



Dear Parent

VALETE

We said 'goodbye' to Debbie Mynett, one of our Boarding Administrators, who has moved back to the commercial sector. She was an excellent and supportive member of the Fraser Youens Team and we wish her well in the future.

WELCOME

Emma Boyle has joined us as Boarding Coordinator and Kate Byrne as Office Manager and Deputy Headmaster's Executive Assistant. We wish both colleagues every fulfilment and happiness during their time with us.

REMEMBRANCE

We had a wonderful Service of Remembrance on Monday 11 November with the whole school along with approximately one hundred friends of the School, parents and former colleagues. My thanks to Head Boy, Torr Ramsden, for his readings, our Hon Chaplain, Mr Booth for reading carefully chosen prayers, and Squadron Leader Rob Kemplay, for laying the wreath. The event was greatly enhanced by the School band and choir, led by our Director of Music, Mrs Jashari, and a first-class rendition of the Last Post and Reveille by Sixth Form Trumpeter, Charlie Kingsford. The CCF presence added to the occasion, as they also did in High Wycombe for the Town Act of Remembrance the day before.

RUGBY

I do enjoy popping in on a Saturday morning and I was so pleased to see our Year 7 teams getting into their stride. A valiant performance from the U15s in their Schools Cup Round 3 fixture. Despite successfully holding off several aggressive advances from the opposition, the final score was RGSHW 11-22 Wellington College. We wish Wellington all the best as they continue in the competition. Our 1st XV are still in the Senior Competition having beaten Abingdon, in a thrilling game, to reach the Quarter Finals of the Continental Tyres Schools Cup. The next game is against Kingswood School on Thursday 5 December, KO 2.00pm at home.

An excellent Sportman's Dinner was enjoyed by over 300 guests, with David Flatman compering with his usual wit and introducing and interviewing our Guest of Honour, Ben Youngs. My thanks to FRORGS, sponsors and our Sports Department for arranging such a wonderful evening which is not only pivotal to resourcing our Rugby programme, but also a great opportunity for the rugby community to gather together.

AHOY!

The History Department took over 200 Year 9 students to Portsmouth to see the Historic Dockyards as part of their studies into the development of the Royal Navy during the Industrial Revolution. They were able to see a snapshot of the Royal Navy and its history from the hallowed decks of HMS Victory, Flagship of Horatio Nelson during the Battle of Trafalgar, to the near-modern HMS Warrior and The Mary Rose. The students all had a wonderful tour of HMS Victory, which was provided by members of the Royal Navy still stationed on the flagship. It opened the students' eyes to the conditions and day to day life on board the ship, and they were astounded to hear that many of those on HMS Victory would spend two whole years on its decks before even setting foot on dry land. They were also given tours by RGS staff around HMS Warrior, with occasional talks given by the many volunteers who wander its decks.

ECONOMICS TALK

Geoff Riley - Co Founder of Tutor2U, Economist and Ex Head of Economics at Eton College gave an excellent lecture on 'The UK Economy' with a particular focus on Rachel Reeve's recent budget. He was, universally, regarded as an 'amazing' speaker; it was a great opportunity for students to keep up to date with current affairs and ask questions of someone with such an experienced background in Economics. We look forward to working with Geoff Riley and Tutor2U in the future.

ARKWRIGHT SCHOLARS

From Mr Marshall ... *'Congratulations to Hasan Al-Zarrad, Siva Balasundaram and Arran Patel who have each been awarded one of the prestigious scholarships following record submissions for 2024 and a rigorous selection process. An Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is the most esteemed scholarship in the UK. Only those who demonstrate an extremely high aptitude achieve it. Overall, a record 1532 hard-working students nationwide applied to the prestigious 2024 programme; a significant year-on-year increase of 15%, and the second-highest ever number of applications received since the programme began over thirty years ago. Less than 300 awards were issued this year throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. With now six scholars, the RGS has the rare distinction of having what is considered a high number with our existing Arkwright scholars, Cameron Cole, Daniel Matthew and Torr Ramsden.'*

HOUSE DRAMA

Our House System, still only a few years old, has grown in significance quite rapidly. Our assemblies are now held by House (though the formality has not changed) and we have an established Sports Day and Music Competition. The early years of House Drama were not public events, but tonight, for the first time it will be held in the Queen's Hall in front of a live audience. Tickets are available on [Little Box Office](#), 7.00pm start. Do come and support our young actors and playwrights.

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

This annual event, comprising traditional readings and carols, now has extra trimmings with Mrs Jashari's sparkling orchestral arrangements. Over 200 boys are participating as choristers, instrumentalists or readers. The venue is All Saints', High Wycombe (park in the shopping precinct) starting at 7pm. It is open to all but, as it is usually very well attended, do arrive in good time to secure a seat. Refreshments, provided by the PA, will be available afterwards. There is no admission fee as it is a service, but there will be a retiring collection divided between Anaphylaxis UK and All Saints' Church Organ Fund.

With best wishes.

Philip Wayne