



# RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## EASTER NEWSLETTER

### Headteacher Message:

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of this spring term, I've been taking a moment to look back over the past few months, and I'm struck by just how much our pupils, staff and families have achieved together. Schools are busy places at the best of times, but this term has felt especially full of growth, creativity and genuine community spirit.

This term has also brought its share of challenges—tired days, unexpected hurdles, and the usual ups and downs that come with school life. But what has stood out to me is the resilience and positivity shown by our pupils. They continue to surprise us with their determination, their humour, and their ability to adapt and grow. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to you, our families, for the support you give not only to your children but to the school as a whole. Whether it's attending events, encouraging learning at home, or simply offering a kind word, your partnership makes a profound difference. We never take it for granted.

As we step into the Easter holiday, I hope you find time to rest, recharge and enjoy the lighter days ahead. Spring has a way of reminding us that new beginnings are always possible—buds appearing on branches, brighter mornings, and a sense of renewal in the air. Whether you are celebrating Easter or simply enjoying a well-earned break, may the coming days bring peace, warmth and moments of joy with the people who matter most to you.

Thank you once again for your trust, your kindness and your ongoing support. I am truly grateful to lead such a caring and vibrant school community.

Wishing you all a happy, restful and hopeful Easter,

Mrs S Taylor  
Headteacher



## International Women's Day

On Friday 6th March, a group of Year 13 students marked International Women's Day by attending a debate on the issues faced by young women both on and off the Island.

Tynwald marked International Women's Day by welcoming secondary students from across the Isle of Man to come together in Tynwald Chambers to put forward Motions on issues such as gender differences in healthcare and legal protections for victims of violence.



**Jemima, Rosy, Evella, Katie, Emily and Daisy** represented Ramsey Grammar School and debated various motions around a range of topics that the students had devised themselves. The students spoke with confidence and integrity, with Ann Corlett MHK chairing the debate and Daphne Cain MHK also in attendance.

The students were a real credit to Ramsey Grammar School and demonstrated their commitment to these pressing social issues.

## Junior Achievement Company Programme 2026



Junior Achievement's Company Programme gives over a hundred students each year the opportunity to prepare for their working life through the experience of running their own company, supported by a volunteer business mentor.

Students aged 16 to 18 (generally in Year 12) set up and run their company over the course of one academic year. They raise share capital, develop, market and finance a product or service. Students gain experience in the real world, taking responsibility and being accountable to their shareholders for the running of the business.



The RGS team 'Fusion' stormed into the final at The Comis Hotel on Wednesday 18th March, they completed a 15 minute panel interview, wrote a Company Report, 3 minute presentation and a prepared a Trade Stand.

Congratulations to **Daniel Cross**, **Martha Blenecoe**, **Juliet Heidtman**, **Noah Parkes**, **Isla Cain** and **Abbie Pattison**. Their product 'Bag Buddy' was a creative idea and sparked lots of interests on social media and from the Judges.

Daniel Cross was awarded Team Ambassador and was rewarded with a Breakfast at the Lieutenants Governor's House.





The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at RGS continues to flourish, with an impressive number of students beginning, progressing through, or proudly completing their Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. This year has been particularly vibrant, and the enthusiasm across all levels of the scheme has been wonderful to see.

This term, 88 Year 9 students have thrown themselves into their Bronze Award training in preparation for their upcoming expeditions. Their energy, teamwork, and commitment have been outstanding, and we are excited to watch them take on—and complete—their two-day expedition later this academic year.

Our Silver and Gold participants have also shown tremendous dedication. As the Easter Half Term begins, two Gold groups are out completing their practice expedition, building the skills and confidence they'll need for their final qualifying journey. Silver groups are equally focused, working around busy schedules to finalise dates for their own practice expeditions. Their determination is something to celebrate.

Earlier this month, on Tuesday 10th March, 24 of the 53 RGS students were invited to attend the annual Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Presentation Evening, recognising achievements at Bronze and Silver level. This year is especially meaningful, marking the 70th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Since its introduction in England in 1956 and on the Isle of Man in 1959, the programme has grown into a powerful opportunity for young people to discover new skills, explore new interests, build resilience, and grow in confidence through shared challenge and adventure. (We are currently seeking information on when the scheme first began here at RGS.)





Participation at RGS continues to rise year after year. Bronze enrolment is at its highest, Silver numbers are steadily increasing, and more students than ever are stepping up to the Gold Award. The scheme is thriving within our school community, and we are hopeful that this year will see our strongest completion rate yet.



We would also like to recognise the fantastic contribution of our Young DofE Leaders. At the close of the presentation evening, Maisie Corlett and Abbie Pattison assisted with the collection, raising funds to support Isle of Man participants throughout their award journey. They were joined by Noah Parks, one of our Gold Award participants. Their help was greatly appreciated—well done to all three, again showing how amazing our students are.

As we look ahead to the remainder of the year, we are excited for the many expeditions still to come and look forward to sharing more updates in the next newsletter.



A heartfelt thank you goes to all parents and guardians for their ongoing support—especially for the many early-morning drop-offs and late-day collections at expedition start and finish points.

Wishing everyone a wonderful and well-earned Half Term break.  
RGS Duke of Edinburgh's Award Team

### **RGS Library**

Please encourage students to bring back any of our outstanding school Library books - a good hunt around bedrooms might reveal a whole host of treasures, and House Points will be awarded to those returning long overdue books (lists have been issued to form teachers, so students are aware of what's logged out to them).

Many thanks  
Mrs Kneale, RGS Librarian



World Book Day on 5th March this year saw the Library celebrate with a Big Book Giveaway, our 8th since we started on WBD 2024.

This time we saw 517 pre-loved books adopted by our students, bringing the total number over two years to 5,632. These books aren't from our Library stock, but are a collection built up over months and offered out to our students free of charge.

Our next Giveaway will be in early July before the end of the summer term, so if you're having a home clear-out of quality children's books or interesting non-fiction in good condition, please consider donating your books to this very popular school event.

Thank you.



## Debate Mate

Wednesday 25th March 2026 - Year 9

Fifteen Year 9 girls, together with Mrs Davies, headed to Zurich International on a snowy morning, the aim of this event was to promote confidence in teenage girls by giving them the opportunity to debate topics, share ideas and develop their confidence and oracy skills.

Volunteers from Zurich were brought together with students from RGS, along with representatives from MAC, Chase, Barclays, LMS and IQEQ.

Through interactive debates, real world career conversations and a brilliant pitch activity around financial resilience, young people shared their skills and views with our volunteers while our volunteers offered an insight into the world of work.

The girls debated 'Where do you stand on Social media?' and they also pitched a 5 minute presentation on 'How could the Isle of Man Government promote financial literacy for teenagers?', the girls were amazing! Full of creative ideas, confidence and also pushing themselves to speak in public.

Thank you to Zurich for this great opportunity.



## RGS PE

Our fantastic students' sporting achievements are always uploaded to our RGS Instagram page ([instagram.com/rgs\\_iom](https://www.instagram.com/rgs_iom))

*Instagram*



## Staff Farewells

We say goodbye to some of our lovely staff members this term.  
We wish them well in their retirement and new adventures:

Mr Ian Wilson (our SENCO)

Mr Wilson has been with our school for over 24 years, and we hope he has many years of happiness getting through his list of jobs at home! 😊

Mrs Sam Dowty (our D&T Technician)

Mrs Chloe Devau (our Receptionist)

We will return to school on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

We are hopeful that we will have some new additions to our school when we return as our RGS lambs are due!

