

# GOAL

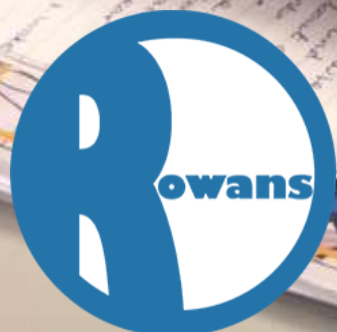
TERMS 3&4 | 2017/18 | THE ROWANS  
SPRING EDITION

INSIDE...

TEACHING AND LEARNING

WORLD BOOK DAY

EASTER EGG HUNT



[www.therowans.org](http://www.therowans.org)



# TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teaching and learning at The Rowans has always been a key priority. During terms 3 and 4

teachers have been working creatively to inspire pupils and promote a love of learning. Teachers have been taking the classroom outside and teaching pupils; in the snow, in museums, through robotics workshops and through professional talks to celebrate women in engineering. This has not only enabled pupils to produce some amazing work but also to have new experiences and learn new skills to use when back in the classroom. This has resulted in most pupils making expected or exceeding progress in all areas of the curriculum.

KS4 pupils are also working hard as it is now only weeks until their GCSE and BTEC exams begin. Many have been attending after school revision clubs to ensure they achieve the very best grade they can. Each KS4 pupil has been given a personalised revision timetable where teachers are ready to give extra teaching, coaching and support to all pupils that attend.

This year we have reinvented 'The Big Write' and all pupils in KS3 have had the opportunity to complete an extended literacy task to practice and improve their writing skills and ensure that literacy is embedded across the curriculum.

As a school we are always striving to ensure our pupils are equipped to progress to successful post 16 destinations and part of this work is in looking at the option choices we offer and introducing new option choices that reflect the needs of our pupils. We have continued to offer College Carousel and new for September we are offering two new courses at Mid Kent College; hairdressing and animal care. Pupils who are interested in these courses will be completing a college tour and then progressing onto tester sessions to fully understand what these two courses involve before starting in September.

The progress that our pupils continue to make is amazing and I am incredibly proud of all their hard work and efforts. I would like to especially mention the following for outstanding progress and attitude to learning in more than one subject: Taylor Leggett in Art, English and Maths, Daniel Bavington in Design Technology and Science and Tommy Springer in English and Science.



## ON-LINE SAFETY

Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at The Rowans. Online Safety is taught to all pupils and our curriculum empowers children to understand how they can stay safe and behave appropriately online. For children and young adults, the on-line World is an important as their off-line

World, their lives play out in both. Parents can often feel overwhelmed by the digital world, with their children often more technologically skilled and aware than them. It is important that we are sure what our children are accessing when using the internet and act to ensure they are protected from people who may pose a risk to them. Children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to illegal, unwanted or unpleasant content, comments or activity online.

### Where can we, as parents get support?

Parents can always contact The Rowans and ask for support. There are also useful websites that offer detailed support and guidance:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Nude-selfies-a-parents-guide](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Nude-selfies-a-parents-guide)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>





# SCIENCE WEEK AT THE ROWANS

British science week at The Rowans is an annual event where we have a whole school focus on Science. This event motivates pupils to achieve more in science as they can understand how significant science is to things they do every day. This week is always a very exciting week, with new experiences, exciting opportunities and learning being taken outside of the classroom. Pupils have been challenged on the misconception that science is too hard or not relevant to them by integrating different subject areas into British Science Week so we can showcase the role of science in everyday life.

We have done this by;

- Kitchen Chemistry in our Food Technology lessons.
- Physics of flight workshop at iFly and actually experienced physics in action by participating in indoor skydiving. Two KS3 forms had the exciting experience of learning the physics of flight. They watched a video in teams of 3 and then answered a quiz. Layton, Harry and Daniel remembered key facts extremely well and won the quiz. The teams then designed and made wind propelled carts to race down a ramp. This time Kyle, Reece and Tommy were the winners.
- Photography lessons entering the #TMiHPhotoComp by completing the Celebrating Technicians challenge (we focused on our STEM technicians in school to make links with the other Technology subjects). Some amazing Microscopic Photography skills shown by our GCSE photography pupils. They focused on the technicians use of microscopes.
- Zoolab came to visit to show us how animals have evolved and how they are adapted to the world around us in their various niches.
- Crime House visit at Kent university where we saw how science is used by professionals to determine what has happened at a crime scene and how different tests are used to bring criminals to justice.
- This year we have also added an outreach session to share our expertise with our local community, visiting MAPS a group run for disabled adults. Ryan used his new found knowledge to run Kitchen Chemistry workshops with them to show science is for all



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**There is a link between attendance and achievement and therefore it is very important that your child attends school every day unless there are *exceptional* circumstances.**

At the Rowans Academy we are continuing to focus on attendance and punctuality, and we expect your child's attendance to be at 96% or above - this is in line with government expectations.

Education lays the vital foundations of your child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve life chances for your child.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to those families who work with The Rowans to ensure your child's punctuality and attendance is high. For all students that achieve 100% attendance in any one week during Terms 3 and 4, will get weekly chances to enter our attendance draw. There will be two lucky winners randomly picked out at the end of Term 4, each winning £100 to spend in a shop of their choice.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Jones

## Maths Revision Club

The maths teachers at the Rowans have been incredibly impressed with the attendance and effort at after school revision clubs. Pupils have been staying after school every Wednesday to work on mastering tough topics in the lead up to the first maths exam on 24th May 2018. Special mentions to Tommy, Jack and John who have attended every session this year! Every session attended will benefit them on exam day and will continue right up until the exam. Well done all those who have attended.



## FOOD BANK

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. Support with accessing a foodbank can help prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems. At The Rowans we believe that, in unexpected circumstances, a simple box of food can make a massive difference.

If you require more information about the support we offer through the Foodbank, please contact Miss Jones.

QUOTE OF THE TERM  
Denis to Lexi "Can you read?" Lexi "Yes I can, why?" Denis "I'll help you cook, if you help me read"



## BTEC Science trip to Dungeness Power Station

8<sup>th</sup> January saw Mr Cheal and John visit the infamous Dungeness B Power Station as part of John's science coursework. Dungeness B Power Station is an advanced gas cooled reactor which in Cheal's eyes is just a giant kettle. In freezing temperatures we were given a tour of the working power station and saw first-hand exactly how the



# Congratulations to our Bronze Crest Award Winners!!!

Mr Hake would like to say congratulations to the following Key Stage 3 Students, who were the winners of the "Design your own game controller" competition:

Through researching, designing and modelling, they were able to produce their own versions of a games controller, for a console of their choice.

The modelling stages were carried out through using Styrofoam/dowel to produce a physical model, as well as using Lego to see their designs at the conceptual stages.

The project gave students an insight into the world of designing, how to overcome ergonomic adversity as well as learning some new practical modelling skills.

Well done to all of the Key Stage 3 Students who entered the competition!

The winners have received a certificate for them to proudly show off, as well as 20 house points each!



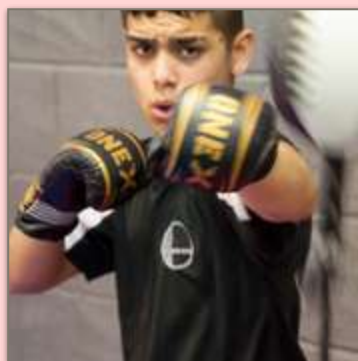
**Tarron, Kyle, Billy, Fabian and Alfie**

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## Extra-curricular activities

The Rowans staff have been working together to provide range of after school clubs for students to attend. Attendance to after school clubs has been great, Rowans students have enjoyed clubs including; gym, rugby, boxing, photography, statistics, english, maths and creative writing. These clubs have encouraged our students to learn new skills, make new friends, build respect, learn teamwork and relieve stress through enjoyment.

Our dedicated staff team have been delivering clubs and sessions themselves as well as linking with secondary schools and local facilities.



### Boxing Club

The Rowans students were granted £500 from Kent Sport to start an after-school boxing club. Rowans students received 10 sessions at Spartans boxing gym Strood. The training sessions were delivered by local professional boxers Jordan & Grant Dennis. The students behaviour, attitude and efforts during session was exemplary. A special mention to Connor who attended every session and made great progress. Also to Megan for working hard and showing the boys how its done!



### Swimming Club

Many of our students at the Rowans are unable to swim. A valuable life skill that is also a great way to exercise. Kent Sport have invested £1000 in swimming lessons for our students. Every Wednesday Rowans students are taught by coach Megan at Strood sports centre after school. Students; Ryan, Daniel, Tommy, Leyton, Dylan and Harry are making great progress already.



### Revision Clubs

For our year 10 & 11 students revision is compulsory. Attendance to revision clubs is vital in order to achieve their target grades. English, Maths and Statistics are compulsory for all year 11 students. English revision is on Mondays and Maths Revision on Tuesdays after school. For those students studying statistics this is on Thursday.



## Engineering

Engineers received a visit from BAE Systems

The year 11 Engineers were visited by Alice, from BAE Systems to discuss careers and apprenticeships at the global leader in aerospace Engineering.

Alice, and ex-NVQ student of Mr. Hake's, who is a second year apprentice with BAE, delivered a talk on the company, a look at the range of career opportunities available and a detailed look into the life of an apprentice. The boys listened carefully as Alice discussed the entry requirements, day to day activities and prospects at such a market leading firm.

The visit not only was very informative, but also coincided with Unit 11 of the Engineering BTEC course "Starting work in Engineering".



## Art Trip

This term the GCSE Art & Design students had the opportunity to visit The Huguenot Museum in Rochester. The pupils had a navigator led tour of the museum and gallery and took inspiration from the exhibits. Denis, Matrix and Stanley particularly enjoyed dressing up in the traditional costumes of the Huguenot period. The pupils then enjoyed a creative workshop experimenting with printing and clay. They made decorative sculptures and artwork influenced by their studies of the Art Nouveau movement at school and the Huguenot period from the visit. A great day was had by all and we look forward to visiting in the future.



## Unicef- Rights respecting schools award

We are very pleased to tell you that we have recently been awarded the first stage of Unicef UK's Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) called the Recognition of Commitment, Bronze Award. The Rowans aims to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's abilities and skills to their full potential.

Our next step is to achieve the Silver award and actions are being put into place in order to achieve this.

The student council have set up an action plan to ensure that:

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) underpins our values and decision making in school
- The whole school learns about this and respects the rights of others
- Pupils are empowered to become active learners and active local and global citizens.

We really hope that you will be able to support our school on our journey towards becoming a Silver Unicef UK Rights Respecting School. For further information about Rights Respecting Schools please visit: [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa)



# TERM 3 Smiley Trip



What an absolute pleasure to accompany these amazing pupils to Jump Giants in Thurrock! These 10 pupils had achieved the highest number of 'smiley' stickers and therefore topped the chart for the whole school, in achieving their daily points total the most frequently.

We had a wonderful day, beginning with a McDonald's, which Mr Ketcher particularly enjoyed!

After this, we all went to Jump Giants, listened to the safety briefing, then it was an hour of jumping, tricks, tumbling and challenges in the foam zone, extreme dodgeball and competition in the ninja courts.



## Lego Robotics programming challenge

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February MEBP visited The Rowans to deliver a Lego Robotics workshop to pupils studying CIDA and selected KS3 pupils who have excelled so far this year in ICT. Pupils worked incredibly hard throughout the day to programme their robots to achieve given goals, which included programming their robot to follow different coloured light and motion. Attitude and behaviour was outstanding and pupils were even able to complete undergraduate work, which is an amazing achievement. Luke and Louie were the overall winners and will now represent The Rowans in the



## College Carousel

The last four terms have proven successful for our college carousel students. For a double lesson each Friday pupils try on of the many Mid Kent College courses with the aim of inspiring them for their future pathways post 16. The courses change each term, with term 3 being Motor Mechanics. The tutor led sessions proved to be extremely popular with pupils and they learned a great deal of valuable life skills regarding car maintenance. Term 4's sessions will be a taster of the Animal Care course. Pupils will work hands on with a variety of animals including giant tortoises, ferrets and rats and learn about specific animals dietary requirements and needs. We look forward to this and are confident that this will be a fun experience for all!



# The Rowans' Careers Fair



The Rowans fourth annual Careers fair was enjoyed by all pupils and staff on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017. We were joined by South East News who filmed and interviewed pupils, staff and exhibitors. The hall had a real buzz about it as pupils visited and chatted to our many exhibitors. The careers fair covered expertise in; apprenticeships, Army and Navy recruitment, traineeships, football coaching, banking, business and IT and other services such as The Princess Trust and The National Citizen Service. The most popular exhibitor was the Army as they had virtual reality goggles for pupils to try. This proved to be a very good way to engage pupil interest.

Pupils presented themselves clearly and politely engaging with exhibitors, asking questions about their post 16 options. Pupils were also discussing what year 10 and 11 options they would need to take to follow certain pathways that they were interested in. Many conversations continued back in the classroom where pupils

discussed their futures and their plans for their studies after their time at The Rowans.

Exhibitors said that they had enjoyed their time at the careers fair and what polite and focused pupils we had at our school. The Army in their South East News interview said how important it

## Smoking kills – Take action now and stop before it's too late

The Rowans is a **non-smoking site** (including the use of e-cigarettes and "vaping"). Notices are displayed around school to inform visitors that smoking is forbidden both inside and outside of the school premises and this includes vehicles.

Our non-smoking policy, which can be found on our website clearly outlines our position. We are committed to promoting the good health of our employees and pupils, and to ensuring a safe environment.

We strongly believe that smoking is harmful to health. Second-hand smoke (passive smoking) – breathing other peoples' tobacco smoke, has now been shown to cause lung cancer and heart disease in non-smokers as well as many other illnesses and minor conditions.

Knowing about long-term risks though may not be enough to nudge you to quit, especially if you're young. It can be hard to feel truly frightened by illnesses that may strike decades later.

**If you carry on smoking, what could be the effects on your life?**

The main health risks from smoking are lung cancer, heart disease and stroke. Smoking causes almost 90% of deaths from lung cancer, around 80% of deaths from COPD, and around 17% of deaths from heart disease.

As well as nicotine, there are more than 4,000 chemicals in tobacco smoke, of which many are poisons. At least 60 of these chemicals cause cancer. Among some of the most dangerous components are: tar, carbon monoxide, oxidant gases and benzene

One of the most dangerous effects of smoking is the increased risk of lung cancer.

Chemicals in tobacco smoke damage cells in the lungs and these then become cancer cells.

**The chances of developing lung cancer are affected by how much an individual smokes and for how long.**

The Rowans family are here to help you quit!





# Reading at the Rowans #RowansReads

**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss**

## What is a reading age?

When you start at The Rowans you complete a reading test, these are then completed as a whole school three times a year. The results of the reading tests give us your reading age. For instance if you are 14 years and 6 months old your reading age should be 14 years and 6 months. If your reading age is lower it just means that you need a bit more practice and will be timetabled a reading intervention.

If you would like to self refer you can pick up a form from the interventions team.

## Reading Interventions

At a reading intervention you can choose a book that interests you from the library. You can read it to one of the interventions team in the library or an interventions room. If you're lucky Buster may come and give you some encouragement!

Simply by attending your intervention and reading your reading age will increase. If you read at home too it'll increase even quicker!

## Success at reading interventions

Well done to the following pupils who have attended all of their reading interventions and made significant progress

**Jack 28 months of progress since September**

**Jason 37 months of progress since September**

**Kyle 15 months of progress since September**

**Reece 22 months of progress since September**

**Tommy S 22 months of progress since September**

## 10 Reasons to read (more)

1. Reading improves focus and concentration
2. Reading makes you smarter
3. Reading improves your memory
4. Reading makes you a better communicator
5. Reading leads to future academic success
6. Reading improves your grammar and writing skills
7. Reading will assist you to get a better/more highly paid job
8. You'll live longer
9. Reading helps you learn about different topics.
10. For fun/entertainment/enjoyment

"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." — Walt Disney  
Did you know?

People with good literacy skills earn 12% more than those with poor literacy skills.

Literacy is linked to life expectancy through health. Those with a good level of literacy are likely to have good health, good literacy and not engage in harmful health behaviours, which in turn increases the likelihood of living a longer life.

People who have good levels of literacy are likely to be fitter, have higher levels of enjoyment, hope, happiness and energy.

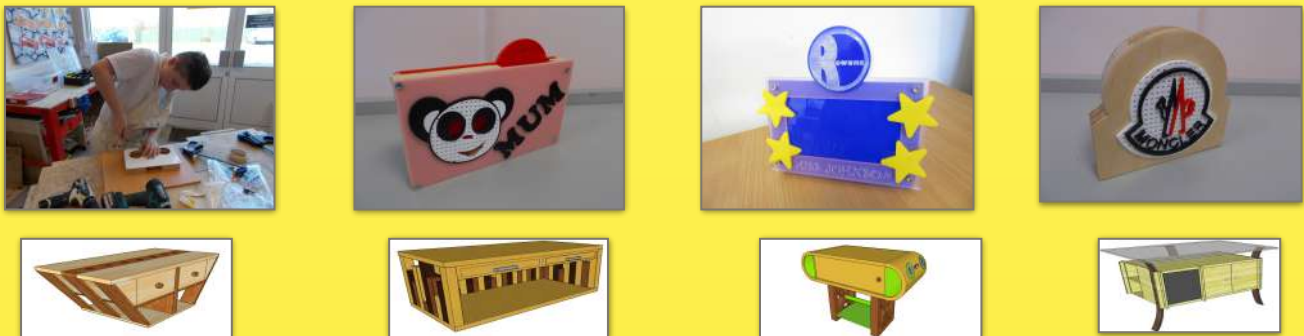


# Design Technology

It has been an exciting and busy couple of terms in DT, as always! Key Stage 3 have created some fantastic products for target users of their choice - including some gorgeous Photo Frames and very eye-catching Eco-Speakers. The pupils continue to impress me with their creative design ideas, amazing skills in the workshop and innovative use of the laser cutter. Well done to all my DT Superstars this term!



The GCSE Resistant Materials group are making great progress in their coursework projects and have created some very innovative designs for their final products. Their SketchUp skills are very impressive and I cannot wait to see the finished pieces coming together in the next month or so! Watch this space!



## Easter Egg Hunt





# World Book Day



World book day at The Rowans was a huge success this year with each form group being given an author to dress up from. There were a wide range of authors from Charles Dickens and David Walliams to CS Lewis and Roger Hargreaves, covering an array of genres. The World Book Day quiz afternoon was enjoyed by all with some very healthy competition from the house teams. World Book Day has always been an important part of The Rowans year and highlights some of the amazing books available for our pupils to read.



## House Team Update



Spartans with 1194 points

Total so far – AF -169

Total this week- FG/LL -7



Titans with 1336 points

Total so far –SG - 183

Total this week – SG - 13



Gladiators with 1435 points

Total so far – LE 193

Total this week- JO 10



Warriors with 923 points

Total so far - BH - 112

Total this week – JC - 9

# Cooks Corner

## Turkey meatballs in tomato sauce



Preparation time  
**less than 30 mins**

Cooking time  
**30 mins to 1 hour**

Serves  
**Serves 4-8**

### Ingredients

#### For the sauce

1 onion, peeled  
1 stick celery  
2 tbsp garlic oil  
1 tsp dried thyme  
2 x 400g/14oz cans chopped plum tomatoes, plus approximately 2 full cans of water  
1 tsp sugar  
1 tsp sea salt flakes or ½ tsp pouring salt  
black pepper, to taste

#### For the meatballs

500g/1lb 2oz turkey mince  
1 free-range egg  
3 tbsp breadcrumbs  
3 tbsp grated parmesan  
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
½ tsp dried thyme

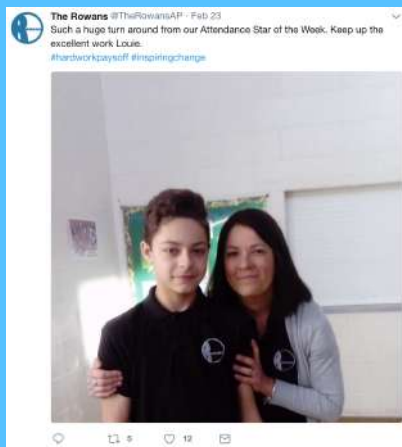
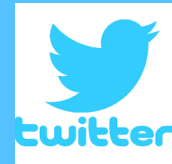
## Method

- For the sauce, put the onion and celery into a food processor and blitz to a mush. (Or you can chop as finely as humanly possible by hand.) Reserve 2 tablespoons of the mixture for the meatballs.
- Warm the garlic oil in a large, heavy-based saucepan or casserole, add the onion and celery mixture, along with the thyme, and cook at a moderate to low heat, stirring every now and again, for about 10 minutes.
- Add the cans of plum tomatoes, filling up each empty can with water to add to the pan. Season with the sugar, salt and pepper, stir well and let the mixture come to a bubble, then turn the heat down and simmer the sauce gently while you get on with the meatballs.
- For the meatballs, put all the ingredients for the meatballs, including the reserved chopped onion and celery, and salt according to preference, into a large bowl and gently mix together with your hands. Don't overmix, as that will make the meatballs dense-textured and heavy.
- When all the meatball ingredients are not too officiously amalgamated, start rolling them into balls. The easiest way is to pinch out an amount about the size of a generously heaped teaspoon and roll it into a ball between the palms of your hands. Put each meatball onto a baking tray lined with baking parchment or greaseproof paper. You should get about 50 little meatballs.
- Drop the meatballs gently into the simmering sauce; I try to let these fall in concentric circles working round the pan from the outside edge inwards, in the vaguest of fashions.
- Let the meatballs simmer in the sauce for 30 minutes, or until cooked through. Serve with rice, pasta, couscous or however you so please.

The facts about sugar in drinks			
Check before you choose			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sugary drinks, a leading cause of tooth decay, are also linked with excess weight in children, which increases their risk of heart disease, cancer and type 2 diabetes.</li> <li>Water and milk are the best drinks for children at any time.</li> <li>If choosing other drinks read the label to check the sugar level. Ideally choose no added or low-sugar options.</li> <li>Limit fruit juice or a smoothie to a small glass, once a day. Always choose unsweetened.</li> <li>If your family is in the habit of drinking sugary drinks, reduce them gradually. Only give them with a meal to reduce tooth decay.</li> <li>If choosing squash or cordial, water it down well.</li> <li>Water is tastier when it's cold.</li> <li>Put a jug of water in the fridge.</li> <li>Make it fun, use colourful cups and straws.</li> <li>Do not introduce sugary drinks to toddlers in the first place then you won't have to wean them off later.</li> </ul>			
Fizzy Drinks (Regular)			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Coca-Cola	10.5	10.5	
Fanta Orange	10.5	10.5	
Sprite	10.5	10.5	
7UP	10.5	10.5	
Iceberg	10.5	10.5	
Fizzy Drinks (Diet)			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Coca-Cola	0	0	
Fanta Orange	0	0	
Sprite	0	0	
7UP	0	0	
Iceberg	0	0	
High Fruit Squashes or Cordials			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Ready To Drink Fruit Juice Drinks			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
No Added Sugar Squashes or Cordials			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Smoothies			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Regular Squashes or Cordials			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Blackcurrant	11.5	11.5	
Fruit Juice Drinks (Unsweetened)			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Unsweetened Fruit Juices (Not Added Sugar, Not Concentrated or Not)			
Brand/Description	Sugar per 100ml (g)	Equivalent to (sugars)	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	
Blackcurrant	0	0	



# THE BEST OF TWITTER





# FINAL WORD...

We are now at the end of term 4 and looking forward to the Easter break. The last two terms have been full of challenges and experiences and a lot of hard work. The year 11 pupils are working hard in preparation for their final exams, leaving The Rowans and starting in their chosen post 16 destinations. We will mark their time at The Rowans with our annual 'Leavers' meal' at the end of June and we are all very much looking forward to this night of fun and celebration. For many of us these last two terms have been

difficult dealing with the loss of our Rowans' Princess, Connie. Connie was a remarkable young lady who had turned her life around completely, she was bright and beautiful and has left behind her a huge legacy. Connie was committed to her learning and remains a strong role model for the rest of the pupils at the school. She enjoyed life and knew first-hand about hard work, perseverance and commitment. There will be an end of year award for Commitment and Perseverance in memory of this truly inspirational young lady.



Christmas celebrations at The Rowans went well this year, Christmas Dinner, Pantomime and Celebration Day were a few ways in which we celebrated. Many pupils returned after Christmas in January determined to work hard and make great progress. Some pupils have made really impressive positive changes to their behaviour and attitude and this has made a big difference to their overall progress. It is pleasing to see so many pupils, especially year 11's taking responsibility for their own learning. I am constantly impressed with the great work that is produced, both academic and practical, and it is lovely to see all of this showcased on the Rowans' Twitter feed @therowansap.

Science week was a real highlight for us, with Mrs Martin organising many exciting events and trips and we even had lots of mini-beasts visit us.

The next two terms will be hard work with the key stage 4 exams shortly upon us, we will finish the year off nicely with our activities week full of exciting new experiences for us all to try.

There are revision sessions at school over the Easter holidays and you would have been given details of these already. Any questions about exams or revision then please email Mrs Martin on [katie.martin@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:katie.martin@therowansap.co.uk). I wish you all a relaxing Easter break and look forward to the final two terms of the year. I will see you all back at school on time at **8.40am on Monday 16th April**, ready to learn. For those of you who haven't had the most successful time over the last term then this is your opportunity to start a fresh, make the right choices and finish the year off successfully.

Miss Johnson