



Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin

21 MAY 2021

Contents

Introduction	3
Cultural Architects	3
Parking outside the school	3
Excellence	4
All Years – Lent Term 2021	4
Debating Society	4
LRC News	4
Using Oliver to Find Good Books	4
Returning Books	4
House Reading Quiz, Years 7 – 10 and 12	4
Year 9 Author Talk	4
Integrity	5
Boarding Listener	5
Leadership	6
New Prefect Team	6
Reading School Combined Cadet Force (CCF)	7
NCO Promotions	7
Community	8
RSPA update	8
Second Hand Uniform Shop	8
Face Masks – For Sale all profits to the RSPA	8
Parent Webinars	9
Elevate Education	9
British Army Band	10

Introduction

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Cultural Architects

We have a responsibility to create a truly authentic 'We not me' environment for study and work. A crucial aspect is the significance of developing cultural architects, that is people who are able to positively influence others, who show humility, work hard and put the team first. In this regard the role of senior student leaders is especially important as they seek to add value, demonstrate service and leave a positive legacy. Certainly, we do not support cultural assassins, namely those who are negative, who tell you why something can't be done, rather than how it can be done.

An important exemplification of our drive to support the development of cultural architects is evident through our emphasis on service in the Sixth Form at Reading School. We value the energy, dedication and commitment of our students and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in the Student Leadership process. Details of the decisions are in the Leadership section of this bulletin. In addition, the well-deserved promotions in the Combined Cadet Force are also included. Thank you to the CCF Team for all they do to facilitate the nurturing of leadership capacity and capability.

It is, of course, important to emphasise that we seek to provide a raft of opportunities, including leadership opportunities, for our students throughout their time at Reading School. Indeed, one of the key priorities in the 2021-2022 Annual Operational Plan will be the provision of opportunities for our students to flourish and demonstrate our values in action, across a range of year groups. I look forward to sharing key details of the priorities of the Annual Operational Plan 2021-2022 after half term and also seeking suggestions for improvements from stakeholders.

I consider that there is no reason why we cannot continue to focus on performance and excellence, supporting wellbeing and resilience, working together to build community. We can work together to align our purpose and values with our behaviours. Therefore, I would urge parents to work with the School to ensure that all members of the school community understand the importance of caring for both people and the environment. We should work together, in both boarding and the day school, to provide a high-quality educational environment that adds value and enable all to thrive and flourish. We are committed to learning from best practice and value insights from all members of the school community who support the idea and practice of nurturing 'cultural architects.'

Parking outside the school

Please can I respectfully remind parents not to park on the yellow zigzag lines outside of the school when picking up your child. It is very difficult to see up the road before crossing and even more difficult for many who travel by bicycle. Please choose available parking bays or arrange to meet your child further away from the school.

Mr AM Robson
Headmaster

Excellence

All Years – Lent Term 2021

Debating Society

The committee will host a debate every Wednesday at 4.30pm via Microsoft Teams. Over the forthcoming weeks, the motions include:

Wednesday 26th May 2021: THB Grammar School should be abolished- [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Wednesday 10th June 2021 : THS Western troops remaining in Afghanistan- [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Thank you to everyone that joined this week's debate on arming the British Police. Well done to Jacob H and Aditya I (on this week's opposition) and Arvind, A, Alex N and Malhar D for their continued commitment.

All students in Year 10 and above are encouraged to participate in Debating Society as a debater. If you are interested in boosting your confidence, self-esteem and improving your critical thinking skills, please contact Miss Hutchinson at phutchinson@reading@school.co.uk.

LRC News

Using Oliver to Find Good Books

Our Library Management System is called Oliver. You can use Oliver to search for LRC books. Logging in allows you to renew and reserve books. You can access Oliver [here](#). All pupil logins are their computer username and the password is password. We recommend you change your password the first time you logon.

Returning Books

Pupils can return books using the return boxes situated at the main LRC entrance. You can do this at any time, as long as you observe social distancing. Although we are not applying overdue fines at the moment, we encourage pupils to return their books as soon as they have finished reading them and they should ensure that they renew them if they need more time to read.

House Reading Quiz, Years 7 – 10 and 12

The House Reading Quiz will take place after school in the LRC 3.30 to 5.00 on Wednesday 30th of June. Teams will be organised by the House Captains.

Year 9 Author Talk



Author Sarah Govett will be giving a talk to all year 9 pupils at 1.30pm on Wednesday 30th of June in Big School. This is an excellent opportunity for y9 and something we had planned to run in Book Week back in March. It ties in with the dystopian fiction reading that y9 will be doing over the summer in preparation for their English GCSE. Sarah is an Oxford graduate and author of the critically acclaimed dystopian trilogy, The Territory. The Guardian's children's book critic called The Territory 'The 1984 of our time'. It was also included in the Telegraph's Best YA Books of the Year and won the Trinity Schools Book Award 2018. Her latest dystopian novel, We Go On Forever, is described by her publisher, Marotte Books, as a 'timely and heart-wrenching love story set in a dark dystopian world with echoes of Never Let Me Go'.

Signed books are available by pre-ordering and paying in advance using the [MCAS Parent Portal](#). **Books can be pre-ordered and paid for from Friday 21st of May. The deadline for pre-orders is Friday 4th of June.** Pre-ordered books will be available on the day of the author talk. We would like to thank the ORA for their continued support.

Integrity

Boarding Listener

Reading School boarding community is seeking an independent listener. It is a volunteer position and usually involves having dinner with the boarders once or twice a month from 5-6pm as well as checking the listener email account.

As described within the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools, the Independent Listener is a person outside the staff and those responsible for the leadership and governance of the school, who boarders may contact directly about personal problems or concerns at school. If you or someone you know is interested please get in touch with Deputy Boarding Housemistress, Amy Cash at acash@reading-school.co.uk.

Leadership

New Prefect Team

Following last week's announcement of the incoming School Captaincy Team, the remainder of the prefect team have now been appointed. The wide range of prefect roles allow our Sixth Formers to take ownership of an aspect of school life and develop their leadership skills.

All of our incoming prefects have ideas as to how they will make an impact over the coming year and we look forward to seeing the outstanding leadership and inspiration they can show to the rest of the school.

It is also worth noting the huge number of incredibly impressive candidates who have not been awarded prefect roles at this time. It is always a difficult set of decisions and we hope that these students are not too disheartened and that they continue to show leadership and excellence over the coming year.

School Captaincy Team	
School Captain	Adam Paterson
School Vice-captain	Kalvin Gavrilov
School Vice-captain	Karan Baishkiyar
School Vice-captain	Matthew Copeman
School Vice-captain	Daniel Vetsko
Projects and Community Team	
Charity Prefect	Archie Thorpe
Community Service Prefect	Ransen Perera
Future Stories Prefect	Rovindu Hettiarachchi
Environment Prefect	Oliver Liles
Equality Prefects	Thomas Masters
Sixth Form Team	
Year 12 Integration Prefects	Amgad Bashir and Aryan Bhusal Sapkota
Legacy Prefect	Finbarr Sheedy
Common Room Prefects	Dhroov Patel and Shawn Poile
Careers Prefect	Vaibhav Mahajan
Attendance Prefect	Ewan Azlan Luk
Student Body Team	
Sports Prefect	Reuben Henry Daire
Junior Sports Prefect	William Mabukwa
Student Voice Prefect	Arran Johnson
Mentoring Prefect	Roshan Patel
Well-being Prefects	Jakub Jaloweic and Jacob Merchant
Senior Subject Prefect	Neil Paliwal

School Events Team	
External Relations Prefect	Arvind Adavikolanu
School Events Prefect	Ali Batley
Junior Social Prefect	Mannan Karwa
Social Prefect	Eesh Mishra
Society Office	Matthew Grove
Boarding Captaincy Team	
South House Captain	Ben Greatorex
East Wing Captain	Mithun Sivakumar

Reading School Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

NCO Promotions

Lt Col John Flexman, Contingent Commander at Reading School CCF is especially pleased to confirm the following NCO promotions after a Contingent Promotion Board held on Tuesday 11th May.

- Flight Sergeant Anson Y promoted to Cadet Warrant Officer
- Sergeant Himesh P promoted to Cadet Staff Sergeant
- Sergeant Kirill K promoted to Cadet Staff Sergeant
- Sergeant Alex D promoted to Cadet Staff Sergeant
- Sergeant David C promoted to Cadet Flight Sergeant
- Corporal Khan promoted to Cadet Sergeant
- Corporal Hogbin promoted to Cadet Sergeant
- Corporal Grove promoted to Cadet Sergeant
- Corporal Johnson promoted to Cadet Sergeant
- Lance Corporal Haley promoted to Cadet Corporal
- Lance Corporal Khalid promoted to Cadet Corporal
- Lance Corporal Hathaway promoted to Cadet Corporal
- Lance Corporal Tyagi promoted to Cadet Corporal

Congratulations to all of you. You have worked extremely hard across a challenging 12-month period and your promotions are very well deserved.

Community

RSPA update

Second Hand Uniform Shop

**Amended Times for
Saturday 22nd May 2021
2:00pm to 4:00pm**

Due to variable weather conditions forecasted, the Second Hand Uniform Shop will now be **open on the Afternoon on Saturday 22nd May from 2pm to 4pm** in the Walled CarPark.

All parents are asked to wear masks on the school premises at all times and to maintain Social Distancing. Parking will be allowed on the school grounds only on Saturdays.

We are also looking for a few more kind parents who would be willing to help out at a couple of future openings during the school year which are held on either a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. If you would be happy to do so, please drop a message to Jacqui Follen via ClassList or email shop@readingschoolparents.co.uk

Mrs Pilkington has stepped down as Lost Property Co-ordinator. She has done a sterling job during her time as Lost Property Co-ordinator. Those volunteers who helped Mrs Pilkington knows what a daunting task to ensure that items are reunited with their owners. Mrs Pilkington, the RSPA family salute you, thanks for all your help and positive effort you have made.

Face Masks – For Sale all profits to the RSPA

We wanted to remind you that Kerry Kingston a year 8 parent has been making hundreds of face masks over the last year and has generously offered to make and sell them in support of the Reading School Parents Association. These masks can be ordered in any of house colours or the Reading School Navy Blue. The reusable masks are made with 3 layers and a sewn in filter, a wire for close fit over the nose and have adjustable ear ties, they are all cotton and machine washable. The cost is £4 per mask or 2 for £7. All profit from these is going to the RSPA to further support fundraising projects at the school. Please e-mail Kerry at kerryobrien2004@yahoo.co.uk Payment would be by bank transfer or PayPal and the masks can be posted or it may be possible to arrange collection at the student reception. The RSPA thank Kerry for her wonderful support and for helping us drive a culture of sustainability within the school.

If you ever have any questions, want to offer your support to the RSPA or have some new ideas for the RSPA please reach out to Contactus@readingschoolparents.co.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support - Reading School Parents' Association Committee

Follow us at
FB "Reading School Parents Association"
Twitter "RSPA Reading"
Instagram "readingschoolparents"
LinkedIn "Reading School Parents Association and Supporters"
Website "www.readingschoolpa.org.uk"

Parent Webinars

Elevate Education

The Elevate programme for this year includes exclusive access for parents to their parent webinar series. They will be running webinars through to the end of the academic year and the next webinar is next **Tuesday 25th May**.

It's on one of their most requested topics, time management and organisation. They will be sharing strategies to overcome procrastination, organise workload to reduce overwhelm, create a healthy school-life balance and stop the last-minute rush before a deadline.

Registration for parents is free and the details are below:

Time Management and Organisation

Date: Tuesday 25th May

Time: 6 – 7pm

Registration: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

The webinar will be suitable for all year groups. Registration is essential and all parents that register will be sent the recording and resources, so if you are unable to join live, you can still catch up on the webinar at a later date. Please find link to the Summer Term Schedule 2021: [Elevate Parent Webinars](#)

British Army Band

BRITISH ARMY BAND SANDHURST

Becoming a British Army Musician Webinar



On 20th May at 7pm, join members of British Army Band Sandhurst as they discuss life in British Army Music.

Our Presentation will include:

- Preparing for the audition
- Phase One Training
- Getting Fit to join the Army
- A musical quiz

And more!

There will be plenty of opportunities for questions during the hour-long session.

www.army.mod.uk/music

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SEARCH
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To receive your Zoom invitation please fill out the following form:

<https://forms.gle/oxxuKXWXkG1QzSNZ6>

