

29th April 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Since I last wrote to you, our second year students have completed their final classes, marking the end of an incredible two-year journey. They celebrated this milestone with a series of high-spirited activities — from “*Motto Woche*” (traditional themed dress-up days) to (fairly) good-natured pranks on their first year peers. To honour their achievements, we hosted a Leavers' Dinner at a local restaurant, where many danced late into the evening to the sounds of our Chemistry teacher (and DJ) Bongi, along with student DJ Anouar.

During Spring Break, many students chose to stay on campus to focus on their work. For those on campus, our social pedagogues organized a number of activities including sightseeing day trips in the local area, bike rides, swimming, and more.

One additional highlight of the break was the visit of Shelby and Gale Davis together with Jake Mnookin, Director of Partnerships and Innovation for the Davis UWC Scholars Program on April 21st - a day full of meaningful events honouring the generosity and vision of Shelby and Gale - from conversations with students, a tour of the campus, meeting the Investment Club CAS, participating in a Student-Led Q&A Session to joining an Alumni Impact Session whereby RBC and UWC alumni shared inspiring stories of how the Davis philanthropy has shaped their lives. The visit concluded with an RBC Café: A cherished tradition featuring student performances, music, and storytelling. The latter left Shelby visibly emotional — a powerful close to a very special day.

Throughout their visit, what stood out most was the spirit of our students, staff, and alumni — their warmth, openness, and authenticity conveyed the profound impact of the Davis' support. It was a living testament to the power of education to transform lives and build bridges — something Shelby and Gale remarked on repeatedly. For me personally, it was one of those unforgettable UWC days — full of heart, meaning, and joy — that stays with you long after it ends.

Now that the break is over, today marks the first day of IB exams at RBC. We wish all those taking IB exams the very best of luck! Meanwhile, first year students have entered Block Week (an opportunity for longer class tests or dedicated time for lab practicals, language orals, etc). Next week's Extended Essay (EE) week will be dedicated to the completion of their EE drafts.

In our tenth year as a United World College, it is especially meaningful for me to say farewell to the 10th generation of RBC students — my first cohort as Rektor — on Friday, May 23rd. As a reminder, due to limited seating, each second year is allowed a maximum of two guest tickets. Those tickets will be given out to them by their House Tutors after

the packing and cleaning on Thursday 22nd, to prevent (as has happened before), tickets being lost or thrown away in the rubbish.

If you can join us in celebrating their efforts and milestone, the programme for the day is as follows:

Programme for the Day:

Time	Event	Location
09:30–10:30	Coffee and “Bretzeln” for Guests	Mensa Courtyard
10:30–13:00	Closing Ceremony	Ehrenhof
13:00–15:00	Lunch Buffet	Mensa Courtyard
16:00	Guests leave ahead of RBC Community Time	

For those unable to join us in person, the Closing Ceremony will be livestreamed at: live.uwcrobertboschcollege.de

Following the celebrations, we will, with heavy hearts, say goodbye to our second years by 12:00 the next day. While it may feel sudden, we have found that parting sooner rather than later helps ease the transition for those who remain, giving the first years the space to begin shaping the next chapter of their RBC journey. It’s never easy to say goodbye, but we do so with deep gratitude for the time we have shared, and pride in all that lies ahead for our graduates.

In the meantime, we are committed to making the most of the time we have left together, cherishing the connections we’ve built, the memories we’ve created, and the spirit that makes our RBC community so unique.

Best,

Helen White

Rektor