



Reading Girls' School NEWSLETTER



Business &
Enterprise

Term 5

www.readinggirlsschool.co.uk

May 2015



New build update

Since the last newsletter the archaeologists have discovered evidence of a Bronze Age Roundhouse in the form of post holes along with pottery.



The cut and fill exercise has begun and is progressing well. This is being carried out to level the ground ready for construction works.



The main drainage runs for the building are currently being constructed and casting of the reinforced foundations has begun ready for the installation of the steel frame.



Stone and tarmac have been installed on the site compound and car parking areas. Within the next few weeks the site offices will be arriving on site.





Winners of Siemens Healthcare 'Next Big Thing' Competition - A group of students from Reading Girls' School has won the competition to create the 'Next Big Thing' for Siemens Healthcare.

Organised by SATRO, the competition gave students a variety of healthcare problems to consider, including improving healthcare for the elderly, in remote areas of the world, and helping with natural disasters. Working with their science teacher and a mentor from Siemens, the group brainstormed ideas and researched topics before deciding on the final idea to enter.

'Docsoc' is aimed at helping those with diabetes. A side effect is loss of feeling in the feet which can cause damage and even, in severe cases, amputation. 'Docsoc' improved the testing of sensation in feet and communication with health staff and carers.



In the final, they were up against strong competition from other schools, including three independent schools. When they



were announced as the winners, they were praised for having a realistic product, good research, and teamwork and passion. They were awarded with a beautiful trophy, which will be displayed in the school foyer, and won a Kindle each.



Thank you to SATRO and Siemens for organising the competition, and well done to the team!



Staff v Students



On Monday 11 May, Y10s organised a rounders match versus the staff. Students donated to watch the match and held a raffle during lunchtime. The staff were soundly beaten by their young opposition, however over £70 was raised which has been put towards the school minibus fund.



Yr7 and 8 combined Netball Teams

We took our Year 7 and Year 8 team down to JMA for a netball fixture to end the netball season. As they had a mixed team, we mixed both of ours. In both matches RGS heavily dominated and the ball rarely went further than halfway before we regained possession and had the ball back with our shooters.



We won the first match 2 - 0 and the second match 4 - 0. Had it not been so windy we probably would have won by quite a few more as the weather made it difficult to shoot accurately. Well done girls.

Nepal Earthquake Appeal



Prakriti, Biah, Sarathi, Yashaswi and Kalkidan (all Y7) wanted to raise money to help the Nepalese Earthquake victims, so they held a cake sale and raised £116 which has been donated to the appeal.



New Library System Goes Live

Girls who had queued patiently to have book issues and returns recorded on sheets of paper were pleasantly surprised at the start of this term. Having put all the fiction and a large amount of the non-fiction onto the new 'Oliver' database we were able to start using the system to check whether

we have books in stock and reserve them if they are on loan to another student. It has been very easy to use and Hana Manuchar, the student volunteer library assistant, had no problems with the new software.



New books are constantly being added and we have also included Accelerated Reader data so students can see the reading

levels of many of the books. This is of particular use to those students who struggle to read or those looking for something more challenging. Reading is a vital life skill and students who read for pleasure are not only enjoying stories but improving vocabulary and experiencing different situations in a safe environment.

Faculty of Medieval and Foreign Languages



Ayesha (Y11) was recently nominated for a 'Higher Commendation' in the Years 7-11 category of the French film essay competition 2015 by the University of Oxford. Whilst she didn't win a prize, they wrote to her as they thought her entry was extremely strong within a competitive field of almost 200 entries and deserving of special mention.

In the letter from Will McKenzie (Fellow and Tutor in French, St Hilda's College) and Kate Rees

(Fellow and Tutor in French, The Queen's College), the competition co-organisers, they wrote:

"The 'Higher Commendation' is a special category, reserved this year only for the three strongest entries besides the Winner and Runner-up. Congratulations therefore on this genuine achievement. The standard of entries was very high, demonstrating a wealth of imaginative engagement with French cinema. We very much enjoyed reading your entry and were particularly impressed by the vivid energy of your expression and your creative imagination.

We hope that you enjoyed watching and thinking about *Le Petit Nicolas*. You might want to pursue your interest in French cinema by watching films of a similar style, theme or tone.

May we offer you our very best wishes for your modern language studies and ongoing engagement with French culture."



Congratulations to Ayesha

Year 11 Leavers Assembly

Thursday 21 May 2015 will be a day to remember for our Y11 students. While the rest of the school enjoyed a morning of PSHEE lessons, the Y11s started the day with a 'walking, talking maths mock' before gathering in their tutor groups for shirt signing/graffiti wall. Each group was given a large blank piece of paper to write messages on and then take a photo of the wall.

At 1.30pm the students in Y7-10 went home which allowed the leavers to share their lunch break together before staff joined them for their Leavers Assembly. The first speech from Mrs Angus was followed by contributions from each of the tutor groups.



Powerpoint presentations delighted the students with photos and videos of events during their school life.



Anupama Acharya was awarded for her charity work, in particular the Multi-cultural Mash Up event held in school, by the Berkshire Masons



and the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme girls were presented with their certificates and medals by Mr Boyd and Mr Nichols.



The final goodbye from Mrs Kink was emotional but the girls appeared to have a very good time and we wish them all the very best of luck with their exams over the next few weeks and their future careers.

