



# Royal Grammar School

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

2019 - 2020

Please see the named person in charge for further details

## **ART CLUB (GCSE)**

**Tutor i/c:** Mrs G C Francis

Open to Year 11 Art boys. This teacher-led after school session helps support the current GCSE course. The additional time enables the boys to take a rigorous and explorative approach to their sustained body of work. Held on Wednesday 3.40-5.00pm in Art 2.

## **ART CLUB (Junior)**

**Tutor i/c:** Mrs G C Francis

Open to Years 7–9, the Junior Art Homework Club is an opportunity for boys to create exciting and engaging pieces of practical based homework with access to a large range of art materials and support. The Club takes place on Thursday lunchtimes, in Art 2.

## **ASTRONOMY GCSE CLUB**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr O Harris

Open to all year groups from Year 7 upwards. We study the Astronomy GCSE course with the option of sitting the exam to gain a 4th Science GCSE. There is no commitment to do the exam, you can come along just to enjoy the subject. Spaces limited. See Mr Harris for more details.

## **BIOLOGY SOCIETY**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr P Wood

The Biology Society is a discussion group lead by the Biology Ambassadors. It is open to any student in the school who wishes to talk about Biology with other likeminded students. Participants are encouraged to put together their own presentations on topics that extend what is taught in Biology lessons. Outside speakers are also invited to speak to the group.

## **BRAINS OF 13**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr A C Balaam

A “University Challenge” style quiz open to teams of 4 in Year 13 only. The competition runs one lunchtime a week over the year, initially as a round robin, then as a knock-out.

## **BRIDGE CLUB**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr K Watson

Open to all year groups. Classes taught by experienced instructors on Tuesdays at lunchtime in Room 37. Playing Bridge can be used for the skill section of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award and RGS Sixth Form 360° Award.

## **CCF ARMY, NAVY, RAF**

**Tutor i/c:** Sqn Ldr Matthews

Open to Year 10 and above. The CCF provides activities to promote the qualities of leadership, responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance. Activities include sailing, flying, camps, range shooting, field exercises and military knowledge. They take place on Thursday afternoons and at weekends. There is a termly charge for membership.

## **CHAPLAINCY**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr S J C Booth

We have lots of meetings, some for all age groups, some for specific year groups. On Monday lunchtime in L11 there is a meeting for Year 13. On Wednesday break in L3, there is a meeting for all year groups. On Thursday break in L11 there is a 6<sup>th</sup> form meeting and on Friday lunchtime there is a student led meeting in L11. We also have outside speakers so look out for fliers advertising these.

## **CHESS CLUB**

**Tutor i/c:** Mrs Forster

To be confirmed – please keep an eye out for notices on the television screens and around school.

## **CHINESE CLUB**

**Tutor i/c:** Mrs M Merry

Chinese club is a fun way to learn beginner's Chinese through games and songs. Thursday lunchtimes in L10.

## **DEBATING CLUB**

**Tutor i/c:** Mr D Corcoran

Open to Year 10 and above, meets weekly on Mondays at 1.30pm in the Upper Library.

## **DART KARATE**

**Tutor i/c:** Dr J W Titchen

DART is a practical karate system focused on self-defence. It is known for its close-range tactics, non-linear approach, limb manipulation, soft blocking, powerful strikes, legal underpinning and pressure testing scenario training. DART Karate classes have a strong emphasis on impact training, paired exercises, underpinning theory and good biomechanics. The RGS classes have been held on Wednesdays after school by the climbing wall for 15 years. Open to all year groups with beginners always welcome. Instructor John Titchen teaches karate locally in addition to delivering karate and self-defence seminars throughout the UK, Canada, the USA and Europe. Visit [www.dart-selfdefence.com](http://www.dart-selfdefence.com) for further information on the system and instructor.

## **FPV DRONE RACING CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mr L Rowe-Elliott**

A first person video (FPV) drone club for boys that will allow them to learn how to pilot a racing drone, with the opportunity to learn more about the technology as well as take part in races throughout the year. Years and date to be confirmed.

## **THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD**

**Tutor i/c: Mr D Clatworthy**

Open to Year 9 upwards. Participants have the opportunity to progress through all levels of the Bronze/Silver/Gold Awards, learning and developing new skills along the way. Each level of the award has four sections to complete: Volunteering, Skill, Physical and Expedition, with an additional Residential section at Gold level.

## **FENCING**

**Tutor i/c: Mr J N Eve**

Open to Year 8 upwards, and to any Year 7 with previous fencing experience. The Fencing club is held after school in the Sports Hall. Year 8 meet every Wednesday after school until 5.15pm. Years 9-13 meet every Thursday until 5.15pm (Year 8 are also welcome on a Thursday after they have mastered the basics). Year 7 taster sessions will be held in the summer term.

## **FIVES**

**Tutor i/c: Mr C Richardson**

All boys who are interested in playing Eton Fives for the School may practise at break and lunchtimes. Coaching takes place at lunchtime and 3.45pm - 5.00pm on Thursdays. Home and away fixtures are arranged for all age groups. The School Shop stocks gloves and balls for boys to purchase. Many boys are selected to represent the school in the National Schools' Championships, usually held at Eton College in March each year.

## **GREENPOWER ELECTRIC RACING CAR CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Dr G Brown**

The Club is open to all students in Years 9 -13 inclusive, who have a budding or fully-fledged interest in science and engineering and will enjoy the challenge of designing, building, improving and racing full-sized electric racing cars against other schools. The School has two Formula 24 car kits (12 to 16 years) and the senior boys are scratch-building their own F24+ car (16 to 25 years).

Building the cars takes place in the Science Block – F24 (Years 9-11) on Tuesdays at 3.45 – 5pm. F24+ (Years 11-13) on Wednesdays at the same time and place. Race days are normally on Sundays at different motorsport venues in the southeast of England, with the season running from April to October, including an end of season finale at Silverstone in Northants. Each car team consists of 12–15 students and therefore overall demand and availability of staff members will determine the number of teams. The Club values highly the support of volunteers and parents in both the construction of the cars and in allowing us to participate at these race events.

## **HANDWRITING CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mrs R Marchant**

Open to all years. Handwriting Club is held every Monday lunchtime from 1.30–2.00pm in the room at the back of the Library. Work is done in small groups or individually in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Access to a self-taught touch-typing package is also available at these sessions.

## **HISTORY FORUM**

**Tutor i/c: Mr S B Taylor**

Open to senior History students. The History Forum takes place on Wednesday lunchtimes in Room 29.

## **HISTORY SOCIETY (Junior)**

**Tutor i/c: Miss C Gibbs**

Open to students in Years 7-9. The Junior History Society takes place on Tuesday lunchtimes in Room 22 on alternate weeks (beginning second week of term). Discussions, investigations, debates – come along and get involved.

## **HOMEWORK CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mr J N Eve**

Open to Years 7–10. A permission slip must be signed by a parent before a pupil can join and attend whenever he wishes to. Homework club runs Monday to Thursday in the Library, 3.45–4.45pm.

## **ISLAMIC SOCIETY**

**Tutor i/c: Mr A R Wallace**

Open to all year groups. Meets on Friday at 1.45pm in Room 9 for prayer.

## MUSIC ACTIVITIES

**Tutors i/c:**        **Various (see below)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Windband** open to Years 9-13 who are Grade 5–8. Run by Mr T P Venvell, Monday at 1.35pm.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Windband** open to Years 7–10 who are Grade 2–4. Run by Mr Mullaly, Tuesday at 1.35pm.

**Clarinet Ensemble** by audition. Run by Mrs Downie, Tuesday 8.30am.

**Close Harmony Singers** open by audition to Years 12–13. Run by Mr T P Venvell, Wednesday and Thursday at 11.45am.

**Guitar Ensemble** run by Mr Robeson, Wednesday at 8.45am.

**Senior Brass/Wind Ensemble** open by audition to Years 10–13 who are Grade 6–8. Run by Mr T P Venvell, Wednesday 1.35pm.

**Junior Strings** open to Years 7–9 who are Grade 2–4 string players. Run by Mr Venvell, Tuesday at 1.35pm.

**RGS Big Band** for Grade 6 and above and by audition. Run by Mr J Craig, Mondays at 3.45pm.

**Senior Choir** Wednesday 8.45am.

**Senior Orchestra** open to Years 9–13 who are Grade 5–8. Run by Mr T P Venvell, Tuesday at 3.45pm.

**Swing Band** open to Years 8–11 who are Grade 4–6. Run by Mr Mullaly, Thursday, 8.40am.

**Trad Jazz Band**, by audition. Run by Mr T P Venvell, Thursday at 1.35pm.

**Year 7 & 8 Choir** Tuesday and Friday, 8.45am.

**Year 9 Choir** Monday and Thursday, 8.40am.

## **MATHS MENTORING**

**Tutor i/c: Mr S Armitage**

Open to all year groups on a Tuesday lunchtime. Boys will be asked to sign up via their Maths teachers. Regular attendance is encouraged to get the most help from Sixth Form mentors. The mentoring will take place in Rooms 33 and 35 in the Maths block.

## **MATHS BATTLES CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mr V Chernov**

A Maths Battle is a competition between two teams of students, where each team presents their solutions to the opposition who challenge their answers. The idea is similar to that of a sports team, so competing regularly and training in between the competitions is expected. RGS Students compete every half term against each other and frequently compete with students from other schools. Maths Battles are run with the help of WeSolveProblems charity.

## **MATHS CHALLENGE CLUB:**

**Tutor i/c: Mr T A Woolliams**

Maths Challenge Club takes place every Wednesday lunchtime in Room 36. It gives boys in all year groups a chance to familiarise themselves with the UKMT Maths Challenge Papers as well as the opportunity to try out some of the Maths Team Challenge games and activities. We also run sessions on a variety of recreational mathematical ideas and discoveries. The Club is led by the Maths Subject Ambassadors which is a team of very enthusiastic Sixth Formers.

## **MEDICAL SOCIETY (Medsoc)**

**Tutor i/c: Mr P J Wood**

The Medical Society is for boys in Years 11-13 who are interested in pursuing a career in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry or an allied subject. We support boys in their application to Medicine, including giving help with UCAS applications, personal statements, work experience and interview practice. We have regular meetings and external speakers who come in and address the students.

## **PHYSICS STUDY CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mr O Harris**

Open to boys in Years 9-13 and held on Monday lunchtimes in P2. Boys can attend these drop-in sessions, without prior notice, to discuss classwork and homework with 6<sup>th</sup> Form Physics prefects and mentors. Weekly one to one mentoring can also be arranged with 6<sup>th</sup> Form Physics mentors at a convenient time upon request.

## **POLITICS SOCIETY (Polsoc)**

**Tutor i/c: Mr S Taylor**

Open to boys in Years 10–13 for discussion and debates on current politics and political events. Meets every Tuesday lunchtime 1.40-2.15pm in Room 29.

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

**Tutor i/c: Mrs S Corbishley**

Pupils are invited to audition for a place in the School teams. The Senior Team is open to Years 10-13 and the Junior Team is open to Years 8-9. Competitions will take place after Christmas and any successful team will go on to represent the School in the Rotary Club County Competition. There will also be a Year 7 and 8 inter-form public speaking competition, 'RGS Speaks', run by the English Department during the summer term. All boys will participate.

## **READING CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mrs J P Jones, Librarian**

The Reading Club is open to all boys in the School, with older boys advising and encouraging younger years with their reading choices. It is held on Wednesday lunchtimes in the Library Office. We try to read a wide range of fiction books, and discussions are often lively as all views are welcomed. Reading Club members also read and review books that have been shortlisted for the prestigious national Carnegie Children's Book Award. Turn up on Wednesday lunchtimes with your lunch and enjoy the Reading Club Books and Biscuits experience!

## **ROWING CLUB**

**Tutor i/c: Mr B Gascoine**

The RGS Boat Club is open to boys from Year 8 upwards. Novice rowers begin by attending an introductory course over the Easter holiday in Year 8. Rowing training takes place on the Thames at Longridge Activity Centre near Marlow after school Monday to Thursday and in the mornings at weekends. During the winter, when rowing on the Thames is not possible, land-based training takes place at school. Boys compete in races locally and at national level, where we have had considerable success over the last few years. The Club values highly the support of volunteers and parents, particularly through Friends of RGS Rowing, which allows us to participate in these events and to offer rowing to boys of abilities ranging from novice to aspiring international athletes.



## SIKH SOCIETY

**Tutor i/c:** Mr Noyes

The Sikh Society at RGS is a society open to all year groups and runs every Monday lunchtime in Room 16. We endeavour to provide a social platform for everyone and enforce a strong sense of companionship and security across and within year groups. An aspect of the Society will be educational, informing people about Sikh history and legend as well as modern issues surrounding Sikhs worldwide. There will be occasional outside speakers and we will also run entertainment such as Q&A sessions and small games and occasionally some traditional Indian food will be brought in to the session.

## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

**Tutors i/c:** Various

Sporting activities on offer at RGS, some of which are seasonal, are listed below, – please see the notice board in the Sports Department for further information.

- Director of Sport – Mr D Pettifer
- Athletics – Mr D Pettifer
- Badminton – Mr F Hammons
- Basketball – Mr D Pettifer
- Cricket – Mr A Fletcher
- Cross-Country – Mr D P Gallagher
- Fencing – Mr J N Eve
- Fives – Mr C Richardson
- Football (during TAA) – Mr D O'Reilly
- Hockey – Mr S Clark
- Rowing – Mr B Gascoine
- Rugby – Mr J Honeyben
- Self Defence – Dr J W Titchen
- Squash – Mr P Glendining
- Swimming – Mr D Pettifer
- Table Tennis – Mrs S L Morsing
- Tennis – Mrs L M Woodbury

## SQUASH CLUB

**Tutor i/c:** Mr P W Glendining

All squash players of a reasonable club standard of play are invited to join the junior (Under 15) and senior (Over 15) squads. Teams play at local squash clubs (Holmer Green, Beaconsfield and Booker) in friendly matches against local opposition. We participate in the All-England Schools Competition and have progressed to the finals on three occasions in recent years, including last year.

## STAGE LIGHTING AND SOUND TEAM

**Tutor i/c:** Mr A C Balaam

Open to a limited number of boys from Year 9 upwards. Activities occur whenever there is a need and boys must apply to join.

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB

**Tutor i/c:** Mrs S L Morsing

Open to all year groups. The Club meets in the Space on Wednesdays 3.50-5.00pm, except when examinations or other events are taking place in the Queen's Hall.

## VULTURE SOCIETY

**Tutors i/c:** Mrs S Corbishley & Mrs R Gilyeat

Open to Years 12 and 13. Three evening visits in the Autumn and Spring terms. A cultural society which offers students the opportunity to visit the theatre to experience the more avant-garde plays and musicals in London and Oxford. Payment will be made in a lump sum at the beginning of the year once students have signed up, at a rate of £89 via Parent Pay.

## WARHAMMER CLUB

**Tutor i/c** Mr L A Pettengell

**Warhammer Club** is an RGS society open to all year groups. Warhammer is a hobby that engages young people with fun games and collectable miniatures, encouraging them to develop skills and gain confidence through building and painting the models whilst developing friendships and social skills. Whether you wish to fight skirmishes in a world of fantasy battles or command armies in the grim darkness in the far future, the Warhammer hobby has something for everyone. Club members typically bring their models to a session, where they can either build and paint or battle their models against their friends. The Club welcomes both experienced hobbyists and novices and aims to develop the hobby skills of both. Every year we also run a painting competition and trip to the global headquarters of the Warhammer hobby, Warhammer World. We meet every Tuesday after school in B3.

## WORLD CHALLENGE

**Tutor i/c:** Mr D Clatworthy

Open to Years 8 and above, World Challenge designs and delivers outdoor educational programmes for school groups. This could be anything from a one-week to a four-week expedition across the world! Over the past two years, through World Challenge, RGS has run expeditions to Croatia, Morocco, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Tanzania and Ecuador.

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

**Tutor i/c: Dr M Goodier**

The RGS participates in the Young Enterprise Company Programme. The Company Programme allows Year 12 Students to gain practical experience of running a business and to develop skills in areas such as communication, teamwork and finance. Students set up and run their own companies from September through to the Area Finals in March. The best teams can progress through County and Regional stages to the National Final. Each team is expected to attend a company meeting with their Business Advisors on Tuesdays from 3.45-5.00pm. Potential participants should also be aware that there will be a number of training and selling events during the evening or at the weekend during the course of the competition. Success in the Company Programme is dependent upon the level of commitment that participants make, but it is fair to say that that participants generally gain a great deal from being willing to get involved and moving out of their comfort zones.

CLUB	STAFF	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
ART CLUB (GCSE)	Mrs Francis	Wednesday	3.40-5.00pm	Art 2
ART CLUB (JUNIOR)	Mrs Francis	Thursday	1.30pm	Art 2
ASTRONOMY	Mr Harris	Please see Mr Harris		
BIOLOGY SOCIETY	Mr Wood	Led by Biology Ambassadors - fortnightly		
BRAINS OF 13	Mr Balaam	One lunchtime a week		
BRIDGE CLUB	Mr Watson	Tuesday	1.30pm	Room 37
CCF/ARMY/NAVY/RAF	Sqn Ldr Matthews	Thursday afternoons and weekends		
CHAPLAINCY	Mr Booth	Weekly	various	various
CHESS CLUB	Mrs Forster	TO BE CONFIRMED		
CHINESE CLUB	Mrs Merry	Thursday	1.30pm	L10
DEBATING	Mr Corcoran	Monday	1.30pm	Upper Library
DART KARATE	Dr Titchen	Wednesday	3.40pm	Sports Hall
DRONE RACING CLUB	Mr Rowe-Elliott	Please see Mr Rowe-Elliott		
DUKE OF EDINBURGH	Mr Clatworthy	Throughout the year for Years 9-13		
FENCING	Mr Eve	Wed & Thurs	3.45-5.15pm	Sports Hall
FIVES	Mr Richardson	Thursday	3.45-5.00pm	Fives Courts
GREENPOWER ELECTRIC RACING CAR	Dr Brown	Tues Years 9-11 Weds Years 11-13	3.45-5.00pm 3.45-5.00pm	Science G3 Science G3
HANDWRITING CLUB	Mrs Marchant	Monday	1.30pm	Library
HISTORY FORUM	Mr Taylor	Wednesday	1.30pm	Room 29
HISTORY SOCIETY	Miss Gibbs	Tuesday	1.30pm	Room 22
HOMEWORK CLUB	Mr Eve	Mon-Thurs	3.45-4.45pm	Library
ISLAMIC SOCIETY	Mr Wallace	Friday	1.45pm	Room 9
MATHS MENTORING	Mr Armitage	Tuesday	1.30pm	Rooms 33 & 35
MATHS CHALLENGE	Mr Woolliams	Wednesday	1.30pm	Room 36
MEDICAL SOCIETY	Mr Wood	Various	1.30pm	Biology Dept
MUSIC ACTIVITIES	Mr Venvell	Daily	1.30 / 3.40pm	Music Block
PHYSICS STUDY CLUB	Mr Harris	Monday	1.30pm	P2
POLITICS SOCIETY	Mr Taylor	Tuesday	1.40pm	Room 29
PUBLIC SPEAKING	Mrs Corbishley	Spring and Summer Term		
READING CLUB	Mrs Jones	Wednesday	1.30pm	Library
ROWING	Mr Gascoine	Training confirmed depending on weather		
SIKH SOCIETY	Mr Noyes	Monday	1.30	Room 16
SPORTING ACTIVITIES	Mr Pettifer	Daily – notices given out depending on sport		
SQUASH	Mr Glendining	Thursday	1.30pm	Off site
STAGE LIGHTING	Mr Balaam	Activities occur when there is a need		
TABLE TENNIS	Mrs Morsing	Wednesday	3.45-5.00pm	The Space
VULTURE	Mrs Corbishley	Theatre trips arranged and advised to attendees		
WARHAMMER CLUB	Mr Pettengell	Tuesday	3.45-5.00pm	B3
WORLD CHALLENGE	Mr Clatworthy	Trips advertised annually		
YOUNG ENTERPRISE	Dr Goodier	Tuesday	3.45-5.00pm	Science Block