



October 2019

The RGS Mail

Dear Families, Students and Old Scholars

First of all, congratulations to our fantastic Year 8 Poetry Slam team who won the annual competition at Ballakermeen High School. Performing their moving depiction of the challenges facing women with regards to equality, Orla Goddard, Lola Gawne and Daisy Goodby blew the audience and judges away. This is the second time in succession that RGS have won the Poetry Slam and we are proud and delighted with the performances of all of our students in the competition. Thanks also must go to their dedicated teachers, Miss Nickson, Miss Ferguson, Miss Spooner and Mrs Bell who prepared them so brilliantly for the competition.

Standalone week came early for students on the Amsterdam trip who returned from a fabulous visit to this wonderful city after this was rescheduled from the summer. Thanks again to Miss Nickson (who has been busy!) for organising and leading this trip. Next year's Standalone week has just been launched and you will find full details of the off-island trips in this month's edition of RGS Mail. Standalone continues to go from strength to strength and to form an essential part of our Way of Being here at RGS.

Mrs Corrin launched a new initiative to further improve communication between home and school in the form of Family Communication Mornings, the first of these introduced parents to the work of our wonderful Parents Association, RGSA and explained how new parents might get involved. Mrs Corrin then went on to outline the systems for communication between home and school and in particular the information available on the school website. The full schedule of family communication mornings is featured in this month's RGS Mail. If you wish to find out more about the working of the RGSA please come along to our AGM on Thursday 10th October at 6.15 pm in the Lecture Theatre. We will be delighted to welcome new and old members!

Finally, thank you to all parents for supporting school values by ensuring that students are correctly dressed in school uniform. Following the reminder letter sent out in the summer term, I am pleased to report that the students look extremely smart! I look forward to continuing to work closely with you in partnership over the coming year and to seeing many of you at the forthcoming Prizegiving evening, Thursday 14th November.

Mrs A G Baker
Headteacher



Standalone 2020

Monday 13th July – Friday 17th July 2020

Following a range of highly successful trips in 2019 we are delighted to be able to offer Standalone Week again in 2020 including a new offer for rugby enthusiasts! We believe that Standalone Week, both on and off Island, 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 2020.

Once again we have secured the most competitive quotes from our travel providers. The one week residential visits will cost families no more than £550. The 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. (The two day Liverpool / Blackpool trip will cost £150 and two day Sale Sharks trip will cost £175). 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, please make payment using one of the following methods:-

1. If you have a **ParentPay account all payments from this year can be made via this preferred method**, please log into your account select your chosen trip and pay the deposit of £100.00
2. Alternatively 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.

Please act 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	69
Y8	Amsterdam (Holland)	Cultural	45
Y9	Brussels (Belgium)	Cultural	69
Mixed	Valkenburg (Holland)	Sports	45
Mixed	Sealyham, Pembrokeshire (Wales)	Surfing	20
Mixed	Sale Sharks (2 day visit)	Sports / Active	15
Mixed	Mountain Bike Trail Centre	Sport/Cultural	12
Mixed	Liverpool / Blackpool (2 day visit)	Cultural	28

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.

Brexit note: Current advice is that on the day you travel, you'll need your passport to have at least 6 months left (and be less than 10 years old even if it has 6 months or more left). The DESC travel insurance policy will cover health or medical issues post Brexit.

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 Amsterdam Zuidoost A/O Hostel 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 Anne Frank Museum, Ajax Stadium, a Canal Cruise around Amsterdam, Madam Tussauds, Rijks Museum and Efteling Theme Park.

Travel will be via Dover to Calais. The cost of the visit includes all transport, all activities mentioned above, half board and accommodation. Students will need money for food on both the Monday and the Friday of the trip while we are in the UK and euros for lunches, sweets, treats and gifts.

For more information anyone interested should see Miss Nickson

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! Firstly, we will take a Virgin Pendolino train from Liverpool, then the Eurostar train from St. Pancras Station London directly into the centre of Brussels.

Whilst in Belgium we endeavour to take part in various activities in order to learn more about World War 1. We will spend a day visiting the historic In Flanders Field Museum and Tyn Cot cemetery. In the evening, we will watch the Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate, Ypres, a tradition held almost continuously since 1928 to remember soldiers who fell in WW1. Two pupils will also have the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of RGS/Isle of Man.

In addition to the cultural and poignant activities above, we will also spend a full day at a theme park. It is situated in beautiful landscaped gardens, with several water rides, carousels,

rollercoasters and zoo animals. We will also have time to spend time in the heart of Brussels to go shopping and visit a typical Belgian chocolatier. Pupils will have the opportunity to sample some delicious Belgian chocolate and have time to make purchases to take home! This year we will also travel to the beautiful city of Bruges, known as the 'Venice of the North'. It is famous for its canals, beautiful buildings and cobbled streets. We will have a canal river cruise and relax with a game of bowling after a day's sightseeing!

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.

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 or for other information anyone interested should see Mr Quinn

Y7, 8 & 9 Valkenburg Sports Trip

During Standalone week 2020 we are planning to take a mixed group of Year 7, 8 and 9 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)
- 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)

Note: activities might vary slightly depending on availability

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.

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

On overnight visit to the cultural city of Liverpool have the chance to 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 plus lunch at Blackpool Pleasure Beach

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

Years 7, 8 & 9 Sale Sharks Pre-season Rugby Tour.

A two day pre-season rugby tour to The Sale Sharks Carrington training complex in Greater Manchester. The trip includes two training sessions with the Sharks Academy coaches, a guided tour of the complex and a T shirt.

There will also be time for a team building trip to the Trafford Centre's Ninja Warrior course.

We plan to travel via Heysham on Monday 13th July and stay in a Premier Inn near Carrington before returning on Tuesday 14th July.

For more information anyone interested should see Mr Hinge

Standalone 2020

OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT IS VIA PARENTPAY HOWEVER IF YOU ARE NOT YET REGISTERED FOR PARENTPAY YOU MAY RESERVE A PLACE USING THIS FORM IF THERE IS AVAILABILITY

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 24th October 2019**.

STUDENT NAME:

FORM:

Targeted Year group	Destination	Cost	Activity	Choice (tick 1 only)
Y7	Paris	£550	Cultural	
Y8	Amsterdam	£550	Cultural	
Y9	Brussels	£550	Cultural	
Mixed	Valkenburg	£550	Sports	
Mixed	Sealyham	£550	Surfing	
Mixed	Mountain Bike Trail Centre	£350	Sport/Cultural	
Mixed	Liverpool / Blackpool	£150	Cultural	
Mixed	Sale Sharks Rugby Trip	£175	Sport / Active	

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 intend to pay the full cost of £550 (£350 for MTB / £175 for Sale Sharks / £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 6 th December 2019	£150 (£25 Sale Sharks / £20 Liverpool/ Blackpool / £85 MTB)
By 31 st January 2020	£150 (£25 Sale Sharks / £20 Liverpool/ Blackpool / £85 MTB)
By 27 th March 2020	£150 (£25 Sale Sharks / £10 Liverpool/ Blackpool / £80 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 / guardians of any pupils, who currently have any outstanding unpaid debts with the School.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

PRINT NAME _____ Relationship to student _____

Year 7 – ‘Life Matters’ RE Curriculum Day

On Friday 4th October, Year 7 students successfully took part in an RMPS (Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies) transition event called ‘Life Matters’. During the day, students attended four workshops that gave them the opportunity for philosophical reflection on issues affecting the Environment, Relationships, Communities and Individuals.

The day was designed to encourage our Year 7 students to interact with their new peers, think philosophically, and learn basic Christian beliefs about the issues affecting people in the 21st Century in an objective environment. Hopefully this will have formed a good foundation for their KS3 and GCSE studies in Religious, Moral, Philosophical Studies at Ramsey Grammar School.

Year 7 students were a credit to Ramsey Grammar School and more importantly to themselves. Well done!





23rd – 25th October 2019

Tickets available from the West Office

Inspired by a true story and based on the hit movie, Made in Dagenham is the uplifting British musical comedy about friendship, love and the importance of fighting for what is right and how the women of Ford went out on strike to get equal pay.

Essex 1968. Like millions of other working women, each morning Rita O’Grady is just trying to get her husband out of bed, get the kids off to school and get to work at the factory on time. But life is about to change forever when it’s announced that the girls in the stitching room of Ford’s Dagenham car plant will have their pay grade dropped to ‘unskilled’. Quickly drawing on a strength she never knew she had, Rita leads her friends in a battle against the might of Ford and the corruption of the Union supposed to protect them. We meet Connie who has given her life to the Labour Party, Claire who struggles to get her words out, Beryl who swears like a trooper, Sandra who is the glamorous one of the bunch and Cass who is determined to be an airline pilot by the time she is 35. This is all set to the backdrop of Harold Wilson’s England in 1968 when the Labour party were battling with the Unions.

It’s a musical that shows us how far we have come for women’s equality yet reminds us that the journey isn’t over yet! It ends with the heroine a reluctant activist who has put her marriage in jeopardy for her colleagues, addressing the TUC conference and calling for listeners to stand up for women workers. This story has never been more relevant in what is the year of ‘The Equality Act’ on the Isle of Man.

Funny, touching and timeless, Made in Dagenham shows how ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they stand together. The show has both guts and a sense of humour.

The production encompasses a large cast, from members across all year groups and abilities. It is all inclusive and led by Mrs Will-Jones, Mr Owen, Miss Dunne, as well as Mrs Corrin. This is the premier show of Made in Dagenham on the Isle of Man.



100 Club

Aug-2019

1st - £40.50 Mrs. IJ Scanlan 97

2nd - £24.30 Mrs. Natasha Hannay 75

3rd - £16.20 Esq. David McConnell 29

Make it Grow Prize Winners and Runners-up

The contribution and effort from all the participants were great and we raised a total of £1,386.33. It was very difficult to identify a winner/winning team and the selection was based on a combination of creativity, innovation as well as funds generated - team work were also considered. See below for the winners.

Prizes	Names
Shield and First Prize	Abigail Harvey and Hollie Thompson
Envelope Cash £30	Rhianna Huxham
Envelope Cash £25	Elly-Jane Crellin
Envelope Cash £15	Bobby Alexander and Callum Fergusson
Envelope Cash £10	Jasmin Pullen



The RGSA Committee will reconvene for the Annual General Meeting on

Thursday 10th September at 6.30 pm

All parents/carers/interested parties are invited to attend. Please feel to contact RGSA on rgsaenquiries@iomcloud.com with any queries or concerns.