and their young Labrador. She also enjoys gardening, interior design and is a keen baker.

A FOND FAREWELL

RGS would like to thank the following staff for their contribution to the school and wish them well for the future.

LEE ANDREW



Dr Lee Andrew leaves RGS Worcester after nine years as Assistant Head (Pastoral). During that time, Dr Andrew became a leading expert in Safeguarding. She took on a role in Pastoral Care and Safeguarding right across all four RGS Schools. Her emotional intelligence, empathy and awareness were so strong and the level of assistance she provided, often at times of great need, was extraordinary. Lee built an exceptional Pastoral Team at RGS, developing the Heads of Section and Heads of Year structure to support the pupils as well as the School's Counselling provision. She also played a key role in organising Transition for new pupils to the School, ensuring that everything was in place to make joining RGS smooth and exciting. So many aspects of our Pastoral Care system were enhanced under her leadership, and she organised training and high-profile speakers to push our ideas still further. The development of the School over this period is in a large part down to her incredible commitment to RGS, the long hours she worked, and Lee's determination to achieve the very best care for the pupils. Lee should be immensely proud of all that she achieved at RGS Worcester and the legacy she leaves behind of a Pastoral Care and Safeguarding provision that is at the highest level for any independent school. This is an exceptional achievement and a result of her huge capacity to care and support others, without thought of her own needs. We all wish Lee and her husband, Nick, all the very best for the future.

HELEN CAIN



Helen Cain joined RGS in September as maternity cover for Dr Davison. In her two Terms at the School, she was a huge asset to the History and Politics Department, through her excellent teaching, as a Year Eight Tutor and through her co-curricular interests in Dance and Debating. With her Law background, Mrs Cain brought a real sense of academic rigour and analysis to her lessons, while also being incredibly approachable and dedicated to her classes. We wish her well in her new post at The Chase School.

ELLIE CAPLE



Fiery, passionate, and always the advocate for pupils achieving their best outcomes, Mrs Ellie Caple, Head of Chemistry, will definitely be remembered at RGS! With Covid-19 measures ensuring laboratory doors being always open, you definitely knew when Mrs Caple was teaching nearby. High octane pedagogy, relentless questioning, either old school or through the mayhem of 'quizlet live' meant that staff were as entertained as the pupils! Her competitive nature, whether it was with pupil results, impromptu volleyball games or even staff indoor rowing, often rubbed off on her pupils who strived to be better under her tutelage. She instilled confidence in those pupils who needed it, and greater belief in those who doubted. In Ellie's time here, she has delivered seminars to the School's Middle Leadership Development Programme, mentored newly qualified teachers, played an active role in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and been a superb Form Tutor.

SARAH COOPER



Sarah leaves RGS after 15 years of outstanding service to the School and wider community. Originally starting as an RS and Philosophy teacher, Sarah's skills and abilities were quickly recognised and she went on to hold numerous posts, including introducing and then being Head of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and latterly as Assistant Head of Sixth Form. Whilst Sarah is an outstanding and unbelievably enthusiastic and passionate teacher of RS and Philosophy, it is perhaps in her Pastoral role that she shone most brightly. Caring, compassionate and considered, Sarah has supported the Sixth Form students with aplomb and helped them navigate the trials and tribulations of late teenage life. That said, Sarah also had tremendous strength of character, as was witnessed on many occasions as she challenged the Sixth Formers as regards their interpretations of the RGS Dress Code! Always immaculately turned out herself when in school, Sarah was never afraid to "rough it", as she demonstrated on her many CCF Army camps. Sarah leaves us, for more genteel pastimes, in the full knowledge that the thousands of pupils she has taught over these past 15 years will be forever grateful for not only all her hard work and dedication but perhaps most importantly, for the warmth and care she displayed to them all.

ANDREW FEATON



Andrew joined the Art Department from King Edward's Birmingham bringing with him a background of Fine Art and Photography as well as his knowledge and skill as an examination moderator and art practitioner. His sense of humour and forthright approach were an asset to the department. Andrew left to work as a Sixth Form Tutor at Halesowen College to be nearer his young family and to continue his own business of already successful ceramic and painting workshops. We wish him good luck in his new ventures.

ROB GIBSON



Rob Gibson leaves RGS after some 27 years of truly distinguished service. An alumni of Mansfield College, Oxford, Rob was an inspirational and erudite teacher and later, Head of Maths at RGS. Leading the largest and for many years, in terms of A Level choices, the most popular department, Rob was equally at home teaching would-be Oxbridge undergraduates as he was supporting those pupils who really found Maths a struggle. As Head of Department, Rob would always give a straight and to-the-point answer to questions asked and this was an attribute most apprechiated. There was much more to Rob than his Maths Department and his teaching. A founder of the Sixth Form Croquet club, a committed Rowing coach, a leader of numerous expeditions, ranging from Scotland to South America, Rob was committed to supporting pupils outside the classroom through a range of experiences. Rob was also a caring and dedicated Tutor in the Sixth Form and his group, for many years, provided the activities and organisation for the Upper Sixth Form Leavers' Day. Rob retires to spend more time on hobbies and his passions outside school. We wish Rob and his family Judy, Jack and Esme, all the very best for the future, and we thank Rob wholeheartedly for what he has given to RGS over the past 27 years.

JULIE GIDON



In a recent 'bleep' test to raise money for charity, Mlle Julie Gidon was the last teacher standing (or running). She prevailed. Her formidable athleticism and competitive spirit are well known. An accomplished triathlete, a hair-raising lead climber, there is no challenge Julie will not attack (and conquer). Julie's commitment to every aspect of school life was second to none. Julie joined as a Newly Qualified Teacher in September 2016. Within two years she was in charge of the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award Programme. Within three years, she was Acting Head of French. It was only Covid-19 that delayed promotion to her current position as Head of French. Julie's drive, determination and sheer willingness to learn stand as a role model to all of us, not only of impeccable professionalism but also of the most effective route to success: give it your all and you will achieve. Readers will remember her smile- a smile that welcomes every child into her classes and worked ceaselessly to help them with their progress in French and Spanish, whatever their ability ; a smile that offers to help, takes off the load, gives that extra support ; but also a smile that finds humour everywhere, that revels in the quirks and vagaries of language, that, put simply, finds joy in living. Julie leaves RGS to become a polyglot (she will add German to her repertoire) and develop further her already impressive mountaineering skills before returning to teaching.

LARA JAMES



As a doctor of Music and German, Dr Lara James arrived at RGS as a Newly Qualified Teacher in September 2017. The passion necessary to complete a PhD in any subject is the outstanding characteristic of Lara's time at RGS. Lara taught both French and German, specialising in German to GCSE and A Level. She quickly became a regular member of various musical ensembles, supporting our fledgling musicians with her prodigious talent. Lara's passion for German culture and her desire for pupils to have as much exposure as possible to the 'real' German world kickstarted several initiatives in The Modern Foreign Languages Department. She undertook several German-English language teacher exchanges with the organisation 'UK-German connection'. In addition to the valuable experience the teachers garnered, these bore much fruit, including a penpal exchange, between RGS and a school in Burgstädt, Sachsen, that is on course to develop into a full exchange. Within the classroom, Lara fostered creative crossover in her pupils, for example encouraging them to perform music alongside talking about it in German. Lara has moved on to focus on her music career, though remains a peripatetic Music teacher at RGS Dodderhill.

LUZ KETTLE



As staff and pupils at RGS we have all, down the years, been greeted by Señora Luz Kettle's beguiling, soothing, enchanting tones. Luz welcomed people into her school family in exactly the same way: from a new Year Seven to a new Headmaster, this would be your first experience of Luz. And what experience she brought to the School! Starting as a Language Assistant at The Alice Ottley School in 2007, Luz went on to serve as Teacher of Spanish and French, Head of Spanish, leader of the RAF Section in the CCF, trip leader on countless forays to the Iberian peninsula – the list could go on forever - during her long, illustrious career at RGS. But Luz's contributions to Spanish teaching reached far beyond the confines of RGS. Luz continues to write and examine GCSE and A Level Spanish papers for AQA and she also co-wrote one of the most popular general access Spanish courses published - BBC's 'Sueños'. Yet she will be best remembered for the wonderful relationships she developed with staff and pupils at RGS. Her warmth and mischievous humour earned her many a fan: by extending (quite by accident) pupils' Spanish vocabulary with colourful expressions that just slipped out, cooking huge paellas al fresco in the days of Alice Ottley, or simply bewitching her colleagues into buying one more Avon product than they might have needed. It is no surprise that Luz remains in contact with dozens and dozens of her former Sixth Form pupils. Luz Kettle retired this year, able now to devote more time to her growing gaggle of grandchildren. She is an unforgettable teacher who gave so much to both Schools.

DAN MORGAN



Over the last eight years at RGS, Dan has had a huge impact in all areas of school life as a Drama Teacher, Assistant Head of Year and Head of House. Within the Drama department, he has inspired and led his students to success – he is meticulous about his planning and organising, and has also organised three international trips, countless visits to the theatre, and A Level research and devising weekends in Cornwall. Dan is passionate about the subject, and is the life and soul of every gathering as well as being a die-hard Liverpool FC fan; a regular Friday night football player, there is also nothing that he does not know about Star Wars or Marvel! Dan will be a huge loss to RGS and very sorely missed, but we wish him every success as he takes a well-deserved Head of Department role in his new school.

SARAH RHODES



Sarah Rhodes joined the English Department in January as maternity cover for Mrs Hyndman. Before joining RGS she taught at Hereford Sixth Form College and, before that, the Dixie Grammar School in Leicestershire. During her time at RGS, Mrs Rhodes has run a yoga club and been involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze). We wish her all the best in her new job at another school just down the road in Worcester.

LAURA SEMMONS



Laura has been at RGS for two years and joined us during the Pandemic. She has been a vital member of the department and quickly picked up online learning to help deliver Geography lessons even through the 'lockdowns'. She has been a dedicated Year Seven Form Tutor and has worked closely with the team to ensure an easy transition for pupils in these unusual times. In addition, Miss Semmons has also been actively involved in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award and attended the preparation sessions and expeditions. She leaves us to move to Oxford where she will continue to teach Geography at a local school.

RACHEL WELLS



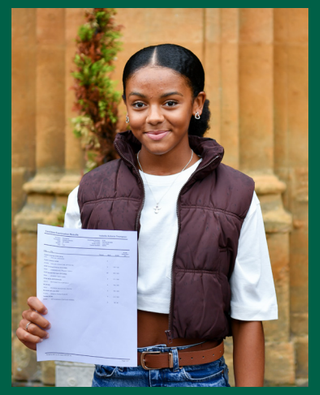
Rachael Wells started at RGS five years ago when she became Head of the Geography department and has led it through what can only be described as 'interesting times'. While the highlights must include the Geography Fieldwork courses (including a trip to Iceland), it is her foresight, preparation and planning that has enabled her to steer her department, and more latterly the Humanities Faculty, through the difficulties of Covid-19: the subject has never been more popular at GCSE and A Level, and she has set a high standard to follow. Rachael will also be missed by the Duke of Edinburgh's team, both for her support of expeditions and her sense of humour. We wish her the very best as she moves on from RGS and continues her trampolining GB coaching, amongst other challenges.

EXCEPTIONAL GCSE RESULTS

Exceptional GCSE results were celebrated this summer at RGS Worcester to the delight of staff, parents and of course, our pupils. Amongst those celebrating were twins Emma and James Woolhouse who achieved 20 GCSEs between them, all at the top grades 9 or 8.



Worcester Cathedral chorister Martha Burdon achieved 10 GCSEs with 9 at the top grade 9 and 1 grade 8, along with netball star and GB athlete, Izzy Thompson, who achieved 9 GCSEs with 6 at grade 9.



Under 18 Archery national champion, Emelia Hughes returned from competing to collect her 9 GCSEs, all graded 9-5.





"The pupils have done exceptionally well, especially given all that they have been through with the Pandemic over the last 3 years. They have managed to maintain momentum in their GCSE studies and performed very well indeed. We saw the highest number of pupils ever achieve 9-7 Grades in at least 8 subjects which sets them up very well for their studies in the Sixth Form and their future careers. We are so pleased that they were able to sit the public examinations and achieve results that are quite simply stunning.

Congratulations to them all, and to their teachers for their hard work and commitment over the full GCSE course. We have to appreciate just how challenging it has been for everyone, and we are immensely proud of everyone."
John Pitt - Headmaster.

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS CELEBRATE EXCELLENT RESULTS

RGS Worcester had a wonderful morning in August, celebrating excellent results following the return to Public Exams being sat by the students for the first time since 2019. Almost every student achieved their chosen University place, so students looked forward to their next steps, whilst taking with them many fond memories of their time at school.

There were superb achievements at A Level with well over half of all grades at A*/A in such a wide range of subjects. In the BTECs on offer, 85% of all Grades were the top Distinction*/ Distinction and 100% A*-B Grades were achieved in the EPQ.

Amongst those celebrating was Katy Marsh who achieved a remarkable 5A* Grades at A Level, while also being a Senior Prefect, Senior Cadet in the CCF, a successful debator and a 1st XI Hockey player. Katy is going on to study Engineering at Cambridge University.

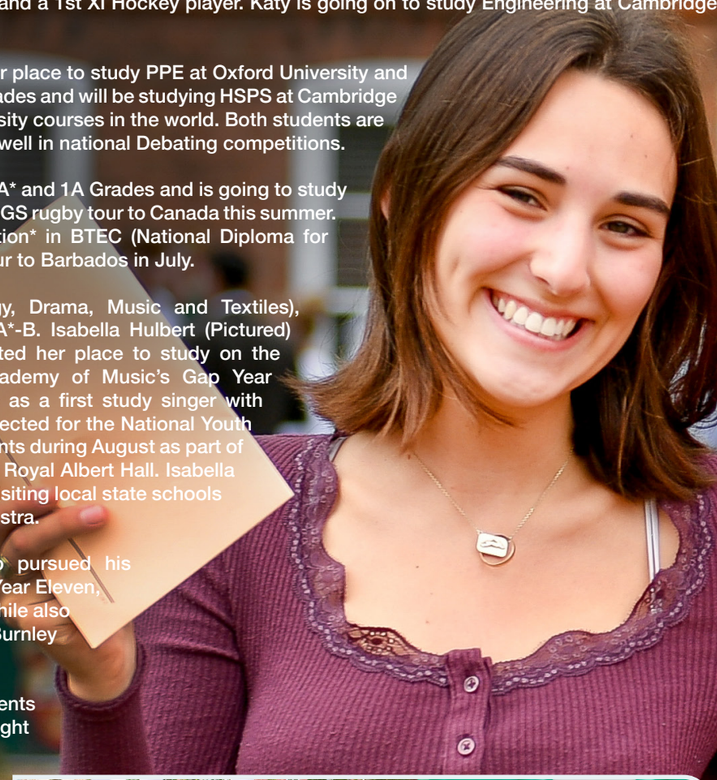
Elizabeth McCabe achieved 4A* Grades and her place to study PPE at Oxford University and School Captain, James Preece achieved 3A* Grades and will be studying HSPS at Cambridge University – two of the most competitive University courses in the world. Both students are superb Debaters who performed exceptionally well in national Debating competitions.

Boys' Rugby Captain, Ben Gaubert, achieved 3A* and 1A Grades and is going to study Mathematics at Bath University, fresh from the RGS rugby tour to Canada this summer. Netball Captain Georgia Hill achieved Distinction* in BTEC (National Diploma for Sport) and enjoyed leading the Girls' Sports Tour to Barbados in July.

In the Creative Arts (Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music and Textiles), remarkably over 90% of all Grades were at A*-B. Isabella Hulbert (Pictured) achieved 3A* and 1A Grades and has accepted her place to study on the prestigious and highly-competitive Royal Academy of Music's Gap Year Programme, to continue her studies in Music as a first study singer with enhanced second study violin. Isabella was selected for the National Youth Orchestra and has been performing in three events during August as part of the BBC Proms, culminating in a concert in the Royal Albert Hall. Isabella has also been working on education projects, visiting local state schools as an ambassador for the National Youth Orchestra.

Professional footballer, Seb Thompson, who pursued his professional career, leaving RGS at the end of Year Eleven, completed an A Level in Economics remotely while also playing for Derby County and has now joined Burnley FC.

Congratulations to these and all the other students at RGS who have done so well. They have bright futures ahead.



"It's been an incredibly difficult period, and students have had to show high levels of resilience, working very hard for these results. They have not had those Public Examinations at GCSE, so it's a real credit to their endeavour and consistency of effort over the last couple of years.

We are really pleased with our students, how they have approached their academic studies, particularly as they manage this alongside a really wide and varied co-curricular offering, getting involved in lots of exciting activities. As a result of that, their success is all the more admirable and we are really proud of them."

Mark Evetts - Head of Sixth Form







ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND PRIZES

YEAR PRIZES

YEAR SEVEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Joseph Agoston
Lexi Agoston
Sufyan Al-Jaro
Nicola Aston
Sanaa Baig
Amelie Baynham
James Bellingham
Verity Bond Evans
Ridhima Canchi
Grace Challinor
Olivia Godwin
Pru Goodison
Denis Goodwillie-Green
Eric Gregory
Amelia Gutteridge
Isabelle Hardiman
Arthur Hasling
Cameron Henry
Ciaran Hession-Wilson
Mirin Hutchings
Henry Jarvis
Jemima Noble
Charlie Owen
Anya Peddareddy
Harry Pickup
Lucas Pullen
Olivia Southall
Anna Wardle Grifoll
Cleo Whitbread
Audrey Wise

YEAR EIGHT ACADEMIC PRIZES

Daisy Atkins
Sam Berry
Anton Bouthiere
Cooper Collins
Rachel Crookall
Thomas Edge
Sophie Fisher
Sihan Fu
Rebecca Gardner
Julia Gebhardt
Hannah Gibbons
Bella Glasson
Amelia Godwin
Ella Griffiths
Emma Harris
Cerys Hickman
Emily Jackson
Zac Johnson
Daisy Jones
Lucas Jones
Paulina Kleban
Emma Law
Isabelle Lowe
Elsie-Rose Lyons
Arun McGlynn
Callum Munday
Harriet Murphy
Grace Norris
Poppy Parker
Megan Pearse
Toby Prendergast
Noah Raven
Jai Sanehi
Sanaiya Saroop
Rose Savory
Imogen Sharp
Lydia Stallard
Edward Taylor
Daisy Williams
Anya Wood

YEAR NINE ACADEMIC PRIZES

Hannah Agoston
Menaal Amjad
Fynn Butler
Liam Chadwick
Martha Colclough
Sorrel Coxcoon
Noah Dunnett
Aeryn Egginton
Isabelle Fawcett
Noah Gent
Amelia Godfrey
Harry Green
Abigail Haldane
Jacob Hartley
Megan Hepple
Orla Hession-Wilson
Hollyanna Hopkins
Grace Horrocks
Bethany Jennings
Isabelle Jones
Maddison Lavoipierre
Amelie Lockley
Ellen Mae McGettigan
Faheem Mohamed
Harry Moore
Keira Mountford
Alexandra Napier
Thomas Newman
Arran Niccol
Aryan Peddareddy
Aleksandra Penlington
Zara Pepperdine
Leyla Rashid
Yasmina Rashid
Yasmin Styles
Ella Wain
Abigail Walter
Noah Whitbread

YEAR TEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Toby Alexander
Marcus Banks
Sydney Blanchenot
Connor Bowers
Abigail Crabbe
Elizabeth Crookall
Daniel Foster
Isabella Gray
Matilda Haughton
Keira Higgins
Annabelle Howarth
Sophie Jackson
Zachary Jew
Amélie Johnson
Jaimie Lee
Chang Liu
Jessica Lowe
Katherine McCabe
Joseph McRobert
Charlotte Nicholls
Katy Pitt
Lucas Reid
Sofia Stolt
Samuel Taylor
Rowan Towers
Vikassh Vijithan
Mya Walford
Grace Williams
Edith Wise

YEAR ELEVEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Violet Ashmore
Harry Bartlett
Catherine Broadbent
Jacob Bunyan
Martha Burdon
Callum Butler
Sebastian Chohan
Amy Cound
Emily Rabbe
Noah Davison
Arianne Eddy
Lucy Garrard
Annie Hallowell
Summer Hipkins
Rupert Hobson
William Hulbert
Luke Jones
Nathan Lad
George Laney
Callum Lockett
Thomas McMillan
Lauren Pearse
Angus Pepperall
Charles Raven
Isobel Rivett
Josefina Round
Amy Saunders
Oscar Savory
Emma Woolhouse
James Woolhouse

LOWER SIXTH ACADEMIC PRIZES

Eleanor Rose Allen
Alice Atkinson
Noah Bishop
Oliver Blunt
Tobey Butler
Benjamin Chadwick
Esther Clayton
Saffron Crump
Samuel Hewitt
Raiwin Lewis
Kristian McCabe
Isaac McManus
Maisy McRobert
Joseph Meredith
Eleanor Nicholls
Emma Pickersgill
Jack Pitt
Zoe Pye
James Robinson
Benjamin Sears
Edward Sellors
Katharine Smith
Ella Staiano
Rayyan Styles
Dave Varughese
Hebe Walsh
Benjamin Weller
Emily Weller

INDIVIDUAL AND SCHOOL PRIZES

THE LOWER SCHOOL ART CUP
Daisy Jones

THE LOWER SCHOOL DRAMA CUP
Joe Jenkinson

THE LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC PRIZE
Sihan Fu

THE LOWER SCHOOL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY PRIZE FOR TEXTILES
Bella Glasson

THE LOWER SCHOOL KATHRYN NICHOLLS CREATIVE WRITING PRIZE
Zac Johnson

THE LOWER SCHOOL DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PRIZE
Thomas Edge

THE LOWER SCHOOL CHARITIES CUP
Pru Goodison and Roxanna Freely

THE DANIEL SULLIVAN PRIZE FOR ICT
Sophie Fisher

THE ANDREW WRIGHT MEMORIAL CUP FOR EXTENDED LEARNING INITIATIVE
Amelie Baynham

THE YEAR SEVEN COMMENDATIONS PRIZE
Arthur Hasling

THE YEAR EIGHT COMMENDATIONS PRIZE
Rachel Crookall

THE W D WILLIAMS PRIZE FOR ALL ROUND CONTRIBUTION TO LOWER SCHOOL
Sihan Fu

UPPER SIXTH NAMED AWARDS

THE ACADEMIC DRAMA PRIZE
Isabella Hulbert

THE AOOES' SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE
Isabella Hulbert and George Oates

THE ALICE OTTLEY MILLENNIUM PRIZE FOR THE HEAD GIRL
Amelia Lane and Lucy Ball

THE BENJAMIN LEADER PRIZE FOR ART
Benjamin Holland

THE BREWER PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY
George Oates

THE BTEC SPORT AWARD
Isadora Hercules

THE CARTER-DOWNS MEDICAL PRIZE
Lucy Newton

THE CHARLES MYTTON SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE
Katy Marsh and James Preece

THE CLAINES PRIZE FOR APPLIED PHYSICS
Nicolas Kaye

THE EMILY JORDAN PRIZE FOR ECONOMICS
Oliver Nixon

THE HILLARD PRIZE FOR PHYSICS
Adrian Fok

THE J AND M BURTON HISTORY PRIZE
Elizabeth McCabe

THE JANET PEARSON PRIZE FOR HISTORY
Matthew Powell

THE LEA AND PERRINS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR BUSINESS
Scott Mortimer

THE MALCOLM YOUNG PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY
Bethan Standing

THE MARGARET MOORE PRIZE FOR CLASSICS
Freddie Nock

THE MARGARET SPURLING PRIZE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Sophie Ness

THE MISS CORMACK PRIZE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES
Erin Howard

THE PULLINGER PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS
Adrian Fok

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR BIOLOGY
Rosie Tyerman

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY
James Kitchingman

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR CLASSICS
Kasia Czyrko

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR MUSIC
Isabella Hulbert

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN EPQ
Olivia Middleton

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Holly Fox

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR POLITICS
James Preece

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR PSYCHOLOGY
Emma O'Hara

THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR TEXTILES
Erin Howard

THE STALLARD PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE
George Oates

THE STANLEY WILLIS PRIZE FOR THE PAST HEAD BOY
James Preece and George Oates

THE THOMAS BLASSON PRIZE
Elizabeth McCabe and Freddie Davies

THE VICTORIA WRIGHT PRIZE FOR SCIENCE
Katy Marsh

THE WILDE PRIZE FOR DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
Robbie May

DESTINATIONS FOR LEAVERS

Surname	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Ahmed	Muhammad	Real Estate	University of Reading
Andrews	Mia	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	University of Leeds
Annis	Harriet	Psychology	University of Liverpool
Asghar-Islam	Nuh	Medicine (MBBS)	St George's, University of London
Baker	Emma	Marketing	Northumbria University, Newcastle
Ball	Lucy	Politics, Philosophy and Law	University of Warwick
Berry	Anna	Fashion Buying and Merchandising	University of Manchester
Bond	Charlotte	Geography	Sheffield Hallam University
Boyle	Harvey	History	University of Southampton
Brierley	Francesca		Gap Year
Carter	Elizabeth	Geography (Science)	University of Liverpool
Chamberlain	Benjamin	Politics and International Relations	University of Nottingham
Charman	Ruth	Geography	Aberystwyth University
Cheney	Jack	Integrated Mechanical and Electrical Engineering	University of Bath
Clarke	Cameron		Gap Year
Collins	Maximilian		Gap Year
Cronin-Brown	Ciara	Art Foundation Course	Hereford College of Art
Czyrko	Catherine	Ancient History	Durham University
Darbyshire	David	Mechanical Engineering	Cardiff University
Davies	Frederick	Natural Sciences	University of Cambridge
Day	Angus	Computer Science	University of Reading
Downes	Katie	Drama	Gap Year
Dudley	Alice		Gap Year
Edgehill	Joseph	Business Management	Oxford Brookes University
Emeny	Patrick		Gap Year
Fallows	William	2D Digital Animation	University of Hertfordshire
Farmer	Ethan	Theatre and Performance Studies	University of Warwick
Farmer	Molly	Sport and Exercise Therapy	Coventry University
Flinders	George	Aerospace Engineering	University of Leicester
Fok	Adrian	Aeronautical Engineering	Imperial College, London
Fox	Holly	Sport and Exercise Psychology	University of Portsmouth
Gaubert	Ben	Mathematics	University of Bath
Godwin	William	Civil Engineering	Birmingham City University
Grainger	James	Business and Management	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Green	Summer	Drama	Bath Spa University
Greenwood	Rosanna	Pharmacy	Gap Year
Hallowell	Joseph	International Management	University of Nottingham
Hercules	Isadora	Sport and Exercise Nutrition	Manchester Metropolitan University
Heyburn	Lucas	Social Sciences	Gap Year
Hill	Georgia	Sports Placement	RGS Worcester
Hill	Samuel	Real Estate	University of Reading

Surmane	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Hingley	Sadie	Interior Architecture and Design	Sheffield Hallam University
Holland	Benjamin	Art Foundation Course	Hereford College of Art
Holland	Casson	Art Foundation Course	Hereford College of Art
Howard	Erin	Fashion Design Technology	University of the Arts, London
Hulbert	Isabella	Music	Royal Academy of Music
Humphryes	Bryher	English and Film Studies	University of Leeds
Jeffery	Ross		Gap Year
Johns	Felicity	Medical Pharmacology	Cardiff University
Kane	Jack		Gap Year
Kaye	Nicolas	Aeronautics and Astronautics	University of Southampton
Kettle	Oliver		Gap Year
Kitchingman	James	Music	University of Cambridge
Lad	Aaron	Chemical Engineering	University of Birmingham
Lamb	Abigail	American Studies and History	University of Nottingham
Lane	Amelia	Neuroscience	Central Michigan University, USA
Lau	Chi Kwan	History	Univesity of Warwick
Lee	Abbey	Art	Gap Year
Lee	Jensen	Accounting and Finance	University of Birmingham
Lockley	Grace	Fashion Marketing and Branding	Nottingham Trent University
May	Robert	Architecture	Cardiff Metropolitan University
McCabe	Elizabeth	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	University of Oxford
McCrindle	Maia	Medicine	Gap Year
McNally	Corey	Sport Performance Analysis	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Middleton	Olivia	Law	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Mortimer	Scott	Accounting Degree Apprenticeship	RSM
Ness	Sophie	Philosophy	King's College London
Newall	George	Geography	Oxford Brookes University
Newton	Lucy	Veterinary Science	Gap Year
Nicholas	Charlotte	Modern Languages	University of Nottingham
Nixon	Oliver	Chemical Engineering	University of Bath
Nock	Frederick	Accounting Degree Apprenticeship	BDO
O'Connell	Molly	Business Management (Marketing)	Swansea University
O'Hara	Emma	Psychology	University of Manchester
Oates	George	Liberal Arts	Gap Year
Odell	Grace	Zoology	University of Nottingham
Oldnall	Joshua	Computer Science and Mathematics	University of Bath
Parkinson	James	Marine Biology	University of Liverpool
Patterson	William	Chemistry	University of Bath
Paxton-Griffiths	Max		Gap Year
Pepperall	Isabel	Modern Languages (4 Years)	University of Birmingham
Pitt	William		Gap Year
Pointon	Kieran	Business Economics	University of Liverpool
Povey	Zara	Psychology	University of Reading

Surmane	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Powell	Elysia	Fashion Marketing and Branding	Nottingham Trent University
Powell	Matthew	History	Gap Year
Poyser	Mar	Engineering	University of Cambridge
Preece	James	Human Social and Political Sciences	University of Cambridge
Rai	Amber	Accountancy	University of Nottingham
Reynolds	Ben	Chartered Surveying Degree Apprenticeship	Savills
Rhoden	Grace	Sport, Physical Education and Health	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Richardson	Olivia	Biomedical Sciences	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Rimell	William		Applying to RAF
Robinson	Charlotte	Modern and Medieval Languages	Gap Year
Ruane	Jodie	History of Art	University of Manchester
Saunders	Katherine	Architecture	University of Sheffield
Saunders	Rebecca	Architecture	University of Nottingham
Seven	Rojat	Chemistry	Cardiff University
Shabbir	Afifah	Optometry	University of Plymouth
Shaw	Alexander	Business and Management	Oxford Brookes University
Shaw	Kathryn	Paramedic Science	Swansea University
Shaw	Madaline	Agri-Food Marketing with Business	Harper Adams University
Silvey	Thomas		Gap Year
Snipe	Kurt	Accounting and Finance	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Spragg	James		Apprenticeship
Standing	Bethan	Psychology with Placement	University of Exeter
Strange	Torr	Microbiology	University of Reading
Timmington	Abigail	Biomedical Science	Cardiff University
Tolley	Matthew	Chemical Engineering	University of Bath
Tyerman	Rosie	Physiotherapy	University of Worcester
Weaver	Kim-Ly	Orthoptics / Pharmacology	Gap Year
Wilde	Joshua	Accounting and Finance	Cardiff University
Wilde	Thom	Business and Management	University of Reading
Wilkinson	Sophie	Veterinary Physiotherapy	Harper Adams University
Wilkinson	Susannah	Geography (Physical)	University of Reading
Wood	Amelia	Psychology	Oxford Brookes University
Yarwood	Rebecca	Psychology	University of Kent



UPPER SIXTH LEAVERS 2021-22





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