



May 2021  
Issue 096

Dear Parents/Carers

Coming to the end of yet another unusual term gives me a chance to reflect on what we have achieved in spite of the continuing restrictions to our activities. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students (and a few Year 12 students) have been busy completing assessments to add to the basket of evidence that each department is using to determine the GCSE and A Level grades for each student. This has been stressful for students and a colossal amount of work for staff, so I would like to thank everyone for making it go so smoothly.

It has been very nice to see the beginning of a return to extra-curricular activities – as sector-specific Covid guidance gradually changes to allow these to take place – such as after-school sports activities and some music clubs (with limited numbers, socially distanced). I know that these things are often what students remember most from their school days, and I believe that they are so important. I fervently hope that we will be able to run the full range of activities from September.

The photograph below shows our new covered outside seating area (now giving us three such areas) which is already proving very popular with students at lunchtime. This is part of the school's ongoing programme to enhance facilities for students.

I would like to strongly encourage you to ensure that your children continue to do twice-weekly Covid lateral flow tests, since this helps reduce the likelihood that we will have to send whole bubbles of students home to self-isolate for 10 days.

Please note that the first week back is assessment week for Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. The week beginning 14 June 2021 will be a week 2, therefore please remind your child to bring the correct books into school for that week.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a healthy and happy half-term holiday – and I hope we get some better weather to help us enjoy it!

Yours faithfully

Mr Moore  
**Headteacher**



### **BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT**

The Business and Economics Department are pleased to announce that a group of four Year 12 students have achieved a place in the ICAEW National Finals which will take place on Wednesday 16 June.

The students had to create a presentation that dealt with various issues in a business scenario and they had to make decisions regarding the most favourable option for the business. The competition was fierce, and the standards of entry were high.

Good luck in the final: William G, Sam B, Hayden M and Millie N.

Miss Purcell



#### **What could your team win?**

The National Champions will win:

- iPad Pro and Apple Pencil each
- £4000 cash for your school
- A trip to London to meet the ICAEW CEO, Michael Izza
- A full day employability session

The Runners up will win:

- An iPad each
- A half day employability session

## MATHS DEPARTMENT

RMGS Maths Department are very pleased to announce the results from the recent United Kingdom Junior Maths Challenge. Normally this takes place in School during the school day, but this year it took place online. Altogether 60 students participated and completed the challenge in their own time. These students managed to achieve some fantastic results with 14 students achieving Bronze medals, 13 students achieving Silver medals and 9 students achieving Gold medals. A superb result! Whilst all these results were achieved in this National competition, 8 of the students achieving Gold also progress to the next rounds of the competition called the Maths Kangaroo and the student who came top (Abeena R) achieved so well that she has qualified for the Maths Olympiad, a fantastic personal achievement. The Department would like to thank all the students who participated and wish good luck to the students who are competing in the next round.

For any student who want to sharpen their skills for next year's competition then you can find previous papers and questions at <https://www.ukmt.org.uk/competitions/solo/junior-mathematical-challenge/archive> and if you would like to take a weekly look at some thought-provoking mathematical problems then please visit <https://parallel.org.uk/introduction> and ask your teacher for their code.

Mr Tomkins



Just to give everyone an idea of the type of questions that these students faced, here are a select few. Remember that calculators are not allowed. Each question has a multiple-choice answer so it is possible to guess, but we would much prefer students to be challenged to think.

I quite like this question from the start of the Challenge, although with the increase of contact-less payments I wonder if students are getting less experience of coins! I wonder what the tooth fairy will do?

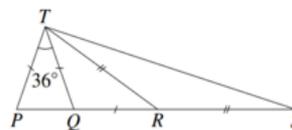
Brianna has £20, all in 5p coins, and £50, all in 2p coins.  
How many coins does she have in total?

- A 200      B 290      C 1000      D 2540      E 2900

Another topic that appears is angles. Can you recall the notation in the diagram to help solve this? (It's a topic that gets taught in normal maths lessons.)

In the diagram shown,  $PT = QT = QR$ .  
Also,  $RT = RS$  and  $\angle PTQ = 36^\circ$ .  
What is  $\angle PTS$ ?

- A  $72^\circ$       B  $80^\circ$       C  $90^\circ$       D  $100^\circ$   
E  $108^\circ$



And some questions that require a lot of logic, some careful thinking, and reading the question a few times to extract every clue and piece of information.

Some fish, some dogs and some children are swimming in a bay. There are 40 legs in total, twice as many heads as tails and more dogs than fish.  
How many fish are in the bay?

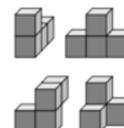
- A 1      B 2      C 3      D 4      E 5

Whilst there are obviously lots of questions that require pupils to be confident with numbers there are some that require an excellent sense of spatial awareness. Here's a question type that Mr Tomkins struggles with, can you solve it?

Each of the shapes shown has been made from four unit cubes. For each shape, Max takes eight copies of the shape and tries to fit them together to make a  $2 \times 4 \times 4$  cuboid.

How many of the shapes can be used to make a cuboid of this size in this way?

- A 0      B 1      C 2      D 3      E 4



If you have enjoyed thinking about these questions then do have a look at the online papers with lots more questions at <https://www.ukmt.org.uk/>

## HERBIE'S NEWS

It is nice to see you all here back at Rainham Mark in the mornings as I go for my walk and I would love it if you wanted to stop and stroke me as I go about my early morning duties.

It was my birthday on 4 May and I am now two so I have probably reached my full height as a working Cocker Spaniel (and I am supposed to be calming down!).

During lockdown I enrolled on a UK Bronze Sniffing course and I am progressing very well with my first onsite location sniffing at Queenborough train station just last week. In the future you may see me outside of the school around Kent as I progress through my training.

I will also be resuming my Silver level obedience training in the middle of May as soon as the Covid restrictions are lifted. I hope I don't get a "C1" for not doing my homework.....



### KEY DATES FOR 2020-2021

Term 6	<b>Start:</b> <b>Last day of term:</b>	Monday 7 June 2021 (Week 0) Wednesday 21 July 2021
<b>Parents' Evenings</b> All parent consultation sessions will be conducted via video calls through Edulink. The video system controls the appointments and will cut off after an allocated time so please do make use of the "Notes" section when you book if there is anything specific you wish to discuss. Parents/carers can make appointments from 2 weeks before the event up to 8pm the night before.  If you cannot see the Parents' Evening circle on your home screen, click 'More' and it will appear. Contact <a href="mailto:moodle@rmgs.org.uk">moodle@rmgs.org.uk</a> for Edulink queries	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>14 and 15 July 2021*</b>  <b>*Please note change of dates.</b>
Assessments	Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Year 12 PEQ	7 June to 11 June 2021 7 June to 15 June 2021