

## SOME THOUGHT REQUIRED...

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*Welcome to the fifth issue of the RGS 6<sup>th</sup> form newsletter, and my final issue as Editor. This month, we explore the different university open days that have been going on as well as revisit the school mental health week which took place. Mr Clarke will sit in George Vivian's hot seat for interview and the endeavours of the Medsoc are exposed. The summer has finally arrived in strength and hopefully everyone can look forward to a welcome break from our studies.*  
Henry Exley – Editor

## FOCUS ON...MEDSOC

As the name suggests, the Medsoc is a society for aspiring medics and nurses; we meet each week during Tuesday form time. Some weeks we listen to a presentation on a variety of subjects (it could be about a current topic within the healthcare profession) or discuss an ethical dilemma that has been in the news recently, for example the Charlie Gard case. When the opinions of the healthcare professionals and Charlie's parents clashed, the case went to court a number of times as to whether an experimental treatment was in Charlie's best interests. This type of discussion is beneficial to us as it is something that we debate and evaluate, hearing differing opinions, but it is also a topic which could come up in a university interview in the future.

There are also mock mini medical interviews (a common style of interview for many medical schools) that happen each year for members of Medoc and other aspiring medics. This helps us to get an idea on the type of interview stations that could come up that could come up in an MMI. It also aids us by preparing us as best as we can in order to become the best medical candidates for a highly competitive course.

Following on from what the outgoing upper sixth did for the society, we want to take it even further to help prepare both the upper sixth members of the society and any new lower sixth members for what applying to medicine is like. We feel that specific information on universities and preparing for AS levels and the UKCAT and the BMAT (both are medical aptitude tests) as well as just having someone who has already gone through this situation is invaluable to prospective medics. I know this really helped me at the beginning of the year when it all seemed very daunting!

*Louise Taylor*



**BMAT**  
Bio Medical  
Admissions Test

## OF MR CLARKE

**Please could you tell me a fun fact about yourself?**

A: I've been to all of the grounds in the premiership and football league (a member of the 92 club)

**What is a pet hate of yours?**

A: Noisy neighbours and people who ask if I believe in God!

**Are there any common misconceptions about your subject that you'd like to set the record straight on?**

A: We're not an extension of the Christian Union. R.E doesn't exist to promote any particular religion. Its purpose is to study religion and to ask (but not necessarily answer) the big questions of life.

**What is your best or worst joke?**

A: Can't help you with this as I've never really understood the concept of humour!

**What's your view on the potato famine?**

A: One of the best or worst examples of the evils of English colonialism – it's the overlooked holocaust.

*George Vivian*

## DREAMLAB

Many of you may have seen the #sleeplikeahero signs around school that have appeared seemingly out of nowhere with little (no) explanation. Well good news for the curious ones amongst you as this article hopes to elaborate on this newfound phenomenon.

Dreamlab is an app that was developed by Imperial College London in association with the Vodafone Foundation charity with the simple task of accelerating the rate at which essential cancer research is conducted. The thought process behind the app was that nowadays smartphones are just that, unbelievably smart and have immense technological capability and power for such small devices. Many cancer research projects rely on hundreds of millions of calculations that must be simulated in order to determine results and super computers would simply take too long to process all of these in one go. As a result, Imperial College London and Vodafone worked together to create an app that allowed the processing ability of your own smartphones to be accessed to help with these calculations. In short, the app is an appeal to the wider public to do their bit in the fight against cancer; you can do at no additional expense and whilst you sleep - the app can only run when plugged into a charger and gives each user the option of only allowing the app to function when connected to Wi-Fi, or alternatively how much data consumption you are happy to give. So, the question is why haven't you started downloading it yet?

The app is completely safe, and no personal data can be accessed so you need not worry about security issues. There are two separate projects available and you can choose which one you would like to personally contribute to. More information about each project and 'how to' steps are available in the app. We hope that this article answers some questions but if you have any more feel free to google the project and carry on spreading awareness as the more people that get involved the faster the projects can be completed, it really is as simple as that. #sleeplikeahero

**Tom Mewes**



## UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

The University of Birmingham is in the top 100 universities in the world and was one of the original members of the Russell Group universities. Birmingham medical school is located off the main campus which allows sole focus to be on the medical students. For the medicine course many different styles of teaching are used so all students have a chance to learn in their own way. On the open day I thoroughly enjoyed myself and found that Birmingham had everything I was looking for in a university, I felt comfortable on campus and in halls and could definitely see myself there in the future.

*Lucy Moore*



## UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

A degree in veterinary medicine requires at least 5 years study at university, consequently, selecting the right university for oneself is extremely important. Applying to do the course is one thing but choosing where to go is a completely different ballpark. All the UK vet schools are extremely varied, with campus, collegiate, city-based and country-based universities all on offer, there is plenty to choose from (which sounds rather odd given that there are only 8 vet schools). My recent visit to Edinburgh university gave me a great taste of the sort of vet school I am interested in. With the accommodation being city-based, but the vet school being country-based, it allows for great learning opportunities academically whilst simultaneously



## UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE

The University of Central Lancashire is located in Preston in the North West of England. It is a city university so all buildings are located around the small city but all easily accessible. The medical building, student union, library and sports centre all looked to be state of the art and had extremely modern technology, which interested me greatly. The MBBS is taught in an innovative and clever way using brand new anatomage tables (virtual bodies for dissection) and focusing on small group study as their main type of teaching. This course seemed very suited to me I am extremely interested in finding out even more about the course.

*Lucy Moore*

allowing for a great night out when the workload gets a bit too high.... The state of the art facilities were extremely impressive and the city of Edinburgh has always been a favourite of mine, resulting in the vet school ranking highly in my judgement. However, with still many open days to go, the possibilities are endless (well not quite), and the greatest challenge of gaining an offer is still yet to come.

*Joseph Horner*

