



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

*Helping shape the future since 1555*



20 December 2018

Dear Parents

Despite the political turmoil which seems to have gripped the Palace of Westminster in the last few weeks, I do hope that the Christmas break proves just that – a break from the pace of life and a time for family and friends. This has been a long term and no doubt our students and staff are looking forward to a well-earned rest.

On Tuesday evening, Ripon Cathedral kindly hosted our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Once again, the standard of singing by all the school's choirs, wonderfully supported by the brass ensemble, was outstanding. Thank you also to the students and staff who read the lessons so well. Last week we also had the Christmas Concert in school that proved another memorable evening of music and readings. Both have proved a fitting end to what has been a busy term.

Hopefully you will be receiving your copy of RGS News today that will keep you abreast of all the co-curricular activities that have happened this term. You will find in this edition an update on our many sporting successes, our full trip programme and student reflections on our Act of Remembrance. You may also have noticed that the school has increased its output of news stories since the arrival of Mrs Savage this term. Please do follow us via the website <https://www.ripongrammar.co.uk/news/> or by following our very active twitter feed <https://twitter.com/RiponGrammarSch>.

This term we welcomed our new Library Assistant, Miss Weronika Szczerbinska to RGS. However, sadly we also have to say our goodbyes. Mr Michael Smith, who has provided such excellent cover in the Geography department this year, leaves us this term. We also say goodbye to Mrs Jusane Sanderson as Senior House Parent in Johnson House, though her association with the school will continue with some duties in School House next term. Mrs Sanderson must be thanked for the dedication she has shown in ensuring Johnson House is a safe, secure and happy house. We will be welcoming Miss Jennifer Paulley, who joins us from Rugby School, in January as the new Senior House Parent in Johnson House. In addition, Mrs Elizabeth Gibson will also take a permanent post in Johnson House as a house parent. Mr Jake Steeper also joins us in January and will be covering Mrs Morpeth in the Music department as she goes on maternity leave.

Headmaster: Mr. Jonathan M. Webb, MA (Cantab).

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Next term may I wish our examination years the best of luck for their forthcoming mocks and indeed for our Upper Sixth who will be receiving confirmation on their university offers which, for many, will come as a result of tests and interviews. On a sporting front we wish the 1<sup>st</sup> hockey team the best of luck in the Indoor National Finals after Christmas.

Finally, I would like to extend some thanks. First to all the staff, both teaching and non-teaching, who have made this term such a successful one through their dedication and hard work. Second, I would also like to thank the support of all our parents, and in particular the Friends, who have worked hard to raise much-needed funds for the school. For example, it has been so nice to see our students' artwork professionally framed and presented which has been made possible by the Friends' generous support. We remain committed to developing the school's public spaces as a celebration of the creative output of our students.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

**Jonathan M Webb**  
Headmaster

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