



Dear RBA Families,

I am starting this week off with some exciting news as, at the end of last week, our very own Mrs Forte travelled to Istanbul to present at the International Dyscalculia Conference! We are immensely proud to have such a renowned expert on our staff team, and we are delighted that our students benefit so directly from her wisdom and expertise every day.

This week also saw the official launch of our Paired Reading Project, where students with high reading proficiency are paired up with younger pupils who find reading more challenging. Seeing our older students guide and support their younger peers in this community activity is incredibly heart-warming, and it directly aligns with our priority to boost literacy across the school.

In a similar vein - and further to our ongoing drive to cultivate a rich culture of reading at RBA - we are delighted to share these [Recommended Book Reads for October](#). Please encourage your children to have a look and to aim for that 'sweet spot' of 15 minutes of daily reading to keep their reading age progressing in line with their actual age.

Moving on to a slightly more serious note, please could I ask all parents and carers of children who travel by bus to remind them about proper bus safety. This week, a driver missed a pickup because he was distracted by students standing up while the bus was in motion. For their own safety, students must remain seated and wear their seatbelts at all times. In the past, bus companies have regretfully banned students from using services due to similar behaviour, and I would hate for any family to have to source alternative transport if that were to happen again.

Back on more pleasant topics, we are also excited to help promote a fantastic new opportunity with The Studio, who will be launching new performing arts classes right here at RBA straight after half term! In addition, their performing arts students will be singing at our Christmas Fayre, and they will be running workshops with some of our Year 5 and 6 classes in November.

To mark this new partnership, The Studio is offering a dedicated referral scheme where:

- Every RBA family receives a free trial session.
- For every new student who enrolls using our dedicated RBA code, The Studio will donate £10 directly to our Parent School Association (PSA).
- Once 20 students have enrolled using our code, they will make an additional £100 bonus donation to the PSA.

This is an ongoing referral scheme designed to create a sustainable source of fundraising for our school community, so please look out for full details on the attached poster.



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Looking ahead to next week, we are excited to welcome our Year 6 parents and carers into school on Tuesday evening for our SATs Information and Meet the Tutor Evening. We will be sharing free resources and plenty of practical guidance on how you can best support your child through what can be a challenging academic year.

I strongly urge you to attend so we can work in close partnership to help them achieve their very best in their SATs this year.

Additionally, and running concurrently on Tuesday evening, we are hosting our Meet the Tutor appointments for Years 7 and 8 online using School Cloud. In direct response to parent and carer feedback, we have reverted to holding these meetings online via School Cloud, and I fervently hope this move provides a smoother, more convenient experience for you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support - I hope you have a great weekend.

John Linehan

Principal



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