



The RGS Mail

July 2018

Dear Families, Students and Old Scholars

It's Standalone Week again!

I have just returned from the Sea Terminal where a number of trips departed this morning for destinations near and far during this year's standalone week. Students are travelling to Paris, Brussels, Valkenburg and Amsterdam as well as to destinations closer to home such as Liverpool and Sealyham. There is also a wide range of on-island opportunities on offer which include Arts and Crafts, Bowling and Laser Blast, Venture Centre activities and 'Murder, Mystery and Mayhem'. The extra-curricular trips and activities offered during standalone week are a clear demonstration of Ramsey Grammar School's commitment to providing 'Excellence for All'. We are very much aware that learning takes place beyond as well as in the classroom and we are very proud to be able to offer our students such a wide range of diverse activities.

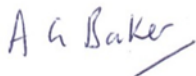
One of these enrichment opportunities concluded the day before standalone, with the return to Bayreuth of our German exchange partners after a brilliant week on the sunny Isle of Man. Some of our Sixth Form students were able to take up the unique chance to add "Work Experience in a European Country" to their CV through placements in and around Bayreuth earlier this term. Both sides of this exchange were an outstanding success with friendships made for life between its participants, many of whom have already made arrangements to return to Germany during the summer holiday.

To make any of these events happen takes an extraordinary amount of work by dedicated staff. I would like to thank Miss Devlin and Mrs Rousseau for their work on the inaugural German work experience exchange and Mrs Butler-Smith, Mr Corrin and all the members of our hard working office support staff for making it possible to run such a wide array of activities during Standalone week. None of this could happen without their help or without the help of all staff, particularly those who leave their families behind for a short time to accompany our students on off-island trips. I am sure that parents and carers appreciate the peace and quiet at home which is a serendipitous by-product of this fantastic week!

As another year draws to a close, we look towards the results days in the summer and would like to remind students that A Level results will be available from Sixth Form Centre on Thursday 16th August from 9.00 am and GCSE results on Thursday 23rd August. Some IGCSE results will be published on-line for students to access by password a week before GCSE results day. On both results days, staff will be on hand to provide advice and support to students. Induction interviews for the sixth form will take place on the afternoon of the 23rd and on Friday 24th August.

We will be saying goodbye to a number of long standing members of staff at the end of this term. We would like to wish John Hutchinson, Julie Owen and Vicky Pugh a very long and happy retirement and extend our very best wishes to Vikki Hope, Conor Keelaghan, Pete Owen and support staff, Linda Shimmin, Susie Fargher, Sally Parish as they move on to pastures new.

I wish you a very happy and sunny summer holiday and look forward to seeing students old and new at the start of the new academic year on Wednesday 5th September.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A G Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mrs A G Baker
Headteacher

Easter Ski Trip 2019

6th - 13th April 2019

First week of Easter Holidays

**Flying from
IOM to Austria**

**Resort - Ehrwald
Hotel - Sonnenburg**



Trip Inclusions

- *Return flights from Isle of Man**
- *7 nights Half Board accommodation**
- *6 days lift pass**
- *6 days x 4 hours ski lessons**
- *6 days ski, boot & helmet hire**
- *Selection of evening activities**
- *Comprehensive travel insurance**
- *Baggage carriage**

**Cost
£999**

**Deposit
£200**



**Interested?
See Mr Lillie
for a letter**

Year 7 Make it Grow

As has become customary, the RGSA sponsored the Make it Grow scheme for Year 7 again this year.

Mrs Lucy Buxton, RGSA treasurer suggested the idea many years ago and it has grown and developed over the years.

There is now a trophy presented on Annual Prize Giving day to the ‘Young Entrepreneur’ which has been kindly sponsored by the Tramontana Family and Ramsey Art Gallery for the past few years also.

As one of our main tasks is fund-raising, it is so wonderful to see the innovative and clever ideas that our students surprise us with, in order to create a profit from their £2 stake money. This years group have been outstanding and it is our pleasure to announce the winners.

The winners are not picked on their profit margins, rather on their ingenious and creative ideas, the committee are only shown a list of the ideas and projects and pick the winners ‘blindly.’

Mrs Buxton sponsors the winning prizes, and Class form prizes for most returned entries, and as this is her last year on the RGSA Committee she has been delighted to see an AMAZING profit returned from this years Year 7 pupils of **£1784.24.**

Year 7 will now decide what they would like to see their money spent on. Last year the year group wanted some more benches in the school yards and quads for break time and we are almost finished finalising where they will be placed.

The following pupils were all given their prizes at assembly a week ago and each of them has a page post dedicated to them on the RGSA Facebook page for proud parents and families to view [@RGSAIOM](#) is the link to follow.

7A Mr Keelaghan’s class were the overall winners of a tightly contested project and Peter Corteen is the overall winner this year. Peter sold and painted Manx rocks to TT visitors and also sold tickets for a raffle for a VW Campervan overnight trip.



Winners

4 Parish Church Cycling Challenge (group of 2)	7A	Matthew Bell & Joseph Devaney
Made personalised key rings out of fallen wood	7V	Brooke Goldsmith
Chocolate dipped pretzels (group of 2)	7V	Ruby Arnold & Poppy Culshaw
Homemade clay keyrings	7R	Ashleigh Beastall
Jewellery Making (Group of 2)	7V	Chloe Murphy & Chloe Sharples
Laps of Mooragh Lake	7C	Daniel Comley
Selling cakes I made	7B	Abbigail Radcliffe
Sold sausage baps to bikers at Sulby Claddaghs	7S	Harry Eyres
Swapped £2 for a different £2, sold for profit	7R	Juan Quine
Selling popcorn at the Corry Park	7A	Erin Corkill
Painted Manx Rocks & Sold tickets for a VW campervan trip (ticket & rock supplied)	7A	Peter Corteen



Business Studies ‘Make it Grow’ at Ramsey Grammar School

The RGSA committee in collaboration with the Business Studies team gave all students in Year 10 the opportunity to become young entrepreneurs. Each Year 10 Business Studies student received £3 (75 students), on ‘loan’ from the RGSA. With the support of their Business Studies teachers (Mr Hindle, Mr Shimmin & Mrs Davies) the students were asked to come up with an idea that would make that £3 grow.

The scheme ran for two weeks in April which gave the students plenty of time to come up with a business idea, make the product, promote their product/service and then sell it to the public. These included dog walking, cake making, car washing, selling hot dogs, tuck shop and making/selling popcorn - whatever the students wanted to do. It was an ideal opportunity for them to work individually or with a small group of friends to make their £3 grow. One of the students commented, ‘This has been a fun project to do and has really made us think about how we can make our project a success’

At the end of the initiative the students handed in their money and presented £900 to Lucy Buxton, Treasurer RGSA. She said ‘I was delighted to hear how well the students have done, congratulations to all of them’. Students developed numerous skills while working on the project such as communication, problem solving, working independently and at the same time incorporating their business studies knowledge and applying this to a ‘real’ business. Mr Hindle Head of Social Sciences at RGS commented ‘this has been a really worthwhile project and the students have really stepped up – well done to all of them for having a go!’

Once the loan had been paid back the students were left with £709 and were able to decide what they wanted to do with the profit. They chose to donate 50% to Alder Hey Hospital, Liverpool and the remainder will fund a project at the school that has been chosen by the Business Studies students.



Ealish, Lily, Victoria, Hannah Rose

RSC
ROYAL
SHAKESPEARE
COMPANY

LIVE FROM STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

ROME &



JULIET

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

BROADCAST LIVE TO CINEMAS ON **18 JULY 2018**

FIND YOUR NEAREST CINEMA AT **ONSCREEN.RSC.ORG.UK**

TRAFALGAR
— RELEASING —



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

COMING SOON TO THE NORTHERN THEATRE
EXPERIENCE

Season 2018/2019

National
Theatre
Live



<i>Date</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Time*</i>
Wednesday 18 th July	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	RSC	7.00 pm
NEW SEASON BEGINS			
Wednesday 12 th September	<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	RSC	7.00 pm
Thursday 27 th September	<i>King Lear</i>	NTL	7.00 pm
Thursday 4 th October	<i>Everybody's Talking About Jamie**</i>	AT	7.30 pm
Monday 15 th October	<i>Mayerling</i>	RB	7.15 pm
Wednesday 14 th November	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>	RSC	7.00 pm
Tuesday 20 th November	<i>The Madness of George</i>	NTL***	7.00 pm
Monday 3 rd December	<i>The Nutcracker</i>	RB	7.15 pm
Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	<i>The Queen of Spades</i>	RO	6.45 pm
Wednesday 30 th January	<i>La Traviata</i>	RO	6.45 pm
Thursday 7 th February	<i>I'm Not Running</i>	NTL	7.00 pm
Tuesday 26 th February	<i>Don Quixote**</i>	RB	7.15 pm
Tuesday 2 nd April	<i>La Forza Del Destino</i>	RO	6.15 pm
Tuesday 30 th April	<i>Faust</i>	RO	6.45 pm
Tuesday 11 th June	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	RB	7.15 pm

All details correct as of 4th July 2018

Programme will be updated regularly as new productions become available

@RGS_IOM

‘Twitter for Families’

At Ramsey Grammar School, we pride ourselves on working closely with both families and the local community. One way we can do this is by finding ways to share information with you on what we, as a school, are doing. ‘Twitter for Families’ is a new initiative set up to share information on:

- the school calendar and our upcoming events
- the achievements of our students
- successes gained through working with the local community

Important information

Twitter is optional and an additional information platform. All information contained within the Twitter account can also be found on the school wiki and on the school website www.ramseygrammarschool.im

The @RGS_IOM Twitter account is a closed account. This means that only people who request, and are accepted, can follow our tweets. Follow requests will be accepted dependent on meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- an account belonging to an RGS student over the age of 13
- an account belonging to a parent/carer/family member of our students
- an account belonging to a staff member
- an account of a local community business or a business linked to the work of the school

Only requests to follow from accounts bearing a real name will be accepted, unless otherwise verified.

Follow us on





Students from SS&S 2A went on a sponsored walk at Easter time to raise money to buy Lego sets for Lego Therapy/Lego Club. The students raised £1000.00, we also received donations from Utmost Wealth for £250.00 and Barclays for £100.00 and we are very grateful for these.

Students have chosen the Lego sets that they find exciting and have started to build them in their lessons.

Lego Therapy aims to improve social/communication skills by facilitating a fun and interactive learning experience. Students need to follow specific roles of Builder, Engineer and Supplier and the job description that comes with these roles. By doing this, speaking skills, listening skills, reasoning, turn taking, problem solving and a whole range of other social and communication skills are improved. The students are having great fun taking part in these sessions already.



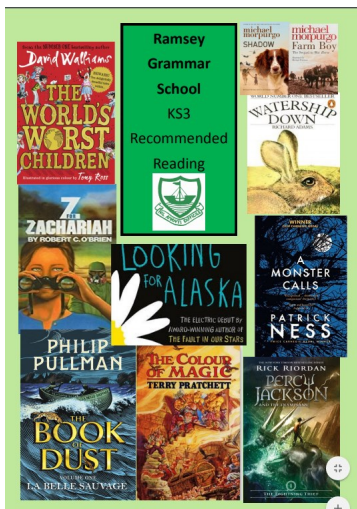
500 students and staff at Ramsey Grammar School, supported by families and local community organisations and retailers, are taking up the challenge to “Read a Book” – part of their Summer of Reading initiative. This builds on the highly successful Readathon earlier this year when the school undertook to read out loud in a non-stop relay of 16 hours to raise money for a charity which provides books for children on hospital wards. The event helped to raise the profile of books and reading, and the importance of whole school literacy when working towards the challenges of the new IGCSEs.

We have produced a Recommended Reading List for each Key Stage and we are setting up reading-based learning activities for the first couple of weeks of the new academic year based on these. Over the summer holidays, we are asking each student in current Years 7, 8 and 9 to read a book from the recommended lists and to be prepared to work with this in September. Every student will be taking part.”

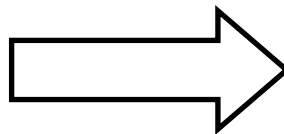
The school has enlisted the support of the community and is delighted with the help from their own school librarian, Mrs Kneen, alongside Ramsey Town Library and also local independent booksellers, Bridge Bookshop, who have offered discount vouchers to all those young people who want to buy their own copies of books to take part in the Summer of Reading. The charity shops in Ramsey also have well stocked shelves and the volunteer staff in these outlets will help students look for titles which will suit them, and help them save money whilst supporting charities.

Reading books takes students into magical worlds and inspires their own creative writing, whilst improving their vocabulary. The books are from a mix of genres and authors that should stretch and challenge our students as young readers.

The full list of recommended books are in this edition of RGS Mail but if you find these difficult to read they are also on the school website
<https://rgs.sch.im/>



KEY STAGE 4 RECOMMENDED READING



Try these if your Reading level is about a Level 4

The Secrets of Valhalla	Jasmine Richards
Pax	Sara Pennypacker
The Charmed Children of Rookhill Castle	Janet Fox
The Fragile Ordinary	Samantha Young
The Front Room	Michelle Magorian
Unboxed	Non Pratt
The World's Worst Children	David Walliams
Kaspar	Michael Morpurgo
Farm Boy	Michael Morpurgo
Kat Wolfe Investigates	Lauren St. John

Try these if your Reading level is about a Level 6 or above, or if you want to take on a challenge

Watership Down	Richard Adams
Anatomy of a Soldier	Harry Parker
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time—student edition	Mark Haddon
Any title by Terry Pratchett	Terry Pratchett
Bracelet of Bones	Kevin Crossley-Hammond
The Outsiders	S E Hinton
The Maze Runner—trilogy	James Dashner
Z for Zachariah	Robert O'Brien
I Am David	Anne Holm
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte

Try these if your Reading level is about a Level 5

The Book of Dust	Philip Pullman
The Red Queen	Victoria Aveyard
Wonder	R J Palacio
The Light Between Oceans	M L Stedman
All The Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr
Eve of Man	Giovanna and Tom Fletcher
The Monster Calls	Patrick Ness
Skullduggery Pleasant—series	Derek Landy
The Spiderwick Chronicles	Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black
Inkheart	Cornelia Funke
Of Mice and Men	John Steinbeck
Percy Jackson series	Rick Riordan
The Hobbit	JRR Tolkien
Animal Farm	George Orwell
The School for Good and Evil—series	Soman Chainani
I Am Malala	Malala Yousafzai
Looking for Alaska	John Green
Alone on a Wide Wide Sea	Michael Morpurgo
The Ruby in the Smoke	Philip Pullman
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver
Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer
Boy Under Water	Adam Baron
The Dark Prophecy	Rick Riordan

Title	Author	Genre / Focus	Level of difficulty 1 easy to 5 challenging
To Kill A Mockingbird	Harper Lee	Growing up / Social commentary	4
Anatomy of a Soldier	Harry Parker	Action / Adventure	2
Tess of the D'Urbervilles	Thomas Hardy	Classic drama	5
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	Historical / War drama	4
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	Mark Haddon	Drama	3
A Thousand Splendid Suns	Khaled Hosseini	Historical / Drama	4
I Am Malala	Malala Yousafzai	Autobiographical / Political	3
And The Mountains Echoed	Khaled Hosseini	Historical romance	3
The View on The Way Down	Rebecca Wait	Fiction	3
All The Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr	War / Historical	4
Persuasion	Jane Austen	Classic drama	5
Catch-22	Joseph Heller	Satire	4
1984	George Orwell	Sci-Fi	4
Dune	Frank Herbert	Sci-Fi	3
Night Watch	Terry Pratchett	Fantasy	3
Midnight's Children	Salman Rushdie	Post-colonial / Realism	4
I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings	Maya Angelou	Coming of age / Autobiography	3
The Outsiders	S E Hinton	Coming of age / Drama	3
Lord of the Flies	William Golding	Drama	4
Treasure Island	R L Stevenson	Adventure	4
I Capture the Castle	Dodie Smith	Coming of Age	3
Trinity	Leon Uris	Historical Fiction	3
The Source	James Michener	Historical Fiction	4
Russia	Edward Rutherford	Historical Fiction	4
Armageddon	Leon Uris	Historical Fiction	3
The Alchemist	Paulo Coelho	Allegorical Novel	3
The Princess Bride	William Goldman	Fiction - Romantic, Fantasy	2
The Sword of Shannara	Terry Brooks	Fiction - Romantic, Fantasy	3
The Ruby in the Smoke	Phillip Pullman	Fiction - Mystery	2
A Monster Calls	Patrick Ness	Fiction - Drama	2
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte	Classical drama / Romance	3
Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte	Classical drama / Romance / Gothic	3
Cartes Postales	Victoria Hislop	Travelogue / Diary	3
Murder on the Orient Express	Agatha Christie	Crime	3
Star of the Sea	Joseph O'Connor	Historical murder mystery	4
North and South	Elizabeth Gaskell	Historical / Social / Classic	3
Where Angels Fear to Tread	E.M Forster	Classic / Romance / Drama	4
A Time To Kill	John Grisham	Crime	2
A Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela	Autobiography	4
The 39 Steps	John Buchan	Crime fiction / thriller	3
The Kraken Wakes	John Wyndham	Science Fiction	3
Enigma	Robert Harris	Historical fiction / thriller	3
My Family and Other Animals	Gerald Durrell	Autobiography / Travelogue	2
Brighton Rock	Graham Greene	Drama / Thriller	2
Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	Science Fiction	2
Fatherland	Robert Harris	Crime fiction / thriller	2
When Nietzsche Wept	Irvin D Yalom	Fiction	4/5
Mort	Terry Pratchett	Fiction- Fantasy	2
Maus	Art Spiegelman	Graphic novel	1
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens	Classic	4
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank	War diary / autobiography	2
A Study in Charlotte	Brittany Cavallaro	Mystery / thriller	3
Of Mice and Men	John Steinbeck	Drama	2
The Enemy	Charlie Higson	Horror / thriller	2



100 Club

June 2018

1 st - £40	J Carter	180
2 nd - £25	Mrs S Granger	148
3 rd - £15	Mr & Mrs Grant	185



The RGSA Committee will reconvene for the Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 27th September at 6.30 pm**

All parents/carers/interested parties are invited to attend. Many of the outgoing committee will be stepping down this term and a new Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Press Officer will be needed.