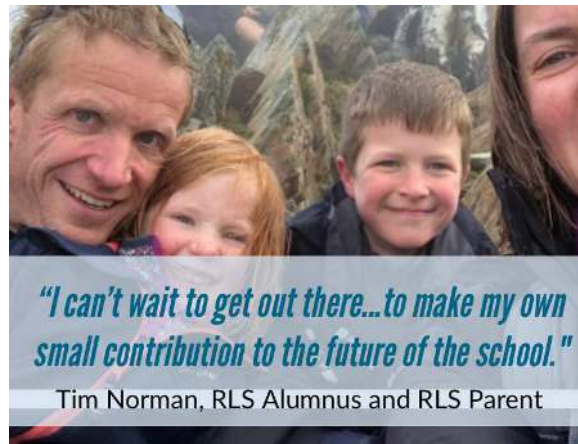


Tim Norman - RLS Alumnus and new RLS Parent



Why am I doing this?

I attended RLS from 1987 to 1993 and have some very fond memories of my time at the school. In particular I remember joining the trip organised by Mr Collis to Ennerdale in 1992. It was my first experience of the Lake District and I remember some beautiful, although rather wet and windy, walks through the hills, and the great evenings preparing and devouring dinners of sausage and Smash.

Like many people, I left the Latin and headed off to university and then to London for my first job, gradually losing my connection to the school. Fast forward a few years and I was living and raising a young family in Sydney, Australia and RLS was a distant memory. While I did come back to Buckingham occasionally to see family, my only other connection to the school was bumping into a few alumni who had also found themselves on the other side of the world.

However in late 2015, we moved back to the UK and settled in Buckingham after 22 years away. I attended a couple of alumni events, bumped into a few old classmates around town and started to follow the achievements and activities of the 600 campaign.

Then, last year, my son started at the Latin. Touring the school before he started I was amazed by how much it had changed since my day, although couldn't help but notice aspects that were exactly as I remembered them. The most impressive new addition was of course the Discovery Centre, and having seen how valuable it was for the students to have this amazing space, it inspired me to see how I could help with the fundraising for the Sports campus. So, when I saw in Latin Life magazine that the 600 campaign were considering a sponsored adventure, I reached out to Jo Ballantine to see how I could get involved. At that stage there were some preliminary plans for an multi-day international trek, and I was quick to sign up. Unfortunately those plans had to be put on hold and have now been replaced with the more modest but still hugely challenging Yorkshire Three Peaks.

Personally I can't wait to get out there, hopefully with a large group of other parents, students and alumni, and make my own small contribution to the future of the school.