

Parent Bulletin



Robert
May's
School

15th February 2019

Excellence every day

Thought for the week:	Motivation
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Dear Families,

Several great enrichment activities have been going on this week. Thanks to the wonderful students and amazing colleagues who have attended, planned, prepared, enabled, facilitated, led and managed these events: Magistrates Mock Trial visit to Aldershot Magistrates Court (Miss Webb); Fluor Engineering Competition and F1 in Schools Regional Final (Mr Cain); a big thank you to everyone who was involved in contributing funds for Naomi House on our mufti day. We're looking forward to publishing the final amount collected as soon as we can. Please also read below Mr Young's write-up of Team #CRF's success in the 4x4 challenge recently. Congratulations!

Very best of luck and good wishes for a smooth visit go to all the students who are attending the annual ski-trip, Mr Dovey (team leader) and supporting colleagues who depart for Austria on Friday night. We hope the weather holds for you!

Concerns have been raised by local residents who feel that some people are parking inconsiderately when they visit the school. We have alerted our staff, to ensure that they do not inconvenience local residents. If you are visiting the school, or are waiting to pick-up/drop off in local roads because you can't get onto the site, please park with care and consideration towards our neighbours.

During the week and all day on Friday, the senior team have been meeting with students of Year 9 and their families to discuss their options for GCSE courses. It's been very good to see how carefully everyone has been deliberating about their choices. We've re-introduced Business Studies and there are opportunities to tackle a wider and more varied Engineering offer. There has been a strong uptick in numbers choosing to study French, German or Spanish. This looks very sensible when you consider the world of the future, and the need for transferable employability skills sets. For students who already feel they would like to go on to university, we also need to think about what the competition for university places will look like, four years in the future. This is where EBacc subjects have a clear role.

I had the privilege of attending a meeting at Odiham Education Charity HQ, with colleague governors on Monday night, and would like to thank the OEC trust for their generous donation to the school. This will be converted into enabling apps and programmes for use in our HUBL area, where we are supporting students with specific learning needs. Funding will also go to the PE department to enable them to purchase fitness equipment, so that they can develop their post-14 offering to all.

Looking ahead, please see notices in this bulletin about the availability of tickets for the Mayor's concert on 2nd March and our GCSE Music Concert which takes place on 13th March.

Thank you for supporting your child's hard work this half term. Despite the unappealing weather, the dark mornings and short hours of daylight, students have been working hard and progressing well. It's been great to see the large proportion of young people across every year group who have achieved a higher grade level in their subjects since their last reviews. Keep it up!

Have a tremendous break. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 25th February, rested, refreshed and ready for more!

Joanna C West

Notices and News:

SAFE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE

You will have no doubt seen that it was Safer Internet Day recently 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](#)

4X4 IN SCHOOLS CHALLENGE

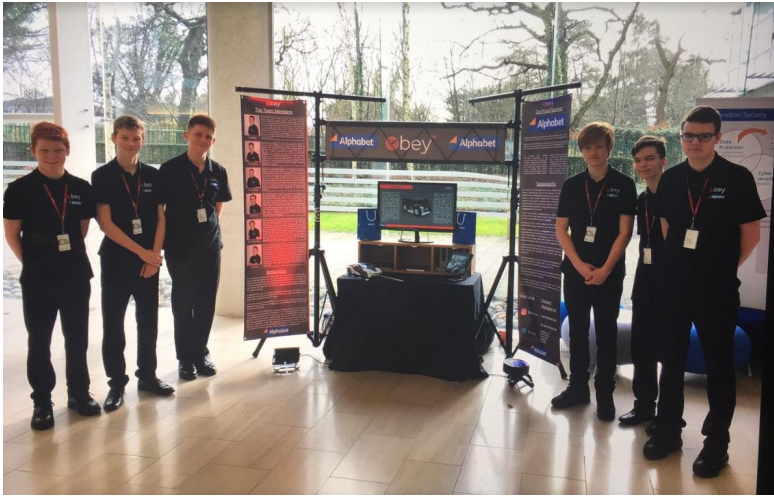
Team Obey UK's trip to the Regional Finals at Harlow College on 29th January

After months of constructional graft and motivational speeches, Joe Sgueglia took his team of engineers (Oliver Widdison, Sam Dumbleton, Oliver Mitchell, Henry Marks, and Beau Cannon-Brown) to the Harlow College Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering Centre, having honed their technical skills in conjunction with their generous sponsors, Alphabet. A six o'clock start on a bracing morning saw the busload Essex-bound on a wave of 80's sing along pop classics.

The competition was gruelling. Team after team of the country's engineering finest grappled with the testing circuit as they guided their four-wheel drive, remote-controlled vehicles from incline to chasm, from moguls to rollers, culminating in the level-11 difficulty, trailer-reverse challenge. Many were found wanting in the face of such adversity, but Team Obey UK conducted themselves with flair and efficiency throughout.

After a day of grilling by the army of judges, judgements were made. Team Obey UK were recognised for the fluent and dexterous nature of the communication about their work, being awarded the 'Best Presentation' category trophy ("Beautiful flow!"). In a competition against many A-level aged students they departed themselves superbly, and are already lining up a challenge for 2020.

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YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE REMINDER

We have already had several students with offers of work experience placements for the last week of term. This is a reminder for students to get a placement arranged as early as possible.

If your child is being offered a placement, or is going for an interview, please make sure they direct the employer to the [Work Experience page](#), under the Curriculum menu option, on our website. Employers need to complete the [RMS Work Experience Placement Agreement Form](#) to enable us to complete our placement processing. This page also contains links to instructions and other useful information.

Thank you

Mrs L Ashford
Work Experience Coordinator

YEAR 11

GCSE DRAMA PORTFOLIO

Final reminder for students to complete improvements by Monday 25th February.

Thank you
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YEAR 11 ETHICS REVISION MATERIALS

For students who are having difficulties accessing the shared Ethics revision materials via Google Drive, you can access them using the links below:

– Christianity Beliefs and Practices Revision Guide

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ABnBFxPWvpVQVnbiTgnjog5VWBEWRgf03nFbI8_vKTY/edit?usp=sharing>

- Islam Revision Guide

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1KtliKYqIAIRhhNJKOLQOV5Fx_wkXdocpBvwBBT7sS4>

- Issues of Good and Evil Revision Guide

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=10uzAyiwhDmE7gZ-93kxgCM2SnBqwR9Nw0g7jN2LtDpg>>

- Issues of Human Rights Revision Guide

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=16Bec-Wrc7MMZ0amlA2A31JdonvRosSUA8qsGE9iSuYg>>

- Issues of Life and Death Revision Guide

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1i7ki_xR6NtPagTWpwB9wuiwvjaDNT6Pn2_xC8XVNIHg>

- Issues of Relationships Revision Guide

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1TJGW6I2cuv4S7roBPwXrcmtYLrppf_XSqB7o1B2hwp0>

- Year 11 Revision Schedule

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EZ5p_LlxFJoKCnF-vtuRTD2n5-MHz9woIcPskn5Qrk8/edit?usp=sharing>

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.

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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 - Basingstoke Mayor's Spring Charity Concert: **Acapella Group and Chamber Choir performance at the Anvil, Basingstoke.** Rehearsal at 2pm, concert at 6pm. **Tickets for the concert are available from The Anvil box office on 01256 844244 , www.anvilarts.org.uk or box.office@anvilarts.org.uk**

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

Wednesday 13th March 7pm - GCSE Music Concert - All Year 10 and 11 music students will be involved in the Concert - **Tickets for the GCSE Music concert in the School Hall on Wednesday 13th March at 7pm will go on sale on Friday morning from 9am. Tickets are £4 and will be available from the ticketsource website. Please [click here](#) to follow the link.**

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

PE CLUBS WEEK BEGINNING 25TH 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 Yes No Yes
Wednesday	Year 7 Netball Club Hockey Club (8, 9) Running (all years)	Yes Yes 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 Yes
Friday	GCSE Theory Clinic (Y10 & 11)	Yes

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

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

16th February - 24th February Half term
2nd March GCSE Drama Exam Rehearsals - 10.00am - 4.00pm
 Mayor's Concert at the Anvil
4th March Drama PPET - 6.00pm - 8.00pm
5th March Drama PPET - 6.00pm - 8.00pm
6th March Rock Challenge - Southampton
7th March Year 8 Parents'/Carers' Evening

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 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 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*)

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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!