

Parent Bulletin



Robert
May's
School

Excellence every day

13th December 2019

Thought for the week Winter Solstice

Word of the week (Any student using the word of the week correctly will receive an achievement point).

Incisive (adj.) clear, sharp, direct (The discussion wasn't going anywhere until her incisive comment allowed everyone to see what the true issues were.)

Book of the week from Mrs Bennett

The Lifters by Dave Eggers

Dear Families,

Last weekend, our team of Year 9/10 boys went to compete in the National Schools' Cross Country finals in Derby. Ably supported by Mr Warman and Mrs Bazan, the team came 7th out of 27 schools who qualified for the final, out of a total of 450 schools who made up the original first stage entry a few months ago. They also brought back a trophy winner: Dan Shattock (Year 9) came first and won overall! Huge congratulations to Dan and the team for this magnificent achievement! The team result can be seen on the ESAA website:

<http://www.schoolsathletics.net/esaa/v2/2019/xccup/xccupresults/nat.html> Our team was given help by Yateley 10K Series who donated funds to help towards the travel costs. Thank you to Yateley 10K for their generosity in supporting the sport and our students.

During the week, college interviews have continued with admissions tutors from Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke and Alton College visiting and meeting with our Year 11s. As you would expect, the feedback from local colleges about the standard and quality of interviews and interviewees was very good indeed. We are so grateful to local business leaders, Trustees and other friends of the school who came in earlier this term to conduct mock interviews. The opportunity that has been provided for our students has really paid off.

Thanks to Mrs Abrahams for running the Ski-Trip information evening during the week. Attendance was good. Parents/Carers and students had a chance to review the travel details and accommodation plans, understand the kit list and there was a chance to shop with a nearby supplier who brought some samples and new kit to the school.

As I write, Year 11 artists have their mock practical examination today and we hope that goes very well. Tonight, Surrey Scorchers Basketball Coaching professionals are coming in to deliver a team coaching session for selected Year 8, 9 and 10 students. This is another great opportunity and we are looking forward to hearing how it went.

Right through the week, we have been grateful to the local Christian ministry team for our Christmas themed assemblies. Rev Andy Le Roux and Youth Pastor Helen Chatfield have taken it in turns to share with us their Advent and Christmas thoughts. Philosophical points raised ranged from deferred gratification (Advent) to truth and belief (the incarnation itself).

Next week we will be issuing our bumper end of term Newsletter. This will contain write-ups of all the major events from across the term, and it helps us to reflect on the wide range of dynamic and exciting opportunities for personal growth and development that staff commit to, day in and day out. I would like to thank the other stars of the show, besides the students and our wonderful staff: parents and carers who are the ones who help prepare kit, drop off, pick up, provide lunches and snacks, water bottles, trainers/boots, instruments, in fact, everything that you do to support the remarkable students of Robert May's School. Thank you!

Finally, here's a polite reminder: we finish at 2.25pm on Wednesday 18th December (and not a moment sooner!). Buses and taxis will come at the usual time and depart approximately 2.40pm. There will not be any after school activities or late buses on this day. If you are coming to school to pick up your child, please do not turn or wait in the "IN" gate area. Traffic officers have been out observing and fining recently. We don't want anyone to get caught.

Have a great weekend,

Notices and news:

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Skirts and ties:

- we continue to remind students to roll their skirts down and untuck their jumpers. We are also reminding students to make sure they have the correct sized shirt and can do up their top button. If you have looked at your rapidly growing teenage child and can see that it is impossible for them to do up their shirt collar, it is likely they need a pack of new shirts in a larger collar size.
- Students who wear skirts also need a careful visual check to make sure their skirt length is appropriate. The majority of students wear knee length skirts. Anything shorter is not acceptable and presents a poor self-image to the rest of the community, which is a shame.
- As we move towards the New Year, it would be really good to see everyone coming into school correctly dressed from the start of January. Please help with this. If you are in a challenging financial situation, and are not able to get new uniform right now, please contact your child's year head in confidence. They will help you. It is worth noting that the PTA has a good stock of pre-loved school uniform too.

Acrylic/gel nails:

- nail varnish and acrylic/gel nails have never been permitted as part of our dress code. Please ensure that your child holds off on this until after we break up. We do not want to cause disappointment and give you further expense by being placed in a position of insisting on removal. Best to avoid this by not getting them done at all until after we have broken up for Christmas.

Socks:

- Black socks should be worn with trousers. White socks should not be worn with trousers.

Shoes:

- Please do not permit your child to come into school wearing trainers. Proper school shoes, that can take polish, are appropriate. School shoes that look like trainers are not permitted.

OTHER ITEMS

- Please do not permit your child to come into school with any kind of aerosol. As young people mature we fully expect them to take responsibility for their personal hygiene. Roll-on deodorants or stick deodorants are more suitable and do not give those with breathing difficulties a problem. They are also less harmful to the environment than aerosols. Please be mindful of this.
- Necessary school items are great as stocking fillers! If your child has lost/forgotten their ruler, protractor, set of gel pens, highlighters, erasers, pencils, please contact the elves in the North Pole to make sure F. Christmas Esq makes an appropriate delivery on 24th December!

HEALTH, WELLBEING ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

We repeat the information shared in recent weeks about advice and guidance for parents / carers on important child-safety and well-being topics, including cyber bullying, sexting, drugs and so-called "legal highs". Please read the materials in the link because they are specifically designed to support parents.

<https://www.safe4me.co.uk/parents/>

There is a new texting support service in our area. It is called **ChatHealth** and is run by the NHS. If your child is aged 11-19 and wants confidential advice from a ChatHealth nurse on anything to do with relationships, depression, weight, body matters, drugs, anxiety, self harm, smoking, please give them this number to text:

07507 332160

Internet use and social media concerns: please keep an eye on your child's/children's internet and social media use over the long holiday. If you have any concerns about any of their contacts or activities, you can use the information in the link above.

Alternatively, excellent advice, guidance and numbers to call can be found on:

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

Information from the East Hampshire School Nurse Team:

We are also seeing an increase in the need for emotional support for children and young people. A useful website for young people and parents is Young Minds:

https://youngminds.org.uk/?gclid=EA1aIQobChMIm50AisOh3gIVx7DtCh1qgQfuEAAYASAAEgKd8fD_BwE

Hampshire CAMHs have also recently released their new and very comprehensive website:

https://www.acamh.org/topic/camhs/?gclid=EA1aIQobChMIhOqdyCOh3gIVy7ftCh2_NQVpEAAYASAAEgLbkPD_BwE

Tel: 02382 311221

Email: SHFT.EHSchoolNursingAdmin@nhs.net

Hart Counselling CIC is a social enterprise offering affordable counselling and psychotherapy to young people aged over 11, adults and couples in Hook who are looking for mental health support. Please contact us at: hartcounsellingcic@gmail.com or visit our website www.hartcounsellingcic.org.uk for more information or if you have any questions.

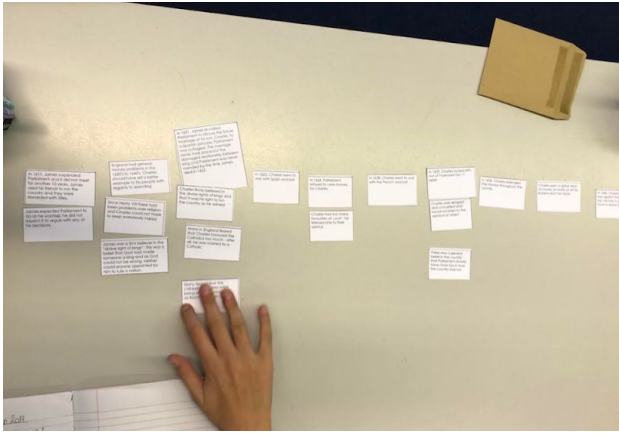
PTA UPDATE

Thank you for all those who supported the Christmas Extravaganza in Odiham on Saturday 30th November. The PTA volunteers ran games on our stall and gave out lots of prizes. It was lovely to see the festive splendour of Odiham High street, whilst supporting this local event.

Our PTA Christmas Social Night will be held at the Bell and Dragon on Tuesday 17th December from 7pm onwards (PTA Meeting 6.30pm-7pm). All Adults welcome (please pop- in and meet our friendly volunteers). Also if you fancy becoming more involved with the PTA this is a great chance to talk to other parent helpers about how you could help, as little, or as much as you'd like! Any questions please email committee@rmspta.co.uk

YEAR 8 - ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

In Year 8 History this week pupils have been looking at the Stuarts, a period of History that lasted from 1603 to 1714 encompassing key topics such as James I, Gunpowder Plot, English Civil War and the execution of Charles I. In the image below pupils are sorting out different reasons why the English Civil War started.



Mr Symonds-Keates, Head of History

NATIONAL SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY FINAL

On Saturday the Year 9/10 boys Cross Country team competed in the National Schools' Final in Derby. Over 450 schools had entered this competition of which 27 qualified to compete in the National Final. The boys ran superbly on a very long course. The team finished 7th, meaning they are the 7th best team in England. We also have an individual National Champion too as Dan Shattock won the race!

Congratulations to Dan Shattock, James Harold, Sam Graham, Leon Ruffle, Jude Harris and Olly Marshall on their runs and for representing the school so well.

Thank you also to the parents who came and supported.

Mr Warman and Mrs Bazan



A REQUEST FROM THE FOOD DEPARTMENT

If you have any empty and clean, sweet or biscuit containers after the Christmas break (e.g. the large tubs from Celebrations, Heroes, Roses etc.) that you no longer require, please can you donate them to the Food Department for them to reuse as their stocks are very low?

Many thanks.

ALDERSHOT AND DISTRICT SCHOOLS ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

During January the Aldershot and District Schools Athletics Association will have one of the token tubes in the Fleet Waitrose under their Community Support Scheme. At the end of the month we will get a percentage of £1000 towards the association depending on the number of tokens we have accumulated. If you shop in Fleet Waitrose **PLEASE** can you donate into our box whenever possible. All the money goes back into the association and will help the athletics and cross-country in the area.

Thank you for your support

NEW PE BOYS' SPORTS TRAINING PANTS

Following feedback from pupils, the school has introduced a new style of Boys Sports Training Pants. These offer a slim leg, elasticated waist with drawstring, zipped pockets and ankle zips.

This is an optional item of PE kit for boys and is available to order now. The training pants are embroidered with the RMS logo and these will be the only training pants allowed to be worn during PE lessons. These are also available for girls to order if preferred in place of the Aptus leggings.

As this is a new item, we initially have limited stock and orders will be fulfilled on a 'first come first served' basis. The PE department currently have all sample sizes and we would strongly urge for children to TRY BEFORE YOU BUY, to ensure the correct size is purchased and avoid disappointment with stock being unavailable for exchange.

If you wish to purchase the Sports Training Pants, please place your order with the Uniform Shop online at www.rmspta.co.uk.

Many Thanks
Angela Gosling
Uniform Team Coordinator

FACEBOOK AND TWITTER PAGES

We are trialling our new Facebook and Twitter pages. These are for the whole school community. If you decide to "like" anything you see, please make sure your own Facebook pages/tweets are locked down. We thought it might be helpful to family members to have easy-to-access social media sites in which all letters home, piece of news and bulletins could be posted and read. They are for information broadcasting only. They are not for people to post comments or queries. If you have any queries, or comments, please email the school using info@rmays.com as usual.



Robert May's School



Robert May's School Official

COLLEGE OPEN DAYS / EVENINGS

Farnborough College of Technology (FCOT)

Open Evenings / Days:

- School Leavers Open Event Wednesday 26th February 2020, 4pm - 7:30pm

Other Events:

- A Levels Open Event - The difference between 6th Forms and Colleges Wednesday 25th March 2020, 16:00pm - 19:30pm

Aldershot Construction College (FCOT)

Open Evenings / Days:

- Wednesday 4th March 2020, 4pm - 7:30pm

BCOT

Open days / Evenings:

- Monday 10th February 2020, 4:30pm - 7pm
- Monday 11th May 2020, 4:30pm - 7pm

Apprenticeship Event:

- Monday 9th March 2020, 4:30pm - 7pm
- Monday 15th June 2020, 4:30pm - 7pm

Merrist Wood

Open days / Evenings:

- Wednesday 26th February 2020, 5:30pm - 8:00pm
- Saturday 20th June 2020, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Other Events

- Festive Animal Fun Day, Sunday 1st December 2019 12pm - 16:00pm

Guildford

Open days / Evenings:

- Wednesday 5th February 2020, 4pm - 7pm
- Saturday 6th June 2020, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Farnham College

Open days / Evenings

- Wednesday 12th February 2020, 4pm - 7pm
- Saturday 13th June 2020, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Sparsholt College

Open day / evenings:

- Saturday 1st February 2020, 10am - 2pm
- Saturday 7th March 2020, 10am - 2pm
- Wednesday 1st April 2020, 4pm - 7pm
- Thursday 18th June 2020, 4pm - 7pm

RMS PTA UNIFORM SERVICE

All our new uniform is ordered online, our website is www.rmspta.co.uk and our contact email is uniform@rmspta.co.uk. Once an order is placed you will receive an email, usually within 2-3 school days, advising you that it is ready for collection. Students can collect uniform any MORNING breaktime from the PTA office on the far left of the school, near the DT block. Please look at our website for any latest information about our service and for how to exchange or return items should you need to.

Second Hand Uniform Donations

We are happy to receive donations of good quality preloved RMS logo uniform and PE kit (no skirts or trousers please). Simply hand your donations into the school office during term time in a bag labelled "PTA 2nd hand uniform". Please help us by donating laundered items only.

All profits from our uniform sales are used to enrich the pupils learning and experiences.

Many thanks for your continued support.

RMS PTA UNIFORM SERVICE

PE CLUBS AUTUMN 2019:

Week beginning: 17/12/19

Day	Club	Running
Monday	Badminton (All Years)	Yes
	Rugby (7+8)	Yes
	Trampolining Club (Invite only)	Yes
	Girls Football (all years)	Yes
	Table Tennis (all years)	No
	PE GCSE Homework support	Yes
Tuesday	No clubs running	
Wednesday	No clubs running	

FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS

If you have moved house recently, or changed your mobile phone number, please get in touch with us via info@rmays.com and send in your updated details or click on the link to our website

<http://www.rmays.org/parents/update-contact-details/> for our change of contact details form.

We've experienced some difficulties with contacting some families recently, because landlines and mobile numbers are out of date and/or unobtainable. If you do not update your latest contact details, you are risking the safety of your child. If an emergency occurs and we cannot contact you, the matter becomes a serious safeguarding concern. Please help us to keep records up to date.

WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT/ ROAD CLOSURES IN NEWNHAM TO BEGIN IN JULY FOR 36 WEEKS

Please see link below for the schedule of works and road closures during this time:

<http://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/newnham>

Newnham, Hook– Project Timeline

Site start and setup

July 29

Newnham Road closure from Old School Lane to Ridge Lane

July 29 – November 11

Ridge Lane closure

November 12 – January 3, 2020

Crown Lane closure

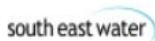
January 6 – February 7

Newnham Lane/Tylney Lane closure

February 11 – March 6

*Please note that dates are subject to change as works progress. To keep up to date please visit corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/newnham

You can also visit our social media channels (@sewateruk) or sign up for text and email alerts by visiting the [In Your Area](#) map on our website



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CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Between 8.25am and 2.25pm our teachers, team leaders and tutors are teaching. If you need to get in contact over an academic or pastoral matter 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 normal 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.

Funding for schools is now uncomfortably tight. Staffing has been cut over the last 3 years in order to try and maintain a prudent and balanced budget each year. This means that all staff in school are working to maximum capacity and are very time-constrained. Their main focus is always going to be the learning and well-being of the children and young people who are here. Teachers do not have time to deal with matters that cannot be resolved sensibly and calmly. We will not tolerate rudeness, threats or aggression of any kind from visiting adults. It is not appropriate, for example, to demand to meet with a member of staff without an appointment, or to remain on-site without an invitation. The school has powers to bar adults who behave unacceptably. All staff working at the school have the right to work in a safe and positive environment. They are expected to be good role models for our students. The same is expected of visiting adults and parents.

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's initiative to reduce teachers' workload and also to allow our staff to exercise their right to a family life.

Thank you for respecting our approach to direct and online communications.

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

18th December Last day of term - normal finish time of 2.25pm - there will be no late buses

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

www.rmays.org/news/calendar/

RMS TERM DATES: 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019:

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 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

If you are interested in booking our facilities please email community.facilities@rmays.com or phone 01256 393140

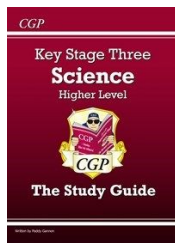


RMS HIRE CHARGES 2019

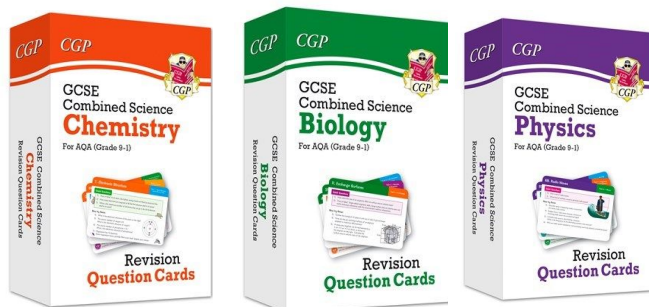
LETTINGS CHARGES Ex VAT	2019 <i>from 1 Sept 2019</i>	
	STANDARD RATES	UNDER 18 RATES
SPORTS HALL	£46.00	£23.00
MAIN HALL	£33.00	£16.00
DINING HALL	£26.00	£13.50
GYM	£32.00	£16.00
LIBRARY	£22.00	£11.00
DRAMA STUDIO	£22.00	£11.00
CLASSROOM	£15.30	£9.75
MEETING ROOM	POA (dependent on rooms size)	
IT SUITE	£30.00 +vat	
FOOD TECH ROOM	£30.00 +vat	
FIELD / PITCH	£21.50	£10.75
TENNIS COURT / HARD COURT	£7.00	
NETBALL / HARD COURT	£15.30	
ATP CHARGES	2019	
	STANDARD RATES	UNDER 18 RATES
Weekday evenings		
one third	£41.00	£35.80
two thirds	£58.30	£47.65
Whole	£75.75	£64.50
Weekends		
one third	£32.25	£22.00
two thirds	£47.85	£37.65
Whole	£63.50	£53.25
MUGA		
Weekday evenings		
Whole	£41.00	£35.80
Single netball court	£20.50	£15.35
Weekends		
Whole	£32.25	£22.00
Single netball court	£18.45	£13.30

New Revision Resources available!

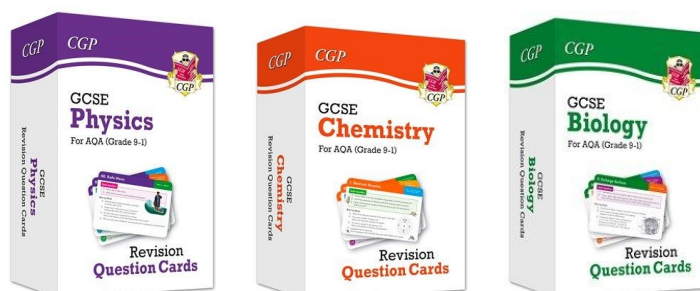
For Years 7 and 8:- £3 (RRP £4.95)



For Combined Science Students:- £3.50 each (RRP 5.99)



Also For Separate Science Students:- £4.50 each (RRP £8.99)



These will be available on SCOPAY(preferred method) and via our order slips which can be collected from your science teacher.

Orders placed by Midnight on the following dates	Orders will be received and given to science teachers for distribution during week beginning. An email via In Touch will be sent to parents when they are ready for collection
Monday 14.10.19	Monday 21.10.19
Monday 18.11.19	Monday 25.11.19
Monday 20.1.2020	Monday 27.1.2020
Monday 9.3.2020 (Last orders for year 11)	Monday 16.3.2020
Monday 27.4.2020 (Last order before KS3 exams)	Monday 4.5.2020
Monday 6.7.2020 (Early Bird order for next year)	Monday 13.7.2020

All other revision resources are still available i.e. revision guides, workbooks, answer books and maths skills for science.

ODIHAM EDUCATION CHARITY

A Foundation Trustee for Robert May's School

Odiham Education Charity, the Foundation Body of Robert May's School situated in West Street, Odiham, wishes to appoint a Foundation Trustee for a 4 year term. We are looking for a resident of the school's catchment area, preferably with experience in finance, law, IT or facilities management or alternatively from any of the community or caring professions, to complement the other four Foundation Trustees who represent the charity. If you do not have a background in any of these areas, but would like to be considered for this position please do get in touch with us in any case, as we are keen to talk to anyone who has an interest in education and a desire to serve the community in this way.

Please contact the Clerk, Sue Laing c/o LFM, The Stables, 23b Lenten Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1HG (telephone number 01420 590660) or suelaing.occ@outlook.com for further information or expressions of interest. The closing date for applications is 10 January 2020 and the newly appointed Foundation Trustee will take up his or her position with immediate effect, once the formal appointment processes have been completed.