

# Rook News



March 2019

Dear Parents,

Yesterday we celebrated World Book Day and the joy of reading. Pupils in the Lower School dressed up as characters from their favourite children's books and there was a 'guess the book title from the emojis' competition in the Senior School. All students also received a book token, which can be exchanged for books in local shops.

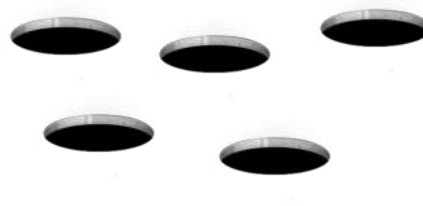
As always, I am grateful to all staff and students for their hard work and efforts over the last few weeks, with particular thanks to those involved in the Iceland Trip and Beauty and the Beast. Looking ahead, we have the Lower School production of Mystery at Magpie Manor on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

With warmest wishes,

Mr Kirk-Burgess



## Emoji Book Quiz



## Emoji Book Quiz



## Beauty and the Beast

As many of you are aware the school production of Beauty and the Beast took place on the 14th and 15th February 2019 in the School Hall. It was a magnificent performance that showed the true talent of Rookwood school pupils from Year 7 to Year 10. The progress made by all the pupils was outstanding! I played the part of the vivacious Babette, which I really feel I fully embraced.

Personally, I really enjoyed the rehearsals as it was lovely getting to see everyone create their characters and seeing these parts developing during the course of the play rehearsals was simply wonderful. I remember the first day of rehearsals and seeing many people feeling shy and nervous about performing, but by the end of it we were all extremely loud and confident – probably too confident! All of the cast members both onstage and backstage learnt new skills that stand them in good stead for life. For example, every pupil's confidence improved and let's face it you need confidence for future jobs and in particular interviews. I think that's what's so good about performing, if its acting singing or dancing, it teaches students how to have self-belief and also working as a team is such a great feeling.

I believe school productions are extremely important in schools as it not only shows off the talent that we have in our drama and music groups, but it is also a great way to get to know your peers and further bond our strong community spirit here at Rookwood.

Tilly Year 10

Please note that photo CD's of the show will be available from the school in the next couple of weeks for a small cost. Details will follow soon via email.



# Geography In Iceland

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 20 Year 11 Geography students embarked on a once in a lifetime trip to Iceland, accompanied by Mrs Willcox, Mr Pool & Mr Winnett for 4 days of spectacular scenery, freezing temperatures and memories to last a lifetime!

We ventured to the geographical splendours of magnificent waterfalls; walked on the 'Bridge between Continents' where the Eurasian and North America Plates are literally ripping Iceland in two. We saw a geyser erupt at Geysir, walked on one of Iceland's glaciers and passed the spectacular Eyjafjallajokull (thankfully quiet again now!).



The temperatures were below zero; it was numbingly cold, so naturally we visited a dairy farm for ice cream! We walked the streets of Reykjavik, went inside caves created by previous eruptions on black volcanic beaches and luckily avoided the dreaded 'sneaker' waves. We stood where the Icelandic parliament first formed in 930AD and had far reaching views of the Rift Valley and some of Iceland's 30 volcanic systems in the distance.

Despite the freezing temperatures, the weather was kind to us and the 4 days were jammed packed with Geography that will hopefully stay with the pupils beyond their exams in the Summer!

Iceland is a truly spectacular classroom for learning and great fun was had by all!

Mrs Willcox



## Town Twinning Students Tour

Rookwood welcomed 54 students from the Städtisches Gymnasium school in Goch, Andover's twin town.

Year 10 GCSE German pupils accompanied the visitors on a guided tour of the town and museum, followed by lunch in school.

In the afternoon the German students thoroughly enjoyed the premiere of Rookwood's latest production of Beauty and the Beast before returning to Bristol.



## Years 2-4 Mardi Gras

The children in Years 2, 3 and 4 made masks for Carnival Day and tasted some of the foods eaten on 'Mardi Gras'. They learnt the meaning of the words 'Mardi Gras' (fat Tuesday) and where Carnival originated from. We looked at pictures from Carnivals around the world and listened to some of the music played. A fun day was had by all.

## Year 5 Science

In Year 5 Science we have been looking at 'amazing changes' over the past few weeks. As a class we have investigated what happens when certain substances mix and tried to use our scientific knowledge to explain what we have found.

We have made elephants toothpaste, inflated a balloon simply by mixing substances, created our own volcano, caused metal to rust and found out what happens when you mix vinegar and milk.

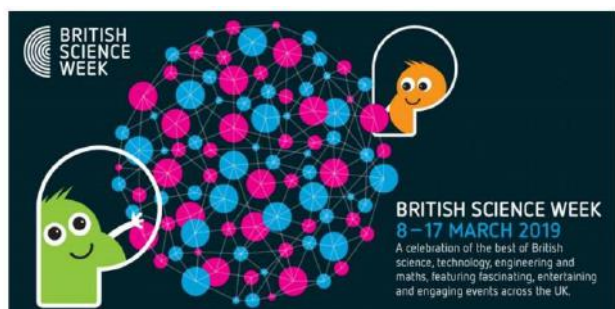
The students have thoroughly enjoyed the topic but more importantly have developed their scientific enquiry skills through this practical topic.

Mr Mills



## Science Week

British Science week starts next week across the school, 9M gave details in their Friday assembly—watch this space!



| Group     | Activity                      |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Years 1&2 | Journey outside               |
| Year 3    | Journey of a virus            |
| Year 4    | Lunar journey                 |
| Year 5    | Journey through the air       |
| Year 6    | Journey to the ocean          |
| Year 7    | Electron journey              |
| Year 8    | Journey into the solar system |
| Year 9    | Journey into the afterlife    |
| Year 10   | Desert journey                |

## YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Youth Parliament is a place for 11-18 year olds to have a voice in national politics. I recently stood to be a Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) for Hampshire North West.

I came second in the election but Hampshire County Council have made me a Support MYP which means I can be involved in all local, regional and national events except one day a year taking over the Houses of Parliament.

I'm excited, and looking forward to representing Rookwood School and Hampshire North West at lots of meetings, events and conferences over the next two years.

Luke (Year 8)

# Competition Success

Mrs Parsons , Head of Music, is delighted to announce our recent musical successes:

## Andover Young Musician of the Year

All our performers represented Rookwood School with talent beyond their years at this year's Andover Young Musician of the Year Competition.

There were outstanding performances from the Year 10 GCSE group and solos from Joseph and Lucy. But... Rookwood once again regained the trophy!

Congratulations to Joseph for winning the Hubert Dawkes Trophy in The Andover Young Musician of the Year Competition.



## Basingstoke Music Festival

At the Basingstoke Music Festival Susie (Year 5) and Hary (Year 8) came joint 1st in the grade 4/5 class! Susie also came 3rd in 11 and under.

They were also awarded the brass cup for winning across all three graded classes. They won their own and then won over the 1-3, 4/5 and 6+ classes too to take the cup.

A Fantastic achievement which has made the Music Department very proud!



## NSEA ODE Qualifiers & Champs 2019

On Saturday, I went to the first equestrian games and competition for Rookwood School at the St Hughs Schools Equestrian Games show jumping show at Wickstead Arena. I rode my 5 year old pony and did the 60cm class (a really competitive class!) There were many good riders but I was fortunate enough to come 4<sup>th</sup> for our school.

I had competed the course clear and I had a jump off time of 42.19 seconds; I was ecstatic!

I hope to represent the school again in the future and I also hope to improve and become higher up on the score table.

Phoebe Year 7



## Off to the Champs .....

Many congratulations to Alex (Year 10) for qualifying for the Pony Club National Winter Triathlon Championships at the South Berks Pony Club Triathlon over half term.

Alex won the qualifier, with PBs in the shoot and the run. A great result and we wish him luck at the finals on 31st March at Milton Keynes.



## Boarding News

In the last 10 days Rookwood Boarders have been very busy. Ice skating at Basingstoke, making LOTS of pancakes, & Trampolining in Andover.

For some it was their first time on ice, and Rosie especially was very excited at her rapid progress, from hanging on for dear life to confidently gliding (well, travelling quite fast around the rink)

Shrove Tuesday, and all the boarders were keen to make their own pancakes, some even suggesting that theirs were supposed to look like rabbits! Once the chaos had subsided it went very quiet...

Finally, They were all very pleased to welcome Maria from Spain, who is actually Portuguese and from Lisbon, although her English is that good you would think she was from London. Within a couple of days she was even explaining the rules for Dr Who the board game to others!

Mr Witcomb





# Sporting News

## Cross Country

On Mon 11th February in lovely sunshine, Sherfield School hosted the ISA Cross-Country event. Rookwood took 11 runners from Years 3 to 6.

The first race was Year 3 & 4 Boys and there were 114 runners. John came 32<sup>nd</sup> and Harry, Seb and Cian were all placed in the top 65.

The second race was Year 5 & 6 Girls and there were 110 runners. Susie came 56th and Rosie, Grace, Kitty and Phoebe were all bunched not far behind.

The last race was the Year 5 & 6 Boys, and there were 116 runners. George came 23rd and Oliver 45th.

It was a pleasure taking all these young runners to such an event. They have worked really hard during training, and this was the perfect stage on which to see their efforts rewarded. They should all be very proud.

Mr Witcomb



## Netball

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February the Year 5 girls netball team travelled to Southampton to participate in the Stroud School netball tournament.

The sun was shining and the girls performed superbly. The girls played in four matches, drawing one and winning the others.

The girls have really grown in confidence over the season and this was highlighted at this event.

Mrs Hacker



# Challenges

## Battery Challenge

Rookwood is once again taking part in Duracell's Big Battery Challenge, where schools are encouraged to collect in old batteries for recycling.

Each child/form has been given a box to fill. One form, chosen at random, that participates by bringing in batteries will be awarded a prize in the final assembly this term.

Let's get collecting!



Mrs Willcox



## Roawathon Challenge

I am delighted to inform you that Agnes and Emily (Year 11) successfully completed the 28 hour Rowathon challenge in aid of the Countess of Brecknock Hospice. The girls were rowing in memory of Agnes's mum and each girl rowed for 4 hours in various shifts (including the middle of the night). Incredibly both girls each managed to row an incredible 26.2 Miles – a MARATHON no less!! Rest assured that is no mean feat and I was incredibly proud of their focus and determination. They worked so hard and did Jo Brazier and Rookwood School proud.

In total we raised just over £5000 for the hospice which is incredible. Thank you to all of you who supported us.

Mr Richard Smart

# DIARY DATES

## Week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

Years 3-6 Parents' Evenings 1600-1830

### **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 10 Mock Interviews 0900-1600

U13 Rugby v Leehurst Swan 1600-1700

Years 3-6 Parents' Evenings 1600-1830

### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 7 Rugby 1530-1700

U12 & U13 Netball Vs Harrow Way 1500-1700

### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 11: GCSE Food Prep & Nutrition NEA2 0900-1230

U16 GCSE Rugby Assessment 1445-1600

Senior Parent Representatives Meeting 1505-1600

### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Hampshire Schools Swimming Gala 1300-1600

## Week commencing Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Governors in school 0900-1600

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 5 - Andover Trees Event - Andover Golf Club 0900-1530

Year 7 Rugby (10 a side) @ John Hanson 1535-1700

Year 7 Parents' Evening 1630-1900

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

Lower & Senior Choirs - Music for Youth, Southampton 0900-1300

U11 Rugby Vs Hampshire Collegiate 1430-1600

U12 & U13 Netball v The Clere 1500-1700

### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Year 2: Manor farm visit (Victorian Day) 0900-1600

Years 10/11 PSHEE Health day 0900-1600

Lower School Parent Representatives Meeting 1515-1700

## Week commencing Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Years 3-6 Tech rehearsal for Mystery @ Magpie Manor 0900-1130

### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Years 3-6 Mystery @ Magpie Manor Dress Rehearsal (Years R-2 watching) 0900-1130

Years 10/11 GCSE Drama - Blood Brothers Workshop 0900-1200

Year 11 GCSE Art Exam 0900-1600

Years 7/9 Rugby festival (7 a side) @ Charlton 1330-1600

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 11 GCSE Art Exam 0900-1600

Years 3-6 Mystery @ Magpie Manor 1830-2000

### **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Years 3-6 Mystery @ Magpie Manor 1830-2000

### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 10 GCSE Drama Devising 0900-1600

Spring term Ends 1600 - No Afterschool Prep