



## **End of Term Letter Trinity 2025**

June 2025

Dear parent or guardian,

Each year seems to pass more quickly than the last and it's hardly believable that we have already reached the end of another term and with it another school year. The term ended on a high with pupils really enjoying the activities of our Fun Day, it's great to see young people and their teachers enjoying themselves after a busy academic year. I'd like to place on record my thanks to our staff for all they have done day-in-day-out to develop our young people and give them a meaningful school experience. I also want to express my thanks to all our parents for their help, support and feedback throughout the year. Finally, thanks are due to our pupils who are magnificent and are the reason we come to work!

I would like to take this opportunity to draw a number of things to your attention. Like last year I have kept this end of term letter shorter than in previous years with the intention of sending another at the start of next term specifically dealing with matters relevant to the start of a new school year.

### **Speech Day**

In a departure from recent tradition, we plan to hold this highlight of the academic year on the afternoon of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September. This is always a special occasion and in keeping with one tradition it will be held in the beautiful St Mark's Parish Church, Armagh. The Chief Guest will be RSA parent and former Ireland and British Lions hooker Rory Best. All members of the school community are welcome to attend Speech Night. We would particularly love to see our leavers return to celebrate their success with before they move on into higher education or training.

### **Staff leavers, new staff, staff appointments**

We are incredibly grateful for the service of all members of staff over the last year. In particular, we convey our best wishes to the following colleagues who are leaving us:

- Mr S Thompson is retiring after 40 years' service
- Mr A Sweeney is leaving to take up a new post in Stonyhurst College, Lancashire
- Mrs J Nicholson has left to take up a new post at another school

We convey our best wishes to Mrs R Morrison who will be away from school for much of next year on maternity leave.

We are always delighted to welcome new colleagues to school, we wish the following a happy and successful time as they start at RSA:

- Mr N Agnew (head of physics)

A number of colleagues have been appointed to new roles and we wish them well.

- Mrs C Gordon will be head of Key Stage 3 mathematics during Mrs Morrison's maternity leave

### Issue of results

Results dates are: **AS and A Level: Thursday 14 August**  
**GCSE: Thursday 21 August**

Pupils awaiting AS and A Level results can access them remotely using the PIN they have been advised of previously.

**A Level results:** Results will be available in the Assembly Hall from 08:30 for pupils who want to call and of course anyone who requires advice or assistance should call and seek it as early in the day as possible. More specific information about the day will be posted as a reminder on social media in mid August.

**AS results:** Results will be distributed in the Assembly Hall from 10:00. Year 13 pupils moving into Year 14 should call at school between 10:00 and 12:00 to confirm subject choices. Pupils who do not need to drop a subject and do not require assistance with an issue do not have to attend school. Pupils who are unable to call but who wish to drop a subject should telephone school with their information.

**GCSE results:** These can be collected at the Assembly Hall from 08:30, staff will be on hand to deal with any issues or queries. At this point pupils may also confirm subject choices.

Please be mindful that results days are very busy in school and results cannot ordinarily be given over the phone.

### Start Dates & Phased Return

To ensure an orderly return and to facilitate some induction sessions at the start of the year there will be a phased return for pupils as detailed below. Full uniform should be worn.

Date	Year Group / Pupils	Time	Activities	Start venue
<b>Monday 25 August</b> Bank holiday	<i>School closed</i>	<i>School closed</i>	<i>School closed</i>	<i>School closed</i>
<b>Tuesday 26 August</b>	Year 11	09:00 - 15:15	orientation/ subject choices / CAT	Assembly Hall

<b>Wednesday 27 August</b>	Year 14	09:00 - 12:30  (Prefects until 15:15)	Induction  Training	Form classes  Assembly Hall
<b>Thursday 28 August</b>	Year 8 (with selected prefects)	09:00 – 15:15	Induction	Assembly Hall
	Year 13	09:00 – 15:15	Induction	TBC
<b>Friday 29 August</b>	All pupils	09:00 – 11:45  11:45 – 15:15	Form admin matters / assemblies  Normal timetable	Form rooms
<b>Monday 01 September</b>	All pupils	08:45 – 15:15	Normal timetable	Form rooms

**All pupils are scheduled to be in school on Friday 29 August.** Notices will be posted at the entrances and on school social media advising pupils of the room they need to go to.

### **Bus Passes and Transport Claims**

Home to school transport assistance must be applied for through the Education Authority (EA) online application process. Please note the school is not involved in this process and has no involvement in the granting of transport assistance. Further information on eligibility for transport assistance and how to apply can be found on the Education Authority website at the following link: [www.eani.org.uk/transport](http://www.eani.org.uk/transport). Assistance with information about bus transport may be obtained from the Concourse Office.

***Please note:*** Ulsterbus will not provide school transport services until Monday 01 September.

### **School uniform**

As you know high standards of appearance, behaviour and attainment are expected of pupils of the Royal School. We are pleased that high standards are the norm however we ask for your particular assistance in ensuring the following in line with the appearance code:

- ***Skirts*** – worn at the knee and not ‘rolled up’ at the waist. Please take time over the summer to make sure that skirts are compliant with school regulations, these have not changed in recent years and therefore we ask for continued cooperation
- ***Hair*** – tidy style, a natural colour with the avoidance of ‘extremes’ in style. Boys’ hair should not be worn lower than collar length. Boys should not have shaved heads or very short cuts e.g. ‘number 1’. There is an expectation that boys will be clean shaven

- **Make up** – this must be discreet – if it can be easily seen its not discreet enough and pupils are liable to be asked to remove it
- **Shoes** – shoes are expensive, and we do not want anyone to have to buy a second pair, they should be plain black leather only, no trainers or canvas shoes and no white soles. Girls shoes must have low heels
- **Piercings** – one stud only may be worn in each ear lobe by girls only. Nose piercings and multiple ear piercings are not permitted
- **Nail varnish** – permitted in subdued/neutral colours only
- **Gel nails etc.** – these are not permitted
- **Hoodies** – only the official school hoodie may be worn under blazers to and from school and only as part of the full uniform and in periods of cold weather. They may not be worn in corridors unless as part of the official PE uniform. We are pleased that each year a number of teams or trips produce tops with the school crest or team name as a memento of pupil involvement. However, please bear in mind that these tops are not part of the school uniform and may not be worn as such
- Pupils must change back into their full uniform after games classes before leaving the school grounds.

Further information about appearance, including information about hairstyles, is contained in the Parents' Handbook which is available on the school website.

### **School Shop**

Items of uniform may be purchased from the school shop. Throughout the summer it will be open each day from 9am to 4:30pm (Closed for lunch 12:30pm to 1pm). The shop will be closed from Monday 14 – Friday 18 July (inclusive).

### **Lunchtime**

- We will operate a service in the Dining Hall from 28 August. There will be a more limited selection to begin with until we establish demand;
- As you would expect vegetarian, gluten free and halal options (where requested) will be available from 28 August;
- The biometric (fingerprint) payment system will be used;
- We regret that it will not be possible to provide food to a pupil who has no credit on their account. It is vital that parents and pupils ensure they have sufficient credit in their account to ensure they can avail of a healthy meal. An automatic top up facility is available on ParentPay which will ensure pupils have credit on their card.

### **And finally....**

Every year I write that it takes a community to make a school successful and that remains true. On behalf of the Governors and all of our Staff I would like to thank you for your support in so many ways throughout the year, to pay tribute to your children whose contribution to school life is highly valued and to wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Montgomery'.

Graham Montgomery

**Headmaster**

