



October 2018

# The RGS Mail

Dear Families, Students and Old Scholars

In the second half of this busy half term we are preparing for a number of major events in the school's calendar including the annual prizegiving ceremony which will take place in the West Hall on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. This year, we are delighted to have the Chief Minister, Hon Howard Quayle, MHK and the President of Tynwald, Hon Steve Rodan, with us to celebrate the outstanding achievements of students in the school.

The prizegiving evening provides me with a fitting platform to pay tribute to Genevieve Vidal-Bentham, the former RGS Head of MFL who sadly died this summer. Mrs Vidal-Bentham led the languages department with distinction and will always be remembered by the staff and especially by the students of RGS.

We are building up to another major event with the annual school show which this year features a soundtrack familiar to many of you in the production of We Will Rock You. "The cast and crew" are working hard to prepare for the performances on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Tickets are now on sale; we urge you to get yours quickly to avoid disappointment. This year we are grateful for the assistance of Justin McMullen of ELS, who is helping us with the lighting and sound technical side of the performance allowing our talented staff to concentrate on honing the performance skills of our wonderful students. Please look out for the brilliant photo montage for the show soon to be displayed on the Lezayre Road Bridge. This showcases the talents of our resident photography expert, Stuart Curran, who has reproduced the famous Queen sleeve cover for Bohemian Rhapsody! I am sure it will be a fantastic show. I would like to thank my hardworking staff in advance for the hours and days they have put into the preparations for this show, as ever this is very much appreciated by us all.

This week we look forward to possibly our best audience for a live screening event in school for the encore performance of "Everybody's Talking About Jamie" on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October. This performance will feature our legendary themed "drinks and nibbles" during the interval, which this week reflect the setting of the show in a school. This edition of RGS Mail again features our full programme of live screened events which we are delighted to see are increasing in popularity. Please book in advance via the school website link [www.ramseygrammarschool.im](http://www.ramseygrammarschool.im), or via the Welcome Centre. It looks like musicals are very popular with our audience in the north – please note that the King & I features on our programme at the end of November and already tickets are selling well.

Next week an election will take place of our school council already populated by Head Girl and Head Boy, Caitlin Allinson and Oliver Cowan. Caitlin and Oliver have hit the ground running in their new roles and in addition to their involvement with the school council are about roll out a mentoring scheme which will see sixth form students supporting students in Year 7/8, initially in tutor groups and in class.

The visit of Jane Poole-Wilson, MLC, last week with the Suffragette flag (see the school blog) reminds us of all the importance of exercising our democratic right to vote, also of the sacrifice made by many people to enshrine this right in law. We urge our students therefore to take part in the election to choose the people they would like to represent their views in school.

Finally, just a reminder that the half term holiday is approaching fast – school will close from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Annette Baker'.

Mrs A G Baker

Headteacher

# Standalone 2019

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July

Following another highly successful week in July 2018 we are delighted to be able to offer Standalone Week again in 2019. We believe that Standalone Week is a defining week in our year that sets us apart from other schools and represents our values as outlined in our Way of Being. As such, it is worth all the hard work that staff put into it to make it a success.

Below are the options for the off-Island residential visits on offer for Standalone week 2019.

Once again we have negotiated the best, most competitive quotes from our travel providers. You will notice that we are pleased to have maintained last year's prices for trips this year, the necessary consequence of a realignment of our budget to address the school's teaching and learning priorities. The one week residential visits will cost families £530 whilst the two day Liverpool / Blackpool trip will cost £150. This all-inclusive price covers all travel and accommodation and also the cost of all the advertised activities while away. I assure you that this represents the best possible value for money. Specific details about each visit, provided by each visit leader, are included in information below. Please contact school if you require more information.

Once you have decided which trip you are going to participate in fill in the form provided and return it to the **East Office**. The form should be accompanied with a deposit of £100 placed in a **sealed envelope with student's name, form and destination clearly written on the front**.

It is **important that the reply form and deposit are returned promptly** to guarantee your place on a residential visit, as demand is usually high.

A summary of residential visits available:

| Targeted Year group | Destination                         | Activity       | Spaces available |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Y7                  | Paris (France)                      | Cultural       | 90               |
| Y8                  | Amsterdam (Holland)                 | Cultural       | 45               |
| Y9                  | Brussels (Belgium)                  | Cultural       | 69               |
| Mixed               | Valkenburg (Holland)                | Sports         | 45               |
| Mixed               | Sealyham, Pembrokeshire (Wales)     | Surfing        | 20               |
| Mixed               | London                              | Cultural       | 40               |
| Mixed               | Mountain Bike Trail Centre          | Sport/Cultural | 12               |
| Mixed               | Yorkshire                           | Environmental  | 15               |
| Mixed               | Liverpool / Blackpool (2 day visit) | Cultural       | 30               |

Remember, although enjoyable, Standalone week is all about education. It is an opportunity to learn using the wider world as a classroom. We hope all students will grab this chance to go off island and experience the RGS wider curriculum.

If your son/daughter does not hold their own Manx/English/EU passport they will require a Schengen Visa for any of the visits outside the UK. This is a complicated application that can take a long time to be processed and be quite expensive, depending on the country visited. You should first check with your home Embassy and then the Embassy of the country to be visited.

### **Y7- Paris**

This is a cultural visit to Paris, predominantly for Y7 pupils, during Standalone Week.

We will travel to Paris by executive coach, taking the short tunnel crossing from Dover to Calais.

During the stay pupils will discover several places of interest such as: The Sacré Coeur; Arc de Triomphe~; Champs Elysees~; Notre Dame~; Eiffel Tower~; The Place du Tertre to see the artists display their talent. We will also be spending a day at Parc Asterix, a 125 acre theme park with over 100 attractions, including rides and attractions, live entertainment, animated figures, arts and crafts, reconstructions, a dolphin show, special effects, restaurants and shops. We will also have half a day at "La mer de sable", an amusement park.

Shopping, of course will be on the programme of events too!

For more information anyone interested should see Mr Flynn

### **Y8 – Amsterdam**

We are planning to take students on a visit to Holland during Standalone Curriculum Week.

We hope to stay in Egmond, a beautiful coastal town and take part in a number of group visits and activities in and around Amsterdam. This will include visits to the city where we intend to visit The Van Gogh Museum, The Anne Frank Museum, The Madurodam Model Village, a Canal Cruise around Amsterdam, Madam Tussauds, 16th Century Windmills, a Clog and Cheese making factory and in the evening we intend to go Ten Pin Bowling, visit the beach and go to the Cinema. We will also visit York on the way to Hull and Manchester's Trafford Centre on the return journey, to allow time for shopping.

### **Y9 - Brussels**

Year 9 students have the option of visiting Brussels, Belgium. The city is one of the most beautiful in Europe with impressive architecture, a magnificent cathedral, good shopping and many fascinating museums.

We will travel to Belgium in comfort and style! First of all we will board a Virgin Pendolino train from Liverpool, then take the Eurostar from St. Pancras Station London directly to Brussels.

Whilst in Belgium we endeavour to take part in various educational activities, such as visiting the historic In Flanders Field Museum and Tyn Cot cemetery.

Pupils will have honour of laying a wreath on behalf of RGS at the historic Menin Gate, Ypres. In order to balance history with fun, we will spend a full day at a theme park in the Flemish countryside. It is situated in beautiful landscaped gardens, with several water rides, carousels, rollercoasters and zoo animals. We will also have time to visit a water park, spend time in the heart of Brussels and visit a typical Belgian chocolatier.

On the return journey back to the Isle of Man, (subject to travel arrangements) pupils should also have free time shopping in Liverpool One.

Accommodation will be in a hostel with bed, breakfast and evening meal basis.

For more information anyone interested should see Miss Devlin.

### **Mountain Bike Trail Centre – Mr R Sorby**

Y7, 8, 9 Mountain Bike Trail Centre

Mr Hindle and Mr Sorby are pleased to be leading a visit to a Mountain Bike Trail Centre in the Lake District. Participants will be able to enjoy the thrilling exhilaration of purpose built trails which vary in difficulty and also have the chance to hone skills and techniques. Recent visits have also included paintballing and gorge walking. **All students are welcome but this is a moderate activity trip and participants should have a reasonable level of fitness, including a basic ability to ride off road for a sustained period of time, as the trip can be both physically and technically challenging.** This trip is an exciting off Island activity and as such places will be limited.

For more information anyone interested should see Mr Hindle or Mr Sorby.

### **Y7, 8 & 9 Sealyham Activity Centre**

Join us for our “learn to surf” trip in Pembrokeshire, Wales. We have run this visit successfully for a number of years with all students leaving Wales being able to stand on a surfboard!!! Based in a beautiful old listed building in the countryside of SW Wales we are on full board and sleep in dorms. A tuck shop is available for pupils and is open in the evenings. The emphasis is on the outdoors, so when surf conditions do not prevail you may find yourself kayaking, rock climbing amongst other outdoor pursuits. All that we ask is that you have a love of the sea and are adventurous. These activities can be tiring so we ask that you are in good reasonable shape and have the stamina to participate! Places are very limited so it’s first come first served!!

And don’t forget once you’ve learnt to surf you can always surf in the Isle of Man (when the wind and swell blow in the right direction!)

For further details on where we are staying go to [www.sealyham.com](http://www.sealyham.com) or for other information anyone interested should see Mr Quinn

### **Y7, 8 & 9 Valkenburg Sports Trip**

During Standalone week 2019 we are planning to a group of Year 7,8 and 9 boys and girls to Valkenburg in Holland.

This trip is much more than a sports trip! This exciting trip offers students the opportunity to stay in the beautiful town of Valkenburg and take part in a variety of sporting activities run by top Dutch coaches including football, basketball, tennis and handball.

When not playing sport students will have the opportunity to:

- Spend a full day at the fantastic Phantasialand Theme Park (Germany)
- Play in a football match against Local Dutch team.
- Enjoy ten pin bowling
- Enjoy free time shopping in Maastricht
- Swim at the Geleen (Tropical themed swimming pool)
- Ride the chairlift to the high speed toboggans in Valkenburg (or Laser Quest in the Valkenburg caves if wet)

This fast paced and exciting trip has been very popular over the years and continues to allow students to increase skills in sports they play at school and to learn and enjoy new sports too!

For more information, please see Miss Christory.

### **Years 7 - 9 London**

During Standalone 2019, Year 7 - 9 students have the opportunity of visiting London. This tour takes in all the great sights that the capital has to offer from world famous museums, typical tourist attractions, hopefully a West End Show, as well as the magic of Harry Potter World.

We will travel by Virgin train from Liverpool into the heart of the English capital. Whilst in London, activities may include; visiting the educational greats such as the Natural History Museum; rubbing shoulders with the stars at Madame Tussauds; taking in the view you'll never forget from the London Eye; the gory and gruesome historical events of the London Dungeon; the story of Dewey Finn, an out of work singer and guitarist who pretends to be a substitute teacher in the West End blockbuster School of Rock; a guided walking tour and entry into the magic of Harry Potter World. We may even get a chance to stroll through the shopping areas of Oxford Street and Regent Street.

Accommodation will be in a Central London hotel on a bed, breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal basis. Outward and Inward journey lunches will need to be purchased. Evening meals will be in some of London's famous restaurants including Planet Hollywood, Strada, Pizza Express and TGI Friday's'.

On the return journey to the Isle of Man (subject to travel arrangements and timings), students may also have free time shopping in Liverpool One.

A more detailed itinerary will be circulated nearer the time when it has been finalised. For more information, anyone interested should see Mrs Ball.

### **Yorkshire (5 Day visit)**

On Monday we will travel to Heysham with our minibus to our accommodation in Helmsley. Whilst in Yorkshire, activities will include; the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. One of

the best centres for conservation and welfare in the UK, the park has over 300 animals and over 60 different species of animal. Including Lions, Tigers and Polar Bears. We will spend the day exploring the park and getting up close to the animals, Flamingo land Yorkshire's ultimate Theme Park attraction, Stump Cross Caverns, an amazing limestone cave system. There will also some time for shopping in York.

For more information, anyone interested should see Miss Arthur

### **Y7, 8 & 9 Liverpool / Blackpool (2 Day visit)**

On overnight visit to the cultural city of Liverpool, where we will visit a Museum, go shopping in Liverpool One and spend the evening relaxing at the theatre or cinema (depending on availability). The second day is spent enjoying the rides at the Blackpool Pleasure Beach theme park. The cost includes all travel, accommodation and entry fees.

For more information anyone interested should see Mrs Castelow or Mr Corrin

# Standalone 2019

Please place **this reply slip** along with your **deposit** in an **envelope with your child's name, form and destination clearly written on the front**. The envelope should then be posted into the payment box at the **East office**. In order to secure the places to make the trip's viable we need the return of this form and the deposit **as soon as possible** and **no later than 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018**.

STUDENT NAME:

FORM:

| Targeted Year group | Destination                | Cost | Activity       | Choice (tick 1 only) |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------|----------------|----------------------|
| Y7                  | Paris                      | £530 | Cultural       |                      |
| Y8                  | Amsterdam                  | £530 | Cultural       |                      |
| Y9                  | Brussels                   | £530 | Cultural       |                      |
| Mixed               | Valkenburg                 | £530 | Sports         |                      |
| Mixed               | Sealyham                   | £530 | Surfing        |                      |
| Mixed               | Mountain Bike Trail Centre | £350 | Sport/Cultural |                      |
| Mixed               | Liverpool / Blackpool      | £150 | Cultural       |                      |
| Mixed               | Yorkshire                  | £300 | Environmental  |                      |
| Mixed               | London                     | £530 | Cultural       |                      |

I hereby give my permission for my son/daughter/ward to travel to, and participate fully in, the residential visit indicated above.

I confirm I am willing to pay the cost of £530 (£350 for MTB / £300 for Yorkshire / £150 for Liverpool / Blackpool) for the visit and I understand that all monies paid are non refundable. (Insurance claims may be made in certain circumstances)

I enclose a cheque (made payable to Ramsey Grammar School) **for £100 as a non-returnable deposit** and **I understand that I am liable** for the following **three** further payments:

| Date                             | Payment   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| By 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 | £145 (£75 Yorkshire / £20 for Liverpool/ Blackpool / £85 for MTB) |
| By 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019 | £145 (£75 Yorkshire / £20 for Liverpool/Blackpool / £85 for MTB)  |
| By 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2019   | £140 (£50 Yorkshire / £10 for Liverpool/Blackpool / £80 for MTB)  |

(Payment can be made in full or by instalments. **Failure to meet the schedule could result in a loss of place and monies paid**, please contact the bursar Mr Jon Kneale if you have any problems meeting this commitment, we will assist wherever possible)

Unfortunately we are unable to accept bookings or reserve places from the parents / carers of any pupils, who currently have any outstanding unpaid debts with the School.

Parent/Carer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_



# SAFETY FIRST

**SAFETY FIRST  
SAFETY LAST  
SAFETY ALWAYS**

## **SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- Please do not drop your sons/daughters off at the door of either building or at the gate of the West building. The drop-off point for all students is in the layby on Lezayre Road outside the East building. This is for the safety of everyone concerned as the more vehicles on school grounds increase the risk of accidents.
- Students, please take care when crossing the main road, you should always use the footbridge or pelican crossing.
- Cyclists, please take care when turning left or right and make sure that your bicycle is equipped with safety features, especially lights. As the nights draw in remember to wear reflective clothing.

**Brighten Up!**  
**Be safe and be seen...**



# LIVE THEATRE SCREENING AT RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2018/2019



**'The West End comes to the West Building!'**

| <i>Date</i>                           | <i>Production</i>                | <i>Company</i> | <i>Time*</i> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> October       | <i>Mayerling</i>                 | RB             | 7.15 pm      |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November   | <i>Troilus and Cressida</i>      | RSC            | 7.00 pm      |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> November     | <i>Allelujah!**</i>              | NTL            | 7.00 pm      |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November     | <i>The Madness of George III</i> | NTL***         | 7.00 pm      |
| Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> November    | <i>The King and I **</i>         | LP             | 7.00 pm      |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December       | <i>The Nutcracker</i>            | RB             | 7.15 pm      |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December    | <i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>     | NTL            | 7.00 pm      |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2019 | <i>The Queen of Spades</i>       | RO             | 6.45 pm      |
| Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January    | <i>La Traviata</i>               | RO             | 6.45 pm      |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February     | <i>I'm Not Running**</i>         | NTL            | 7.00 pm      |
| Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February     | <i>Don Quixote**</i>             | RB             | 7.00 pm      |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April         | <i>La Forza Del Destino</i>      | RO             | 6.15 pm      |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April        | <i>Faust</i>                     | RO             | 6.45 pm      |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June         | <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>          | RB             | 7.00 pm      |

[www.ramseygrammarschool.im](http://www.ramseygrammarschool.im) (follow links to Live Screening)

The Welcome Centre

Ticket Hotline: 600555

Key:

NTL = National Theatre Live

RSC = Royal Shakespeare Company

ROH = Royal Opera House

RB = Royal Ballet

AT = Apollo Theatre

LP = London Palladium

\*Doors open 30 minutes prior to all performances

\*\*All screenings are live apart from *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*, *Allelujah*, *I'm Not Running* and *Don Quixote* which are Encore screenings.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

rgstheatre

## **100 Club**

### **September 2018**

|                             |                            |            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> - £40</b> | <b>Mr &amp; Mrs Casson</b> | <b>162</b> |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> - £25</b> | <b>Mr D Roberts</b>        | <b>89</b>  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> - £15</b> | <b>Mrs V Baker</b>         | <b>68</b>  |

The recent AGM for the School Association had to be postponed as we need a minimum of 20 attendees. The current committee are mainly standing down and would like to invite any parents, past students, guardians or those interested in continuing their work to meet them and the staff at an informal 'meet and greet', followed by the AGM, on

**MONDAY 8th OCTOBER AT 5:00 PM in the LECTURE THEATRE.**

