



VOICES



ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE

Issue 93 July 2018

EDITORIAL

This has been a very successful year for the College. I am pleased to report that the College is full for September 2018. We have 210 places with 20 students waiting to get into the school. This presents a challenge to the College as we have had to make better use of our space. Many changes have taken place and these will be outlined to you in a special newsletter which will be distributed at the start of next term.

Academically the College goes from strength to strength. In September 2017 our attainment figures for Year 11 were above the national average as was our progress 8, which was 0.22. Our EBacc was well above the national average at 0.5%. However, even more impressive was the progress made in Maths, Science and Languages. The Languages progress figure was +2.1. This places us in the top 1% nationally and the 21st best school in the whole country. Government have recognised this and have asked us to take part in the parliamentary review which highlights good practice in the top 40 secondary schools in the country. The article is now written and will be distributed in September (watch this space!).

I would like to thank you for your support with school uniform and hope this will continue. Morning checks on uniform have been extremely successful. We are looking to improve the standard of behaviour across the College. In September there will be a substantial increase in the monitoring of behaviour.

Let us hope the spell of Summer weather continues. Of course the College does not stop during the Summer break. This gives us the opportunity to complete building works whilst there are no children in school. August is also the results season and we have our fingers firmly crossed that our GCSE and A Level results reflect the hard work of the whole College community.

Have a great Summer and a really good rest.

Dr John Reavley
CEO / Headteacher

VOLUNTEERING AT THE NORTHWICK PARK HOSPITAL

On Saturday 7th July a few of us from Rooks Heath College volunteered to help out at the London North West Healthcare NHS Trust Open Day at Northwick Park Hospital from 0930 till 1430.

The Open Day was an opportunity to find out about the great work that is done at the Trust's Northwick Park, St. Mark's, Central Middlesex and Ealing hospitals and also in its community services. Local partners including Healthwatch, Harrow CCG and Brent Council were also present on the day.

Expert staff, including consultants, surgeons, doctors and nurses, were on hand to talk to the public about their full range of services. In addition to hearing about their work, there was information on recruitment opportunities and free entertainment for all the family including:

- Face painting
- A magic show
- A walk through inflatable bowel
- A fire engine and police riot van



YEAR 9 MOST ABLE GROUP AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY

For the Year 9 Most Able Group's annual trip, the students had a tour of the most famous works of art in the National Gallery, including Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers'. This rounded off brilliantly the work they have been doing for their weekly 'Powerful Knowledge' sessions on Art and Music. One student has said, 'I would not have learned about these things if I had not been attending the sessions.' Following their morning in the National Gallery, we attended our annual Year 9 visit to a university. This year we visited the London School of Economics and Political Science, one of London's (and the country's) top universities. The students attended an 'ACE' afternoon, where they got a tour of the university and learned about life and courses at university from current students. Following this event, many of the Most Able students said that as a result of the trip, they are now aspiring to go to university.

Mrs Arnold and Mr Macaulay



大家好！ CHINESE LESSONS HAVE BEGUN AT ROOKS HEATH!



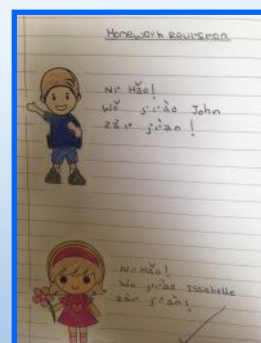
One month ago four classes of eager Year 8 students began their Mandarin Chinese studies. The students can now speak and understand some basic Chinese and many students have been heard walking around the school singing 'Ni hao, wo jiao Tim! Ni jiao shenme mingzi..'. It's quite a catchy tune!

This week Rooks Heath will welcome a group of twenty-one students from China. They will be

joining Chinese lessons and other lessons with their buddies during their five day stay. Our students are looking forward to meeting the Chinese students, learning from them and making some new friends!

Xiexie,

Christensen Laoshi





STEM is a curriculum that promotes the idea of educating students in four specific areas: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. It is very crucial as STEM fields affect every component of our everyday lives. By exposing students to STEM and giving them opportunities to explore STEM-related concepts, they will develop a passion for it and hopefully pursue a job in a STEM field. A curriculum that is STEM-based has real-life situations to help the student learn.

The STEM acronym was introduced in 2001 by scientific administrators at the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF). The organization previously used the acronym SMET when referring to the career fields in those disciplines or a curriculum that integrated knowledge and skills from those fields. In 2001, however, American biologist Judith Ramaley, then Assistant Director of Education and Human Resources at NSF, rearranged the words to form the STEM acronym. Since then, STEM-focused curriculum has been extended to many countries beyond the United States, with programmes developed in places such as

Australia, China, France, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

There has been a great deal of discussion and debate regarding the pros and cons of STEM and the possible negative effects of focusing primarily on the sciences and pushing the arts to the background. This has led to the introduction of STEAM; STEM + A for Art. The arts are a powerful learning tool and can serve as an on-ramp to STEM for students who may not naturally or intuitively have an interest in the sciences. By engaging students' strengths using art activities, educators are able to increase student motivation and the probability of STEM success. The arts also provide opportunities for communication and expression, and bring innovation into the learning equation.

The value of the arts goes far beyond its monetary returns. The arts play a huge role in boosting proficiency within STEM subjects. Creative thinking is needed for truly excellent scientists, engineers and mathematicians, and how better to foster this than a rounded education, which includes arts subjects? Arts education fosters a literate and innovative workforce and strengthens the conditions for a healthy democracy.

S.T.E.A.M. AT ROOKS HEATH

Each year students are taken on a variety of trips with a STEM/STEAM theme. These have included trips to the Physics Laboratories, Johnson and Johnson, University College London and more. At Rooks Heath, a weekly STEM Club runs every Monday for students of Year 8 to

explore how Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics come together to make sense of everything around us and how these disciplines play a major role in creating the modern world we live in today.

S.T.E.A.M. AT ROOKS HEATH



Rooks Heath College also organised a STEAM week this year from 11th June to 15th June 2018 when students were exposed to STEAM subjects in every discipline across the curriculum: English, History, Drama, Music, Geography, PSHE, Modern Foreign Language, Sociology, DT Food, etc., as well as the STEAM subjects taught. STEAM themed lessons were taught in which students understood that STEAM is important because it pervades every part of our lives. Science is everywhere in the world around us. A curriculum that is STEAM-based has real-life situations to help the students learn. STEAM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy and enables the next generation of innovators to develop; innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy. This innovation and science literacy depends on a solid knowledge base in the STEAM areas, and it is clear that most jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of Maths and Science.



Some Year 8 girls from STEM Club were entered for Crest Awards and had great fun creating bath bombs.

Students of all year groups were shown the film 'Hidden Figures', in which three brilliant African-American women at NASA - Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world.



"In the 21st century, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important as we face the benefits and challenges of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. To succeed in this new information-based and highly technological society, students need to develop their capabilities in STEM to levels much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past." ([National Science Foundation](#))



Mrs S Subra
Head of Maths

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY – VISIT FROM THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY (RSC)

Date: 3/5/18 **Staff:** Mrs Rahman and Mrs Pithwa **Year** 13 (Some Year 12 too!)
Workshop: Spectroscopy in a suitcase

General info: The scientists from the RSC brought in Infra-Red and NMR spectrometers which can analyse unknown compounds. These are the kinds of machines you may have seen on programmes like 'Border Security' and 'CSI'! The equipment is worth thousands of pounds. One machine alone was worth £150,000! Students were given a whole range of unknown chemical samples to identify using chemical data and spectra from the machines.



Here is what Zaid thought:

1. *I enjoyed the hands on experience and being able to test the substances in person using the equipment.*
2. *It gave me a practical view of how substances are identified and to see the technological side of Chemistry.*
3. *I didn't know that the fingerprint region in spectra can be used to identify a unique and unknown compound.*
4. *I am a kinaesthetic learner so the hands on physical testing allowed me to thoroughly understand the basics and the techniques of identifying substances through spectroscopy.*



SANGEETHA DOES IT !!!

We are pleased to announce that Sangeetha in Year 12 has secured a place at the 'Dissecting Healthcare Summer School 2018' at St George's Medical school. The one week Residential course is designed to offer an exciting, interactive and educational look at the wide range of career options in medicine and the allied healthcare professions. These courses are friendly, lively and fully interactive, covering a range of healthcare

professions. Sangeetha will attend lectures, tutorials and demonstrations and will also be involved with 'get your hands dirty' by taking part in laboratory work, role play scenarios and clinical skills training. Sangeetha enjoys learning about the sciences and is looking forward to the experiences that St George's will offer her.



ART ROUND UP

This term has been a busy one for the Art department; the GCSE and 'A'Level Art exams have been completed and the work is now on show in a Summer Exhibition of art work featuring art and ceramic final pieces. This exhibition will be extended with the addition of Year 9 work and will be open to all parents, family and friends until September 2018.



Miss Hargrave continues to teach Year 5 students at Earlsmead. This term they have looked at Greek pots and the stories they tell. Year 5 students have worked hard over the year and many have received the new Federation Art Certificate in recognition of excellent work.

STEAM 2018

As part of the STEAM activities promoted throughout the school, Year 7 and 8 Art students got to work with Ceramicist Helen Johannessen. Her introductory talk covered the many varied uses of clay from cups and saucers and toilet bowls, to electrical insulators, bricks and face masks.

Year 6 students from around the borough came to spend a day experiencing lessons at Rooks Heath. Although they only had twenty minutes in Art they produced some interesting magic painting using an oil pastel resist technique.



She then showed how technology and clay have developed in industry taking the simple and ancient technique of coiling and using machines that extrude clay (like piping with icing) controlled by a computer to 3D print with clay. She then showed us how this has been translated to the building industry with houses being 3D printed just by substituting the clay for concrete – a great solution for refugee communities and the homeless. The students were then encouraged to explore the tactile qualities of three different kinds of clay before making a 'cup'.

Clay on Mars

Clay is a very ancient material formed when the earth was very young. The Mars Rover has been sent to an area of Mars heavy in clay deposits to look for signs of microbial life. The idea that there is clay on Mars was followed up in the next part of the session. Students were shown basic building and forming techniques such as pinch pots, coiling and slab building. They were then asked to explore the idea of clay on Mars and to imagine and build robots using the techniques shown.



For a preview check out the art work on our Instagram, [art_rooksheath](#)

Y11 LEAVERS PROM 2018

It was a perfect summer's evening in Eastcote on Monday 25th June and the Year 11s, excited and relieved from the pressure of their GCSE exams, arrived in true style to their Prom. The boys looked very handsome in their suits and the girls, even more gorgeous in their dresses.

The music and dancing lasted the whole evening, although everyone managed to put some time aside to find something to eat from the buffet dinner selection. The Magic Mirror and the Candy Cart were a huge hit, and after some brief speeches from the nominees, votes for Prom King, Queen, Prince and Princess were cast.



The winners – Ajmal, Mathangi, Jonathan and Jemma - were announced in the middle of the evening, to the enthusiasm of all present. More excitement followed later when the raffle draw took place, and the prizes included iTunes, Vue Cinema and Ten Pin Bowling gift cards.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and I would like to thank the committee for all their efforts over the last few months. It was certainly a night to remember and a great send-off for the Year 11s!

Ms H Grover
Director of Learning, Year 11



Y7 SPORTS DAY



Y8 SPORTS DAY



Y9 & Y10 SPORTS DAY



Y9 & Y10 SPORTS DAY



ROBOCODING WORKSHOP AT ROOKS HEATH

Brunel University students brought along their cute little robots (ozobots) to Rooks Heath and ran the amazing Robocoding workshops. Rooks Heath Year 7 and Year 8 pupils had a fun time working with the robots and learning to carry out simple programming. The aim of the session was to introduce students to computer coding, encourage engineering thinking, and show the importance of Maths and Science at school.



Feedback from the pupils....
"This is so much fun!.....
Much better than
lessons..... Can we do this
all day?.....I've learnt so
much.....I am going to ask
my parents buy me an
ozobot....."

Why is engineering so important?

Every industry and every area of society depends on the precise and efficient work of engineers. They provide technological solutions to the problems, issues and ideas that affect every area of our lives. They design, manufacture and maintain almost everything people and industries use, from computers, spacecraft and boats to corkscrews, buildings and chemical reactors. Technological advances would never happen without engineers. Consequently, the people who work in this sector are massively important in developing the future of our society.

Did you know 2018 is the Year of Engineering?

This is a government campaign, which celebrates the world and wonder of engineering. It also forms an important part of the government's Industrial Strategy which is committed to

boosting engineering across the UK, ensuring everyone has the skills needed to thrive in a modern economy.

From spaceships to ice skates, the bubbles in chocolate bars to life saving cancer treatment, engineering touches every part of our lives. However, not enough young people – especially young girls – think it's a world for them. As a result, the industry is struggling to recruit future talent. What's more, young people are missing out on a financially rewarding career and the chance to make a positive difference to their futures, that of the planet and everything that calls it home.

(I can't remember why this was highlighted. Will check)

For further information look at job profiles on the National Careers Service website.

Ms Bea Sahota
Careers



TEENTECH TRIP

"Mrs Haddow and Mrs Sahota accompanied a group of Year 8 students, who were keen on pursuing a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) related career to TeenTech City at the Emirates Stadium, home of Arsenal Football Club.

TeenTech was an immersive experience, fun but focussed, giving the students a practical insight into the industries of the future and the skills they need to take advantage of them. Over 500 students from 50 schools across London shared a day of challenges and experiments with scientists, engineers and tech. The students were encouraged to experience, design, innovate, engineer and experiment all throughout the day. They built robots and bridges (Mrs Haddow was in her element here..), experienced Virtual Reality, turned a banana into a hammer, designed products to help address major world problems such as eradicate disease, poverty and pollution. All this during the course of a few hours!

The following companies provided a range of interactive activities and challenges: Accenture, Air Products, Atkins, Barclays, Cummins, Gensler, Google, HPE, Imperial College, JVC Kenwood, Just IT, Kings College London, London Zoo, Laduma, Maplin, NHS, Queen Mary University London, Salesforce, Siemens, Symantec, Sodexo, TFL, Thames Water & Tideway Tunnels, Turing Lab, Young Rail Professionals and University City London.

All the budding scientists and engineers in Year 8 who attended agreed that it was a fantastic trip."



RAF NORTHOLT GIRLS ONLY TRIP

On a cold day on May 16th, a group of girls from Years 9 and 10, along with Mrs Haddow and Mrs Sahota, embarked on a special careers trip. They had been invited to spend a day at RAF Northolt as part of the celebration of 100 years since the formation of the RAF. The main aim of the day was to inspire girls to take up careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Recruits with a background in STEM are highly sought after, as are linguists, especially those who are fluent in Arabic and Pashtu. There are many routes to a career in the RAF, including entry with/without GCSE's, A' levels, Degrees and Apprenticeships. Obviously the more qualifications you have, the better the pay.

During the course of the day, they listened to and were encouraged to speak to many personnel in the RAF about their roles, from pilots, musicians, linguists, engineers, scientists, intelligence, chefs, space engineers, data analysts, police officers, fire fighters and ambulance crew to name a few. The highlight of the day for many girls

seemed to be handling some of the weapons used in the RAF. Surprisingly nobody collapsed under the weight of the weapons or the kit bags. Some of the competitive girls certainly impressed with their levels of fitness. The girls later sat in jungle jeeps, played sport and finished off with taking part in a competition to test the fastest model rocket car. Unfortunately, on this occasion we didn't win.

The girls listened to truly inspirational women whose message was simply, "You can BE ANYTHING you want to be as long as you persevere and put in the work". The girls and the teachers were thrilled to have taken part in such an exciting day.

The following websites are useful for further information:-

1) <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/> for RAF careers.

2) <https://www.raf.mod.uk/raf100/news/raf100-aircraft-tour/> for special RAF 100 events.

TRUNDLE IN BRIGHTON

Sunday 17th June saw Rooks Heath staff and Sixth Form students take part in the British Heart Foundations London to Brighton Bike Ride for the 3rd year.

The day started and ended with some unexpected rain but on the whole the weather stayed fine as we trundled down to the coast, passing through some beautiful countryside and small, picturesque villages.

The team quickly spread out along the course so we ended with a variety of finishing times but we all made it which is the main thing.

Well done to the team: Ryan, Prahlad, Jack, Jatharvan, Izzy, Igor, Murtaza, Thnujan, Raksha, Nathalia, Mrs Hyde, Mrs Fosbrook, Mr Macaulay and Mr Sharp.

In total we managed to raise nearly £800 between us. A big thank you to staff who raised £125 for the team at our staff "Rainbow Lunch" a few week prior to the ride.

Also the team would like to thank Ms Wright and Mr Wright for driving the bike van and the team minibus and getting everyone back home safe and sound if a little sore.



**WE
RAISED
OVER
£1000**

The team braves the early morning rain

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION 2018

This year, our A Level and GCSE Photography students have produced a range of images inspired by techniques, concepts, contexts and ideas used by artists and Photography pioneers. Throughout the year, they have learnt basic camera control, composition, lighting and digital image manipulation in Photoshop. They have also explored different genres and styles of Photography which has helped them to develop their understanding of the role of Photography as a phenomenon that has shaped the world in which we live in today - a world that is seeing a rather meteoric advance in technology and social media.

The students' work exhibited in the College Foyer, reflects, in real and in abstract forms, a range of themes and techniques including 'composition, portraiture, journeys and transform'.

The exhibition will run until October 2018

K. Kunakey
Head of Photography





JOIN THE
REGISTER



Thirty-six of our Sixth Form students have recently joined the Anthony Nolan stem cell donor register following informative sessions to raise awareness held at Rooks Heath.

Anthony Nolan uses its register to match potential donors to blood cancer patients in desperate need of a lifesaving stem cell transplant. The Sixth Form at Rooks Heath has hosted presentations from Anthony Nolan's education programme, The Hero Project, for the last four years. During that time, a total of sixty-nine potential life savers have joined the register and it is commendable to see so many young people putting themselves forward to do something to help a stranger. Students have learned about lifesaving donation and we are extremely proud of those who have registered as potential stem cell donors. If they are found to be a match, they could go on to save the life of a blood cancer patient. Thank you to everyone involved.

Anthony Nolan key statistics

Someone is diagnosed with blood cancer every 20 minutes.

Around 2,000 people in the UK need a bone marrow (or stem cell) transplant from a stranger each year. This is usually their last chance of survival.

You have a 25% to 30% chance of having the same tissue type as a sibling.

90% of donations take place via [PBSC](#) (peripheral blood stem cell collection). This is an outpatient appointment and is similar to donating blood.

To join the register, you must be aged between 16 and 30, weigh more than 7st 12lbs (50kgs) and be in general good health.

FAREWELL ROOKS HEATH

My long career at Rooks Heath began in 1971 when I came to teach English at what was then called Roxeth Manor Girls' School, led by Miss Burkitt. This occupied the right hand side of A Block, whilst the Boys' School was on the left. I remained at the school until 1973 when I left to have my family, and when they were safely in school, I returned in 1980 to what was now a mixed comprehensive school, still with Miss Burkitt as its Head. It was like coming home!



Over the years, although my passion was always for teaching English, I also loved the pastoral side of school life and gradually worked my way up from being an Assistant Head of Year, to a Director of Studies and finally to Deputy Head (Pastoral). I have always believed in our students, and the care that we show towards their well-being at Rooks Heath is second to none. I am proud to have had a part in nurturing so many young people through their problems, be they social, academic or behavioural, and to be rewarded by well-rounded young adults who love to come back years after they have left to tell us of their successes.

The icing on the cake for me was when we started teaching A Level and I have loved the challenge of teaching amazing literary texts to students with a thirst for knowledge and a genuine love of literature. Getting coursework out of them was a more arduous task, however, but we always got there in the end, mainly because of my excellent powers of nagging! It is always incredibly humbling to hear a student say that they have been inspired to read English



Literature at university because of our lessons. It is for moments like this that I always say that teaching is the best profession there is, because we can really make a difference to the lives of our young people.

Rooks Heath has been my second family for so long and it is a bitter-sweet pill to be finally retiring. The staff are incredible and very special, and Dr Reavley is an inspirational Head. I shall miss you all - especially the students!

Mrs R. Corzberg
July 2018



REWARDS CELEBRATION EVENINGS



RESULTS DATES

A LEVEL Thursday 16 August

BG9 Y13 at 8.30 AM
Y12 at 9.30 AM

GCSE Thursday 23 August

9:00am for students coming to our 6th form; **10:00am** for students not coming to our 6th form.

COLLEGE RE-OPENS: MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Autumn Term 2018

Term begins Monday 3 September

Half term Monday 22 October -
Friday 26 October

Term ends Friday 19 October

ROOKS HEATH NEW WEBSITE GOES LIVE!



FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH YOUR DEVICES

FIRST WEEK BACK

Mon 3 Sept.	Staff ONLY INSET
Tues 4 Sept.	8.45 - 11am: Y7 & Y12 Induction 8.40am- 3.15pm: Staff INSET
Wed 5 Sept.	8.45am - 3.15pm: Y7-11 & Y13 start
Thurs 6 Sept.	8.45am - 3.15pm: Y7-13 Normal Day

ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 11 SEPT 2018



Business & Enterprise



ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE

Eastcote Lane, Harrow, HA2 9AH

T: 020 8422 4675

F: 020 8422 4407

www.rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk

QUICK RECIPE

Strawberry Ice Lolly

Ingredients

300ml/10½fl oz yoghurt
125g/4oz strawberries, hulled
50g/2oz caster sugar

Method

1. Place the yoghurt, strawberries and sugar into a food processor and blend until smooth
2. Pour into ice lolly moulds. Place into the freezer overnight and serve when frozen

