



# SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Oakleaze, Gloucester

From the Headmaster

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## Mental Health Champions

I am pleased to announce that this week we received official confirmation that Sir Thomas Rich's has received the 'Mental Health Champion' Award. [Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning](#) (GHLL) makes the award to those schools and colleges in the county recognised as providing an exceptional level of pastoral care and mental health support to students. My thanks to Mrs García Toja for overseeing the process, and the award really is a testament to the dedication of the entire staff body.

## Investors in Careers

My thanks also go to Mrs Manning for the hard work she has put into securing the Investors in Careers Award once again for the School. This Quality in Careers Standard award is a kite mark for quality in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and is recognised nationally. It is awarded to schools who have demonstrated a commitment to provide impartial, independent CEIAG to young people, to improve students' awareness of opportunities, to raise their aspirations and to work with them to ensure they achieve their full potential.

## Summer Concert

Mrs Jones and the Music Department staged a wonderful concert last night, ably supported by the PTFA who were running the ever-popular bar. It was lovely to meet so many parents at the event and to listen to some fantastic pieces. Well done to all those students, and friends of the school of course, who took part in the performances.

## September

A reminder that term starts for pupils on Wednesday 6 September, with Year 7 and 12 only in that day and all pupils in from Thursday 7 September. You should have received an email from your child's Head of Year with other details including form tutor allocation.

## Staff Leavers

In my final email of the academic year, I wish to thank all the staff who have worked extremely hard this year. In particular, I would like to thank those members of staff who are leaving us:

I would like to thank Mr Sowerby who has been poorly for some months but added a real sense of creativity to the drama department in his time here, Mrs Workman for being an excellent English teacher and fierce supporter of English. Thanks too to Mrs Churchill for taking a lead on Key Stage 5 Mathematics, Mrs Bloxham for her excellent work as a science technician, Mrs Robinson for being Head of Year and Geography and Business teacher and Mrs Hansen for her work as Head of History and Assistant SENDco.

And finally, I would like to thank Mr Gregory who retires after just short of three decades at the school – I think he is the longest serving member of staff. Over the years, he has led the languages faculty and French department, supporting former pupils to go on to the most prestigious courses at the most sought-after institutions. He has led trips abroad and contributed so much to the education of young people in this school. We wish him well in retirement.

## Finally

I wish the entire School Community a relaxing summer break. I know that many of us – teachers, parents, and students alike – will be working at least some of the time over the next six weeks, but I do hope you have the opportunity to rest and relax. While I hope that students will make the effort to step away from their screens and take time to reconnect with family and friends or to explore some of the titles on the Key Stage reading lists (<https://strschool.co.uk/academic/english>), there is a great deal to be said for the value of daydreaming, of pondering, and of having the space to allow one's mind to wander.

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time." John Lubbock, 1st Baron Avebury (writer and statesman, 1834-1913).



Matthew Morgan  
HEADMASTER

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