



## St Rose's Newsletter



### Features:

News from Sheila  
Talwar, Principal

Congratulations!

12 Hour

Danceathon

Infinis Donation

Relaxed

Performances

RE News

Swifts Sports Gala

Nursery News

School News

St Martin's News

What's On 2018

Christmas is fast approaching and there is still so much to do! We are looking forward to our Christmas performance this afternoon when we will all come together to celebrate the meaning of Christmas. Then there is Party Day, Carol Singing and Christmas Jumper Day which all need to be fitted in by the end of the week – never a dull moment!!

We have received Bishop Declan's document, 'A Future Full of Hope' which we will share with you and what it means for us, here at St Rose's.

As we look back over the last term there have been many events to celebrate – we were delighted with our Ofsted Education and Care reports. The Ofsted inspectors recognised the hard work that goes into making St Rose's such a special place. They were impressed with the holistic approach and the relationships that staff and students have which enable our young people to achieve to the best of their ability.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their continued hard work and their commitment to ensuring that our school and college community continues to thrive. We held a successful open day in November and there has been significant interest in placements for the coming year.

The students and staff held a 12 hour sponsored Danceathon and have raised over £1,000 which will go towards a wheelchair bike. I would like to thank Ruth Poole for her continued amazing fundraising efforts – Ruth took part in a sponsored bike in India and she has raised over £3,000 towards the wheelchair bike.

This term we welcomed 2 students to St Rose's and 2 students to St Martin's. We were also joined by Emma, Stephanie and Katrina who have joined the teaching assistant team and Mike who has joined the care team as a registered manager. We hope they will be very happy at St Rose's.

Looking ahead to the new term, we will be completing the National Autistic Society accreditation in January. A great deal of work has gone into this and as a result we have made many improvements to the school and college experience, which all of the students have benefitted from. My thanks go to Katherine (SALT) who has taken the lead on this.

We are aiming to begin the refurbishment of the Living Skills Room and also install overhead tracking in more of the classrooms before the summer. As I said at the beginning, never a dull moment! As ever, on behalf of everyone at St Rose's and St Martin's, I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.



Sheila Talwar, Principal

Dates for your Diary:

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 IN-SERVICE DAY – STAFF ONLY

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 STUDENTS RETURN

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

EASTER MONDAY (Bank Holiday)

EASTER HOLIDAY

IN-SERVICE DAY – STAFF ONLY

STUDENTS RETURN

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Coffee Morning on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. We raised £640.00. Thank you also to everyone who helped on the day.



## Congratulations!

The NASS Rowie Shaw Award was awarded to Elaine our HLTA in recognition of outstanding contribution and significant impact she has given to the lives of young people at St. Rose's.

We would like to offer Elaine our sincere congratulations. A truly well-deserved award and recognition of many years' service at St. Rose's.

## Fundraising & Donations

### 12 Hour Danceathon

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped us with our 12 hour Danceathon. It was a really fun day, all of our staff and students were able to take part. We were also joined by a class from the Shrubberies school.

We have raised almost £700 so far towards our wheelchair bike.







## Infinis Energy raising £2,000

Infinis, a renewable energy company, donated £2,000 to St Roses which was very gratefully received. The money will be put towards our current project to refurbish the HE room, to make it more suitable for life skill education by installing modern equipment with independent controls.



## Relaxed Performances

At this time of year there are many shows who are offering relaxed performances suitable for children and adults with an Autistic Spectrum Condition, those with sensory and communication disorders, those with learning disabilities and anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed environment. Here is a list of what is available ....

	Everyman Theatre	Cheltenham	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 10.30am
	Cliffs Pavilion	Southend	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2.15pm
	Theatre Royal	Nottingham	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 1.30pm & 7.15pm
	Royal Shakespeare Theatre	Stratford Upon Avon	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 1.15pm
	Lyceum Theatre	London	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1.30pm

## RE News

Beginning of Academic Year Mass,  
Core Value – Endurance, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Harvest Mass, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Canon Tom celebrated Mass for the beginning of the new academic year and the theme of the Mass was 'Endurance', the Core Value for the Autumn Term. The students prepared and presented prayers, hymns and symbols which included the St Rose's banner and posters of words of encouragement. These have been on display to help all reflect on how we can grow and endure challenges that we may face at times.



Over the term assemblies continued to develop the concept of Endurance especially when we were visited by Rose Gunning from CAFOD and this introduced ideas for Harvest. As well as supporting CAFOD with the Family Fast envelopes it was decided that Stroud Food Bank would be another worthy cause and we received a record breaking amount of donations of food for them.



Harvest was a wonderful celebration with brilliant performances and presentations of the hard work of the students from both the school and St Martin's. Thank you to everyone for all the donations. Over £180 was raised for CAFOD, also there was a large donation of food that George and Anya from SR4 took to the Food Bank which was very gratefully received.



As Advent begins and the students prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus I hope to see many friends and families of St Rose's at the Christmas Performance on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 2pm in the school hall.

Warmest wishes and God's blessings,



Cheri Baxter Steel  
RE Lead





# Swifts Inclusion Sports Gala

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### At Horfield Leisure Centre, Bath



Leah



Participation medal  
25m F/S-4<sup>th</sup>  
25m BK/S-4<sup>th</sup>  
50m F/S-4<sup>th</sup>



Cerys



Gold 25m F/S + Aids



Cerys also won the Anne Trotman trophy for Endeavour. This was presented by Jean Bankhead (Head of St Martins) in our celebration assembly.



Thomas



25m F/S-Gold  
25m BK/S-Gold



# NURSERY NEWS

## Exploring Autumn

Nursery have had a great term getting to know all the new children and families that have joined us this term, as well as doing lots of exciting things.

The autumn leaves have been of great interest to the children and we have enjoyed being out in the autumn sunshine exploring. The children have also enjoyed sweeping the leaves around the nursery garden.



## Bonfire Night

We celebrated Bonfire night by toasting marshmallows over a fire. We talked about how to stay safe and were very careful when toasting over the fire. We all thought the toasted marshmallows were yummy! We made sparkly pictures and used playdough to create firework pictures too.

## Animal Fun

We have had a few pets visit us this term too! We have met tortoises and learnt about what they eat and how they move. We also had a visit from Laurie's dog and learnt all about her and what she likes to do and eat. We enjoyed meeting Tilly the Pet therapy dog – she loves to play ball with us in the garden!

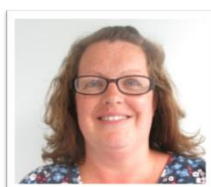


## Gary the Music Man

We have also enjoyed our weekly visits from Gary the music man – the children are always really engaged and a few of them have been brave enough to stand up and sing in front of everyone! Our particular favourite songs are 'bear hunt' and the 'smile song'.

To end the term we have decorated a tree for the tree festival at St Laurence's church which the children have enjoyed visiting. We are now looking forward to lots of Christmas fun over the next couple of weeks.

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone in nursery.*



Lisa Taylor  
Nursery Manager



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Westonbirt Arboretum

A lovely day out in October to see the autumn colours in their magnificence, experiencing the sights, sounds and smell of the season. We enjoyed a packed lunch in the woods before heading out on the seasonal trail and walking over the amazing bridge.



Lea Anne Ewing  
Class Teacher

# ST MARTIN'S NEWS

## Work Related Learning Week

In October, St. Martin's held a work related learning week! We had a visit from 'Walks with Hawks' to tell us about what it is like to work with birds, PC Gary Lynch came to talk to us about what it is like to work for the police, and Cerys and Jacob continued to support the office and reception by completing simple tasks.

In addition to this, former student Ngosi came to talk to group C about her life and career path since leaving St. Rose's. She currently works at the BBC.



Rachel Gale  
FE Tutor





# St Martin's students settling into the new school year

This term we have welcomed six new students to St Martin's. We have twenty students altogether. Everyone has settled in really well and are working hard and enjoying new experiences.

The courses are going well, we have again given students the opportunity to input into their timetables and some students are really benefiting from the extra literacy lessons and their skills are improving. We have a group of students who benefit from a more sensory approach and they have shown progress in their engagement with different activities, including using eye gaze to make simple choices and understand about cause and effect.

Students have been out and about in the community and visits to the library and garden centres, as well as shopping trips, which have been popular. Some students went to the Skills Show in Birmingham and others have visited the decorated Christmas Trees in St Laurence Church.

Finally we want to wish all our students, parents and staff a very happy Christmas and a great year ahead in 2018.



Jean Bankhead  
Vice Principal



## WHAT'S ON IN 2018



**WHEELNUTS –  
MOTOR SHOW**  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April  
2018  
11.00am to  
4.00pm



**SUMMER FETE**  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
1.00pm to 4.00pm

Amazing charity for 16+, it may  
benefit some of the St Rose's  
students and parents

<http://www.halowproject.org.uk/about-us/>