

## Calendar

<b>SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Music for Youth, Birmingham (Soul Patrol)
<b>SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> TO FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Year 10 and 12 Extreme Cornwall Trip
<b>THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Year 7 trip – English Institute of Sport, Sheffield
<b>THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> TO SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Duke of Edinburgh Award Gold Training Expeditions
<b>THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Year 10 Parents' Evening
<b>SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>
Music for Youth, Bedford
<b>TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH</b>
Dance Show 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm, The Max
<b>THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH</b>
Spring Concert, 7.00 pm – The Main Hall
<b>THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH TO SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL</b>
Duke of Edinburgh Award Silver Practice Expedition
<b>7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – RSA CLOSERS FOR THE EASTER BREAK</b>

## From the Principal

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first Newscheck of the Spring Term.

The weeks have flown by since the Christmas break, with staff and students fully focused on their academic studies, particularly in the important run up to the summer examinations. There have been many opportunities to show parents, governors and other visitors around the Academy. I have felt very proud of the behaviour and positive attitudes to learning shown across the Academy. On January 18<sup>th</sup>, we had a visit from Educational Advisor (and former OFSTED inspector) Mike Cooper who was very positive about the educational outcomes achieved at both GCSE and A Level and the learning environment both within classrooms and at social times.

In addition to our academic focus, as ever, students have had the opportunity to participate in and excel in a range of extra-curricular events. Our science staff and student STEM ambassadors delivered a successful science conference to 150 Primary school children. Four of our most talented mathematicians were selected to compete in the prestigious UK Senior Maths Challenge in London on 7<sup>th</sup> February and trained for this on a daily basis. RSA Dance Company were the only school-based group to be selected to perform at Mass Movement at Curve, combining stunning choreography with live music from our own talented students. The UCAS application process is almost at an end with most Year 13 students receiving multiple offers to study on their chosen courses for next year and four students have received offers of Oxbridge places. Year 7 students have had the opportunity to visit Stratford to see a performance of *The Tempest* and, like all year groups, have participated and been successful in numerous sporting fixtures across the county.

Our second GCSE music concert was held on February 7<sup>th</sup> and was a fantastic success and our acclaimed annual 24 hour charity sports 'Lock In' will take place today, 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you for supporting us and your sons and daughters at our recent parents' evenings. We had a very high level of attendance at all evenings, which is of obvious benefit to students as they work towards their end of year targets.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and a big thank you as well to staff and students for their hard work and involvement in all areas of Academy life.

Have a good weekend and an enjoyable and restful half term break



Ms S Jones

## Student Reception Assistants

	Period 2	Period 5
<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Alexander Johnston 7H12	Nataliya Karapchanska 7H12
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Feb</b>	Alice Lockwood 7H12	Joshua Mason 7H12
<b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	Anna-Rose McGloin 7H12	Leonidas McTernan 7H12
<b>Thur 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	Thomas O'Brien 7H12	Ethan Rawlings 7H12
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Charlotte Rivers 7H12	Rosie Robinson 7H12

## Academy Term Dates

RSA Closes	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Mid-term Break	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
RSA Closes	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>SUMMER TERM</b>	
RSA Opens (to students)	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Mid-term Break	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
RSA Closes	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July

## Faculty Student of the Month

Each month teachers of KS4 classes nominate a student for this award and the Head of Faculty chooses a deserving winner in their subject area. Teachers nominate students for many different reasons but it is always a student who has impressed whether that is through their attitude to learning, effort levels, progress, achievement or contribution to the community. Students get 50 achievement points for their tutor group and house. Such students are a delight to teach, role models for their peers and should be very proud to have received the recognition. **Well done to February's winners:**

### ENGLISH

#### Joe Foster 10H7

For outstanding creative writing.

### DESIGN

#### Rebecca Schmalbach 11H5

For working incredibly hard and always having a positive attitude.

### HUMANITIES

#### Molly Barrow 10B5

For being hardworking and having an excellent attitude in geography.

### MATHS

#### Jack Sawford 11H8

For excellent work on Inequalities and Surds

### MEDIA

#### Jaime Shellard 11L4

For raising her grades impressively since the beginning of year 10 and consistent excellent effort.

### MFL

#### Jon Tongue 11B1

For improving his controlled assessment

### PERFORMING ARTS

#### Elliot Baker 11H7

For being on top of his composition work, working extremely hard at perfecting his performance marks and making a large contribution to the extra-curricular life of the music department.

### PE

#### Charlotte Ellis 11L8

For always working to the best of her ability in lessons. She is a fantastic leader who is an inspiration to others.

### SCIENCE

#### Phoebe Langton 11L6

For always working to the best of her ability, in both contribution and presentation of work.

## Catering



### Café Nouveau

Have you seen our new prepared salad range available daily from the chiller?

#### Roast Vegetable Couscous and Chicken Salad - £1.00

Couscous with Roasted Vegetables and Crispy Chicken in a tomato dressing.

#### Spicy Tomato and Crispy Chicken Pasta Salad - £1.00

Pasta twists, peppers and sweetcorn in a tomato dressing served with salad leaves and crispy chicken.

#### Tuna and Pasta Salad - £1.00

Penne pasta, tuna and sweetcorn in a rich mayonnaise dressing served on a bed of lettuce leaves.



Also heading your way is a range of delicious cakes –

#### Carrot cake with a Tangey Orange Frosting

#### Rich Chocolate Fudge Cake

Both are an excellent choice to accompany one of our fresh bean coffees.

Look out for the new syrups – **English Toffee and Peanut Butter.**



## Sixteen07

We are thrilled with the uptake of our new Fresh Fruit Pots. We are serving daily –

#### Fresh Pineapple Honeydew and Water Melon Red and Green Grape

They are proving to be a popular choice.



We have a number of special themed menus planned for the Spring Term.

Our first ever:

#### Texas BBQ Medley



The team are working hard to perfect the **BBQ Pulled Pork** recipe that will be headlining this menu. It will be served with corn on the cob, smoky Boston bean one pot and cornbread.

Another first for RSA:

#### Traditional Roast Carvery

This menu will be showcasing three roast meats, a selection of potato dishes and fresh seasonal vegetables with accompaniments.



Please see the advertised menu for gluten free and vegetarian options.

We look forward to sharing the new recipes with you. Let us know what you think.

*Mrs Spencer and the Catering Team*

## Sport

### Lock In 2017



As part of our Lock In event, we would like to thank Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Asda for all their support with donations. We would also like to thank Frutas, Snackline and Delice DeFrance for all their support.

Similarly the PE Faculty would like to say a massive thank you to **Emma Spencer and the Catering Team at RSA** for their support.

There will be more information about Lock In in the next issue including results and a report. This year's event is themed around sports teams with animal names (e.g. bulls, bears) with teams raising money for three local inclusive sports clubs.

### Active Kids Vouchers



Please bring any Active Kids vouchers that have been collected at Sainsbury's to the PE Office.

### Year 5/6 Basketball



Well done to **Lawrence Maslin, Ben Woodward, Alfie Harris, Tommy Farr and Hannah Farr** who officiated at primary school basketball tournaments in January.

Meadowdale and Kibworth Primary schools were the winners of the tournaments.

### Volleyball vs Lutterworth HS

We hosted two volleyball friendly games on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January.

The year 11 boys' team won 3-1. Congratulations to the dream team of:

Ollie Gilbert  
Ben Woodward  
Rhys Lewis  
Mitchel Adams  
Jonathan Wall  
Alfie Harris  
Leo Harland

The year 10 boys' and girls' team lost 3-1. (The games were closer than the score suggests.) Well done to:

Katie Kavanagh  
Rose Stacey  
Julia Golinska  
Rebecca Schmalbach  
James Robertson  
Kyle Scott

### Trampoline - Leicestershire Finals

Award winning performances from

Lottie Edwards  
Eleanor Ford  
Charlotte Ellis  
Issie Westley

who claimed the Leicestershire team title at RSA on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

### South Leicestershire Indoor Rowing Competition

Bronze places were awarded to:

Daniel Hands  
Taran Mann  
Thomas Dyson  
Alfie Harris  
Freya Tansey  
Scarlett Godefroy  
Molly Barrow  
Ailsa McDonald

The team of eight travelled to South Wigston High School on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January for some gruelling racing. There were three relay races that resulted in the team award. Following this, students completed a three minute individual row. Ailsa McDonald did exceptionally well finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> position for the KS4 girls. As three quarters of the RSA team were year 10 students performing against year 11 teams, I believe they did a great job. Next year, I predict that we will nail this competition!

### Volleyball sessions

Year 10 GCSE PE sessions have been undertaking volleyball sessions with outside coach Paul Kaerger throughout this half term.

### Year 7 Fixtures

The Year 7 students have participated in a cricket and basketball tournament in addition to football fixtures this half term. Well done to all the students involved in these activities. After half term there will be more fixtures for all ages in different sports.

### Trip to the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017



### Final Call

There are **only 3 places** left on this trip.

Students will be given a **tour** of the country's largest multi-sports training centre. In addition, there will be **practical sessions** including: sports hall athletics, basketball, boxing, table tennis, volleyball, and football. Students will require their PE kit, a packed lunch and drinks.

The world class facilities enable participation in more than 60 sports activities at all levels. The specialist facilities are home to a number of GB Olympians.

The cost of this trip to EIS Sheffield is **£20.00**. Please make cheques payable to 'Robert Smyth Academy'. Payment should be handed in to Student Services. Please put EIS Sheffield, the student's name and tutor group on the envelope.

### Outline for the trip

- Meet at Robert Smyth Academy 7.50 am
- Depart RSA (Ausden Clark coach) to EIS Sheffield at 8.00 am.
- Practical day (Students require packed lunch) 10.30 am to 2.00 pm.
- Return to RSA at approximately 4.00 pm.



## Music



### RSA Spring Concert

The annual RSA Spring Concert will take place on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.00 pm in the Main Hall** and will feature A level soloists as well as all the RSA senior and junior ensembles: Year 7 Jazz Band/Orchestra, Year 7 Viva Voce Choir, Bassoon Group, String Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Flute Choir, Flute Quartet, Brass Ensemble, Senior Jazz Band, Versatile Voices and Soul Patrol.

Tickets are available from Student Services priced at £5 for adults and £3 for Under 19s. All money raised will go back into the music department to purchase new equipment and sheet music.



### Want to learn an instrument?

The music department has 14 visiting peripatetic music teachers who give singing and instrumental lessons to beginners and advanced students in all years.

You can learn the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, tenor horn, baritone, euphonium, trombone, tuba, violin, viola, cello, double bass, piano, keyboard, acoustic/electric guitar, bass guitar, tuned percussion, and drum kit. We also have a specialist jazz piano and jazz saxophone teacher.

On most instruments, beginner lessons can be shared in pairs or sometimes in groups of three to cut the cost and it's possible to hire instruments cheaply.

Contact Mrs Petersen, Head of Music, for more details [hpetersen@rsacademy.co.uk](mailto:hpetersen@rsacademy.co.uk).

### Triple success in Conservatoire applications

Three RSA students have applied this year to study at a Music Conservatoire from September 2017. The application process is extremely competitive with a very high number of applicants competing and auditioning for just a very few places on each instrument. We are delighted and extremely proud to say that all three RSA students have been successful in obtaining a Conservatoire place:

**Andrew Martin**, who is currently in Year 13, has been offered a place to study classical piano at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff.

**Emily Newlyn**, who left RSA in July 2016, has been offered a place to study the violin at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff.

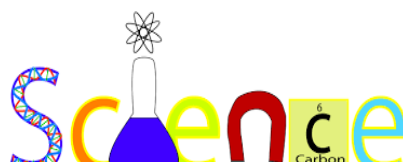
**Jake Bentley**, who left RSA in July 2016, has accepted a place to study the bass guitar at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

Very well done to all three students.



*Mrs Petersen*

### Primary Science Conference



**THANK YOU** very much indeed to the excellent **science students** who gave up their Saturday to help with the 8th Primary Science Conference. Your help was very much appreciated and we couldn't have done it without you. I lost count of the number of primary teachers who told me how good you all were and quite a number of primary students told me that they wanted to be like you and help at the conference when they are older.

A small token of appreciation can be collected from Mrs Corcoran.

*Mrs Green*

### Higher Education



This is an exciting time for Year 13 students who are receiving responses from higher education institutions. 170 students have made an application to higher education this year. These applications cover a vast array and diversity of courses and have resulted in an impressive breadth of offers. These include four Oxbridge offers for chemistry, economics, music and PPE as well as medicine, veterinary science and optometry.

Students now have to go through the process of revisiting institutions, attending applicant days and gathering all the information they need to make the right choices for next year. Well done all of you!



### Year 12 High Achievers Event

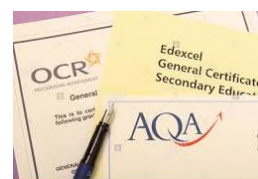
**Save the Date – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
6.00 – 7.30 pm**

If you are in year 12 and aiming very high, i.e. Oxbridge or medicine/dentistry, there is an event coming up in March for you. The event will be held after-school in Oadby. Please save the date and I will send out further details when I have them.

*Ms Kirk*

### Exam Certificates

2016 Exam Certificates are now available for collection from the exams office.



*Mrs Dix*

**Dear Parent/Guardian/Student**

**Privacy Notice - Data Protection Act 1998**

The Robert Smyth Academy is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. We collect information about you and may receive information about you from other educational establishments you have attended previously. Information may also be received from the Learning Records Service. We hold this personal data and use it to:

- support your teaching and learning;
- monitor and report on your progress;
- provide appropriate pastoral care, and
- assess how well the Academy is doing.

This information includes your contact details, national curriculum assessment results, attendance information and personal characteristics such as your ethnic group, special educational needs and any relevant medical information. If you are enrolling for post 14 qualifications we will be provided with your unique learner number by the Learning Records Service and may also obtain from them details of any learning or qualifications you have undertaken.

**We will not give information about you to anyone outside the Academy without your consent unless the law and our rules permit it.**

We are required by law to pass some of your information to the Local Authority (LA), the Department for Education (DfE) and the NHS Vaccination Team.

If you want to see a copy of the information we hold and share about you then please contact the Data Manager.

If you require more information about how the LA and/or DfE store and use this data please go to the following websites:

<http://www.leics.gov.uk/schoolsfpn> and

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/management/ims/datamanagement/privacynotices/pupilsdata/>

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/management/ims/datamanagement/privacynotices/pupilsdata/thirdpartyorgs/>

If you are unable to access these websites, please contact the LA or the DfE as follows:

- Mike Challands

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Prospects - once you are aged 13 or over we are required to pass on certain information to Prospects. Prospects is the South Leicestershire careers support service for all young people aged 13 to 19. We may provide both your name and address, and those of your parents together with any further information relevant to Prospects services' role. However, you can ask that no information beyond name and address be passed to Prospects if you are over 16 years old. Your parents also have this right. Please inform the Data Manager if you wish to opt out of this arrangement.

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**Principal** Sue Jones BA (Hons)

**Vice Principal** Richard Taylor BA (Hons)

