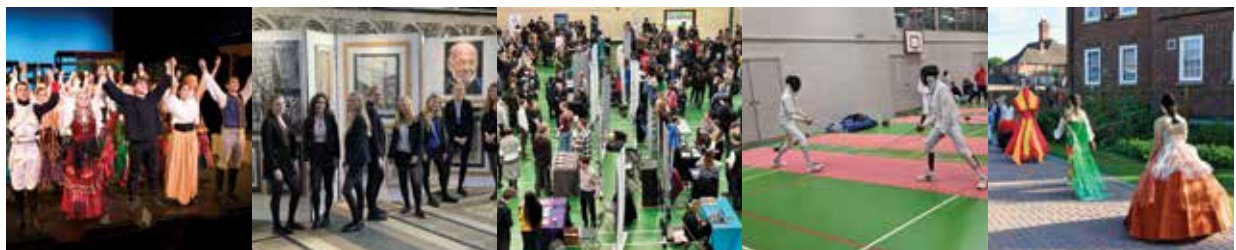


# WORCESTERIAN



“RGS Worcester provides an excellent all-round education for pupils by developing character, intellect, physical and emotional wellbeing and cultural understanding.”



CHERISHING THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE







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# WORCESTERIAN INTRODUCTION

## (2022-23)



The academic year 2022-23 was an exceptional one for RGS Worcester. We achieved superb Public Examination results in the summer with well over half of all A Level grades at A\*/A and over 90% of the pupils achieving their first-choice university places and other courses. The Upper Sixth demonstrated that hard work is rewarded and they did exceptionally well, especially since they had not sat GCSE examinations because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. We also saw success throughout the year in a range of academic competitions including Maths Challenges, Science Olympiads and essay-writing competitions in several subjects. The pupils are well supported in their learning and aspire to achieve at RGS.

We had an extraordinary year in Sport, winning all three Cups in our high prestige matches against King's School held at Sixways Stadium and the University of Worcester Arena. It was the first time that either school held all of the trophies. We also had national success in various Sports and saw pupils achieve national honours in Under 15 and Under 16 Football, Under 16 and Under 18 Rowing, Under 18 Boys' Rugby, Under 18 Girls' Rugby, Under 20 Athletics and Under 21 Hockey. Our Sport is really going places with superb coaching and aspiring pupils enjoying taking part in our extensive Sports programme. The Rowing Club had their most successful season in recent times and grows stronger each year. The Sports tours programme continued with the Cricketers visiting India and then completing their season with victory at the RGS Schools Cricket Festival. We also saw our first ever 1st XI Girls' Cricket team in action.

The Co-curricular provision has continued to grow and there are well over 130 clubs and activities each week. Music and Drama were so impressive with more concerts than ever before including major showpiece events and the quality of our Drama





continues to amaze audiences who attend the Performing Arts Centre. The Creative Arts at RGS are thriving and we have again seen national success in Art, Textiles, Design and Technology. Debating excelled with success even in international competitions and RGS is now greatly feared as an opponent on the Debating circuit. Then there is CCF, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Greenpower racing, the award-winning Gardening Club participating at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival, Equestrian, Astronomy and Rocketry clubs and Young Fashion Designer UK and so on. There is so much to do at RGS; the pupils are busy and successful.

Artificial Intelligence arrived in education in a big way in 2023 and RGS with its Digital Learning Programme was able to adapt and learn straight away. The ability of the School to develop in its approach to technology was tested and came through with flying colours in the Pandemic and AI could equally be a game-changer in education. The importance of being able to teach our pupils how to use technology effectively without becoming reliant upon it is a delicate balance which our experts can provide so that our pupils are ready for the future world. The speed of technological change is exciting, if a little daunting, including for teachers and parents.

We support our pupils in so many ways and our reputation for Pastoral Care continues to grow. We may be a bigger school, but we make sure we know our pupils individually extremely well and can offer them the bespoke support and care that they need. This is so important in a fast-moving world where children do need to be able to have a safe space and help to navigate through. Our pupils are resilient as they demonstrate time and time again, but they still need to know there is always someone available to help if it is needed.

My thanks to the staff (teachers and support) for all their hard work. Thank you also to parents and alumni for your continued support. I am so proud of the many achievements of the pupils at RGS and it really has been an exceptional year. Above all, I am proud of the support they show towards one another, the assistance they provide through their School to the community, and the impressive young adults they become through their time at RGS Worcester.

*John Pitt*

*Headmaster, RGS Worcester*

*Executive Head, The RGS Worcester Family of Schools*

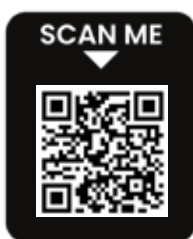




# THE DIGITAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

The Digital Learning Programme (DLP) across The RGS Worcester Family of Schools continued to flourish throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, embracing new horizons, challenges, and innovations. Teachers, pupils, and indeed parents, experienced numerous developments and participated in exciting projects as we further enriched our digital learning culture and harnessed the power of digital technology to improve educational experiences at our four Schools.

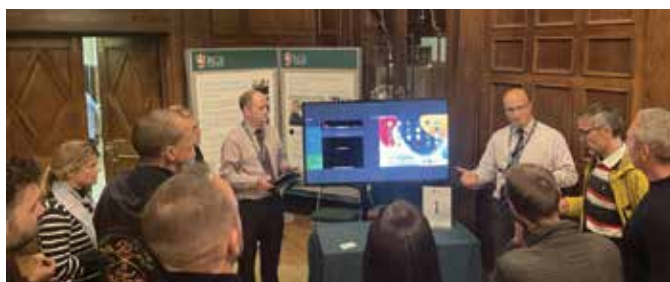
The new academic year began with the launch of a film that showcased the depth and breadth of the DLP at RGS Worcester. This video offered an engaging glimpse into our learning environment and the pedagogy underpinning our award-winning Digital Learning Programme. If you didn't get a chance to see it, it is available for viewing [here](#).



At the start of Term, our incredible pupil Digital Genius Team also welcomed a new group of Year Seven members to join our weekly meetings and collaborate on a variety of exciting projects. Within weeks, they were presenting in front of over 75 parents at our DLP Parental Engagement Evenings.

Later in the academic year in our Lecture Theatre the Digital Geniuses presented to over 150 students from the University of Worcester in a series of seminars that provided a fascinating insight into the impact our Digital Learning Programme has on teaching and learning from their perspective. In addition, our Digital Leaders attended and presented at the world's largest Educational Technology event, the BETT Show in East London, despite facing a myriad of logistical challenges on the day!

Engaging with, and developing an understanding of, cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, such as ChatGPT, have also been prominent aspects of our EdTech journey this year. Our activities have ranged from hosting CPD sessions for staff and introducing pupils to the possibilities and limitations of AI, to participating in the Heads' Conference AI (HMC) event at Epsom College. Our Director of Innovation, John Jones, delivered a presentation on 'Harnessing the Power of ChatGPT' at the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) Conference in Central London. He also gave a keynote address on 'AI in Education – Navigating the Future' at the LGFL Conference in London alongside Head of Computing at RGS The Grange, Matt Warne.





# ENGLISH FACULTY

This has been a very busy and enjoyable year. Our regular English clubs and societies have flourished and pupils have been able to take part in a wide range of activities.

In addition to its regular diet of good books, biscuits and tea, the RGS Literary Society welcomed two guest speakers to its regular Monday evening meetings. Firstly, in March, the Society enjoyed a talk from Dr Nathan Waddell from Birmingham University. Dr Waddell is an expert on the work of George Orwell and he provided a fascinating insight into how Orwell came to write his dystopian masterpiece '1984'. Later, in April, Dr Melanie Bigold from Cardiff University gave a wonderful talk on Shakespeare's 'Hamlet', explaining different dramatic and critical approaches to the play over time.

Miss Hannah Bone, who joined RGS in September, has led the School's involvement in the English Speaking Union, 'Shakespeare in Performance' competition this year. Miss Bone helped pupils in Year Seven prepare scenes from Shakespeare's plays and led them all the way to the regional finals in Swansea in May, where they performed to great effect.

This has been another fantastic year for our Junior Book Clubs with record numbers of pupils attending each week to read, share ideas and produce their own creative writing. Pupils in Years Seven and Eight once again entered a variety of writing competitions including the 'Power of Poetry', 'Integer - Stories Inspired by Numbers' and the inaugural Martha Mills Competition run by The London Review Bookshop.

2023 also saw the Library and English Department run a Readathon in support of the charity Read for Good, which raises money for books and reading support for children in hospitals throughout the UK. Years Seven and Eight threw themselves into the three-week reading challenge and raised nearly £1,000 pounds.

Year Seven also immersed themselves in Medieval literature in the Michaelmas term and it was wonderful to welcome two real-life Medieval knights to RGS to talk to the pupils about chivalry, Medieval combat and the life of a knight.

The Creative Arts Evening in June saw the first Year Seven Creative Writing event, where pupils from across the Year group performed their very impressive work before an appreciative audience. Each class produced its own anthology of creative writing based on responses to nature and the readings brought these works thrillingly to life.

Looking back over a busy and enjoyable year, it has been wonderful to see so many pupils have a chance to share their love of reading, writing and creativity once again.





# MATHEMATICS FACULTY

This year marked another stellar year in terms of performances in the Mathematics Challenges, with over two hundred pupils achieving awards across the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Challenges. Twenty-nine pupils also qualified for the follow on Kangaroo and Olympiad rounds which is a great achievement. Particular mention must go to Isabella Gabriel in Year Seven and Denis Goodwillie-Green in Year Eight who were awarded a Merit and a Distinction in the Junior Olympiad, which puts them amongst the best mathematicians in the country for their age groups - a truly fantastic achievement.

It was great to be able to return to some of the external Mathematic events this year too, with our Lower Sixth students travelling to Warwick University Arts Centre for the Maths in Action event in November. This featured a succession of fascinating talks and lectures regarding the use of Mathematics beyond the examination curriculum.

Talks ranged from Mathematical modelling in a real world scenario such as antibiotic resistance, to the Mathematics behind illusions. Arguably the highlight was the session regarding game theory, with students learning about unbeatable strategy and how to win any conditional game. It was a great day with interesting and engaging speakers giving students a taste of the vast real world applications of Mathematics.

The last twelve months also saw the Mathematics Department hold two Outreach events for local primary schools, with events for Years Five and Six pupils.

Both events involved the primary schools competing against each other in a series of Mathematical and logic problems, with the competitive spirit soon becoming evident in the young mathematicians. Shockingly, both events involved the theft of the prizes on offer for the winning teams, but by solving a series of clues and puzzles the pupils were able to decipher that the theft was indeed an inside job, and the not-to-be-named Mathematics teacher was duly taken away in handcuffs! It must be said that our Year Seven pupils who helped with the running of the events were a huge credit to the School, and we look forward to them continuing their great contribution to Mathematics at RGS.









# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES FACULTY

*"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way."*

Opening doors is Languages' great gift to our pupils. As pupils grow in linguistic competence, doors open in diverse fields, from day to day transactions and meeting the locals on their holidays abroad to discovering new cultures, experiences and knowledge in an unadulterated form. Second language learning expands our cognitive capacity, develops memory skills and is even recommended to help delay the onset of dementia. Experience of a new cultural paradigm questions the accepted, unconscious limits of our daily world, and opens us up to new ways of viewing the world.

From early in the academic year, pupils are exposed to the variety of culture that language learning brings. One of our first highlights is the European Week of Languages, in which we celebrate the diversity of language and culture across Europe, through themed lunches, in-class competitions and the hotly contested House Pétanque Competition. The Michaelmas Term also saw the revival of Italian Club, a lunchtime opportunity for pupils to expand their range of Romance languages and explore the beauty of all things Italian.

As Christmas approached, the newly formed Year Seven sets delved into Christian tradition in their language by performing a Christmas carol, as a class, in their Year Seven language. Each form filmed their performance of the carol, props of varying relevance to Christmas were used (though we're yet to see the Christmas octopus!) and awaited the votes of the other classes. Significant advances in direction and production led to a close call, but overall the might of the German Tannenbaum was overcome by a jaunty Spanish Jingle Bells. ¡Enhorabuena a la clase de Señore Nicholls!

The end of the academic year is the time for pupils in Years Seven to Nine to turn on the creativity, preparing their market stalls (Year Seven), Masterchef dishes (Year Eight), home designs (Year Eight) and cultural presentations (Year Nine) in the languages of their studies. Pupils turned their skills to producing real or pretend food, designs, presentations and videos, all in a foreign language. As well as being immense fun, pupils were excited to see how much they could already communicate in French, German or Spanish.









# SCIENCE FACULTY

Science continues to make headlines, wanted or unwanted. Artificial Intelligence (AI) innovations grabbed the majority of these, with some so extreme as to point towards a James Cameron-esque future of T1000 cyborgs. Beneath the surface, however, AI has been put to excellent use in the detecting of cancer from scanning images for instance.

Away from the cacophony of AI, breakthroughs have been made in nuclear fusion, with Scientists announcing they had produced more energy than was used to start the reaction in the first place.

The James Webb telescope revealed six massive galaxies that existed between 500 and 700 million years after the Big Bang: the discovery is completely upending existing theories about the origins of galaxies according to a new study published in 'Nature' Journal. Scientists even managed to change the trajectory of an asteroid. Development of vaccines also continue, with the hope that an effective vaccine against Malaria (which kills over six hundred thousand people a year) will soon be available. It is an exciting time to be in Science: the landscape is rapidly changing. Who knows what will have happened by this time next year!

# CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry Department has had another eventful year. We were able to host 'CSI Worcester': this event provided an opportunity for local primary schools and pupils from the RGS prep schools to engage in hands-on experiments whilst solving a particularly tricky crime. We hosted the Outreach pupils in an exploration of the reaction of metals (whizzes and bangs all round!).

The Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad witnessed a record number of participating students from both the Lower and Upper Sixth Chemistry Department, and their results were impressive. Rayyan Styles earned a Gold award, while Ben Weller, Imogen Monce, and Alice Atkinson secured Silver awards. Additionally, ten Upper Sixth students were awarded Bronze. The Lower Sixth students also achieved eight Bronze awards, an equally impressive feat. The Lower Sixth students also had the opportunity to showcase their skills in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in June.

A number of our Upper Sixth Chemistry students have opted to pursue Chemistry as their field of study at University. Among them, Alice Atkinson expressed her excitement about embracing her passion for Chemistry as well as her love for Hockey at The University of Birmingham. We extend our heartfelt wishes to all our Upper Sixth Chemists as they embark on their future studies and careers. We hope that the skills they have acquired during their time at RGS will pave the way for numerous accomplishments and successes in the years ahead.

In the Trinity Term, a group of brave Lower Sixth Chemists participated in the annual Cambridge Chemistry Challenge which is designed to test the most able Sixth Form Chemists around the country and bridge the gap between A Level and University Level studies. Students tackled problem solving questions on the formal charge of molecules, synthesis of an active ingredient used to treat Athletes' foot and the Chemistry of a metalloid called Bismuth. The Winners listed should be proud of their achievement: Silver Award - Evie Smith, George Laney and Ethan Stubbs, Copper Award - Catherine Broadbent, Charlie Timmington and Cerys Marsay-Jones.





# BIOLOGY

The Biology Department at RGS Worcester has had a highly successful academic year, showcasing remarkable achievements and engaging activities for our pupils. Throughout the year, we have delivered an enriching and comprehensive curriculum to pupils at all levels. Our team of passionate teachers have fostered a love for Biology and provided a strong foundation in the subject. Pupils have explored various topics, including cell biology, genetics, ecology, and the human immune response.

To enhance the learning experience, the Department focuses on the pupil experience and endeavours to develop key life skills including study skills, critical thinking and problem-solving. Areas of Biology that lend themselves well to developing these abilities include the ethical considerations surrounding vaccinations, monoclonal antibodies, genetic engineering and cloning. However, we also understand the importance of a holistic approach to education. Therefore, we offered a range of supra-curricular activities that complemented classroom learning and encouraged pupils to explore Biology beyond the curriculum.

Such opportunities include our A Level students being given the chance to compete in the annual Biology Olympiad, in which we had our most successful year yet, with three of our students achieving a Gold Award! Only the top 5% in the country obtain this award, showing just how knowledgeable our students are, and we are very proud of Samuel Hewitt, Benjamin Weller and Rayyan Styles for accomplishing this accolade.

In addition, the Department organised a Biology Field Trip for Lower Sixth students. Led by our dedicated teachers, students embarked on an adventure to Nettlecombe Field Studies Centre in Devon, immersing themselves in the study of ecology, sampling techniques, and conservation. Activities included: transect sampling; kick-sampling to identify freshwater invertebrates, and estimating snail populations using mark-release-recapture techniques provided invaluable practical experience.

Mr Rob Henderson, Head of Biology continued to captivate pupils with the popular 'Mystery Dissection' for the Billingham Society, this year dissecting a 4.5kg Rainbow Trout. This first-hand experience allowed students to closely examine and appreciate the specimen and its adaptations, deepening their understanding of biological structures and functions, as well as drawing comparisons between the internal organs of Salmoniformes and Mammals.





# PHYSICS

Throughout the past year, the realm of Physics has flourished, with notable achievements in Olympiad competitions and a range of captivating STEM initiatives. From the excitement of Rocket Club to the engaging Faraday Challenge and Lower School Science Club, our pupils have embraced the wonders of Physics, including star-gazing visits to our Billingham Observatory at RGS The Grange.

The Sixth Form Rocket Club has continued to thrive. The pupils' efforts in the development of flight sensors and accompanying software have yielded considerable progress throughout the year. The enhanced data collection capabilities have empowered our pupils, enabling them to delve deeper into understanding the demands of rocketry. Notably, they have confronted and overcome challenges related to weight, presenting them with an array of problem-solving opportunities. Miniaturising the electronics has proven particularly challenging, prompting collaborative teamwork among the pupils in their quest for solutions.

The Physics Olympiad Competitions have witnessed resounding success for our pupils, who have achieved outstanding results. In the Senior Competition, our Lower Sixth Physics students distinguished themselves by securing a total of 18 awards. Among them, Rupert Hobson, Cerys Marsay-Jones, Oliver Seekings, Ethan Stubbs, Barney Batchelor, Harry Love, Miles Brigden, Adam Lawrence, Emily Crabbe, and Jack Barnett each received a well-deserved Bronze Medal. Noteworthy Silver Medals were awarded to Lucy Garrard, Matthew Dale, Callum Sharp, Adam Allan, Noah Davison, Mike Agoston, and Oskar Matysiak, while Dylan Cowling achieved a prestigious Gold Medal.

The Year Eleven pupils made a notable impact in the Intermediate Competition, showcasing their abilities with a remarkable haul of 4 Gold Medals, 27 Silver Medals, 21 Bronze Medals, and a Commendation, culminating in a total of 53 awards. Toby Alexander, Connor Bowers, Jack Hill, and Samuel Taylor distinguished themselves by earning the coveted Gold Medals. We extend our gratitude to all the pupils who participated in the various Olympiad events, and we congratulate those who achieved well-deserved accolades.



# COMPUTING AND IT

This year in the Lower School, pupils have continued to delve into the intricacies of computer systems. They have explored the topics of Hardware and coding, developing their own programmes using block-based programming languages and high-level text-based languages commonly used in industry. A notable discovery made by Year Seven pupils was the integration of computers into various everyday objects, thanks to the proliferation of smart devices connected to the Internet.

Year Eight pupils were provided with a unique opportunity to attain a nationally-recognised qualification through their participation in the iDEA (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) programme. This allows them to engage in a wide range of activities and earn badges, which encompasses the utilisation of technology to comprehend our responsibilities as digital citizens, as well as the crucial role computers play in modern business environments.



The Middle School witnessed a surge in the number of pupils choosing to pursue Computer Science studies. Year Nine pupils have honed their skills in algorithm creation and applied computational thinking to craft programmes. They have also investigated details of computer networks and cyber security, enhancing their technical comprehension. Year Ten pupils embarked on their GCSE Computer Science studies by enquiring into the realm of data representation, exploring the complexities of the binary number system and the significance of image and sound compression in facilitating digital storage. In Year Eleven, our Computer Scientists took significant strides in expanding their comprehension of programming theory, exploring databases and SQL, allowing them to develop a thorough understanding of the inner workings of these systems. They devoted considerable time to examining the legal, ethical, and environmental ramifications of computers in our society. This exploration provided them with a holistic perspective on the subject, enabling them to recognise the broader impact of technology beyond its technical aspects.



In A Level Computer Science, Lower Sixth students studied design implementation. They successfully completed CISCO Networking courses, equipping them with industry-recognised qualifications in networking and cybersecurity. Upper Sixth Computer Science students have successfully completed practical programming assignments that mirror real-world scenarios.

Throughout the academic year, the Lower School Code Club offered pupils an opportunity to explore various programming challenges. Pupils participated in a range of activities to foster interest in cybersecurity careers and computational thinking, enthusiastically participating in the Government's Cyber Discovery competition and the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. During Code Week in December, pupils took part in programming activities, culminating in the exciting House Cipher Challenge competition for Years Seven and Eight.

As the academic year drew to a close, the Computing and IT Department at RGS reflected once more on the remarkable progress made by pupils in their understanding of computer systems, programming languages, and the broader implications of technology. All of these equip them to thrive amidst the challenges of the ever-evolving digital world.



# HUMANITIES FACULTY



## CLASSICS

RGS Worcester's School motto is '*respice et prospice*'. We prefer to translate this as 'Cherish the past, look to the future' – an invitation to reflect on what we have learned and to arm ourselves for future challenges – rather than the more literal and quotidian 'look backwards and look ahead'.

The Classics Department strives to embody this motto, keeping alive the study of the ancient world in ways which remain relevant, engaging, and which arm young people to face a fast-paced, changing modern world. The study of the distant past, whether that is through its literature, its archaeology, or its history, carries a huge number of applications to modern times – enabling a better understanding of politics, a more secure grasp of the interconnectivity of languages, or a fuller appreciation of the literary and cultural milieu from which more recent literature stems. Not to mention, it is fun and interesting per se! In these respects, 2022-23 has been another busy year for the Department. We are now two years post-lockdown, and many of the digital educational advancements which we first saw come to light in 2020 are core, indispensable parts of our teaching – our prescribed texts are fully digitised, while Mr Tanner's Latin shed is now a national phenomenon! We keep alive the study of Classics in the 'Twitterverse', with the #RGSClassics handle amongst the most popular Classics Department Twitter accounts in the country.

We are very proud of our most recent set of results in the Summer 2023 examinations. The headline figures were extremely pleasing: An exceptionally strong 94% of results at Levels 9-7 in GCSE Latin, results across the board at GCSE. In A Level Latin 100% of students gained top grades A\*-A.

This academic year, our students have also impressed with their entries into University Essay Competitions. Ellie Nicholls in the Upper Sixth wrote an assured and exciting essay for the St John's Oxford Classics Essay Competition with an entry on the self-sufficiency of characters in ancient literature. Arianne Eddy in the Lower Sixth, won her category in Ancient History in the same contest with an exceptional piece on historical memory in the works of the ancient authors Herodotus, Tacitus, Livy, and Thucydides. On the Co-curricular front, we have been taken aback by the enthusiasm for the new Classics Club, and it has been heartening to see pupils regularly attending our new Ancient Greek club, where they have been trying their hand at learning some Greek.



# POLITICS

It has been a dynamic year in politics with many significant changes at the top of the political system. During the course of 2022-23, we have welcomed a new monarch, two new Prime Ministers, and numerous Cabinet reshuffles, indicating, once again, that politics is constantly evolving.

In March, our Department organised a series of online conferences in collaboration with Hodder Education. These conferences provided our students with examination advice, examples of best practice for analysing and evaluating political policies, and updated information on the latest policies. Additionally, as part of UK-wide A Level revision, Mrs Harrison held an online session on referendums during the Easter holidays, allowing our students to attend over twenty other lectures by Politics teachers across the country. We are grateful to Mrs Harrison for participating and leading this valuable event.



The Upper and Lower Sixth students visited the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court, something which we try to make a biannual event. During the trip, we participated in a 'How Parliament makes laws' workshop and received a tour around Westminster Hall, the Lobby, and the House of Commons. This experience provided our students with an opportunity to revise the Parliament topic and gain insight from experts who are involved in the day to day running of Parliament. We also visited the Supreme Court, which is becoming increasingly significant in British politics. In local politics, in Worcester in the Autumn, we were fortunate enough to witness Robin Walker (Conservative MP for Worcester), Jacqui Smith (Labour Home Secretary from 2007 to 2009), and Councillor Mel Allcott (Liberal Democrats Unity Group Leader) engage in a debate about the leadership of the Conservative Party, the impact of Brexit, and the energy crisis. This was a thrilling experience that exposed our students to real world political discourse. It has been an exciting 2022-23, and we look forward to the lead up to the General Election next year, as well as increasing coverage of the US Presidential campaigning through the primaries at the start of 2024.





# HISTORY

This year, as a nation, we were able to experience one of the great rituals in British culture – a Coronation. Since 1066, there have only been 39 of these and so, this was undoubtedly a significant moment, made even more so as television cameras allowed unprecedented coverage of the ceremony itself. There was a blend of the traditional, stretching back to the Medieval period, in the regalia and the modern via the music reflecting the new King's hopes for how the Windsor Monarchy can adapt into the 21st century. The History Department at RGS, in looking back, also found many parallels in our teaching to the world today. Whether it was reflecting on Richard I's Coronation in 1189 at GCSE, learning about Soviet attacks on Hungary and Czechoslovakia in the Cold War or considering Civil Rights in the United States, discussions in lessons connected past events to similar ones in the present day or found consequences, unintended or not, of past actions on modern geopolitics.

On a trip led by the Philosophy and Religion Department, we also had the opportunity to visit Worcester Cathedral with Year Seven, providing a chance to 'visit' King John as part of their Medieval studies and learn more about Magna Carta, arguably the foundation document of our rights in the 2000s.

Year Ten travelled up to Staffordshire for their studies on World War I. Hollyanna Hopkins wrote about the trip: "We visited the Staffordshire Regiment Museum where we were able to explore a model trench system, allowing us to gain a deeper understanding of the conditions of the trenches in World War I. A guide dressed as an RAMC Corporal gave us an engaging presentation of the different stages of the evacuation route including carrying a stretcher and trying on some of the different gas masks used throughout the war.

In June, the History Department were privileged to take part in the 'Their Finest Hour' project. This is run by Oxford University as a national project to digitise memories and artefacts from World War II. With events taking place across the UK throughout 2023, the Worcester one was held in our own Perrins Hall. Over 400 photographs of artefacts and many stories were collected. The Lower Sixth historians were fabulous at interviewing Worcester residents who came to tell their memories, and the Years Seven and Eight Digital Leaders did a wonderful job of organising the photography. Between 10.00am and 2.30pm on the day, there was a constant stream of visitors, and their stories were moving, educational and fascinating. The archive itself will be free for anyone to access, opening in time for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in June 2024.





# GEOGRAPHY

The Geography Department have had an exciting year with two new staff joining and Mrs Bishop returning from maternity leave. There were various field trips taking place to introduce pupils to collecting data in both the physical and human environments.

Early in the Michaelmas Term Year Eleven pupils headed to Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire, for the first of two fieldwork days. Three years of fieldwork had been postponed from the GCSE examination due to Covid-19, so it was great to be back out and seeing Geography in action. Despite the river bed being almost dry after a very hot summer, pupils managed to collect data on the width, depth, bed load and velocity. Just before October Half term the same pupils headed to the local area of Diglis to look at the impacts of regeneration to ensure they had the skills and knowledge to complete the fieldwork application paper.

During the Lent Term the Lower Sixth Geographers travelled to the Field Studies Centre in Slapton, Devon for a five day residential to conduct research for their Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). The students explored the rural village of Slapton and Slapton Sands to investigate coastal processes and management along Start Bay, as well as infiltration for the Water and Carbon A Level syllabus topic on contrasting land uses. The students gained essential fieldwork skills as well as the opportunity to collect vital data. A great time was had by all and the pupils were a credit to themselves and the School.

In the Lower School, Year Seven were introduced to a new topic area for this year of Tectonics and some of the students built their own volcanoes that erupted in the playground. Field sketching around the beautiful School site, contour model making, OS map skills, and pop up models are just a few of the learning opportunities that the pupils have enjoyed this academic year.

The Department introduced 'Geographer of the Week' this year to reward excellent attainment and effort which has proved popular amongst pupils, and the 'I love Geography' pencil prize is now quite sought after! The Department is looking forward to our residential trip to Iceland in October 2023 with current GCSE and A Level students.





# PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION



After stunning GCSE and A level results last summer, the Philosophy and Religion Department wanted to build on the success and were delighted to start the year by welcoming Miss Smith to the Department, joining with a wealth of knowledge and ideas to help drive forwards the very best of what Philosophy and Religion can offer. We also planned to refocus the Department more on trips, clubs and activities to enhance pupil learning and remind pupils of the world beyond the classroom. This year we teamed up with the History Department for a trip to Worcester Cathedral for all Year Seven pupils to help enhance their understanding of Christian beliefs and faith as well as appreciate the incredible and important Cathedral on our doorstep. This included a guided tour, holy communion workshop, a history hunt about King John and a workshop on monastic life at the time of King John. A Level students also had the opportunity to visit both the Cathedral and Freedom Church (a local evangelical church), for question and answer sessions with leaders and lay people on their theology, beliefs and practice. These opportunities were such a welcome return and will help enrich pupil's academic studies.

As the School, community and country opened back up, plans were afoot to begin the club we had been planning to launch for the last two years! Model United Nations (MUN) is the largest political debating and roleplaying organisation in the world. Preparing young people for diplomacy and debate by taking on the roles of leaders who not only have to have ideas and knowledge on their subject, but they have to persuade and include others in the spirit of collaboration rather than competition. It is about listening and compromising not dictating, exploring the complexity of issues not just taking a simple 'for or against' position. MUN conferences take place all over the world, as well as closer to home. We have already arranged some debates for next year and held our first team debate with pupils at RGS Dodderhill on the topic of whether there should be global oversight of abortion law.

As well as the local trips, clubs and opportunities, we also wanted to explore further afield and the significance of all that is available in Rome was irresistible. Our Lower Sixth Philosophy and Religious Studies A Level students dusted off their passports and set off to see the sights of Ostia, the Colosseum, the Roman Fountain as well as the majesty and intrigue of the roots of the Christian faith in Europe in the Vatican and the catacombs of St Priscilla; an incredible end to the year.



# BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

In August, the Department was in a celebratory mood as students opened their examination results, which in Business were the best we have seen in recent years, particularly at the top end with a record seven A\*s. We were also able to see the first full cohort certificate in the Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business (CTEC) with 90% achieving either Distinction or Distinction\*. The CTEC has gone from strength to strength in terms of quality of student experience as well as becoming a popular choice for students studying in the Sixth Form at RGS.

The Michaelmas Term began with a fresh cohort of students on all three of the Department's courses, with Lower Sixth Business students enjoying the opportunity to explore a new online trading simulator for those who wanted to learn and explore beyond the classroom experience. We introduced a pilot of the use of a new technology called ANS, an online marking platform which gave students much more detailed feedback and clear next steps of how to make improvements to their examination technique and understanding.

The Upper Sixth Economics cohort were able to take full advantage of the opportunity in November to have a day away from the main School site to Flagge Meadow where they joined the online Economics in Action conference. Being away from the classroom, and in a more corporate environment, set the scene for a range of interactive lectures.

There was a range of lectures linked to the A Level Economics course. Speakers included representatives from The University of Oxford, The LSE, The Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Institute of Economic Affairs, and the Entrepreneurs Network think tank. The students heard about a range of topics such as the economics of Uber, the labour market, economic misconceptions about migration, trade, inflation and finally choice engineering.

During the Lent Term, staff and students were able to explore the new possibilities of AI in supporting their understanding of course content, exploring the economic environment as well as checking the structure of their written work. As the Department continually seeks to develop and harness digital learning tools, it is a very exciting time to be in education.



# PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology A Level continues to provide a stimulating and interesting opportunity for students to explore topics such as memory, attachment and psychopathology. With growing numbers of students choosing to study Psychology, the future is bright for the subject at RGS.

Our Year Eleven Psychology Club has gone from strength to strength, with students being able to delve into concepts such as the psychopath gene, phantom limb syndrome and super recognisers. This refers to individuals who possess above average ability for facial recognition. Year Eleven pupils enjoyed learning about the application of super recognisers who have been used by security services to track offenders, showing how Psychology fits into real life.

Finally, it has been a pleasure to open up some psychological topics to the Lower School through the Billingham Society talks. Following on from our previous Billingham exploration of the factors which affect whether or not one will help in an emergency situation, we have ventured into the field of Biopsychology, considering the effect of sleep on the brain and mental health. These talks have been well attended by many Lower School pupils, who enthusiastically discussed the issues at hand, sparking an early interest in Psychology.



# CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY

## ART

Our creative year began with what has become the traditional visit to the city for the aspiring artists in the Lower Sixth. With the title of their forthcoming exhibition of 'City Life', students gathered visual information both digitally and through sketching and drawing. Architectural sites such as Shrub Hill Station, Diglis Basin and the Cathedral, all familiar places took on a new significance when studied closely and residents and visitors to Worcester were willing sitters for portraits. The exhibition itself was in the Cathedral over February Half-term and it welcomed a stream of visitors and received many compliments, not only reflecting the skill of our young artists, but also the diversity of media used and emerging individual styles.

In the House Art Competition the brief was to design a shield which included a three-dimensional element to represent the House mascot. Judging was difficult but eventually Wylde's ferocious dragon came a close second to Elgar's winning snarling tiger and all shields now adorn Main Hall.

To mark National Holocaust Day in March, we were invited to provide artwork for the commemorative event in the Guildhall. Pupils in Year Ten provided a thought provoking and poignant installation in memory of the survivors and victims of the genocide. Using lino-prints as their medium, the pupils aimed to show the atrocities were indiscriminate of age, social status or gender. The pupils' work was much appreciated by the organisers and Civic Officers.

In February, Year Eleven pupils travelled to Oxford to seek inspiration for their examination portfolios. The city never ceases to impress and the day included photography and drawing in the streets and architectural sites as well as museum visits. The Ashmolean Museum provided a wealth of material from casts of Ancient Greek gods to the contemporary work of the Iraqi artist Dia a-Azzawi, the Museum of Natural History delighted with everything from butterflies to Brontosaurus bones and The Pitt Rivers Museum fascinated with its archaeological and anthropological collections.

Throughout the year the imagination and hard work of our artists has been impressive. Year Seven has built on their Foundations folders, exploring the formal elements as well as digital portraits inspired by Julian Opie. Year Eight have worked in a variety of media, producing illustrative watercolours based on cell formation and quirky masks inspired by Science Fiction and Steampunk. Year Nine has worked with gestural mark-making to paint seascapes inspired by Kurt Jackson.

Lower School Art Club is thriving with pupils having the opportunity to work in different processes to that undertaken in class and this year we have successfully launched our Draw Breath Club which gives pupils the opportunity to relax and enjoy some mindfulness creativity. Collaborating with Gardening Club, Tom McElhannan, Year Seven, worked in ceramics to produce a Green Man as part of 'The Secret Garden' RGS's exhibit at the RHS Malvern Spring Garden Show.

At end of the Trinity term, we enjoyed exhibiting work at the Creative Arts Festival showcasing the work of our talented artists.





# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

It has been excellent to say goodbye to the legacies left by Covid, with all things returning to normal in Design Technology this academic year. This meant all examination classes were back to full manufacture of their designs. Once again, it has been an exceptionally busy year, with some outstanding work produced. The Upper Sixth students have led the way designing and making teaching lecterns right through to adjustable rowing boat stands. Year Eleven pupils produced excellent pieces of modern furniture for the home. Creativity has abounded with pupils tackling their pieces with enthusiasm and determination.

Greenpower Racing has continued to enthuse and inspire the next generation of budding engineers. The first race of the season took place at the iconic Goodwood Motor Circuit. With 87 cars whizzing around the track and a Spitfire roaring overhead the team finished in a fantastic 6th place. The following race at Mallory Race track really proved the team's abilities when they finished 3rd. The international final was held back at Goodwood. The team finished a highly commendable 14th out of the 83 that had qualified for this event, including one team all the way from Brazil! This bodes well for next season with a new car really now taking shape. Boundaries and skills of pupils (and teachers at times!) are really being pushed as the team grapple with new technologies and materials.

Rupert Hobson deserves a special mention having gained a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship: a highly competitive award given to engineers of the future. With now only around 300 awarded nationally he did extremely well to gain the award, with a number of other Year Eleven pupils also performing well during the selection process.

Mr Holt took on the mantle from Miss Marsh of leading the Gardening Club. Preparation began early in the year for their entry into the RHS Malvern Spring Show in May. The ever-growing group of pupils from Years Seven to Nine designed a garden around Frances Burnett's book 'The Secret Garden'. A two metre high wall was constructed in the Department allowing both types of gardens written about in the book to be designed and planted up by the pupils. With many of the plants grown from seed, it really was a hive of activity, with meticulous planning required.

These snippets, together with a whole host of other things in which the Design Technology Department have been involved, demonstrate how design, manufacture and engineering are really flourishing at all levels throughout RGS.





# TEXTILES

Once again, we hosted the regional final for the Young Fashion Designer UK Competition in October where we had the opportunity to showcase excellent work from across the Midlands in the GCSE and A Level categories. Both Teyah Farmer and Erin Howard represented the School and each received a prize for their excellent work as selected by industry professionals who judge the Competition. In June, we welcomed talented pupils from across the region to take part in an experience day that included a workshop and portfolio presentation from previous winners and who now have successful careers in the fashion industry. Frankie Reed was selected as one of twelve finalists from over 150 entries; she too received a prize for her work.

Five of our pupils were selected as finalists in the Fashion Icon National competition where the theme 'Thrift Flip: Bridal to Carnival' provided inspiration for the pupils to research, develop and present a final design idea. Year Nine pupils, Heidi Porter and Isabelle Lowe were invited along with Grace Horrocks in Year Ten and Isabella Price and Teyah Farmer in Lower Sixth. Each of the pupils then had two months to make their final piece to exhibit. With RGS pupils making up five of the ten finalists, it was a very special event. We were delighted that Isabella Price was awarded third place, Isabelle Lowe second place and Teyah Farmer first place overall.







Year Ten pupils enjoyed a workshop with Alumnae Sophie Wynne-Owen as she demonstrated the technique of creating a pattern piece by draping fabric using the mannequin. This technical skill was enjoyed by all of the pupils who combined the research from their visit to The Hive where their photographs and sketches provided inspiration to develop a silhouette that reflected the modern architecture.

Lower Sixth students took part in a creative workshop provided by Hereford College of Arts. Flett Bertram and Manuel Gross delivered an inspiring talk and practical workshop in the areas of Textiles and Photography. This provided the opportunity for students to develop pieces of work that could be incorporated into their portfolios in preparation for University interviews, as well as giving an insight into University courses available in the creative subjects.



The students also enjoyed a trip to London to gather research and inspiration for their forthcoming Personal Investigations. The Alexander McQueen exhibition was a particular highlight and the V&A historical fashion collection has developed an understanding of garment silhouette, fabrics and the history of fashion design. All of the pupils have enjoyed the opportunity to showcase their work on the catwalk as part of the Creative Arts Festival. With a wide variety of pieces from Year Nine, GCSE and A Level pupils providing a colourful display as well as showing a broad range of complex skills in pattern cutting, fabric manipulation, pattern and print.





# MUSIC

Academic Music has continued to put music-making and listening at its core, with successful Class Bands made by each Form in Years Seven and Eight and ensemble playing in Key Stage Four lessons. The GCSE and A Level pupils have once again created a fascinating array of compositions, with GCSE work this year including Electronic Dance Music ('EDM') to be danced to at a rave, a soundtrack to a horror film, music to accompany skaters at a dance festival, a saxophone ensemble piece tracing the tale of Icarus and Daedalus and a piece for trombone and piano charting the use of an iPad throughout the day.

Accompanying the academic lessons has been our usual suite of Teatime Concerts, offering pupils in each Year group the chance to present solo and small-group items in an informal setting in Perrins Hall. This year has seen excellent performances from all Year groups, with the organ featuring in the Year Eight Teatime Concert and several pop song duets given by Year Seven. The Sixth Form's comparable 'Showcase' performance took place in October, expertly compèred and organised by the Lower Sixth Music Scholars.

As well as lessons and soloist concerts, our Academic Music has been enriched this year by several concert trips. The GCSE Music pupils enjoyed seeing one of their set works Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, in October, whilst many from Lower School attended a daytime concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra who explored music inspired by the natural world. A Friday evening trip to Symphony Hall in June to see a 'Best of Broadway' concert and a lunchtime recital given in nearby St George's Church, which was given by our oboe teacher Ms Brawn with her daughter and RGS alumna Isabella Hulbert, rounded off an enjoyable year of concert trips for our pupils.









# CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC



This year's grandest concert, 'A Call to Peace', took place in Worcester Cathedral in March and saw over 250 performers from all four RGS Schools present a programme of music in the pursuit of peace. A new string composition by Upper Sixth Music Scholar Tobey Butler and songs presented by all RGS Choirs preceded the Concert's climax: a powerful performance of the choral suite from Karl Jenkins' 'The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace' for choir and full orchestra. Worcester Cathedral also hosted our annual and ever-popular traditional Carol Service, a lunchtime recital given by our Sixth Form musicians, uplifting songs performed by Senior Choir at the School's Commemoration Service and, finally, St Richard's Hospice's reflective 'Lights of Love' service at which our Chamber Choir were once again privileged to sing.

Our other major concert venue, Perrins Hall on the RGS Worcester site, played host to several impressive concerts. The sold-out Autumn Concert in November closed with a particularly poignant performance of Coldplay's 'Fix You' by our largest ever Senior Choir, whilst Christmas with the Big Band featured the debut performance of our Junior Jazz ensemble. The Spring Ensembles Concert offered an enthusiastic platform for our smaller ensembles, whilst the Piano and Vocal Masterclasses and Recitals each saw a visiting professional soloist perform and work with our pupils. The ever-popular and energising Cabaret Evening was once again fronted by incredible Sixth Form vocal soloists and the Big Band, and a special concert for Ukraine was organised by Year Ten Music Scholar Sasha Penlington. 'Let's Sing: Worcester' saw singers from seven local primary schools raise the roof together in song in May, and on two other occasions our wind players performed to children from other local primary schools to show them the joy of music.

The Chamber Choir sang an excellent Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral in April, including Holst's fiendish 'Nunc Dimittis', a favourite of the singers this year, in their repertoire. Other concerts have included a mass string ensemble performance in Pershore Abbey, two concerts with singers from Opera Worcester and a vibrant House Music Competition. Hours of private and group practice have enabled all of these performances to take place in what has been a very successful musical year.







# DRAMA

It was an exciting start to the academic year with Mr Garrity joining the Department and taking responsibility for Lower School Drama. Years Seven and Eight began by displaying superb performances of 'The Jabberwocky' and emotive movement pieces telling their stories of 'War'. Year Nine started by studying Frantic Assembly and producing duologues and this was followed by Stage Combat training and devised pieces based on an extract from 'The Great Wave', which was performed in front of an audience of friends and family.

Year Ten pupils were introduced to different performance styles looking at the theories of Stanislavski, Brecht and Artaud before beginning their devised pieces to the themes of 'The Plague' and 'The First Nations'. The classes then explored the text 'The Crucible'. Year Eleven pupils finished the course in March with monologues, duologues and group performances from various texts.

The A Level cohort visited Cornwall to support their study of Antigone and preparation for their devised performances using the practitioner Kneehigh.

Students devised performance pieces on Porthcurno beach and travelled to Truro in Cornwall to watch the fantastic 'Six' the musical. In May, the Lower Sixth also travelled to Haworth in Yorkshire for a study weekend to support their exploration of the Component One text 'Brontë' by Polly Teale. The Lower Sixth students' devised pieces and Upper Sixth students' adapted performance of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray', in the style of Grotowski, were outstanding. The Lower Sixth students completed both their Component Three Extract One and Two performances in Trinity term and repeated their monologues at the Creative Arts Festival.

We would like to wish our Drama and Theatre Upper Sixth students the very best of luck in their onward journeys and congratulate them for being offered places at University, with four continuing their study of Drama.





# CO-CURRICULAR DRAMA



'Zorro the Musical' was one of the most exciting, vibrant and demanding musicals that RGS has ever tackled. The production started to take shape at the beginning of the academic year with a full day pre-season read and sing through. As November arrived the superb cast performed a six show run to sold-out audiences and standing ovations.

The DIY Drama Company, this year with another record number of Scholars, met for their audition afternoon in early December and this led to the cast of 'Hamlet' being announced. With such a wealth of talent now at RGS, the production was double cast and ran for four nights with alternate casts each night. It was commented on as being a 'remarkable' piece of theatre adapted to fit the Viking theme and transforming the theatre into 'Valhalla', with the scenery demonstrating the decay of Denmark.

The year ended with the summer production, 'The Wind in the Willows' which demonstrated the skills of our younger performers and Mr Garrity's first production as Director, ably accompanied by the Lower Sixth Drama students. It was a brilliant piece of theatre and cleverly staged using AI images for the scenery with the technical side superbly led by Mr Graeme.

As well as productions, the Department visited the RSC in Stratford to watch 'Richard III' in September and 'A Christmas Carol' in November. The Sixth Form students also took part in the Cornwall residential trip in September and joined with Lower Sixth English Students on a trip to Haworth, Yorkshire to explore the Bronte Sisters for their study of Polly Teale's 'Brontë' and Gothic Literature. The end of the year saw an evening production for the Year Seven Drama Club on the theme of 'Friendship' - an enthusiastic group of young performers who are showing great promise for the future - and our Lower Sixth performing their monologues at the Creative Arts Festival.



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Throughout the year, the PE Department organised a range of events, enriching the students' experiences. Renowned guest speakers offered inspiration and valuable insights. Donna Kennedy, an esteemed former Rugby player and coach, shared her incredible journey, Max Whittle, an alumnus, kindled the students' passions with his stories of pursuing sports journalism.

Another highlight included the Sixth Form Academic PE students embarking on a visit to the University of Bath. They explored the state-of-the-art facilities and witnessed theory transforming into practice in the Sports Science laboratory. Engaging in activities like the Wingate Anaerobic Test and dynamic strength training, the students experienced first-hand the application of concepts learned throughout their studies.

Another notable highlight included the Year Ten GCSE PE pupils visiting the 'Careers in Sport' event held at Edgbaston Stadium. It offered a unique opportunity to witness the inner workings of a professional sports club and gain insight into various roles and responsibilities. The interactive activities and first-hand exposure to the club's operations left a lasting impression on the pupils.

Moreover, RGS Worcester has provided opportunities for the development of leadership skills. The Community Sports Leadership award during Enrichment sessions provided students with a platform to showcase their leadership abilities. BTEC Sport students took charge, teaching Core PE groups, while A Level PE students visited RGS Springfield to observe theory in action and engage with Prep school pupils. These experiences fostered leadership qualities while allowing students to reflect on the application to theory.

The latest cohorts successfully completed their Physical Education examinations. The significant rise in the number of participants across the PE courses, including GCSE, BTEC, CTEC, and A Level PE, underscores the growing enthusiasm for academic PE. In A Level PE over 27% of students entered achieved top grades A\*-A in A Level PE.





# SPORT FACULTY

## FOOTBALL

There was much excitement as we embarked on another campaign across all ages, with Boys' and Girls' Football. There was a little uncertainty about how the flagship 1st XI squad would shape up. It certainly felt like we were starting from scratch with the formation, personnel and style of play.

After a tough baptism at Malvern College in early January, the squad flourished with one of the toughest first half term blocks on the independent schools' circuit. They lost only once more, with strong performances against Bristol Grammar School, Bromsgrove, Princethorpe, Hereford, The Chase, Baxter College and Arrow Vale. In the season finale in the Under 18 Worcestershire Schools Cup Semi-final the team came close but eventually lost on penalties.

The squad showed excellent quality and resilience on many occasions as well as coming from behind in some challenging circumstances. The highlight of the season for the players was definitely the dominant performance in the Challenge Cup victory against King's School in front of a record crowd of enthusiastic spectators. After a goalless first half, the team returned to dominate possession and territory and deservedly secured a 2-0 win under the leadership of the Captain, Kobe Chikosi.

The School Football programme continues to grow as is evidenced by our ability to field four Boys' Senior teams and Girls' representative teams at all age groups between Under 12 to Under 16. Our Under 15 boys have been involved in many competitive matches with notable scalps against Malvern and King's, although they needed better execution in front of goal and discipline when defending to put more games away.





# RUGBY

Rugby had a very promising season, being victorious in 60 of the 117 fixtures played. The diligent work and commitment from players, staff and coaches had a tremendous impact, and the highlights of the season were our successful Lower School and the winning of the Modus Cup by the 1st XV squad.

The Under 12s showed strength in depth with A-D teams consistently taking the field and 30 pupils representing the highly successful A team. The Under 12Bs had a tremendous season, going unbeaten. The Under 13s made major improvements having lost to King's Worcester 6-5 a year ago to then beat the same group a year later 13-1.

The Under 14s and Under 15s had promising seasons, although impacted by injury and opposition ability, there were convincing victories and also some challenging encounters, both of which will prove beneficial in their long-term development. Once these Year groups combine with the Lower School Year groups, it should prove to be an exciting time for Rugby at RGS.







At Senior level the 2nd XV had impressive victories over Collegiate School, Dean Close and Bristol Grammar School. The Under 16s were renamed the 3rd XV and were supported by some of our Under 17 players. Although they had a tough season, they did record consecutive victories at the tail end of the season.

At 1st XV level, an inconsistent season was eclipsed by the Modus Cup victory. The 20-17 victory over King's School Worcester highlighted the hard work that the players and staff put into a four week period, training during the Half term to ensure they were prepared for the fixture. The impact on the School from lifting the Modus Cup was eye opening and every player involved in the Senior training squad played their part in that amazing moment.

Some notable recognition and honours that we are extremely proud of include:

International: Loïc Keasey-England Under 18s (3 Caps); Hainelea Lutui-England Women Under 18s (6 Nations Squad) and Daniel Halkon-Scotland Under 17s.

Regional, West Midlands Academy: Harvey Shaw-Under 16s; Liam Chadwick, Noah Whitbread, Tom Bunyan-Under 15s; and Azaan Khalid, Max Kilby, Freddie Fletcher, Lucas Bray, Oscar Ward-Under 14s.

The RGS Rugby 7s programme had a successful Lent term. The season culminated in the annual Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s Tournament with our Under 14, Under 16, Under 18 Boys and Under 18 Girls all giving a good account of themselves on the national stage. The work rate for each other and the team, complemented by a strong desire to do well, were the foundations for a positive week. We won seven out of twelve group fixtures, and the girls qualified for day two, a tremendous achievement in only the second year since the introduction of Girls' Rugby.

Overall the School made 2 Plate Semi-finals, 2 Cup Semi-finals, 5 Plate Finals and 1 Cup Final.

The highlights of the Rugby 7s season included lifting silverware at both the Under 12 King's Macclesfield and Under 14 Old Swinford Hospital Tournaments, and the Under 18 Girls progressing to day two of Rosslyn Park.



# GIRLS' HOCKEY

The Senior Hockey tour to Barbados in July provided the opportunity for both 1st and 2nd XIs to unite on and off the pitch, as they experienced the fantastic culture of a wonderful country. The School season opened with an extremely challenging set of matches against RGS Newcastle, playing for the annual RGS trophy. The 1st XI played the annual alumnae fixture against players still playing for local teams as well as national league sides, demonstrating that RGS Hockey instils a lifelong love for the sport.

The 1st XI began their England Hockey Cup competition in the West region amongst 32 schools, winning five rounds in a row to be crowned champions of the West and secure a place in the National Cup Semi-final. This was played away against an extremely talented Sevenoaks side and in true RGS style, even when 5 goals behind, the girls showed resilience and passion to clinch a reconciliation goal in the final moments of the match.

The Under 18 and Under 16 teams both qualified for the Regional Indoor Finals. At the Finals, the Under 18s finished runners up having beaten Bromsgrove, King's School and Oakham but eventually losing to national title holders, Repton School.

The Under 15A team played fifteen games, some against challenging opposition that extended and stretched their ability. They achieved some notable wins against Bablake & King Henry VIII School, Hereford Cathedral School and Cheltenham Ladies' College. We consistently fielded an Under 15B team throughout the season, who played with enthusiasm, camaraderie and enjoyment.

Our Under 14 age group demonstrated their strength and depth of ability with lots of movement between A and B squads throughout the season. The Under 14A team made a very positive start to their 11-a-side Hockey beating Collegiate School, early in the season, and then went on to qualify through the County Tournament and win at the Regional Zone. At the Regional Finals, they won and lost a game, missing out on the Semi-finals by a goal difference of one.

In the Junior age groups we fielded Under 12A to F and Under 13A to D teams, providing opportunities for all girls to play. The A and B team results included some convincing wins, with both Under 12A and Under 13A narrowly missing out on a place in their Regional Finals. Both the Under 12B and Under 13B teams were victorious and crowned County champions. In total, the girls played over 100 matches, winning and drawing over 70%.

We also had 25 pupils selected for the Under 13 and Under 15 Worcestershire County squads which enjoyed success at Regional tournaments. Eden Williamson, Teyah Farmer, Amelia Bentley-Hughes were also selected for the Under 17 Regional Talent Academy. Ellie Nicholls, the 1st XI Captain, and Alice Atkinson continued to play national league club Hockey, alongside Miss Bennett, and Alice was a member of the England Under 18 squad, spending her summer playing matches across Europe. More recently she gained selection into the GB Elite Development Programme and onto a pathway that provides a clear line of sight to senior international Hockey through GB Under 21 fixtures.

# BOYS' HOCKEY

In Boys' Hockey, Years Seven to Nine attended training. They also enjoyed the introduction of competitive midweek matches.

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!

The annual Under 18 Boys v Girls match was again played in excellent spirit. A 1-1 draw meant the trophy was shared this year.







# GOLF

In our first Golf fixture of the year, we faced St Edwards' School, Oxford at Lilley Brook Golf Club in Cheltenham. Josh Griffiths, Will Dancox and Sydney Blanchenot battled hard throughout the round, but unfortunately, only Sydney came out victorious after some bad luck for the boys against some strong opponents.

This meant we entered the Plate competition and, after a long, cold and wet winter without Golf, we played Abingdon School at the Vale Golf Club in Pershore, with Eleanor Dicken joining the team. Eleanor proved to be the difference and victories from Eleanor and Sydney meant that RGS came out victorious and secured a place in the Regional Plate Final against Dean Close.

The Final proved a step too far for the team, despite Josh battling from several shots down to clinch a win. Unfortunately, the two girls were up against some strong opponents with considerably lower handicaps and both came off second best. Mr Davis also clinched a moral victory against the Dean Close member of staff but unfortunately, his score didn't count towards the team result.

The future of RGS Golf is very bright with three strong Year Eleven pupils progressing into the Sixth Form next year. It is also especially pleasing to see two incredibly strong female golfers flying the RGS flag and proving that "these girls certainly can".





# FENCING

It has been a busy year for the Fencing Club at RGS, with over 30 fencers participating in the main club and a small group of serious competitors travelling the country, collecting medals and accolades.

The year got off to a good start in October with Matt Fallows and Zara Martin-Green winning their respective Under 19 events at the Warwick Age Group Épée and in December we hosted our annual mass participation team competition which was bigger than ever with 95 fencers forming 37 teams. This event was in part made possible by ex-pupils returning to help with the refereeing.

Next came the 'Elite Épée Grand Finals', open to the top eight fencers after a year of ranking competitions. Both Lucas Hancock and Zara Martin-Green had done enough to qualify in their age group with Lucas finishing in 3rd place.

February saw five of our fencers qualifying for the 'British Youth Championships' national age group finals by medalling in the West Midlands Age Groups. Lucas Hancock and Matt Fallows in the Under 18s, Joe Kington and Zara Martin-Green in the Under 16s and Issy Pottinger in the Under 14s.

We took a squad of four to London for the Public Schools Fencing Championships in March with former RGS pupil Will Osborne joining us to referee. Issy Pottinger and Joseph Kington both achieved last 16s in Épée.

Zara Martin-Green deserves a special mention for qualifying as a British Fencing referee and also competing in her first Cadet International as part of the GB Development Squad in Copenhagen. At Easter she fenced in the Birmingham International (an adult event) where she was knocked out in the last 32 by ex RGS fencer, Danielle Lawson, who went on to finish 5th. Danielle finished 3rd the following weekend in the British Senior Championships.

It is fantastic to see our fencers being competitive at local, national, and international level, but also to see them continuing their sport beyond the School, and even more heartening to see them continuing to return to RGS to help build the legacy of Fencing within the School.







# NETBALL

Netball at RGS Worcester has thrived this year. From the 1st VII being crowned Superball and County Champions to face paint and fun at Year Seven House Netball, there really has been a great contribution from all pupils across the board.

The Senior section enjoyed great success this year. January saw the 1st VII become the Under 19 Worcestershire County Champions after an incredibly impressive afternoon and dominant display of Netball (a feat which hasn't been achieved by an RGS side for quite a number of years). The undoubted highlight was seeing both our 1st and 2nd teams being victorious in the annual Superball derby, winning 31-21 and 41-36, respectively. Lifting the Superball trophy in front of a 1,300 strong crowd was a moment that both pupils, staff and supporters will remember for a long time to come. It was a real emblem of the passion and grit our Senior teams have shown throughout this 2023 season.

The Junior sections also trained incredibly hard this year. The Under 12 pupils in particular showed a real keenness for Netball and, as a result, we were able to field A to G teams regularly - a true demonstration of their enthusiasm to learn and compete as part of the RGS Family. A number of Senior Netballers volunteered their time to help with our younger age groups in order to support their development and share their knowledge and expertise. They have been great role models and made a hugely positive contribution to RGS Netball.



There have been various notable personal achievements from pupils making the Severn Stars NPL squads: Isabelle Thompson at Under 19, Ella Goddard at Under 17, Jess Lowe - PDP, Eden Williamson - PDP, Maddison Lavoipierre - PDP and Issy Churchill, Bella Heywood, Zara Pepperdine all joining the Nova Academy. We are very proud of all of the girls' achievements and are excited to see what they can accomplish in the future.

*"It has been a true pleasure to lead RGS Netball for the past three years. Thank you to the staff and parents for all the support you have provided. Mostly, thank you to the girls for your unwavering enthusiasm, passion and teamwork – you have all been incredible and I wish you every success in the future"* - Miss Ellie Gibbons, Head of Netball





# BOYS' CRICKET

The Year Seven pupils became increasingly competitive in their fixtures with a nail-biting win against Bromsgrove School where Will Terry took four wickets in one over, including a hat-trick. Yuvraj Kang, Rapha Rea and Will Terry were standout performers.

The Year Eight pupils reached the Midlands Final of the Under 13 National Cup, with Charlie Taylor (who represented the 1st XI) starring with two big centuries, beating Hereford Cathedral and Northampton Schools.

In the Middle School, the Year Nine pupils, led by George Heywood, beat Malvern College to progress in the County Cup as well as comfortably beating King's School. Along with George, Azaan Khalid and Beanth Loyal have really prospered with both bat and ball.

In Year Ten, George McMillan transitioned to the first team squad, Ellis Williamson scored a hundred and Harry Harkness took five wickets against King's School.

The Year Eleven pupils formed a core part of the 1st XI with Tom Odell, Freddie Ammonds, Harvey Shaw, George Hallam and Fionn Baker all performing with consistency.

The 1st XI season saw a mix of performances with victories against Warwick, Dean Close and Sandwell College as well as progressing to Round 3 in the National T20 Cup. It was the game against King's School, however, that really showed the side's capability with a School record of 387 runs being amassed before reducing King's to 100/5 until torrential rain caused an abandonment. Of the 387, 131 were scored by Freddie Ammonds and 139 by Zak Crowther-Green in amassing a first wicket partnership of 239.

The conclusion of this season was winning four out of five matches at the RGS Schools' Cricket festival to ultimately finish joint winners along with High Wycombe and Lancaster. This was our first win since 2017. A tight and nail-biting victory against the previously undefeated Lancaster defending 119 was undoubtedly the highlight of the week. Pleasingly, with his haul of 15 wickets in the 5 games, next year's Captain Tom Odell was named young player (Under 16) of the week. He was also subsequently selected to represent MCC Schools against the English Schools' Cricket Association at Lord's in September, a notable achievement given the MCC side was selected from 2800 boys who played against MCC this summer and went on to win the match.





# GIRLS' CRICKET

Throughout the year, Cricket has been incredibly successful in introducing girls to the basics of the game, as well as developing the skills of those who already have high levels of experience in playing matches for either local clubs or counties. Growing numbers of girls have taken the opportunities offered to train in early morning and lunchtime sessions throughout the Lent term, proving their dedication and work ethic to improve their skills, while also showing their love and passion for the sport.

The Under 14 pupils kicked off the campaign with a closely fought encounter against RGS Dodderhill, losing by just three runs. This was followed up with a fantastic win against a strong Solihull side by 33 runs, with a stand out all round performance from Daisy Williams who made 32 not out with the bat and 1-7 off two overs with the ball. It was performances like this that saw her earn a well-deserved call up to the Girls 1st XI later in the season.

The Under 15 pupils faced some challenging opponents in their matches against King's School and Malvern, but the undoubted highlight of the season was their victory over a very good Cheltenham Ladies' College side in a game that went down to the penultimate ball. We restricted Cheltenham to 131 off their 20 overs with Orla Hession-Wilson the stand-out bowler with figures of 2-19 off her four overs. Then came an outstanding chase, with Abi Haldane anchoring the innings superbly batting all 20 overs for 30 not out, and Fynn Butler smashing 53 retired not out off just 30 balls to give us a chance of achieving the target. With 12 runs required off the final over, in came Ava Bond-Evans who hit three consecutive boundaries to win the game with a ball to spare.



It was a similar story for our 1st XI who endured difficult losses at the start of the season. Nevertheless, after showing steady improvement throughout the summer, the girls managed a resounding win over Wycliffe College by 76 runs, with contributions from Abi Haldane, Keira Higgins, Fynn Butler and Daisy Williams to reach an impressive 178 off 20 overs. We then restricted Wycliffe to just 102-8 with Holly Potter finishing with figures of 2-9 off her 4 overs.

The foundations have now been laid and, with a long winter of training and preparation, I have no doubt that next season will see further improvements and many more successes for the girls across all Year groups.





# ATHLETICS

The Athletics season at RGS Worcester started off during the Lent term, with multiple competitions across the various age groups. The Year Eight Boys competed in the Worcestershire School Games Sports Hall Athletics, where they had a successful day, finishing third overall.

The first outdoor competition of the year took Year Ten pupils over to Bromsgrove School for a competitive open meet. Following this, the Years Nine and Ten Girls went to Marlborough College to compete in their first meeting of the year. Both meetings saw lots of fast runs, big jumps and long throws.

Four teams headed back to Bromsgrove for the first round of the Track and Field Cup. A great day of Athletics saw our Junior Girls Team qualify for the Midland A Final to represent the School at Regional level.

The Year Nine pupils had a successful competition at Nunnery Wood when several pupils won events at the Worcester City District Championships qualifying to represent Hereford and Worcestershire at the County Schools Athletics Championships. These Championships saw two Gold Medals for Maxwell Moses and Will Higgs in the Long Jump and High Jump, victories which earned them a place on the Hereford and Worcestershire Schools Team at the Mason Trophy. Poppy Parker and Dylan Teasdale were also selected for the Mason Trophy in the 100m and 3000m.







The Years Seven and Eight teams then had their chance to compete in the Junior District Championships with a team of 34 pupils taking part and 12 pupils qualifying for the Junior County Schools Championships.

Worthy of special mention was Alex Houchin's selection to represent Great Britain Under 20s in the 400m and 4x400m Relay. This followed his 4th place at the Under 20s National Championships when he ran a personal best of 47.69 seconds. At the Mannheim International Meeting in Germany, Alex finished 5th fastest in the individual event whilst securing another personal best of 47.62. He then went on to run the first leg of the 4x400m relay, and Alex and his team-mates not only won Gold but they set a new record (3.07.69) for the meeting.

The season culminated in some very competitive Sports Days with some friendly and colourful inter-House rivalry on display.

As we see increasing numbers of pupils continuing their Athletics at local clubs such as Worcester Athletics Club we look forward to building on what has been a very successful year in 2023.



# ROWING

The season started with an injection of over 25 Year Nine pupils starting in September. Training sessions began on land and water, aimed at enhancing technique, building stamina and improving overall performance.

Competitions started in October with Evesham Junior Head and a win for the Open Junior 18 Coxless Quad along with many strong results across the board. After good results at Evesham, the rowers headed to their training camp in Portugal to boost their winter training.

At Wycliffe Small Boats Head there was a win in the Open Junior (OJ)18 Quadruple Sculls and in the Women's Junior (WJ)18 Single Scull. The term was rounded off with the annual Mince Pie Head of the River Race where the rowers and coaches all dressed in Christmas themed fancy dress.

At Wycliffe's Big Head, the WJ15 Coxed Quadruple Scull achieved 7th, the OJ15 Coxed Quadruple Scull achieved 5th place and two crews entered the OJ 18 Coxless Quads. The first boat came 5th and a second crew finished 10th.

Back on home water at Worcester Head of the River the Boat Club achieved a win in the WJ18 4x- sculled by Lucy Whiteley, Menna Sutton, Rhiannon Griffiths and Esther Clayton.

At the West Midlands Championships the Boat Club produced strong performances with Matthew Smith and Harry Rutter winning the OJ18 Double Scull and Esther Clayton, Charlotte Griffiths, Poppy Pinfield and Jasmine Day the WJ18 Quadruple Scull. Lucy Whiteley raced well to achieve a second place behind Olivia Hodgson in the WJ16 Single Scull and Menna Sutton achieved third in a very competitive field.

Two Championship Coxless Quadruple Sculls attended the School's Head on the iconic Boat Race course in March and, of the 55 boats entered in the event, the two RGS crews achieved credible 38th and 50th places. After qualifying to represent the West Midlands at the Junior Inter Regional Regatta, Olivia Hodgson raced in the Junior 16 Single Scull and won the Gold medal in the A final.

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend the rowers attended three Regattas. First was Evesham where RGS won three events: WJ16 1x (Olivia Hodgson), WJ16 2x (Olivia Hodgson and Lucy Whiteley) and the WJ15 2x Band Two (Zoe Pope and Hollyanna Hopkins). This resulted in RGS winning the Victor Ludorum. Wallingford was next for the boys quad, and then 5 crews raced at the Junior Sculling Regatta. Olivia continued her impressive form and won a Bronze medal in the A final.

At the Shrewsbury Regatta, Lucy and Olivia won the Final of the WJ16 Double Scull and then both won through to make it an all RGS WJ16 1x Final, which Olivia won by just 2.5 lengths.







At the Worcester Regatta, 20 RGS crews came away with 4 event wins, 4 second places and a number of Semi-finals. RGS won the OJ18 Coxless Quad, W J18 and J16 Single Scull and the WJ18 Double Scull. A special mention must go to the outstanding display of sculling from James Ford and Will Cartwright who lost the Final of the J15 Double Scull by just 3 feet.

Three crews competed at the National Schools' Regatta in the Championships Coxless Quadruple Sculls, Second Open Coxless Quadruple Sculls and 2nd Girls Quadruple Sculls and greatly enjoyed the experience. At the Stratford -Upon-Avon Junior Regatta Menna Sutton and Zara Povey won the WJ18 Double Scull. The same pair also won the D Final at the British Rowing Junior Championships, where the OJ18 Quadruple scull raced superbly in their C Final recording a time which would have won the B Final. The OJ18 Double Scull of James Robinson and Joshua Marks raced well as did the WJ18 Quadruple Scull of Poppy Pinfield, Esther Clayton, Annalise Rice and Charlotte Griffiths.

This year we say farewell to a large Upper Sixth group who have committed fully to the Boat Club and their contribution will be felt for years to come. It is superb to see so many continuing their Rowing after leaving RGS.



# CROSS-COUNTRY

This season has been a busy and successful one for Cross-country with many significant achievements for both teams and individuals.

In October, the Under 13 girls showed the first signs of what was to become an excellent year for them by winning the Abberley Hall competition. This was closely followed by the first round of the ESAA team Cross-country competition held at Bromsgrove School.

For the first time in recent years, we had sufficient runners to compete in the Senior as well as the Junior and Intermediate age categories, with the Junior boys, Junior girls and Senior boys teams all qualifying for the Regional Finals.

Against stiff opposition from across the West Midlands, the Junior Girls' team of Claudia Barker, Evie Kilby, Fleur Higgs, Flo Kelly, Immy Warne and Lexi Agoston put in a tremendous performance to finish 3rd and earn a place at the National Finals in Leeds! After an early start from Worcester, the team showed great speed, determination and endurance around a tough course and achieved a very impressive 11th place overall nationally.

The Cross-country races for individuals started in November, with 40 pupils competing in the District Championships at RGS The Grange. Our running talent was evident, with RGS winners in five of the six age categories! In total, 18 pupils qualified for the County Championships and, of these, 5 were then selected to represent Herefordshire and Worcestershire at the National Championships. Well done to Evie Kilby (Year Seven), Lexi Agoston (Year Eight), Jonathan Abbots (Year Nine), Dylan Teasdale (Year Eleven) and Luke Jones (Lower Sixth) on achieving this accolade.

To round off the season, the Under 13 teams took part in the Abberley Hall relays, with the boys finishing 3rd and the girls rounding off a highly successful year in style with Lexi Agoston setting a course lap record on the way to another convincing team victory over their rivals.





# EQUESTRIAN

Prior to the Michaelmas term, the RGS riders enjoyed success competing their horses and ponies over the summer with Cleo Whitbread coming 3rd out of 51 competitors in the Eventer Challenge competition at Rectory Farm. Lily Smart and her pony Trixi came sixth at the School Equestrian Games Eventing National Championships in the 80cm class, with a dressage score of 32.5 followed by a double clear with 1.2 time penalties on the Cross-country.

Over the summer Jemima Shaw was selected to represent the BE Central 2\* Under 18 team at the National Youth Eventing Championships. The team went on to become the National Under 18 2\* champions.

At the National Schools Equestrian Association Show Jumping at Allens Hill in February we had nine girls compete across five different classes, with many individual placings.

The main highlights of the day were both the 80cm and 90cm teams winning their classes and gaining qualification for the National County Showjumping Championships at Hickstead.

At the Hickstead National Schools Finals, the team of Hannah Darby, Lilliana Sprigg and Ellen McGettigan had a fantastic result coming 2nd out of 27 County teams from across the UK in the LeMieux Intermediate 90-95cm Team Eventers' Challenge Championship. With unfortunate injuries to Cleo Whitbread and Lily Smart's ponies, it meant the team had to compete as a three person team, with all three scores counting.

With riders from RGS Dodderhill and RGS The Grange also having similar success at events, it is brilliant to see the RGS hat silks and saddle cloths on display at competitions across the region and we hope to continue increasing the number of individuals and teams riding for RGS in the future.





# SWIMMING

In September 2022, RGS Worcester Swimming teams participated in the ESSA Regional Qualifying competition, where all three age groups performed very well. Several pupils achieved medals at County and Regional events through their clubs, and some even achieved National Qualifying times.

The Junior Squads had particular success as they qualified in the following places in the country: the Junior Boys Freestyle Relay team was 28th and the Medley Relay team was 14th. The Junior Girls Freestyle and Medley Relay were 9th. This resulted in all four teams being invited to the National Finals at the London Aquatic Centre on Saturday 19 November.

Competing in the venue for the 2012 London Olympics, there were understandable nerves in the first two events but the pupils competed well and did improve their Regional Qualifying times. In the Freestyle Relay heats the girls finished just outside the top ten in 13th place and the boys finished 21st in the Medley Relay, which were still superb results.

In the second races, the girls and boys seemed much more comfortable in their surroundings and were in determined moods. The boys were up against some strong opponents in the Freestyle Relay and came in 29th place. The girls in particular knew there was more to come with their changeovers but everyone was delighted when we made the Medley Relay Final. The girls were focused for the Final and managed to hold their own against other schools that have their own onsite pools. They narrowly dropped down a couple of places towards the end of the race but they finished 9th in the Final with another improved time. To achieve a Final and be 9th in the whole country was an outstanding result!

The future is bright for RGS Worcester swimmers, and we are sure the boys and girls are training hard with the aim to go one step further next year.





# TENNIS

Our Tennis performance training sessions have moved to the local regional performance centre at Pershore Indoor Tennis Centre, using the fantastic indoor facilities available and ensuring high quality training has been possible each week.

The season started early in October for the Under 13 boys, who won the Regional Division One League in the Years Seven to Eight category. This led to a regional play-off fixture against King Edward's School, Birmingham which, although well contested, resulted in a tough loss to very strong opponents.

Heading into the Trinity term, there were sufficient numbers to field both Under 13 and Under 15 Boys teams and the abundance of talent in both age categories suggests there is huge promise for the future. As teams and individuals, there have been stand-out performances within the National School Championships and Regional Schools League Division 1 fixtures.

The season commenced with the first round of the National Schools Championships away against The Chase School in Malvern. An established team of Theo Houston, Jonathan Abbotts, Ayrtion Little and Aayush Nilak all contested closely fought encounters, with

Aayush clinching one of the singles rubbers, however the boys were unable to cause an upset to the form book.

In the Schools Division One League, the Under 13 Boys scored a fantastic 6-0 victory over St Mary's School, Hereford. The team of Dylan Cornacchia, Ewan Glenn, Freddie Bookham and Adam Faci then played against Bromsgrove School, against whom they fought well in both their singles and doubles rubbers to get to a 3-3 draw. The fixture had to be decided by a championship tie-break, which unfortunately finished 10-7 in favour of Bromsgrove. The Under 15 Boys came up against two very strong sides from Bromsgrove and The Chase which unfortunately meant they didn't progress any further.

*"It has been a rewarding experience taking the lead on Tennis this year and I am very proud of all of the teams' achievements, perseverance and commitments to training. I am very excited to see what our teams can accomplish next season. Thank you to all the parents and pupils for your hard work and engagement in all Tennis activities and well done to all of the Tennis players."* - Mr Jack Austin, Tennis Coordinator





# SPORTS TOURS

## TRAINING IN STYLE IN PORTUGAL



### SCULLING SUCCESS

Over the summer holiday, Menna Sutton represented Wales in the Home International Beach Sprints held at Saundersfoot.

Menna won the Junior Mixed Double against England and in doing so secured first place for Wales and the trophy.

During October Half term over thirty pupils embarked on a Rowing pre-season training session in Figueira da Foz, Portugal to kickstart the season's Rowing.

With the RGS quad and double Rowing boats transported to Portugal, the pupils were keen to get on the Montemor-o-velho Rowing lake, the site of the 2010 European Rowing Championships.

During the five days of training sessions, the pupils had the opportunity to hone their Rowing skills and improve their technique. The pre-season training provided a great opportunity for the pupils to practise and embed their skills before the start of the winter Rowing season.





# CRICKETERS ENJOY PRE-SEASON TOUR TO INDIA

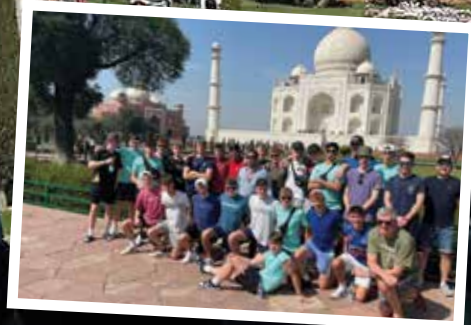
## Cricket Tour India 2023

The RGS Senior Cricket teams embarked on a pre-season tour of India in February. The tour began in Delhi with a training session and watching a Test match between India and Australia. Both RGS teams played a T20 match and a 40-over fixture.

The squad then travelled to Agra, where they visited the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort before heading south to Ranthambore National Park for a jeep safari. The tour ended in Jaipur, where both teams played two competitive fixtures, visited Amber Fort, and enjoyed an elephant ride.

The tour was a fantastic experience for the cricketers and provided lifelong memories. The 1st XI won two out of four challenging fixtures, while the 2nd XI played four competitive fixtures. The tour enabled RGS cricketers to develop their skills and teamwork for the season ahead.

Thank you to Mr Newport and Mr Fowles for organising a wonderful tour.





# CAREERS

The RGS Careers and Higher Education EXPO introduces pupils to a range of employers and Universities, broadening their horizons and aiding career planning. 42 Higher Education representatives were able to attend including seven Russell Group Universities.

This year a large number of employers including The British Army, the NHS, West Mercia Police, EY, RSM, Kendall Wadley, Roke Engineering, Sanctuary, RICS, Hazelton Mountford, Harrison Clark Rickerby, Crowe and EDF offered Apprenticeships in various sectors.

Alongside them, training providers Herefordshire and Worcestershire Group Training Association and Worcestershire Apprenticeships were available to provide general information about the Apprenticeship route spanning qualifications from Level 2 to 7. Several Upper Sixth students secured early Degree Apprenticeship offers, enabling them to focus on their A Level courses secure in the knowledge of what opportunities await them after RGS. These include a student gaining a Finance related Degree Apprenticeship where they will be working towards a Level 6 Degree qualification while gaining valuable work experience and earning a salary.

We also had delegates representing Architecture, Interior Design, Marketing, Careers in the Theatre, Surveying, Law, Psychology, Criminology, Teaching, Journalism, many different Engineering fields, along with really good representation from the medical professions (Dental Profession, a Gastroenterology & General Medicine Consultant) and Allied Healthcare profession supporting our large body of pupils interested in this field. Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Podiatry, Veterinary Surgeons along with Royal Vet College from London. Engineering fields were represented by Blockmark Technologies, EDF, Horstman, Malvern Panalytical, Mazak, nMITE, QinetiQ, Roke, and Vertical Aerospace.

In preparation for the EXPO the Careers Department delivered an assembly to pupils in Years Nine and Ten. Year Eleven attended an assembly from Investin highlighting the benefits of work experience whilst the Lower Sixth listened to a talk by Stephen Gray, the Student Recruitment Officer at the University of Warwick, on 'Applying for Competitive Universities'.

A broad range of monthly Careers Seminars have been arranged and delivered throughout the past year including QinetiQ, the Admissions Director for Medical Admissions at the University of Birmingham, the Superperformance Team, West Mercia Police, The Army, Careers using Physics, a Rugby Internationalist, a Sports Journalist and GCHQ. Careers Seminars are designed to provide insight into different occupational areas and all pupils are encouraged to attend. It has been lovely to see the strong following from Lower School pupils who enthusiastically ask questions of the speaker.





All Year Eleven pupils have been offered a Careers guidance interview supported by an individual Careers Action Plan recording their ideas and the steps to take. Lower Sixth students preparing for post-eighteen pathways after their end of year examinations will all be offered a Careers Guidance appointment with Mrs Williams, Head of Careers.

Unifrog, our electronic platform, has been introduced with pupils exploring all the benefits it has to offer. We will be using Unifrog for Careers Education from September. Following the talk on the benefits of work experience by Investin in January, Lower Sixth students prepared a CV using Unifrog. Students were then interviewed by a representative during our mock interview day. Both our volunteers and Lower Sixth students commented on how valuable the experience was. The students' presentation and ability to talk confidently about a wide range of issues as well as their abilities and Career ideas was complimented.

The Careers Department has supported other Departments with trips; QinetiQ for a Hands on Science Day, Morgan Cars with Design Technology pupils, Edgbaston for a 'Careers in Sport' day at Bath University to visit the Sports Science Faculty with pupils studying BTEC Sports or A Level PE and Cadbury World to learn about the different roles and responsibilities of a large organisation.





# OUTREACH

This year we have hosted over 40 events, assemblies, workshops and training sessions at The RGS Family of Schools and in the local community. These events allow us to support learning in the Worcestershire area whilst sharing the School's specialist teaching and outstanding facilities.

This year our exciting series of events for local schools included a Modern Foreign Languages Day, a 'Let's Sing Worcester' vocal event and Sports coaching sessions in Hockey, Athletics, Football, Netball and Cricket. We have also held assemblies, Science and Maths Challenges, and a Worcestershire wide Primary School Art Competition, as well as team-building events and hosting several schools at our School productions.

The School's Digital Learning Programme has once again provided support to local schools and First Year Teacher Training students at Worcester University. In addition, we have run several events to support shared learning in Digital Learning in the Worcestershire community.

Each year the Outreach and Partnerships programme across The RGS Family of Schools continues to grow, as RGS plays its part in our local community.





# EPQ

The Sixth Form have certainly risen to the challenge of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), with 57 Lower Sixth students embarking on their research journey and a further 17 Upper Sixth students entering projects.

The Extended Project Qualification provides students with the opportunity to research any topic of their choice and to produce an artefact or 5000 word essay, and is worth half an A Level. There has been an impressive breadth and depth of topics explored.

Titles this year have included; 'To what extent does animal-assisted therapy lead to effective recovery in trauma patients?', 'Are Governance factors in ESG the most crucial objective in order to improve the image of a Business?' and, 'How is food and eating significant in post-1900 Gothic novels?'.

All students have confidently presented their research findings, demonstrating key gains in skills of referencing, searching for sources and critically analysing information.

The experience of completing the Extended Project Qualification is sure to instil confidence in all of the students, as they look to the future beyond the Sixth Form at RGS Worcester.



# ENRICHMENT



## BILLINGHAM SOCIETY

The Billingham Society has had a particularly successful year, with many advanced topics extending the knowledge and understanding of our older pupils and younger pupils. The 'Mystery Dissection' with Mr Henderson, featuring a trout, enabled pupils to see the gills and how they help the fish breathe, as well as the swim bladder, the dissection proved to be a particular highlight with the pupils. We were also very pleased to welcome external speaker, Dr Roy Summers, talking about 'God and Science' and how they are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Dr Summers has a PhD in Physics, is now a church pastor and was invited by Mr Batchelder.

As always, the Billingham Society programme has been eclectic with talks as diverse as, 'JFK On the Trail of the Assassins' with Mr Owens, 'Versions of Odysseus' with Mrs North, a talk on time-travel paradoxes with Mr Jay and 'Why did Martin Luther King say that?' with Mrs Harrison.

The Billingham Society continues to grow and welcomes new pupils every year. The pupils' interest and enthusiasm makes for lively discussion and excellent questions.



# DEBATING

The Debating Society enjoyed another immensely successful year with remarkable achievements and strong performances in prestigious Debating competitions such as Oxford and Cambridge Schools. Students of all ages showcased their formidable skills and determination, representing the School with excellence on both national and international platforms.

RGS once again progressed to the prestigious Oxford Schools Finals Day. A total of 116 teams from across the UK and beyond gathered at the Oxford Union for this highly esteemed competition. Katherine McCabe and Annabelle Howarth, Year Eleven, demonstrated their talent by securing an impressive second place finish in Round 4. Whilst Oscar Haynes and Callum Lockett could not attend, they previously achieved great success in progressing to this stage of the competition. The RGS debaters fearlessly tackled diverse topics, ranging from Artificial Intelligence restrictions to the pros and cons of career politicians. Notably, the presence of Elizabeth McCabe, the Debating Coach and RGS alumna, added a touch of expertise to the event, providing valuable feedback and even adjudicating the Novice Final.

Continuing this success, two teams progressed to Cambridge Finals Day, with Oscar Haynes, Callum Lockett, Tobey Butler, and Rayyan Styles all progressing after a hotly contested Regional qualifier. Will Hulbert competed in Callum's stead on Finals Day, impressing by finishing the day as the 16th placed Novice Speaker. The teams faced challenging motions including the benefits of corporate sponsorship of academic studies and the responsibilities of social media. Oscar and Will remained undefeated, whilst Rayyan and Tobey achieved impressive results, finishing 1st and 2nd in two of their debates.

The final competition highlight of the year was ICYD Finals Day, also held at the Cambridge Union. Sasha Penlington and Hannah Agoston in Year Ten achieved our best ever result, finishing 8th out of 56 teams and narrowly missing out on the Semi-finals. This is a superb achievement, with only the best young debaters in the world progressing to this stage of the competition.

To honour the achievements of the Debating Society throughout the season, a special Debating Society Dinner was held on Friday 12 May. Attended by nearly 40 debaters from Year Eleven to the Upper Sixth, the event celebrated the year's successes and also provided an opportunity to toast the accomplishments and bid farewell to those leaving. The Upper Sixth cohort, led by President Tobey Butler and Vice President Isaac McManus, exemplified the remarkable qualities of RGS debaters. Their mentoring of younger debaters and fostering of skills and ideas among their peers contributed to the Society's continued growth and success.

This work continues in the Juniors and Middles, with debaters from the Sixth Form, Charlie Raven and Helena Stockford Parsons, leading training of the Juniors. It has been encouraging to see the progress of so many budding young debaters who had the opportunity to demonstrate their talents to visitors from RGS Springfield, RGS Dodderhill and RGS The Grange.





# HOUSE REPORTS



The House competitions began with a Badminton event, which Wylde dominated, winning both the Senior and Staff events, Elgar took second place in the Inters category. Petanque, held during European Languages week, saw Wylde triumph in the Inters and Senior competitions, and Ottley won the Staff event. Elgar achieved victory in Senior Chess and House Art. Ottley won Senior General Knowledge and the Pumpkin Challenge showcasing spooky creations. Whiteladies showed promise in Rugby and Hockey. In the final event of the year, Wylde won Senior Dance with a festive routine to take the overall top spot for the Michaelmas term.

In the Lent term, Elgar won Junior Chess and Whiteladies claimed victory in the closely contested Cipher Challenge. Wylde excelled in Model-Making, but it was Elgar that dominated Junior, Senior and Staff House Rowing. House Music resulted in a joint first place for Ottley and Wylde with their Valentine's themed arrangements. Ottley and Elgar shared the honours in the new Bird Feeder Challenge over Half term, while the first-ever E-sports event for Inters ended in a tie between Elgar and Ottley. Elgar also impressed in Junior Dance, and Ottley House won Junior General Knowledge to complete the double alongside their older peers.



Elgar and Wylde were tied in Junior Board Games, while Wylde won across all age groups in Table Tennis. Wylde also excelled in Debating, winning in both Seniors and Inters. Tug of War returned with Elgar and Ottley pulling their way to wins in Juniors and Inters respectively, but Wylde maintained their overall lead with wins in Junior and Senior Football to ensure they lifted the Lent term trophy.

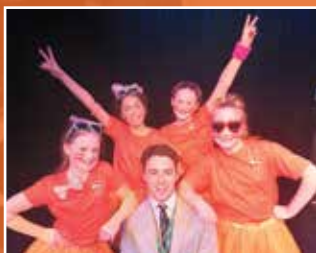
The final term saw Ottley winning Junior E-sports. Elgar emerged victorious in the Spelling Bee, while Wylde triumphed in Senior Rounders and the Rubik's Cube race event. Ottley and Elgar shared the spoils in the Litter Pick Challenge.

Wylde won the Lego Builders competition through creative builds. Whilst Elgar won the Junior indoor Tennis event, Ottley won in the Inters category and Wylde dominated the Seniors. Elgar then emerged as winners in the highly competitive House Mathematics event. The final events took place over the three Sports Days at St Oswald's, with Wylde winning overall in Middle School and Elgar securing victories in Year Seven and Whiteladies in the Sixth Form. Wylde made it a clean sweep, winning the Trinity term title and confirmed their position as overall House Champions and deserving winners.

Congratulations to all pupils and staff after a very full year of House Events.



# ELGAR HOUSE



The exciting partnership of Lydia Jackson and Kristian McCabe as our new House Captains set the stage for an unforgettable year for Elgar House. Kristian, with his passion for Sports and exceptional motivational skills, inspired the entire House. Lydia, with her Rowing talent, competitive drive, effective communication, and superb organisational abilities, ensured that Elgar was in very capable hands and would be a force with which to be reckoned with.



The year started strongly with shining moments from the beginning that left a lasting impression on everyone. The Senior House Rowing event showcased the remarkable teamwork, strength, and dominance of our outstanding athletes, whose fitness and determination were unmatched, bringing honour, pride and a pleasing win for Elgar.



The Senior House Dance competition was a spectacle to behold as pupils showcased their talents and passion for Dance. Although Elgar came a controversial second, the routine left a lasting impact, impressing everyone with their rhythm and creativity.

Olivia Blizzard and Maddie Brown's victory in the Art competition added to the House's accomplishments, with their impressive artistic skills in designing a House Shield, securing a well-deserved win.

The Lent term was particularly thrilling, highlighted by the Junior House Dance competition featuring songs from popular musicals.

As the Trinity term unfolded, Elgar secured victory in the Junior Spelling Bee and House Mathematics, two tightly contested events. Some impressive results during Sports Days, especially winning both Lower School events, yielded points but ultimately we had to settle for third place overall.

I would like to give special recognition to our House Captains, whose dedication and tireless efforts have galvanised the younger pupils and ensured their active participation in all events. Their leadership has been instrumental in our success.

# WHITELADIES HOUSE



Whiteladies has faced challenges in terms of points this year, but the participation and enthusiasm have always been outstanding. Despite results not going our way, members of Whiteladies have shown eagerness to participate and embrace the diverse range of challenges.



Our House Captains, Alice Atkinson and Kobe Chikose, were exceptional leaders. They played a vital role in the Year Seven assemblies and inspired the Sixth Form. Their own sporting achievements, with Kobe leading the Challenge Cup winning 1st XI Football team and Alice representing England in Hockey, have served as an inspiration to younger Whiteladies pupils.



Highlights from the Michaelmas term included a commendable second place in both Junior and Senior Badminton, first place in Junior and Senior Rugby, and a notable second place in Junior Hockey. An entertaining last-minute performance in House Dance by Ollie and Steph added to the highlights.

In the Lent term, Whiteladies emerged victorious in the Cipher Challenge and secured second place in Junior House Dance. Both the Inters and Seniors achieved second place in Debating.

Additionally, Whiteladies triumphed in the Staff House Table Tennis competition! During the final Trinity term, we never gave up hope and battled to second place finishes in Junior E-sports, Senior Rounders, Lego Builders and Senior Tennis. It was great to finish the year on a high, with an emphatic victory in Senior Sports Day, with some fantastic performances in both track and field. Although the year may not have yielded the desired results in terms of points, Whiteladies pupils have demonstrated remarkable energy, commitment and talent. The dedication and efforts of the pupils have been commendable and their willingness to embrace challenges and contribute to the House's success have been truly inspiring.



# OTTLEY HOUSE



Ottery took some time to get going at the start of the academic year but picked up useful points in Badminton and Pétanque before winning the Pumpkin Challenge once more at the end of the first Half term. From that point, our esteemed leaders Saffron Crump and James Robinson rallied the Otters and we never looked back! Second place in House Poetry was followed up with victory in Senior General Knowledge a feat the Juniors would replicate later in proceedings. Mixed results in Rugby and Hockey ended the term but we were nicely positioned in second place ready for the Lent term campaign.



The calendar year began slowly despite being Cipher Challenge runners-up and winning Inters Rowing. Three joint victories followed, with a share of the top position in Inters E-sports and the Bird Feeder Challenge, as well as a mesmerising performance by the ensemble in House Music that raised the roof off Perrins Hall. A solid set of results in Football and Netball meant Ottery just about maintained second place in the overall standings, with Elgar hot on our heels.



The Trinity term started with a bang with Henry Webb winning a thrilling E-sports event for the Juniors, meaning we set our sights on reeling in Wylde. Ottery finished second in the Spelling Bee and Rubik's Cube events before a joint first result in the Litter Pick Challenge.

Pleasing performances followed in Tennis and across Sports Days, notably by Year Eight boys, Senior boys and Year Nine girls, rounding off a fantastic term and securing second place for the Trinity term. Although it was not enough to catch the runaway leaders, it cemented Ottery's position as runners-up overall and strengthens our desire to go one better next year.

# WYLDE HOUSE



Throughout the year, Wylde experienced great success and positive growth. Led by House Captains Annaliese Rice and Ben Atkins, the House demonstrated dedication, perseverance, and a strong sense of teamwork. The Michaelmas term marked a remarkable start for Wylde, as we secured first place in Senior Badminton and emerged victorious in both the Inters and Senior categories of Pétanque. This winning streak continued as we triumphed in events such as Rugby and Poetry, consistently achieving top positions and establishing a substantial lead. The term concluded with Wylde winning the Michaelmas trophy, impressively placing first or second in nearly all events.



Although the Lent term had a more varied performance, Wylde still displayed excellence. We dominated in all three age categories of Table Tennis and emerged as the overall winners in Debating, securing first place in Seniors and Inters, and a close second in Juniors. The hard work and dedication of pupils particularly in Years Seven and Eight, paid off in House Model-Making, leading to another victory.



Wylde capped off the term with a strong performance in Football, winning the Lent term trophy and extending our lead in the overall competition.

The Trinity term followed suit with strong performances across the board, including Senior Rounders, Lego Builders and Rubik's Cube. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was the outstanding victory in Senior Dance. The routine showcased the House's talent, precision and sense of enjoyment. House Music also showcased the creative abilities of Wylde, with representatives from various Year groups contributing to our joint first place finish.

The consistent success of Wylde this year can be attributed to the collective effort of every House member. While there were exceptional individual performances, it was the collaborative teamwork across Year groups that propelled us to excel in a wide range of events. Congratulations to everyone in Wylde for your achievements, and here's to another fantastic year ahead!



# COMBINED CADET FORCE

Following the last publication of the Worcesterian, it is with sadness that Queen Elizabeth II passed away. In my previous piece, I had written about her unwavering dedication and long-standing service to the Crown, outlasting several former Contingent Commanders throughout her reign. Similar to his predecessor, King Charles III has also served in the Armed Forces, serving both in the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy. Throughout his service, he earned his aircraft and helicopter licences and served on various naval vessels, including HMS Norfolk, before concluding his active service as the Commanding Officer of HMS Bronington. In light of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, King Charles III has taken on the role of Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

The School is also experiencing a transition of leadership at the Governor level. A few years back, it was recommended that schools should appoint a Governor to act as a liaison between the Combined Cadet Force and the School. John Peters, a former Squadron Leader in the RAF and a parent of two former Cadets, stepped up and volunteered for the position. He has given long service in the role but has now made the decision to step down due to increasing commitments. On behalf of the Combined Cadet Force, both past and present, we express our sincere gratitude to John for his invaluable contributions. We welcome Stephen Flutter, a former CCF Cadet, who has generously agreed to take on the role. We look forward to seeing Stephen attend parades and camps in the near future.

## THE ARMY SECTION

In September, the Army Section embarked on its annual training expedition to the Nescliffe Training Area. A successful day of training saw Cadets rotate between various activities including lessons on camouflage and concealment, covert movement and hand signals, and how to give orders and build maps. For the night exercise, the Cadets attempted to approach and survey an enemy position covertly.

In March, the Section headed to the Venture Centre on the Isle of Man for leadership and resilience testing. They tackled a diverse range of activities, from water-based adventures like gorge walking and coasteering to land-based challenges like an assault course, ropes courses, and activities such as axe throwing, archery, and air rifle shooting.

The Contingent embarked on a poignant journey to Belgium and The Somme to pay their respects at cemeteries on both sides of the conflict. The Menin Gate ceremony left a lasting impression. They also visited the graves of former pupils who sacrificed their lives in the First World War, offering prayers and Remembrance Crosses.

Back at Nescliffe, the Army Section engaged in a rigorous schedule, starting with a weapons handling assessment. A 48 hour field exercise tested their skills, followed by crucial fieldcraft and tactical training in preparation for a full day assessment. The assessment included challenging tasks like the Platoon Attack, Defence, and Delay around a Forward Operating Base (FOB). Cadets split into groups, with one half participating in rifle shooting at Kingsbury Ranges, while the others rotated through activities like the laser shotgun, DCCT (Direct Combat Shooting Trainer), command tasks, and the gun run.

Remarkably, the gun run led to a surprise opportunity for the top four teams to compete in the Semi-finals. Although they narrowly lost in the Final by just two seconds, the experience was cherished. During the awards ceremony, RGS Worcester proudly received recognition as the Best Contingent. The Cadets' collective efforts demonstrated the essence of listening, learning, and leading, proving that their teamwork exceeded the sum of individual talents.





## THE ROYAL NAVY SECTION

It's been an excellent year for our Senior Rates who have carried the burden of responsibility well. CPOs White and Silvey have led by example and in P.O. Waites, they could not have had a better support team. Many thanks also to L/S Stubbs, Stockford-Parsons, Day and Waites for all the support that you have given to the Section over the past four years.

The Field Day at HMS Raleigh was a highlight of the year. It was great to see the Section visiting HMS Iron Duke and the Submarine Museum as well as seeing the RN Fleet up close on a harbour tour. The trip to the Isle of Man was also very exciting where the Section pursued a variety of aquatic and adventurous activities.

It pleasing to see several Cadets attended summer courses which varied from a Royal Marine Course to the RN Summer Camp. Further commitment and loyalty to the Section were shown from the four 3\* Cadets, who gained the qualifications to become L/S next term. All of the Daedalus Division completed and passed the 2\* exam and the same was true with the Echo Division, who all obtained 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 CPO Stroud for helping us develop our drill and dress over the year. Thanks, too, must go to S/Lt Still, for manning her post this year, and to Dr Stuart, our new Officer Recruit.



## THE ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

The RAF CCF Section has continued to thrive this year under the leadership of Pilot Officer Webster as Officer in Charge (OIC), supported by flying enthusiast Dr Rowlinson. The first Field trip of the year was postponed due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, as RAF bases and personnel were involved in preparations for the national events surrounding the Monarch's funeral.

In October, a group of Senior Cadets took to the skies at RAF Cosford for an unforgettable flying day. This was followed-up in February on a perfect winter's afternoon, as Year Ten Cadets then had their chance to experience manoeuvres such as loop-the-loops and barrel-rolls! Our fortunate run with the weather did however halt there, with both March and April flying days cancelled due to poor flying conditions on both days.

The March Field Day residential trip to RAF Cosford was a resounding success. Cadets participated in team-building physical activities, providing the Section's budding leaders with the opportunity to develop their communication and management skills. The Cadets also honed their drill sequences too, demonstrating huge improvements to Senior CCF staff on the parade square. A particular highlight was the unique tour of the technical training facilities, with invaluable insight from staff working on a range of projects on a working station, as well as an introduction to the range of careers available in the RAF.

Before handing over the baton of leadership to the next group of Cadets, our Seniors have devised and delivered sessions for their younger peers. It is immensely pleasing for all involved to witness several Cadets progressing through the ranks to take on increased responsibilities by completing their theoretical and practical training. Thanks to a successful recruitment drive, the RAF Section will be growing again and this positive trend bodes well for the future.



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



The early expedition season in September started in earnest with Gold and Silver trips near Anglesey and Snowdonia in North Wales and the Long Mynd in Shropshire, respectively.

The Silver Expedition included over 50 Year Ten pupils embarking on their training expedition in beautiful weather conditions near Church Stretton. All groups had the opportunity to develop and apply a range of skills in perfect conditions amongst the rolling hills covered in bracken and heather.

Our Gold cohort experienced a range of safety, technical, planning and organisational challenges throughout the weekend.

A mixture of expedition training sessions and focusing on eDofE sectional activities at all levels occupied the dark winter months leading towards the pattern of inclement weather conditions for the March Field Weekend.

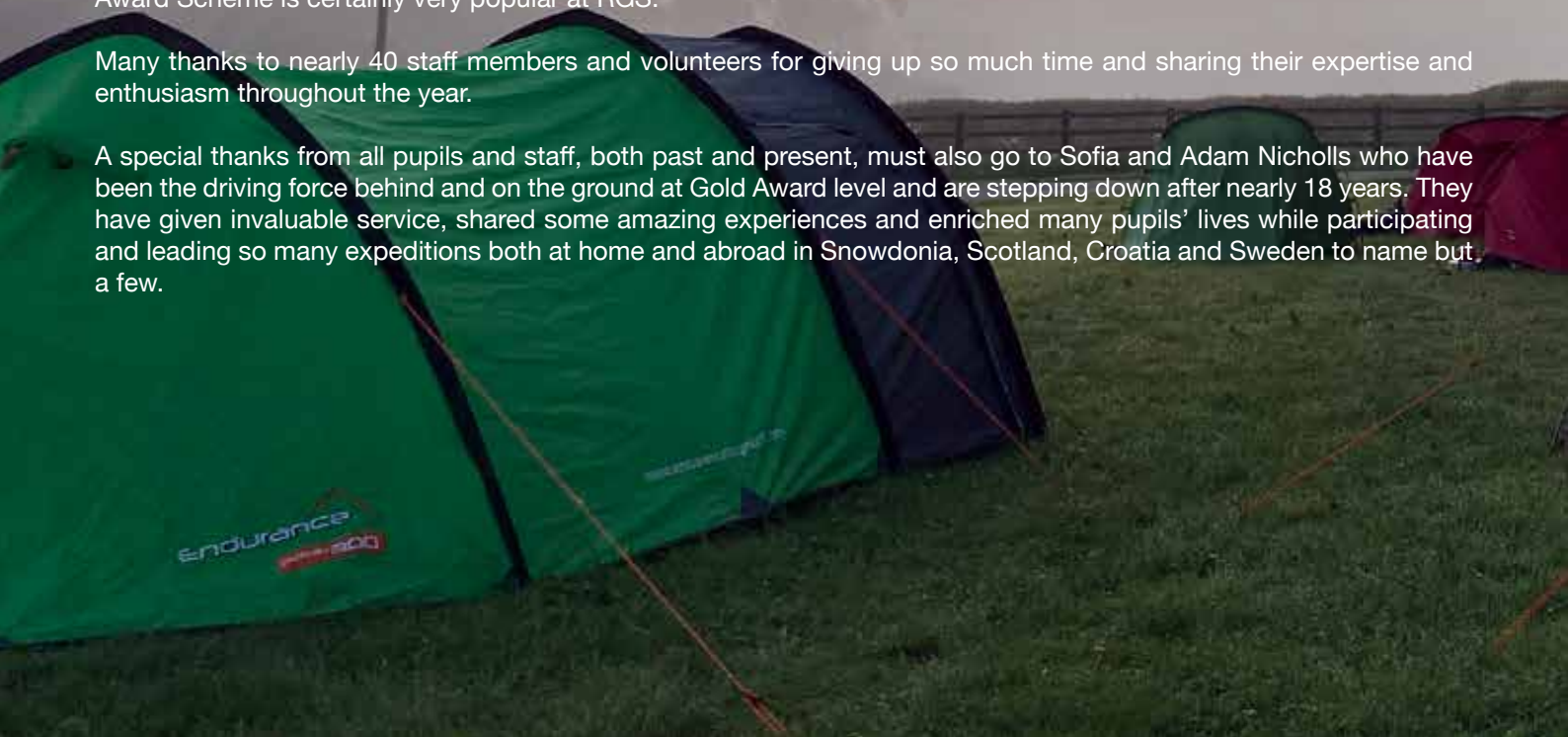
All pupils have shown greater independence by organising and beginning their choices with much enthusiasm. Some examples for service, skills and different physical activities have included altar service, bell ringing, signing, sports officiating, Children's Liturgy, charity shops, community village stores, mentoring siblings, online environmental projects, learning to play a variety of musical instruments, ballet, baking, climbing, new languages, drama, care for animals and a wide selection of sporting activities.

Very wet and windy conditions affected most of the country and really tested the resilience, character and organisation of all students on all the March expeditions in Snowdonia and the Black Mountains for our more experienced Gold and Silver groups respectively. Closer to home, our new Year Nine pupils had a baptism of fire camping at RGS The Grange and venturing out north of Worcester.

Our expedition season was completed in much more favourable conditions with an early British summer. The Lower Sixth Gold group conquered a large portion of the River Severn between Shrewsbury and Gloucester, while seven Year Ten Silver groups explored the undulating dales of the White Peak area of Derbyshire. Finally, our huge Year Nine Bronze cohort of 122 pupils completed their assessment in and around Malvern and the south Worcestershire countryside. Many pupils have subsequently enrolled at Silver level creating a record number for that Award and proving that the Award Scheme is certainly very popular at RGS.

Many thanks to nearly 40 staff members and volunteers for giving up so much time and sharing their expertise and enthusiasm throughout the year.

A special thanks from all pupils and staff, both past and present, must also go to Sofia and Adam Nicholls who have been the driving force behind and on the ground at Gold Award level and are stepping down after nearly 18 years. They have given invaluable service, shared some amazing experiences and enriched many pupils' lives while participating and leading so many expeditions both at home and abroad in Snowdonia, Scotland, Croatia and Sweden to name but a few.









# THE FOUNDATION



It was another very exciting and busy year for the Foundation Office with a wide range of events taking place. Amongst annual favourites, there were new additions to the extensive alumni relations programme that RGS former pupils enjoy.

The Class of 2012 and the Class of 2010 both returned to RGS for their 10-year Reunions, and had a wonderful time reconnecting with classmates and seeing the School. More recent alumni in the Classes of 2022, 2021 and 2020, attended the inaugural 'New OE' Christmas drinks gathering in Perrins Hall, and the Class of 2018 was the first to return to the School for its 5-year reunion.

Dodderhill alumnae enjoyed their first ever Summer Picnic under the RGS banner with over 100 former pupils and staff having a lovely time reminiscing together at their old School.



The Alice Ottley Alumnae Summer Gathering in June saw almost 100 former pupils and staff reunite in glorious sunshine, and it was a great pleasure to welcome back Miss Sibbit who was Headmistress at the AOS (1986-99). She was delighted to see the School in such good health and to meet her former pupils, who were pleased to share news of their progress with their Headmistress.

Another innovation was the launch of Alumni Professional Networking Groups. These events aim to empower alumni to help each other in professional fields, as well as to explore how they can contribute to the School's Careers Service. Finance and Law kicked-off the programme with an informal gathering in London, and it was great to observe new connections being made in these fields. Future events will build on this success.



The inaugural RGS Giving Day in March 2023 saw pupils, parents, staff and alumni join together to raise funds for the RGS Foundation Bursary Fund. Pupils embraced the challenges set for them and completed a range of activities linked to 1291 to secure funds donated by several very generous alumni donors. The 'Wear Green Day' was met with great enthusiasm and some memorable outfits amongst the staff. The combined generosity of pupils, families, staff and alumni raised over £112,000 to help fund additional Bursary places at RGS.

The Class of 2023 become the newest alumni and will benefit from the extensive programme run by the Foundation Office.







# CHARITY

With a total of £18,757.66 raised this academic year, we have seen our charity fundraising return to pre-Covid levels. The Charity Committee have worked hard on various fundraising projects and are to be commended for their contributions.

Year Ten pupil Sasha Penlington, organised a wonderful concert in Perrins Hall in support of a children's charity in Ukraine and raised over £2,000. A very talented musician herself, Sasha and similarly talented RGS pupils entertained a large audience who were also treated to authentic Ukrainian refreshments provided by Sasha's family.

Our appeal at Christmas for donations to Worcester Foodbank provided thirteen boxes of food and toiletries and £600 in supermarket vouchers. Year Eight pupils filled 62 Christmas boxes for the children at New Hope and a Christmas Jumper Competition, organised by the Sixth Form, raised £523 for the same charity.

Our two non uniform days for BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief raised over £4,500 between them and the School also supported Macmillan Cancer Support, The Myriad Centre, Worcester Snoezelen, St Richard's Hospice and Acorns Children's Hospice.

Our Librarian, Miss Tustain, raised over £800 for Read for Good with a Readathon for Lower School pupils, and two of our teachers, Mrs Swingle and Mr Jones, ran the London Marathon raising nearly £4,000 for Spinal Research and £1,200 for Worcester Snoezelen respectively. We broke all School records with the Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion and raised over £1,000. Maggs Day Centre also benefited from the donations to the Lower School Harvest Festival.

Year Ten pupil Libby Parker raised over £5,600 for Long Covid Kids. Libby was pushed the distance of a marathon around Worcester to raise awareness and funds for the charity.

None of the above would have been possible without the considerable help, generosity and support of pupils, parents, teachers and support staff. Our very sincere and grateful thanks go to all of them.









# A WARM WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

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

## JULIANA ATYEO



Miss Juliana Atyeo joined RGS Worcester as Deputy Head (Pastoral). Before moving to Worcester, she was Assistant Head Pastoral and Designated Safeguarding Lead at Leweston School, Sherborne, where she was previously Head of Sixth Form, and Head of English. Miss Atyeo has taught English and Drama in the State and Independent sectors, as well as at Prep and Senior level. Miss Atyeo's extensive knowledge of pastoral education means that she is able to offer our pupils the very best in care and support. Having lived and studied all over the world, as well as reading Portuguese at the University of Leeds, Miss Atyeo is bilingual and enjoys experiencing other languages and cultures; however, there is also a much closer-to-home connection, as her father attended RGS Worcester in the 1950s!

## KATHRYN BALLOO



Mrs Kathryn Balloo joined the Psychology Department in September. She graduated with a BSc 1st Class (Hons) degree in Psychology from University of Liverpool before completing her teaching qualification with the University of Worcester. She has worked as a Psychology and Sociology teacher for 11 years and so brings depth and experience to our Psychology provision. In her spare time, Mrs Balloo listens to podcasts including American Psychological Association, and also enjoys reading, and baking with her son and daughter.

## HANNAH BLACK



Miss Hannah Black has demonstrated both a passion and an aptitude for Mathematics since an early age having taken her Maths GCSE exam in Year Seven. She ultimately undertook a Mathematics degree at the University of Chester, attaining a 1st Class degree. Miss Black subsequently did her PGCE at Birmingham City University, and with both her degree and her PGCE affected by lockdowns, she is more than accustomed to the joys of remote learning! She has quickly become involved in the Co-curricular activities at the School, in both the Duke of Edinburgh Award and Dance. She also enjoys doing both activities outside of School, currently being in the process of completing her Gold DofE Award and having completed exams in dance styles including ballet, tap, musical comedy and disco, and performing regularly at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton.

## HANNAH BONE



Miss Bone joined the English Department in September from Hereford Sixth Form College. Originally from York, Miss Bone attended the University of Birmingham, where she also worked for the English Speaking Union (ESU). Miss Bone runs Junior Debating and has also led the ESU Shakespeare in Performance programme this year. Miss Bone has a particular interest in Shakespeare and is currently completing an MA in Shakespeare and Education at the Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham, Stratford-upon-Avon. Apart from being an avid reader, Miss Bone enjoys quilting. Her talents with fabric were clearly on display in the costumes she created for last year's Year Six Induction Day performances of 'The Tempest'.



### JOHN BRIDGER



Mr Bridger joined the Geography Department from the Marymount International School, London, where he was Chair of Humanities and taught the International Baccalaureate. Mr Bridger's Undergraduate degree is in International Development from the University of Sussex and he gained his PGCE/QTS from the University of Chichester. Mr Bridger has also worked at the British School of Kuwait and Braeburn School in Nairobi, Kenya, and this experience allows him to teach across the Humanities subjects, including History, RS and Classics. When Mr Bridger is not at school he enjoys playing Football and exploring Worcestershire and further afield with his wife and dog.

### MARIA DE RISIO



Mrs Maria De Risio, is an exceptional addition to the Modern Foreign Languages Department. With ten years of teaching experience in England and prior international teaching posts, her expertise is invaluable. In addition, Maria's background in International Relations and International Cooperation brings a unique perspective to her teaching approach. Having lived and studied in France and Spain, she is fluent in both languages and cultures as well as, of course, her native Italian. It comes as no surprise that, with such experience of diverse Mediterranean cultures, she is a connoisseur of food. Other than in Europe, Maria has always loved to travel across the world and has worked in cooperation projects in Tanzania and Nepal before moving to England with her family. Maria's enthusiasm for diverse cultures is contagious, making her a true asset to our team.

### KEITH FOWLES



Mr Keith Fowles joined as the new Director of Sport. Mr Fowles was previously Director of Sport at Birkenhead School, where he achieved significant local and national success, developing and improving the programme of Sport for all pupils. Previous to this, he was Director of Rugby at Ipswich School, and has prior experience in boarding and state schools, giving him a vast breadth of knowledge, including experience of transition from Prep School pupils into Senior School. Mr Fowles has completed the highest Rugby coaching qualification: RFU Level 4 Coaching Award, and is an RFU Coach Educator and Mentor and has completed his Masters degree in Professional Development in Sports Coaching.

### JAK GARRITY



Mr Jak Garrity joined the Drama Department in September after teaching for three years in Dudley and before that in London having completed his teacher training at Liverpool Hope University. Mr Garrity is a keen musician and plays guitar and piano, sings and is in a band which has performed a number of gigs in Birmingham. He received a 1st Class degree in Drama at the University of Wolverhampton and loves dining out at different restaurants around the region. Mr Garrity is a very able and welcome addition to the Drama Department.



## EMMA JOHN



Miss Emma John joined RGS Worcester as Deputy Head of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL). With 15 years of teaching experience, Emma brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise. Having worked in Bremen, Germany, and as the Head of MFL in Geneva, Switzerland, she possesses a deep understanding of international education systems and different teaching styles. Emma's linguistic talents are equally impressive, as she fluently speaks French, German, and Spanish. Emma's commitment to education extends beyond the classroom, as she actively mentors trainee teachers in collaboration with the Universities of Warwick and Worcester.

## SOPHIE JOHNSON



Mrs Sophie Johnson joined the Mathematics Department at RGS after 12 years at RGS Dodderhill, where she started as an NQT in 2010. She subsequently became Head of Mathematics at RGS Dodderhill in 2019. Originally trained as a Mechanical Engineer, Sophie obtained a Masters in Mechanical Engineering, Manufacture and Management from Birmingham University. She commenced her career in the Automotive Industry, spending five years working in a Research and Development centre in Germany where she gained Chartered Engineer status. On her return to the UK, Sophie became an Operations Manager and completed the Institute of Directors' diploma in Corporate Direction. Sophie enjoys travelling, having explored many regions of the globe from camping with the tribes of the Masai Mara to tracking Orangutans in Sumatra.

## SOPHIE LAWRENCE



Miss Sophie Lawrence joined the English Department in January 2023. Previously, she was Second in Department at Malvern College, Egypt, and has also worked in schools across London. Miss Lawrence gained a degree in English Literature from Birmingham University and went on to complete a PGCE at the University of York. Originally from Worcester, Miss Lawrence is particularly interested in Gothic Literature and in her spare time also enjoys hiking. From September, Miss Lawrence will teach across several Year groups and help run Lower School Book Clubs.

## MICHELLE PARTON



Mrs Michelle Parton joined the Computing and IT Department at RGS Worcester as well as at RGS Dodderhill where she is leading the development of the subject. She brings with her extensive experience and a passion for teaching. With a degree in Information Technology from Worcester University, Mrs Parton completed her Graduate Teacher Programme (GTP) at Newman College, developing her pedagogical skills. Since qualifying as a teacher in 2002, she has held various leadership roles, including subject lead, Head of Year, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), and teaching and learning roles. Mrs Parton's expertise in Computing will enhance our pupils' learning experiences and equip them with essential digital skills for the future.

## KATE SEWELL



Mrs Kate Sewell is a wonderful addition to the Learning Development team. A Geography and Sociology teacher, and a previous Head of Year, she has brought a wealth of experience, particularly with Sixth Form, to the School. Mrs Sewell has a thoughtful and caring manner, helping pupils to grow in confidence by personalising her work with them. She is an excellent teacher and has particularly supported pupils to grow in enthusiasm for revision (quite a feat!). Another string to Mrs Sewell's bow is that she speaks Russian and, passionate about removing barriers for all, she is also leading on further developing our support and provision for the Ukrainian pupils in the School.



## EMILY SMITH



Miss Emily Smith joined the Philosophy and Religion Department from the Forest School in London. Brought up in Scotland, Miss Smith brings with her some quite incredible breadth and depth of knowledge, having studied at Oriel College, Oxford, reading Philosophy & Theology joint honours. Miss Smith's enthusiasm for the subject is boundless and she brings a sincere and focused curiosity about all things philosophical; it is a pleasure to welcome her to the Department and to the wider School community.

## JENNY STACE



Mrs Jenny Stace joined the Geography Department in September as Head of Department, following 15 years at Droitwich Spa High School as Assistant Head of Department. She holds a 1st Class Honours degree from Loughborough University in Geography and Sports Science. Mrs Stace completed her PGCE at Manchester University and also has a Masters in Education from Worcester University. Her love of Geography is rooted in her "international childhood", having lived in both New Zealand and Canada whilst at school. She previously held a fellowship from the Royal Geographical Society for her involvement in fieldwork and has run fieldwork all over the world including India, Kenya, New Zealand and Iceland. When not in the classroom (or out conducting fieldwork!), you may see Mrs Stace trekking with Duke of Edinburgh participants, or singing in the Choir.



# A FOND FAREWELL

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

## TASMIN BENNS



We bid 'ave atque vale' to Miss Tamsin Benns at the end of the academic year 2022-23. Miss Benns' period of time at RGS only lasted two years, but she made a real impact to the way Latin and Classics are taught at the School, and on the RGS community as a whole. She has brought particular experience in Latin love elegy, which she has used in her A Level teaching and in her mentoring of University applicants and those completing EPQs or essay competitions. She also instituted a Lower School Classics Club, which has seen keen interest amongst the Years Seven and Eight pupils, and has been an invaluable mechanism for bringing alive the ancient world.

## MIKE GARDEN



Mr Mike Garden, Academic PE and Games teacher, departs to embark on a new journey as the Head of PE in the British International School of Washington. Mike's dedication, passion, and expertise have greatly enriched our PE and Games provision throughout his time here. In particular, Mr Garden has had a significant impact on our Academic PE including the GCSE and A Level PE and BTEC Sport courses. Furthermore, he has supported a range of Sports leading fixtures as Head of Golf and Basketball as well as DofE. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he has also been a valuable member of our pastoral team as Assistant Head of Year.

## ELLIE GIBBONS



During her time at RGS Miss Ellie Gibbons led our Junior and Senior School Netball teams to success in Plate competitions and in the 2023 Superball fixture against King's School. She also reinforced our connection with Severn Stars by playing for them in their Vitality Netball Super League. She played a key role in establishing the Nova Netball Academy at RGS Worcester. We thank her for her positive contributions to the School both as an Academic PE teacher and as Head of Netball and wish her every success in her new role and her Netball journey representing Surrey Storm.

## ROB HENDERSON



Mr Rob Henderson, an integral part of our School for the past five years, brought life to our classrooms with his passion for Biology, fostering appreciation for the natural world. Through insightful and engaging lessons, he illuminated Biology's intricacies, fueling curiosity and turned learning into a voyage of discovery. Mr Henderson's hands-on experiences, including dissections and discussions, left indelible marks. As a Tutor, he provided unwavering support to Sixth Form students, shaping their growth both academically and personally. His involvement in coaching Rugby and Hockey showcased his commitment to nurturing talents and fostering teamwork. We are grateful for his inspiring impact on pupils' lives.



#### GEORGE MARTIN



Mr George Martin's contribution to the Philosophy and Religion Department has been significant. His wealth of knowledge from his Masters degree was essential in helping the Department launch the demanding Philosophy A Level, and his care and attention to detail with planning and preparation, will be sorely missed. As well as his academic expertise, George has developed such rapport and understanding of our pupils and his calm manner, balanced with his high expectations of pupil behaviour, have meant he has been a great influence and role model to both pupils and staff. To think of how much he has contributed in just three years, whilst also completing his Masters in Education, is phenomenal.

#### CATHERINE MATTHEWS



Mrs Catherine Matthews leaves behind a remarkable legacy as Assistant Head of Sixth Form. Her unwavering commitment and exceptional work in developing the Sixth Form made a lasting impact on our community. Her unparalleled support and guidance have nurtured pupils, creating a thriving environment. In the Textiles Department, Catherine's professionalism and knowledge brought out the best in pupils of all ages. There is no doubt that the positive, calm and nurturing atmosphere, the key essence of the Textiles Department, is due to the welcome and warmth that the Textiles teachers always provided. After eleven years, she will be greatly missed, and her contributions will be cherished by pupils and colleagues alike for years to come.

#### MARY STEPHEN



Mrs Mary Stephen joined RGS in September 2021 to set up the Psychology Department by introducing the subject at A Level. She then took on the lead of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Mrs Stephen was the ideal person to start our Psychology provision, having previously worked as Head of Psychology, EPQ Coordinator and Deputy IB Coordinator at Malvern College. Students flocked to the subject and praised Mary for her excellent teaching, her assistance in organising the EPQ, and her support to each pupil in her care as a Form Tutor. The setting up of Psychology at RGS has proved extremely popular with large numbers of pupils now choosing the subject at A Level.

#### CIA SWINGLER



Mrs Cia Swingler started at The Alice Ottley School in 2005 as a part time teacher of Lacrosse. She quickly became Head of Physical Education and was appointed Head of PE and Girls' Games in the merger in 2007. Cia was a veteran of coaching at RGS Worcester. While her elite sporting days are behind her, her passion for sport is still there. Cia went on to become Head of the Creative Arts Faculty, establishing our Creative Arts evening and raising the profile of the Creative Subjects. After 18 years, Cia is leaving RGS to embark on a new adventure with her family in the United Arab Emirates where she is taking on the role of Director of Sport in an English School.



# EXCEPTIONAL GCSE RESULTS

RGS Worcester pupils celebrated after achieving excellent GCSE results in their examinations. With dedication, perseverance, and a commitment to excellence, the pupils of RGS Worcester have achieved superb success in their GCSE results this year.

John Pitt, Headmaster, commented:

*"It was lovely to see the pupils so pleased with their GCSE results. We had our largest GCSE Year group ever and we are particularly pleased by the number achieving the top Grade 9 across the different subjects which was significantly above the pre-Pandemic level. This was in spite of the press telling us the results would be back to 2019 levels. The pupils can now look forward to the Sixth Form and all the opportunities available at RGS. Very well done to all of the pupils for their hard work."*



John Pitt and his wife, Anna, were celebrating their two eldest children completing their A Levels and GCSEs this year. Their eldest son Jack is going on to study Engineering at Imperial College London after achieving 3A\* and 1A grades in his A Levels while their daughter Katy will be studying A Levels in Art, Maths, Physics and Spanish in the Sixth Form at RGS after achieving 10 GCSEs all graded 9-7. "We are so proud and relieved at the same time", said John, "We now know what other parents go through with examinations and then the results and the pressures upon everyone."



Sofia Stolt, Goalkeeper for Worcester City Women's Football team achieved a very strong set of GCSE results including six graded 8/9.

Sam Taylor achieved a straight set of Grade 9s in his chosen ten GCSE subjects, Sam who has been at RGS since RGS Springfield was delighted with his results.



Twins Ana and Lottie Nicholls, both exceptional Hockey players, achieved 20 GCSEs between them with sixteen graded 9-7.



Jaimie Lee who achieved GCSEs all graded at 9 and Sydney Blanchenot who achieved all 9/8 Grades.



# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS CELEBRATE EXCELLENT RESULTS

RGS Worcester is proud to announce amongst our best ever examination results, securing our position as the leading educational institution in the area for high-attainment grades. The School's commitment to academic excellence and the unwavering dedication of its students and staff have once again yielded outstanding achievements.

In this year's A Level examinations, RGS Worcester students achieved an outstanding success rate in attaining the highest grades in the area. The School achieved the top spot in Worcester for A\*, A\*-A, and A\*-B grades, demonstrating outstanding academic accomplishment and bucking the National and Regional trends where results are dropping.

*"We are immensely proud of each and every one of our Upper Sixth students who have shown remarkable dedication and determination throughout their academic journey. Their accomplishments in the face of challenges reflect not only their academic strength, but also their personal growth and development."* Mark Evetts, Head of Sixth Form.



Ben Sears achieved a Choral Scholarship in addition to his place to read Law at Cambridge University. Ben is an expert actor, singer and dancer who has starred in many RGS Worcester productions and concerts. He achieved A\*A\*A\*A grades in four A Levels: Economics, Maths, Politics and Religious Studies.

School Captain Ollie Blunt achieved A\*A\*A\* and the top A grade in AS Level Further Maths. Ollie is going on to study Biochemistry at Bath University where he is looking forward to continuing to play Rugby alongside his degree studies.

Loïc Keasey is pursuing his professional Rugby career with Ealing Trailfinders, building upon his caps for the Under 18 England Rugby team. Loïc completed the BTEC National Diploma for Sport and CTEC Business both with Distinctions.

Siân Gaynor-Smith sat her A Levels in the most challenging of circumstances as her father, local Malvern lawyer Edward Gaynor-Smith, was suffering from a terminal illness. Siân showed incredible strength to complete all of her examinations and achieved A\*AA in Business, Geography and Psychology A Levels. She is going to Cardiff University to study Criminology and we all wish her and her family well.





# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND PRIZES

## YEAR PRIZES

### YEAR SEVEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Esme Ammonds	Lexi Collins	Ethan Jennings	James Pitt
Thomas Barker	Dylan Cornacchia	Elsa Kenkre	Jay Reddy
Naomi Bayo-Oshunkoya	Eva Davies	Izzy Livesey	Amba Sanehi
Molly Bedford	Maya Dworak	Mia Lilley	Scarlett Sinclair
Alice Benbow	Lauren Egginton	Michael McCabe	Lexie Small
Freddie Bookham	Maisie Fackrell	Elsa McCrindle	Elsa Somer
Oisín Brown	Grace Farmer	Scarlett Newman	Josh Tipple
Xanthe Carrington-Abraham	Isabella Gabriel	Lilia Parker	Immy Warne
Sam Cambridge	Amy Higgins	Olivia Parry	Oliver White
Rafferty Coleman	Fleur Higgs	Nicole Penlington	Archie Wood

### YEAR EIGHT ACADEMIC PRIZES

Joseph Agoston	Joe Cowling	Mirin Hutchings	Anna Wardle Grifoll
Lexi Agoston	Denis Goodwillie-Green	Henry Jarvis	Cleo Whitbread
Sufyan Al-Jaro	Eric Gregory	Yousrey Masoud	Audrey Wise
Nicola Aston	Rory Guthrie	Chloe McLelland	Oliver Wyatt-Wright
Amelie Baynham	Amelia Gutteridge	Lily Morton	
Verity Bond Evans	Isabelle Hardiman	Jemima Noble	
Ridhima Canchi	Arthur Hasling	Anya Peddareddy	
Grace Challinor	Cameron Henry	Lucas Pullen	
Oliver Charles	Ciaran Hession-Wilson	Alfie Ross	

### YEAR NINE ACADEMIC PRIZES

Ozzy Beswick	Bella Glasson	Edward Miles	Rose Savory
Anton Bouthiere	Amelia Godwin	Callum Munday	Sanaiya Saroop
Cooper Collins	Isla Goold	Poppy Parker	Immi Sharp
Rachel Crookall	Cerys Hickman	Thomas Pound	Lily Smart
Laurence Curtis	Emily Jackson	Toby Prendergast	Freddie Smart
Thomas Edge	Zac Johnson	Issy Pottinger	Lydia Stallard
Sophie Fisher	Emma Law	Noah Raven	Kathryn Thompson
Sihan Fu	Natalia Lowans	Rosa Rega	Anya Wood
Julia Gebhardt	Oliver Maggs	Darcey Rocca	India Wood
Hannah Gibbons	Catherine Maragos	Jai Sanehi	

### YEAR TEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Hannah Agoston	Aeryn Egginton	Amelie Lockley	Aryan Peddareddy
Menaal Amjad	Isabelle Fawcett	Ellen McGettigan	Sasha Penlington
Faizaan Baig	Amelia Godfrey	Faheem Mohamed	Zara Pepperdine
Poppy Batchelor	Harry Green	Harry Moore	Leyla Rashid
Fynn Butler	Jacob Hartley	Keira Mountford	Yasmina Rashid
Liam Chadwick	Megan Hepple	Arun Mungar	Ella Wain
Martha Colclough	Orla Hession-Wilson	Alex Napier	Abigail Walter
Sorrel Coxcoon	Hollyanna Hopkins	Thomas Newman	Noah Whitbread
Noah Dunnett	Isabelle Jones	Arran Niccol	Eden Williamson
Alex Eaton	Joseph Kington	Archie Palmer	Ed Young



## YEAR ELEVEN ACADEMIC PRIZES

Toby Alexander	Lydia Hart	Chang Liu	Jack Staiano
Amelia Bentley-Hughes	Matilda Haughton	Jessica Lowe	Sofia Stolt
Sydney Blanchenot	Keira Higgins	Zara Martin-Green	Samuel Taylor
Connor Bowers	Annabelle Howarth	Katherine McCabe	Rowan Towers
Abigail Crabbe	Ivan Innocent	Joseph McRobert	Edith Wise
Elizabeth Crookall	Sophie Jackson	Darcey Parry-Jones	
Daniel Foster	Amelie Johnson	Katy Pitt	
Bella Gray	Jaimie Lee	Lucas Reid	

## LOWER SIXTH ACADEMIC PRIZES

Adam Allan	Teyah Farmer	Oskar Matysiak	Oscar Savory
Violet Ashmore	Annie Hallowell	Emma McKay	Callum Sharp
Martha Burdon	Kitty Jenkinson	Tom McMillan	Jemima Shaw
Callum Butler	Anna Jobes	Samuel Pledger	Helena Stockford Parsons
Ella Cheney	Luke Jones	Charlie Raven	Isabelle Thompson
Amy Cound	Callum Lockett	Samantha Ralph	Charlie Timmington
Noah Davison	Charlie Lord	Katie Robinson	James Woolhouse
Gabby Dos Santos	Annetta Makar	Sophie Rouse	
Arianne Eddy	Cerys Marsay-Jones	Amy Saunders	

## INDIVIDUAL AND SCHOOL PRIZES

### THE LOWER SCHOOL ART CUP

Verity Bond Evans

### THE LOWER SCHOOL DRAMA CUP

Archie Davey

### THE LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC PRIZE

Arthur Hasling

### THE LOWER SCHOOL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY PRIZE FOR TEXTILES

Chloe McLelland

### THE LOWER SCHOOL KATHRYN NICHOLLS CREATIVE WRITING PRIZE

Isabelle Hardiman

### THE LOWER SCHOOL DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PRIZE

Amelia Gutteridge

### THE LOWER SCHOOL CHARITIES CUP

Elijah Hall

### THE DANIEL SULLIVAN PRIZE FOR ICT

Lucas Pullen

### THE ANDREW WRIGHT MEMORIAL CUP FOR EXTENDED LEARNING INITIATIVE

Lilah Morgan

### THE YEAR SEVEN COMMENDATIONS PRIZE

Amy Higgins

### THE YEAR EIGHT COMMENDATIONS PRIZE

Isabelle Hardiman

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

Ridhima Canchi

### THE FESTIVAL GARDEN PRIZE

Tom McElhannan

Sophie Maggs

Daisy Mees

Paige Jasper

Jack Doy

### THE CRICKET PRIZE

William Terry



# UPPER SIXTH NAMED AWARDS

## THE ACADEMIC DRAMA PRIZE

Elizabeth Adams

## THE ACADEMIC MUSIC PRIZE

Aoife Smith

## THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' ARTS PRIZE

Luke Melaard

## THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' PRIZE FOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

Hebe Walsh

## THE ALICE OTTLEIANS AND OLD ELIZABETHANS' SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE

Kristian McCabe and Ellie Nicholls

## THE ALICE OTTLEY MILLENNIUM PRIZE FOR THE HEAD GIRL

Ellie Nicholls

## THE BENJAMIN LEADER PRIZE FOR ART

Eleanor Fawcett

## THE BEVERE ART AWARD

Ellie Allen

## THE BREWER PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY

Isabella Vinson

## THE BTEC SPORT AWARD

Benjamin Allen

## THE CARTER-DOWNS MEDICAL PRIZE

Kitty Smith and Hebe Walsh

## THE CATHERINE COWTON PRIZE FOR STRINGS

Menna Sutton

## THE CECIL DUCKWORTH PRIZE

George Stephenson

## THE CHARLES MYTTON SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE

Raiwin Lewis and Imogen Monce

## THE CLAINES PRIZE FOR APPLIED PHYSICS

Jack Pitt

## THE CLASSICAL CIVILISATION PRIZE

Emma Pickersgill

## THE DEBATING CUP

Tobey Butler and Rayyan Styles

## THE EDYNBURY CUP FOR BEST ACTOR IN A MALE ROLE

George Jasper

## THE EMILY JORDAN PRIZE FOR ECONOMICS

Kristian McCabe

## THE ERIC ORTON PRIZE FOR ACHIEVEMENT

Benjamin Sears

## THE GORDON WALKER CUP FOR CHARITABLE WORKS

Isabel Sherrington-Lodge

## THE HEMMING CUP

Kitty Smith

## THE HILLARD PRIZE FOR PHYSICS

Raiwin Lewis

## THE J AND M BURTON HISTORY PRIZE

Tobey Butler

## THE JAMES KIMBERLEY PRIZE

Charlotte Griffiths

## THE JANET PEARSON PRIZE FOR HISTORY

Jack Pitt

## THE KIRSTY CUBBERLEY ROSEBOWL FOR BEST ACTOR IN A FEMALE ROLE

Olivia Neale

## THE LEA AND PERRINS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR BUSINESS

Grace Read

## THE MALCOLM YOUNG PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY

Ellie Allen

## THE MARGARET MOORE PRIZE FOR LATIN

Ellie Nicholls

## THE MARGARET SPURLING PRIZE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Isaac McManus

## THE MAYOR'S PRIZE FOR ALL-ROUND CONTRIBUTION

Edward Sellors



### THE MISS CORMACK PRIZE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

Ellie Nicholls

### THE PULLINGER PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS

Raiwin Lewis

### THE RGSWPA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE

Tobey Butler

### THE RGSWPA PRIZE FOR GENERAL MERIT OR ACHIEVEMENT

Alice Atkinson and George Jasper

### THE SCHOOL AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE

Benjamin Atkins  
Georgia Duncombe  
Emily Harper  
Lydia Jackson  
William Oates  
Katie Ralph  
Anneliese Rice  
Felix Silvey  
Isla Tallon  
Lily Waites  
Ben Whitton

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

Alice Atkinson  
Ollie Blunt  
Benjamin Chadwick  
Ella Hutchings  
Joseph Meredith  
Aden Sharp  
Olivia Sireshek  
Ella Staiano

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR BIOLOGY

Samuel Hewitt

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY

Kitty Smith

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR COMPUTING AND IT

Raiwin Lewis

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR JAZZ

Benjamin Weller

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN EPQ

Harry Standing

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING OVERALL CONTRIBUTION TO MUSIC

Tobey Butler

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Alex Houchin

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR POLITICS

Kristian McCabe

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR PSYCHOLOGY

Siân Gaynor-Smith

### THE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR TEXTILES

Emily Weller

### THE SCHOOLTOGS AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL LIFE

Joe Whitbread

### THE SEAMANSHIP CUP

Charlie White

### THE STALLARD PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE

Emma Pickersgill

### THE STANLEY WILLIS PRIZE FOR THE PAST HEAD BOY

Ollie Blunt

### THE STEFAN PORTER PRIZE FOR VOCAL SOLOIST

Saffron Crump and Benjamin Sears

### THE THOMAS BLASSON PRIZE

Hebe Walsh and Benjamin Weller

### THE VICTORIA WRIGHT PRIZE FOR SCIENCE

Benjamin Weller

### THE W D WILLIAMS PRIZE FOR ALL-ROUND CONTRIBUTION

Eleanor Fawcett

### THE WAREING CUP FOR OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Elizabeth Adams

### THE WILDE PRIZE FOR DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Daniel Hadley

### THE WITCOMBE RAF TROPHY

Jack Pitt



# DESTINATIONS FOR LEAVERS

Surname	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Adams	Elizabeth	History and Politics	University of Liverpool
Adams	Chris		Gap Year
Allen	Benjamin	Sport Management and Coaching	University of Bath
Allen	Ellie	Geography	University of Sheffield
Atkins	Benjamin	Motorsport Engineering	Oxford Brookes Univesity
Atkinson	Alice	Chemistry	Birmingham University
Barrera Frances	Yaiza	Sports Placement	RGS The Grange
Barry	Eva	Psychology	Nottingham Trent University
Baxter	Lucy	English	University of Exeter
Bayliss	Amelia	Law	University of Wolverhampton
Beardsley	Ollie	Business and Management	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Beckett	Harry	Criminology	Cardiff University
Bishop	Noah	History and Politics	University of Warwick
Blizzard	Olivia	Textile Design	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Blunt	Oliver	Biochemistry	University of Bath
Boffey	Eloise	Psychology	Nottingham Trent University
Brown	Maddison	Art Foundation Diploma	Hereford College of Arts
Butler	Tobey		Gap Year
Cartwright	Thomas	Work Placement	RGS Worcester
Chadwick	Ben	Medicine	Keele University
Chikosi	Kobe	Business Management	University of Kent
Claydon	Maximus	Urban Planning	University of Liverpool
Clayton	Esther	Chemistry	University of York
Crump	Saffron	History	Durham University
Dancox	Will		Employment
Darby	Lydia	Primary Education with QTS	University of Gloucestershire
Dolling	Olivia	Cyber Security with Placement	University of Worcester
Duncombe	Georgia	Sport Rehabilitation and Conditioning	University of Northampton
Eaton	Emily	Psychology	University of the West of England, Bristol
Fawcett	Eleanor	Work Placement	RGS Worcester
Fisher-Edwards	Polly	Sport and Exercise Science	University of Bath
Gardner	Lizzie		Gap Year
Gaynor-Smith	Siân	Criminology	Cardiff University
Giles	Oliver	Quantity Surveyor Degree Apprenticeship	Greenwood Projects
Gray	Darcy	Business with Work Placement	University of Bath
Griffiths	Rhiannon	Law	Nottingham Trent University
Griffiths	Charlotte	Business and Management with a Year in Industry	University of York
Hadley	Daniel	Politics and International Relations	University of Nottingham
Hancock	Lucas	Astrophysics	Cardiff University
Harper	Emily	Fashion Design	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Hewitt	Maddi	Sport Performance Analysis	Cardiff Metropolitan University



Surname	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Hewitt	Samuel	Biological Sciences	University of Edinburgh
Hobson	Poppy	Criminology	Oxford Brookes University
Hollingworth	Harry	Rural Land Management with Placement Year	Royal Agricultural University
Houchin	Alex	Sport Management	Loughborough University
Hutchings	Ella	International Relations and Politics	Cardiff University
Hyland	Sam	Law with Year Abroad	University of Liverpool
Jackson	Lydia	Accountancy Degree Apprenticeship	RSM
Jasper	George	Theatre and Performance Studies	University of Warwick
Jones	Maia	Politics and Spanish	University of Manchester
Kaleniuk	Nicholas	International Media and Communication Studies	University of Nottingham
Keasey	Loïc	Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences	Brunel University, London
Koutrouki	Benjamin	Mechanical Engineering including an Industrial Year	University of Nottingham
Letori	Elyssia	Media Production	University of West of England, Bristol
Lewis	Raiwin	Computer Science	Cardiff University
Marks	Joshua	Photography	Bath Spa University
McCabe	Kristian	Gap Year Assistant	Harrow School, Hong Kong
McDonald	Ryan	Astrophysics	Cardiff University
McManus	Isaac		Gap Year
McRobert	Maisy	Biochemistry with Professional Placement	University of Bath
Melaard	Luke	Drama Placement	RGS Worcester
Meredith	Joe	Chemistry	University of Manchester
Monce	Imogen	Chemistry	University of St Andrews
Nash	Harry	Business Management with a Year in Industry	University of Liverpool
Neale	Olivia	Drama and English Literature	University of Manchester
Newman	Harriet	English	University of York
Nicholls	Ellie	Modern Languages and Latin	University of Exeter
Nixon	Megan	Psychology	Sheffield Hallam University
Oates	William	Real Estate	Royal Agricultural University
Page	Elloise		Gap Year
Pepper	Isaac	Law	Birmingham City University
Pepper	Lucas	Law	Gloucestershire University
Pickersgill	Emma	Classical Studies	University of Edinburgh
Pinches	Alexa	Biomedical Science	University of Surrey
Pinfield	Poppy	Costume Design and Construction	Nottingham Trent University
Pitt	Jack	Mechanical Engineering	Imperial College London
Pye	Zoe	Business and Management	University of Bristol
Ralph	Katie	Liberal Arts	University of Nottingham
Ralph	Izzy	Event Management	Nottingham Trent University
Ramsey	Harry		Gap Year



Surname	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Read	Eve	Textile Design	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Read	Grace	Real Estate	Royal Agricultural University
Rice	Annaliese	Biological Science (Zoology with Professional Training Year)	Cardiff University
Robinson	James	Chemical Engineering with Professional Placement	University of Bath
Rolinson	James	Business Management and Marketing	Nottingham Trent University
Rutter	Harry		Gap Year
Sears	Ben	Law	University of Cambridge - Gonville & Caius
Selby	Will		Gap Year
Sellors	Ed	Economics	University of Exeter
Seymour-Perry	Phoebe	Law	University of Birmingham
Sharp	Aden	Economics and Finance	Cardiff University
Sheffield	Amelia	Sport and Exercise Nutrition	Hartpury University
Sherrington-Lodge	Isabel	Cyber Security	University of Gloucestershire
Silvey	Felix		Royal Navy
Sireshek	Olivia	Physiotherapy	University of Worcester
Smith	Kitty	Medicine	University of Birmingham
Smith	Lucy	Applied Theatre and Community Drama	Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts
Smith	Matthew	Mechanical Engineering with Industrial Year	University of Nottingham
Smith	Aiofe	Music	Royal Holloway, University of London
Southall	Francesca	Ancient History	Cardiff University
Staiano	Ella	Liberal Arts	University of Nottingham
Standing	Harry	Law Degree Apprenticeship	Gowling GLG, Birmingham
Stanley	Jack	Sport Management	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Stephenson	George	Business Management with a Year in Industry	Swansea University
Styles	Rayyan	Chemistry	Durham University
Sutton	Menna	Pharmacy	Cardiff University
Tallon	Isla	Accounting and Finance	Nottingham Trent University
Taylor	Billy	Sport Coaching	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Taylor	Stephanie	Commercial Airline Cadet Scheme	British Airways
Thukral	Shivani	Pharmacy	Keele University
Tickle	Chloe	Costume Design for Film and TV	Falmouth University
Tompson	Archie	Chartered Surveying Degree Apprenticeship	Dalcour McLaren
Varughese	Dave	Medicine	Imperial College London
Varughese	Dan	Mechanical Engineering	University of Southampton
Vinson	Isabella	Fine Art	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Wain	Joe	Classical Civilisation	University of Warwick
Waites	Lily	Marine Biology	Bangor University
Walklett	Emily	Psychology	University of Birmingham
Walsh	Hebe	Medicine	University of Birmingham



Surname	Name	Course	University/ Employer/Apprenticeship/ Gap Year
Weller	Benjamin	Biological Sciences with Professional Placement	University of Birmingham
Weller	Emily	Fashion Design and Technology with Placement Year	Loughborough University
Whitbread	Joe	Business Management	University of Birmingham
White	Charlie	Politics	University of Sheffield
Whitton	Ben	Sport Coaching	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Williams	Sophie		Gap Year
Wilson	James	Biology	University of Nottingham
Wyeth	Georgina	Insurance Degree Apprenticeship	Crowe Insurance
Young	Lilia	Textile Design	Hereford College of Arts





## UPPER SIXTH LEAVERS 2022-23









IT'S A FEELING...