



March 2019

The RGS Mail

Dear Families, Students and Old Scholars

We are now well into the swing of this short second half of the spring term, and are already planning our schedule for Easter revision classes for our Year 11 students who will plunge into the deep end of external examinations more or less straight after the Easter holidays. Year 11 parents should have received information from us about the various ways in which our school and its staff can support them as they prepare for the challenges ahead, we would be grateful if you could do everything you can to encourage students to take advantage of the extra classes that we put on in holidays and after school to ensure that they have all the support they could possibly need.

Talking of support, it is clear from the feedback from our Wellbeing Information Evening that all parents who attended were grateful to us for sharing so much information on topics which can impact on students' health and wellbeing. Over 80 parents and carers attended on the night to hear presentations on social media concerns, drugs and alcohol, "the teenage brain" and on mental health support for parents. Those attending had the added bonus of being treated to coffee in the Conor Cummins Café of the school's Student Services and Support area. By the way, please remember to sign up via the Coop website to choose Conor's Café at RGS as your chosen charity. Your help will make it possible for us to develop this area still further as a valuable resource for the whole community. We are always pleased to receive feedback from you and we are particularly pleased to hear how much the presentations were valued by our parents. The job of bringing up children in 2019 is very different from what it was even 10 years ago and we are all learning on the job. We are committed to providing information of this kind to our parents and carers to provide them with the help and support needed to tackle almost any eventuality.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that Rebecca Bovenizer will join us as Parent Governor at her first meeting on 26th March. Whilst welcoming Rebecca, I would like to thank Andrea Needham for her stalwart work as outgoing Parent Governor of RGS and for her continued engagement with us as a member of RGSA.

Mrs A G Baker
Headteacher



EXAMS INFORMATION

Be prepared

GCSE and A level Exams - Contingency day 2019

The 2019 timetable has a new feature – a **contingency day** on **26 June 2019**. This will be used if a significant, unexpected event arises nationally or locally during the exam period such that all students (or a large number of them) are unable to take an exam when planned. Of course, we all hope there won't be such disruption and that the contingency day won't be needed. But students should be available throughout the exam period, up to and including that day, in case their planned timetable is disrupted.

This date will be added to student timetables as a reminder.



RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SMARTCARDS



- Remember to have your smartcard with you at all times and keep it in good condition.
- **Damaged or lost smartcards cost £5.00** to replace so please take care of your card.
- The best and most secure way to top up your card is electronically by ParentPay. If paying by cheque **please make payable to “Isle of Man Government”** and place in the red posting box outside the West Office.
- Please make sure you top up your card in plenty of **time in advance**.
- All smartcard cash payments should be to **the cash loading machines in the East or West buildings** or if these are not working to the West Office.



Lost Property

We have a considerable amount of lost property in school. Items without names are impossible to return to their owners so if you have mislaid anything in school please have a look at the lost property in both buildings.

Once we have made every effort to return items (usually at the end of every term) we have to dispose of large amounts of clothing as we simply do not have space to store items indefinitely. Any items un-named will be donated to charity when we close for Easter on Friday 5th April..

Please name all clothes and, where possible, all personal possessions which are brought into school and check at the school offices as soon as you realise that an item has been lost.

OCR Entry Level Historians Visit Historical Sites in Douglas

On Thursday 28 February, Year 10, OCR Entry Level History Students travelled to Douglas to look at sites linked to People's Health in the 19th century and, in particular the story of Nellie Brennan, who is known as the Manx Florence Nightingale for her role during the 1832-33 Cholera outbreak. Students visited Nellie Brennan's house and then the site of the Douglas House of Industry, or Workhouse, which today is the Ellan Vannin Retirement Home. They then went on to the site of a Soup Dispensary on Myrtle Street.

In St George's Churchyard, students visited the mass Cholera grave and the grave of Nellie Brennan and her mother. Finally students visited Cholera graves in Braddan Churchyard. They also found the graves of Sir William Hillary who founded the RNLI and Samuel Ally, who was born a slave. Thank you to Mr Parish for organising the transport.

Pictures.

1. The Soup Dispensary in Myrtle Street.
2. Cholera graves in St George's Churchyard from 1832-33
3. Nellie Brennan's grave in St George's Churchyard.



A Level History Trip to Manchester

On Wednesday 27 February, six A Level History Students travelled to Manchester to visit two museums to help them with their studies. Firstly, they went to the Imperial War Museum North where they looked at numerous exhibits from World War One through to the first Gulf War. Students were particularly interested in the first Field Gun used by the British in August 1914, the gun of a WWI German tank and a German sea mine.

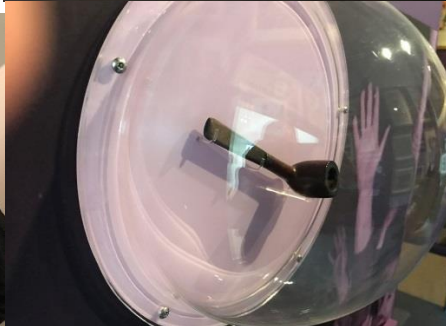
Students also visited the People's History Museum where they saw displays linked to the Peterloo Massacre of 1819, suffragette and suffragist banners, information on war work and conscientious objectors in WWI. Perhaps the favourite exhibits were a copy of the 1942 Beveridge Report and Clement Attlee's pipe.

The trip has been really useful to help with OCR A Level courses on Britain 1930 to 1997 and Changing Nature of Warfare 1792 – 1945. Thank you to the Elizabeth Clucas Trust for help with travel costs.

Pictures.

Students next to 'Victory over Blindness' art installation at Piccadilly Station

1. Students outside the IWMN
2. Students stood by a WWI Field Artillery Gun
3. Wearing WWI hats.
4. Clement Attlee's pipe.



Successful Wellbeing Information Evening

The challenges and issues faced by young people in this ever changing world were the subject of a series of presentations and workshops at Ramsey Grammar School's recent Wellbeing Information evening. A series of speakers addressed over 80 parents and carers on topics including Social Media Concerns, Drugs and Alcohol, Mental Health Support for Parents and "The Teenage Brain", receiving positive feedback from the very appreciative audience. Those attending had the added bonus of being treated to coffee in the Conor Cummins Café area of the school's Student Services and Support area.

Director of Pastoral Care, Josie Corrin said, "The importance of wellbeing has become a fundamental part of our Ramsey Grammar School 'Way of Being'. Students are educated about their own wellbeing and we are really pleased with the feedback we are receiving from them about the benefit of this. We are very aware that parenting children in this ever increasing stressful world can be challenging, especially living as we do in the middle of a social media mine field.

In our continuing drive with wellbeing, we arranged this evening so that parents could come and listen to experts and ask questions or ask for support for themselves or their child."

Headteacher Annette Baker said: "The job of bringing up children in 2019 is very different from what it was even 10 years ago, especially with regards to the vast expansion in the exposure of us all to social media. Technology brings huge benefits to all who use it, but also risks to the health and well-being of our young people in particular if it is not accessed wisely. The recent scare with the "Momo" app brought home to parents who attended our information evening the importance of being as fully aware as possible of the various risks to the mental and physical health of their children.

We are delighted to have provided a forum for the airing of parental concerns about all this, as well as to provide up-to- date information and, most importantly, access to the support of experts trained to help with specific concerns."



Some of the speakers who attended the recent Wellbeing Evening.

Year 7 Rugby Tour to Cheshire

The Year 7 boys have now returned after a fantastic weekend of sport. Travelling across to Cheshire on Friday morning the team played Upton by Chester in the afternoon. In a tough encounter the squad eventually won 7-6, this was particularly impressive as they initially conceded the first 3 tries. In the evening they travelled to the Chill Factor in Manchester where they enjoyed a ski lesson. Although I think they might have to stick to Rugby having seen some of the falls!

On Saturday morning they were back in action again with their second fixture against The Grange School, Hartford. In another epic encounter the home side ended up the eventual winners scoring with the last play of the game to make the score 4-2. Despite losing the match they played their best Rugby to date and the signs for the future are very positive.

In the afternoon the squad travelled to watch Burnley vs Crystal Palace. With front row seats the boys were in the thick of the action, giving high fives to players and mascots. After the match Tom Heaton (the Burnley captain and England goal keeper) came to see the lads and spent 10 minutes signing autographs and asking questions.

Throughout the tour the boys were impeccably behaved and were complimented on several occasions for their conduct. It was a pleasure to be able to take them away.

Well done Year 7!





World Book Day 2019

To celebrate World Book Day and to raise money for Read for Good, Ramsey Grammar School held a one-day Readathon on 8th March 2019.

Students began reading at 7am and will continue until 7pm.

Well done to everyone involved who hope to raise lots of money to help children in hospital.



readforgood.org

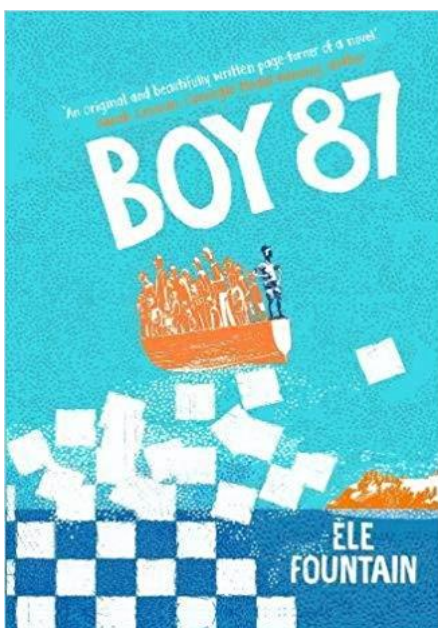
Registered charity 1130309 (England & Wales) and SC041036 (Scotland). Read for Good and Readathon are registered trademarks.

RGS LIBRARY

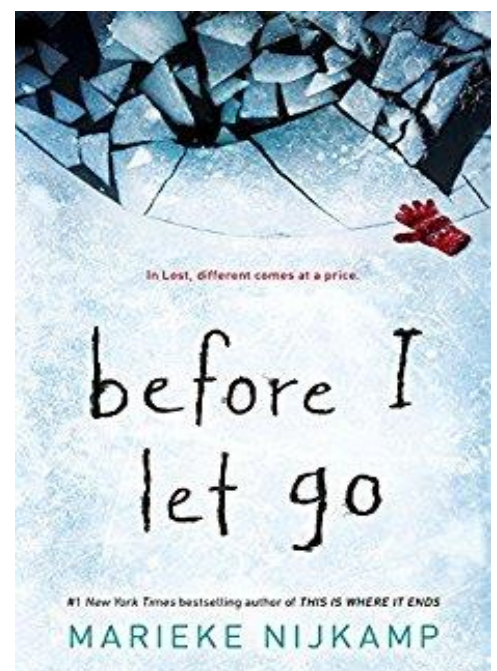
MARCH 2019



NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY



Take a look at this website!





LIVE THEATRE SCREENING AT RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2019

‘Bringing the West End to the West Building!’

Date	Production	Company	Time*
Friday 15 th February	<i>Everybody's Talking About Jamie**</i>	AT	7.00 pm
Tuesday 26 th February	<i>Don Quixote**</i>	RB	7.00 pm
Thursday 7 th March	<i>The Tragedy of Richard II**</i>	NTL	7.00 pm
Tuesday 2 nd April	<i>La Forza Del Destino</i>	RO	6.15 pm
Wednesday 24 th April	<i>As You Like It**</i>	RSC	7.00 pm
Tuesday 30 th April	<i>Faust</i>	RO	6.45 pm
Thursday 16 th May	<i>All About Eve**</i>	NTL	7.00 pm
Thursday 24 th May	<i>Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake**</i>	MB	7.00 pm
Tuesday 11 th June	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	RB	7.00 pm
Thursday 20 th June	<i>All My Sons***</i>	NTL	7.00 pm
Thursday 27 th June	<i>Small Island</i>	NTL	
Thursday 4 th July	<i>The Taming of the Shrew**</i>	RSC	7.00 pm



To book:

www.ramseygrammarschool.im

(follow links to Live Screening)

The Welcome Centre Ticket Hotline 600555

Or visit our Facebook page

Key:

NTL National Theatre Live

RSC Royal Shakespeare Company

ROH Royal Opera House

RB Royal Ballet

AT Apollo Theatre

LP London Palladium

MB Matthew Bourne's New Adventure Company

* Doors open 30 minutes prior to all performances

** Encore screenings (filmed before the live audience)

*** From the Old Vic Theatre



rgs theatre

The Northern Theatre Experience

Junior Achievement teams launch their ideas

Yesterday our Junior Achievement teams launched their products in front of a packed audience at the Palace Hotel yesterday. The results will be announced next week.

We wish all of our teams the best of luck.



Ramsey Grammar School Association



100 Club

February 2019

1 st - £39.50 Mr P Crellin	64
2 nd - £23.70 Mrs A Kneale	123
3 rd - £15.80 Mrs S Kniveton	124



RGSA Special Meeting

Wednesday 24th April 2019

6 pm RGS West Building