

HEADMASTER'S LETTER

14 June 2021



Dear Parent

HAPPY AND GLORIOUS

It's been quite a weekend: the England game, the G7 Summit, Trooping of the Colour, disappointment for cricket fans. In the round, what a glorious weekend and, for those of us who enjoy watching England win at football, a happy one. How great it was to see fans at Wembley which has a considerable impact on the atmosphere. After all, we all want to be able to be a part of things again, to be socialising and to feel that, notwithstanding the 'doing things differently', we are getting back to normal. How quickly and how 'normal' this will be, we will find out a short while after my letter has gone out - so I will not speculate here. I am hoping beyond hope that we will be able to run the events we had intended to, but let's see what the Prime Minister has to say. I remain very appreciative of the way staff and students have worked together to maintain a high quality of education, both curricular and co-curricular.

VALETE

We said goodbye to Year 13 on Friday. A customary, amusing speech from the Sixth Form Team and a BBQ made for a most enjoyable event, following on from their visit to Thorpe Park the day before. I should like to take the opportunity to commend this year group on their resilience in the midst of exceptional circumstances. My thanks, too, for their support and representation of the School over the years. And, to parents, I also offer you thanks for being a vital component in the home/school partnership and for attending academic and social events. RGS is a great community in which families and staff work together in the best interests of our young people. Please do encourage your son to stay in touch with us. Although I have sent these links to your son in my valedictory letter, you may wish to remind him to sign up to the OW website and our two LinkedIn accounts:

- [OW website](#) which will keep your son up to date with events at and news about RGS. It also gives us the vehicle to maintain contact and to hear of successes
- a closed LinkedIn account for [Alumni](#)
- an open one which we are building to support the [future employment prospects of RGS boys](#).

RGS PHOTOGRAPH

Many thanks to Tom Bridges and Chris Wilson (Year 12) for capturing photograph above of Main Block and The Quad.

EXAM WEEK and a SPORTING CHANCE

I hope that your son was able to make good use of the study leave last week and I wish all boys every success in the coming week as they undertake their 'End of Year' or UCAS examinations. Many thanks to the Sports Department for giving Years 7-9 a sporting opportunity on one of the three days.

PARENT GOVERNOR

I am pleased to announce that Rachel Stevens has been elected, as parent governor. The appointment will now go to the main board for ratification later this month. We will also have some other categories of governors joining the board in the new academic year, which I shall announce after the board meeting.

#techognition

There was a national event on Friday to celebrate the work of school technicians who, traditionally, fulfil important roles in Science and Engineering departments. I was very pleased to join in the celebration by joining the hashtag #techognition on Twitter, in relation to Dr Horn, Mrs Brown, Mrs Phelps, Mr Eadie and Mr Foley, technicians in Science, Chemistry, Biology, Physics and DT/Engineering respectively. As Mr Pettengell (who led the awareness of the event) said 'their work allows excellent teaching and learning to take place'. And so say all of us, extending this to all support staff at RGS.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT GRADES

The assessment window complete, the School will shortly be submitting its evidence to the examination boards so that our data can be converted to Teacher Assessment Grades. This has been an immense task for schools to undertake; I hope that parents are fully aware of the additional work that school staff have had to do in order to give our students the best possible chance of success. I am sure you will join me in thanking the staff for their professionalism and commitment to their boys in this process alongside the day to day teaching, preparation and marking they ordinarily do.

SPORT SUCCESS

The Department are very good at keeping me informed of sporting success. Here are some of them:

- **Rugby:** Ollie Dawkins, Billy Kucera, Jack Pargetter, Jack Allison and Will Evans for representing Wasps U18s v Sale. Ollie starts full time next month with Wasps and Will captained the side in a hard-fought win.
- **Cricket:** Ethan Horne and Joshua Cooper for being highlighted amongst the 'best performers' in Bucks Junior Cricket Competitions, playing for Ballinger Waggoners CC and High Wycombe CC respectively.
- **Rowing:** Fraser Clark, James Over, Jimmy Partington and Charles Manning for coming 3rd in the J18 final of the National Schools Regatta at Dorney Lake. The page to the NSR, including a video of the race, is [here](#). In addition to his success in the J18 quad at NSR, Fraser Clark, through his 2K and 5K ergo scores, was able to participate in the GB Rowing Junior Trials which also took place at Dorney. His performance in the time trial qualified him for one of the finals in which he came third thereby placing him among the top 33 open J18 scullers in the country.
- **Athletics:** Alden Collier for winning Bucks Schools Athletics 1500m at the weekend. Now nominated for National competition in both the 800m and 1500m.

Yours sincerely

Philip Wayne