

VOICES

WELCOME TO



TITHE ACADEMY

ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE

Issue 92
December 2017

www.rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk

EDITORIAL

It is official! Rooks Heath College and Earlsmead Primary School have joined forces to become one Academy Trust. This will be known as Tithe Academy. The benefits from such a partnership are huge and the economies of scale provided will be significant. This includes staffing, resources, value for money as well as central services such as Human Resources, Finance and support for students and their families. These economies of scale will have a really positive effect on teaching and learning and will be instrumental in fuelling our relentless drive on raising academic achievement.

Although Rooks Heath is the sponsor school, I am keen to stress this is not a take-over. The two schools are equal partners in the arrangement. We have so much to learn from each other.

There will be no change of names. On a day to day basis Rooks Heath College and Earlsmead Primary School will remain as identifiable institutions within a larger Academy Trust.

The Governance of the Academy consists of Members, A Board of Trustees and a Localised Governing Body.

The early signs are very positive we are getting used to working with each other on a formal basis. I look forward to keeping you informed of further developments on a regular basis.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year. I hope the upcoming break will provide ample opportunities to spend quality time with family and friends, and also for a well-earned rest. Thank you for all your support throughout the year. I look forward to seeing everyone again once school resumes on the 4th January 2018.

Best wishes

Dr John Reavley

WELCOME TO TITHE ACADEMY



YEAR 7 DISCO

The Year 7 disco was such good fun and exciting!!! I think that it really helped me settle in with the Y7s, especially students outside of my Tutor Group. There were lots of the Sixth Form there to encourage us to get involved in the stalls around the side of the hall and to dance too! I loved how they let us choose the music, and the prices for the drinks and snacks were reasonable too. We even got Mr Todd to dance as well, which was funny.

I think that as this disco was so amazing then it should happen every year, so next year's Year 7 can experience it all as well!

Sabrina, 7 Indigo



MUSA



Musa gained a place at Harrow School for 6th Form entry from September. He firstly gained a bursary called **The Kane Family Award**, a specific Sixth Form bursary which funded 95% of the school fees for a Sixth Form candidate from the London Borough of Harrow. Subsequently, he was awarded an Academic Scholarship to cover the outstanding 5% fees. This was due to the results of the entry assessments that he took last November onwards. Dr Roberts, Head of Latin, said that Musa attained full marks on the English-Latin component of the assessment (the most challenging part), which has never happened before!

Having been resident at school for a full term, Musa has embraced Harrow life, immersing himself in everything the school has to offer. He fully recognises the opportunity that he has been awarded and intends to make the most of it.

We look forward to him visiting us in the future, to inform us about his endeavours so far!

Musa is an inspiration to our students and an ambassador for the school. He is coming in to say his goodbyes this week. If you see him please wish him all the best. He has a very bright future ahead of him!

Mr P. Todd

Director of Learning

LATIN STUDENTS IN ROME

On Friday 24th November, Rooks Heath Latin students went on an exciting residential trip to Rome! After arriving at school at half past one in the morning, we were just about awake enough to hop onto our flight to Italy's capital city, where there were numerous attractions waiting to be seen. On arrival, we visited the beautiful Trevi Fountain, and then ventured on to see the Pantheon, a former Roman temple, followed by the stunning Spanish Steps.

Day two brought us to the Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. We went to museums and the Sistine Chapel where we admired the wondrous works of Raphael and Michelangelo. We also paid a visit to St Peter's Basilica, and later saw the Capitoline Hill.



The next day we went to the Colosseum, the largest amphitheatre ever built. It was fascinating to see the place where magnificent gladiators and animals would fight in Roman times. After that, we saw the Palatine Hill and the ancient Roman Forum. With our feet aching and stomachs rumbling, we feasted on pizza and pasta, and for dessert we indulged in some authentic Italian 'gelato'.



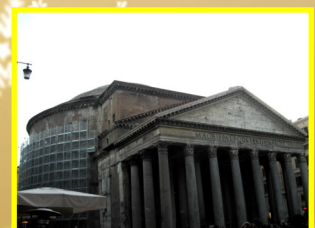
For our final day, we were enthralled by a panoramic view of the whole of Rome from the top of Castel Sant'Angelo. We then went for a quick shop before heading to the airport for our return journey.



Thanks to everyone who made this spectacular trip such a success. Veni, vidi vici!



Sara, 11 Indigo



ART NEWSROUND

The Art department has really enjoyed teaching the new Year 7s and will be sad to see them move on to Design Technology but are looking forward to meeting the other half of the year group. The Year 8s swop over at the end of this term and we are hoping that a good number of them will opt for Art in Year 9 or come back to us in Year 10. Both year groups have made solid progress with a good number of students achieving Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. Examples of their work can be seen on the school's Instagram account: art_rooksheath

The Art department has been working with Year 5 students at Earlsmead and students eagerly look forward to their weekly art classes with Ms Hargrave. This arrangement will continue into next year.

The GCSE students are getting to grips with the new 1-9 syllabus with the first exam in 2018. As part of their research, students are expected to visit galleries and museums. This term the department has run two trips, one to the Natural History Museum and the V and A followed by a visit to Tate Modern and its surrounds including a river boat trip taking photographs to inspire work for the 'Rivers and Bridges' project. One of the highlights was the installation of swings at Tate Modern.

Our relationship with the Sorrell Foundation continues with 6 students taking part in a Saturday school at the V & A. This experience



really develops students' maturity and culminates in a national exhibition at the Courtauld Gallery in the summer.

Last year Art student Leah Fletcher was selected to work as part of a small group to make and design a stained-glass window as part of Harrow Museum's Young Roots project. Funded by the Heritage Lottery, students worked with Alf Fisher MBE, the former chief designer of the Whitefriars Studio from 1966-1973. The window depicts many key aspects of Harrow's history and can be seen in the Harrow Museum's new café on their recently renovated site.

Looking forward to 2018, 25 Year 10 students will take part in a drawing workshop run by the Royal Academy and the lower school will have the opportunity to work with a ceramic artist as part of a very exciting project run by the Crafts Council in conjunction with Central St. Martin's Art school. The annual art exhibition will form part of the celebration evening for Year 11s on the 27th June 2018.

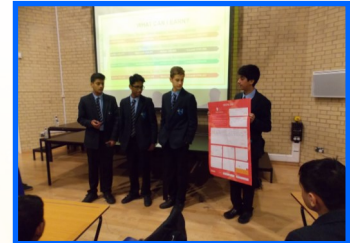
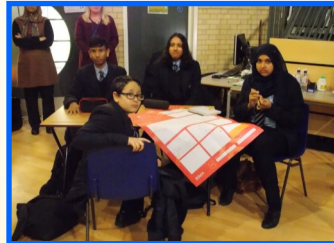
The Art department would like to take this opportunity to wish all students a very happy Christmas.

Ms I. Hargrave
Head of Art and Design

DIGITAL DAY

On Friday 17th November, 70 students from Year 9 took part in Digital Day. They learnt about Digital Careers from industry specialists as well took part in real life digital challenges with a little guidance from the experts. They ended the day presenting a fun Dragons' Den type pitch. The students felt it was a great opportunity for them to get hands on experience of the world of digital work. Many thanks to Mrs Batt and Miss Heath in the Computing Department for all their hard work in helping to organise Digital Day. Further information on careers in the digital industry can be found on:

<https://www.bimadday.org.uk/careers/>



A LEVEL ECONOMICS STUDENTS CONFERENCE

Apart from Harry and Meghan, there is only one subject on the TV these days, and that is 'Brexit'.! 17 million Brits have voted to leave the EU, leaving the question: how may this affect the UK economy? So a group of Year 13 Economics students battled their way through last week's slush, rain and cold to hear the views of the politicians, Vince Cable and John Redwood, the economists, the university professors and the BBC economics editor, Kamal Ahmed. A fun and interesting day was spent hearing both side. If you want the question answered, ask one of Rooks Heath's Economics students!



Mr S. Bliss
Head of Economics



VOCATIONAL CAREERS FAIR

On Wednesday 22nd November all students in Years 10 and 11 had the opportunity to visit the Vocational Careers Fair. The exhibitors attending the fair provide courses and apprenticeships which aim to equip students with knowledge, know how, skills and competences required in particular occupations. The fair was held so that the students could learn about the pathways available to them post 16, and are able to make an informed and relevant choice.

Further information can be found at the following links:

<https://www.wlc.ac.uk/>

<https://www.stanmore.ac.uk/>

<http://www.harrow.ac.uk/>

<https://www.uxbridge.ac.uk/>

<https://www.westherts.ac.uk/>

<http://www.capel.ac.uk/>

<https://www.lhaa.co.uk/>

<https://www.ucfb.com/>

<https://apprenticeships.ga.com/>

<http://www.parenta.com/childcare-apprenticeships-young-people/>



AUTUMN MUSIC CONCERT



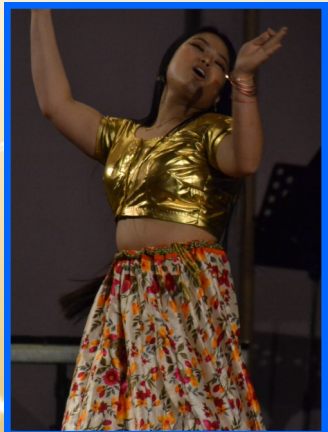
On the evening of Tuesday the 21st of November the annual autumn music concert was held. This night was a showcase of the diverse range of talent that our students have to offer. In the lead up to the concerts all of the students worked very hard to prepare their items. This hard work paid off as audiences were treated to an evening of top quality entertainment, featuring Year 9 Bridging Rock Bands, vocal solos, raps and ensembles, dance items, instrumental solos and one massive final group number. Well done to all students and staff involved; it was a wonderful evening!



Thank you,
Ms A. Slater



AUTUMN MUSIC CONCERT



Y11 GEOGRAPHY RESIDENTIAL FIELD TRIPS TO SWANAGE

On September 22nd 2017, a group of Year 11 Geography students eagerly embarked on a four-day journey to the south coast of England, destined for a place called Swanage, in order help us gain a better understanding of coastal landforms and to complete our Geography fieldwork.



On Friday morning we departed from Rooks Heath College and began a long four hour journey to our destination. We enjoyed a short ferry ride over serene waters, before arriving in Swanage around midday where we had a revitalizing lunch break on a picturesque beach. After a brief drive along a scenic route, we arrived at a place which was previously a quarry and learnt about the history of it. Upon venturing further away from the quarry we arrived at the cliffs, which gave us an excellent view of the area, boasting vivid blue waters and the cliffs. We then travelled to our place of accommodation. Upon arrival we unpacked and enjoyed a delicious meal provided by the hostel. The teachers then gave us an informative evening lesson before we were allowed to explore the local area, providing we were back at a certain time.



The next day, we were awoken bright and early by Mr Simpson and we enjoyed a breakfast prepared by the hostel before we went in the minibuses heading to Studland Bay. This is where we completed our fieldwork, which included making observations about the facilities the beach offered for tourists, as well as carrying out a visitor questionnaire, enabling us to gain an understanding of how the beach is managed by the National Trust. We also examined the geography of the area and the biodiversity of the sand dune ecosystem. Overall, it was both informative and interesting. Following a refreshing lunch break we began our long walk to see Old Harry. The walk was long and meandering. However, it was worth it when we were greeted with the amazing view at the end. We were able to sit down and enjoy the breath-taking view, before resuming our journey back to the hostel. It was a long tiring day, but most definitely worth it!





On our last full day in Swanage, we were first taken to an old village, called Tyneham, which served as a military training base camp during the war. We all found it extremely interesting to observe and we were allowed to explore it before we advanced to our final destination of the day... Lulworth Cove.



Upon arrival, we were given a questionnaire to complete based on information in the heritage centre. We were then allowed to walk around the nearby shops and admire the view, before being taught about the geology of the area. Following this came the longest walk of my life! Surprisingly, everyone managed to accomplish it although some with great difficulty. Once we reached the beach we all enjoyed running around and resting on the sand before we were back on our feet making the long walk back to the minibuses. After a relaxing journey back to the hostel and a delicious meal, we all took part in an educational evening lesson which consisted of various activities in order to help us gain more knowledge of the geology of the area. We all thoroughly enjoyed our last day in Swanage and although it was a physically challenging one, it was engaging and we all had a great time.

On the final day we were all a little sad about the prospect of such a fun trip coming to an end. However, for the few remaining hours, we were given a set of questions to answer on the beach and once completed, we took the opportunity to shop for souvenirs to take home to remember a great trip! We all boarded the minibuses and four hours later we arrived back in Harrow, reminiscing on what was a great trip. It was both informative and enjoyable, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A huge thank you to the staff who organised this trip and I would definitely recommend it to future year groups!

by Sumayyah , 11 Yellow

Life in the 6th Form

SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE



In November the whole of Year 12 attended a very powerful, multimedia presentation at the Harrow Arts Centre about driving safety. This is a national initiative which is currently touring the country. They were told real life stories from paramedics, police officers, fire fighters and grieving parents. It was shocking and hard to watch but students came away with a strong awareness of the real life consequences of making the wrong decisions when driving or getting into a car with friends.



FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



The annual Year 12 v 13 football match went ahead this year. This was despite the fact that the year 12s were a little low on numbers. So much so, that the teams ended up being a mixture of both 12s and 13s by the time they kicked off. As the final whistle blew, it was a clear victory for...the Sixth Form! Everyone's a winner.

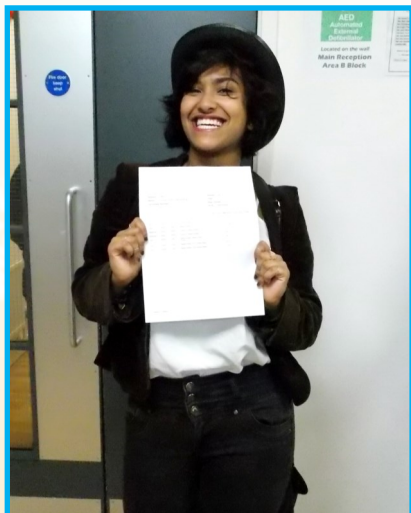


ONESIE DAY! BBC Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, sixth formers paid £1 to wear a onesie or their pyjamas to school for the day! All the money raised went to Children in need: £175.55

Thanks to all the staff that supported the disco. We made a profit of £135 which was donated to the Teenage Cancer Trust.

GCSE & A LEVEL 2017 RESULTS



GCSE

English: 75% achieved levels between 9-4 with 52% achieving levels 9-5.

Maths: 68.5% achieved levels 9-4 with 46% achieving levels 9-5. This represents 29 students which is around 1 in 5 achieving a top grade of 7, 8 or 9 in Maths. 5 students achieved the maximum level 9 which is an outstanding performance.



Languages: 53% achieved grade A*/A. This represents 66 students achieving an A*/A grade out of 124 students entered for the exams. Our results this year maintain our place as one of the top schools nationally for results in Languages. They were stunning!

(including three 9s in English Language, English Literature and Mathematics. Rooks Heath prides itself on being a totally inclusive school and we are therefore very proud to state that 100% of our students achieved at least one GCSE qualification.

The highest performing student was Musa who achieved 11 A*/A grades

Well Done!



A LEVEL

Post 16: at A Level 75% achieved grade A*- C with 99% achieving A*- E. The highest performing student was Nathan who achieved 2 A* and 1 A grade and is now going to the London School of Economics and Political Science to continue his studies.

BTEC results were outstanding with the vast majority of our students gaining Distinction* grades.

All students who applied to University have been accepted and we wish them well as they start their new courses.

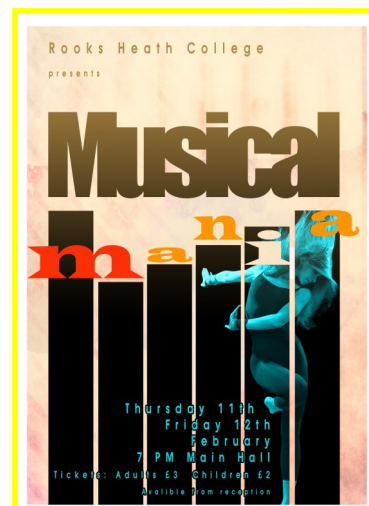
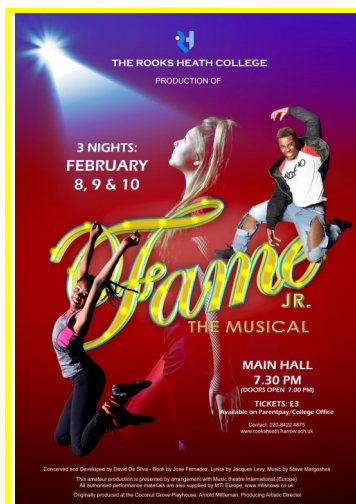


FAREWELL MRS CHRISTMAS

Mrs Christmas's last day at Rooks Heath was on Friday 1st December, when she left to become a full time mother. Over the last eight years, as a teacher within our Drama Department, she has worked tirelessly for the school, organising and directing school productions, including most recently 'Fame'. Mrs Christmas became Head of Drama two years ago and since then she has energised the department through her passion for Drama, which she has transferred to students.

Mrs Christmas is a much loved and respected member of staff, who will be greatly missed by both students and teachers alike and we wish her well for the future.

Mrs G. Capolouongo
Head of Drama



FAREWELL MS LANE

Ms Lane retired from Rook Heath College in July and the college will never be quite the same again!

Ms Lane joined Rooks Heath in 1989 and quickly worked her way up to being Head of Geography. Many students will have fond memories of their Geography field trips to Swanage, and those fortunate enough to have been taught by Ms Lane will have experienced a truly outstanding teacher whose passion and dedication were second to none.

Ms Lane became a Director of Studies in 1999 and then went on to successfully lead the Sixth Form in 2006. Her unique rapport with

students ensured that the Sixth Form thrived, and then she went on to face further challenges as Deputy Head in charge of Teaching and Learning. It is in this role that she truly left her mark on Rooks Heath, both for students and staff. She will be sorely missed but the innovations that she introduced will benefit the college for a long time to come.

We wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs R. Corzberg
Deputy Head (Pastoral)



COLLEGE CALENDAR TERM DATES

Spring Term 2018

Term begins	Thursday 4 January
Half term	Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February
Term ends	Thursday 29 March

Summer Term 2018

Term begins	Monday 16 April
Half term	Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June
Term ends	Tuesday 24 July

Bring in **£1** for Save The Children

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

MONDAY 18th DECEMBER

Years 7 - 11 should wear their normal uniform but their shirt, tie, blazer and school jumper can be replaced by a Christmas jumper.

christmasjumperday.org



ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE

Eastcote Lane, Harrow, HA2 9AH

T: 020 8422 4675

F: 020 8422 4407

www.rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk



QUICK CHRISTMAS PUDDING RECIPE

Method

1. Grease a 1.2 litre (2¼ pint) pudding basin. In a small bowl, stir together cranberry sauce and golden syrup. ...
2. In a separate bowl, beat together the butter, sugar, eggs, flour, mixed spice, dried fruit and grated apple until well combined. ...
3. Microwave on medium power for 9min until firm to the touch.

