

Rosebery School *Alumnae*

Excellence. Endeavour. **Opportunity.**

Christmas 2017

Dear Alumna

After a long and dark Autumn term, festivities are now very much underway at Rosebery as the term comes to a close. Over 250 students have participated in our Christmas Concert, our marvellous PSA raised over £7000 for the school with the annual Christmas Fair, our former Year 11 and 13 students have returned to receive prizes following their exceptional examination performances at GCSE and A Level in the summer term and our achievement assemblies have recognised the fantastic attitude and hard work of our students in all year groups – over 40,000 achievement points have been awarded this term!

As I noted in my last newsletter, we are grappling with new GCSE and A Level examination frameworks. GCSEs are now almost all graded from 9-1 rather than A*-G and assessments at each level have become much longer and more challenging. We were delighted that the first two subjects to change, English and Maths, performed superbly in the summer meaning that all of our students were able to go onto take up places in our Sixth Form or elsewhere as they had planned, and indications are positive for the other subjects which follow suit this summer. These changes have placed great pressures on our teaching staff and this, added to ever tightening resources, has made recruitment even more of a challenge than in previous years. We are now part of the GLF Schools Trust, a multi-academy trust, and we lead the SCITT as part of this partnership, providing Initial Teacher Training for trainees in the full range of subjects across the Trust and beyond. In this way we hope to induct our trainees into the Rosebery Way and believe that they will then want to start their careers with us, before seeking further opportunities and progression without having to leave the Trust. Sadly, there simply aren't enough people who want to train to teach, despite the fact that it remains a fantastic and meaningful career with significant opportunities for growth and development. If you know anyone who will be leaving university this year, or who is considering a career change, do encourage them to get in touch with us or to check out our SCITT website <http://www.glynsurreyscitt.co.uk/>. We run days of School Experience where those interested in teaching can get a feel for how the job might be and we can support anyone with their application to the SCITT or another teacher training institution.

As always, there remains an open invitation to visit Rosebery should you wish to do so at any time. There will be a number of opportunities to support the work of the school and to meet old friends over the next year and we look forward to welcoming you back.

I wish you and your families a restful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Ros Allen
Headteacher

Christmas Concert

On Monday 4 December we held our annual Christmas concert at Epsom Playhouse. This year a whopping 200 students participated as we had our first ever 'whole school choir' which sang a medley of songs from Les Miserables, including some fantastic solos from across all the year groups. We also enjoyed the usual items from the orchestra and Rosebery Singers, as well as some groovy tunes from Big Band and Broadway Band. Some smaller groups, such as octet and flute ensemble treated us to a few Christmas songs (and Christmas jumpers!!). The Year 9 and 10 music classes also got involved with a song each - the Year 9's had composed their own!! Both the matinee and the evening performances were smooth, successful and thoroughly enjoyable and we can't wait for next year!

Music Department



Art Department News

The start of the year in Art has seen a number of trips and outside events for students from across the school. Our Artists and Photographers really have made us proud with their hard work, considerate approach and, of course, enthusiasm. We lost count this year of how many times passers-by commented on how hard the students work and how polite they work.

Harriet Humfress, Anna Champness and Eve Ganpatsingh 9MY showing their work at Bourne Hall for the Surrey Arts, Schools Exhibition.



Year 12 Art students 'enjoying' outdoor painting in the rain at St Ives! We visited a range of places and we very impressed with the resilience of our hard working group who tolerated all weathers!!

Year 10 Art students working hard in the music room at Brighton Pavilion before heading off to the beach to make more studies of seascapes and Brighton life.



Year 12 Photographers have been on two field trips to explore their surroundings. Looking at the Surrey Hills where they finished the day with an amazing level of technical knowledge and a creative day in London putting it all in practice.



Congratulations to the students who have worked so hard and many thanks to Mrs Wiggins-Thirkill who has worked tirelessly to organise the trips and keep us all safe.

Mrs P Rundle, Head of Art

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EXAM RESULTS

Exam success

We were delighted with all our GCSE results this year and the large number of students who did so well. I did want to highlight the particularly impressive achievements of Ciara Sirkett, Zorie Todorova and Isabel Anderson who achieved three 9s in their English and Maths GCSEs as well as a wealth of A*s in their other subjects. Only 2,000 students from the 700,000 who took GCSE examinations this summer attained three 9s – we are very proud of them and delighted that Ciara and Zorie are continuing their studies with us in the Sixth Form!



CAREERS

Alumnae are great role models for current students and are often well placed to offer practical support to them as they start looking at future career options. Current students can benefit from their skills and experience. Many of our alumnae have supported our careers events in the past.

If you have an inspirational, exciting, rewarding or unusual job, and would like to take part in our careers fair taking place in school on Wednesday 28 February 2018 from 6pm – 8pm or, alternatively, if you are able to offer a work experience opportunity to any of our students, please contact: fkeaveney@rosebery.surrey.sch.uk



Can you offer a Rosebery student a work placement within your company?

With many employers now looking for experience, as well as academic achievements, work placements have an increasing importance for students progressing into their chosen career.

Work experience gives students the opportunity to learn about the world of work, gain employability skills, increase confidence and make them stand out on their personal statement and CV.

Our Year 12 students are available for work experience from **11 to 15 June 2018**.

If you feel that you can offer work experience to our students and put their curriculum learning into practice, I would love to hear from you. Please email me on fkeaveney@rosebery.surrey.sch.uk

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Rosebery awarded mark of quality for research by the NFER!



For the last two years a number of colleagues at Rosebery have been involved with research and development projects with either the support of the IOE or the NFER. Staff have spent between a year to two years investigating an area of their teaching practice, engaging in current research findings and re-evaluating their approach to find out what works best in the classroom and more specifically, what works best for our students here at Rosebery.

The projects have been varied both in terms of topics and year groups, from Miss Starr looking at feedback, Mrs Callaghan looking at engagement and Miss Risby looking at students as researchers, encouraging a number of Year 9 students to engage in their own research projects linked to aspects of their learning, such as homework and engagement.

Additionally, all of the teachers at Rosebery have been members of Teaching and Learning Communities in previous years, working together with their colleagues to really analyse and establish what makes great teaching in our community, by forensically analysing our methods and making tweaks to ensure the best experiences for our students. The analytical approach of our staff was highly commended by Ofsted during their visit in May 2017.

As recognition of all of the work that has gone in to developing the use of research in schools, and thanks to Rosebery's work with the NFER last year, we applied and were awarded a quality mark from the NFER at the 'establishing' level, which is the second highest grading we could have received. This is excellent recognition of all of the work that has gone into these projects by both staff and students and demonstrates just how research-engaged Rosebery is as a community. Well done to everyone who has been involved, but particularly to the staff and students listed below who have committed to sustained research projects and work with the IOE and NFER:

Staff

Miss Atkins, Miss Babo, Miss Baker, Mrs Browne, Mrs Callaghan, Miss Collins, Miss Devonish, Miss Kent, Miss Risby and Miss Starr

Students

Aamna Mahmood 10MX, Izzy Berry 10CY, Amelia Casciani 10CY, Niamh Fitzgerald 10PY, Rachel Brewin 10PY, Ella Underwood 10EY, Alice Lane 10MX, Daisy Hawken 10EY, Asia Chudzik 11CY, Aysha Dodhy 11CY, Sophie Rose 11PX and Jessica Bird 11CY.



London to Canterbury 80 mile cycle

On Sunday 10 September four Rosebery staff members (Mr Harvey, Mr Styles, Mrs Rundle & Mrs Kinder) took part in a challenging 80 mile cycle from London to Canterbury. They were raising money for the Children's Trust and alongside the other 23 cyclists that took part (including Rosebery parents) they had a team target of £5,000. The current fundraising total is over £10,000. They would like to thank everyone that supported with generous donations & good luck messages.

Thank you


The Children's Trust
For children with brain injury



STUDENT NEWS

On Wednesday 13 September we held a Musical Instrument Day where Year 7 were able to watch some great performances by older students. They also had the opportunity to try out a range of instruments including Brass, Strings and Woodwind as well as Drums, Guitar and Piano. It was a great success and more than fifty Year 7 students have put their names forward for instrumental lessons.

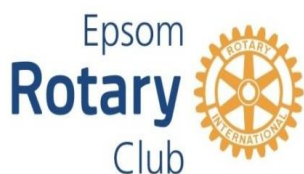
For more information on instrumental lessons, please visit the website [click here](#) or contact Mr Marsh at the school.

Lauren Sparham, 12A



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Epsom Rotary Young Chef Cookery Competition



On 27 November 2017 Rosebery students took part in the Epsom Rotary Young Chef first round heats where the brief was to prepare, in two hours, a three course healthy meal, comprising of a starter, main course and dessert for two people, costing less than £15.



The student chefs had to plan their menus, show costings and complete a detailed time plan. It was a very successful cook-off and students, **Amelia Broomer 9PX, Amalie Osborne 9EY, Lucy Sedgwick 9PX, Jo-Anne Winmill 9CX** and **Lauren Williams 9MX**, are all to be congratulated on their hard work, creative dishes and excellent presentation. Each produced their menu in an intense two hour cook-off while Sean Mooney, from the Canopy Restaurant in Epsom High Street, and representatives from the Epsom Rotary Club, watched on and judged!



Lucy and Amalie are through to the next round and Lucy Sedgwick was presented with the Cup, which once engraved, will be on display in the Reception Foyer cabinet. All five students who took part, received Rotary Certificates and Lakeland aprons (event sponsors). They now move forward to



the District Heat on 27 January 2018 at Merton Campus South Thames College and, if successful, to the Regional final, then potentially on to the National Final in April 2018!

It was a great evening to be part of and the lovely aromas produced were mouth-watering! All the chefs worked very hard during the event, this enabled our students to gain confidence in preparation for their GCSE 3 hour practical in Year 11.

Lucy's Menu

Starter: Creamy mushroom soup

Main: Spiced Pork Chop with garlic mash and roasted root vegetables

Dessert: Goey chocolate pear pudding

Amalie's Menu

Starter: Scallops with pea and mint purée

Main: Homemade open pasta ravioli with pancetta, butternut squash and feta

Dessert: Banana pancakes with berries and yogurt

Mrs Barlow & Mrs Hanly, Design & Technology Department



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We thought this might be of interest to you – an insert from the ‘Rosebery Old Girls’ on their Facebook page:

 **Steph Lock** ▶ **Rosebery Old Girls** ...
 October 4 · Epsom · 🌐

Finally dug out some old photos. 1st year (1972) to Upper 6th (1978) annual class photos, plus a couple more. A nice record of how we all changed over time (thank god!).

I have nothing but good memories of Rosebery & consider myself very lucky to have had such a privileged education. As a teacher myself (of PE), I've seen it from both sides. They were good times, with great friends 👍😄 (I've left off names, but have them if anyone is curious!) — at [Rosebery School for Girls](#).



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On Wednesday 13 December we held our annual Senior Prizegiving ceremony where students were inspired by our Paralympic guest of honour Alexandra Rickham. As a Paralympic sailor and double bronze medal winner (London 2012 and Rio 2016), Alexandra shared her story and her medals to the delight of our ex Year 11 and Year 13 students. After the ceremony, students and parents were invited to take a closer look at Alexandra's original winning medals and two of our award winners Isabel Anderson and Abigail Miller joined her on stage (*right*).



A heartfelt message from Thelma Bluck

Thank you so much for the alumnae news. Well done Rosebery with the achievement of outstanding status with Ofsted. Mind you, we always thought Rosebery was something special in my day, a long time ago.

My first day at Rosebery was seventy years ago this coming September, I remember it so clearly, I was in 1D with Miss Brailsford. The form room is now the extension to the present staffroom on the ground floor. Miss Lack had started at the school the year before.

I am in touch with several girls from my year, we are still hale and hearty after "Seventy Years On" how we used to giggle at 'Feeble of Foot and rheumatic of shoulder' when we sang "40 Years On." School song then. How true now.

We have just celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary and I was pleased to recall that Miss Edna Ball was among the guests, at that time she was deputy head and taught maths.

I have a lot to thank Rosebery for, and thank the hardworking staff we had for giving us an education and a broad outlook on life which is still relevant.

Hope you have a restful and happy holiday.

Best Wishes

Thelma Bluck. nee Burman. 1947-1954

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