



July 2018

## St Rose's Newsletter



### Features:

News from Sheila Talwar, Principal



Dates for your Diary  
Fundraising & Donations  
Music News  
RE News  
Nursery News  
School News  
St Martin's News  
Volunteers and Residential  
What's on in 2018

As we come to the end of this academic year I am pleased to share our newsletter with you. Our students have worked hard, as ever and have achieved a great deal, including 110 AQA Unit Awards, 26 ASDAN Awards and 8 Arts Awards. Our value for the term was 'Courage.' This is something that our students demonstrate on a daily basis. We are all so proud of their achievements and we look forward to celebrating with them at our annual Awards Evening.

There have been many highlights this term. One of the most memorable was our school and college production. I would like to express my thanks to Rachel Gale and Rachel Moody who worked incredibly hard to produce a script and music that allowed our young people to showcase their talents and skills.

The students enjoyed Health Week in June. Angela Voss and Lea Anne Ewing planned an exciting programme of activities. Little did they know that we would be experiencing a heat wave but that did not deter the participants. On two occasions the whole school took part in activities off site with trips to the Rush Skate Park and Archway Sports Centre. There was a real buzz in school and I know the students had a wonderful time. I would like to thank all of the staff who always work so hard to support our students, which was especially evident throughout the week.

We were invited to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kitty Barron RDA group. We had the pleasure of meeting Princess Anne, who presented rosettes to our riders. She was impressed that St Rose's had been associated with the group since it started in 1958.

Behind the scenes we have had productive meetings with members of the Local Authority and we look forward to working with them and developing services for the good of young people with complex needs.

Sadly at this time of year we have to say goodbye to some of our community. Two of our students Robert and Luke will be moving back to their home areas. We also say goodbye to 11 children who will be leaving our Nursery. We wish them well and hope that they will keep in touch.

On a personal note, in September I will have been at St Rose's for forty years. I have seen many changes including the invention of hoists and of course, massive developments in technology. I am not sure how we managed before! Throughout this time, one thing that has not changed is that the young people are at the centre of everything we do and it is a privilege to be part of such a wonderful organisation where our values are put into practise every day. Thank you all for your continued support. I wish you all a very happy summer holiday. **Sheila Talwar**

Sheila was presented the **Bishop's Award by The Reverend Declan Lang** in recognition of **40 years loyal service to St. Rose's**.

Sheila started at St. Rose's in 1978 as a newly qualified occupational therapist. She was appointed Head of Post 16, as well as being senior OT in 2000. Sheila then became Head of Care April 2010. More recently Acting Principal in October 2015 and appointed Principal in October 16.



This is a remarkable achievement. Governors, staff, students and parents join together in expressing their congratulations and best wishes.



## Fundraising & Donations



Marisa organised a fundraiser for St Rose's in her home town. The 'Rock & Roll' evening with a band and dance was a great success and raised £450 towards St Rose's fundraising pot. Marisa was pleased to present the cheque to Sheila and Elaine.

### Dates for your Diary:

3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> September –	INSERVICE – Staff only
5 <sup>th</sup> September –	STUDENTS RETURN 08:55
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> October –	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
29 <sup>th</sup> October –	STUDENTS RETURN 09:30
21 <sup>st</sup> December –	STUDENTS FINISH 3:30
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> January –	IN SERVICE – Staff only
9 <sup>th</sup> January –	STUDENTS RETURN 08:55



Hazel Howard (Nicola's mum) presented a cheque to Sheila for £600 raised from holding a fashion show.

## 'Wheel Nuts' Motor Show

This year's Wheel Nuts classic car show, held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, had a spectacular line up of vehicles of all ages, shapes, sizes and colours. Whether you are a dedicated 'wheel nut' enthusiast, or just someone enjoying a day out, there was something for everyone.

Despite the weather there was a record number of entries and the event was supported by many classic car supporters and visitors. The vintage buses were busy ferrying people from Archway school to St Rose's. There were displays of specialist cars, sports cars, American cars, hot rods, and custom and kit cars. Many of these clubs have been coming and supporting the show each year since it started back in 2004.

The amazing final total raised for the event was £4,519.63. Thank you to all of those who helped support the event, from making cakes to clearing up.



The fundraising and donations for St Rose's are being added to the pot of money ear-marked for the refurbishment of the 'Living Skills' classroom and overhead hoists for the classrooms.



## Garden Fete

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June St Rose's held our 'Summer Fete'. With the sun shining the event was a great success, with lots of families, friends and past students joining in the fun.

The crowd were entertained by the Woodford Silver Band and there was a lot to do from the 'Human Fruit Machines' to a 'Wheel of Fortune'! As the adults enjoyed the activities such as the tea tent, cake stall, plant and flower sale and tombola, the children had great fun with games and face painting. There was also the opportunity for the children to have a pony ride, organised by the Camp Riding School.

Deer Park School had a couple of stalls to raise funds for their 'Deer Park Africa Project' donating half of their proceeds to St Rose's.

With such fun being had by all, the event raised £1,793.16. A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day and came along to support us, and to the committee who work tirelessly to run these events.

We now have enough money to make a start on upgrading the living skills room.



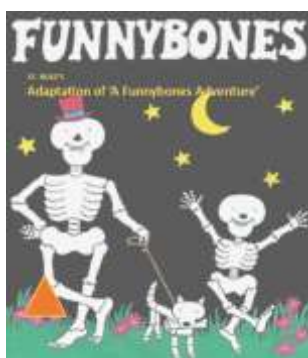
**Elaine Fernandez**  
Chair – Friends of St Rose's



## 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday – RDA

The Kitty Barron Group Riding for the Disabled, based near Stroud, has been providing free of charge riding for local disabled riders since 1958. They celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 13<sup>th</sup> July with a royal visit from Princess Anne.

Sharon Balchin, a member of St Rose's staff, made a beautiful cake to celebrate the occasion.



## School Play – Funnybones

### 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> July

St. Rose's summer production of 'A Funnybones Adventure' went very well and was enjoyed by all of the students involved. A time travel adventure - we were pirates, dinosaurs, Vikings, scientists and skeletons, and attended a royal wedding and a medieval feast! We even had international top models appearing on stage!

St. Rose's orchestra were able to perform the overture, which they wrote themselves and called *The Time Traveller Overture*.

The students were amazing, and each had the opportunity to show the audience what they enjoy, and what they are best at! We are so proud of all of the students involved and had a lot of fun travelling through time together.





# Music News



We have been very busy musicians here at St Rose's. We have all been involved in the preparation for the SENFest, learning a lovely range of songs in our regular Friday singing assembly. This culminated on Thursday June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Bacon Theatre in Cheltenham where St Rose's was represented by 8 students from SR2, 3, 4 and St Martin's. They joined over 90 other students from the special schools around the county. The music was fantastic and the atmosphere "magical" as one of our young men put it! Although we had attended the event in previous years, this was the first year that some of our fantastic Orchestra performed with their instruments, taking part in a "treasure song" as part of the journey narrative linking all the songs to one another. The joy and excitement was palpable and it was great to play to a packed out auditorium! We can't wait for next year to do it all again with new songs and even more orchestra participation!

On June 21<sup>st</sup> we hosted a **Making Music day**; parents were invited to see a range of music activities in the afternoon including a visiting Oboe Trio, Digeridoo playing from Claremont teacher Steve Newton as well as singing along to songs from SEN Fest and some rather special guest Karaoke stars!!

Orchestra performed to students from Claremont school, Bristol, who also have an orchestra. We hope to hear them in the autumn term in a joint concert which we are planning.

Orchestra itself has expanded and we now have 11 players all of who are using Clarion software as their instrument. This can be accessed on a range of devices including iPad to eyegaze operated computer. The students have worked very hard to prepare an overture for our very special school play which was performed in early July. The overture is called *The Time Traveller* and we hope to post a recording of it on our school website soon. There was also incidental music from three of our older players, Thomas, Fraser and Steph.

Eight of our Orchestra have also completed work for an Arts Award from Trinity College; five at Discover Level and three at Explore Level. As part of this they have shared their music making with Charlotte White from Open Up (who has moderated the work for us); they have met local artist and musician Angie Spencer and have learned about different art forms other than music.

Cerys and Thomas represented the Orchestra at the Getting Things Changed Conference at the SS Great Britain Conference centre, Bristol. This was the final part of a project which we have been involved in with Bristol University about accessible music making. It is wonderful for St Rose's to be part of this ground breaking work to increase access to music making for all people with disability. Cerys and Thomas were fantastic at demonstrating Clarion to the attendees. It was fabulous to watch them inspiring others! Some of us are currently featured in photos and video on the Open Up website! This is a very good place to go to find out more about Clarion and the accessible music making our young people are involved in. [www.openupmusic.org](http://www.openupmusic.org)

# RE News

## Easter Assembly

The whole of St Rose's gathered together and were joined by Trustees, Governors, family friends and the chaplaincy team from The Rosary to share readings, prayers and songs. Together the students also built an Easter Garden and completed the Easter display by placing symbols on the beautiful windows made by them in RE lessons.

All of this helped us reflect on and celebrate the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each group told a different part of the events and there were so many lovely moments from the concentration of students using their communication aids to tell their part of the story, to the obvious sense of achievement, once parts were said and objects were placed to build the visual elements of the story. We rounded off with 'school' made yummy hot cross buns and drinks for the visitors and stars.

It was a beautiful representation of this important time for our school's faith and of God's work, of the Courage of Jesus and the Good News to the world – Christ has risen and the Lord is with us all in the Holy Spirit. A big thank you for everyone's hard work and for all who came and joined us for this wonderful event.



## CAFOD Share the Journey Walk

A representative from each class in St Rose's joined up with some of the other Gloucestershire catholic schools and colleges to walk through the grounds of Prinknash Abbey. This was organised by the diocese as part of the work by CAFOD in answer to Pope Francis plea to take action on the refugee crisis and show support for people forced to flee from their homes to find safety from war, persecution, natural disaster and poverty. We walked the quiet beautiful road from the café to the Grange, listening to refugees' stories, words from the Pope, prayers and singing. For our students and staff there were some moments of real connection as the road is long, full of bumps and holes and as the main group moved up into the graveyard we waited in the quiet feeling a little alone and unsure until the other schools came back around to us: there was also the wrestle with the school banner but that was a more light-hearted aspect of the event. It was lovely to meet up with the other schools and we shared time with students and staff from St Mary's, Churchdown, St Edward's, Cheltenham, The Rosary, and St Joseph's College, Swindon. A wonderful event, only requiring our time and prayers to raise awareness for such a worthy cause.



**Cheri Baxter Steel**  
RE Lead



# NURSERY NEWS

## Summer Butterflies

This term we have continued our growing theme and grew some caterpillar eggs into Butterflies. They started off as tiny eggs. We watched every day as they started to grow and they just got bigger and bigger.



## Pirates

Nursery took part in the 'Funny Bones Production' as Pirates. We had lots of fun practicing the 'Bottle of rum pirate song' and singing it really loudly in front of lots of visitors. We were very brave pirates! AARRHH

## Sports Day

Nursery joined in with Sports day this year and walked some of the mile around the field. Then we joined in with lots of fun races.



## Watery Fun!

This week we had our new water board fitted in the nursery garden. The water board has lots of pipes and gutters and tubes, with on and off valves, lights and a door bell! New LED back lights have been ordered to give it some back ground light and a hand water pump!

Our sincere thanks and gratitude go to Alan Smith from SMITHS for donating this to St Rose's Nursery. Barry Taylor who works for Alan put a lot of thought and his own time designing and building this off site! The children have already spent a lot of time playing with it. Thank you so much Alan & Barry.

Joanne Neale  
Deputy Nursery Manager

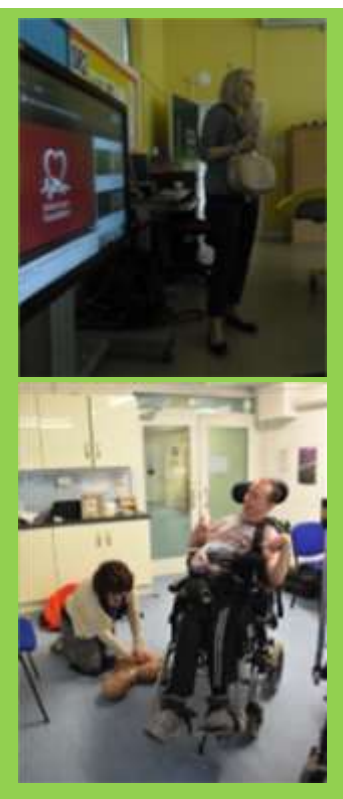


# SCHOOL NEWS

## Cotswold Wildlife Park

SR3 enjoyed a great end of year trip to this wildlife park. We walked around the beautiful grounds, had a ride, twice, on the narrow gauge railway then looked at the wildlife around the park. Tom enjoyed the goat enclosure as did Jordan. Freddie loved watching the birds and geese and Tom was so happy to be on the train.

We had a relaxed picnic under the trees before using the new changing places facilities which are amazing. The trip was subsidised by our business enterprise profits and everyone had an ice cream at the end. Thank you to Callum, Stef and Dulcie for making the trip go so smoothly.



## Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation

St Rose's are proud to be part of a nation of lifesavers. We have joined British Heart Foundation's mission to teach as many people as possible how to carry out Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Jo and Nicky, two of our nurses, have been teaching lots of our staff and students using the free CPR kit that British Heart Foundation sent us. We have had great fun as well as teaching a vital skill.





## Health Week (Including Sport's Day) 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June

Health Week comprised of a number of different activities taking place throughout the week:

**Monday** – Archway Sports Centre Archery & Race running

**Tuesday** – Quest 88 race running

**Wednesday** – Dance, meditation, outdoor games & sensory story

**Thursday** – Rush Skate Park

**Friday** – Sports Day, wheel a mile, rounders match & sports games

On Monday the students travelled to Archway Sports Centre to take part in relay races, Allsorts racerunners, Boccia and mass parachute game. Thanks to Archway Sports Centre and to Allsorts for hosting the event and to the staff who supported the pupils on a particularly hot day. Quest 88 supported the event on Tuesday by supplying the equipment for the students to use on the day.

Wednesday was a mixture of relaxation and activity.

At Rush Skate Park the students were able to experience the challenging ramps.

On Friday fun was had by everyone, including the staff, with a variety of activities leaving everyone tired and happy after an activity filled week!



Lea Anne Ewing  
Class Teacher

# ST MARTIN'S

As part of their ASDAN 'Caring for the environment', St Martin's students found out about the effects of pollution and plastic waste on the oceans and in the local area. They collected boxes of postage stamps to support the RSPB albatross campaign and the Stroud Valleys Project. They sent off a large envelope of stamps to the RSPB and took the rest to the SVP shop in Stroud. Thank you to everyone who brought in stamps.



## Calvert Trust Trip

A group of students & staff went to the Calvert Trust on the edge of Exmoor National Park. They took part in fully accessible activities onsite & specifically designed & equipped for our students. We took part in archery, sailing, cycling, abseiling, canoeing & climbing. A great time was had by all.



Leah, Briony, Jackie, Mike,  
Eileen, Aiden, Angela,  
Jason, Jake, Steph, Frazer





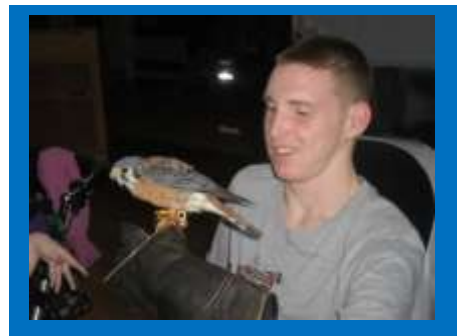
## St Martin's – Goodbye's and Hello's

**We have had a really positive year in St Martin's with students impressing us as they learn new skills and take on new challenges.**

This July we have two students who are leaving us and although we will be sad to see them go we know that they have improved their communication, made progress, gained accreditations and friendships and enjoyed their experiences in St Martin's. Robert who has been with us in St Martin's since 2015 and before that was in our St Rose's Post 16 is moving back to his local area into a residential setting. It has been good to have Robert as part of St Martin's and to see him develop as a young adult and we are all going to miss him and his great personality. Luke has been with us for two years from Monmouthshire and has made great strides in his communication and independence since being with us. We will really miss them both and wish them all the very best for the next stage in their lives.



We wish our students and their families a very happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing them in September when we will be welcoming three new students from St Rose's Post 16 Anya, Thomas and George.



# VOLUNTEERS

## Lloyds Gardening Day - 7<sup>th</sup> June

We really appreciate the ongoing support we receive from the Lloyds legal team. As well as helping with the BBQ at the Car Show and Garden Fete they spent the day working with the students to carry out a variety of gardening projects.



## Ecclesiastical Team Helpers - 27<sup>th</sup> June

On one of the hottest days of the year so far two teams from Ecclesiastical came to St Rose's to provide support with gardening and painting. They provide ongoing support with the upkeep of our lovely premises and grounds.





# RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS

Some of our residential students thoroughly enjoyed a trip to Gifford's Circus. Tessa from Gifford's Circus kindly donated 50 tickets to us which enabled lots of our students to attend.



## WHAT'S ON?



FACE – The 'Foundation for Active Community Engagement' have a summer full of exciting opportunities with trips, workshops and events being held over the summer holidays. These activities are designed for children and adults with learning, physical, social or sensory disabilities.

To find out more about their programme over the summer please contact [info@facefilton.org.uk](mailto:info@facefilton.org.uk) or call 0117 9691938. To find out more about FACE visit [www.facefilton.org.uk](http://www.facefilton.org.uk)

EVENTS - Sept – Dec 2018		
Date	Time	Event
3 Sept	9.00 – 4.00p.m.	In Service Day – staff only
4 Sept	9.00 – 4.00p.m.	In Service Day – staff only
5 Sept	08.55	Students Return
13 Sept	Tba	Beginning of Year Mass with Canon Tom Gunning
21 Sept		Malmesbury Abbey trip
10 Oct	Tba	Harvest Festival - World homeless day
23 – 26 Oct		Half Term
19 - 23		Art Week
21 Nov	Tba	Chapel Mass
1 Dec	10.00a.m	Christmas Coffee Morning
18 Dec		Christmas Carol Service
19 Dec		Party Day
21 Dec	3.30p.m	End of Term
7 Jan	9:00 – 4:00p.m	In Service Day – staff only
8 Jan	9:00 – 4:00p.m	In Service Day – staff only
9 Jan	08.55	Students Return
11 – 15 Jan		Science Week

SEPTEMBER 2018					OCTOBER 2018					NOVEMBER 2018							
Mon		3	10	17	24	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26	
Tue		4	11	18	25	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	6	13	20	27	
Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28	
Thu		6	13	20	27	Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	1	8	15	22	29
Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	3	10	17	24	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25	
DECEMBER 2018					JANUARY 2019					FEBRUARY 2019							
Mon	3	10	17	24	31	Mon	7	14	21	28	Mon	4	11	18	25		
Tues	4	11	18	25		Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues	5	12	19	26	
Wed	5	12	19	26		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed	6	13	20	27	
Thu	6	13	20	27		Thu	3	10	17	24	31	Thu	7	14	21	28	
Fri	7	14	21	28		Fri	4	11	18	25		Fri	1	8	15	22	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	5	12	19	26		Sat	2	9	16	23	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	6	13	20	27		Sun	3	10	17	24	
MARCH 2019					APRIL 2019					MAY 2019							
Mon	4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27		
Tues	5	12	19	26	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	7	14	21	28		
Wed	6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	7	14	21	28	Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26	Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	6	13	20	27	Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	Sun	7	14	21	28	Sun	5	12	19	26		
JUNE 2019					JULY 2019					AUGUST 2019							
Mon	3	10	17	24	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26		
Tues	4	11	18	25	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	6	13	20	27		
Wed	5	12	19	26	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28		
Thu	6	13	20	27	Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	7	14	21	28	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27	Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28	Sun	4	11	18	25		

IN SERVICE DAYS ARE INDICATED IN PURPLE (STAFF ONLY)  
 OPEN WEEKENDS ARE INDICATED IN RED

Term 1: 5 Sept – 19 Oct 2018  
 Term 2: 29 Oct – 21 Dec 2018  
 Term 3: 9 Jan – 15 Feb 2019  
 Term 4: 25 Feb – 5 Apr 2019  
 Term 5: 24 Apr – 24 May 2019  
 Term 6: 3 June – 23 July 2019

In Service Days  
 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

Christmas Bank Holidays	26 December 2018 27 December 2018
New Year Bank Holiday	1 January 2019
Good Friday	19 April 2019
Easter Monday	22 April 2019
Early May Bank Holiday	6 May 2019
Spring Bank Holiday	27 May 2019
Summer Bank Holiday	26 August 2019

\* 195 days are defined as "School days". In the school year 2018/19 pupils must attend for 190 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend).

Harvest Festival  
 Wednesday  
 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Christmas Fayre  
 Saturday  
 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018