

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the RGSGQ
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RGS

Dates For Your Diary

18th September: Key Stage 3 Nepal Residential Presentation for parents (1.15pm – 1.45pm in the KS3 Geography classroom)

24th September: RGS Guildford UK Coffee Morning and Presentation (7.15am onwards in the main atrium)

26th September: Diversity Day

RGS Head Boy and Girl

In assembly on Thursday I was delighted to announce our Primary School Head Boy and Head Girl for academic year 2019/20. At the start of term pupils in Year 6 were asked to nominate themselves by writing a letter to me. They were then required to make a speech outlining their qualities and what they would bring to the position.

Head Boy and Head Girl are positions of great responsibility and Mr White, Miss Jones and I were looking for pupils who display the following qualities:

- Leadership
- Ability to work well as a team
- Time-management
- Ability to talk confidently and appropriately to parents, staff and pupils across the School
- Willingness to get to know the pupils in the lower years
- Politeness
- Maturity
- Reliability
- Honesty

Our Head Boy and Head Girl will be ambassadors for the RGS and responsible for representing the School at events. They will be role models for other pupils and it is expected that behaviour, punctuality, attendance, dress and effort in studies will all be exemplary.

Following a series of speeches and lengthy discussions about the qualities of each candidate, I can confirm that the Primary School Head Boy and Head Girl for 2019/20 are:

Head Boy: **Farris**

Head Girl: **Sondos**

I would like to thank all the pupils who nominated themselves and took part in the process, with special mentions to Ramin, Shahed, Sumaya, Moza, Jana and Bobby. It was an incredibly difficult decision which highlights the calibre of pupils we have here at the RGS.

Congratulations to Farris and Sondos. I have spoken to Mrs Sarah Creedy, Chair of the RGS Governors, and she is looking forward to meeting Farris and Sondos on Tuesday, 24th September and presenting them with their Head Boy and Head Girl badges.



2019/20 House Captains

The House system is at the very heart of school life at the RGS and the pupils derive great pride and enjoyment from their sense of identity through their involvement with their House. Each pupil is assigned to one of the six Houses on entry to the School and each House has its own distinctive character and colour and is led by members of the teaching staff, who are also allocated a House to support.

There are six Houses in the School: Beckingham (red), Austen (yellow), Nettles (green), Powell (purple), Valpy (orange) and Hamonde (blue) – named after six prominent people who have played a significant role in the history of RGS Guildford and have been important benefactors.

This week the RGS House Captains were announced. Well done to everyone who stood as a candidate and congratulations to our 2019/20 House Captains who are listed below:

Austen: **Aaron Robinson**

Beckingham: **Sultan Kareeb**

Hamonde: **Nadia Elezaby**

Nettles: **Jana Shoukri**

Powell: **Adam Mlika**

Valpy: **Aly Ragab**

On Thursday our House Captains held their first House assemblies of the academic year, as pupils split into their House teams to learn more about each House and the exciting events that will be happening throughout the year.

Don't forget that Thursday is House Day at the RGS. On Thursday pupils in the Primary School should come to school wearing their House T-shirt and those in the Senior School should wear their House tie.



RGS Guildford UK Visit

I am looking forward to welcoming visitors from RGS Guildford UK to Qatar from the 24th September – 26th September. We benefit from regular visits by members of the academic team and governors who work alongside myself and staff to ensure that standards remain high and our values align to those of RGS Guildford, UK.

Parents are invited to attend a coffee morning on Tuesday, 24th September from 7.15am in the school atrium to meet and chat to our UK visitors, Mrs Sarah Creedy, Mr Peter Peel, Mr Bob Ukiah and Mr Matthew Ford. This will be followed at 8.15am by a presentation outlining the relationship between the two schools and the future of RGS Guildford in Qatar.

CIS Membership Visit

This week we welcomed Mrs Pippa Leggate, International Advisor for the Council of International Schools (CIS), to the RGS. CIS is a membership community of over 700 schools, all of whom have proved to be committed to high quality, international education. Mrs Leggate spent time observing lessons and meeting with pupils, parents and staff members. The feedback we received was highly positive and I look forward to sharing details of the formal report when we receive it later this term.

Have a great weekend and I will see you next week.

Mr. Downs

News from Early Years

Nursery Starfish Class

What a wonderful start to the year we have had in Nursery Starfish! It's been a very busy couple of weeks and the children have settled well into their new school setting. Our class is filled with fantastic, friendly and fun children, and I know we are going to have a very successful year ahead!

Our primary focus area, particularly during the first term, is developing the children's personal, social and emotional skills. It's extremely important to build strong relationships with the children so they feel comfortable and confident in their learning environment. Mrs. Ferreras and I have loved getting to know the Starfish Class over the past few weeks. The children have begun to form some lovely friendships and have enjoyed playing together, particularly in the home corner cooking lots of delicious food!

In Literacy we have been focusing on the story 'There's A Monster in Your Book' by Tom Fletcher. The children have absolutely loved reading this story and enjoy joining in with repeated refrains and doing lots of actions to help get the monster out of the book, such as tickling his feet or blowing him off the page! Starfish Class then drew some wonderful pictures of monsters. We had scary monsters, sad monsters and lots of happy monsters too! In Numeracy we have focused on counting skills. The children are fantastic at counting and love counting how many of their friends are at school today, and how many are away.

I am so proud of the progress Starfish Class have already made. They are such superstars and I look forward to watching them continue to grow and develop further.

Miss. Woolley



News from Key Stage 1

What a busy week it has been for Key Stage One! The children have now settled in well to their year groups and have fully immersed themselves in their lessons.

Year 1 have had an exciting week continuing to learn the story 'The Gruffalo' through Talk 4 Writing actions. In Science, Year 1 have been learning all about the five senses and took part in a 'sense hunt' all around our school! They are also continuing to develop and consolidate their skills through continuous provision.

In Year 2 we have continued learning the traditional tale, 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have now changed their story setting and main characters and will begin story mapping next week. We have also had fun researching facts about different continents during ICT lessons using iPads.

In addition, we would like to give a huge well done to all Key Stage 1 pupils who have been selected to be part of the school student council.

Miss Cavanagh, Cheetahs Class Teacher



News from Key Stage 2

Year 3

The children in Year 3 have had another fantastic, busy week!

School council representatives: Saif Korashy (3J) Jemima Jones(3N), and Summer Crew (3Q), attended their first school council meeting this week; they discussed their roles and responsibilities with Mr. Walsh. The children have created an, 'Idea box' for each classroom and their classmates have been invited to add ideas for improving the School, and these will be reviewed in the next school council meeting.

Year 3 have been working extremely hard to remember the seven continents and five oceans around the world, in topic lessons. They have located these on a map and have begun to develop an understanding of different climates around the globe. This provided opportunities for some great cross-curricular links with science lessons, as the children were able to explore various species of plants and the particular climate that they rely on to grow. Next week year three will be planning and carrying out an investigation to find out the conditions plants need to survive.

The children also enjoyed learning about sun safety in PSHE lessons. They helped to a pack a 'stay safe in the sun' bag; filled with the essentials. They thoroughly enjoyed role playing scenarios to demonstrate the dangers the sun presents; and they learned about the protection sun cream, sunglasses and sun clothing provide. Along with the other PSHE lessons this term, Year 3 are reflecting on their lessons and carrying their learning towards real life scenarios.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Quigley





News from Key Stage 3

This week has been another positive week with Senior students settling into the routines and expectations of life in the Senior School; with friendships developing across the year groups. This Thursday, we celebrated Roald Dahl day with extracts from Matilda being read by the students in registration time, and analysing the importance of a growth mindset that the story encapsulates.

As we are always looking to develop and enhance the learning of our students, we will be introducing some key initiatives across the phase over the coming weeks which we believe will further improve consistency in learning in each lesson.

Outside of lessons, we will be introducing Senior Prefects, where students will have the chance to apply to be a Prefect, and then voting will take place among their peers before results are announced. The Prefects will develop their organisational, leadership, interpersonal skills, as well as acting as a student voice. It will be a challenging role; however, it will be an important position that Seniors can then put onto their CV for the future.

In addition, the Nepal trip presentation to parents will be running next week on Wednesday 18th September from 1.15pm -1.45pm with the Camps International Coordinator, Jemima Cunningham on-site to provide further details.

Thank you for your support

Mr. Phillips

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association are organising a Trivia Quiz event on 3rd October, 2019 at 5pm, in the school atrium. For further information please contact parentsassociation@rgsgq.com

Class of the Week

Maintaining high levels of attendance and punctuality at school are essential for pupils to ensure they maximise their learning time in school and reach their full potential; academically, socially and emotionally.

Each week Class of the Week trophies are awarded to the classes in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 who achieve the highest weekly attendance and who achieve the highest percentage of punctual pupils arriving by 7.45am. Pupils in these classes are also rewarded with an additional two House points each.

The winners this week can be seen below:

Early Years

Attendance: **Reception Stingrays**

Punctuality: **Nursery Seahorses, Reception Dolphins**

Key Stage 1

Attendance: **Year 2 Lions**

Punctuality: **Year 2 Tigers**

Key Stage 2

Attendance: **Year 4 H**

Punctuality: **Year 3 J, Year 6 J**

Thank you very much for ensuring your children arrive at school on time each day and do not miss school unnecessarily.

Weekly Awards

RGS Superstars

Each week RGS Superstar certificates are awarded to pupils from each class in the Primary School who have excelled in an area of school life during the week. Pupils receive these awards for demonstrating one of the RGS Learning Habits and becoming a member of our RGS Super Squad! These pupils each receive 25 additional House points each.

This week the following pupils received one of these special awards:

Nursery Seahorses: **Aarin**

Nursery Starfish: **Mohammed**

Reception Dolphins: **Erin**

Reception Turtles: **Khadeejah**

Reception Sharks: **Maryam**

Reception Stingrays: **Ghassan**

Year 1 Meerkats: **Amaan**

Year 1 Giraffes: **Bilal**

Year 1 Zebras: **Maisie**

Year 1 Elephants: **Esmee**

Year 2 Lions: **Genevieve**

Year 2 Tigers: **Yazan**

Year 2 Cheetahs: **Fatima**

Year 3J: **MK**

Year 3N: **Abdulaziz**

Year 3Q: **Aisha**

Year 4H: **Ali**

Year 4W: **Aasiyah**

Year 5K: **Sarah**

Year 5N: **Usayd**

Year 6W: **Sumaya**

Year 6J: **Ammaar**

Year 7A: **Ssuubi**

Year 8S: **Suereya**

Year 9P: **Maryam**

PE: **Aaron** - Year 6W



Community Events

Below is a list of upcoming events in Doha that our parent community have shared:

LEGO Festival at Doha Festival City: 28th August - 17th September 2019 at Doha Festival City.

Mini World Athletics Championship Doha 2019: Where: Doha Festival City When: Ongoing till October 3 (2pm - 10pm)

Interactive Baby Theater 'Ocean Mysteries' Show: Where: Pearl, Porto Arabia 20 When: September 14 (3pm – 4pm)

Ezdan Zoo at Ezdan Mall Gharaffa: Children can meet and greet with the little zoo animals and experience adventurous safari tours. The event is held every Thursday and Friday Where: Ezdan Mall When: Ongoing till October 4 (6pm - 9pm)

IAAF community performances at Malls: IAAF community performers will be showcasing their traditional and cultural performances every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

There will be performances from Ghana, Ethiopia, Palestine, Brazil, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Russia, Kenya and Japan. Where: Doha Festival City & City Centre When: Ongoing till September 21 (5pm - 10pm)

If you know of any events planned for the future, please let the School know so we can pass this information to our school community.

RGS Diary Dates

18th September: Key Stage 3 Nepal Residential Presentation for parents (1.15pm – 1.45pm in the KS3 Geography classroom).

24th September: RGS Guildford UK Coffee Morning and Presentation (7.15am onwards in the main atrium)

26th September: Diversity Day

2nd October: Parents' Coffee Morning (7.15am onwards in the main atrium)

3rd October: Year 6W Class Assembly (7.55am - 8.30am in the main atrium)

3rd October: Parents' Association Trivia Quiz event (5pm in the main atrium)

10th October: Year 5K Class Assembly (7.55am - 8.30am in the main atrium)

13th October: Year 5K/5N Trip to Adventure Rooms

17th October: International Day

20th - 24th October: Half Term (School Closed)