



From the Headmaster

Apologies that this update is a little late – my only excuse is that there is a lot going on!

Road Safety

Many parents will be aware that a pupil who was cycling hit a van on the way home recently. We are indebted to local residents who were fantastic in offering their help and support. Fortunately, the pupil escaped with a few broken bones, however, he is still recovering and will remain off school for some time. Of course, the situation could have been a great deal worse. I would be grateful if parents whose children cycle could remind them to be as careful as possible and to insist that they always wear a helmet. If your child walks for any part of their journey, please remind them to cross all roads carefully, and not use a mobile telephone while doing so. If you drop off or pick up your child from school, please park safely and sensibly and be mindful of our neighbours' driveways, cyclists and pedestrians.

More Sixth Form Parking Available

Sixth Form students are now permitted to park at the nearby Old Richians' RFC, Sandyleaze, Longlevens GL2 0PX. If your child wishes to use this facility, they will need to collect a permit from our Sixth Form Administrator, Mrs Webb, whose office is next to Mr Williams' office in the Sixth Form Centre. This should be displayed in their car, and there will be times when they cannot use the RFC car park, so they must check emails daily as Mrs Webb or Mr Williams will contact them by email when this is the case.

Induction Events and Student leadership

Teamwork was very much on display on Saturday morning and on Thursday during our Year 6 transition days. I am extremely grateful to all the pupils and teachers who gave up their free time to contribute so positively to these events. I received a number of lovely comments, particularly about the welcoming atmosphere in the School. I am pleased that parents who don't know us that well yet are able to identify that supportive and warm relationships are at the heart of all we do; schools never truly succeed unless they genuinely care for the children in their charge. My thanks to the Student Leadership Team who have assisted extremely ably and I would like to mention the Year 10s who have been helping out at local primary school sports' days, which is becoming something of a tradition.

Year 8 Residential

The Year 8s enjoyed fantastic weather for their residential at Buddens Activity Centre in Dorset this week. Pupils in 8S, 8T and 8R attended from Monday to Wednesday, and 8B and 8C from Wednesday to Friday. A wide range of activities included canoeing, stand up paddle board, abseiling and archery. Feedback from the pupils has been overwhelmingly positive! My thanks to Head of Year 8 Mrs Rigby-Smith and all the Year 8 form tutors for their efforts in organising and running a fantastic week.

Sports' Evening 4 July

Our annual Sports' Evening takes place on Thursday 4 July. A reminder that students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are expected to attend, along with competitors of field and track events in Years 7 to 12. The event starts earlier this year at 3.30pm to give plenty of time for people to vote in the General Election. The expectation is that boys in Years 7, 8 and 9 who are not participating in track and field events will be responsible for Form stalls to raise money and help create an enjoyable, festival atmosphere. I am grateful to the PTFA who are running a bar and Barbecue. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Summer Concert 10 July

The Summer Concert takes place on Wednesday 10 July. I do hope you can join us for what promises to be a lovely evening with a lively and eclectic programme of entertainment planned. We start with informal drinks and music in the Quad at 6.30pm, and the main concert starts a little later in the Hall. Tickets are £4/£2 and are available to buy online at:

<https://buytickets.at/sirthomasrichsschool/1304598>

Labelling of Uniform

A quick reminder that all uniform, including shoes, boots and trainers, should be labelled. These are expensive items, and every day there are several pairs left behind in changing rooms. Unlabelled items are placed in the lost-property cupboard and after a month are donated to charity if unclaimed.

INSET on Friday

On Friday, all staff took part in an INSET day. The focus in the morning was on cybersecurity. Schools and many other public organisations have been subject to increasingly sophisticated cyber attacks over the last few years, as I'm sure you're aware. Please be assured that we take our role in handling student data extremely seriously, and our

ITC Team work extremely hard to protect our systems from cyber threats, and are constantly vigilant in doing so.

Finally

Yesterday evening, the Year 13 Prom took place at Cheltenham Racecourse entirely organised by the Upper Sixth with members of staff invited as guests. There was without doubt an overwhelming sense of community and togetherness. Indeed, many students made gracious remarks about the education that they had received at Sir Thomas Rich's – ultimately is our values, our ethos, the way we do things that underpin the education pupils receive at Rich's. Such moments cannot be planned or created. They evolve. The character of our School is shaped by the time we have together.

With best wishes for the remainder of the weekend



Matthew Morgan
HEADMASTER

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