



Dear RBA Families,

There has certainly been a bit of a shift in the weather this week! While I am still not entirely sure if cancelling our KS2 Sports Day on Thursday was the right call - given how the weather picked up later in the day - I still feel that the risk of thunderstorms was simply too great to risk going ahead.

Thankfully, the KS3 Sports Day was able to go ahead today, and the students absolutely gave it their all. There was a wonderful community spirit on display as they supported their houses, and the overall winners will be officially confirmed very soon.

Fingers crossed that the rescheduled KS2 event can go ahead smoothly on the 18th of June.

In related sporting news, both our KS3 athletics teams had an incredible day on Tuesday, with both the girls' and boys' teams winning their finals. They will now be heading to Nuneaton on the 16th of June for the regional finals; we wish them the absolute best of luck.

Tomorrow, with perhaps less sporting proficiency - but no shortage of enthusiasm - a dedicated team of our Year 5 staff (Miss Bailey, Miss Hurd, Miss Deans, Mrs Curtis, Mrs Woolfe, Mrs Tipper, and Mrs White) will be taking on the Pretty Muddy Challenge, a 5km muddy obstacle course! They are doing this to raise awareness and vital funds for Cancer Research UK. Please support them - if you are able to - by visiting their fundraising page [here](#).

Reflecting back, I realised that I neglected to mention the wonderful French trip that took place just before we broke up. Our staff and students alike had a fantastic time across the Channel. Highlights included visiting a theme park for an immersive language day, stopping by a traditional bakery for a hands-on bread-making workshop, and visiting a chocolatier to learn about the history of chocolate and craft some real Belgian-style treats. It was such a success that we have already had a large number of students sign up for next year's trip!

I also realised I forgot to let you know the reason behind the surprise ice creams and ice lollies that we gave out to all students on the final Friday. This was a special gift from the BEST Trust to celebrate the fact that BEST is turning 10 years old this year. It was a lovely gesture of thanks that was greatly appreciated by the students on a warm afternoon.

Staying with news from the Trust, over Easter, BEST ran a maths competition across all of its schools, and I am delighted to share that we have some winners here at RBA. Huge congratulations to Prim in year 8, who was the overall winner of the competition. Our Director of Maths was incredibly impressed by her entry, which showed she had mastered some quite tricky trigonometry—a topic that is not even on the curriculum until Year 9!



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Principal: Mr John Linehan



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On a much more serious note, following the tragic national news last week of numerous children drowning, I will be delivering assemblies next week focused on drowning prevention and cold water safety. I kindly ask that you reinforce this message at home as well, as we want to do everything we can to keep our young people safe as the weather warms up.

In similarly safeguarding based news, we have received contact from some parents/carers regarding an app called Capcut and the risks associated with this. Can we please advise you to check children's phones and read this [link](#) to ensure you are keeping your children safe from the risks this platform poses in allowing access to inappropriate content.

We are looking forward to our final drop-down day of the academic year next week. Our KS2 students will be learning more about different religions and beliefs, including exploring the Baha'i faith and learning about how Humanists view the world. Meanwhile, our KS3 students will be participating in a dedicated careers day, where they will learn about various professions and begin to consider their own futures and aspirations more deeply.

Good luck to everyone participating in the Shefford Saints tournament this weekend. The club is a massive part of our local community, and it promises to be a great weekend for many of our families. I will be down there myself helping out with the parking tonight and coaching the girls' under-10 team on Sunday afternoon, so do say hello if you see me.

Finally, with international football on the horizon, we will soon be running a school-wide World Cup sweepstake. Each form group will be randomly allocated a team, and there will be a fun booby prize for the form with the worst-performing team, as well as a prize for the form that draws the eventual winner. Come on, England!

I hope you all have a wonderful, relaxing weekend.

John Linehan

Principal



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