

Overmark

An Unofficial Newsletter Produced By Pupils For Pupils.

Issue 2, Volume 1, January 2004, Page 1 of 4.

Well hello again; and thank you for taking the time to read this paper; I don't want to spend too long going over old ground, but just to remind you... We are Overmark; we aim to be the true voice of pupils at RMGS by telling them what they really want to know; unbiased by school restrictions we aim to give you the side of the truth you don't hear from any other school propaganda.

In this, our second issue, we will continue our analysis of uniform at RMGS; last month we asked you what you think the Red Card system has done to uniform at the school, and the results were not surprising. We also want to begin to investigate other issues which are important to you, for example we aim to find out what you think about teachers!

We do now have a working website; unfortunately due to events out of our control there was a delay in getting the site online; and when it went online there was problems. Regrettably we also couldn't provide you with the survey we described in the paper; again this was due to technical reasons. All that said and done the site is expanding and despite yet more technical problems over the Christmas holidays it's improving all the time. Check it out at www.overmark.vze.com.

I would also like to reassure you that this paper will go on, and so will the website. We have faced opposition from the school, they've been making life quite hard for us; but they will not stop us. It seems they had a meeting to discuss the paper some time before Christmas; however our sources have not been able to find the outcome of this meeting yet!

Our next issue is due out the 10th of February, see you then!



Also In This Issue

- **CHARITY WEEK:** See our review of the week's festivities!
- **TEACHERS:** We want to know who you like and who you don't!
- **UNIFORM:** What do you think of the Uniform here at RMGS?

So what did you think?

We asked you what you thought about the controversial Red Card system; unfortunately due to continual technical problems we weren't able to give you the 'proper' survey we described in the December issue. We did however allow you to vote on whether you think the Red Card system has made the quality of uniform at RMGS better, worse or the same.

The votes were overwhelmingly in favour of 'the same' which means that; as a whole, you think that the red card system hasn't improved uniform at RMGS. This is the result that we at Overmark predicted; and it allows us to conclude that as we predicted in the 1st issue, the Red Card system doesn't work and isn't fair. We therefore ask why does it continue? You e-mails support our theories about teachers misusing the system and about many teachers not using their cards at all!

The exact results; as of <DATE> are:

<QUICK INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS>

We are going to leave the survey on-line until the next issue in February so we can continue to judge your opinion of uniform at school.

Anon's Words Of Wisdom

With final coursework deadlines appearing on the horizon I want to share with you a few words of wisdom I found regarding writing essays. I hope they help...

- Always avoid alliteration.
- One should never generalise.
- Be more or less specific
- Who needs rhetorical questions?
- Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement
- Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
- Eschew ampersands & abbreviations etc.
- Avoid clichés like the plague.
- Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
- Even if a mixed metaphor sings; it should be derailed.
- One word sentences? Eliminate.

Investigating UNIFORM

FOR

- Reasons FOR bulleted

AGAINST

Reasons AGAINST bulleted

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Throughout the entirety of the first five years at RMGS students are forced to suffer the dire school uniform. There is no choice in the matter. Why must the governors insist we wear the hideous uniform? It wouldn't be quite so bad if the uniform was more attractive (you might even go so far as to say stylish!), but no, they are of a dull, black colour and are unbelievably uncomfortable. They say the uniform prepares us for later life, but the going trend in many places of work is to have informal, jeans-and-t-shirt dress codes.

As if wearing the uniform wasn't ridiculous enough there are uniform inspections to ensure we all look like complete clones. Its just stupid, no pupil (well, with very few exceptions) wears their top button done up all day, at most they will just cover it (often using the 'cough' technique) when they see one of the few teachers who bother with uniform.

In my opinion we should abolish school uniform altogether, but this is a highly unlikely outcome, maybe for one day the whole school should just arrive wearing whatever they like. We should not be pushed around any more, we must rebel and stand up for our rights.

Favourite and hated teacher search!

News in brief section; including

(YELLOW BUSES)- may be longer story?

OFSTED FOLLOW UP

FLOODING IN MUSIC

MR MADCHEN GONE—whoes replacement

STATISTICS SURVEYS

In The Next Issue; Due Out February 12th

- **MOBILE PHONES**
- **MORE SURVEY RESULTS**
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