



GOAL!



The Rowans | 2014/15 | Term Two

Inter House Fitness

The Rowans held it's first House tournament of the school year with a Fitness Tournament. Find out who won the first of the year...

Expressive Arts

Our Expressive Arts pupils had their Controlled Assessment Performance this term and once again reduced Miss Johnson to tears!

Btec Music gig

The Btec Music group went to Basement 159 in Rochester to host their own music event featuring live music performances

OFSTED: "Rowans are determined to provide students with an outstanding education"

In October The Rowans received an Ofsted monitoring inspection visit. Read on to find out the positive feedback we got from the inspection.



IT'S CHRISTMAS!!!

It's that time of year and we have been getting in the festive spirit! Towards the end of this term, our pupils have enjoyed trips to the Pantomime (Oh yes they did!) to see Aladdin, reward trip to Bluewater's Winter Wonderland and we all sat down as a school to enjoy a delicious Christmas Dinner.

The staff at The Rowans gathered to record our version of the iconic Band Aid single (pictured above). Thirty years after it's original release, staff recorded their own version which is sure to be a Christmas Number One! The video will be posted on our website and debuted at Celebration Day.

On Celebration Day we will have Santa and his Elves coming to visit where he is also kind enough to pose for pictures with visitors to his grotto. The Rowans' 2015 Art Calendar will be sold at Celebration Day featuring examples of our pupils' fantastic work.

If you came to join us at Celebration Day we hope you enjoyed it, and Merry Christmas to all our pupils and their families or carers.





WHAT OUR PUPILS SAID:

About the Pantomime:

Brit: "The best bit was Twist and Pulse!"

Callum V: "I got sweets from Miss Hartley!!!"

D'Quan: "That was actually really good!"

About the Christmas Dinner:

Lucy: "It was really really nice! Mrs Redford did an amazing job"

Callum C: "The turkey was lovely!"

Tommy-Lee: "I enjoyed the christmas crackers and party poppers!"



EXPRESSIVE ARTS PERFORMANCE

The Expressive Arts pupils have just completed their first controlled assessment, for which they had to create a piece combining two art forms on the topic of "Family". On 27 November, the pupils had to perform their work to the GCSE Expressive Arts examiner. Chantal combined original writing and visual art in the form of a beautiful and touching story, which she was brave enough to read during a power point slide show of her own illustrations. Jazmine combined original writing and music in the form of highly accomplished and moving song. Jordan combined original writing and music in an extremely imaginative and moving musical composition, which he showed great courage in performing live during a slide show and reading of his poem.



SPIRIT OF TRYANGLE AWARD KENT FINAL

Eliey Bryant became the first ever pupil to represent The Rowans at the county final of the TRYangle Awards in Ashford.

After winning The Rowans' first ever Medway TryAngle Award at Central Theatre earlier this year, Eliey was put forward by the Medway Youth Parliament to be one of three representatives from Medway to go through to the county final. Eliey won the 'Personal Achievement In Arts' category, beating off strong competition from dozens of nominees and was one of three pupils in the entire county to make it to the Kent final.

Eliey has overcome personal and behavioural issues to complete her Creative Media Production course for which she was awarded a Distinction. She travelled weekly to Rinse FM radio in order to support her studies and achieve an additional Music Production Qualification from Rinse FM Academy in London allowing her to fuse sound and image boosted her portfolio of work. Eliey struggled with mainstream school and had been unsettled and disengaged with education. Since joining The Rowans Eliey discovered photography and her creative talents were revealed. Eliey has been working so hard to get the highest grade possible, her editing and manipulation skills are outstanding and her effort to complete tasks is to be commended. She went on to achieve a Distinction in Media last year, a true professional photographer in the making.



CHILDREN IN NEED

Once again our staff and pupils did The Rowans proud raising money for Children In Need. Last year, Brendan Jordan shaved his head for Children In Need, this year he went further. For those who donated to the cause, Brendan would allow them one waxing strip to use on his leg. Brendan braved the pain as those looking on winced at every pull, and his selfless attitude helped The



Rowans on our way to raising £150. Mr Ashmore, Mr Nolan and Mr Taylor all slapped on the make up donating their dignity to the cause, and seemed to be enjoying their new look a bit too much. Some staff and pupils also wore their onesies, others just buying copious amounts of cakes - all for a good cause of course! Headteacher, Caron Johnson, said: *"What a fabulous day we all had raising money for Children in Need. A huge well done and thank you to all staff and pupils at The Rowans for making such an effort and raising an amazing £150. As you can see from the photos we wore some great onesies, baked and ate beautiful cakes, went without our makeup, dressed up as women and much more. The makeup suited some of the male staff and pupils a little too well! By raising this money we have contributed to improving the lives of many children. Once again, I am very proud of everyone."* A massive thank you to all the staff and pupils who donated or helped to raise cash for Children In Need.



LONDON PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

Our GCSE Photography pupils went to London to visit the poppies at the Tower of London. Miss Garner and Mr Nolan took five pupils to London as part of their GCSE Photography project. Starting out at Trafalgar Square, they then ventured into Piccadilly, Chinatown and then finally the Tower of London to see the hundreds of thousands of ceramic poppies, placed to commemorate one hundred years since the start of World War One. Mr Nolan said: *"The behaviour of the pupils was incredibly mature and they took some truly remarkable pictures. We were very proud of them all!"* As you can see from the images shown to the right, our pupils produced some amazing images. To view a gallery of their work from their day in London, please visit our website.



INTER-HOUSE FITNESS DAY

The Rowans held its first sports event of the year, this was a fitness event. The event consisted of press-ups, sit-ups, punches, running and catching of tennis ball. Each event lasted 10 minutes and the goal was to see how many or how far you could get in ten minutes. This event was a huge success with the majority of the school taking part in every activity. A huge effort was made by all the pupils in every team, there was lots of sweat, moaning and sore muscles the next day which to me says everyone was working very hard. It was great to see all the pupils in each team encouraging team members when they were competing, this shows great team work.

Unfortunately, at every event there has to be a winning team and this was TEAM SMALLING (my team), but a huge WELL DONE to EVERYONE who took part. - Mr Ashmore

Special mention to Mr Bendle who gave so much for Team Hessenthaler - he threw up!



SUPER SCIENCE SUCCESS

Maria Keen achieved a C grade in her ISA for science. A very good, well structured piece of work that took four lessons to complete. Well done, keep it up! Stefan Petik achieved a 4b in his science test for the end of term 2, 3 sublevels above his last test result, what an improvement. Well done, fantastic progress. Dwayne Darren completed his Btec science coursework to a Merit, brilliant work! The pupil who made the most progress in science this term was Connor Vaughan. Connor made two sub levels of progress above his target level for his last test at a 5a, fantastic result! Iain Foster completed his Btec Science coursework to a Pass and only started in September, fantastic work! What a fantastic second term and Merry Christmas to all my pupils!

OFSTED: "The Rowans are determined to provide students with an outstanding education"

On 15th October 2014, The Rowans received an Ofsted monitoring inspection visit. We are really pleased to report that the Inspector concluded that:

- There is universally shared and understood view that the school is determined to provide students with an outstanding education.
- The management committee provides effective governance and delivers a strong steer for school improvement.
- All staff set high standards for students' behaviour, learning and attendance.
- A positive atmosphere of high expectation abounds.

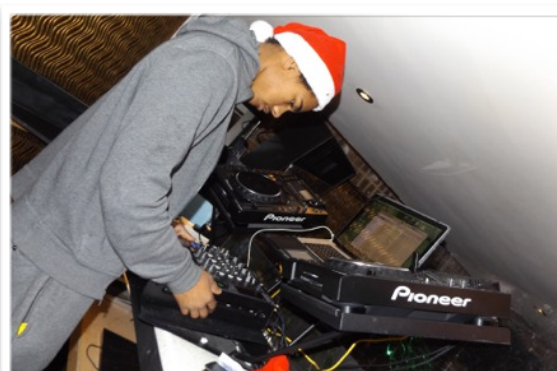
A copy of the full monitoring report can be found on our website.

Headteacher Miss Johnson said: *"We are over the moon with the encouraging feedback we received from the Ofsted inspector. We are ready for full inspection and look forward to the opportunity to show everyone how great our provision is and how talented our young people are."*



BTEC MUSIC GIG

The Music department had its first ever external music event hosted by the BTec Music Award pupils. "HYPE" was held at Bassment 159 in Rochester where the pupils all performed as DJs or Musicians. It was an amazing event giving the pupils real hands on experience working in the music sector at one of our finest venues in Kent. Both Mrs Guttzell Thompson and Mrs Garner were enormously proud of the group who made it a great success. The event was attended by staff and parents who were thrilled to see them take part. Well done everyone! - Miss Garner



ROWANS FOOTBALL

On Tuesday 25th November KS3 pupils played their first competitive football match against Greenacre. The boys drew 6-6 with goals from Kaydian Wilson (4), Callum Crolla and Ethan Voce. The behaviour and attitude of the boys was outstanding throughout and we are looking forward to more fixtures after the Christmas period. Well done to all the lads involved - Mr Ketcher



REWARD TRIP WONDERLAND

On this term's reward trip we went to Winter Wonderland in Bluewater. First, we went on the snow slide, where all the pupils kept sneaking up the stairs for more turns! Tommy-Lee fell face first out of the ring. Jack, Miss Ravate and Miss Hartley went on the bucking bronco and the two girls lasted longer than Jack! They then took to the ice where Jack and Ed showcased their skating skills. Callum kept falling over, to the point staff and pupils thought he looked drunk! Despite this he kept getting up time and time again. Charlie tried hard and was great on the ice. On the whole a great day, with excellent behaviour and lots of fun!

WHAT OUR PUPILS SAID:

Charlie D: "It was frikking awesome!"

Hugo M: "I enjoyed watching Callum skate like a drunk hobo"

Jack G: "I really enjoyed the day! Thank you!"

Tommy-Lee: "I enjoyed the slide the most!"



GCSE MUSIC

Congratulations for your hard work in GCSE Music, Eliey and Jordan!

Have you heard Eliey play the keyboard recently?!

Eliey has worked so hard this year. Her attendance and effort have been outstanding in GCSE Music. Amongst a number of other pieces, she has learned to play "I Can't Help Falling In Love With You" off by heart, which she has recorded as a solo piece for GCSE Music. She is composing her own great music for the course, too.

Jordan continues to make great progress in GCSE Music as well. He has performed and recorded "All Of Me" solo and has recently learned to play "My Heart Will Go On" as an ensemble piece. Jordan's composing skills are also developing to a high standard.

Well done, Jordan and Eliey!





ROWANS SHOWCASE

SHOWCASING OUR PUPILS' AMAZING WORK



SUPERHEROES BY ETHAN BROMLEY

Once upon a time on a planet far away from Earth, there was 4 people, they were The Superheroes: Black Spider girl, Grey Guy, Fat Spiderman and Ninja. They lived in Novatiak City.

In a cave on Mars were The Supervillains: The Ripper and Dark Angel were plotting to destroy the earth using their super powers. They felt indestructible, but of course they were not as the heroes were to prove. The Villains plan to send a nuclear bomb to Earth. The bomb is set to whistle through the air towards the earth. The Superheroes dash into action and head to Mars in an effort to stop the bomb, but Fat Spiderman is so fat he falls off the side of Mars!

Black Spider girl stands at the edge and watches as fat Spiderman falls, but luckily he had laid eggs before he fell. She is so intent on watching the eggs hatch safely that she does not notice The Ripper approach. He hits her with his hammer and causes her to plummet into outer space and to her death.

Ninja gets picked up by the Dark Angel and thrown off Mars, then Grey Guy jumped super high and landed hard on Mars causing The Ripper and Dark Angel to bounce off Mars into the atmosphere. Grey Guy defuses the explosives and gathers up fat Spiderman's eggs and takes them back to Novatiak city. The heroes won but what became of The Ripper and Dark Angel?

JACK DANIEL BY RYAN BELL

In 1920's downtown Chicago, in a Smokey bar Jack Daniel was sipping a glass of bourbon whiskey and smoking a nice Cuban cigar. He was playing cards. All of a sudden there was a 'BANG!' at the bar door. Three men burst in with knives and guns trying to rob the bar... "Nobody move- give us the money!" Shouted one of the robbers. Jack opened up with a quick burst of bullets.

After that the bartender got a phone call from the mob Jack worked for saying his mum and dad have been killed in a gang attack by Mr Capone's gang. Jack promised to avenge his parent's death. Jack got into his car (Bentley continental GT) ice white, gleaming in the sun, modified with front and back side-skirts and spoiler. He drove off to his associates to ask for help. He arrived and said "will you help me avenge my parent's death?"

He replied "yes." They scudded off to Mr Capone's house. When they arrived they kicked the front door in and shot the 2 door men in the head. Their blood squirted all up the wall. They carried on forward into the kitchen where several men were playing cards. Jack shot 2 of them, so did his friend Tommy. Jack punched one of them in the nose and it popped out with blood. He fell to the floor but managed to crawl back up and pulled a knife out of his shoe. Jack disarmed him and slashed his throat "like a hot knife through butter" Jack commented. He pulled a throwing knife out of his blazer pocket and threw it at the last guy. It stuck into his eye and he fell to the floor. Jack stood above him and shot him with his pistol.

They went into Mr Capone's bedroom, he was asleep in his bed. Jack silently walked over to him (to not wake him up.) He pulled out his knife and stabbed him in the ribs. Mr Capone immediately got up and punched Jack in the face. Jack's nose bursts out with blood. Tommy throws a baseball bat at Jack, he catches it and hits Mr Capone on the knees with it, and he falls to the floor. They find a jerry can in Mr Capone's room they pour it over him and around the whole house. Jack pulls out a king Edward cigar and lights it with his zippo, they wait until he's finished smoking it and flicks it at Mr Capone. He and his house burn to the ground. They thought all of Mr Capone's henchmen were dead but one is still alive...

THE DESERTER BY CHARLIE DUNFORD

Today, I woke up early in the trench, I could see the shadow of the deserter handcuffed so he could not escape. Suddenly I saw him being pushed towards the post. I went outside and saw the rest of the firing squad selecting their rifles. We all know that only one of the rifles has a bullet in it and we all hope that we are not the one with the real bullet. I watch as they tie the man to the post, I head to where the rifles were, I am last so there is only one left. I grab the gun feeling guilty that I am about to shot one of our own. We quickly line up and await the order to 'Fire'. I feel so awful, I hate that I am doing this but if I don't I know that I will next tied to the post. The order comes. We raise our rifles and fire. The soldier is shot in the head. He slumps forward, breathless and motionless. It is done but it does not ease how awful I feel about this.

FRONTLINE LETTER BY ETHAN VOCE

Dear mum,

This life is so hard here, all you hear every day is the bombs and guns going off constantly. We have rain nearly all the time and we can never get dry. Some people have trench foot because their feet are always wet. But I have made a few friends now called: Jim, Alex, Oscar, Jay and Jack. I'm glad I have friends by my side to help me out.

Our lives are so miserable, we have to put up with pain every day and seeing soldiers die. I hate the smell of death! All you can smell is blood and dirty clothes. I'm thinking of you all the time. I want to come home but if I run away I will get shot. We try to cheer each other up and have a competition to catch rats.

I hope you are all doing well and I'll be thinking of you all the time, give my love to everyone.

Love, Ethan

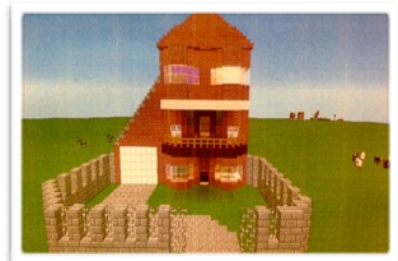
ICT MINECRAFT

This term KS3 IT lessons have been focussing on the design aspects of computing.

It is important that pupils realise the impact of computers in the business world and the way they are used in real life situations. Pupils have been using Google Sketch Up and Minecraft to create three dimensional models of houses and other structures.

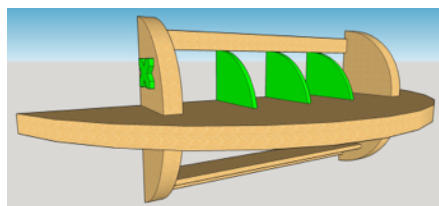
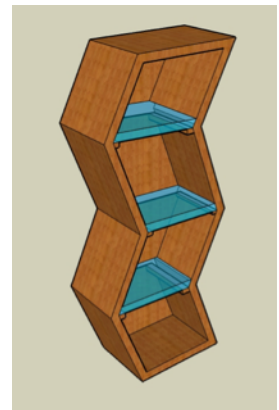
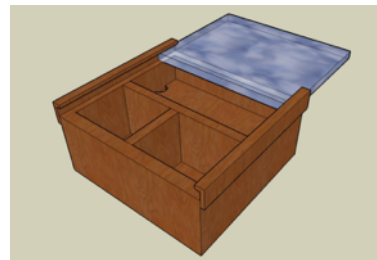
This gives them the opportunity to follow a specification, visualise their design, plan how they can achieve it and create an architectural model. Some of the outcomes have been amazing and in the new year we will add more of these to the website so the pupils have the opportunity to show you their work. To give a taster here are a few examples.

Well done to all the pupils, they have worked hard in their lessons to achieve some fantastic results.



DTWORK

GCSE: Take a look at some of the fantastic CAD (computer aided design) drawings the GCSE group have been producing as part of their Resistant Materials coursework. The boys have each created a variety of ideas and will choose their favourite one to manufacture after Christmas. I can't wait to see the real things! See examples from Sean D, Jacob W and Jimmy C.



Key Stage 3: Our KS3 groups have been producing some excellent animal themed mini torches as part of a design challenge they were set this term. Pupils had to design, cut and shape the plastic torches, set up the LEDs and battery circuit and then cut and apply vinyl stickers to create the graphics... here are some of the brilliant finished products.



THE TERM'S STAR PUPILS

Jack G: With Hugo, Jack has topped the Smiley Chart two terms in a row, only missing out on smileys when they were off sick. He tries hard every lesson and shows a positive attitude. Jack is always polite...if you don't count the swearing! Jack's making good academic and behavioural progress, well done! - Mr Wallis

Stefan P: He is making huge progress and is trying really hard in everything he does. He has overcome many obstacles since being at The Rowans and is a pleasure for all to teach. - Miss Keeble

Edward H: Ed helps without having to be asked. He has always made his points and is very polite to staff. Keep it up Ed! - Miss Redford

Hugo M: Like Jack he has consistently topped the smiley charts. He is always polite and is very mature. Making very good academic progress and behaviour is consistently good. - Mr Wallis

Jamie H: Jamie was often late everyday and did not engage in many lessons. The week he won pupil of the week he was in on time everyday and made a real effort in lessons. In this week he made every smiley possible and made a real effort in improving his punctuality and attitude towards learning.

Maria K: She has shown a positive attitude to try anything and a willingness to see tasks out until the very end. Well done, Maria! - Mrs Martin

QUOTES OF THE TERM

- Miss Johnson, asking about a purchase from Poundland: *"I know this sounds silly but does everything actually cost a pound there?"*
- Miss Howard, asking a colleague about their Poundland purchase: *"How much did it cost?"*
- Ethan V, whilst wrapping pink slip prizes: *"If I wrap this chocolate reindeer up it won't be able to breathe!"*

THE FINAL WORD

"The Rowans is a place where everyone can succeed and where parents and staff work closely together to ensure this"

It is that time of year again where we celebrate the end of second term of this academic year and look forward to what 2015 will bring. We have had a good term getting to know all of our new young people. I would like to say a huge well done and thank you to the pupils who were with us last year, and would like to mention Hugo and Jack, in Form IW, who really are a huge credit to the school, they consistently work hard and are making such great progress.

There have been some really exciting and successful school visits this term. Well done to the Btec Music and GCSE Music group who performed at the Bassment in Rochester for a special live gig. The Expressive Arts controlled assessment performance was again a huge success and very moving (yes, there may have been a tear in my eye!), I am always so proud of the achievements of our young people and amazed that we have so much talent at The Rowans.

It was lovely to see so many parents at parents consultation evening and a great opportunity for us to share your son/daughters hard work and achievements with you. The Rowans is a place where everyone can succeed and where parents and staff work closely together to ensure this.

I must make a special mention to the school football team who made us all proud when they took on Greenacre Boys for a 7-a-side-match. They played like a team who had been together forever and it was lovely to see them all working together and encouraging each other. Mr Ketcher and Mr Ashmore are arranging more matches in the new year and we will no doubt keep improving.

We have been busy getting ready for Celebration Day and I hope that you have been able to attend and enjoy yourself. You have, hopefully, had a photograph with Santa and his Elves, a memory to be cherished!

We all enjoyed our Christmas Dinner in the final week and wow what a meal! A huge thank you to Ms Redford and her helpers who made Christmas dinner a wonderful event this year. It is always so nice to all sit together and enjoy each other's company. Ms Redford worked unbelievably hard to ensure that we all enjoyed ourselves and celebrated Christmas together.

An unpopular win in the Inter House Tournament! Well done to my amazing Team Smalling who won the first house team event of the year. All of Team Smalling joined in the team spirit and tried really hard gaining us an extra 25 points for the whole team taking part. It was by far the most successful first event of the year we have had. I can't wait for the next event and am sure that the other teams will get a chance at the top spot! Come on Mrs May, Team Hessenthaler surely can't lose again!

I would lastly like to thank you for your continued support of The Rowans and wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Miss Johnson

