

Parent Bulletin



8th February 2019

Excellence every day

Thought for the week:	Celebrating Other Cultures
-----------------------	----------------------------

Dear Families,

Ace Your Exams for Year 11 went well during the week- many thanks to Mr Rhys for developing the idea and seeing it through to implementation. Yesterday our Year 8 JET group went to the RAF base to learn more about Chinook Maintenance and it's clear they had a fascinating time. Thank you Mr McTaggart for curating and enabling this important visit. Mrs Mullan ran the Intermediate Maths challenge this week too. This is a national event and we're looking forward to some super results which we hope will help our students feel really encouraged.

Year 9 Parents' Evening (options choices) was tremendous: thank you so much to all the parents and carers who came along. It was fascinating to hear our young people talking through their choices. They are a very talented year group and it's going to be great to work alongside them in support of their future qualifications. Huge thanks to Miss Theis and Miss Harding for curating it so well and to all the senior prefects who helped run reception and refreshments.

Once again I would like to thank everyone in our community for bearing with us while worked through an official snow closure last Friday. It was quite a challenge to get back into normal routines after the snow last week, but what has been good to see is that students are listening to their pastoral leaders and the advice being given. A number of them are making a clear effort to be polite and helpful; the mood in school has been positive and purposeful this week. This makes school rewarding for everyone.

What's next? First of all, we return to normal uniform footwear on Monday, please. Proper shoes, that should be able to take polish, need to be worn. We'd like to put out a polite reminder to parents about students avoiding nose studs and extra piercings. We discourage facial piercings and will not permit students to wear studs or rings on their faces. These piercings will have to be covered up with tape. We will permit one piercing on each ear to carry one plain stud on each side. We appreciate your support with this. There is a non-uniform day on Thursday in aid of Naomi House. Here's the link:

<https://www.naomihouse.org.uk/>. As you know, we want students to be suitably dressed in their own clothes on that day. Cropped tops and any other revealing garments, such as excessively ripped jeans are not permitted.

Please could you read the information from Mr Searle, below, about internet safety. We've recently been told about some apps and websites which pose serious risks to young people. Please insist on being shown which apps and websites your child or children are using, and make sure the settings are age-appropriate.

With half-term break only a few days away, here's a reminder that students finish next Thursday at the usual time. Staff colleagues will be in on Friday following through their professional development programmes and Year 9 options interviews will be taking place with senior teachers.

Have a lovely weekend,

Joanna C West

Notices and News:

SAFE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE

You will have no doubt seen that it was Safer Internet Day this week and, as a result, we have been reminding students again about how they are using the internet and, specifically, social media. Over the past few weeks, we have had several instances where we have had to follow up incidents where students have left themselves vulnerable online or been part of group chats in which inappropriate and verbally abusive messages have been sent. This activity is taking place outside of school hours and at weekends. We would ask that you regularly speak with your children about their online behaviours and monitor their usage to support the education that they are receiving in school.

The following websites provide an invaluable source of information to help you to support and monitor your children.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

We have also been made aware of some specific safety concerns around the TikTok video sharing app (formerly known as Musical.ly). The attached factsheet explores these concerns further and suggests ways of helping you to protect your child from these risks.

[TikTok-parent-factsheet-Safeguarding-Training-Centre-The-Key](#)

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HOOK TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL MEETING - MONDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2019

Arrangements have been made for an information event to take place on Monday 11 February 2019, at Hook Junior School. This is open to the Hook community and people will be able to find out more about proposals for an improved walking route between Hook and Robert May's School in Odiham. The plans under consideration will be on display in the school hall from 6pm and then there's a chance to hear more from officers at 6.30pm and to ask questions.

Please find link below for further information:

[Hook Transport to School Meeting - 11th February 2019 at 6.30pm](#)

NON-UNIFORM DAY IN AID OF NAOMI HOUSE - THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

The next non-uniform day will take place on Thursday 14th February. Students are invited to bring a £1 contribution if they wish to wear non-uniform on this day. As you may know, Naomi House is a children's hospice that supports children with life-limiting conditions in Hampshire and surrounding counties. All proceeds raised by this event will be donated to the hospice so that they can continue this important work.

Miss Tozer

YEAR 11

Leavers' Ball Dresses

Prom Ally is a company that offers dresses to those who would not otherwise be able to afford them. The loan of a dresses is free of charge however £10.00 is requested to cover the cost of delivery and return postage. For more details, please see the website.

<https://www.promally.co.uk/>

GCSE Drama Portfolio (Year 11 Students)

A reminder if Year 11 GCSE Drama students need help to complete the improvements on the portfolio, they are welcome to stay after school any night before the half term deadline,

Thank you
Miss Thomas

HEAD LICE

There have been several reports of students with head lice.

Please check the NHS Direct website for advice on detection/treatment :
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>
or contact the School Nursing Service on 02382 311221

If you discover head lice on your child, please ensure they are treated promptly.
There is no need to keep your child off school.

Thank you

POLITE NOTICE: DROP OFF AND PICK UP BY CAR

When dropping off by car in the morning, please observe the 5mph speed limit and continue to use the **outer bus loop** (nearest the road) in order to separate cars from buses. Peak time for drop offs is 0815hrs - 0825hrs and is best avoided. Students must be in school by 0825 and no later.

At the end of the school day the entrance gates to the school are closed. This is so that we can safely manage students getting on buses, walking, riding or getting to a parent's car. In order to maintain a safe environment on site we politely request that parents picking up by car do so in the surrounding roads and do not enter the school site. We do not have the capacity on site for all parents picking up by car so in order to be fair to all, we do not allow any.

The school entrance and exit are covered by KEEP CLEAR and yellow zig zag lines as well as double yellow lines. Under no circumstances should parents pick up or drop off students in these areas, including using

the entrance to the school to turn around. Simply opening a car door when in a KEEP CLEAR and zig-zagged zone is an offence. A number of parents have been issued with fines and the area is patrolled by traffic wardens at least once every week.

Thank you for your continued co-operation in putting the safety of all of our students first.

Senior Leadership Team

MUSIC DEPARTMENT IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE SPRING TERM

String Group

String group runs on Thursdays from 2.25 - 3.30pm in MU3 and is open to violin, viola, cello and bass players of all abilities. Our repertoire is varied and we play in a number of concerts throughout the year. Mrs Ellis would love to see all RMS string players there.

Saturday 2nd March - Acapella Group and Chamber Choir performance at the Anvil, Basingstoke. Rehearsal at 2pm, concert at 6pm

6th,7th and 8th March - GCSE Performance Exams

Wednesday 13th March 7pm - GCSE Concert - All Year 10 and 11 music students will be involved in the concert.

Thursday 4th April 7PM - Spring Concert - All extra-curricular music clubs will be showcasing their work.

PE CLUBS WEEK BEGINNING 11TH FEBRUARY

Day	Club	Running
Monday	Badminton (All Years) Rugby Trampolining Club (Invite only) Hockey Club (7, 10, 11) Girls Football (all years) Table Tennis (all years)	Yes No Yes Yes Yes Yes
Tuesday	Fitness Girls Basketball (Y7, 8, 9) Rugby (9,10,11) Football (9,10,11)	No No No No
Wednesday	Year 7 Netball Club Hockey Club (8, 9) Running (all years)	Yes No Yes

	Boys Basketball (7,8) PE Revision (11)	Yes Yes
Thursday	Boys Hockey (All Years) Netball (8, 9, 10 & 11) Girls Basketball (10 & 11) Boys Basketball (9, 10 & 11) Boys Football (7 & 8)	Yes Yes Yes Yes No
Friday	GCSE Theory Clinic (Y10 & 11)	No

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

This is a very exciting time for Year 9 students, and indeed for you: selecting Option subjects for the Key Stage 4 programme of study. At Robert May's School our process for selecting Options is designed to ensure that all students receive the necessary help and guidance needed to make suitable subject choices. Our guiding principle is that we want students to have a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 4 that provides them with ample opportunities for their future development. To achieve this balance students have to supplement the compulsory GCSE subjects, Mathematics, English, Ethics, and Science with subjects from other areas. Keeping a broad range of subjects will result in a wider range of future opportunities.

We do not underestimate that choosing Options will be a challenging, yet ultimately rewarding, process. Therefore the procedure is designed with students at its heart.

View our options presentation and options booklet below for more information:

2019 Options Evening Presentation

2019 Options Booklet Part One

2019 Options Booklet Part Two

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Between 8.25am and 2.25pm our teachers and tutors are teaching. If you need to get in contact over an academic or pastoral issue directly related to your child, the best way to begin is to email info@rmays.com and make sure that the name of the teacher you wish to contact is in the message heading. We hope you will appreciate that teachers will not be able to respond during the working school day, but they will do their best to respond as soon as they can, once students have left the site and any relevant meetings and training sessions have taken place.

From time to time, and, thankfully rarely, we might receive an aggressive email. This will be quarantined automatically by our system and sent back to the writer for re-wording. All staff have been directed not to answer emails between 5pm and 8am on weekdays, during weekends or designated holidays. This is in

compliance with the government initiative to reduce teachers' workload and also to allow people to exercise their right to a family life.

Thank you for respecting our approach to online communications.

SCIENCE REVISION GUIDES FOR YEAR 9 TRIPLE SCIENTISTS AND ALL YEARS 10 AND 11

Please find below the closing dates for orders for each half term, either online via Scopay or order slip. Orders will be placed soon after the closing date and should be available for collection the following week. Confirmation of which will be sent via In Touch!

Science Revision Resources Order Dates	
Half Term	Closing Date
1	8/10/18
2	10/12/18
3	4/2/19
4	25/3/19
5	13/5/19
6	8/7/19

CLUBS AND AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Please see link below to see the most up to date list of our clubs and activities:

<http://www.rmays.org/curriculum/extra-curricular/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th February Non-uniform Day in aid of Naomi House Children's Hospice
15th February Whole Staff CPD Day - no students in on this day with the exception of Year 9 who have options' interviews
Year 9 Options' Interviews with Parents/Carers and Students
16th February - 24th February Half term

Please check the calendar on the school website for more information:

www.rmays.org/news/calendar/

PTA SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALES

We have a selection of pre-loved school shirts, blouses and jumpers for sale at bargain prices.

We are also happy to receive donations of unwanted uniform and PE kit. Simply hand it into the school office in a bag labelled "2nd hand sales" Thank you.

Second Hand Sale Dates:

Monday 11th February 2019 – 2.25pm to 3.25pm

Monday 11th March 2019 – 2.25pm to 3.25pm

Location:

Find us in the green container near to the Astro pitches.

Cash or cheque only please, payable to RMS PTA.

All profits go towards school funds. Many thanks for your support.

PTA

DISCOUNTED READING FC TICKETS + FANTASTIC PRIZES TO BE WON!

Robert May's School are delighted to announce that we have teamed up with Reading Football Club and signed up to their School and Grassroots Ticketing Scheme. We are giving you the opportunity to purchase discounted tickets for the following fixtures

Reading FC v Aston Villa on Saturday 2nd February 3pm Kick Off.

Reading FC v Wigan Athletic on Saturday 9th March 3pm Kick Off.

Reading FC v Brentford on Saturday 13th April 3pm Kick Off.

The Reading FC School and Grassroots Ticketing Scheme also allows our School to raise much needed funds, as for every ticket you purchase, a percentage of the ticket is donated back to the school from Reading Football Club.

If our School/Club is successful, then we have the opportunity of winning some of the following prizes:

- Meet the first team players
- Play on the Madejski Stadium pitch
- Bonus towards our funding
- Free Family Tickets
- Signed items and much more!

How to Book

- Reading FC sell 4 home league fixtures at a time throughout the season, and anyone wishing to book should check on sale dates via www.readingfc.co.uk
- Once one of our chosen fixtures are on sale, phone the Ticket Office on **0118 968 1313** and quote **Robert May's School**.

- Tickets must be booked by the chosen deadline for each fixture. This is 3pm on the Thursday before a weekend fixture, or 3pm on a Friday before a Tuesday night fixture. After this time, discounted tickets will not be available through the scheme.
- Tickets are only available in the Eamonn Dolan Stand including the family Area.
- Each booking must have at least one child as part of the booking.
- Madejski Stadium ground regulations and ticketing Terms and Conditions also apply, please visit www.readingfc.co.uk

Prices:

Age Band	Ticket Price	Amount Raised for your group
Adult	£15	£5
65 and over	£10	£4
18-24	£8	£3
17 and under	£5	£2
12 and under	£2	50p

TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Please note: students will be allowed into tutor rooms from 8.15am.

Lesson	Start	End
AM Reg	8.25am	8.45am
1	8.45am	9.30am
2	9.30am	10.20am
Break (am)	10.20am	10.40am
3	10.40am	11.25am
4	11.25am	12.15pm
Break (Lunch)	12.15pm	12.45pm
5	12.50pm	1.35pm
6	1.35pm	2.25pm

2018/2019 TERM DATES

Spring 2019:

Monday 7th January – Friday 5th April (Half term: 15th February – 24th February)

Friday 15th February: Whole Staff CPD Day

Summer 2019

Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 19th July (Half term: 25th May – 2nd June)

Friday 28th June 2019: Whole Staff CPD Day

RMS CONFIRMED TERM DATES: 2019-2020

Sources: Hampshire CC term dates, informal consultation with local Feeder schools, London Borough of Lewisham (example of London Authority), Surrey CC (as neighbouring authority)

Autumn Term 2019:

Wed 4 Sept 2019- CPD Day

Thurs 5 Sept - Yrs 11 and 7 start

Fri 6 Sept- Whole school in. Half Term break: 28 Oct- 1 Nov

CPD Day: Monday 4th November

Last day of term: Wed 18th Dec (*HCC finishes on 20 Dec*)

Spring Term 2020:

Monday 6th Jan- first day back for all

CPD day: Friday 14th Feb

Half term break: 17-21 Feb

Fri 3rd April- last day of term

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April- CPD Day

Tuesday 21st April -first day back for all

Half term break- 25-29 May

Friday June 26th CPD Day

Friday 17th July -last day of term (*HCC finishes on 22 July*)

Please be aware that as an academy, Robert May's School does not need to follow Hampshire term-time dates. However, we are know that several of our students in each year have siblings in our neighbouring community feeder schools, and so to minimise disruption we have done our best to try and match the local arrangements.

FACILITY HIRE AT ROBERT MAY'S SCHOOL

From 1st September 2018		
LETTINGS CHARGES	2018/19	
Ex VAT	STANDARD RATES	UNDER 18 RATES
SPORTS HALL	£45.00	£22.50
MAIN HALL	£33.00	£16.00
DINING HALL***	£26.00	£13.50
GYM	£31.50	£16.00
LIBRARY***	£21.50	£10.75
DRAMA STUDIO	£21.50	£10.75
CLASSROOM	£15.00	£9.50
CLASSROOM in new building***	tbc	
MEETING ROOM***	tbc	
IT SUITE	£30.00 +vat	
FOOD TECH ROOM	£30.00 +vat	
FIELD / TRAINING	£21.00	£10.50
TENNIS COURT / HARD COURT	£7.00	
NETBALL / HARD COURT	£15.00	
ATP CHARGES	2018/19	
	STANDARD RATES	UNDER 18 RATES
Weekday evenings		
one third	£40.00	£35.00
two thirds	£57.00	£46.50
Whole	£74.00	£63.00
Weekends		
one third	£31.50	£21.50
two thirds	£46.75	£36.75
Whole	£62.00	£52.00
MUGA		
Weekday evenings		
Whole	£40.00	£35.00
Single netball court	£20.00	£15.00
Weekends		
Whole	£31.50	£21.50
Single netball court	£18.00	£13.00

*** Fees to be reviewed following opening of new facilities

Please ask us about introductory rates for using Invictus building for conferences and meetings during weekends and school holidays!