



Newsletter - Summer 2019



St. Rose's
Inspiring Education, Therapy & Care

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Another year has flown by and this has been a particularly busy term, with many highlights.

In June we had our Section 48 Religious Education Inspection. We were thrilled to receive an overall outstanding grade. There were many positive comments including:

'St Rose's is a welcoming and inclusive community where all are valued and invited to participate. As a result, all have a strong sense of belonging to a community that celebrates difference and diversity' and

'Students' friendship and respect for each other make an excellent contribution to the ethos of the school, particularly in the encouraging role modelling of the older children for the younger children. Their care for one another is an embedded behaviour and reflects the values of the school'

My thanks go to Jean Bankhead and Cheri Baxter Steele in particular as well as the students and staff for all their hard work in achieving this great result.

This term there have been many, school and college trips, all adding to the wider experience and learning for our students. Our orchestra thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the Gloucestershire Special Schools to take part in the SEN Music Festival which took place at the Bacon Theatre in Cheltenham after many weeks of rehearsals. Students have enjoyed International Week and Sports Week as can be seen within this newsletter.



This week we held our annual Awards Evening when we celebrated the achievements of our students over the last year – well done to all of them. A number of staff were presented with awards for 20 and 30 years' service. My thanks go to all of them for all of the hard work they have put in over the years. (see page 16).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has raised funds on behalf of the school. The money we receive from these efforts has ensured that we are able to improve facilities and introduce new pieces of equipment that enhance the learning opportunities for our students.

Sadly at this time of year there are always goodbyes. This year we say goodbye to Cerys and Luke from St Martin's, Liz who has been the tea-time cook for many years, Dulcie one of our teaching assistants, Jenny – a member of the weekend nursing team and also to Deborah who is our Business Manager. We wish them well for the future.



Sheila Talwar, Principal

As ever, my thanks go to all of you for your continued support and interest in St Rose's.

Please remember to check our website www.stroses.org.uk for up to date information on dates, holidays, events etc.

SPORTS WEEK 8TH - 12TH JULY

We had a brilliant week. All of our students have had an opportunity to go on a boat ride with Boatmobility and some of our students went canoeing. It was great to see some of our youngest pupils learning how to paddle.

Some of our students went horse riding with the RDA in Camp. They had time to ride for longer and enjoyed being outside riding the horses.

A big thank you to LeaAnne who bounced all day on Tuesday so as many students as possible could have a go on the trampoline. Also thank you to the physiotherapists who helped us run some 'fun' swimming sessions this week, the students loved having the lights, music and bubbles on.

Students loved the games run by Allsorts, there was some good competition and good sportsmanship shown by all.

As it has been a busy week we timetabled in some relaxing sessions such as yoga and massage. All of our students have had the opportunity to enjoy a yoga session. We had some amazing responses from our students who have really engaged and relaxed. Thank you to Becky Noblet who created sporting story massages and led some sessions this week. The students really enjoyed them and enjoyed the opportunity to chill out and relax.

I would like to say a special thank you to all the organisations and charities that have run sessions for us this year. They are Boatmobility, RDA, Special Yoga works, Wheels for All and Allsorts.

Angela Voss



The jungle hunt was a very relaxed way to start our final day of Sports week. Lovely creative ideas especially the tigers!

Rachel Moody

Everyone enjoyed Sports Day on Friday afternoon. Staff and students 'threw' themselves in various games and events including excellent running races, a tour de St Rose's and some silly 'wet' relays. Thank you all for helping and entering into the spirit of things.

LeaAnne Ewing

INTERNATIONAL WEEK 20th - 24th May

International week was the brain child of Elaine Fernandez and represented a celebration of the cultural and international diversity of the students attending St. Rose's. We had a day themed around the nationality of our students and we celebrated Spain, Romania, Syria, Russia and New Zealand. Each day included the food, music, dance, flags and special objects of the countries. We were really lucky to have parents who either cooked food for us or came to talk about their countries. Our students were able to share what was special about their countries and we would like to thank all the parents for the wonderful food they cooked for us to enjoy. This week was a firm favourite and will be included in the St. Rose's calendar.



Thank you to Kamila Beddoe and her team who took part in the Three Peaks Challenge to help raise money for new hoists and tracking in St Rose's classrooms. £2,210 has already been raised - A huge thank you.





Katrina, Eileen, Jacob, Steph, Cerys, Frazer

Angela, Jackie, Jason, Mike

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, forest school, sailing, cycling, abseiling, canoeing, climbing & crate stacking . The sun shone for us all week making the week even better.



Abseiling



Crate stacking



Cycling



Kayaking



Sailing



Archery



Forest School

SR1 AND SR2 WILLOW BOAT TRIP - 5th JUNE

Starting at Saul Junction students were able to sail up the canal to Gloucester. They were able to sit inside the boat and also outside with lifejackets on to enjoy the sunshine. Some students also chose to go up on the bridge and have a go at driving the boat.

Whilst we were sailing we enjoyed spotting swans and ducks flying along the bank and skimming on the water with their babies. After a relaxing lunch on the boat we were taken back to Saul Junction where we thanked the wonderful volunteers of the Willow Boat Trust for giving us such a lovely day out.

This generous charity provides a wonderful free day out for our students every year.

We look forward to next summer to enjoy another chance to see the interesting wildlife on the water.

Louise Goode



SR3 AND SR4 WILLOW BOAT TRIPS - 19th JUNE

We had a lovely day despite the dreadful weather warning.

The rain stayed away and the sun nearly came out on us as we meandered down the canal.

The helpers were kind and the staff appreciated their cups of coffee.

All students (Freddie, Oliver, Josh, Joe, Emily T, Emily P and Katya) had a drive of the barge and spent time taking in the scenery and wildlife.



We very much
look forward to
another trip next
year.



Thank you to all the staff
(Elaine, Amber, Rachel,
Callum, Steph, Sue B) for
making this a great trip.

Lea Anne Ewing

MUSIC FOR AUTISM AT MALMESBURY ABBEY - 7TH JUNE

A wonderful time was had by all at Malmesbury Abbey on Friday 7th June. The Derek Paravicini Quartet was back to delight us with a wide range of familiar tunes. Derek's amazing abilities to hear a tune and pick it up immediately astounded us all. We all sang, signed and danced along to Jazz standards as well as pop chart hits and songs from the film The Greatest Showman.

Rachel Moody



FUNDRAISING

This year's Garden Fete was held indoors due to the weather conditions. Thank you to everyone who supported this event including families of former students. We raised £1183.00 which will go towards a new accessible vehicle.

The Woodford Silver Band kept us entertained throughout the afternoon.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support, especially to parents and staff members who have kindly given up their invaluable time and also have continued to donate cakes for the cake stalls at many fundraising events.

A big thank you to Nikki Michael for organising a Jumble sale on 29th June - £173.35 was raised.

Future dates to look out for:

Body Shop evening - Friday 18th October at 7pm.

Neal's Yard pamper evening - Thursday 14th November at 7pm.

SR3 SLIMBRIDGE WETLAND CENTRE 22nd May



SR3 had a great day out at Slimbridge Wetland Centre. We played in the water in welly boot land getting a bit soggy!! We then headed out to feed the wild ducks. TB had an amazing time with his favourite birds. The weather was lovely and we had our lunch on the lawn. Staff and students walked for hours but enjoyed all that Slimbridge Wetland Centre has to offer. Thanks to all the staff for all their hard work .

Lea Anne Ewing



ST MARTIN'S

It's hard to believe we are coming to the end of another year. It has been a good and fulfilling year for our students and we have seen them make progress in so many areas.

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 learnt new skills and gained friendships and enjoyed their experiences in St Martin's. Luke has been with us for three years and he is waiting to hear if he has a placement nearer to his home. Cerys, who has been in St Martin's since 2017 and before that attended St Rose's school and Post 16, is moving on to National Star College to continue her education. We will really miss them both and wish them all the very best for the next stage in their lives.

This year our students have participated in many different experiences. These include being part of the St Rose's Orchestra and performing at the SEND Music Festival. Many of our students were also involved in the Music prom. Other students went to Calvert Trust for a week. We have been involved in the Allsorts Young Voices Project and some of our students have applied to be ambassadors for this project. Students have visited religious buildings in the community as well as other community facilities.

All our students have continued to work towards their accreditations including ASDAN Personal Progress and Ascentis Entry level 3 and Level 1 English.



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 new students from St Rose's Post 16, Emily, Katya, and George and a new student Brandon, from Claremont.

St Martin's Staff

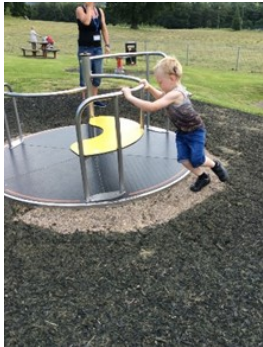
NURSERY

How quickly this year has flown! We have had a brilliant term which has been full of fun and new experiences.

We have watched our caterpillars turn into butterflies, which we then released into the grounds.



We've been out and about in Stratford Park, practising our physical skills and enjoying being active. It was so much fun!



We had a fantastic visit from Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service who brought their engine along for us to see. We loved sitting in the fire engine, trying on the uniform and taking turns to spray the hose pipe!



We have also enjoyed continuing to explore our surroundings exploring 'the woods' and taking part in school events such as the bounce and bake! We are continuing to enjoy swimming on a Wednesday and our regular visits from Gary the 'music man' which we love too.



This time of year is always a little bittersweet for us as we say goodbye to our leavers who are moving onto 'big' school - we are so proud of each and every one of them and wish them lots of luck. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the nursery team who work so hard to ensure that our children have fantastic care and experiences and also to all of our parents for their continuing support. Here's wishing you all have a fantastic summer.

Lisa and all the Nursery team

A group from St Martin's enjoyed two great fun days on The Willow Boat.
Thank you to The Willow Boat Trust for inviting us.

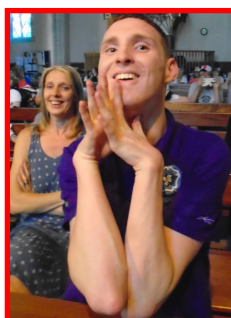


MUSIC PROM - THURSDAY 4TH JULY

Thank you to all who were involved in the Music Prom on July 4th. It was really lovely to hold this event at the Church of the Immaculate Conception for the first time. We are very grateful to Fr Christopher and the parishioners for allowing us to use the lovely space.

It was fantastic to have two performances from the School Orchestra and to welcome The Rosary School Choir club who sang several fantastic songs for us including two from Matilda the Musical. St Martins, SR3 and Scouts all took a lead as well and there was plenty of audience participation!

Rachel Moody



KIDS BIG DAY OUT CATTLE COUNTRY (ROTARY CLUB) - 12TH JUNE

This year the Rotary Club 'Kids Big Day Out' was held on the 12th June. The invitation was once again extended to students of St Rose's school to attend Cattle Country for the day.

Twelve students in total were able to go in three minibuses to enjoy the day. The weather was perfect and the students explored the full range of activities available, which ranged from soft play in the indoor play barn, indoor beach, adventure castle, tractor ride, baby animals to pet and many more things to explore. A firm favourite this year was the pen in the animal barn containing baby goats. One cheeky goat kept escaping, much to the delight of some of our students who watched LeaAnne 'goat wrangle' it back into the pen!

We had a lovely packed lunch together before going to explore more of the students favourite activities. No water play this year though, as it wasn't quite warm enough to have the paddling pool open. Better luck next year.

Louise Goode



SPONSORED 12 HOUR BOUNCE AND BAKE 27TH JUNE



Thank you to everyone involved in arranging the sponsored 12 hour bounce and bake event.

We would like to thank you all for the sponsor money raised (currently £702.19).



SR2 NOAH'S ARK TRIP

Here are some comments from our students following their trip on 18th June.

I feel happy about Giraffe. It eat leaf - CK.

I organised the trip to Noah's zoo farm. It was very nice. The trip was amazing and I enjoyed it. My favourite animal was the giraffe because it was so tall and I want to be so tall - DN.

I liked the elephant. I want take home. It likes trees - GB.


































I liked zebra because they are fun. There are funny because they are striped - LT.



BRISTOL AND WEST SYNAGOGUE VISIT - 13TH JUNE

A number of students this term have visited The Bristol and West Progressive Synagogue as part of our studies into Judaism. Iris, a member of the community, was very welcoming and taught us a great song and shared some Challah bread with us, helping us further understand how Shabbat is celebrated. She showed us all around the beautiful synagogue.

Rachel Moody

   
 Jewish people go to the
    
 synagogue. I looked at the
      
 torah which was kept in a big
   
 cupboard called the ark.
      
 I saw a kippah that they wear
     
 on their head and a tallit.

Written by Joseph M on his boardmaker

MINCHINHAMPTON GOLF CLUB HAVE KINDLY DONATED £3,000

Thank you to Golfing Fanatics at Minchinhampton Golf Club for holding several events raising £3,000 for St Rose's.

The donation will go towards a Soundbeam for the Orchestra.



THE CRISP PACKET RECYCLING SCHEME



Following our lessons on the environment and reducing plastic waste, St Martin's has been accepted by Terracycle as a collection point for crisp packets. Please let us have your empty crisp packets (they don't need to be washed, but do need to be free of crumbs) and we will be able to start raising money for St Rose's and St Martin's.

Juliette Oliver

THANK YOU TO TONY HICKEY, ST ROSE'S GOVERNOR

I would like to thank all those people who sponsored me on my 50k walk on the Cotswold challenge. Through your generosity you have raised £487.50 for St Rose's and St Martin's. Your support kept me going on a very challenging walk on what was the hottest day of the year so far. It made it all worth it.

Thank you

Tony Hickey

A huge thank you to Dave Taylor and all at Rodway Hill Golf Club for fundraising £1,400 for St Martin's



RE

A busy start to the term with our RE Inspection where two inspectors Joseph Skivington and Frank Toner spent June 4th & 5th meeting with St Rose's students, staff, Trustees, Governors, Priest and everyone we could think of that would help demonstrate how we have been working on the requirements from our last inspection. They had tours of the buildings, joined in assemblies, observed lessons, looked through files and responses from parents and we shared PowerPoints, videos and a 'few' photos of all the wonderful things that we do here at St Rose's. All of this information has then been used to produce an exceedingly complimentary report which can be viewed on our Website. We are pleased to announce they rated us 'OUTSTANDING' which is wonderful as we all work so hard to demonstrate this but it is always reassuring to have it confirmed.

During June all of the classes SR1 to SR4 were able to make a visit to the Synagogue in Bristol. We were all made so welcome by Iris and she provided a variety of artefacts for the students to explore. She explained about Judaism and its link with Christianity and demonstrated and informed us about Passover and Shabbat. This was such a great learning experience and many thanks goes out to the organisers, Iris and all that supported us.



On Tuesday 25th June Dylan in SR2 led an 'AMAZING' assembly about his trip to Lourdes. He was joined by members of the HTCP group that made it possible for him to go. Dylan showed his photographs of all of the things he did in Lourdes and made an appeal for the support of the group as they need people both to take the VIP's to Lourdes and to be a part of the team that makes this happen. If anyone is interested in either their child going on a visit to Lourdes or anyone that could be on the HTCP team then please contact us and we will be able to give more information.



The End of Year Mass is on Tuesday 23rd July at 10am where we will have a chance to celebrate all that has happened over this year and say special prayers for those who move on to the next step on their journey. I hope many of our families and friends will be able to join us.

Have a lovely Summer. Prayers and best wishes,

Cheri Baxter-Steele, RE Lead Teacher

STUDENTS MOVING ON SEPT 2019

We say a sad goodbye at our Leavers' Assembly (22nd July) to our students who are moving on.

We say goodbye to Ava, Luke, Oliver, Poppy, Florence Latham and Noah from our Nursery and wish them well in their new schools.

We welcome Poppy and Lucas from Nursery into main school.

Emily, Katya and George will be moving to St. Martin's Post 19 College.

We are sad to say goodbye to Cerys and Luke from St. Martin's.

AWARDS EVENING - 17TH JULY

We were extremely delighted to be joined by Sr. Julie OP, Sr. Teresa (Trustees), Fiona Gittings (Deputy Head, St. Peter's), Ann Fowler (Clifton Diocese), Ashley Hurkett, Jackie Ong, Tracy Oosthuizen and Mike Doughty (Glos LA), Jacqui Beard, Community Champion, Tesco, Zoe Mandeville (Independent Visitor), Lyn Frith & Roger Bushell, Nancy Selwyn, John Kyffin, Maggie Smith and Tony Hickey (Governors) some of whom kindly presented the awards to our students on 17th July.

It was lovely that they were able to join parents and staff to share this special evening to recognise our students' achievements throughout the year.

Thank you all for being involved.

