

HEADMASTER'S LETTER

17 January 2022



Dear Parent

At the end of term, we said good bye to Mr Peter Wood, Subject Leader for Biology and Associate Assistant Head. Pete joined RGS in 2011 and was promoted to Subject Leader in 2016. Under his leadership, we have seen a number of innovations within the department alongside continued strong student outcomes at GCSE and A level. Pete has been promoted to the post of Assistant Head at The Misbourne School. We wish him every success in the future and thank him for his great contribution to RGS.

I should like to congratulate Lee Rowe-Elliott on his promotion to the post of Subject Leader for Biology and wish him every success.

We welcome three new colleagues:

- Leanna Roberts, Biology Teacher, who has joined us from Holmer Green Senior School
- Jon Carrington, who has taken up the post of Estates and Facilities Manager
- Nasir Bandey who has joined the IT team as a Senior Technician.

We wish them all a happy and rewarding time with us.

THANK YOU!

The very successful CrowdFund, run by the Parents' Association last year and raising nearly £36k with Gift Aid, had an immediate impact in that it funded a suite of new computers, for the use of a number of departments, in addition to supporting some infrastructure work. We had to wait rather longer than hoped for the canopies over an outdoor eating area. These are now installed and it has been well worth the wait; they look super and will make a real difference to that part of the school. A photo is above. We hope to add to these over time to make outdoor eating more comfortable around the school estate. Many thanks to all parents (and grandparents) who contributed to the CrowdFund. Your support, in so many ways, is much appreciated.

SPORT

It has been good to see a range of sports taking place. Please do sign up to the Sports Twitter and Instagram accounts for updates. @RGSHWSport and rgshw_sport.

There was some great rugby on Saturday as a part of our internal fixtures. I should like to wish the seniors a great game against Warwick on Wednesday and the U15 every good fortune in the Nat West regional final on Thursday afternoon, against Wellington College. If we win, we will then progress to the national quarter finals.

It was super to see three RGS 1st XV players named on the Wasps U18 team sheet v Yorkshire - namely Will Evans, Sammy Sinclair and Billy Kucera. Congratulations!

There was a very well contested hockey game in the Boys' Independent Schools Hockey Cup last week; we were beaten 4-2 by Bradfield College - boys held their heads high and were pleased with an excellent performance to build on against tough opposition.

RGS 2026

I made the decision at the start of the pandemic to ensure that we maintained a high standard of academic education and secured the financial future of the School. That was the focus and the priorities enabled us not to be taken off course. We have resurrected our co-curricular programme and continue to offer strong support to students and staff. We are, however, keen to start looking forward. As I write on a sunny, if chilly morning, I am very pleased that we have come through some very difficult times and are now putting considerable energy into planning for the future.

The Board of Governors met on Saturday for a Strategy Day in which we revisited our Vision and Mission statement and worked through my proposals. In tandem with this, the Senior Team are putting some detail into areas which require it and there are a range of staff conversations taking place. Once we are in a position to do so, we will hold some student round tables and ultimately let you know of our plans. Capital investment will be a key feature of the plan but we will not be steered off our course of offering the best possible experience to those who study and those who work here. It is very exciting to start putting together what RGS will look like in 2026, with improvements along the way that will benefit all stakeholders.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Several of our Year 13 Physics students recently took part in Round 1 of the Physics Olympiad, which is essentially the trial paper for the National Olympiad Team. Three of them (Matthew Duxbury, Aniket Rathod and Joshua Henry) achieved a Gold Award which puts them in the top 16 % of the very best Year 13 Physicists in the Country. Matthew was in the top 7 % of the country and may be selected to trial for the National Olympiad Team.

With best wishes

Philip Wayne