

2nd April 2019

Dear Parents,

Spring is supposedly now upon us and even if the weather seemed to only improve for a short while, that along with the lighter evenings meant it was brilliant to see so many boarders outside enjoying themselves playing football and touch rugby, last week.

At this point of the year our Year 13s look towards their final A level exams and therefore our Year 12s become the House Prefects. All of the house (students and staff) voted for the Prefects and then those selected were interviewed by the resident house staff and outgoing Head of House. I would like to commend all the Year 12s who applied, and congratulate those who gained prefect selection. I would of course like to thank the Year 13s for their work as prefects. Huge congratulations go to our new Head of House, Mushota and his two deputies Sufyaan and Oli.



The new prefect team and an official handover from Adil to Mushota

In terms of reports Year 11 and 12 should be receiving an academic report and Year 11 and 13 should all bring home their final boarding report at the end of term. Year 7, 8 & 10 have also just had a Parents evening in the last few weeks. Boarding reports and academic reports or progress grades for Years 7-10 and Year 12 will be issued during the summer term. For Years 11-13 the crucial exam period is fast approaching and I am encouraged to see that the huge majority of students are working effectively. Year 11 students have even withdrawn from some of their beloved Boarder's football to engage in extra revision sessions. The end of March is the date when universities have to let Yr 13 students know about their offers and I would like to commend the Year 13s for some of the exceptional offers they have gained for institutions as widespread as Exeter to Edinburgh. LSE, UCL, Durham, Warwick are all very popular destinations for the Year 13s this year.



FYH Karting champions

Telephone
01494 551405

Email
jis@rgshw.com

Facsimile
01494 551419

Website
www.rgshw.com

National Squash Finalist Rory

Fraser Youens House
Ridgeway
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP13 5LH

Headmaster
Philip Wayne

Registered No. 07492198

Royal Grammar School
Amersham Road
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP13 6QT

On the sporting front lots of boarders have represented the school at either rowing, hockey, cross-country, squash, fencing, fives or rugby over the past two terms, well done to one and all. Huge congratulations should go to Rory Brady who helped the school reach The National Squash final at U16 level. Next term I would encourage boys to try out for both the cricket, tennis and athletic squads. I know that the Year 9 students toured Jersey beating De Le Salle College and Jersey in the same weekend. It is great to see some of our Year 9s currently undertaking the volunteering section of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award, not only have they been working around Fraser Youens but we have lots of students volunteering outside of school. From our point of view we are huge advocates of educating students outside of the classroom environment and we have just surveyed the whole boarding house in terms of their co-curricular involvement, over 95% of the house immerse themselves in the wider offering at RGS with many partaking in several school activities. These include school productions, orchestra, choir, car building, stage sound and lighting, sports teams and of course all the normal academic mentoring and symposiums that exist. I also know that many of the boarders are involved in their own activities outside of school and we are always keen to hear their progress.



FYH does bake off & The Big Debate (Remain or Leave)

This half term also saw many Year 12 students participate in the Management Conference at Wycombe Abbey and those who attended will be joining the girls at their annual Bake ball next term, if they so wish. Earlier in the term I was asked to be a tasting judge as twenty of our boarders took up the Bake off Boarding Challenge. I have to say that the boys did themselves proud and the winning entry by Rory and Tom was something that I would happily have paid for at a restaurant. Coincidentally the day that parliament debated (yet again) Brexit we held our own debate on whether the country should continue with the process and follow the democratic decision made two years ago. The debate was well argued and the result much closer than many anticipated due to some very cohesive points put across by both sides. An argument on not only the merits of the EU but a question of democracy. Having the confidence to stand up and argue points of view in front of an audience of 70 or indeed for a 12 year old to intellectually challenge a 17 year old with a well thought out question is exactly why we hold these debates.

I would like to urge all of the years 11-13 to think long and hard about the forthcoming exams and I hope that they all have a relaxing break but also ensure that revision is well underway. I want to wish everyone who is away with family or on school trips such as the World Challenge to Morocco the very best. Several of our boarders will be returning from Germany and Spain after the annual exchange visits. The Exchange visit to Osnabruck, Germany celebrates its fiftieth year. For many of these trips or for a fuller picture of boarding and school I would recommend the RGSHW twitter feed or the boarding blog.

As we quickly approach the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the holiday arrangements, including the May Bank holiday exeat:

Easter Holidays:

School ends at 1.00pm Friday April 5th
 Fraser Youens House closes at 6.00pm April 5th
 Fraser Youens House reopens at 7.00pm Monday April 22nd
 School starts at 8.40 am Tuesday April 23rd

Summer Exeat:

Fraser Youens closes at 7.00pm Friday May 3rd
 Fraser Youens reopens at 7.00pm Monday May 6th

We would like to wish everyone an enjoyable Easter and look forward to welcoming the boys back for the final term of this academic year.

Yours sincerely

J I Scourfield (Director of Boarding/Assistant Head) jis@rgshw.com
 G M Gallagher (Academic Housemistress) gmg@rgshw.com
 A X Silvey (Pastoral Housemaster) axs@rgshw.com