



RUSSELL BAKER

■ Lauren and Florence

Russell Baker did not disappoint this year, continuing its streak of excellent achievements! Congratulations to all girls who took part in House activities, with special thanks to Ugo Elumelu and Ellie Crichton for their outstanding leadership as House Captains for 2025.

We began with auditions for our annual House Drama performance, led by Summer Lear and Aneira Norris. Three required elements shaped the play: a Shakespearean quote, a global landmark, and the History Trivial Pursuit category, much to Mrs Cook's delight! RB delivered an exceptional performance, with Isabella winning an individual award. House Public Speaking then took place during the Christmas term, where all competitors shone, especially Sophia who won Best Speaker. Alongside Drama and Public Speaking, the girls competed in House Netball and Lacrosse. Under the leadership of Sports Prefect Seram, RB placed 5th in Senior Netball and a fantastic 1st place in Middle School. As always, the House turned out in force to cheer every Wednesday and Friday, rain or shine. St Catherine's Day remains particularly special, beginning with a Chapel service in Bramley and a visit by our Captains

to Mrs Russell Baker's grave. House Lacrosse continued to be a favourite: U5 and U6 placed 4th, U4 and L5 came 3rd, and our U3 and L4 team won their tournament. Congratulations to everyone involved!

The Spring Term began with preparations for House Gym and House Singing. House Gym is always great fun, with each year group learning dance and gymnastics routines. As the U6 were busy with mocks, the L6 stepped up to choreograph and teach the younger years. They loved bonding with the students during rehearsals. With Mrs Phillips leaving, this year's theme celebrated St Catherine's and our Headmistress, using a collection of her favourite songs. RB placed 4th overall, and all groups performed brilliantly. At the same time, we prepared for House Singing with two fantastic songs: *I'm Still Standing* and *Story of My Life*. Our talented music prefects, Onyinye, Nneka, and Sophie, taught the pieces with enthusiasm. RB performed wonderfully on the day, coming 2nd overall, with multiple commendations from the judge, including praise for Onyinye's superb conducting. Spring Term also saw the return of 'Spyring', raising an amazing £950 for the Better Lives charity. Thank you to everyone

who contributed.

The Summer Term began with a clean sweep in House Rounders, with all teams winning their competitions, an excellent result following the sport's reintroduction. Many girls were new to the game, and we look forward to next year's progress! Tennis provided another chance for RB spirit to shine. As the term closed, we took part in Dr Brindley's final House Quiz, finishing 2nd overall, a fun and fitting way to end the year. The final week brought Sports Day and House Swimming, where the whole House came together. A favourite moment was the Golden Mile and the final 100-metre sprint, cheered on by our mascot Wolsey! RB achieved 1st overall, winning the House Athletics Trophy with 290 points. Raya (L4) broke the school javelin record with 27.84m, and Keira (U4) broke the Triple Jump record with 10.23m. In swimming we placed 3rd overall, with our U4/L5 team winning their category. A huge thank you to Grace for keeping House sport running smoothly.

Well done to Russell Baker House for an exceptional year. We can't wait for the next one!

1. Sports Day - July 2025
2. House Drama
3. House Singing
4. House Gym

