



ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

Principal: Mr John Linehan



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Dear RBA Families,

As we reach the end of another term here at RBA, I am taking a moment to reflect on what a marvellous term it has been.

Having started the term with skiing in the French Alps - and ended it with staff (in inflatable pig costumes) getting wet sponges thrown at them for Comic Relief - it is fair to say that Spring Term of 2026 has been a memorable one! *We raised over £1,200 for Comic Relief so the sponges to the face were well worth it.*

In addition to normal lessons, we have also had bikeability, an inflatable planetarium, a Hindu temple trip, magnificent sporting success for all year groups and abilities, production rehearsals, a drop-down day for all year groups, International Women’s Day, a social media workshop from our MP Alistair Strathern and a couple of unplanned fire drills thanks to faulty sensors - no wonder we are all a bit tired!

Students have been fabulous throughout all of these events; this term they have set new records for both VOICE points gained and for the fewest behaviour points received as well as having such strong attendance that we are in the top 10% nationally of all schools - all of which indicates what fabulous children we have at RBA.

While they are all wonderful, special mention should also go to our year 6 students who have worked tirelessly all year on improving their progress in both English and Maths. It is critical that they both take some time to rest and set aside time to do a little bit of SATs preparation in small chunks over Easter.

Mr Spence has sent a more detailed email about the ‘little-and-often’ approach to SATs preparation we are advocating and has given them another ‘Chilli Challenge’ to motivate and engage them over the break. Participation in that challenge will not only help them maintain the progress they have made this year, it will also give them Maximum Effort points which all convert into entries for our next Chromebook prize draw. Any learning they can complete over Easter is valuable so please do support them to do whichever amount you think they can manage.

Mrs Moreno and the PE Team were exceptionally proud of the progress made by our year 5 netball team this term. In a recent tournament, the girls, captained by their only year 6 in Elfie, were hugely successful in picking up a silver medal in the plate competition at Bedford Girls School. That second place represented the furthest stage we have ever reached with a year 5 team and is all the more impressive as every other team was made up of year 6s! To have only come second by one goal is an incredible achievement and we look forward to what they can achieve in the coming seasons.

In other news of a completely different nature, I am sad to let you know of the retirement of Honey, our school therapy dog at Easter. Mrs Davies, her boss and owner, recognises that she is needing her own space more and more and we do not want to push her beyond the point at which she is able to be such a great help to the students. Over the course of her career at RBA she has helped hundreds of students (and not an insignificant number of staff!) to cope with the challenges of daily school life - we thank her for her service and wish her a future filled with tummy rubs and cosy beds to sleep in.



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Lastly, as we are at the end of another term, you will be able to view their latest academic report. In response to feedback from parents/carers these have been tweaked slightly so that you can see their previous report and compare where they are currently. You can also compare their positive and negative points (as well as their attendance) to an average child in their year group - we hope that you find the changes helpful.

Thank you as ever for your support this term - we are only able to do such great things for our students because of the strong bonds we have between school and home - I hope that you are all able to have a great Easter break.

John Linehan

Principal



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