



Friends' Educational Award



Our three 2015/16 joint 1st prize winners of £300 each were:

Louisa Cotterhill who spent a summer at the Alliance Francais in Lyon perfecting her French skills, immersing herself in the local culture and making a host of international friends at the same time! Louisa's experience has proved to be a perfect springboard into her languages degree at Oxford University.

Sarah Haynes who secured a place on the prestigious Ancient Greek summerschool at Bryanston. Sarah had a fantastic time brushing up on her grammar and translations and even performed in Aristophanes' Wasps and Trojan Women in this ancient language. Sarah is now all set to pursue her love of Classics at one of the Russell Group universities next year.

Pip Balshaw spent the summer in Rio de Janeiro working with disadvantaged families in the favelas. Describing the experience as life-changing, Pip saw first-hand the impact that sport can have on raising young people's aspirations by helping to deliver sporting workshops. She was humbled by the warmth and generosity of the many people she met in the favelas, and the spirit and character of these

dwellings which she came to realise are grossly misrepresented by the global media as dangerous, desperate and demeaning environments.

See our New Year bulletin for full reports of the girls' experiences, and details of next year's award.

Junior School Goodies

Pianos for the Junior Girls

Tinkling the ivories never loses its appeal for young learners, and following a donation from the Friends, the Junior School has been able to purchase additional pianos for the music practice rooms at Cranwell House. Now even more girls can benefit from the skilled guidance of our talented peripatetic music teaching team...we look forward to hearing the results at the Summer Music concert next year!



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New Friends Wanted
Join us!

See page 6 for details

Cameras for School Trips

No school trip or project is complete without photos to capture, share, tweet and reminisce over! At the Junior School, so much goes on that is worthy of recording that the school cameras are in much demand. The Friends have come to the rescue to relieve the pressure on the existing school cameras by funding a new collection which will allow teachers and classes to capture their activities without having to form an orderly queue...

OUTDOOR Dance

Miss Debbie's legendary dance moves are a staple for all girls of the RHJS, and now they have the opportunity to take their moves beyond the studio. With a set of speakers funded by the Friends, Miss Debbie now leads inspiring summer classes out in the grounds of Cranwell House, and even some energetic mums are feeling the benefit: Miss Debbie's Thursday mums' class offers a morning burst of dance-based exercise to some invigorating beats, and is open to all mothers of the school (and even some dedicated dancing mums whose daughters have long-since left for university...).

HOCKEY Goals

The Friends were delighted to buy a brand new set of hockey goals which, together with the new floodlights, have really set the girls up for a fantastic new season of sport for 2016/17. Girls across the junior and senior schools will benefit from this new equipment and we look forward to seeing fixtures played with renewed energy and vigour!

TV for the Medical Centre

We all know how comforting a duvet and heavy dose of favourite TV can be when feeling under the weather... and a Friends' donation has made that possible for poorly girls in sick bay this year. Particularly cheering for girls who have to be in isolation for some time, the screen has made a huge difference to the wellbeing of the girls, and has surely promoted some speedy recovery too!



QUIZ NIGHT

On an otherwise quiet Friday evening at the beginning of October, the senior school was host to the second Friends' Curry & Quiz night .

The evening was a roaring success with almost 100 parents and staff limbering up their grey matter to battle it out over an array of delicious Indian food (supplied by our inhouse caterers Holroyd Howe).

Our now resident quiz-master, Addison Gelpey, did another fantastic job of working the room with his inimitable style of effective broadcast vocal-skills (no PA system allowed, the boarders needed to sleep!) and no-nonsense crowd-control! The 10 teams delved deep to answer questions on the precise dimensions of a sheet of A4, the details of David Bowie's back-catalogue and whether one's nose is really the same length as one's thumb. As the evening drew to a close, over a rapidly diminishing bar and rising enthusiasm for a winner, team vindaloo were declared victorious. The Bhajis were duly awarded the wooden spoon. The format of the evening has proved to be so successful, watch this space for dates in 2017.....

Fantastic Fireworks

Once again the Friends made use of the school's rolling fields for a firework spectacular, staged by Firemagic. The evening was a great family event, with the requisite burgers and hot dogs, hot chocolate and mulled wine, as well as plenty of glowing treats and sweets to keep the children delighted. The evening rounded off with a fulsome fireworks display at 6.30pm, enhancing our growing reputation for staging by far 'the best display in the area'!



PHOTOBOOTH

The Year 11 prom in July was a roaring success with all our 'graduating' GCSE girls off to the Assembly Rooms for a spectacular evening of fun and celebration. The girls had a fantastic and emotional time celebrating lifelong friendships formed and memories shared. The evening had a palpable sense of excitement for the imminent new chapter in the girls' educational journeys. The Friends sponsored a photobooth that captured some of the memorable moments of the evening...



Flying Visit from The Flying Theatre Company

Year 4 were treated by the Friends to a genuine French farce...in French!



Theatre Review – English

LO: After watching the fabulous French play 'Bon Voyage' performed by The Flying Theatre Company, write a review. Use your success criteria as a checklist to make sure that you include the features of a review.

Bon Voyage

On Wednesday September 28th I was lucky enough to see 'Bon Voyage' a french play. The company that did this play was called, 'The flying theatre company.'

In Bon Voyage it was practically all in french, we met the two main characters: Franc and Pierre who were going on holiday to France. They love the sun, the sea and surfing. The question is, will they catch the ultimate wave?

I found myself smiling all the way through it. Pierre did all kind of tricks like juggling and ping pong balls coming out of his mouth!

One of the key events of the play was when Pierre was doing 'the weather



forecast and sprayed everyone with water! Another one, was when Pierre and Franc got Jojo and Mrs Robson to come up to the front and taught them a rap.

The two actors were amazing. They were so funny and even though it was in french I could understand some of it because their acting was so good.

The background was really pretty. I found the sound effects a bit too loud but the props were fun to look at. My friend Poppy thought the same as me and said "It was really funny and I could understand bits despite the play being in french, which was great." If you ever get the chance to see The Flying Theatre Company don't miss them!

By Lesca Butternorth Year 4RM

CLASSICAL Goes Digital

An online learning package which brings Latin alive for the girls is one of the Friends' most recent purchases for the school. Making use of up-to-date technologies which would have impressed the cleverest of Romans, the plentiful resources can be used in class and independently, allowing students to further explore the fascinations of the ancient world, and consolidate their learning.



YOUR DAUGHTER

A Friends-funded initiative for all parents of girls at RHS

RHS is committed to developing confident women for the future, and, with financial support from the Friends, continues to tailor a dedicated programme of speaker events to support girls and their parents through the challenges and opportunities they face in the 21st Century. Covering a vast array of topics including on-line safety to achieving happiness and friendship, these engaging talks run throughout the year and are open to all parents of the school, some targeted for particular year/age groups.

Previous events from 2015/16 included a light-hearted and thought-provoking presentation from Dr Mark Williamson, Director of Action for Happiness, on how to be happy – fundamental for parents and daughters alike! – and an examination of how to manage our digital footprint with RHS alumna Dr Laura Toogood, who runs a business doing just this for A-list clients.

So far this year, we have already run 3 engaging events covering some pertinent topics specifically relevant to raising girls of senior school age. The first event was held at the beginning of the autumn term and the topic was:

'Supporting Your Daughter Through GCSEs'

This event was aimed at Yr10 & 11 parents and was run by an inhouse team, led by Mrs Hollingsworth and ably supported by the Yr11 leadership team of girls. We heard all about the most effective study techniques of highly successful students, the learning journeys that all girls will go through during this period of their education and some top tips for supporting our daughters with managing their workloads and commitments.

The Year 11 leadership team alerted us to the perils and

benefits of social media and enlightened as to the intricacies of apps such as Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook.

It was a very engaging, useful and informative evening and helped to focus and align our thoughts with our daughters' after the long summer break.

The second event in early October was:

'Supporting Your Daughter Through Her Friendships'

This event was aimed at Yr7, 8 & 9 parents and was run by Emma Gleadhill, an external speaker who is an expert in teenage emotional development. It was a fascinating evening during which we learned about many aspects of our developing daughters' brains and the neurological pathways that effect every aspect of their lives. We were given insights into why the girls' friendships move from tight 'best friend' couplings, to groups or 'cliques' to eventually 'interest based' friendships around the age of 14. We were also offered the opportunity to reflect on our own parenting styles (are you a 'snow-plough' or 'CEO' parent?) and told that is it vital for our daughters of this age to get 9½ hours sleep every night! The evening was rounded off with a Q&A session that had we not all needed our own sleep, could've lasted all night!

'Keeping your Daughter Safe Online'

Another illuminating session was run at the end of October by Charlotte Robertson, founder of Digital Awareness UK. DAUK has teamed up with the GDST to develop resources for

both girls and parents at all its schools to help them enjoy social media moderately and safely. Youthful, energetic and accessible, Charlotte had already spent the day with our own girls discussing the opportunities, excitements and downsides of social media.

Charlotte was able to enlighten parents who attended the evening session about how the girls had responded to some of the angles she had presented to them on their high social media dependency: there were audible gasps as she reported that one participant in her afternoon session had returned from a wifi-free holiday to over 2000 Whatsapp messages!

From practical tips about managing privacy settings and initiating a 'device-detox', to broader messages which included showing an interest in the Apps that our daughters enjoy, and nurturing resilience in them off-line, as well as on-line, the session gave parents plenty of food for thought about how to navigate the device-dependent landscape that all our daughters inhabit. It also tied neatly into the launch of a new code of conduct that school has developed, in consultation with the girls, parents and staff, about device usage at school.

There is more information on Firefly here: <http://royalhighbath.fireflycloud.net/your-daughter-talks>

As these events have proved so popular with such positive feedback, the Friends have committed to continuing to support this programme throughout the academic year 2016/17. So, watch this space for forthcoming topics and dates.....

Watch this space for news of other social and fundraising events coming soon!

JOIN US!

The Friends of the Royal High School is made up of parents and staff who keen to get involved, have some fun and show our support for the school.

We meet once every half term (6 times per year) where we plan social events, chat through new ideas and enjoy evaluating requests for new, exciting initiatives to be funded from the coffers! It is a stimulating, enjoyable and inclusive group and the meetings are good fun and informal.

We would be delighted to welcome new members who may be interested in making a contribution, no matter how big or small. We always need people who have great ideas and time to offer here and there (no special skills required, just a little commitment). Everyone is welcome, from those who may be able to serve teas at parents evenings a couple of times per year through to those who may like to help run events like the Christmas Bazaar. It's a great way to become better connected to the school and really feel like part of an important community.

To find out more, please contact Mel at friends@rhsb.gdst.net, who would be delighted to hear from you.

THE FRIENDS OF RHSB CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Friends of the Royal High School Bath
Supporting our school community

£1 entry for adults, children go free.
Entry price includes a raffle ticket for
a bottle of Champagne!



Saturday 10th December
10am - 12.30pm
Senior School



Join us for some festive fun
and discover the perfect gift, tasty
treats and delightful decorations
from one of our specially selected
stalls.

- Homemade Crafts
- Great Gifts
- Festive Treats
- Meet Father Christmas
- Choose your Christmas tree!



The Royal High School Bath

Nursery • Junior School • Senior School • Sixth Form



Girls' Day
School Trust