



REIGATE ST MARY'S
PREPARATORY AND CHOIR SCHOOL

6 September 2016

Dear Parents

I very much hope that you have enjoyed the summer holidays and were able to take advantage of the lovely weather and spend plenty of quality time with your children. Our staff are refreshed and are looking forward to seeing the children from Kindergarten up to Year 6 return on Wednesday, followed by our new Green Shoots pupils next week. This term we welcome 39 new children and 7 new members of staff.

During the holidays many of our pupils had great fun joining in at one of the RSM Holiday Activity Days and there was also the fabulous residential trip to France.

Amongst the many site maintenance and improvements that have been made is the fantastic new Outdoor Classroom with excellent Wi-Fi coverage and quiet play area which has been funded most generously by FOSMA. The children and staff will have a formal opening of this area during Friday morning break and we are greatly looking forward to having this extra resource at the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our senior school colleagues on another tremendous set of GCSE and A Level results. A Level results at Reigate Grammar School were once again exceptional, repeating the school's record breaking successes of last year. Reigatians were consistently successful this year with 94% of grades A* to B and nearly half of the grades gained being A*- A grades. Students at RGS have gained more than 93% A* to B grades on average over the last three years.

GCSE results at Reigate Grammar School were also exceptional, repeating the school's record breaking successes of the amazing A Level results. This year Reigate Grammar School students have achieved more A* grades than all the other grades put together with the typical Reigatian achieving 6 A* and 4 A grades.

Reigate Grammar School students have secured a 100 per cent pass rate at GCSE with 83 per cent being A* to A grades and, at 55% over half of all grades achieved were A* with 25 Reigate Grammar School students gaining 10 or more A* grades.

This truly remarkable achievement highlights the academic strength of our senior school and the successful implementation of a 3-year GCSE programme, which is unique to Reigate Grammar School.

Well done to all these successful students.

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Please note that school starts at the normal time, 8.25 am, and new children should go straight to the main playground where their teachers will be waiting. Breakfast Club will be running as usual from 7.30 am.

This term we have some changes in our Phase Leader roles. Miss Julie Shear remains Phase Leader for Key Stage 1 and therefore she should be your first point of contact after Form Teachers for all children in Years 1 and 2. In Years 3 and 4 Mrs Hannah Seymour (née Hannah Trenner) has responsibility as Phase Leader for Middle School and Mrs Jacqui Beglan is Upper School Phase Leader with responsibility for Years 5 and 6.

Something which I need to remind you about, as it is a health and safety issue, is that once the bell has gone on the playground at the start of the day at 8.25 am can I ask that parents to refrain from coming into Beech House? From that time onwards children are moving around unaccompanied and therefore unless adults are DBS checked they should not be in the building unaccompanied. Therefore, please do remain outside unless you have specific permission to enter from a member of staff. Children arriving after this time should go to the Reception desk where they will be escorted or sent to their classroom, depending on their age.

Please note that Games sessions will be running from the first day for Years 5 and 6. Boys will be doing soccer and will therefore need their shin pads and girls will be doing hockey and will need both shin pads and gum shields. Years 3 and 4 Games start on Thursday afternoon and they will need the same equipment. All information on the sports which children will be playing this term, and kit needed, can be found on the school's website.

In Lower School Reception and Year 1 classes will be swimming each Friday from next week, 16 September. Do please ensure that all items are named.

This term all Electives will start on the week beginning 19 September.

To assist parents with queries we will have staff in the Library from 8 am on both Thursday and Friday for the following:

- For Fee Queries Mrs Tina Page, Accountant at Reigate Grammar School
- For Medical and Dietary Miss Kim Upson
- For Electives (Clubs) Mrs Susan Trantor

Finally, please do bear in mind when planning your journey to school just how congested the traffic at the front of the school can be. This will be made worse at the start of term by the road works on the A25 at Flanchford Road, which is causing havoc with the Reigate town traffic. Please remember that only permit holders may park in the Church Hall (these will be checked by staff from RSM and the Church). As always the advice is walk to school or park away and walk up to the school.

See you all tomorrow.

Yours sincerely
Marcus Culverwell
Headmaster