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RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL **NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 4**



18th July 2025





Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the school year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the journey we've all shared over the past months—one filled with growth, perseverance, and countless memorable moments.

It has been a privilege to walk alongside our students as they've learned, questioned, explored, and matured. Watching them support each other, take pride in their achievements, and overcome challenges has been one of the true joys of my role.

This year hasn't been without its trials, but what has shone through time and again is the strength of our school community. I want to personally thank you—our families—for the trust you place in us every day, and for your constant encouragement. Your ongoing support truly makes a difference.

To the students moving on to new adventures, you've been an important part of our school community - thank you for bringing energy and determination to everything you've done. Please carry with you the values, friendships, and memories you've made here. You have so much ahead of you, and you have our best wishes for whatever path you choose.

To those students returning, I look forward to the fresh start of a new school year. There is so much to be excited about and we're here to support you every step of the way.

I wish you all a restful, joyful summer break. Take time to recharge, be with loved ones, and enjoy the simple things.

With heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Taylor Headteacher

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Bus Timetables

New Year 7 Students



The current Year 6 students from our primary schools in the north have visited us several times this term, in preparation for starting with us in September.

Our two Welcome Days were a great success and many of our current Year 7 and Year 10 students were helping throughout both days, showing the new students around and helping with activities.

Students had chance to meet their tutors, explore the school grounds, meet new students and begin to form new friendships. From attending lessons to team building activities, these students have taken their first steps into secondary school life with confidence.

We'd like to thank our staff and the students of RGS for creating such a welcoming and supportive environment.



Year 11 Students

On 29th June 2025 we said a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 11 students as they celebrated their official Leavers' Day. It was a day full of smiles, laughter and a few tears, as we marked the end of an incredible journey. The students spent the morning visiting their favourite teachers, signing each other's shirts and taking photos.

We are so proud of the resilience and determination Year 11 have shown, especially in the face of their exams and the demands of their final year.

To all of our Year 11s – thank you for everything you have contributed over the last 5 years. We wish you every success in whatever you choose going forward.

RGS Prize Giving Evening

This year, we decided to have a whole school awards event, to celebrate our amazing students. Over 200 prizes, shields, trophies and awards were given out.

The venue was Mountain View Innovation Centre, and was attended by students, parents and carers, staff, and special guests.

We were entertained throughout the evening by our amazing school band, The Enthusiasts and the new (and equally amazing) Junior Enthusiasts. A huge thank you to all who attended and supported the event.

Here's to another year of growth, achievement and inspiration!



Year 12 Junior Tynwald

Each year, usually on the Monday before the July sitting of Tynwald, representatives of the Island's secondary schools are invited to try being Members of Tynwald for a morning.

A group of Year 12 students attended this year's Junior Tynwald. The students took part in a tour of the Tynwald building with the Speaker of the House of Keys, Juan Watterson, giving his time to tell the students about the history of politics and democracy on the Isle of Man. The students then engaged in Question Time presided by the President of Tynwald, Laurence Skelly; with the first question being answered by the Chief Minister Alfred Cannan. The students involved asked lots of searching questions, often putting Government Ministers on the spot.

Finally, the students took part in two debates and acquitted themselves well. Jemima Caine was given special mention for her contribution on the day. All the students - Thomas Rothwell Hesketh, Bella Kerruish, Tenzin Bell, Rosy Mulunda, Evella Mulunda and Phoebe Kinnin - were brilliant and contributed to making the event a success.



RGS Bands - The Enthusiasts and Junior Enthusiasts

Both The Enthusiasts and the Junior Enthusiasts played to a full marquee at TynwaldFest this year - demonstrating everything that is good about music education:

Resilience, Reliability, Determination, Enthusiasm, Teamwork, Friendship, Enjoyment and not to mention absolute technical brilliance.

The older band were polished and professional - everything from setting up to packing away was done as a group responsibility, and they looked after the younger band with support and encouragement.

The Junior band - WOW. Their first ever performance and they were superb.

We hope they all went home feeling like rock stars!



Year 12 and Year 9 Geology Fieldwork

The Year 12 geologists headed out for their final 2 days of A-level fieldwork at the start of July, exploring the Castletown limestone beds, and the lava flows & agglomerates of the Scarlett Volcanics.

After drawing examples of solitary and colonial corals, they investigated paleocurrents using crinoid stems, collected information to create their first graphic log, and sketched the large asymmetric fold by the Scarlett Visitor Centre prior to collecting data for statistical analysis of the joint strikes on the fold axis and limbs.

The year 9 Standalone geologists were not so lucky with the weather but learnt how to investigate the dip & strike of the Peel desert sandstone beds and found an ancient wadi channel. "Miss, it's NEVER too early for ice-cream!" occupied some time while they waited for the heaviest rain to abate, and then they learnt about how giant underwater avalanches and a subsequent continental collision formed the slate beds beneath Peel Castle. While waiting for the bus, they nipped into Peel Cathedral to explore the fossils in the new floor, and there was a final stop to investigate the suitability of various rock types for gravestones in Kirk Michael. A good time was had by staff and students alike! Many thanks to Dr Spencer and her colleagues for fieldwork support.





Goodbye Year 13!

On 7th May 2025, our Year 13 students celebrated their final day at Ramsey Grammar School. It was a day filled with laughter, bouncy castles, fun, and heartfelt goodbyes as we honoured an extraordinary group of young adults, who are ready to take their next steps into the world beyond school.

Students took time to reflect on how far they've come – not just academically, but also personally - the strength, determination and leadership they've shown over the last 2 years is something they should be very proud of.

To our brilliant Year 13 students; thank you for your energy, creativity and commitment. Whether you're heading off to university, apprenticeship, gap years or the world of work, remember you'll always have a place in the Ramsey Grammar School community.

Go out there and make your mark on the word!



Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme



We are incredibly proud to share some outstanding achievements from our students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme at Ramsey Grammar School this year. Their dedication, perseverance, and adventurous spirit have truly made this a remarkable year.

The annual Bronze and Silver Award Certificate Presentation took place in March where 25 students were invited to receive their Bronze Awards, and 20 students were invited to receive their Silver Awards in front of a packed Gaiety Theatre.

Plans are already in place to launch the Award to the new Year 9 Students in September, with lots of interest already being shown, and it looks like it will be another busy year, with students already looking to progress on the 3-tiered Award scheme. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Bronze Award Expeditions - a fantastic 40 students successfully completed their Bronze Assessed expeditions during the expedition season. Their determination and teamwork were truly inspiring, and we received some excellent feedback from other campsite users, saying how polite and respectful the RGS students were during their stay at the campsite. We are also excited to note that another 35 students are able to complete their Bronze expeditions next year, demonstrating continued commitment to the scheme.

Silver Award Expeditions - 18 students achieved their Silver Assessed expeditions, showcasing impressive resilience and skill. Additionally, another 10 students are preparing to complete their Silver expeditions by the end of the expedition season, which is prior to the October half term, and we look forward to celebrating their successes soon.

Gold Award Triumphs - 5 students undertook a challenging 4-day Gold Assessed expedition, demonstrating exceptional endurance and leadership. They endured some difficult conditions in unfamiliar locations but were able to manage all situations and complete the gruelling four days with smiles on their faces and laughing about some of their experiences. Well done to an amazing group of students.

These 5 students will be invited to the Gold Award Ceremony at Government House on 9th September 2025.

During the first week of the summer holidays, 16 more students will participate in their practice expedition, gaining invaluable experience and laying the groundwork for their future Gold Assessed Expedition.

Good luck to you all





Year 10 Lake District Trip

As part of their GCSE Geography studies, 37 Year 10 students and 5 staff took part in an exciting and educational fieldtrip to the Lake District. The group began with a talk on tourism at the Brockhole Visitor Centre on their arrival. Day two, students went to Bowness where they carried out a study focusing on land use, environmental quality, and the effects of tourism before taking to the water for an afternoon of water sports on Lake Windermere. Day 3, they visited Grasmere and completed a scenic walk back via Rydal Cave (pictured). The trip ended with an engaging session on the development of Blackpool, followed by a fun visit to the famous Pleasure Beach on Friday





Year 7 Geography Field Trip

Year 7 Geography students recently enjoyed a local field trip, exploring river processes in action. The group walked via Crossags Lane and the Ramsey Hairpin to Ballure Reservoir, where they carried out fieldwork studying the depth and width of smaller tributaries leading to the reservoir and examining erosion processes in the bedrock.

Students then followed the river down to its mouth to repeat their investigations, comparing how the river changes along its course. After completing their studies, everyone enjoyed a well-earned lunch on the beach before walking back to school.





Standalone 2025

Our annual Standalone week gives students the chance to step away from their regular timetable and dive into a week full of discovery, creativity, and new experiences.

Students engaged enthusiastically, showing curiosity, maturity, and an appetite for learning in new and exciting contexts. Staff were equally impressed by the initiative and energy brought to every activity. A huge thank you goes to all the staff, external visitors, and facilitators who made this enriching week possible.

Standalone Week reminds us that education is not only about exams and grades—but also about developing skills, confidence, and independence. We hope students found it inspiring and memorable!



Invest, Believe, Achieve Together

RGS Moderator Visits 2025



We were visited in February and May this year for external verification in Rural Science and Practical Cookery, and we are very proud to announce that we received exceptionally high praise for both subjects. One of the most rewarding quotes we received was "the centre was exemplary".

RGS Uniform Policy

Please remember all students are expected to uphold our Uniform Policy and look smart for school.

A gentle reminder that the Policy states **no facial piercings** are allowed (nose piercings, lip piercings, eyebrow piercings, etc) – only a maximum of 2 piercings in the ear lobule are permitted.

Please also note that **no lycra / stretch / body contouring trousers** are permitted. Please ensure black formal trousers with a button and zip at the front of the waist are worn.

The RGS Uniform Policy can be found on our website.

RGS Uniform Donations

We would be extremely grateful for any uniform donations from our Year 11 and Y13 families, who may no longer have use for them.

Thank you to the families who have already kindly donated to us.

RGS Library

If you're having a summer clear out of books, we'd be happy to receive pre-loved books in good condition for our classroom reading boxes and popular Big Book Giveaways.

These may be left at the school during the holidays, along with any outstanding Library books you might find at home.

New Term Starts on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Please remember students should be in school by **08.45** each day

Year 7 students will meet in the East building playground where they will be met by the Tutor Team and arranged into their form groups before going into assembly.

Bus Timetables for Ramsey Grammar School

Service 19c



Jurby - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)		
Ballaugh Cronk	0755	
Jurby West, crossroads	0757	
Jurby, Bretney shelter	0811	
Jurby , Threshold shelter	0816	
St Judes Church	0822	
Kings Reach, shelter	0827	
Ramsey Grammar School	0833	

Ramsey Grammar School - Jurby

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)		
Ramsey Grammar School	1523	
East Building bus facility		
Jurby Road, Ash Grove	1528	
St Judes	1533	

St Judes	1533
Jurby, Bretney shelter	1539
Jurby , Threshold shelter	1542
Ballaugh Cronk	1548
Jurby West, crossroads	1551

Service 19c route AM	Service 19c route PM
Ballaugh Cronk	Ramsey Grammar School
Jurby West	Jurby Road
Summerhill Road	St Judes
Jurby, Bretney	Summerhill Road
Jurby, Threshold	Jurby, Bretney
Sandygate	Jurby, Threshold
St Judes	Sandygate
Jurby Road	Ballaugh Cronk
Ramsey Grammar School	Jurby West

Service 20/a



Bride & Andreas - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)				
Dogmills	0756	(Service 20a)		
Bride, Rectory	0801			
Smeale	0806			
Andreas, school shelter	0815			
Regaby crossroads	0820			
Ramsey Grammar School	0831			

Ramsey Grammar School - Andreas & Bride

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)

Ramsey Grammar School	1530	(Service 20)
East Building bus facility		
Regaby crossroads	1540	
Andreas, hairdressers	1547	
Smeale	1553	
Bride, cemetary entrance	1559	
Dogmills	1603	

Service 20a route AM	Service 20 route PM	
Dogmills	Ramsey Grammar School	
Bride	Dhoor	
Coast Road	Regaby	
Smeale	Andreas	
Andreas	Smeale	
Regaby	Coast Road	
Dhoor	Bride	
Ramsey Grammar School	Dogmills	

Service 5/6a



Peel - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)

arrives from Douglas		
Peel Town Hall	0755	
Kirk Michael, Station Road	0809	
Ballaugh, opposite Raven	0815	
Sulby Village, shelter	0822	
Ramsey Grammar School	0828	

sets down at East Building - no stop at West Building

Ramsey Grammar School - Peel

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)

Ramsey Grammar School	1520	
East Building bus facility		
Sulby Village	1528	
Ballaugh, Raven	1536	
Kirk Michael, school	1544	
Peel Town Hall	1559	
continues to Douglas		

Service 6a route AM	Service 5 route PM
Peel Town Hall	Ramsey Grammar School
Knocksharry	Lezayre
Kirk Michael	Sulby
Ballaugh	Ballaugh
Sulby	Kirk Michael
Lezayre	Knocksharry
Ramsey Grammar School	Peel Town Hall

Service 16



Maughold - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)

Ramsey Grammar School - Maughold

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)

Ramsey Bus Station, shelter	1600	
Port-e-Vullen	1609	
Maughold Village	1613	
Ballajora	1616	
Dreemskerry	1617	

Service 16 route AM	Service 16 route PM
Ramsey Bus Station	Ramsey Bus Station
Port-e-Vullen	Port-e-Vullen
Maughold Village	Maughold Village
Ballajora	Ballajora
Dreemskerry	Dreemskerry
Folieu, Ballure Holiday Homes	Ramsey Bus Station
Ramsey Bus Station	

Service 3



Douglas & Onchan - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)

Douglas, Lord Street stop D	0740	
Onchan, Manx Arms	0755	
Baldrine, Methodist Hall	0800	
Ballacannell	0803	
Fairy Cottage	0804	
Laxey, MER shelter	0808	
Laxey, Ard Reayrt	0810	
Glen Mona, Ballagorry Drive	8180	
Ramsey Grammar School	0834	

Ramsey Grammar School - Onchan & Douglas

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)

	1500	
Ramsey Grammar School	1520	***
East Building bus facility		
Ramsey Bus Station		1540
Glen Mona, church hall	1537	1553
Laxey, opposite Ard Reayrt	1545	1601
Laxey, MER shelter	1547	1603
Fairy Cottage	1551	1607
Baldrine, layby	1555	1611
Onchan, opposite Manx Arms	1601	1617
Douglas, Lord Street	1616	1632

Service 3 route AM	Service 3 route PM
Douglas, Lord Street	Ramsey
Rosemount	Glen Mona
St Ninians	Minorca
Onchan	Laxey
Baldrine	Fairy Cottage
Fairy Cottage	Baldrine
Laxey	Onchan
Minorca	St Ninians
Glen Mona	Rosemount
Ramsey Grammar School	Douglas, Lord Street

Service 3b



Laxey & Ballaragh - Ramsey Grammar School

AM

Mondays to Fridays (School days Only)

Laxey, MER shelter	0807	
Laxey, Ard Reayrt	0809	
Minorca	0811	
Ballaragh Village	0813	
Glen Mona, Ballagorry Drive	0818	
Ramsey Grammar School	0835	

Ramsey Grammar School - Ballaragh & Laxey

PM

Mondays to Fridays (School Days only)

Ramsey Grammar School	1518
East Building bus facility	
Dhoon Glen, café	1536
Ballaragh Village	1540
Laxey, opposite Ard Reayrt	1544
Laxey, MER shelter	1546

Service 3b route AM	Service 3b route PM
Laxey	Ramsey Grammar School
Minorca	Dhoon Glen
Ballaragh	Ballaragh
Glen Mona	Laxey
Ramsey Grammar School	continues to Douglas