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## RGS Newsletter

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – Issue 9

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#### Headteacher's Message:

As we do each week we have the opportunity, once again, to celebrate our Headteachers Award winners this week for a wide variety of reasons. This week we have had students awarded for their kindness and consideration of others and for always working hard. A very big well done!



- **Year 7** – Nerys Walton
- **Year 11** – Connie McKiernan

Amidst the rushing wind at 11:00 today our school community fell silent in remembrance and it was a moving moment, as it is each year. We are extremely proud to have Oscar Bovenizer and Henry Dormer playing both the 'Last Post' to signal to the school the start of our two minutes silence, and 'Reveille' at the end as the wake-up call live in both the East and West buildings simultaneously. When a usually bustling and lively school comes to a silent standstill it is an incredibly impactful moment. Thank you to both Oscar and Henry, and to Miss Will and Mr Wood. We are very lucky to have such fantastic brass musicians within the school. A thank you to all staff and students for marking this occasion with such respect and maturity also. RGS students and



Key-stage assemblies this week had been led by Mr Wilkinson on the subject of Remembrance to tie in with services both today, and this coming Sunday in Ramsey, around the Isle of Man, and indeed across the world. The assemblies were a poignant reminder of why we remember and brought the very idea of Remembrance up-to-date in discussing the services and service people from recent world events who we are honouring at this time of year. Thank you to Mr Wilkinson.

As we all know, the weather can be challenging at this time of year. With a split-site campus, we are doing everything we can to ensure our students can transition from building to building without issue. Students themselves must also make the right choices when there are wet areas, larger puddles and the potential to slip on mud. We have had an issue with standing water this week, and are working with the DOI to sort this out as much as is possible and as soon as possible. The path to walk safely from one building to the other is still accessible and is a better choice than attempting to walk on muddy grass in the surrounding area. We want uniforms to remain as dry as possible and as clean as possible for the duration of the school day. Please also encourage students to not use the weather as an excuse for poor uniform choices – whether it is the wrong shoes or non-uniform layers – we would appreciate your support with their uniform being well-presented and correct and encourage students to wear base layers underneath their school shirts as opposed to none-uniform hoodies on top. We appreciate all your support.

Mrs Corrin attended Ramsey Youth Centre on Wednesday evening this week to celebrate Victoria Johnson, Neo Dixon and RGS alum Sean Quigley receiving their Youth Worker Certificates. All three have been on the course and worked hard within our community to achieve their certification. A huge well done to each of them!

Kind regards

Sarah Findlater  
Headteacher - Ramsey Grammar School



#### Quote of the week:

“Small Acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can change the world.”

- Howard Zinn



### Year 7 Hockey

Year 7 girls played their first hockey fixture Wednesday afternoon against King Williams College. One team won 3-1 and the other team lost 4-1 but both teams had great fun!

Extra special shout out to Maisie Skillan & Flo Bailey who were voted most valuable players for their respective teams.

– Miss Garner



### Student Mental Health First Aider Course

On Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 26 Year 12 students undertook a Mental Health First Aider course delivered by Ali Vondy from Manx Minds. This four-hour course is a precursor to the full MHFA two-day course and through it students learnt to recognise warning signs of mental ill

health, and develop the skills and confidence to approach and support someone while keeping themselves safe. Ali stated, "This group of RGS Sixth Form students were a credit to themselves and the school. We were able to have open and frank discussions around many Mental Health topics. Manx Minds is delighted to be able to offer this course across the Island due to the ongoing, generous sponsorship of Tower Insurance. We hope the Mental Health Aware course has given the students a greater understanding of mental health in general, mental health issues and how they can pro-actively support themselves and others."



### Congratulations to:

Aaron Rielly, Alexander Shimmin, Annabelle Clague, Cameron Lacey, Chantelle Limerick  
Charlotte Brooks, Constance Edwards, Dixie Yardley-Scott, Ealish Cook, Ella Wood, Elyse Grant, Erin Corkill, Francesca Lord, Isabella Boyes, Isabelle Perkins, Juan Quine, Matilde Jackson, Poppy Culshaw, Rosie Parsons  
Ruby Arnold, Toby Chestnut-Cubbon, Wilma Dalugdugan, Zahra Saleem, Ashleigh Beastall, Lola Tebay, Daniel Comle.

### Department update – Art

There has been a lot happening within the Art department since my last post. The students are really developing well, the artwork is inspiring, and the Art department is fit to burst each break and lunchtime. It is fair to say that the Art department is a truly happy place.

One event that I would like to let you know about is a recent visit that our Year 11 Art GCSE students went on, on the last day of the last half term. We received an email from Tynwald, inviting two of our students to witness the 'Unveiling of the Keeper of the House of Keys Portrait', by the incredibly talented Andrew Tift.



Due to the recent pandemic and the huge disruption it caused, particularly to school trips, we decided to be bold and ask for a whole class visit. With our Year 11 Art GCSE students currently working on a 'Self-Portrait Project', the opportunity was too good to miss.



Well, luck favours the brave, Tynwald agreed. As we were on a roll, we pushed for a personal audience with the artist, so that the students may ask him some questions about his work. Tynwald was incredibly generous and arranged for this to happen. They also invited two past Keepers of the House of Keys to join the students in a historical talk about past portraits, the history of the House of Keys, through to the actual unveiling.

The trip was a huge success, and the students really appreciated the whole event. They got to sit in the chairs of members of the House of Keys, enjoyed a personal and enlightening tour, they got to meet the current Keeper of the House of Keys, Juan Watterson, but most importantly, they got to meet Andrew Tift and listen to him discuss his work. What amazed the students the most was how down-to-earth Andrew Tift was. He even admitted, to them, that he was nervous about talking in public.

The students were a real credit to the school and impressed everyone at Tynwald. Hopefully, this will open opportunities for further Art trips in the near future.

Please find below two links. The first is to Tynwald's site and their publicity post about the event, and the second is from Isle of Man Television. Please click to view further information about the event.



<https://www.tynwald.org.im/about/news/Pages/2263.aspx><https://www.tynwald.org.im/about/news/Pages/2263.aspx>  
[x](https://www.tynwald.org.im/about/news/Pages/2263.aspx)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRo8lBuAg1o><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRo8lBuAg1o>

Thank you,  
From the Art Team

### **Department Update – MFL**

#### **Manx at RGS**

Will Fenton and Andrew Begbey from year 8 won second and third prizes respectively in the 'Hop Tu Naa Traditions Poster Competition' as part of Cooish 2022. Will and Andrew learn 'Gaelg' the manx language at RGS. Cooish is a Manx Language festival that takes place on the island at the start of November each year. Will and Andrew were presented with their prizes at 'Cooish, Cappan as Croo' event at Laxey Institute on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Key Dates**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Children In Need

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Y9 Health Fair

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – JA Learn to Earn