

## HEADMASTER'S LETTER 20 June 2024



Dear Parent

### Valete

As ever, at this time of year, we start saying 'goodbye' to staff who are moving on or retiring. I routinely acknowledge staff over a few letters in reverse order, of length of service. So, here we are!

**Mrs Hutchinson** (Geography) is moving to a post closer to home

**Mrs Tarissi** (Geography) also reducing her commute with a post at St Clare's International School, Oxford

**Mrs Sinha** (Computer Science) is moving to a similar post at Dr Challoner's Grammar School

**Miss Martin** (Music Graduate) stayed with us for a further year beyond her initial 'gap' and is returning to her music studies, undertaking a Masters in Singing at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

**Mr Sarsons** (Head of Year 7 and History) has taken up a really interesting opportunity at the UCL Centre for Holocaust Studies

I should like to thank these colleagues for their contribution to RGS and to wish them well for the future.

### Open Evening

We are holding our Open Evening on 4 July. You will remember that this is an important event for prospects and their parents to visit our school to ascertain whether it is the right fit for them. I did not stand out in the rain, *sans parapluie*, to announce the date; 4 July is, however, the date of the General Election. We normally close a little early to allow staff to prepare, but I also need to factor in the opportunity for staff to vote, prior to their returning for the evening event. To that end, we will be closing at 13:25 on that day. I am sorry if this causes inconvenience. Vote RGS, I say.

### French History Trip

This is a very important event in the RGS Calendar where students have the opportunity to have a 'once in a lifetime' tour of the Battlefields and associated venues of World War I, with the opportunity for some *amelioration* of their French. This year was a particularly special event, in that it was the last time for a number of staff who have attended the trip for many years (more in a future letter). As ever, our students conducted themselves magnificently, engaging with the poignant aspects of the trip and participating readily in the French tuition. Over the years, we have seen a decline in the number of students signing up for this trip - feedback would be appreciated. Those who did not go on the trip had a very interesting Careers Day, elaborately prepared by our Careers Department. Please click [here](#) for a piece about the French History Trip.

## **Fencing**

Fencing is a long-standing representational sport at RGS. There will be a taster day for Year 7 students on Wednesday 3 July - please sign up on SOCS Co-curricular. Many congratulations to Liam Sheehan and Alex Roberts who have been appointed Senior and Junior Captain, respectively. Themselves, experienced competitors, they have participated in the Public Schools Fencing Championships and the British Youth Championships as well as providing support to students who are at the start of their fencing journey.

## **Congratulations to:**

Luke Poulton, Year 12, on his selection for the Great Britain 2024 European Triathlon Multi-Sport Championships in Coimbra (Portugal) next week. Luke is also a Senior Prefect / Head of Balmoral House.

Rohan Boulenc, Year 7 who was commended in the Queen's Translation Exchange Andrea Bell Prize for Young Translators. This is particularly impressive as the translation was to an A Level standard. Well done Rohan.

With best wishes.

**Philip Wayne**