



Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin

17 April 2026

Contents

Introduction	3
Key information	4
All years	4
How to Support Your Child During Exam Season	4
Years 8 – 10 Only	4
An Exceptional Opportunity to Join Reading School in Years 8 - 10	4
Year 13 Only	4
Year 13 Group Photograph – Now Available to Order	4
Current Reading School Vacancies	5
School Community News	6
Reading School Students Head to Table Tennis Nationals 2026	6
Reading School Events	7
Reading Repair Cafe at Reading School – Save the Date	7
Staff vs Prefects Charity Football Match	7
Reading School v Marylebone Cricket Club 2026	7
RSPA	9
Welcome back	9
Books to School - April Campaign	9
The Pre-Loved Uniform Shop	9
Bag 2 School Collection – Friday 1 May, 8am – 10am	9
Be a Marshal for the RSPA at the Goring Gap Race Event	10
The Team	10
Highlights: Lent Term Week 12	12
The Cricket Season Is Back	12
Athletics Training	15
Staff vs Students Football Match (Giving Day 2025)	16
Reading School vs Marylebone Cricket Club 2025	18

Introduction

Dear parents, staff, students and carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term!

I have always felt that about half of our work each year gets completed in the Michaelmas term. By Christmas each year, we have built crucial relationships, completed units of study, mastered new terminology, encountered challenge and established important routines. All of that endeavour pays off in this term – the shortest and sunniest of the year.

This is the term when one House wins the House Competition. When our progress is measured through public examinations. When we celebrate character in our Speech Day (with an exciting new format this year, on 23 June). This is the term when our Year 13 students discover how well their independent study has prepared them for the world of work or higher education, and our Year 11 students find out if their A level choices are realistic and wise!

For many young people, the summer term is synonymous with assessment and testing, and for most young people in our education system, blue sky and exam papers collide, like a sick joke every year from the age of ten to the age of 21! I remember sitting exams in Big School 29 years ago, looking out of a tilted window at an expanse of open sky and feeling a deep sense of frustration that I wasn't outside. I remember revising on the grass in my back garden and feeling that it was perverse to be studying when the day was so beautiful. I remember walking home sweaty after internal exams, bewildered by the weight of my woollen school suit, wishing I was at the beach. So, is the tension between enjoying the summer and being examined in it unresolvable?

Perhaps not (though my 13-year-old self would have vehemently disagreed). Perhaps a mindset shift can reconcile sunshine and test questions.

In our lives each of us experiences testing, and experiences summers. We all know warmth and we all know grief. We each know blue skies and we are each examined. One feels pleasurable and the other often feels like torture.

But tests are really opportunities to discover what more we could learn, and exams an opportunity to prove our knowledge.

And sunshine is really the season that ripens fruit.

Are the two so different?

Bearing these things in mind then, I really hope each of us will get to enjoy these summer months. That tests might feel like opportunities. Maybe too, that bike rides, and fresh air and longer evenings might be windows for wisdom, and not just for warmth.

With best wishes – especially to those who will feel most tried, measured and tested in the coming months. May the sun shine warm upon your face.

Dr Evans

Key information

All years

How to Support Your Child During Exam Season

InvestIN, a provider of work experience programmes for students aged 15 to 18 and a partner at Reading School's Careers Convention, is running a free online session for parents on Wednesday 29 April from 6pm.

'How to Support Your Child During Exam Season' covers understanding why stress happens and how to recognise it in your child, effective revision strategies and how to create a supportive home environment during the exam period.

[Click this link to sign up](#)

Years 8 – 10 Only

An Exceptional Opportunity to Join Reading School in Years 8 - 10

Due to a change of personal circumstances, we have a small number of rare vacancies for students to join us across Years 8-10.

In particular, we would welcome interest from families interested in a Boarding place, where students combine a world-class education with a supportive family boarding community, with free education and highly competitive boarding rates.

More information can be found here [Reading School - Boarding](#) or we would happily offer personal tours to families interested in Boarding – please contact boarding@reading-school.co.uk to arrange.

Parents and carers are invited to share the following link with any families you think might be interested: <https://readingschoolregistration.applicaa.com/nonroutine 2025-2026> .

Interested students will be invited in to sit the in-year test in early May. Families are welcome to contact admissions@reading-school.co.uk for any queries.

Year 13 Only

Year 13 Group Photograph – Now Available to Order



We are pleased to let you know that the Year 13 group photograph, taken earlier in March, is now ready to order.

Your child will be receiving a proof card from next week, which includes the login details and password needed to place an order online. Please use these details to access the ordering system and select your preferred option.

Alternatively, please use the details below:

1. Go to www.gillmanandsoame.co.uk
2. Login: 422892

3. Password: 558300

Please note that orders should be placed within four weeks of receiving the proof card. Recent and past photographs can be accessed as follows:

1. gsimagebank.co.uk/reading-school
2. Token login: ggs9vh2026

Current Reading School Vacancies

Teacher of Chemistry - We are looking for an enthusiastic and inspiring member of staff to join our Chemistry team from September 2026. We offer an exciting opportunity in an exceptional team and a School that is passionate about Chemistry as a subject.

To find out more details and submit an application, please [visit our recruitment portal by clicking here](#).

Science Technician (Biology & Chemistry) - We have an exciting opportunity for a suitably qualified Science Technician to provide effective support to our Biology and Chemistry departments. Reporting to the Senior Science Technician, you will ensure a safe and efficient laboratory technical service is provided for students and teaching staff in both departments.

To find out more details and submit an application, please [visit our recruitment portal by clicking here](#).

School Community News

Reading School Students Head to Table Tennis Nationals 2026



The [Butterfly School Nationals 2026](#) will take place next weekend on 25 – 26 April 2026 at WV Active in Wolverhampton. Several Reading School students will be representing both their school and county at this prestigious event under the guidance of Kingfisher Table Tennis Club.

Saturday – Individual Events

The following students will compete in their respective age categories:

- **U13:** Rishaan S (8E)
- **U16:** Soumyajit D (10L)
- **U19:** Prayrit A (12MKa) – pictured with Mr Allen, Head of Sport and PE

Sunday – Team Event (U19 Boys)

The team will compete in the U19 Boys category, with players aged 13 to 17 taking on strong opposition, including full-time academies:

- Prayrit A (16)
- Sahil T (16)
- Ethan Z (16)
- Rishaan S (13)

All of the players above train at **Kingfisher Table Tennis Club**. If your child is interested in trying table tennis, the club offers a **free taster session** – [please click this link for further details](#).

On behalf of all of us at Reading School, we wish all the students the very best of luck for the competition.

Reading School Events

Reading Repair Cafe at Reading School – Save the Date



Got something broken? Bring it along to our Repair Cafe on **Thursday 23rd April**, running from **3:45pm to 5:30pm** (last repair accepted at 5:30pm).

Volunteer repairers can help with electronics, mechanical items, computers, toys, clothing, textiles, and tool sharpening. If you want to tackle your own repairs or work on a craft project, you're welcome to do that too.

The event is free to attend, with donations encouraged. Refreshments will be on sale.

For more information, contact Dr Young, Sustainability Lead: kyoung@reading-school.co.uk

Staff vs Prefects Charity Football Match

Date: Friday 24 April 2026

Time: 15:30–17:00

Location: Whiteknights SportsPark, University of Reading, Reading

Booking: [RSVP by clicking here](#)



We are pleased to announce a Staff vs Prefects Charity Football Match taking place on Friday 24th April 2026, in support of Chris Fordham (OR 1994–2001) and his “*The Long Run for Mental Health*” campaign.

Chris is undertaking an extraordinary challenge of seven marathons in seven consecutive days (20th April to 26th April), culminating in the London Marathon, to raise funds for Samaritans and to promote awareness of mental health, particularly among young people.

Families are warmly invited to attend and support the event. Entry is free and there will be a student-led bake sale during the match.

If you wish, you may also support the cause in advance via Chris’s fundraising page: [Chris Fordham is fundraising for Samaritans](#). Please reference ‘Reading School’ so Chris is aware of the support from the school community.

Reading School v Marylebone Cricket Club 2026

Date: Friday 26 June 2026

Time: 12:30pm – 7:00pm

Venue: School Field, Reading School

Booking: [RSVP by clicking here](#)

Now in its 129th year, this historic fixture has been proudly contested since 1898, making it one of Reading School's most enduring sporting traditions.

Come along for a fantastic afternoon of cricket. Parents are invited to join us **from 3:15pm for the second session**, where you can watch the match and enjoy pizza and ice cream from on-site vendors. From around 5:00pm, there will also be friendly taster cricket sessions for anyone who would like to take part.

Simply bring a blanket, settle in and enjoy a relaxed picnic while watching the cricket.



RSPA

Welcome back

We hope you all had a restful holiday and are looking forward to the term ahead. It promises to be a busy summer term and an eventful one! We would like to wish all the students, particularly those in years 11 & 13, all the very best and look forward to seeing you all at our forthcoming events including Speech Day. We have many events lined up and after the summer term will be looking forward to our celebratory 80th anniversary quiz...yes, the RSPA is in its 80th year. Until then work hard and look after yourselves!

Books to School - April Campaign

Could you please support the LRC by looking through any unwanted paperback books at home? If you have any of the titles listed below, please drop them into reception marked 'LRC Donations'.

Books needed - (good condition paperbacks only please) from the following series:

The Hunger Games series / Collins	The Summoner series / Matharu
Cherub series / Muchamore	Bodyguard series / Bradford
Young Samurai series / Bradford	Edge Chronicles series / Stewart
Skulduggery Pleasant series / Landy	Keeper of the Lost Cities series / Messenger
Inheritance cycle / Paolini	Wings of Fire series / Sutherland
Lorien Legacies series / Lore	Agent 21 series / Ryan
Arc of the scythe series / Shusterman	The Wizards of Once series / Cowell
Magnus Chase series / Riordan	Kane Chronicles series / Riordan

Plus - any good condition, secondary school appropriate, sport related books!

The LRC are looking to update and replace their collection, which means that your help would be really appreciated.

The Pre-Loved Uniform Shop

Please note our next planned openings are on:

- Friday 24 April, 3:30 - 4:30pm and Saturday 25th April, 10:30am -12:30pm
- Friday 12 June, 3:30 - 4:30pm and Saturday 13th June, 10:30am -12:30pm

If you have any questions and want to get in touch with the shop team then please email us at shop@readingschoolparents.co.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Bag 2 School Collection – Friday 1 May, 8am – 10am

We would like to thank all families in advance who have donations to drop off for the Bag 2 School Collection. We have made the drop off as simple and hassle-free for parents as possible:

1. The School's main vehicle gate will be open from 8am – 10am.
2. An RSPA volunteer will be stationed at the Chapel entrance in order to take your donation, leaving you to exit via Craven Road. For those in vehicles, please drive slowly up the drive.



What we can take:	What we cannot take:
Clothes	Clothing with logos i.e. sports clubs
Paired shoes	Duvets
Handbags	Blankets
Hats	Pillows
Bag	Cushions
Scarves and ties	School uniform
Jewellery	Carpets/rugs
Bras	Corporate clothing and workwear
Socks	Textile cut offs
Belts	

Be a Marshal for the RSPA at the Goring Gap Race Event



We are looking for **volunteers** to assist with marshalling duty at The Goring Gap race on **Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 May, 2026**. In return for your help the RSPA receives **£60 per marshal** (with most slots requiring 2 people, paid as £120), in order to raise funds for the School.

Currently the slots are based in Caversham, Tilehurst, Purley, Pangbourne, Whitchurch-on-Thames, Whitchurch Hill, Goring, North Stoke, Wallingford, Shillingford, Little Wittenham and Moulsoford. Last

year we raised £900 and the previous year £1,080. There are a lot more slots this year, we could raise £2,200 if we can fill all of them... but we need to be quick before they are taken elsewhere!

Please email Terri at t_lorrimore@hotmail.com or text to 07810 445474. Terri will co-ordinate a slot for you and then you'll be given the race organiser's email and a location map nearer the time.

It's a lovely event. Take a deck chair, a flask of coffee, a newspaper or book, and enjoy 3 to 4 hours of basically cheering people on as they run (or walk) past you. Secondary school age children count as Marshals, if accompanied by a parent, so this is also a way that your child can be with you to help raise funds.

Please see <https://goringgaprun.com/> if you're interested in the event generally.

Please contact us immediately, to register your interest. Many thanks again for all your support, from all on the RSPA team.

The Team

Introducing our Social Media Manager, Rohini Luthra

Hello, I'm Rohini Luthra, and I've been a proud member of the RSPA team for the past four years.

In my professional role, I work as a Scrum Master within the Digital Marketing Operations team, where I focus on delivering digital campaigns for high-value brands. This experience has helped me develop strong organisational, communication, and collaboration skills, which I'm glad to bring into my role within RSPA.

My son, Naman, joined the school in 2022 as a Year 7 student. During my initial visit, I learned about RSPA and was truly impressed by the incredible work its members were doing and the positive impact



they had on both students and the school community. Inspired by their efforts, I didn't hesitate to get involved and contribute in my own way.

I took on the role of Social Media Manager, where I am responsible for sharing key updates, important dates, and announcements across our social media platforms. This helps ensure that parents and carers stay informed and connected with the school community.

I genuinely enjoy this role, as it provides a wonderful opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and contribute to something meaningful. The sense of community, mutual respect, dedication, and support that I have experienced through RSPA is something I will always value and cherish.

If you're considering getting involved, I wholeheartedly encourage you to take that step-don't hesitate to reach out and be part of this amazing team.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Best wishes

Rohini and the RSPA Team

Highlights: Lent Term Week 12

Join the Reading School community online and never miss a moment.



Facebook: ReadingSchoolOfficial **Instagram:** @reading_sch **LinkedIn:** school/reading-school

The Cricket Season Is Back

Cricket returned to Reading School this week with a home fixture against Kennet School after the Reading School 1st XI winning the toss and electing to bat.



Behind that game was a season's worth of preparation that rarely gets acknowledged. The Estates and Operations team led on ensuring the pitch is up to standard for the season ahead.



The result: a win by 81 runs



Athletics Training

As well as the cricket season being in full swing, the summer term also means the start of athletics. Year 10s began their training this week for local athletics competitions and the School's Sports Day.

Thursday saw the focus firmly on middle distance running with a focus on pacing and creating an efficient running technique with Year 10s running 2x800 metre races under the guidance of Mr Tridgell and Mr Sanchez.



Staff vs Students Football Match (Giving Day 2025)





Reading School vs Marylebone Cricket Club 2025











Feedback is important to us and if you have any positive news, comments or suggestions, please contact the Community Relations Office by emailing communityrelations@reading-school.co.uk