



St Rose's Newsletter



EASTER 2019

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we come to the end of another busy term, there are so many events that have taken place, it is hard to know which ones to share. Three in particular stand out.

One of the highlights this term was when we were joined by Sue and Andrew Bowden who brought in a donkey, two sheep and a cockerel! The whole school and college community, including governors, parents, friends, staff and students were able to join our procession around the school grounds on a glorious sunny morning and it reminded us of the Easter story.



We have been busy thinking about our Vision and Mission statements and we were pleased to be joined by Paul Kehoe (Schools Project Officer for Clifton Diocese) who facilitated a session with staff, students and governors to get us started. My thanks go to Dylan and Emily who joined us and were able to make valuable contributions.

We were thrilled to receive an unexpected surprise when we were visited by students and staff from St Peter's High School, Gloucester who delivered four large boxes of Easter eggs for our students. Our thanks go to them for thinking of us.

Looking ahead to the summer term there are many things on the calendar and we look forward to sharing our news with you. The continual support we receive is fantastic and I would like to thank every one of you for all that you do for St Rose's.



I wish you all a Happy Easter and look forward to seeing many of you in the new term at the Car Show or Garden Fete.

Sheila Talwar

Hardwicke Scouts meet up with St Rose's Scouts and Explorers

On Monday 11th March a group of Scouts from Hardwicke joined up with four of St Rose's Scouts to see and experience what it's like to be a wheelchair user, experience using communication devices and eye pointing charts, leading each other around blind folded to experience what it would be like to be blind and also to see how St Rose's facilities differ from their own schools. The youngsters and leaders found eye gaze in particular very hard work and were in awe of how quickly and effectively our students use it.

Hardwicke Scouts have asked me to pass on their thanks for making the visit possible, and also to thank the Scouts from St Rose's for helping them during the evening.

Nicki Burcher (nee Elkins)

Group Scout Leader: for both Hardwicke Scouts, and St Rose's Scouts.



Recycling in St Martin's

In St Martin's we have been learning about plastics in science. The students talked about ways to reduce plastic waste and have decided to take action.

On Fridays, Frazer has been collecting crisp packets from the classes and offices.



Thomas is starting to collect empty toothpaste tubes. We are going to take both collections to Stroud Valleys Project for recycling.

Juliette Oliver

World Book Day - Thursday 7th March

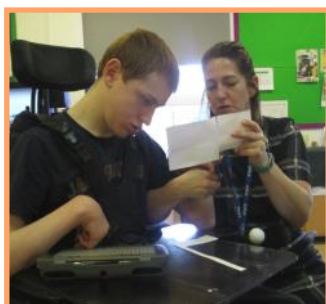


World Book Day was celebrated at St Rose's with some lovely activities adapted to make books more accessible and enjoyable to both students and parents. Angela and Becky invited parents in to enjoy a masterclass on the benefits of positive touch and a practical demonstration on how to do story massage. This session was delivered across two sessions so that every student in school could enjoy a story massage, and so that parents could have some new ideas for making books fun at home. Other activities included students sharing their favourite books, a yoga version of The Bear Hunt and some amazing costumes from both students and staff. A special well done to Dylan who came as The Boy in The Dress from his favourite author, David Walliams.



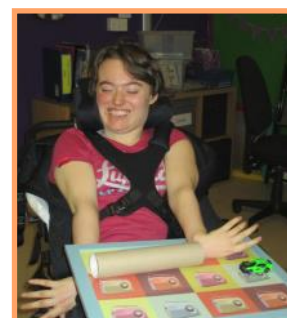
Louise Goode

Science Week - 11th - 15th February



The activities followed those suggested in the British Science Week plans, and were based around journeys. Throughout the week students were able to enjoy lessons about all sorts of different journeys. Everyday journeys involved investigating and making tunnels to explore, as well as watching a video about how the Channel Tunnel was made. Journeys through nature took the students outside to look at the job bees do, and then to make models of flowers and bees to learn about pollination.

Journeys in outer space had the students using vinegar and baking soda to make an explosive rocket that showed us how propulsion works. Other activities included investigating slides to see which substances travelled the furthest and the quickest, using rocket propulsion to inflate balloons and using a basic paper helicopter design and adapting it to see which design features improved flight. At the end of the week students enjoyed a Science Week assembly where they got to look at all the photos and videos of their activities throughout the week.



Louise Goode

Letter received from David Drew MP

A letter has been received from David Drew MP, congratulating St Martin's on their report from The Care Quality Commission. He comments 'It is uplifting to see the report acknowledge how kind, caring and compassionate your staff are and how your team continues to make great effort to meet the unique and complex needs of each person who lives at St Martin's Centre'.

Red Nose Day Friday 15th March



St Rose's school and St. Martin's college came together on Friday afternoon for some silly fun and to raise money for Red Nose Day.

Rachel led the afternoon with some silly songs to get us all in the mood and then the students shared jokes they had on their communication aids. We also watched some videos of Lost Voice Guy, who is a comedian who uses a Communication Aid to deliver his routine.

The whole afternoon was topped off with a cake sale and smiles all round. Thank you to everyone who participated and who helped raise £95.27 for the many charities that support vulnerable people and communities in the UK and internationally.

Louise Goode



Friday 15th March. Drumming workshop group A and B St. Martin's



Students from St. Martin's took part in an African drumming workshop led by Heartbeats of Africa. Jenny came to our classroom and brought a selection of drums and we had to play to the beat she set and also sang a traditional African song.

Rachel Gale



Lent Mass Thursday 14th March



Mass together is always such a special moment. Father Christopher greeted and introduced himself to lots of students, staff and family members and led us in a prayerful and moving service. SR2 read the story of the work of Fr Damien of Moloki and students from all classes read the bidding prayers. Representatives from each class brought up a favourite prayer and communion was carefully carried up by some of the children from the Nursery. It is always great to have friends and family come to join us and fantastic that we come together from youngest to oldest: sharing a time where we can be a part of something so joyous and communicate our message that 'All are welcome' with us at St Rose's. Keeping all in our prayers.

Cheri Baxter-Steele



Fundraising

Tony Hickey, our Governor will be doing The Cotswold Way Challenge on 29th June walking 50k, hopefully in 14 hours, with his wife Ann who is doing it for Missio. Tony hopes to raise a minimum of £400 for St Rose's and St Martin's. All monies will be raised through a Just Giving site (further information to follow in our May Newsletter).

HOLY WEEK EVENT

What an amazing day we had on 28th March. We were joined by Sue and Andrew Bowden and their donkey Puzzle and friends. Altogether we re-enacted the story of Palm Sunday, Jesus' Journey into Jerusalem. Puzzle 'triumphantly' led the procession around our beautiful grounds and into the hall for readings, prayers and songs. Thank you to all who were able to join us and just a reminder that we are having an Easter celebration assembly on the first Wednesday back April 24th at 2:15 in the hall. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers over the Easter Break. Warmest wishes, Cherith Baxter-Steele



WHAT'S ON IN 2019



WHEEL NUTS MOTOR SHOW

Sunday 5 May 2019

11.00am to 4.00pm

We will be grateful of any help on the day. Please contact Elaine for more information.



SUMMER FETE

Saturday

15 June 2019

1.00pm to

4.00pm



SENfest 2019 is back, bigger and better than ever!

On Tuesday 5th March, we were delighted to host a rehearsal for this year's SENfest a now annual music concert held in Cheltenham's Bacon Theatre to showcase the talent of Gloucestershire Special Schools. Lee Holder of Music Works Gloucestershire, is the organiser of the event and has much experience in making music accessible to all.



Lee and his colleagues, Celidh Jo Rowe and guitarist Salo led St Rose's and students from Paternoster and The Shrubberies in a wonderful range of songs with signs to accompany. These included the Bill Withers classic, Lean on Me and Glorious from The Greatest Showman.

Members of the school orchestra will also be involved in performing alongside Bettridge School orchestra. The concert is taking place on 20th June at 6pm. For more details contact Rachel Moody.

Celidh Jo showing us new signs

Rachel Moody



249 Birmingham Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands B72 1EA
Tel: 0121 355 2707, option 5
Email: elizabeth.cunningham@kids.org.uk

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FISH themed fundraising activities for CAFOD

SR4 are excited to announce our latest FISH themed fundraising activities for CAFOD. We are hoping to raise plenty of money to help fishing communities in Bangladesh whose rivers are empty of fish following drought. Our money will go towards seeds, livestock and ponds for raising fish stocks. Our money will also help CAFOD with their commitment to supporting DEC with the Cyclone Disaster in Africa.

We will be holding a **Breakfast Café on the morning of Thursday 4th April**. Treat your taste buds to fishfinger sandwiches or cheese toasties.

£1.50 for a simple Fish Finger Sandwich or Cheese Toastie with sauce.

50p for extras such as salad, tomato or cheese (with your fish).

On **Friday 5th April, we will be running "Flip a Kipper" games**. Buy a paper fish for 50p! On sale Thursday and Friday (orders in an envelope please). You can decorate with pens and name your fish. On Friday afternoon we will be "racing" our fish across the stormy waters of the school hall! Chocolate prizes for the fastest fish! Parents and carers are welcome to either or both events. Even if you will not be able to join us you can buy a fish to take part and it will be raced for you.

Our postponed cake sale will take place in May; further details to follow.

Rachel Moody

St. Martin's took part in Natspec Maths week

25th February - 1st March

St. Martin's took part in NATSPEC's maths. The theme was creativity and we explored symmetry by making butterflies and bugs, sequencing by using potato stamps, seasons by making umbrellas and made biscuits in cookery.

Rachel Gale



Creative work on sequencing



Creative cookery making biscuits with different flavours



Creativity in learning about the weather – making umbrellas

ASDAN

On Thursday 14th March the school and college were visited by an ASDAN auditor who came to look at how we monitor and deliver our ASDAN programmes and qualifications. He was impressed by our policies and procedures and left with only one small recommendation. Many thanks to Jean for putting together such an organised centre file and making it easy to find all the information we needed. We have now received our Centre Audit follow up report with no further actions.

The students in St Martin's and school all benefit from their involvement in the various ASDAN programmes and it was commented recently in a student council meeting that they really enjoy their courses and would like to do more.

Students who are over 16 use the Towards Independence programme and students in St Martin's use the Entry 1 Personal Progress accreditation.

Lea Anne Ewing
ASDAN Co-ordinator