

Roysia Review

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We are halfway through the academic year already and teachers are preparing their mid-year reports, so that you can see how your child is getting on and how they are progressing. You should receive these in early March and you will also have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at our consultation evenings on 21 and 23 March. I look forward to seeing you there.

Members of year 8 represented Roysia extremely well on Wednesday 3 February at the Rotary Club Technology Tournament. All three of their bridges performed as designed and the pupils' attitude and behaviour was excellent; we are very proud of you all.

I hope that you and your families enjoy a restful half term break and we will see you all again on Monday 22 February, when year 5 will have an early start as they will be spending the day at The Barbican, rehearsing and preparing for their concert that evening. With 6 of our pupils performing solos and all of year 5 forming part of the massed choir, the second half of the term will start in a very exciting manner!

Z J Linington

DINNER MONEY

For next half term, from Monday 22 February to Friday 1 April (we finish at 1.00pm on Friday 1 April) the cost of school dinners will be £64.80 (less £12 if your child in year 5 is going on the visit to Aylmerton - £52.80). Wednesday roasts will be £14.40 (Aylmerton £12) and Friday fun lunches will be £9.60 (Aylmerton £7.20).

We will be **unable** to provide a lunch for the children attending the concert at the Barbican on 22 February. If your child has school meals paid for in advance, you will be credited for one meal. If your child receives Free School Meals, unfortunately we will be unable to provide a packed lunch on this occasion.

TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT 2016

On Wednesday 3 February, 11 year 8 students went to the Cambridge Motel to compete in the annual Tech Tournament.

Our task was simple. We had to build a bridge of a certain height and length with a limited amount of equipment. It had to be able to withstand 1 kg and be able to let a small barge go under it. One part of the bridge had to stay still and the other part had to be lifted using a pulley and let a taller barge through. We also had to add the logo of Shelter Box, a charity that helps homeless people in all different conditions.

Some teams decided to use straws as the main structure and other teams used card to make corrugated card.

There was also a teacher's team and a sixth formers team. The task they had was a little bit harder.

There were three teams from Roysia. We were against Meridian, Greneway, Freeman, Ralph Sadleir and Edwinstree.

Even though we were against some older students, we managed to beat the other middle schools.

Martha Yohannes—Year 8



SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS

On 26 January we took a squad of 18 Y5 and 6 to compete in an Indoor Athletics tournament at Freman College. The team showed great levels of fitness and ability when competing against students from larger schools and finished a very creditable 4th out of 6 schools, showing great resilience along the way.

Year 7/8 Boys and Girls competed in their Indoor Athletic tournament on the 3 February. The Year 8 boys were well represented and the Year 7/8 Girls formed an alliance and competed together in the Year 8 competition. The track distances were a lot further than the younger year's tournament and required a great deal of resilience to complete event after event with small teams. In the girls tournament, despite an injury to one of the athletes, it was great to see the rest of the team pulling together to ensure we were represented in each event, led by Jessica Wagstaff and Shayla McCarthy-Clements. Ciaran King and Matthew Richmond were the sole representatives for the Y7 team and were a credit due to their enthusiasm. The Year 8 Boys had great success in the field and also in the track events, led by Alex Campbell who dominated the sprint events, eventually ending in a team Silver.



Mr Archer
Leader of PE



FOOTBALL

Last week Y7 had the first game in the North East Herts Boys Football League against Edwinstree. With only a few practices completed and a focus on the defence, the team did very well to halt Edwinstree's progress with Harvey Wright doing exceedingly well at the centre of defence commanding his fellow defenders. Coby Green pulled off some great saves in goal and was extremely unlucky as two of their goals were ricochets off the bar. We lost the game 6-1, but plenty of hope for the next couple of games as they continue to try and improve their teamwork.

Mr Archer
Leader of PE



CAREERS DAY

We are intending to hold a careers morning for our pupils in years 7 and 8, to give them an opportunity to talk to some adults about their jobs.

We are looking for volunteers to come into school for about 2 hours on the morning of **Friday 13 May** between 11.15am – 1.15pm, to talk about their job and explain what qualifications/ skills are needed.

We are hoping to get a wide variety of expertise; everyone is welcome from craftsmen to lion-tamers, so please let us know if you would like to take part in this very valuable opportunity. This will really help our children make more informed choices, so thank you very much if you are able to help or are able to suggest someone else who might be able to.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

Last week our School Council received a visit from some of our local Town, District and County Councillors. They explained to the School Council about their jobs and responsibilities. The Council representatives were very engaging and enthusiastic in their suggestions for improvements in the town—this included new shops and a larger skatepark.

Our thanks go to Councillors Lindsay Davidson, Fiona Hill, Tony Hunter and Vera Swallow for their interesting Visit.



SWIMMING

A reminder that Year 5 and 6 swimming lessons began this week. Please remember to bring in swimming kit and £1 for a locker each Monday for the rest of the term.

Mrs Underwood

FUNDRAISING

We have just sent a cheque for £252.09 to The Brain Tumour Charity. The money was raised through the sale of cakes by Caitlyn Grace, Millie Falconer, Abby Mackenzie and Faye Little for which they should be congratulated on for such a sterling effort. Well done girls!

BINGO

A reminder that the Friends' Bingo evening takes place on Friday 26 February. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm. Tickets £2, this includes your entrance and last game of the night. Other games £1 each. If interested please contact Sam Bowen: sam.bowen@gntlworld.com, as we are restricted to 100 places.

VALENTINES DISCO

The Valentines disco will be held tonight from 7.00-9.00pm. No ticket, no entry!

Glitter Tattoos will be on sale at the disco—they are hypoallergenic and although they can last up to a week they are also easily removed with baby oil

FRIENDS 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the January and February draws:

January

Lisa Stanway, 1st prize £20.00 and Elaine Stamford, 2nd prize £5.00.

February

Stella Dobbing, 1st prize £20.00 and Vicki Wigmore, 2nd prize £5.00.

If anybody would like to join the club please come to the office for a form.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Next term **7A** and **8H** will be cooking in Design and Technology Lessons: 7A will be cooking from Monday 22 February and every Monday until the end of term; 8H will be cooking from Tuesday 1 March and every Tuesday until the end of term.

Please support your young cook by providing ingredients for him/her to bring to school. There will be a list in his/her school diary each week.

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE/HOLIDAY

Please note that the Hertfordshire Code of Conduct and process for issuing penalty notices for unauthorised absences has been amended.

From 1 February 2016 the following changes apply:

- The number of sessions of unauthorised absence is reduced from 21 to 15 (in the current and/or previous term)
- The number of letters the school/academy is required to send is reduced from 2 to 1 (the previous warning and breach letters are replaced with a single letter)
- The process for applying for a penalty notice for unauthorised holiday is now the same as for unauthorised absence

EASTER BREAK

Please note that the holidays for Easter this year are somewhat unusual in that we have the Easter Weekend off, **Friday 25 to Monday 28 March 2016**.

School is then open **Tuesday 29 March** until **Friday 1 April**.

On **Friday 1 April** we close at 1pm and re-open on **Monday 18 April 2016**.

CORRECTION

In the review sent out on 15 January 2016 there was an error in the Term Dates:

Please note that the Spring Term ends on **Friday 1 April at 1pm**