

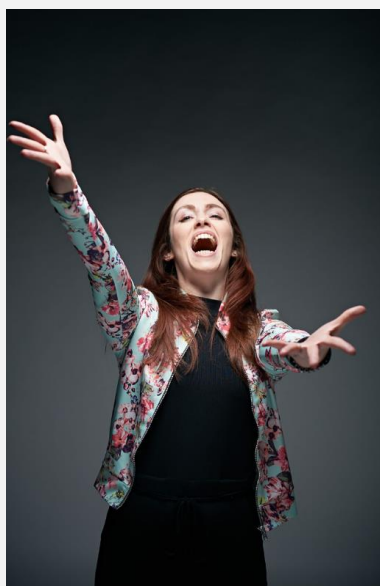


News

Edited by Lewis Rundle and Ayush Sanghavi

West Side Story Auditions

This year's school production, *West Side Story*, held its auditions between the 1st and the 15th of October. There will be a variety of roles for boys at the RGS and girls from local secondary schools, including singing, acting and dancing and the involvement of the notorious Stage Lighting and Sound Team will be hugely important. The play will be helmed by director Becky Harrison. Harrison previously choreographed for RGS's 2017 production *My Fair Lady*, having graduated from an MA Musical Theatre



course at the Royal Academy of Music in July 2016 with a distinction.

West Side Story has been chosen for this year's production as it was the 100-year anniversary of the birth of its composer, Leonard Bernstein, in August. The production was originally staged on Broadway in 1957, and, following its success, adapted into a feature film in 1961. The story itself is a modern, musical retelling of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* set in the Upper West Side of New York and involves a rivalry between two teenage street gangs instead of the Houses of Montague and Capulet in Shakespeare's play.

Rehearsals commence on the 29th of October, and the production will take place between the 27th and 29th March 2019.

House Events

House Assemblies for each house (St James, Sandringham, Windsor, Buckingham, Balmoral and Kensington) took place between the 8th October and the 10th October. They enabled students to meet their new brilliant House Captains, and for those new House

Captains to motivate students to participate in the plethora of house events and competitions across the coming year in order to gain house points. These points, which are tallied up at the end of the year to reveal the winning house, can be earned through gaining achievement points (which are mainly given for outstanding academic effort), taking part in inter-house sports competitions during Games, the House Music Competition, as well as a number of other subject-specific and miscellaneous competitions throughout the year. On top of this, the third Annual Sports Day will run this summer, and it will offer the most points of any event. So far, Sandringham have taken an early lead, but, since many events, such as the recent ordeal of the Hughenden Run have yet to be added, it is very much still all to play for.

Be sure to look out for opportunities to represent your Houses, and to ask subject leaders and your form tutors about upcoming events. Remember the Doughnuts every Half Term for the winning House.



The Improvements to RGSHW

Over the summer holidays, there have been a number of improvements to both the school site and the school's image. The Drama Studio has had £15,000 of renovation, having officially opened at the RGSPA AGM on the 10th of October. It was funded from the RGSPA who organised events held last year. In addition, several more school corridors and

stairwells have received the signature blue 'Mr. Wayne-treatment' including the entirety of the Maths block, some further work in Geography and the stairwell in the music block. The stage-right wall in the Queen's Hall has received a coat of white paint and a classroom in the main block has been converted in a student hub, which handles attendance amongst other things. Furthermore, in order to improve energy efficiency, many of the light fixtures have been replaced with LEDs. Finally, improvements are being made to the safety of fire exits around the school site.

The school's brand has been greatly transformed, from an entirely new uniform, again following the standardised blue colour scheme, complete with the new, more contemporary school insignia. There is now a different tie for each year group, a new, better-fitting blazer, and a redesigned school uniform. Additionally, the school website has been redesigned to be easier to use and more user-friendly on portable devices.

All these new features will help to improve the reputation of RGS by making it more modern and, ultimately, world-class.

Written by Nathan Smith

Gossip

Edited by Hari Pankhania and Andrew Hannaford

What was ex-Prime Minister David Cameron doing at RGS on a cold, rainy, late September Saturday morning?

The well-known former MP for Witney, a small market town 12 miles West of Oxford, who famously attended another "local school": Eton College, was watching his son play rugby for St. Paul's school against our own under thirteen rugby team. After he resigned from both his role as British Prime Minister and member of parliament, after the notorious referendum in



(Journalist Joe Harris and two other RGS pupils with David Cameron)

June 2016, he presumably has far more time on his hands. We can only speculate that he uses this time to flex his Dad bod whilst surfing in Cornwall, drink in pubs in the Cotswolds and watch his children play sport.

Back at the RGS rugby pitch he didn't look too dissimilar to the other parents, despite his two bodyguards lurking around the touch line of the third team pitch. When I approached him with two friends he kindly agreed to take a selfie, after he had removed his cap and brushed he fingers through his hair. This got me thinking can you still be a normal dad after being a Prime Minister?

As we rushed away to get on the bus for our away game I was pulled aside and warned by his two bulky bodyguards that I mustn't post the picture until after Mr. Cameron had left

the school site. This showed me that an average life isn't entirely possible for the man who called the Brexit referendum.

By Joe Harris

An interview with the headmaster

On Friday the 27th of September, we interviewed Mr. Wayne to investigate our ideas of what it was like to be the head teacher of a prestigious grammar school. Our interview revealed some interesting insights into what our headmaster does for his job, as well as his aspirations and how he enjoys his spare time.

When asked about his morning routine, Mr. Wayne said, "I wake up at a reasonably early time and I am ready to go. Sometimes I have to do things that everybody has to do, I sometimes take my dog for a walk." We wonder which breed of dog Mr. Wayne owns and if he only walks it sometimes who else walks it?

The headmaster was then asked what made him most proud to work at the school, replying with, "the thing that makes me the proudest would be to see students learning and proudly representing the school." This highlights how the headteacher is committed to improving the school for all of us and represents how the school is moving in the right direction.

Curious about our headteacher's past, we then asked who his role model was as a child, at which he disclosed that he admired "André Previn", born in April 1929, because he was a "phenomenal and versatile musician." Previn was a pianist, conductor, and composer, and played in many styles ranging from solo classical piano to jazz trios; he has won many awards for his work, including four Academy Awards and ten Grammy Awards for his recordings.

Next, Mr. Wayne was questioned on what it is like to run the school, and he then answered that "there are two parts of the school. The education, teachers and behaviour but on the other side, it is a seven and a half million-pound business that someone needs to run." This highlights how the headteacher does not have an easy job and there are many different aspects to what he does. We can only

speculate what needs doing to keep the school functioning, but from this statement, it must be a lot of work.

Furthermore, when asked what he does as part of his job, Mr. Wayne responded, “[as a headteacher] you have a unique opportunity for shaping the children’s future”, and that “it is a privilege working with these boys.” Students are always interested in new developments to the school site, and so we asked the headmaster if there will be anything new happening to the school, to which he replied, “I’m going to be shortly announcing ideas for a sixth form centre.” At the moment, the start and end date of this project are unknown, but many students will certainly benefit from this development.

Many students have been wondering, on a far more serious note, who Mr. Wayne’s favourite SpongeBob character is, but very sadly he could only say to the interviewers, “I haven’t a clue about SpongeBob!” This was very disappointing to find out as this was our most anticipated question, but it does create the question as to what the headmaster’s favourite television show is.

This unfortunately led us to the conclusion of the interview, where we asked the headmaster if there was a final message that he wanted to leave the boys with, to which he replied, “follow your dreams and put the work in to make them happen.” We at the Pupils’ Voice agree very much with this statement as anything is possible if you put your mind to it.

Jeans for Genes 2018



Jeans for Genes was established in 1994 by the Children’s Medical Research Institute to fund revolutionary research that helps

diagnose, understand, and find cures or treatments for conditions affecting kids, including genetic diseases, cancer, and epilepsy. 1 in 20 kids is born with a genetic disease or birth defect. You are likely to know and care about someone affected. Genetic diseases are one of the leading causes of death in kids under four and the main cause of ongoing hospitalisation. Well Done to everyone at the RGS for showing your support to this cause.

By Danyal Baber



Sport

Edited by James Birch

Sport is very important at the RGS. At this school there are many sporting opportunities: badminton, tennis, table tennis, squash, rugby and fencing just to name a few.

In addition there are twelve coaches and some volunteers as well.

Rugby is the main sport at RGS. We are entering a competition called "St. Joes" of the best 16 teams in the area. You can watch the matches on a YouTube live stream (the link will be on the school site) and support our team on Twitter. The school won the competition in 2013. We have a multitude of rugby teams and most of them train about 3 times a week.

Football at RGS:

We interviewed Mr Pettifer (the head of sport), he mentioned, 'if football was introduced many of the boys would not play rugby. As well as that, there are not enough pitches. There is barely enough for rugby alone'. Mr Pettifer would like to see some player development this year. "The harder you work, the luckier you get," he said.

Callum Padfield – the Head Boy - loves hockey and encourages students to take part in it, it is coached by Mr Clark who can usually be found on the All-Weather Pitch. Callum also loves sports day which has been held for the past two years. "It is a great way to earn house points and you can face older boys." he claims "and everybody is

involved in something." He also said that the gym is great and a fun way to learn skills and get stronger with the equipment consistently changing.

Badminton is coached by the cake loving History teacher; Mr Hammons. There are four teams (two for each key stage) plus a year seven team. They train every Monday, Thursday and Friday in the sports hall. Mr Hammons encourages you to come along and play alongside many other players which may well be the next Chris Adcock.

By Ishann Barthakur and Luke Hodges

RUGBY

| Team | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost |
|--------------------|--------|-----|-------|------|
| 1 st XV | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 2 nd XV | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 3 rd XV | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| U16 A | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| U16 B | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| U15 A | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| U15 B | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| U15 C | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| U14 A | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| U14 B | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| U14 C | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| U13 A | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| U13 B | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| U13 C | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| U12 A | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| U12 B | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| U12 C | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

(Disclaimer: results past the date 12/10/2018 have been included)

Best Team Performance

Overall, there have been a number of fantastic performances over the start of this season regarding RGS rugby. However, the best team results have been awarded to the U14 Bs and their coach Mr Phipps. They have remained unbeaten so far this season and have overall performed extremely well as a team. Some of their notable games include their 55-0 win over Hampton school, one of the tougher opponents in their group, and their 17-0 victory over St. Paul's.

Best Game So Far

This season's best game so far has been awarded to Mr Rizk's side, the U16 Bs,

against rugby giants Millfield. Not only did they manage to bag a victory by 34 clear points, but they worked hard to keep the Millfield team down to 0 points giving them a brilliant win of 34-0. Overall, it was a great game to watch and well-deserved win.



HOCKEY

The U16 hockey team journeyed down to South London to take part in the first national indoor hockey tournament of this season. The tournament was said to be tough as many of the top competing teams were on top form and unfortunately no real result could be taken from this.

FENCING

This half term has been very successful for the RGS's U18 fencing team with some highlights including Yassvanth, Louis and Sean all winning gold at the southern region finals in their fencing foil. They also went unbeaten against both Bradfield College and Winchester College.



Written by Joe Harris



Misc.

Edited by Cameron Johal and Robert Bowker

Are we more intelligent than our parents?

My answer to this question is biased. As a member of the younger generation, I obviously see myself as smarter than my parents. Why? Being an adolescent, I assume I'm always right and if my parents disagree... well they're blatantly wrong.

So what do we mean by intelligence? It's not necessarily the ability to remember lots of facts, but can include sensible reactions to different situations. For instance, the BBC recently released an article stating that under 25s are being more sensible with alcohol than their parents were at that age. There is less binge drinking and more work-oriented people rising towards the world of work, going on fewer nights out and getting into less trouble. A third of the 16-25 year olds say they don't drink, compared with 2005, where 1 in 5 people didn't drink. Remember this during the countless arguments amongst you and your parents.

So if this is true, and the younger generations are making smarter choices as they grow up, the children that are sent to school could be making smarter choices than the adults that send them off!



So why is this relevant? Recently, a letter was sent out, kindly asking parents for the umpteenth time NOT TO PARK IN THE UPLYME CAR PARK when dropping off or picking up their kids. All this in the face of police letters and plea upon plea from the school; however, parents still do this!

So next time, when your parent asks you where you are, perhaps remind them to not park in Uplyme car park, and don't be afraid when you do. If your parents argue that "it's easier" or "I don't want to drive around", present them the facts, tell them where you're going to wait and be strong! After all, you may well be smarter than them.

Could this be the biggest problem facing our school?

Everyday, pupils encounter a vast array of empty water bottles, sandwich wrappers and crisp packets, all scattered across the ground. Yet we all do nothing.

We need to address this growing problem immediately and take action before consequences take effect. Surely, you would agree?

Currently, in much of the UK, littering is already a punishable offence with a minimum fine of £100. However, the government and local councils are pushing for heavier fines due to the severity of the situation. On average, over 18 tons of dumped rubbish is picked up by councils per day, displaying the extent of the problem. At school, littering is not monitored as regularly as one would hope and thus we cannot pin point a practical solution.

I strongly believe that our community could do more, such as picking up litter and preventing littering which in turn will improve the ambience of our school and in turn produce a fresher atmosphere.

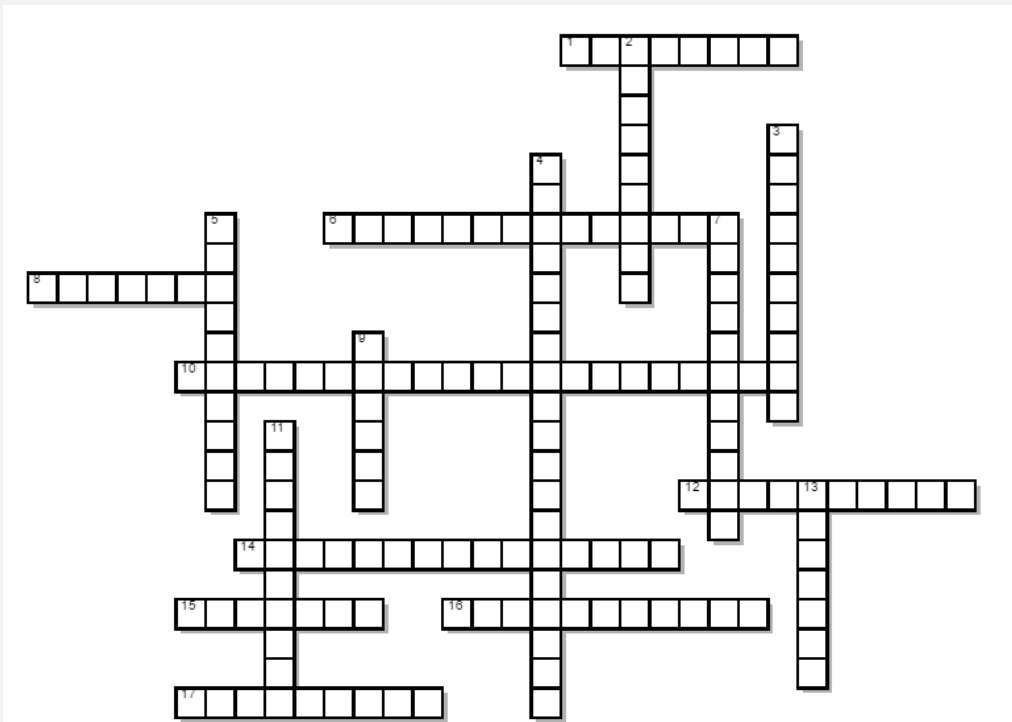
Not only does the peppering of litter over the site deteriorate the appearance of the school but it also has a detrimental impact on the environment. Wycombe is home to numerous animals that we need to protect; however, litter kills approximately 70,000 animals annually in the UK. Initiatives and organisations such as 'Wycombe Wildlife Group' aid and take steps to support and protect our wildlife.

We need to follow their example and join them on the path towards a healthier litter-free environment. That one empty water bottle, that one sandwich wrapper, that one crisp packet could mean the end of a life. This is our litter - no one else is responsible for it.

Additionally, picking up the litter can provide a sense of community. It is important that we nurture this and allows it to contribute to making our school more closely knit. So remember, be observant and pick up litter because one simple action can have extraordinary effects.

By Sam Turnball

Quiz *By Denny Semanaj*



WORD BANK: BALMORAL, BUCKINGHAM, FIFTEENSIXTYTWO, KENSINGTON, LEVELFIVE, MAINBLOCK, MATHSBLOCK, MRPAGE, ONEHUNDREDANDTWENTY, SANDRINGHAM, SCHOLAREGIAGRAMMATICA, SEVENTYFIVE, STJAMES, TOPGEAR, WINDSOR, WORLDCLASS, WYCOMBIENSIANS

ACROSS

- 1 Blue House
- 6 What are old boys of the RGS also referred to as?
- 8 Yellow House
- 10 What's the school logo?
- 12 Originally where was the school gym located?
- 14 What year what the school founded in?
- 15 What show was filmed in RGS on the 1May 2009?
- 16 There are over _____ clubs/societies/games/sports

- 17 Which block is room thirty in?

DOWN

- 2 What level would deliberate defiance be on the school behavior chart?
- 3 Green House
- 4 Approximately how many class rooms does RGS have?
- 5 The school has _____ aspirations
- 7 Orange House
- 9 Who was the old headmaster in 2015?
- 11 The Best House
- 13 Red House

Hard Sudoku

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | | 8 | | 7 | 3 |
| | | 5 | 6 | | | | 1 |
| 7 | | | | 1 | | | |
| | 9 | | 8 | 1 | | | |
| 5 | 3 | | | | | 4 | 6 |
| | | | 6 | 5 | | 3 | |
| | | | 1 | | | | 4 |
| 8 | | | | 9 | 3 | | |
| 9 | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | |