

HEADMASTER'S LETTER 7 October 2021



Dear Parent

I was rather glad to have a break at the weekend, following a particularly busy week. I did, however, pop in to see some of the Junior Rugby and to meet some of our new parents. May I remind parents that rugby spectators should follow the 'Rugby Parking' signs and snake their way through the estate until they reach a large quadrangle (in front of the Science/Biology buildings) which is the designated area.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Last week started with the Jeans for Genes Assembly with, arguably, the finest teacher/boy band I have heard for this annual event. Just a reminder to parents that we do like our students to recognise the needs of those less fortunate than themselves and we encourage them to give generously to the Benevolent Fund.

VACCINATIONS

I am sure that many of you are being held up by the queues outside the filling stations; the fuel availability shortage hindered the availability of NHS staff to administer vaccines on Wednesday and I am therefore sorry that we did not get through every student either eligible for or wishing to receive a vaccine.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

How super it was to meet so many Year 7 parents at the Parents' Association Welcome Evening on Thursday. Their sons had, just a few hours earlier, returned from the Year 7 residential in the New Forest so it was particularly impressive that they were willing to come out during the evening. The work of the PA has been superb in the last year, despite the Pandemic, and I would encourage all parents to keep an eye on events and, if they have the time to do so, to get involved. The AGM is on 14 October; please do put the date in your diary.

TRIPS

The trip, mentioned above, was a great success - almost all of Year 7 were able to participate. My thanks to staff for enabling this important bonding event to go ahead. There are some great photos on our main School Twitter account @rgshw. We're also very pleased to see our trips programme opening up again - it is one of our key provisions and offers superb opportunities for our boys.

CHAMBER CHOIR

Our Chamber Choir joined choirs from other boys' grammar schools (though they all, save for us, were co-ed in the Sixth Form) to sing Choral Evensong at St Peter's College, University of Oxford. I was unable to attend, due to a Board Meeting, but I have heard good rumours! It is incumbent on an increasingly small number of schools to keep these traditions alive; Choral Evensong is sung through some of the most wonderful music – I accompanied such a service on Sunday evening at the Parish Church in High Wycombe, the choir outnumbering the congregation.

CAREERS BULLETIN

May I draw to your attention our monthly [careers bulletin](#), which contains much important information as our young people think about their futures.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Gianni Austin, Charlie Marsh and Rishi Viswanat who have been awarded Arkwright Engineering Scholarships. These are very prestigious awards with only a handful of the 700 applicants being successful in receiving the scholarship. My thanks to the Design Technology Department for their support of the boys, not only those who were successful but also those who applied and were commended for their ability.

WARHAMMER CLUB – REQUEST FOR DONATIONS

Our Warhammer Club continues to grow year-on-year, with more members this year than ever before! As one of the School's biggest non-academic or Sport Clubs, we have a significant number of players across all year groups who are seeking to grow and develop their collections. To support this development and allow us to increase our members' understanding of the broader hobby, Mr Pettengell is looking for donations of Games Workshop models, equipment, paint, publications, etc that are likely sat cluttering up your attic. Any condition is more than gratefully accepted. If you wish to donate please leave your donation at Reception, where we will collect them.

With best wishes.

Philip Wayne