

The Royal Grammar School

Careers Bulletin – March 2023



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RGS NEWS

This half term we celebrated National Careers Week at RGS

W/C 13th March was filled with activities that marked Careers education in the school:

- Our Y8 pupils kicked off the week with a colourful display showcasing a range of sectors and professions in the job market.
- Zitah McMillan, our volunteer Enterprise Adviser, delivered a talk about “How to Raise your Careers Profile and Owning your Personal Brand”, sharing great tips on how pupils should be mindful of how they carry themselves in a professional way.
- Alistair Antoine, our additional volunteer Enterprise Adviser, gave an assembly about “Skills & Talent,” inspiring pupils to think about the areas they are passionate about, developing transferable skills and following what they feel is right for them.
- Our Work Experience partner, [Investin](#), came into school to help pupils understand the “Importance of Work Experience” in gaining employability skills ready for the future (use code RGSHW10 for a discount).
- The week culminated in an inspiring talk by Dr Anton Macachek, OW and former Head of RGS Physics, about his journey since he left us and his experience at world-class institutions including Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

We are really thankful to all the speakers that helped us celebrate this special week and that continue to bring to life RGS’ Careers provision!

As part of our weekly talks programme, we have had sessions about “Choosing your Course and University”, “Student Finance” and top tips in writing “Personal Statements”. All of these sessions have been very popular and have helped students get ready for their all-important next steps.

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Year 7's Young Enterprise Day

The half term kicked off with Y7's Young Enterprise Day. Lord Sugar's Apprentice and Dragon's Den merged into one in our Queen's Hall. Our budding entrepreneurs created companies, designed logos, developed slogans and pitched to Dragons for investment in their businesses. This full-day event culminated in awards delivered across various categories. Feedback from our volunteer business advisers included: "An amazing day! We were all so impressed by the ideas and plans from all the teams in the room." "RGS' Y7 students were incredible and a huge credit to the school." "What a fabulous day! Totally blown away by the business acumen and professionalism from the Y7s! They were a great group and it was no doubt a valuable learning experience both ways!"

From the Careers Team: a huge well done to our youngest cohort!



Inspired by the Young Enterprise Day – budding entrepreneurs in the making!



"On the occasion of the Y7 Young Enterprise Day, our team was tasked with the creation of a brand for smoothies and milkshakes. This event proved to be a significant source of inspiration for us and provided us with invaluable learning opportunities. Following this event, one of my colleagues, Ayaan Jafri, identified a promising opportunity in this field and approached me for assistance in developing a company. Subsequently, we recruited James Gage, whose expertise has played an instrumental role in propelling our business into its current stage of excitement. We have created stickers to market our business and over the coming weeks, we are planning to gather all of our necessary resources, apply for a licence, and sell in various events in the area. Watch out for us at a stall near you!!"

By Yuvi Wilkhu (Y7)

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RGS Careers & Higher Education Talks

Please join us for an exciting array of careers talks next half term. All take place on Tuesdays at 1:25pm in the Upper Library – no need to sign-up.

Tuesday 18th April	Lancaster University – Hilary Beck	Preparing for the UCAS Higher Education Fair
Tues 25th April	University of Southampton	Provisional – TBC (Uni options/UCAS choices)
Tues 2nd May	York University	Provisional – TBC (Science Careers)
Tuesday 9th May	Mrs Sameena Bibi - Optometrist	Career Pathways in Eyecare
Tuesday 4th July	Harwood Hutton	Accountancy Apprenticeships
Tuesday 11th July	Saleem Iqbal	A Career in Law

Year 12 RGS Journeys

Some of our Year 12 students have written about themselves and their journeys at RGS – find out what they are currently studying and their plans for the future!



Asad Tariq Year 12

As someone who is studying Maths, Physics, Further Maths and Computer Science with the aspirations of applying to world-class universities, demonstrating a genuine enthusiasm for STEM is absolutely key. Doing super-curriculars to prove your passion for the subject is crucial on a university personal statement which is one of the reasons why I first started going to the STEM symposium at the start of the year. At the STEM symposium, a different RGS student every week does a talk on whatever STEM topic

fascinates them, allowing them to show their interest in their chosen subject. Going to the STEM symposium weekly also broadens your understanding of science, technology, engineering and maths in general by exposing you to new ideas that are difficult to access in the curriculum. As the leader of the STEM Symposium, it would be great to have as many people be able to do a talk as possible as there are only limited slots available.

Another super-curricular I've been doing this year is the Comprehensive Oxford Mathematics and Physics Online School (COMPOS). This is run by Mr Chernov (a former teacher at RGS) and is an excellent course intended to help students to systematically learn mathematics and physics at a deeper level than is currently in the curriculum. This involves biweekly assignments that consist of problems that not only prepare you for the entrance exams for maths and physics (in particular the MAT and the PAT), but also give you access to high-quality teaching free, both from weekly webinars hosted by Oxford professors that extend A-level topics and from Oxford University undergraduates in weekly tutorials with small groups of students. Personally, I've found the free weekly tutorials the most helpful as they allow direct interaction with a tutor that is extremely capable of answering any questions that you may have.

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Super-curriculars like COMPOS can directly improve your performance in your A-levels by boosting your attainment in maths and physics due to the greater depth of understanding you achieve from pursuing these topics outside of the classroom. In addition, they are also a great thing to write in personal statements and teacher references allowing you to demonstrate your dedication in spending a few hours every week honing your skills. COMPOS is open to students at the start of Year 12 and Year 13 and involves an entrance exam which is also the first assignment. More information can be found [here](#).

Additionally, as someone who loved writing as a kid, I was also the Features Editor of the RGS Gazette for two years and now work as part of the team at the newly created Corporate Journal as the technology editor, editing and publishing articles that are potentially going to appear on the RGS website. Furthermore, I also did an EPQ on Quantum Computing which again allowed me to do research beyond the curriculum and then produce what I had learned in a neat, professional 13,000-word dissertation.



Izzi Lewis

For those inclined to study Law at university, there are numerous opportunities to immerse yourself in the field both in and outside school. Gaining work experience and participating in super-curricular activities are often vital to a successful personal statement. Dedicating time to further develop your understanding of Law also helps you find the specific topics that you are interested in. Some super-curricular activities can be hard to obtain, but there are things that anyone can do, for free, to boost your application.

In school there are two prime opportunities, the first being the Law Symposium, a society that meets weekly to present, discuss, and debate legal and philosophical questions as well as practise questions for the all-important LNAT exam. As leader of the Law Symposium, I can attest that attending such societies related to your desired field is incredibly beneficial when it comes to applications to university or for any post-18 plans. We meet on Mondays in L7 at lunch; all years are welcome, but it is focused on Years 11-13. Another in-school opportunity is writing a Law-related article for The Corporate Journal, a student-produced website that publishes articles related to various corporate fields including Law. If you are interested in writing a piece or have a question about the Law Symposium, please do not hesitate to email me 17ILewis@rgshw.com.

I recently attended the University of Cambridge Law Masterclass which gave me an invaluable insight into studying Law at Cambridge. It consisted of two lectures from Cambridge Law Faculty members and a Q&A. I learnt a lot about dealing with dishonesty in the context of criminal law, whether Parliament is all powerful, and whether legislators are bound by previous Acts. The experience gave me a better understanding of the structure of university lectures and the overall Cambridge admissions process.

There are also a number of online opportunities available to learn more about law. I have found that 'Forage' and 'Future Learn' are the best websites for online courses. You can choose from a range of top universities and 'Magic Circle' law firms to complete what are essentially mini online internships that can be done at your own pace. For example, in the past few weeks I completed the 'Exploring Law' course with the University of Cambridge, learning the basics for different key areas of law and hearing from leading academics as well as current Cambridge students about their experiences. I thoroughly recommend taking every opportunity available to you as each will help to round out your CV/personal statement or simply help you realise whether Law is right for you.

APPRENTICESHIPS

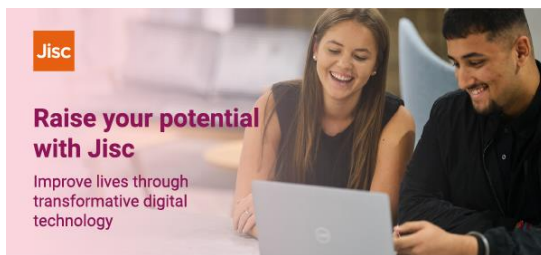


Uptree promote a large range of Apprenticeship opportunities – visit their website!

https://uptree.co/opportunities/?pk_campaign=newsletter&pk_kwd=anl

J.P.Morgan

<https://uptree.co/events/jp-morgan/1592149826/>



Jisc is the UK's digital, data, and technology agency and currently offer both professional and technology apprenticeships.

<https://beta.jisc.ac.uk/jobs/graduate-and-apprenticeship-schemes>

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP APPRENTICE PROGRAMME

Visit the VW website for apprenticeship opportunities across the Volkswagen Group.

https://www.vwgroupapprenticeships.co.uk/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sas_vwg2023&utm_id=sas160223



National Audit Office

National Audit Office Accountancy Apprenticeship

For further details visit:-

<https://successatschool.org/employerdetails/503/National-Audit-Office>

UNIVERSITY



More than 100 intensive short courses are available each summer across a range of LSE subjects

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/study-at-lse/summer-schools>

Minds Underground

Virtual Summer Schools

Chargeable courses designed to widen knowledge beyond the classroom to differentiate your university applications.

<https://www.mindsunderground.com/virtual-summer-schools>

Minds Underground™ (MU) is an online interactive learning platform, designed to support and enhance curriculum learning, to encourage an open debate of ideas and increase students' ability to communicate and solve problems in our fast-paced world. They also offer the following:

[Online work and research experience:](#)

[Extracurricular Clubs](#)

[Masterclasses](#)

[Curious Minds](#)

WORK EXPERIENCE



Summer programmes

"Life-changing, immersive career programmes for ages 12-18.

Choose your career, maximise your potential."

<https://investin.org/collections/our-programmes>



SPEAKERS for schools

Visit the Speakers for schools' website for a huge range of work experience opportunities!

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/work-experience-opportunities/>



CLASSROOM TO CAREERS

Careers newsletter for families | March 2023



Classroom to
Careers March 2023.

Buckinghamshire Skills Hub – check out their new Work Experience page!

Thames hospice

Work Experience Week 2023

24th to 28th July 2023

If you are in Year 12 and are interested in a career in medicine, nursing or an allied health profession (eg. physiotherapy, paramedic sciences, occupational therapy) join us for a week of work experience to support you in applying to study your chosen profession. The week will include clinical training, both in patient-facing and classroom settings, interacting with different professions including consultants and nurses and hands-on experience in a healthcare environment.

Apply via the QR code below. Closing date 17th April 2023.



Call 01753 842121
www.thameshospice.org.uk



Any questions – contact
volunteering@thameshospice.org.uk



College & Sixth Form Veterinary Work Experience Placements Summer 2023

<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/370OnSsyM?languageTag=en&cid=93ef1733-5db4-4e50-923e-7312bc33b5e4>

LECTURES



What's On at Gresham College

Upcoming lectures at Gresham College – available to watch on line.

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on?see-all>

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES



<https://fnhospice.org.uk/volunteer/register-your-interest/>



<https://www.ukrunningevents.co.uk/volunteer>

COMPETITIONS

Minds Underground

2023 Essay Competitions!

16 categories are open for Year 11 and 12 students, with an additional option for U15s. These are free and open to enter (**deadline is 16th April**). These provide a great opportunity to hone writing skills, explore academic interests and also present a great talking-point for personal statements / interviews. Categories include Medicine, Engineering Innovation Challenge, Law, Architecture and more! Our 2022 Competitions saw over 1000 students enter internationally: these were judged by our team of specialist Oxbridge tutors, many of whom are academic supervisors at the university.

<https://www.mindsunderground.com/minds-underground-2023-competitions>

The Careers Team wishes you a very Happy Easter! Make sure you use this extra time to sign up to the Eggcelent opportunities above to raise your careers profile!!

