



Royal  
Russell

## Headmaster's Weekly Newsletter

24 January 2020

Dear Parents and Friends,

I was delighted to take part in the Oxford and Cambridge 24 hour relay which ran over Saturday and Sunday last weekend. There were some heroic efforts from pupils, staff and Royal Russell families who covered more than 195 miles between them, raising over £600 for CALM in the process. My special congratulations to; Gordon Poon, Lucas Tan, Jasper Chong, Juno Chen who helped to ensure the success of this event and to Jamie McDowell, who ran 7 miles on Saturday afternoon.

I enjoyed watching a few minutes of the U15 Football on Tuesday afternoon, where the Royal Russell team finally won against Aldenham School, after both extra time and penalties. The U15s now progress to the semi-final of the ISFA Cup and will play Manchester Grammar School. There were also some very strong performances in our Senior Netball matches against Woldingham on Wednesday.

Thursday was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the term so far. On our first 'Challenge Day' we deconstructed the timetable for all pupils and introduced a whole range of activities and presentations with the overall theme of 'well-being'. Our Heads of Year had organised a suitably challenging programme which enabled all pupils to learn something new about themselves and their relationships with others. Year 7 and 8 were combined into groups and attended workshops on street dance and healthy living. Year 9 enjoyed their session trying to find out more about their future CGSE options and careers. Year 10 listened very carefully to presentations on life skills including finance, personal presentation and well-being before discovering more about writing their CV.

The focus for Year 11 was on practical well-being and preparation for their GCSE examinations this summer. They attended a study skills workshop along with yoga, healthy eating, art, music, mental health and positive thinking sessions.

Year 12 explored healthy relationships and Year 13 focused on preparations for their final examinations, including some study skills and 1:1 interviews reviewing their university and career aspirations. Their day concluded with a presentation on Finance from the Director of Operations, Mr Cufley.

I was lucky to be able to observe many of these sessions and was hugely impressed by the positive attitude and engagement of our pupils, by the excellent organisation and presentation of our own staff and by the willingness of our parent and Old Russellian volunteers. The sense of working together in a learning community was very strong and I congratulate both pupils and staff organisers for their input into the success of the day.

At our Assembly this afternoon, Mr Botting gave a presentation on the historical context of Brexit following the agreement signed earlier this week. We then awarded Effort Certificates to Eryk Trus, Jameson Wang and Maia Miller-Forkin in Year 10 and to Philip Stoychef and Emily Rickards in Year 13. Omar Nesbeth George then played a brilliant piano version of 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. In our Junior Assembly, Elspeth Gardiner beautifully performed 'Somewhere only we know' and Effort Certificates were awarded to Aleksei Vorontsov and Erynn Edney in Year 7 and Vrutik Patel and Emily Hayden de Carbonnières in Year 8.

We are sending a strong delegation to The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) conference this weekend. The THIMUN conference is a five-day simulation of the United Nations for school students, which takes place in the World Forum Convention Centre in The Hague and attracts over 3,500 students from around the world. I look forward to hearing from our delegates on their return next week.

Our Lunar New Year celebrations have been in full swing today with a presentation and traditional food in the Library at lunchtime. This evening we will be enjoying a concert in the Auditorium showcasing the talents of our Boarding community before moving for a full New Year banquet provided by our Catering team.

A reminder of our Elevate Study Skills presentation on Tuesday 28 January in the Auditorium, which is a parent only event.

With best wishes,

**Chris Hutchinson**  
Headmaster

# Year 7 Art Mark Making

Year 7 pupils have been studying mark making in Art. As a response to this title, pupils of 7P and 7R completed a drawing of a shell using 3 different artistic techniques learnt over the term, creating a multi-media final piece. Well done to all students for creating such stunning pieces of art.



# GCSE Art trip to Tate Modern

On Thursday, GCSE Art students took part in a trip to the Tate Modern to gather resources for their exam titles 'Collections' and 'Events'. Following a slight hiccup of a fire alarm test in the gallery on our arrival, students enjoyed their day out and made great headway on their projects.



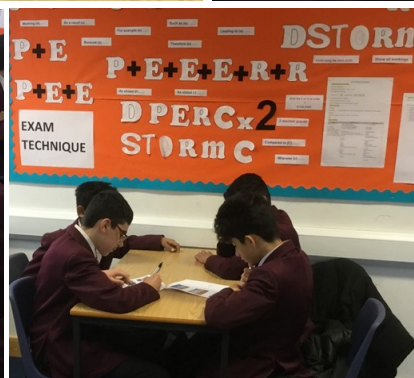
# Quiz Bowl 2020

The first day of this annual House competition has seen St Andrew's and Madden take an early lead. The House teams consisted of pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 completing rounds on:

- ◇ What and where in the world
- ◇ General knowledge
- ◇ Observation

A special mention goes to Cameron Divers (Leaver in 2019) for allowing me to use his excellent Media coursework video for the observation round.

The second day of the competition is on Wednesday 29 January with rounds on flags, music and codes.



	World	Obs	General		
House	Round 1 (24)	Round 2 (10)	Round 3 (10)	Total	Position
Buchanan	12	7	8	27	4
St Andrews	19	4	6	29	1
Madden	15	7	7	29	1
Reade	13	5	1	19	8
Cambridge	11	4	4	19	8
Keable	15	7	5	27	4
Queens	18	6	4	28	3
Oxford	16	7	3	26	6
Hollenden	12	5	5	22	7



# GCSE Geography Trip to Dorset

Lightning can't strike twice? Surely not? This was attempt two to complete the fieldwork for GCSE Geography along the Dorset coast. Last time we succumbed to horrendous winds, heavy rain and a broken down minibus! Two out of three of these you'd expect from a Geography trip!

However this time round we were luckier. We arrived at the Dorset coast at Milford on Sea and this time it wasn't raining and the bus was fine. The pupils were trying to establish whether coastal processes have been acting on the Dorset coast as theory suggests. We measured beach profiles and sediment sizes at two different points along the coast to test this; at Hurst Castle Spit and Barton on Sea.

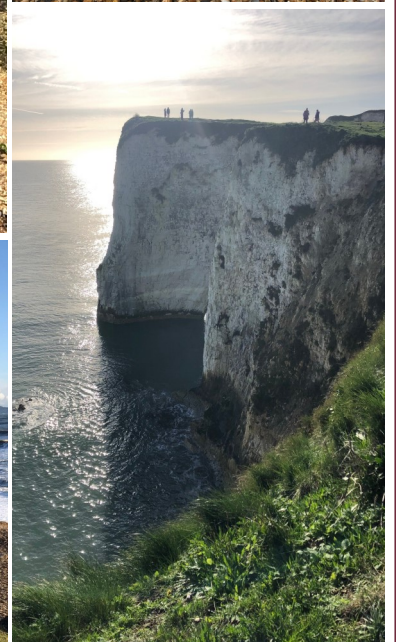
We had the opportunity to also understand how people have controlled the environment to deal with changing conditions looking at coastal management.

After a long day working. We arrived in Swanage after fun and games driving to the field centre, where after dinner we undertook the customary two hours evening follow up. Many of the pupils were tired but managed to get through the session.

After a relaxing evening some awoke sprightly the following morning and some (Mr Parham) even went for a run!

We spent the second day writing up part of our study and visiting famous coastal landforms such as Old Harry Rocks and Studland beach. The walk onto the headland was not for the faint-hearted, with some steep drops. But it was great to see how all landforms had developed.

The trip was great considering our first attempt and the pupils endured their first (of many) experiences in the field.



# A Level Trip to Madrid

Last Friday, we travelled to Madrid in a group of four for the A level Spanish trip with Señora Missan and Señor Bueno in order to improve our speaking skills and learn about Spanish culture. We spent three nights with a host family where we ate dinner whilst practising our Spanish and we also participated in language classes.

On Saturday, we enjoyed doing an escape room as we worked together whilst testing our Spanish skills. Our favourite part of the trip was the amazing food in Madrid; we went out every day to try typical Spanish food including churros and tapas.

The churros were absolutely unforgettable! We also enjoyed exploring the local town and going to a variety of small cafes to eat cakes and pastries at the panaderías.

During the four days, we visited several monuments in Madrid including El Palacio Real (the Royal Palace) and El Reina Sofia museum where we saw the famous Guernica painting which we will be studying in Year 13.

We were also given free time to navigate the different shops on the high street and do some shopping for souvenirs. Overall, we managed to improve our speaking skills and cultural knowledge and we hope to return to Spain next year.



# Mosimann Visit to Royal Russell

Royal Russell recently welcomed Mark and Jenna Mosimann to the School as prospective parents.

Before their tour of the School, they met up with Development Manager, Jeremy Lloyd-Jones, Catering and Hospitality Manager, Andrew Edwards and Executive Chef, Chris O'Connor.

Mosimann's is one of the best restaurants and clubs in London with offices based in Belgravia. Mosimann's host an Annual Fund dinner for the Royal Russell Development Office each year and they also take Royal Russell pupils for work experience during the summer.

Mark's father, Anton, is one of the most famous chefs in the world. We would like to thank them for their support for the School.



## Things to Do in Spring



LIBRARY

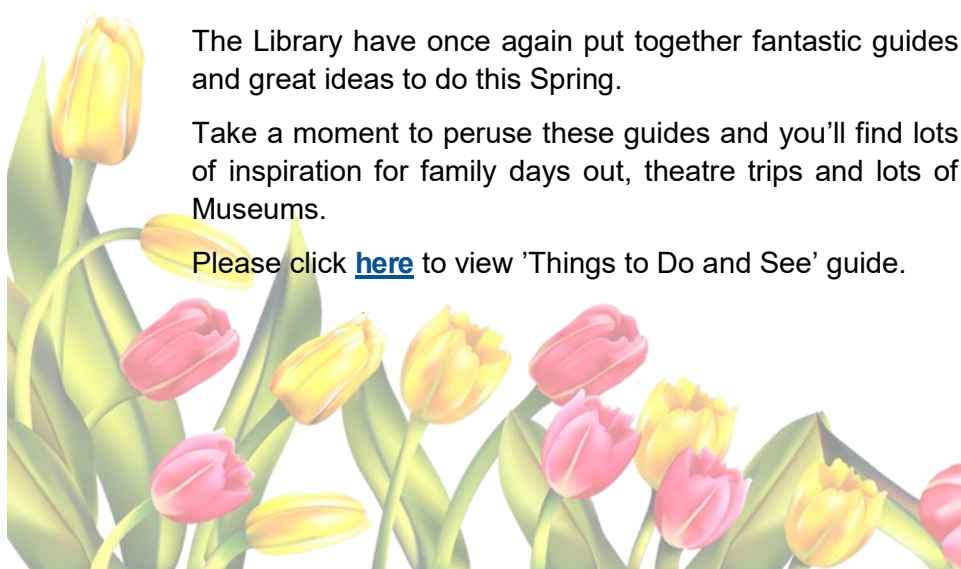
**THINGS TO SEE  
AND DO ...**



The Library have once again put together fantastic guides and great ideas to do this Spring.

Take a moment to peruse these guides and you'll find lots of inspiration for family days out, theatre trips and lots of Museums.

Please click [here](#) to view 'Things to Do and See' guide.



Royal Russell Presents

# JAZZ

## An Evening with Claire Martin OBE



With the Nikki Iles Trio - A Tribute to Tony Bennet and Bill Evans

**Thursday 23 April : 7.00pm : Auditorium**

Multi-award winning vocalist and Linn recording artist Claire Martin has been a tour de force on the UK jazz scene for over 30 years and brings together a trio of some of the finest musicians on the scene today; Steve Watts - double bass, Matt Home - drums led by celebrated pianist and arranger Nikki Iles.

Claire will be singing some classics from the Great American Songbook alongside stylish re-workings of the Tony Bennett/Bill Evans songbook repertoire. Claire has enjoyed worldwide critical acclaim and gained many awards including winning eight British Jazz Awards and in 2018 she was the proud recipient of the BASCA Gold Badge Award for her contribution to jazz. Nikki Iles was the BASCA Gold Badge winner for 2019 and is one of the most in-demand pianists of her generation.

**'Worldclass' THE TIMES**

Tickets are £15. Please  
click [here](#) to book

## Safeguarding Corner

Each week we will have a Safeguarding feature in the Headmaster's Newsletter regarding safeguarding and online safety.

A section where interesting articles, latest news and updates will be available to you. I will of course continue to email you directly for any major updates or news on these topics.

Please click [here](#) to read a article by the World Health Organisation which suggests one in four children 'has too little sleep'.

**Mrs Nathalie Hart, Deputy Head Pastoral**



# Canterbury Tales Progress

‘We all have a tale to tell’

## Oxford and Cambridge 24 Hour Relay

Our Fundraising Total So  
Far.....

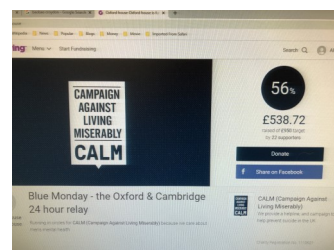
**£12,367.46!!**

Last weekend Oxford, Cambridge and friends completed a 24 hour relay run around top pitch to raise awareness of men's mental health and money for the charity CALM.

Boarders and Day pupils, teachers, families and pets completed multiple laps to keep the relay moving at all times. The distance recorded was 195 miles, however this is a fraction of the overall total as people ran with friends and in groups.

The event has raised over £538 so far, as well as encouraging us to socialise, exercise and to help others, all strategies that can help improve mental fitness.

If you would like to sponsor us, you can do so by clicking [here](#).



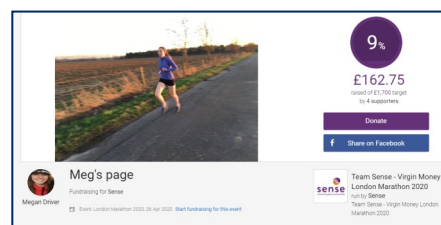
## Megan's Story

Every year since I was 12 I've run the London mini marathon (the last 3 miles of the course), and have always hoped to run the full 26 miles once I became an adult.

A few months ago I turned 18, and after finding Sense - a fantastic charity helping those with disabilities across the UK - I was lucky enough to secure a place to run this April.

Sense works with the deaf-blind and people with complex disabilities, helping them to feel understood, connected and valued. They offer advice and support to families, organise events and trips for participants to do sport, art and other creative activities, and teach people with sensory impairments the skills they need to live and work, as well as campaigning for rights for people living with disabilities.

My goal is to raise £1700 for Sense - any donation, big or small, would be hugely appreciated by me and all those who benefit from the work of Sense. And if you do decide to donate, please use gift aid!



## Forthcoming Events - Check Firefly Regularly for Details!!

A Pilgrim's Way Relay

Staff Bake Off Competition

Canterbury Run

Bike Run to Canterbury Cathedral

Cathedral Choir

Croquet for St Christopher's

Canterbury to School three-day Walk

Fringe Event

Buchanan Sofa Surf Sleepover

Cake Sale

Sport v King's Canterbury

The Big Tea Party

Canterbury Hostelry Tour

Thirty Mile Walk

Restless Triathlon

24 hour spin class

**The Grand Finale!**  
**Sunday 14 June 2020**

# QUIZ NIGHT

Take the Challenge on Our  
Quiz Night.



Great Hall  
Saturday  
8th February  
7.30pm

Tickets £10. Table  
snacks provided.  
Tables of 10 people  
max. Doors open at  
7pm. Licenced bar  
available or BYO.

Tickets on Wisepay or email  
[mel@bruguier.net](mailto:mel@bruguier.net)

# From the Sport Department

## Football

### U12A

Royal Russell hosted Eaton House in the ESFA Round 3 on a rather wet, cold and foggy afternoon. After a very close opening 20 minutes, we picked up the pace and the game ended with us winning 4-1. Bring on the next round with a long away trip to Dorset waiting for them!

### U14A

The U14s played Wilson's earlier this week. We started so well, with a good disciplined shape and passing game. We should have scored more early on in the first half, but went 1-0 up when Joe McKenzie latched on to a loose ball. As in previous games, we began to lose shape and the opposition got back into the game following bad defending. Substitutions at half time caused us problems and we were never able to get any kind of flow again, and the opposition scored three further goals. This team is learning very slowly but needs to learn quicker.

### U15A

On Tuesday the U15s took on National Final champions Aldenham School, at home in the quarter-finals of the ISFA National.

Both teams managed to get to the final of this competition last year and it proved to be an exciting match once again. Royal Russell started the better of the two. Aldenham had limited chances in the first half and only managed to have a wide free kick sale into the arms of Toby Mckimm in the Royal Russell goal. Score 0-0 Halftime.

The second half was very similar to the first, with Royal Russell trying to find a breakthrough, but with the Aldenham defence standing strong. We managed to break the deadlock with nine minutes to go, when a corner managed to drop kindly for Amir Muhammad Faruk on the edge of box, only to hit the keeper and fall kindly to George Newman who manage to tap in from a close range. Aldenham hit back instantly and managed to score with a free kick that was whipped in deep. 1-1.

Extra time was required. Despite the late setback Royal Russell took the game to Aldenham and once again, created the better chances of the additional 15 minutes. With one minute to go the opposition managed to counter-attack and the Aldenham went through one-on-one with Toby only to find his shot saved and tick round the corner for one last attack. The resulting corner led to Aldenham being awarded a penalty as the forward went down in the box.

The forward managed to put his penalty kick firmly in the bottom corner for a 2-1 lead with 30 seconds to go. Royal Russell showed a never say die attitude once again which proved to be the backbone of this team season and with literally the last kick of the game and with everyone forward the ball kindly brought to Tyrique George who smashed home a volley into the top right hand corner to make it to 2-2 and send again to penalties.

With both teams putting up such a good fight, only penalties could separate them. This showing them and the competition why this was such a great fixture for the pair of them in recent years. Royal Russell successfully converted all penalties, and due to Toby McKimm saving an Aldenham penalty with his feet, Royal Russell are through to the semi-finals for the second year in a row. We will travel to Manchester Grammar early next month for a place in the final.

## U18 1st XI

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI put on a fantastic second half display on Saturday to ensure victory in the London Cup against Kingston Grammar. David Kawa came off the bench and scored goals that ultimately transformed the game, with us running out 4-2 winners.

## U18 2nd XI

Royal Russell hosted Kingston in the Regional Cup. The game started off very tight with neither team being able to open the scoring with very limited chances in the game.

A through ball from Louis Kennedy to Rezo, who calmly slotted home opened the game up. Kingston levelled the game up and after a very well executed penalty from Aleksandr, Royal Russell won the game 2-1. Through to the next round!

## U18C

On Wednesday, Royal Russell hosted Colfe's. After a dominating first half, both teams went into half time at 0-0. After a team talk focusing on getting better quality shots off, Royal Russell started the half excellently with Jaden Drakes-Thomas scoring a belter from 30 yards. After Colfe's missed penalty, Royal Russell turned their jets on and managed to score 3 more. After a dominating display and very good football, Royal Russell won 4-1. Through to the next round!

## Surrey Schools Cross Country

On a fine day last Saturday, 10 of our best athletes were selected to run for Croydon at the annual Surrey Schools' Cross-Country meet, held at Reigate Priory.

Sadly due to injuries and other commitments only 6 runners were able to compete.

All enjoyed the experience and will look to improve their times next year, if selected.



# National Schools Zonal Finals

27 members of the Trampoline squad headed off to the National Schools' Southern Zonal Finals. They were competing against the South of England for a place at National Schools' Finals. Matt started the day with two solid routines to finish 5<sup>th</sup> individually in the U19 Elite section.

The U14 Elite girls competed really well with Eivie 7<sup>th</sup> individually. She also led the team into a Silver medal and a place at National Finals. The U14 Intermediate boys were competing in a tough group and all held their own, it was lovely to see them using more complex routines. Tino finished 7<sup>th</sup> individually and the team finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> which earned them a place at Nationals Finals too.



The U19 Elite girls dominated the competition with excellent routines, Grace finished in 7<sup>th</sup> individually and the team were clear champions, another team through to the National Finals. Finally, the U19 Intermediate girls competed in a very competitive group. They jumped clean routines and finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place. The 3 teams will be joined by the U11 Intermediate girls who also won their competition.

This will mean our biggest squad at National Finals with four teams competing at the top level of the schools structure. Thanks to all the coaches, officials and parents for your support.

## Swimming Gala

On a fine day last Saturday, 10 of our best athletes were selected to run for Croydon at the annual Surrey Schools' Cross-Country meet, held at Reigate Priory.

Sadly due to injuries and other commitments only 6 runners were able to compete. All enjoyed the experience and will look to improve their times next year, if selected.



## Basketball

After what seems a long Christmas break it was finally time for our U16 Boys' Basketball team to get back in action on Tuesday 21 January against the King's College School.

Playing on their home court, the match started with Royal Russell having good possession and scoring several points against the opposition, however, King's College showed great resilience and fought hard to penetrate the Royal Russell defence and were able to retaliate with some points of their own. As the quarter came to an end the match was still all to play for with Royal Russell only being down by 4 points but the height and determination of the King's College players proved too much for Royal Russell to handle and by halftime the boys found themselves down by 10 points.

The 3rd quarter was by far the best quarter for Royal Russell, outscoring King's College by 8 points and with some tough defence being played and outstanding skills on show from all of the boys, they managed to reduce King's College's lead and found themselves only down by 2 points at the end of the quarter. Due to this exhausting effort the boys unfortunately ran out of steam and only scored 2 points in the last quarter which led to an unfortunate defeat to King's.

The final score was Royal Russell School 37-59 King's College School and top scorers on the day were Dimitry Shilkov with 18 points, Jasper Chong with 5 points and Tait James with 5 points.

# Key Diary Dates



Saturday 25 January	MUN The Hague
Saturday 25 January	RAF Flying at Kenley
Sunday 26 January	Boarders' Activity - Go Karting
Tuesday 28 January	Elevate Parent Study Skills Session
Thursday 30 January	Theatre Society Trip - The Book of Mormons
Thursday 30 January	Geography Azores Parents' Awareness Evening
Thursday 30 January	GCSE History Trip Parents' Awareness Evening
Friday 31 January	Year 7 Study Skills - Library
Saturday 1 February	Year 8-10 Exchange Students Arrive at Royal Russell
Sunday 2 February	Boarders' Activity - Indoor Climbing



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Royal Russell School

We welcome your feedback. Please send to Ciara Campbell, Marketing and Communications Manager  
email: [ccampbell@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:ccampbell@royalrussell.co.uk) or [feedback@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:feedback@royalrussell.co.uk)

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Patron: Her Majesty The Queen