

GOAL!

TERMS 1 & 2 | 2017/18 | THE ROWANS
AUTUMN/WINTER EDITION

INSIDE...

NATIONAL TEAM OF THE
YEAR

WORK EXPERIENCE

GCSE RESULTS



www.therowans.org

Celebrating

**Staff, pupils and parents celebrate yet another year of superb results
The Rowans results have outperformed national alternative provision results by a considerable margin.**

The Rowans pupils' are celebrating another year of successful results. The Rowans' pupils outperformed the national average for Alternative Provision (AP) across all regions, with 93% of Year 11's achieving five or more GCSEs or equivalent, compared to the latest available national average for AP schools of 12.3%. At least one GCSE or equivalent was achieved by 100% of pupils, compared to the latest national average for AP of 57.7

A huge 29% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSEs 9-4 (A*-C) including English and Maths. This is in comparison to the national AP average of 1.1%.

All pupils have a post 16 destination and Katie Martin, Head of KS4, said "Our pupils have achieved so much during their time at The Rowans, some have been with us for less than a year and have worked hard to achieve. All pupils will follow a pathway which is suited to their level, and I am pleased to be working so closely with our colleagues in other provisions. Many pupils are looking forward to following courses at Mid Kent College including Ciar who has secured her place on the Level 3 Sport and Exercise Science Course. Connie has chosen another pathway and has been selected to complete her apprenticeship in a local nursery, whilst Ryan will attend the 6th form at The Howard School in Rainham, where he will study for his A Level courses"

Deputy Head, Fiona May said, "These results are testament to the hard work and commitment of both the pupils and the amazing staff team who work tirelessly and selflessly to ensure that all pupils are inspired to achieve."

Headteacher Caron Johnson, echoed these words and added, "I am so very proud of everyone who has worked extremely hard to ensure that our pupils have the very best chances of success in the future. At The



Success

Year 11 Headline Figures	The Rowans 2016-2017	National PRU Data 2015&2016		
		Medway	South East	Total
Number of Year 11 pupils	14	84	918	9333
% pupils eligible for FSM	43%			
Attainment 8 Average	22.94	14.5	9.1	7.8
Attainment 8 Average Boys	20.93			
Attainment 8 Average Girls	29.67			
Progress 8 Score	-1.00	-2.44	-3.05	-3.28
Top Progress 8 Score for individual pupil	1.50			
Average points score (this is the discounted figure from 2013/14)				
5 or more 9-4 including English and maths (% 5 A*- C inc English and maths)	29%	7.1%	1.3%	1.1%
% 5 A*- G including Maths and English	79%			
9-4 or their equivalent (% 5 A*-C)	36%			
5 or more GCSE's (1 - 9) or their equivalent (% 5 A*-G)	93%	30.9%	13.4%	12.3%
At least 1 GCSE 1-9 or equivalent (%1 A*-G)	100%	72.7%	61.1%	57.7%
4-9 in English and Maths GCSE (% A* - C in English & Maths GCSE)	29%	9.5%	4.5%	3.4%



Girl's Sleepover



The Rowan's girls all got together on a Thursday in October to spend the night at school. The girl's sleepover was great fun for all involved. We started off the evening making pizzas and brownies, took mad photos in the photo booth and made friendship

bracelets. We had fun doing each others nails and even looked funny in our face masks. It was lovely for the girls to have some fun time together. We roasted marshmallows on the bonfire and then had to shower in our new



shower block to get rid of the smell of smoke. We managed to get to sleep at a reasonable hour and were all woken up



bright and early by Miss Johnson for Friday in school. It was lovely to start the day with a good breakfast and chatting about the evenings fun.



TEAM OF THE YEAR

Staff were given a Gold Plato award at the Pearson Teaching Awards on Sunday 22nd October. A few of the Rowans' staff team attended the awards ceremony and accepted the award on behalf of the whole staff team.

The ceremony was held at the East Wintergarden in London and was a chance for the staff to dress up and enjoy themselves. It was a really posh and prestigious occasion and Miss Johnson even wore a dress! The team were shocked to win the gold award, after accepting a Silver



Teaching Award in June to recognise 'exceptional contribution to the teaching profession'.

Miss Johnson said:

"I am shocked yet incredibly proud to accept this award on behalf of The Rowans' team. They are without a doubt the most selfless, kind, inspiring and hard-working people you will ever meet, and I am privileged to be their Headteacher."



The team won one of 11 Gold Plato awards presented each year, with their category being 'Outstanding School Team of the Year'.



Introducing The Rowans' Head Boy & Girl

In term one, staff and pupils elected our Head Boy and Head Girl. On election day pupils who had put themselves forward for



election gave speeches in a special assembly. All pupils conducted themselves impeccably and respectfully throughout. After the articulate and persuasive speeches, staff and pupils went to the ballot boxes and elected Jack A as Head Boy and Demi C as Head Girl. Well done to both.

Xmas Dinner

The Btec Health and social pupils recently got involved in planning and attending a Christmas lunch for the elderly at the local church. The pupils served the lunch, played games and spent time chatting. They were absolute ambassadors for the school and we are all very proud of the warmth and patience that they showed.



Breaking the Cycle

On the 16th November we were very fortunate to have Breaking the Cycle visit The Rowans. Breaking the Cycle begun in the United States after the 1999 Columbine High School shootings and it aims to stem the tide of youth violence. Breaking the Cycle speakers told their personal life stories to KS3 and KS4, which illustrated how they have overcome violence and tragedy through forgiveness. They delivered a powerful and thought provoking message to our pupils which prompted some outstanding questions and personal reflection.



School Council

The revamped student council has taken on a new look for this academic year. Headed by Jack and Demi (Head boy and Head girl) the council have been meeting regularly to share views and ideas and be a voice for Rowans' Pupils. So far the student council have implemented ideas such as, roast dinners, a tuck shop during break times and basketball hoops on the playground, as well as organising charity events and leading assemblies.



The student council also attended the Annual Medway Youth Conference at the Corn Exchange, participating in debates and workshops with other Medway schools.

The Student Council will continue to work hard, voicing ideas and forming links within the local community, helping to raise the profile of The Rowans in Medway.

Charity

At The Rowans we are motivated to raise money for worthy charities and those less fortunate than ourselves.

So far this year we have raised £35 for Young Minds, £88.60 for Great Cancer Awareness and £81.55 for Children in Need. We have done this in various different ways. We always manage to make, sell and eat beautiful cakes!

Over the coming year we will have many more fund raising events



Power Up

At the start of term 2 Mr Prescott's Website and Game Design class took a trip to the Power Up expo at the Science Museum in London. The entire first floor of the Science Museum was installed with 180 different games consoles spanning right across the history of video games. Pupils had the opportunity to play old classics like Pac-man and Sonic the Hedgehog whilst Ryan, Luke and Louie had the chance to test the latest Virtual-Reality software, even Mrs Martin managed to have a go! The pupils came away brimming with ideas for their own game designs ahead of starting their coursework this term.

Mid Kent College

Year 11 visited Mid Kent College to have a tour of their facilities and get an idea of what college life is all about. We

visited Mechanics, Engineering, Painting and Decorating, Plumbing, Electrical, Bricklaying and

whilst visiting Carpentry we saw 3 of last years pupil's busy working on their carpentry projects. It was great to see the college in action and get a real feel of how the college is during the learning day. Pupils asked questions about courses and how they run and what is expected of pupils whilst at the college. We left with our goodie bags and discussed pupils post 16 choices when back at school. All pupils now have a good idea if college is the right choice for them and some have already signed up for courses



Harvest Festival

In October the Health and Social pupils delivered hampers, made by the staff and pupils of The Rowans, to the local church for harvest. The hampers were greatly received by the elderly and a lovely afternoon was had by all. This helped the pupils work towards the completion of an assignment in their unit 2 work.



Interventions



My name is Buster and I'm a nine year old Labradoodle. Once a week I visit the Rowans with Mrs Skinner and help with all of the interventions. There are sixteen different types of interventions available currently at the Rowans but my favourite is reading.

I love sitting listening to the pupils read in the library, it's very relaxing and those that attend every week are making fantastic progress.

After I've listened to some reading I like to assist with some Lego construction. I help by picking up any bits that are dropped onto the floor!

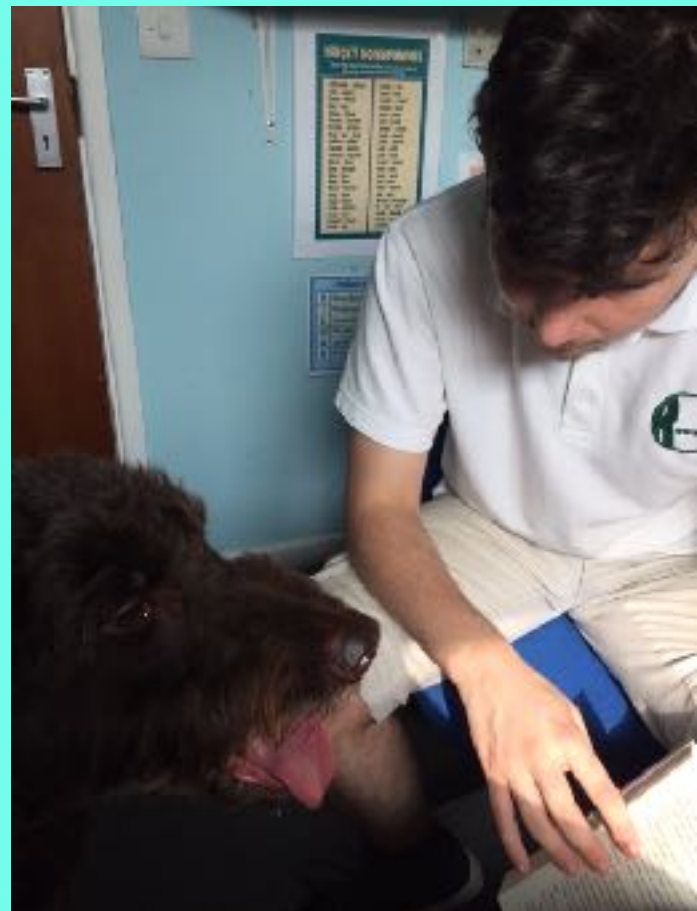
Wednesdays are my favourite days to visit as it's roast dinner day, after eating a lovely roast I often take a wander over to the garden and have a look in the poly tunnel. Mrs

Antoncini has been busy with the pupils during gardening interventions ensuring that we will have a bumper harvest of fruit and vegetables this summer.

I normally finish off my day with some English or phonic work, the pupils in these interventions work so hard that I can have a sneaky sleep without them noticing!

The aspect of visiting The Rowans that I love the most is all of the walks, strokes, dog treats and cuddles that I get and I look forward to visiting every week.

If you don't have an intervention at the moment did you know you can self- refer? Simply fill out a form (available from interventions staff and form tutors) and pop it in the letterbox in the interventions corridor.



Alton Towers

This year the Leisure & Tourism students were given the amazing opportunity to visit Alton Towers resort, the biggest theme park in the UK. The coursework investigation this year required students to increase their knowledge and understanding of a major UK theme park. Mr Taylor, Mr Hake, Miss Johnson and Miss Harris had the pleasure of taking both groups to visit the resort during the Halloween Scarefest!

The trip was unbelievable and thoroughly enjoyed by all staff and students. The group stayed in the Alton Towers resort hotel and enjoyed two action packed days of thrill seeking and fun!

This trip was one to remember, all of the students behave

impeccably and were a

credit to the school. The students were full of life and it was great to see everyone having so much fun. Stanley over-came his fear of rollercoasters, Kelsey rode the runaway train 15 times and Jordan cried on the smiler.

An unbelievable residential, a huge thank you to the school for the trip. An amazing experience that will be remembered by all.



Term 1 Smiley Trip- Liquid Leisure

A thrilling day was had by all who attended the Reward Trip for Term 1. We were lucky enough to visit Europe's Largest Aqua Park- Liquid Leisure.

When we arrived the weather didn't look too promising, but as we got changed into our swim wear the sun made an appearance. We headed for the inflatable assault course, pumped and ready to take part, until we realised that everyone else had wet suits on. Unfazed we jumped into the freezing cold water... We lost three pupils at the first hurdle, it was so cold it took your breath away! We all made it back in one piece, bruised, cold and elated.



Swattenden



All KS3 pupils visited The Swattenden Centre in October for team building days. The action packed days installed resilience and enabled pupils to build positive relationships with other pupils in KS3. Activities included raft building, the zip wire and an assault course, topped off with a hot lunch. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were able to overcome barriers and take away different personal highlights. All pupils were a credit to the school and a pleasure to spend time with.



Lablive

Selected pupils were treated to a day out to watch the LabLive show at The March academy auditorium.

LabLive was a spectacular show that entertained us and made us laugh and vote with actions!

The first show taught us how to hack our brains so that we can control the movements of others. We watched a pupil be wired up to a teacher and as she tensed her bicep the teachers hand moved. We also saw a demonstration by pupils from the audience act out the functions of Neurons in our brains and explored how nerve cells send messages. We also learnt how scientists in the past developed this understanding from testing frogs legs!



Work Experience

Year 10 pupils and year 11 Health and Social Care pupils completed a very successful weeks' work experience in term 1. Work experience places are organised via MEBP and pupils are matched to their requested interests and future career pathways.

In total 13 pupils visited local businesses to experience life in the workplace and see what it is like having a full time job. Pupils were praised for their punctuality and willingness to try new jobs. Business providers said they would have the pupils back again and would be very happy to host a Rowans pupil as they are confident, polite, hardworking and enthusiastic. This what some of them said;

Luke has a brilliant attitude.

Macy is brilliant with the children and has really enjoyed herself.

Kelsey's employer said they were very impressed with her performance and positive attitude.

Stanley's employer at Medway Park said that he was very helpful and polite and that he did particularly well as a lifeguard.

Riley is good at following instructions.

Callum is a real asset to our staff.

Some of our pupils were even rewarded for their hard work. Jason was given free tickets to watch the Gillingham football game and took his brother along with him to enjoy the game.

Some pupils have also enquired about possible apprenticeships and have had a very positive response. We will look into possible future work experience placements to strengthen these relationships and plan for post 16 apprenticeships.

We are very proud of all their achievements, being successful in the working world is not easy and our pupils have showed resilience and determination to get the most out of their 12 weeks work experience.

Art at The Rowans'

During term 2 the GCSE art students had the opportunity to visit the Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate, over two days. During the visit the pupils took part in a navigator led workshop and produced modern sculptures inspired by natural forms. They were also lucky enough to see a world famous piece titled, "The bed" By local artist Tracey Emin.

Both visits were a huge success and the pupils' impeccable behaviour was a credit to the school.

We look forward to returning next year!



This term we have had some great projects going on in KS3 and GCSE Art.

KS3 have created self-portraits using four different techniques, and 3D sculptures in response to the theme 'Making the Ordinary, Extraordinary.' This is Tarron's larger than life sculpture.

This is Alliah's fantastic Self-Portrait



The GCSE group have been working hard on their Pop Art coursework by researching images and artists, and experimenting with different media, and developing their own ideas. This is Tayla's fantastic Pop Art project. What a great start to the year!



DT & Stem

The DT Dream Team!

There have been some great additions to the DT team this year and I am very excited to welcome Mr Hake, Mr Mansford and Mr Miller to join Mr Rayner and I within The Rowan's DT department. Mr Hake has joined us to teach BTEC Engineering, BTEC Construction and Key Stage 3 STEM; and the pupils are loving the opportunity to learn about, and experiment, with more metal and electronics themed projects. Mr Miller has officially joined us this year as an apprentice TA within the DT department and has undoubtedly done a fantastic job so far in supporting me, and Mr Hake, in our lessons; it is an honour to have such a talented ex-pupil become a member of staff. And finally, Mr Mansford has recently joined us as a TA / Technician from Greenacre; bringing with him even more experience, expertise and ideas to help our amazing department grow and grow!

So much fantastic work has been produced throughout the department over the last two terms and pupils have really 'stepped-up' in their level of effort, creativity and professionalism to produce a whole range of amazing products. Here is a taste of what we have been up to...



In our Engineering lessons, we have been looking at the health and safety involved in the School workshop, but we have also been focusing on how it is covered in industry. Students have completed their first health and safety unit for Engineering, and have now progressed onto their practical elements, where they have also completed their first project; the sliding bevel. The attached photo is a fine example of this, by JLaw who is turning into an excellent Engineer, having never before carried out these processes. The group have now progressed onto their mechanical clamps, where the focus is pillar drill accuracy, and learning how to tap and create screw threads.



Within the STEM lessons, students have designed and manufactured their own oil burners from aluminium, and once again, they have been introduced to new skills such as metal finishing, using the guillotine, screw threads and forging sheet metal. The designs were excellent, and many have produced outstanding final products.

Our second STEM project has focused on the research and design of controllers for games consoles, where students have researched, designed and manufactured their own games controller, based on ergonomics and design features. Once again, some outstanding effort has gone into producing these models, and the top 6 chosen, will receive a BRONZE CREST AWARD for STEM. Winners to be announced!

Christmas at

Christmas at The Rowans is always a special time of year. A massive thank you to Ms Redford who cooked a delicious Christmas dinner for staff, pupils and guests that really got everyone in the Christmas spirit.

The Rowans went en mass to the Central Theatre Chatham to watch Sleeping Beauty. We had a great time cheering, clapping and shouting. As the audience we were charged to watch over princess Belle's present and shout 'Wake up' every time the fairy fell asleep. We all did a grand job and played our part. We even got up at the end and danced!



Student quotes:

AL when the Chester's mum was pulling a ladder out of a small bag, "This is freaking me out."

MV when he saw the princess, "I am in love with her, she has my heart."

DC when Chester's mum was doing a strip tease "This is inappropriate, is it a man?"

The Rowans



THE BEST OF TWITTER



Cooks Corner

SHOPPING ON A BUDGET

conversion table

Weight		Liquid measures	
American	Imperial	Quantity	Metric
16½	3½ lb	1 cup liquid (160)	45 ml
32½	7½ lb	2 cups liquid (320)	90 ml
49½	11 lb	3 cups liquid (480)	135 ml
65½	14½ lb	4 cups liquid (640)	180 ml
81½	18 lb	5 cups liquid (800)	225 ml
97½	21½ lb	6 cups liquid (960)	270 ml
113½	25 lb	7 cups liquid (1120)	315 ml
129½	28½ lb	8 cups liquid (1280)	360 ml
145½	32 lb	9 cups liquid (1440)	405 ml
161½	35½ lb	10 cups liquid (1600)	450 ml
177½	39½ lb	11 cups liquid (1760)	495 ml
193½	43 lb	12 cups liquid (1920)	540 ml
209½	46½ lb	13 cups liquid (2080)	585 ml
225½	50 lb	14 cups liquid (2240)	630 ml
241½	53½ lb	15 cups liquid (2400)	675 ml
257½	57 lb	16 cups liquid (2560)	720 ml
273½	60½ lb	17 cups liquid (2720)	765 ml
289½	64 lb	18 cups liquid (2880)	810 ml
305½	67½ lb	19 cups liquid (3040)	855 ml
321½	71 lb	20 cups liquid (3200)	900 ml
337½	74½ lb	21 cups liquid (3360)	945 ml
353½	78 lb	22 cups liquid (3520)	990 ml
369½	81½ lb	23 cups liquid (3680)	1035 ml
385½	85 lb	24 cups liquid (3840)	1080 ml
401½	88½ lb	25 cups liquid (4000)	1125 ml
417½	92 lb	26 cups liquid (4160)	1170 ml
433½	95½ lb	27 cups liquid (4320)	1215 ml
449½	99 lb	28 cups liquid (4480)	1260 ml
465½	102½ lb	29 cups liquid (4640)	1305 ml
481½	106 lb	30 cups liquid (4800)	1350 ml
497½	109½ lb	31 cups liquid (4960)	1395 ml
513½	113 lb	32 cups liquid (5120)	1440 ml
529½	116½ lb	33 cups liquid (5280)	1485 ml
545½	120 lb	34 cups liquid (5440)	1530 ml
561½	123½ lb	35 cups liquid (5600)	1575 ml
577½	127 lb	36 cups liquid (5760)	1620 ml
593½	130½ lb	37 cups liquid (5920)	1665 ml
609½	134 lb	38 cups liquid (6080)	1710 ml
625½	137½ lb	39 cups liquid (6240)	1755 ml
641½	141 lb	40 cups liquid (6400)	1800 ml
657½	144½ lb	41 cups liquid (6560)	1845 ml
673½	148 lb	42 cups liquid (6720)	1890 ml
689½	151½ lb	43 cups liquid (6880)	1935 ml
705½	155 lb	44 cups liquid (7040)	1980 ml
721½	158½ lb	45 cups liquid (7200)	2025 ml
737½	162 lb	46 cups liquid (7360)	2070 ml
753½	165½ lb	47 cups liquid (7520)	2115 ml
769½	169 lb	48 cups liquid (7680)	2160 ml
785½	172½ lb	49 cups liquid (7840)	2205 ml
801½	176 lb	50 cups liquid (8000)	2250 ml
817½	179½ lb	51 cups liquid (8160)	2295 ml
833½	183 lb	52 cups liquid (8320)	2340 ml
849½	186½ lb	53 cups liquid (8480)	2385 ml
865½	190 lb	54 cups liquid (8640)	2430 ml
881½	193½ lb	55 cups liquid (8800)	2475 ml
897½	197 lb	56 cups liquid (8960)	2520 ml
913½	200½ lb	57 cups liquid (9120)	2565 ml
929½	204 lb	58 cups liquid (9280)	2610 ml
945½	207½ lb	59 cups liquid (9440)	2655 ml
961½	211 lb	60 cups liquid (9600)	2700 ml
977½	214½ lb	61 cups liquid (9760)	2745 ml
993½	218 lb	62 cups liquid (9920)	2790 ml
1009½	221½ lb	63 cups liquid (10080)	2835 ml
1025½	225 lb	64 cups liquid (10240)	2880 ml
1041½	228½ lb	65 cups liquid (10400)	2925 ml
1057½	232 lb	66 cups liquid (10560)	2970 ml
1073½	235½ lb	67 cups liquid (10720)	3015 ml
1089½	239 lb	68 cups liquid (10880)	3060 ml
1105½	242½ lb	69 cups liquid (11040)	3105 ml
1121½	246 lb	70 cups liquid (11200)	3150 ml
1137½	249½ lb	71 cups liquid (11360)	3195 ml
1153½	253 lb	72 cups liquid (11520)	3240 ml
1169½	256½ lb	73 cups liquid (11680)	3285 ml
1185½	260 lb	74 cups liquid (11840)	3330 ml
1201½	263½ lb	75 cups liquid (12000)	3375 ml
1217½	267 lb	76 cups liquid (12160)	3420 ml

£1 Meals

Each recipe costs less



Preheat the oven to 190c/gas mark 5

Combine the sesame oil, soy sauce, honey, chilli flakes, Chinese five spice and crushed garlic in a bowl with a generous pinch of salt and pepper, add the chicken wings and coat them in the marinade.

Lay the sweet potato cubes in an ovenproof dish, throw in the chicken wings on top and cook for about 45 minutes, or until the chicken of the chicken wings turns a lovely golden and they are cooked through

BUY FROZEN AND TINNED FRUIT AND VEG

They cost less and are just as good for you (so long as they're not packed in juices with added sugar) They won't go off as quickly and with frozen vegetables you can just use as you need.

SWITCH BRANDS

It sounds obvious, but we get used to buying the same brands every week.

PAY ATTENTION TO PRICES

We can get used to our regular supermarket that we often don't check the prices. Check the cost of everything you put in your trolley.

SET A BUDGET AND TRY TO STICK TO IT

I know that is easier said than done but when you focus on a maximum spend, it's amazing how much you will realise

£1 Sticky Wings.

- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- Pinch of chilli flakes
- 1tsp Chinese five spice

- 1 garlic glove, crushed
- 4 chicken wings
- 1 sweet potato, peeled and cubed
- 1 spring onion
- Salt and pepper

HEALTH SWAPS

BREAKFAST

Swap whole milk for semi-skimmed, 1% fat or even skimmed milk

Sport at The Rowans'



SSG

On Thursday 30th November Louie, James, Jason, Stanley, Harvey, Riley, Matrix and Jamie represented The Rowans in the SSG handball competition held at Medway Park. England handball reported that the event was the largest schools handball competition to take place in the country, with 15 schools from across Medway entering and 410 pupils participating. The standard of handball was very high and all of the boys performed exceptionally well in some fast paced games. Jason scored an outstanding solo goal, Louie showed tremendous determination and Stanley was excellent in goal, pulling off some amazing saves.



Futsal

Thursday 14th December saw The Rowans take part in the SSG Futsal competition. AS, JA, JT, CWill, JS, MR and JM all competed with pride and were a credit to the school. Excellent sportsmanship was demonstrated throughout the day and there were a number of exceptional performances. Connor was heroic in defence, making a number of important tackles and clearances, Alfie finished as top scorer after a number of clinical finishes Jack worked tirelessly during every game. Well done boys, outstanding effort and commitment, we are proud of you all.

@TheRowansAP Callum's all set for #SSGCrossCountry very nervous but determined! #SSG #SJWMS #InspiringChange



House Captains

Congratulations to Titans, who were crowned house champions in 2016/2017. This academic year has seen the appointment of four new house captains, all hoping to lead their houses to glory and be crowned champions.

Congratulations to:

Jack- Spartans
Tommy- Gladiators
John- Warriors
Ryan- Titans

It is a great honour to be appointed house captain, and these four boys all represent their house with pride. They are outstanding role models for all pupils and lead by example.

Current house standings:

1st Gladiators - 1157
2nd Titans - 1047 Points
3rd. Spartans 871 Points
4th Warriors - 744 Points



ROWING

The Rowans held its inter-house sporting event in term two. The four houses competed against each other on rowing machines, each taking turns and doing their bit for their house. A huge well done to Gladiators who won the competition.





FINAL WORD...

The end of this year's first two terms is now upon us and my favourite time of year. At The Rowans we know how to celebrate Christmas.

The yearly visit to the pantomime was a huge success, it was lovely to see so many of our pupils enjoying themselves and joining in the fun. We also enjoyed a beautiful Christmas dinner together in the hall and yet again Mrs Redford and her elves prepared, cooked and served a delicious meal. It's so nice for us all to get together and enjoy these events and show that despite challenges that the pupils may face, they are able to be mature and spend this time with each other. I am staggered yet again that Mrs Redford manages to feed us all such a beautiful meal.

It has been a really successful start to this year in so many ways. Firstly I want to say how proud I am of our year 11 leavers and their outstanding exam results. We are keeping a very close eye on their progress and they are all doing well in their chosen destinations.

We welcome many new pupils and their families to The Rowans and are looking forward to continuing our work with you all.

As always I am equally impressed with the learning and progress which has taken place so far this year. It has been a really successful start to the new year. We have all been busy 'tweeting' our successes and adventures@TheRowansAP and I am increasingly proud of the work that I am shown on a daily basis.

I would also like to welcome our new members of staff Miss Harris, Mr Hake, Mr Mansford and Mr Miller all of whom have been a huge asset already to our school. We celebrated at the beginning of the year being the Winners of The National Pearsons Teaching Award for School Team of the Year and the staff team have continued their hard work and commitment into this academic year.

Interventions across the school are going from strength to strength and I am always blown away by the musical talents of our young people. This GOAL magazine shows how busy we have been this year so far and the many successes of all of the pupils. It is difficult however to show you just how hard everyone is working. Pupils continue to take their learning seriously and for many pupils this is the first time in a long while that they have been engaged in school. I am really proud of their efforts and strongly believe that those who haven't managed to make as much progress as we would like will turn things around in the near future.

As ever, I am proud to be the Headteacher of The Rowans, I am proud of the pupils and their achievements, I am proud of our parents and their constant commitment to working with the school and proud of the whole staff team, who are without question the most committed, talented and inspiring people I have ever met.

It leaves me now to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I will see everyone back at

