

# Latest News

**TERM 5**

May 2017

**163 girls ran our Race for Life in support of Cancer Research UK**



## Over £4,295 raised for Cancer Research UK

*163 Rye College girls, supported by their teachers, ran six laps of the school field in the Race for Life on Wednesday 3rd May. The event was organised by PE teacher Rose Newman.*

On 3rd May we held our first ever Race for Life at Rye College for female pupils in year 7-10. 163 girls took part and the event was a huge success. The girls have been working really hard to find sponsorship which all goes to Cancer Research UK and in total we have raised £4297.77!

Every runner had their own race card, which they decorated and wrote on a message about who they were running for. Nearly every single student had a particular person in their family who they were running for and this was a really emotional event for some students. All of the race cards have been turned into a display in the foyer of Rye College so that everyone can read the messages and get a feel for how much this meant to our students.

On the day itself the weather was against us as it was cold and drizzly, but this didn't put anyone off and everyone gave it 100% and there were smiling faces everywhere. The girls ran 3K and, although it wasn't a competitive race, Chani Barnes (year 9) was first over the line. After the race she said "I really (cont. p2)



## National Foreign Language Spelling Bee Competition

*The Rye College French Spelling Bee champions travelled all the way to Abingdon in Oxfordshire on Tuesday 25th April to attend the South-East England Regional Finals of this national competition.*

Every student in Year 7 learned a list of 50 French words and had to use the French alphabet including accents and punctuation. The best in each class competed in a school final with a list of 100 possible words, and the three school finalists Ben, Reuben and Isabella were selected to represent Rye College in the regional final, using 150 words.

Each finalist had one minute to translate and spell aloud in French as many words as they could. The standard was very high and the pace was impressive. Ben, Reuben and Isabella were fantastic ambassadors for Rye and put in a huge amount of effort.

Despite an eventful journey including a snowstorm, thunder and a rainbow, all three did brilliantly, were calm, focussed and accurate.

Rye College was well represented and we were very proud, but in the end they were just beaten to the places to go forward to the National Final in Cambridge this year. We wish the rest of the South-East team Bonne Chance!

*"I really wanted to come first as the whole way round I heard other people saying 'Oh I've got asthma so I have to walk it', and as an asthma sufferer myself this spurred me on and I thought that if I won it I would prove a point that whatever your condition you can still achieve if you try your best!" - Chani Barnes*

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friends to encourage them over the line, which was really lovely. Some students even completed the whole course as a three legged team.



Many of the staff who helped with the event commented on what an amazing atmosphere there was. Everyone was clapped over the line and given a medal and many girls went back for their



**RCDS debating over lunch**

## Rye College Debating Society

This article is written by the students of Rye College to inform the public about current events happening at our school, focusing mainly on some issues students are addressing whilst they are in education, but also just some information about the current events going on at the school.

Rye College's Political Debating Club was invited to attend a mock debating session, kindly organised and assisted by Rye Town Council and its members, whom gave up their time and aided the young debaters throughout the debate, teaching them how to properly formulate an argument and a response whilst maintaining proper Town Council Guidelines.

Subjects such as changing the voting system to "Vote 16" (where persons of 16 years are able to vote) and proposed by our Youth Parliament Damian Cosgrove, running the Duke of Edinburgh Award and introducing Lifeskills and PSHE to the Rye College curriculum were discussed. These focused on the practicality of running them and their funding. There was a majority motion in favour of all three key topics.

The PDC and the Student Council at Rye College are currently working closely together to formulate new ideas and improvements to the school. One such improvement is the introduction of a paper recycling scheme, where the school is able to improve funding from recycling waste paper. This would both aid the environment and also turn over a steady supply of funding into the Student Councils pot for new and much needed improvements, including school trips. This scheme is currently being organised and a lot of work is underway to get this exciting scheme up and running.

This is one of many Green Energy projects going on in the Rye Academy Trust. The Studio school has just fitted new solar panels on its roof. It's daily and monthly output is now projected around Rye College and the Studio school to inform the students of the money and energy saved by both the solar panels, and other ongoing projects in the Trust.

These energy saving schemes are very welcome at this present time, as the Government has now released news that there will be cuts to our education system, across lots of different schools.



**Parent Feedback 2016/17**  
**246 students represented**

**94%** agreed or strongly agreed that their child is **HAPPY** at Rye College.

**97%** agreed or strongly agreed that their child feels **SAFE** at Rye College.

**93%** agreed or strongly agreed that their child is making **GOOD PROGRESS**.

**89%** agreed or strongly agreed that we communicate effectively with parents.

### PARENT COMMENTS

"Our son is a very happy boy who has some wonderful teachers. He said he feels inspired and enjoys coming to school."

"I am really happy with the progress my daughter has achieved. Her grades are really good and she is exceeding expectations."

"Excellent SEN support – huge support for school related anxiety."

"The care and nurture of the students is high priority, therefore learning and positive growth mindset follows naturally. I am in awe of the staff who put the needs of the students first. My daughter couldn't be in a better environment and we are proud Rye College was our first choice! Thank you to all the staff!"

"I feel Rye College is providing a high standard of teaching staff for my daughter's educational needs in all areas. We are lucky to have this standard on our doorstep!"

"Very happy with the teaching and making excellent progress – thank you to all the staff for their hard work."



*Year 7 winner, Amos, and Year 8 winner, Matilda, proudly show off their creations*

## Fantasy Creatures and Where to Find Them

We were very impressed by the creativity from our students who entered the Fantasy Creature Competition. Thanks to Miss Loveless and Mr Chester from Rye Academy and Miss Hannah Smith from Rye Studio School who all said that it was difficult to decide who to award prizes to due to the very high standard from everyone.

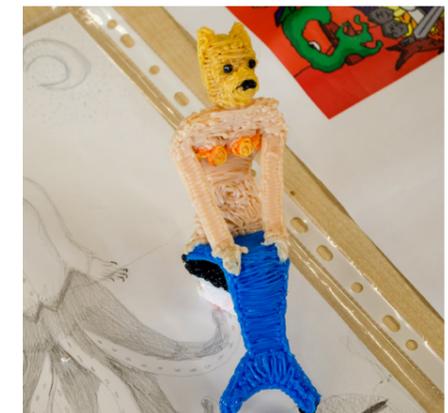
First Prize Yr 7 was awarded to Amos Kemm for his film on Scratch. This was supported by a hard copy. First prize Yr 8 was Matilda Wilson for her drawing accompanied by a sculpture called Sea Howler which was created using a 3D pen. Both prize winners won an Amazon gift voucher to the value of £20.00.

Sadly there were no entries from Yr 9 and only two entries from Yr 10. The two Yr10 entries were

from Erin Streeton and Charlottle Foster whose creations were outstanding. A special mention must go to Charlie Philpott Yr 7 for his 'Terror Pig'. It was a double whammy. A great drawing and it made everyone who saw it smile. All entrants were given a certificate in appreciation of their skill and hard work.

Our thanks go to the Foundation Governors for donating the prize money and to Mr Harris and Miss Bayley, Tom Peppitt Yr 9, Ruby Jefferies Yr 8, Leejay Appleton Yr 9 and Natalie Wright Yr 10 for all their help.

Special thanks to everyone who entered the competition. Keep up the good work and watch this space for the next competition.





## Cheer 4 Life charity event and PGL netball weekend

On 29th April Rye College Allstars Cheerleading Squad performed at the Charity Event, Cheer 4 Life.

The event was held at Hillview School for girls and is an annual event where schools from over Sussex, Kent, Surrey and London perform their cheerleading routines whilst raising money for Cancer Research UK.

The squad had been working really hard on their routine at Cheerleading club for a number of months prior to their performance and it really showed. They performed brilliantly and you wouldn't have been able to tell that they were the only squad who had never performed in front of an audience before. They really were a credit to Rye College.

The event made over £800 for Cancer Research and was a huge success. Cheerleading club is over for this academic year but if anyone would like to join the squad then they are more than welcome come September.

On Friday 12th May, Miss Newman and Miss Hailey drove 7 students from Year 9 and 10 to Barton Hall in Devon to participate in a PGL Netball weekend.

Across the weekend, the girls were involved in a wide range of different and exciting activities,

ranging from Archery and zip wiring to the leap of faith and big swing. Alongside this, the girls also participated in a Netball tournament, playing against a range of secondary schools from across the country. The girls played amazingly well and ended up coming third in the tournament, bringing home a bronze medal along with many memories.



## Artistic French Exchange - Rye College students visit Berck-sur-mer

*Rye College students in Years 9 and 10 recently visited College Jean Moulin in Berck-sur-mer, France, to work on an artistic and cultural project.*

The link between the two schools has grown since 2010, with teachers and students taking part in a variety of projects over the years, including themes such as Fair Trade, Water, Carnival, The Paralympics and National Heroes. This year a poster in Rye College sparked the inspiration for a project on Street Art and in particular the well-known British graffiti artist Banksy.

The French children spent two days in Rye in March, studying stencil cutting and painting techniques together with students from Rye, and in mixed-nationality groups the children designed and created some stunning artwork symbolising French/British culture, now on display in the schools on both sides of the channel.

The return half of the exchange this May gave Rye College students the chance to see their framed Banksy-style posters in pride of place in the French school. This time the students worked together to create photo-montage artworks. The teachers in France presented the Rye group with newspaper reports of their visit to England, and gifts of French books and leaflets to use in French lessons at Rye.

Rye College students also visited La Coupole, near St Omer, now a fascinating museum about WWII, created in a bunker built under the Nazi occupation of France as a launchpad for the V2 flying bombs. The following day, the French host school students took the Rye group on an art-treasure trail around the town of Berck, and along their stunning sandy beach to visit some of the remains of the "Atlantic Wall" now covered in graffiti artworks. Students worked in both languages to debate the consequences of war, whether the paintings were Art or vandalism, and whether they are appropriate on such historic sites.

Each group tried hard to communicate in each others' language, and as the students got to know each other, the teachers were delighted to see how well the French and British students managed to work together. Real friendships were formed, and both sides of the exchange were surprised and pleased to discover how similar they are, swapping social media details and interests. Of course for many Rye students, there were two highlights - the fantastic food at French school dinner, and the shopping stop at Cite Europe on the way back!

Next year the teachers are planning to take slightly longer visits to each other's schools, and hope to apply for a British Council travel award to assist the exchange financially.





## Shakespeare Workshop

On Wednesday 26th April, students in Year 7 and 8 opted to take part in a Shakespeare workshop led by Mrs Leech and Mrs Potter, held in the Milligan Theatre.

During the day's workshop our students learnt about many areas of Shakespeare's work and most importantly developed their own performance using themes, stories and dialogue from a variety of plays. Our students developed mime work, learnt lines and delivered speeches both as individuals and in group form. They showed great focus through the day and offered many exciting creative ideas.

At the end of the day the students in the workshop performed their creativity to Mr Gillespie, Ms Daines and invited students from a range of year groups. The performance moved through the famous All the world's a stage speech, through the Tempest and its magical island, and the Witches of Macbeth to include rivals for the English crown and the nature of acting and the plays that have made Shakespeare famous.

It was highly productive and immensely enjoyable day - congratulations to all our students who took part.

## Problem Solving Workshop

Year 7 took part in a maths workshop day led by The Problem Solving Company.

Students actively engaged with physical and cognitive challenges that encouraged them to reason with one another, promoting personal development and self-esteem.

The problem solving activities encouraged all to demonstrate 'positive mind-set' values, involving communication, perseverance, questioning as well as the application of maths whether working individually or as part of a team.



## Y7 Van Gogh project with Rye Primary Sharks



Miss Loveless took a group of Y7 students over to work with the Y6 Sharks and Mrs Shackel at Rye Primary. They were working on a Van Gogh project, focusing on colour and mark-making. The students will be working together to design and make ceramic tiles to create a mural for the wall leading up to the Rye Primary entrance!

## Y9 STEM day



The day was based around the theme of our society's energy requirements, with the focus being on sustainable energy. Students had to design, make and test a tower mounted wind turbine to generate electricity. The teams were graded on aesthetics, stability, cost, reliability and voltage generated.



learn to swim at rye sports centre



### lesson structure

The world renowned 'Learn to Swim' programme is used in over 1,000 swimming programmes in the UK and internationally and has already taught millions of children to swim. It continues to be by far the most successful grass-roots programme in British sport. The ASA Learn to Swim Pathway incorporates the following Frameworks:

- ASA Foundation Framework
- ASA Learn to Swim Framework Stages 1-7
- ASA Aquatic Skills Framework Stages 8 to 10
- ASA Adult Swimming

The Learn to Swim Pathway maintains a focus on fun and games to help children develop the skills they need to become competent swimmers. Children are guided from the ASA Foundation Framework to get babies (as young as six months) started, to the ASA Learn to Swim Framework where they learn basic skills through to more advanced techniques. After which they can attend the ASA Aquatic Skills Framework to develop sports skills in water polo, synchronised swimming, diving, rookie lifeguard and swim squads.



*"All three of my children have learnt to swim at Rye Sports Centre and have really enjoyed it! I would recommend the swim school to any parent!"*

Alison

### awards

The Kellogg's ASA Awards support the British Gas ASA Learn To Swim Pathway. Covering all ten stages of the syllabus, the colour-coded badges and certificates have been designed to reward and encourage children to learn the core skills of each individual award stage, as well as ensuring that they have fun in aquatic sport.

### instructors and supervision

All the instructors are experienced and fully trained to deliver the ASA Swim Pathway. They will provide you with feedback on your child's development as well as their progress through the awards system. The instructors are all CRB checked and supervised by our swim course coordinator.

### faq

#### What age can children start learning to swim?

Children can start to gain confidence in the water and get used to the swimming pool environment from as young as 6 month. Please enquire about the time of our parent and child sessions on the form above.

#### How do I find out about lesson availability?

Please press the enquire button below and our swim co-ordinator will be in touch. Lessons run throughout the week and we will help you to find a convenient time for you.

#### How do I pay for the lessons?

Lessons can be paid for termly via easy monthly direct debit.

#### Do I need to get in the water with my child?

All children under 3 years old start in an adult and child session, when the child is 3 they can they move into stages without an adult. At this point adults can sit on the convenient pool balcony whilst enjoying a coffee from the freedomcafé.

#### Do you offer adult lessons?

We offer adult lessons in groups for beginners or improvers or on a one to one basis. Please please press the enquire button below for more details.



enquire about rye sports centre swim school

Visit our website at <https://goo.gl/T5jVpQ> to request more information

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