



RGS Newsletter

Friday 25th March 2022 – Issue 24

Headteacher's Message

This week once again we held our Headteacher's Friday Breakfast. The Headteacher's award winners were invited along to share their experiences and the reasons for their nomination for this prestigious award. They were chosen by the staff at RGS over all other students in their year group for representing the school, subject achievements, volunteering, hard work, excellent uniform, manners, sporting performance, support school events and kindness.



Sadly I was unable to be there in person with the winners this week but our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Corrin, was delighted to congratulate the award winners in my absence.

- Year 7 – Liam Jenner
- Year 8 – Daniel Cross
- Year 9 – Jemima Caine
- Year 10 – Kyle Shnier
- Year 11 – Layton Ballard
- Year 12 – Rhys Curphey
- Year 13 – Daniel Garrett

This week saw us start once again with our teaching triad lesson study approach with staff. Mr Corrin ran a staff training session to launch the second round of lesson study; which sees groups of three staff from cross-curricular areas in the school come together to peer plan, teach and review lessons. This well-research method of improving teaching was very successful in term 1 and we look forward to seeing how this develops as we step into this new phase. Peer support and guidance in the teaching profession is hugely beneficial and we value it greatly at RGS. Good luck to all of our teachers who will be engaging in those professional discussions and planning sessions over the next few weeks.

We are now heading towards the end of the Isle of Man Government Covid mitigations put in place for schools, to make allowances for ventilated classes during the colder winter months. With the promise of warmer weather coming our way we would like to remind all parents, carers and students that our full school uniform will be enforced from March 31st 2022. This means extra visible layers that have been allowed over winter, such as non-school uniform jumpers or hoodies etc... are no longer to be worn by students. Students are very welcome to wear the plain black school jumper under their blazers still if they wish of course.

As a reminder, the expectation is for black full-length trousers, knee-length shorts, or skirts (reaching the same length as your fingers tips when hands are by your side), a white collared shirt or blouse, a black v-neck sweater (optional with a blazer, not instead of a blazer), black school blazer with RGS logo, and RGS school tie. If skirts are worn, tights are to be black or flesh coloured (any denier), without rips or holes present. Black, Grey or white socks. School shoes should be black, and should not be trainers.

A list of items that are not considered school uniform, even if they're in the correct colour: Leggings, denim, cropped or ¾ length trousers, items with logos other than the RGS logo, footwear with coloured logos, flashing lights, tabs, laces, straps or trims.

In other news, we are very sad to say goodbye to our Chair of Governors Steven Bevan this term. He has been an exceptional Chair and made a huge difference to the school. We will miss him greatly. He has chosen to step down from the Education Council at this time and we wish him all the very best. We have a new member of the Education Council who has joined our Governing Body, Margaret Simpson. We warmly welcome Margaret to Ramsey Grammar School and have already begun working with her.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Sarah Findlater
Headteacher - Ramsey Grammar School

Cross Country

Mia Dunwell had an absolutely fantastic race in Coventry at the weekend. The under 20 girls are a force to be reckoned with, but Mia was technically brilliant, concentrated and walked a very tactical race to win the U20 category and overall winner of the open 5000m



Year 7 Litter Picking

A team of conscientious Year 7 have done a great job using litter pickers around the school grounds this week. Thanks to everyone in the 'Trash-Bash' team who took part!



Y10 Expo

On Tuesday Y10 took part in the Expo, a full day of educational health sessions, which is being delivered to all Y10 students on island. The day was very successful and the students in Y10 were a credit to RGS. We had great feedback from the people delivering the sessions and the staff and students of RGS. The topics covered during the day included First aid from St Johns ambulance, Sexual health from health services on the IOM, wellbeing delivered by Isle Listen, Passenger safety delivered by the road policing unit, Drugs delivered by the Police and Consequences delivered by the Police. The students got a lot from the day and all sessions are extremely valuable in helping keep our students safe now and in the future.

Current Vacancies at RGS

Currently, we are looking for a teacher of English and an Assistant Headteacher, overseeing Teaching and Learning, to join us in the next academic year here at Ramsey Grammar School. If you know of any excellent teachers who would like to join our wonderful school please do point them in the direction of our advertised posts. The English teacher advert can be found [here](#) and the Assistant Headteacher post [here](#).

REMINDER: Forward Planning – Celebration Assemblies

Celebration Assemblies were introduced at Ramsey Grammar in the 2021-2022 academic year. With the purpose of bringing students and parents together as a year group to highlight and celebrate student achievement on a bi-annual basis. We are really looking forwards to doing our second round of Celebration Assemblies after the covid mitigations kept our parents/ carers away from our planned in-person events at RGS in January 2022. All being well, we will now be able to hold our first in-person celebration assemblies after the Easter Holidays for all-year groups, dates are below for planning purposes, with more information to follow soon!



Wednesday 27th April:

- 0910 - Year 10
- 1105 - Year 11
- 1400 - Year 9

Thursday 28th April:

- 0910 - Year 7
- 1105 - Year 8
- 1400 - Sixth Form

Achievement Points this week

2487 Achievement Points were awarded across the school this week!

Quote of the week:

“Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love.” —Lao Tzu



Department Update – Agriculture



RGS Farm Open Day - Community invited to see life on the farm at Ramsey Grammar School as part of UK-wide celebrations for first-ever School Farms Day on Saturday 30th April. Ramsey Grammar School Farm is inviting people to come to a free and family-friendly open day taking part of the UK-wide School Farms Day celebration launched by UK charity Social Farms & Gardens and the School Farms Network.

Visitors will be able to look around our farm and meet the animals We will be highlighting our key stage 3 Rural Science curriculum and key stage 4 & 5 Agriculture courses, and how these highlight sustainable agriculture at the event at Ramsey Grammar School.

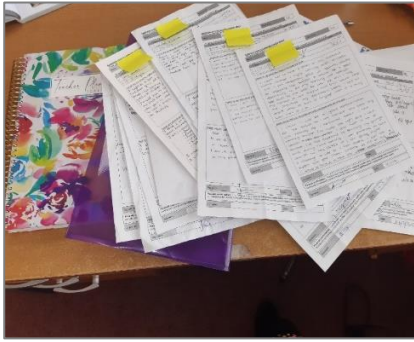
The event is part of a national day of celebration and action that will see School Farms from all over the UK throw open their gates to welcome the public in and showcase the amazing work they do. There will also be lots of online activity, farm tours, and farm life videos – so follow the #SchoolFarmsDay hashtag in the lead up to and on the day. There are more than 120 School Farms across the UK – connecting people in cities and some rural areas with food and farming, and hands-on learning. School Farms Day is all about celebrating the important role that these special places have in communities and education. You can also read more via the Unesco Biosphere link [here](#).

Department Update – Geography

At KS3 we are studying weather, volcanoes, earthquakes and migration. As geography is such a topical subject we are also investigating the geography behind the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. We are taking Y11 out for two mornings this week to look at different aspects of coasts including waves and coastal management. The Sixth form are working on weather and climate and migration.

Department Update – MFL

Language Leader Award



We were inundated with applications for this year's Language Leaders. Students in year 9 who wish to gain some leadership and teaching skills were invited to apply for this exciting opportunity. The Language Leader Award develops student leadership skills and linguistic skills. Learners of all abilities gain a tremendous amount of satisfaction and confidence from sharing what they know with others. It is also known that we retain the knowledge that we teach actively to others far more effectively than that which we take on board in a more passive way. After the Easter holidays, our successful applicants will be visiting our northern primary schools to teach some basic French and Spanish, we cannot wait!

Year 10 French

Our GCSE students have been busy learning about the importance of having a balanced diet in French. As you can see they have divided the food items into various categories. The paper plates show a variety of healthy foods in French!



Year 9 French

Students in year 9 have been preparing to send a presentation about RGS to our partner school in Chateau- Gontier, a region in the Loire Valley. We have written about our school timetables and this week we are concentrating on giving information about our school uniforms in French. This will be of particular

interest to our penpals in France as wearing a uniform is not compulsory there!

Department Update – RMPS

Over the last few weeks, we have been looking at a spectrum of different topics across the different year groups. Y7 have been learning about Jewish Food Laws and working out if their favourite meals are kosher or not; culminating in an assessment on the topic. Y8 have completed their work on Hinduism and have begun to explore the life of the Siddhartha Gotama as part of their Buddhism course. While Y9 are exploring crime and punishment, looking at different types of crime and the aims of punishment. When it comes to GCSE RMPS, our Y10s have completed their mock exams which on the whole were some of the best we've seen in recent years so well done Y10! They are now beginning an exploration of euthanasia - a hot topic here on the Isle of Man at the moment for anyone who keeps up to date with local news. Most of Y11 have now finished or are very nearly finished the entire GCSE short course and will begin revision in-class - revision resources will be available online for students to access to aid their own individual revision.

Key Dates:

- 28th March - Year 6 Speed Question Event for Dhoon and Lexey
- 29th March - Year 6 Speed Question Event for Bunscoil
- 30th March - Year 6 Speed Question Event for Andreas and Ballaugh
- 31st March - University Evening – Year 11, 12, 13 1800 – 2000
- 31st March – Normal uniform rules apply once again
- 8th April – Non-Uniform Day – Guide Dogs for the Blind
- 8th April – Last Day of Term 2
- 25th of April – First day of term 3