



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Oakleaze, Gloucester

From the Headmaster

Under 14 EDF Cup Final Win

Congratulations to the Under 14 Rugby players who won the EDF Energy Gloucestershire County Cup at Kingsholm Stadium on Wednesday night. They defeated Cleve School 34-7 with tries from Toby, Joey, Dawid, Sabthan and Will, and three conversions and a penalty from outside half George. It is the ninth time in the last fifteen years that a Sir Thomas Rich's team has lifted the trophy, which is a tremendous achievement. On the night, the boys played with energy and determination and were a real credit to the School. I have no doubt that the hard work they have put in all season, at training, at strength and conditioning sessions and in every fixture, whether mid-week or on a Saturday, has contributed to their tremendous final performance.

Elite Gymnast

A huge well done to Mia in Year 12, who competed in an elite field, the Women's Artistic Gymnastics English Championships last weekend. Mia was competing alongside those trying to qualify for the summer Olympics, so it was an extremely tough competition, and Mia achieved a personal best as a senior gymnast on bars, beam, floor and vault. In order to qualify for the English Championships, Mia captained her team at the Adrian Stan British Teams Championships at the end of last year, and was also chosen to be team captain for the prestigious Rushmoor Rosebowl international last October. Before Christmas, Mia was part of the six-strong Southwest team competing at the Classic Challenge national competition, where the team placed first and took the 2023 title. We are all proud of you, Mia.

Year 9 Kickboxing Success

Year 9 pupil, Jago competed at the British National Kickboxing Championships recently in Nottingham, and secured a silver medal in light contact and two bronze medals in points fighting and kick light disciplines. Placing in the top two in the country in light contact has resulted in Jago being offered a place in the Great Britain Youth Kickboxing Squad for 2024. An incredible achievement, well done Jago.

Founder's Fortnight 4-15 March

Every year, we fundraise for our link school, PPM Girls' School in Uganda, in recognition of the house and £6000 Sir Thomas Rich left in his will in 1666 to establish the School and support 20 poor boys from Gloucester. This week, the school has witnessed tangible enthusiasm and excitement associated with the varied fundraising activities. The yearly fee for a pupil to attend PPM Girls' School is £200, with the average family annual income in Uganda being under £1000, so I am enormously grateful to pupils (and parents) for their generosity. There are plenty of activities happening around School next week. The fundraising ends with a free dress day on 15 March; £2 donation to take part.

World Book Day

Well done to all those students and staff who dressed up for World Book Day yesterday. Do take a look at our School Instagram and Facebook channels for some photos, along with some of the Book Day Bakes. All the money raised goes to the Founder's Fortnight fund.

Book of the Month

The March Book of the Month is The Presidents by Ian Dale, which is recommended by Mr Dempsey. It features essays written by academics, historians, political journalists and serving politicians on all 46 American Presidents who have held the office over the last 230 years – from George Washington to Joe Biden.

[Book of the Month March 2024 \(YouTube\)](#)

Finally

You will have seen the email to all parents from our Chair of the Trustees, Tom Grogan, earlier this week announcing the appointment of Mr Matthew Lynch as my successor in September. I am delighted that Mr Lynch has accepted the Trustees' offer, and I am confident that the School will flourish under his leadership. I know that he will work incredibly hard to get the very best from our staff and students as well as looking after them. He is a man of great intelligence, integrity and with many hidden talents. I look forward to working closely with him until my departure in August.

SIR THOMAS RICH'S *the weekend*

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