
RGS Newsletter

Friday 9th September 2022 – Issue 1



Headteacher's Message:

It has been a busy and positive start to the new academic year, as we once again welcome in a new cohort of Year 7 students into the RGS community, as well as new and returning students to every year across the school.



As mentioned in my welcome letter to you all last week we have been celebrating an excellent set of examination results and we would like to again formally congratulate all of our young people who sat external examinations this summer. They have had a hugely turbulent 2 years of study in the lead up to these examinations and they approached them with determination, grit and focus. **Our GCSE and our A-Level results were the best set of results in the school history for a cohort of student who have sat external examinations.** We could not be more proud of them all.

In other news, we will be building our House systems up this year and we are planning to increase the focus and number of events put on to celebrate our Houses. We now have a senior member of staff responsible for the House system and events linked to it, which has not been the case in the past. Our Houses are such an important part of Ramsey Grammar School history and culture, both for current staff and students, and our alumni far and wide. For those new to the school our House names are; Ayre, Barrule, Cushag, Vollan, Raven and Snaefell, and all stem from places or items of Manx cultural significance. Watch this space for more news.

You will notice that we have changed the naming of our tutor groups this year with each group named using a numerical system rather than a House as their name now. (For instance 10.2 instead of 10 Barrule). Tutor groups may now have a mix of students from every House; Ayre, Barrule, Cushag, Vollan, Raven and Snaefell, instead of only having students from one House per tutor group. This will allow us to provide even more opportunities to build relationships and widen their social interactions within their tutor groups, across different tutor groups, and indeed across the entire school community. It will give students an opportunity to mix as a house as well as across the houses across their lessons and the house events. This has also enabled us to lower numbers in tutor groups in some year groups allowing Tutors to dedicate more time to each student. It will also mean that lessons taught within tutor groups will be lower in numbers in many cases.

You may have seen elsewhere, but I wanted to let all families know that there has been a Government change to term dates in December, and the Christmas term will now finish for all schools across the island on Thursday 22nd December and not as previously advertised on Friday 23rd December.



Obviously, with the sad news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II yesterday evening, we have been opening up discussions with students across the school on her life and legacy, and what comes next. Our flags fly at half-mast as a mark of respect and thanks during this period of mourning. All RGS social media accounts will remain silent during this time.

We began this year as we always do, with the school photographer in and wanted to let all Parents/ Carers know that there is a second session to cover Sixth Form students, and any students who were absent this week on Wednesday 21st September in the West Hall.

Some of our well established extra curricular clubs will be starting next week, and all other clubs the week after. As we always do, we have a huge number of exciting options on offer for student to take part in. Students will have shared on their Student Microsoft Teams channels the few that begin next week on Monday and then the full list will be circulated to students and families electronically and available online by Friday 16th.

Please be reminded that our main school contact is RGSEnquiries@sch.im. Please be sure to include your child's name and tutor group, and who the message is for (if known). In the instance that you need to repost or request a child's absence from school please contact RGSabsence@sch.im. This address deals with all holiday requests, sickness notifications, and absence required during a school day.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards



Sarah Findlater
Headteacher - Ramsey Grammar School

Quote of the week:

“When patterns are broken, new worlds emerge.”

– Tuli Kupferberg



REMINDER: RGS Lanyard System – Sept 2023

From the start of the new school year this September, all students, staff, and visitors at RGS have been required to wear an RGS lanyard as a compulsory part of the uniform. The wearing of lanyards for all adult and children on site will allow us to ensure that we keep our staff and students safe at all times and ensure that everyone on the school site is approved and visitors are logged in and out at reception appropriately each day.

Each Year group has a different colour, which will change each year as they move up through the school. Students will be issued with a complimentary lanyard at the start of each school year, enabling everyone to make a fresh start every September as they begin in a new Year group. As with our current Smartcard system, any that are lost through the course of the year can be replaced at West Reception via the Student Window for a small fee.

The lanyards all have a safety break clip and house the RGS Smartcard used to pay for lunches. These have been embraced by students and staff so far, and we appreciate all continued support from home to ensure that our young people continue to wear them as standard each day.

New School Dates

Autumn Term 2022

- In-service days:* Monday 5 & Tuesday 6 September
- **Start:** Wednesday 7 September 2022
- **Half Term:** Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October
- **Ends:** Thursday 22 December (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

Spring Term 2023

- **Starts:** Monday 9 January 2023
- **Half Term:** Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February
- Includes 2 days in-service for all schools to be twilighted
- **Close for Easter:** Thursday 6 April

Summer Term 2023

- **Start:** Monday 24 April
- **Bank Holiday:** Monday 1 May
- **Bank Holiday:** Monday 29 May
- in-service day Friday 2 June

- **Half Term (TT):** Monday 5 June to Friday 9 June
- **Tynwald Day:** Wednesday 5 July
- **Close for Summer:** Friday 21 July

*** Inservice days and twilight sessions are for staff training**

Key Dates

- Wednesday 14: Year 7 Northern 6 Day (all day)
1800 Y10 Maths & English Info Evening (West Hall)
- Tuesday 20: Year 7 Managing Change Day (all day)
- Wednesday 21: School Photographs – Sixth Form and any previously absent students
- Thursday 22: Year 7 Cat 4
- Friday 23: Year 7 Cat 4