

SOME THOUGHT REQUIRED...

MARCH 2018 ISSUE 3



Welcome to the third issue of the new RGS 6th form newsletter. This month, we receive knowledge of the future from our new horoscopes section, find out some of the regrets of the students and get to explore Madrid with the Spanish students. With Easter coming, it should provide everyone with a welcome rest and time to prepare for exams!
Henry Exley – Editor

THINGS I WISH I HAD KNOWN...

BEFORE APPLYING TO MEDICINE

When preparing my application, I tried to be the model candidate that you hear about on the internet, in books, and on courses. This was useful on my written UCAS application form, but when it came down to meeting staff at interviews it became clear that this is not the type of person they wanted to see. They want to see human people who are genuinely engaged about a career in medicine and all it involves. They are not looking for robots who can recite “how to get into medical school” books off by heart. What they want is someone who is confident at interview and able to discuss who they are, and why that makes them the right fit for the course and a long term career in medicine. It’s better to try your best as you and get rejected than try and be different and get rejected without showing your real self. Grasp every work experience opportunity you get. The more you see, the better equipped you will be when it comes to writing your personal statement and going for your interviews. However, it’s important you don’t get carried away with shadowing, shadowing isn’t regarded nearly as highly as volunteering work. This is because, when volunteering you are actually doing something and demonstrating you possess key qualities. Something I wish I’d known when applying is that you don’t need the highest possible UKCAT score or a flawless

set of GCSEs to be successful. If I understood this properly I would have saved myself a lot of undue pressure. In order to receive an offer, you just need to pass the criteria that a particular university has laid out. Most application processes operate with a threshold mark. So, once you pass the threshold for your GCSEs, universities will not look at them again. No matter how much your marks exceed minimum requirements, you won’t be at more of an advantage than the applicant who’s sitting on the threshold mark I strongly recommend that you keep an eye on the medical world from start to finish – not just before your interviews! From now on, you need to pay the news some attention. The more you read, the more confident you’ll feel when it comes to interviews and the more informed your personal statement will sound. You stumble upon anything to do with Medicine – read it! There’ll be positive articles, sad articles, critical articles – read them all to build your awareness. As well as supplementing your application, the news and other people’s experiences of the career will be a crucial part of helping you decide whether this is indeed the right career path for you.

Helen Elsworth

CALAMITY KATHERINE PREDICTS YOUR CATASTROPHES

Aries (21 st March- 20 th April): The stars are finally aligning for you. The coming months will bring you both love and wealth.	Taurus (21 st April-21 st May): Belief and hope have as much power this month as hard work for those born under this sign.	Gemini (22 nd May- 21 st June): The month may begin with an unexpected failure but do not give up hope as it will end in great triumph.
Cancer (22 nd June-22 nd July): This month you will make an important choice. Made wrongly, this choice will ruin your life.	Leo (23 rd July-22 nd August): Do not rest on your laurels after your recent successes. Only with hard work will you be able to repeat them.	Virgo (23 rd August-23 rd September): Last night you were abducted by aliens. You may not be able to recall the event but it will affect the rest of your life.
Libra (24 th September- 23 rd October): Great wealth will be on the horizon if you make your choices wisely in the coming months.	Scorpio (24 th October- 22 nd November): Beware those who wear black. They come from a place you must never enter yet they will try to lure you there.	Sagittarius (23 rd November- 21 st December): You must stop dreaming of the impossible and concentrate on the realities of life.
Capricorn (22 nd December- 20 th January): You will lose something important to you this month but do not fret;	Aquarius (21 st January- 19 th February): Last month saw you cope with dark times; though this month may appear to be	Pisces (20 th February-20 th March): Don't leave the house. It won't end well.

FOCUS ON.....ECONOMICS SOCIETY

From the outside, C2 may not look like much – just another unremarkable cellar room with a slightly unnerving whiff of damp and an absence of natural light. But if you decide to step inside on a gloomy Tuesday morning between 8:50 and 9:10 AM, you will witness a remarkable sight: the Economics society on full swing. Run by U6th students, with oversight from the erudite Mr Demir, the Society is a fantastic opportunity to debate and develop our knowledge of economics – ostensibly the study of how resources are allocated between competing uses. The unique applicability of economics to current affairs and global trends means that a fixed discussion point is never required, an observation of a news report at 7:00 AM that morning can trigger a fascinating discussion on a topic that nobody had previously considered. U6th students also regularly prepare presentations based on a specific issue or concept that interests them and in recent weeks we have ranged from cryptocurrency to the Norman Conquest to craft beer markets. The diversity of opinions and topics is a stimulating start to a Tuesday morning and it would be great to see more people attending to take part in lively discussions and presentations.

Ben Pimley

SPANISH TRIP TO MADRID

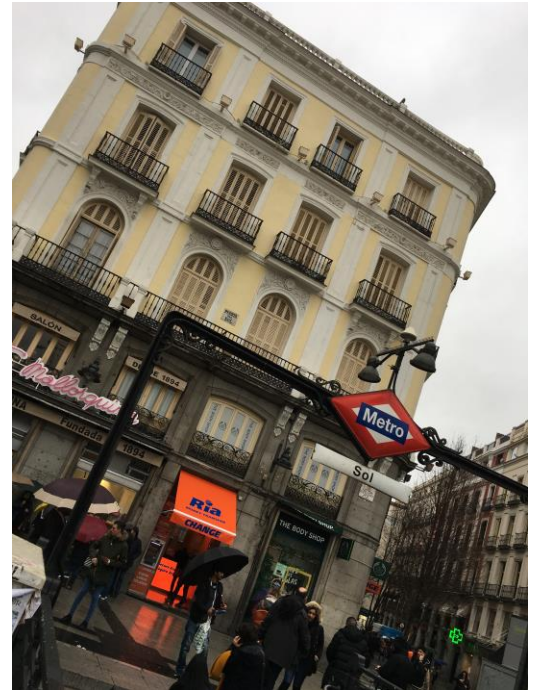
On Friday 2nd March, we set off from cold, snowy Ripon to Liverpool John Lennon Airport to fly to Madrid for the weekend. The group was made up of lower and upper sixth formers, fourth years, Mrs Bennett, Mr Chamberlain and Anna the Ecuadorian exchange student.

When we landed in Spain it wasn't much warmer than England but at least there was no snow! We got on the metro and went to our hotel which was only a short ride from the airport and a short walk from the nearest metro station.

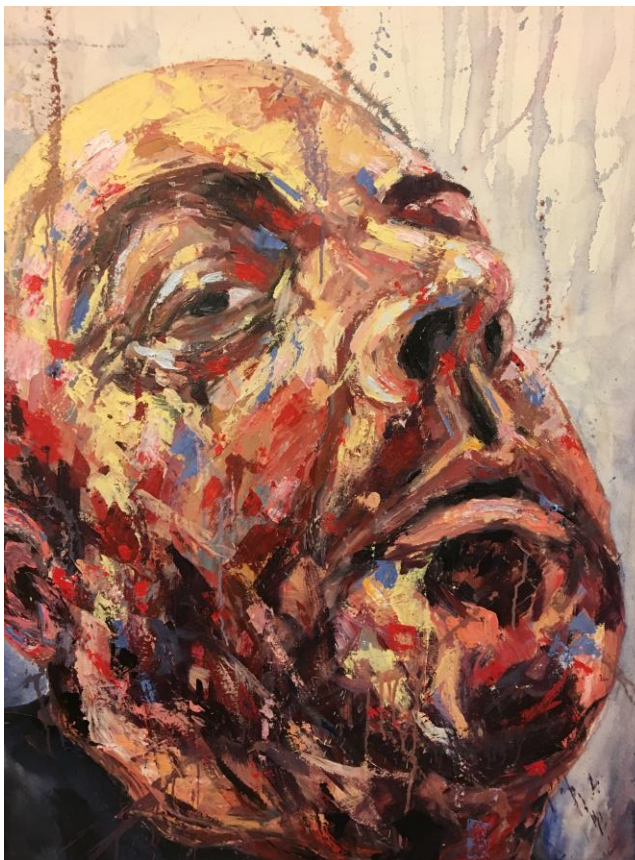
During our stay in Madrid we visited el Palacio Real (the Spanish Buckingham Palace), el Museo Prado and Reina Sofia (some art galleries), la Plaza Mayor and a monastery in el Escorial. All of the places we went to were beautiful and the people there were really nice, even if our Spanish wasn't the best!

It was so nice to see Madrid and it was so different to England, it would be amazing to go and see more of Spain if we got the chance to.

Louise Taylor



Near to the hotel, Madrid



A-Level Artwork, courtesy of Phoebe Stocks

