



RGS Newsletter

Friday 29th April 2022 – Issue 27

Headteacher’s Message



We had some wonderful Celebration Assemblies over the course of this week. Each individual Head of Year, along with their Deputy Heads of Year and a number of other staff supporting, hosted celebration events for our students. Students were celebrated for embodying the RGS Ways of Being, their academic achievements, and their efforts in subject areas across the school. They listened to speeches from their Head and Deputy Heads of Year, enjoyed musical interludes and I also addressed each year group. I spoke to all of the students about how

proud we are of all of the young people who were recognized, but also of those who were not receiving certificates but were trying hard every day. A huge well done to all of our young award winners.



A reminder to all families that we have our Farm Open Day this Saturday. The event is part of a national network of 120 school farms, all participating in the Open Day, and proud to be the only school farm on the Isle of Man.

We are very excited to announce that our new Parent Governor is Trish Taylor. We are so thankful for Trish’s support for the school and very much look forward to working with her.

Please be reminded that all students should be in normal formal school uniform now. We appreciate your support with this matter. It has been lovely to see the student all looking so smart once again.

The exam season has now begun. The scheduled of examinations is now underway and our young people have the opportunity now to showcase all that they have learned and the skills that they have been refining over the course of their studies. We wish all of our Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students the best of luck this summer. We know you can do it!

As you will all have heard in the press, our wonderful Deputy Headteacher Mr. Corrin has been appointed as Headteacher of Ballakermeen High School from September 2022. We will miss him terribly but we are also extremely proud and happy for Mr. Corrin. Mr. Corrin has said about his move ‘It’s a privilege to be entrusted with the leadership of Ballakermeen. I’m really looking forward to working with the many people, both within the school and the wider community, who clearly care so much about it and the futures of our young people.’

I wish you all a wonderful bank holiday weekend.

Kind regards

Sarah Findlater
Headteacher - Ramsey Grammar School

Current Vacancies at RGS

A run-down of the vacancies we currently have open at Ramsey Grammar School:

- **Deputy Headteacher – Quality of Education** – This vacancy is now live and accepting applications [here](#).



If you know of any excellent teachers or specialists in the areas above who would like to join our wonderful school please do point them in the direction of our advertised posts.

Achievement Points this week

1097 Achievement Points were awarded across the school this week!

Quote of the week:

“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”

John Holmes

British Empire Medal Award

Mr. Wilkinson represented RGS at Government House on Wednesday, where Alex Townsend was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) The BEM is an award for meritorious civil or military service worthy of recognition by the Crown. Alex worked for the Department of Education for countless years and was responsible for bringing the computer bus to RGS and numerous primary schools in the north of the Island. Alex helped with our "Tell Me Project" work for many years, where students interviewed people about their lives and experiences. Congratulations Alex.

(Alex is pictured with ex-RGS student Kyle Withington).



Department Update – Science

All Year 10 students will be sitting their science mock multiple choice paper (May 19th) and the written paper (May 23rd) – details are on the Yr10 science Google Classroom.

Planetary Alignment 2022: How To Watch This Rare 1000-Year Space Event?

Earth and Space topics are currently being taught across Y7 and Y13. We are encouraging students to 'reach for the planets' and look at the brightest planets in May's night sky: How and when to see them? Jupiter will climb higher each morning, reaching much fainter [Mars](#) by the 29th. Meanwhile, Mars provides an opportunity to make a sighting (with good binoculars and telescopes) of the most distant planet — [Neptune](#) — on the 18th, with Mars passing just to the south of this bluish gas giant. [Saturn](#) is also a morning object, positioned far to the west of Venus, Jupiter and Mars.



Department Update – DT & IT

Year 11 are concentrating on their exam revision right now, the coursework is in, marked and sent off to the exam boards. Almost there, all that hard work over the past two years, fingers crossed for some great results at GCSE!

The textile skills



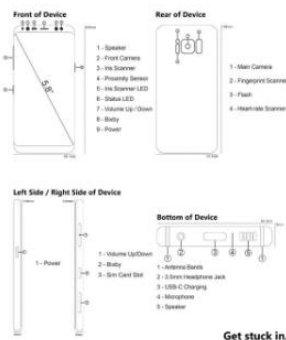
Key stage 3 food are enjoying creating their own gingerbread biscuits, we've had people, flowers even hands and feet.



Year 10 in ICT have recently completed their mocks and are now focused ready to continue their studies. In BTEC they are just finishing off the first piece of coursework on graphics design where they created an Advert & User Guide for a new smart phone.



Welcome to your new device,
We're happy you're here.



Department Update – Music



Instrumental Examination Success!

A huge congratulations to, Keira Brown, Ciaran Kerr, Annabelle Clague, Daniel Cross, William Dalugdugan, Wilma Dalugdugan, Henry Dormer, Leon Everden, Janssen Laudiangco, Megan Lord, Jessica Musgrove, Elizabeth Nelson,

Noah Parks and Tristan Speight who successfully passed instrumental grades between 1 and 6 before Easter. Such commitment is to be commended!

We'd like to celebrate all instrumental exam success at RGS, so if you've taken instrumental exams outside of school (including theory exams) please be sure to let Miss Will know.

Manx Music Festival Success!

As I write this newsletter entry, the Manx Music Festival (the 'Guild') is still running, so there may yet be more RGS entrants for me to congratulate. Our full 'Guild' report will be published in good time. That said, we must extend huge congratulations to those members of our student body who have competed this week – regardless of whether this is in music, dance, drama or spoken word classes.

We had a highly exciting win for the school Pep Band last Saturday in the Open Brass Class – beating adult ensembles from Manx Concert Brass (who have dominated this particular class for literally decades!). The current line-up for our Senior Pep Band consists of students from Year 7 through to 13 who have been rehearsing every week after school this year. Their entertaining programme and rapport with the audience and adjudicator helped them clinch the victory much to the delight of the Music Department staff at RGS! We extend our thanks to former RGS student (and fabulous brass teacher) Mr John Wood for the work he has done in establishing the Pep Band as an integral part of the Music Department ensembles.



If you would like to hear more from our Pep Bands (Junior and Senior) you will soon be able to hear their professional recordings via our school social media.

Other school ensembles include String Ensemble which meets on Wednesday lunch times, and Choir which meets on Thursday lunch times. Please see Miss Will for further details.

Online Learning in Music

All Key Stage 3 students now have access to our online Music education software **Focus on Sound** and should have used this software to complete listening tasks as homework related to their in-class curriculum.

To log on:



Either use the QR Code here, or go to:

portal.focusonsound.com

(do not add 'www.' Or 'http:/' beforehand)

Then, choose the third option down 'Sign in with Application Cloud'

- Country: **United Kingdom**
- School ID: **rgs**
- Username: each student will be told their username in class. They can check these with Music staff if unsure
- Password: **Music** (this is case sensitive, so needs a capital 'M')

Set work is accessed through the '*My Class*' option in the menu bar.

Key Dates:

- 2nd May – Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- 6th May – Parent Voice Questionnaire (Pastoral)
- 10th May– Year 8 You Matter Day
- 12th May – Year 11 Leavers Day
- 13th May – Year 13 Leavers Day
- 13th – 15th May - DoE Silver Expedition