

St. Rose's School NEWSLETTER—APRIL 2011



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Stephanie Stewart
15 on 3rd April*

*Leon Thacker
3 on 7th April*

*Harry Noblet
4 on 17th April*

*Andy Ewing
3 on 21st April*

*Sophie Iddin
17 on 23rd April*

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Encl:
PARENTS SURVEY
GOWRINGS MOBILITY

This term, the school has firstly celebrated a very successful **Ofsted Care Inspection** on the 15th and 16th of March. It was with great delight that we received praise indeed from the same Inspector as last year Claire Davies of '**Good with Outstanding features**'. This was a fantastic achievement for all concerned!!!!!!

School continues to be as busy as ever in so many enriching and fun ways. The week before half term we enjoyed **Health Week**, a special assembly saw Health Police appointed who were sent out to track down any infringements such as secret chocolate eaters. We joined the **National Sing Up** award and Mrs Moody led us through a great repertoire of songs in preparation. Social events such as a **Valentines Disco** and a **24 hour Bounce** brought everyone together to enjoy some fun time.

A fantastic **World Book Day** in which we all had to dress up as our favourite character saw the school alive with a great array of interesting people and animals.

The staff thought this was a great improvement on my normal dress code!!!!!!!!!!



**Mrs Simone Thurbon
Acting Head**

NEW STAFF:

**Julia Martin, School Nurse,
Victoria Greenslade, School
Nurse. Lorraine Jones, Dining
Room Assistant**

Robbie Gardiner— Work Experience

Helping out in the nursery on a Monday for 30 minutes in my lunch time break has been great for me. This is because I see what they do in the lunch time; mainly play activities. It has made me think that I have another good skill, which is- helping children. As its their lunch break they play games and sometimes they ask me to do something with them including chasing games and imaginative play.



The Smile Appeal

Sunday 8th May 2011 Wheel Nuts 2011

What a show we have lined up for you this year! With an overwhelming response from exhibitors we will again be packing our school grounds with beautiful vintage and classic cars for everyone to enjoy.

How you can help

We are hoping to raise even more for our young people this year. If you are able to donate a bottle for our bottle stall we would be so grateful. Not necessarily any of 'the strong stuff', we would be delighted with any product, as long as it comes in a bottle!



So many kind people are still generously raising money for our students. Although the pool is almost completed, these funds are still very much needed as we have specialist furniture to buy and the initial running costs to cover.

Huge thanks to ...

Laurie Pittaway for organising the Jim Newby Charity Fun Day Working Test 2011 which raised £1,000.00 for St Rose's, given in memory of our friend Jim.

Lisa at Griffin Mill who held a sponsored aerobics session raising £1,845.00. A five hour non stop aerobic session—pew!

Once again The Rotary and The Round Table Ebley Fireworks Committee supported our appeal with a generous donation of £550.00.

The Scout Active Support Unit had a book and cake sale and donated £250.00

The staff at Barclays Bank Stroud held a coffee morning which raised £115.00

Robbie Gardiner (student in St Jo's) organised a great event which raised £281.00 for an item of furniture our pool.

COMING UP SOON....

Rob Easthope (Josh's Step Dad) is running the London Marathon. If you would like to sponsor Rob, please visit www.justgiving.co.uk/rob-easthope



Future Fundraising Fun

Rainbow Ball on **9th July 2011**. Tickets £30. To be held on the school grounds. Supper, band and disco. Funds are being raised to upgrade the school Library. The raffle and auction prizes this year are not to be missed!

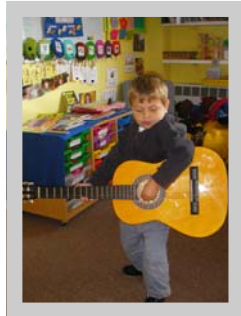
Speech and Language Department

Coryn Memory

I have been working with some of the students using a technique called Intensive Interaction. The intervention offers us a way of connecting and communicating with people with PMLD and/or autism who struggle with sociability or communication. By using the partner's noises, movements, gestures and rhythms, we can catch their attention and eventually move towards developing a conversation "spoken" in their language. We are offering information sessions to families on Wednesday 6th April at 2.30 and 7.30, please contact the Speech and Language department if you are interested in attending.



MUSIC



Following on from our Sing Up Day in February we have all been busy music making in different ways! Early Years have been exploring lots of instruments from French Horn to Electric Guitar! St. Catherine's and St. Joseph's have begun preparations for our Summer Prom on 7th July with new songs and work with Drake Music. St. Joseph's enjoyed a visit from Sue Edwards who plays the Autoharp. She has kindly tuned the school's Autoharps and we hope to welcome her back soon so that we might have some more fun. St. Dominic's and St. Hugh's have been busy having musical fun with technology like the 4 Talk 4's and the sound beam. We look forward to sharing our musical talents with all who are able to join us for the Prom. In July.

Rachel Moody



SPECIALIST SCHOOL STATUS & ICT



We held another Parents Meeting recently where we had a visiting speaker from Aidis Trust. They are a charity which developed to help people with special needs make the best use of information and communication technology by giving information, help and support on all aspects of disability computing. He was able to show parents some of the latest technology including ipads and how they were being developed as communication aids.



We are holding our Information Afternoon this term with staff leading different workshops on Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, ICT, Intensive Interaction, Removing the barriers to learning and working with TAs in the classroom. We have a number of people signed up including staff from our partner schools, other professionals and our own staff and we are hoping it will be a really useful time.

ICT—We were able to visit Bett 2011 in January and it was a really useful time where we were able to look at products and discuss what they could do and assess them for school. We are in the process of purchasing two new Plasma screens. They are being used to replace one of our older Smartboards and to update our equipment to give pupils more access to them in lesson time. We have found them to be a very useful resource for our pupils and students. This term we have again been using some of the control technology equipment we bought with our Tesco vouchers including the Traffic Lights and Clown Face which can be sequenced using a control interface. The pupils have really enjoyed these activities. Thank you to all those who have already started to bring them in again, they really do make a difference to us.



Bankhead & Chas Doughty

Jean



CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Simone Thurbon, Coryn Memory, Kelly Skelton and Heather Penney who have now completed their studies. Mrs Simone Thurbon, M.Ed. (Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties), Coryn Memory BA Philosophy, Heather Penney BA Philosophy and Kelly Skelton BA Philosophy.

A previous student—Charlotte White

Charlotte White's Musical Fight was featured on BBC Radio 4 on Sunday 27th March

As a teenager Charlotte White performed the opening bars of the prelude to Bach's cello suite. Nothing remarkable about that until you learn that Charlotte is profoundly disabled and performed the piece using assistive technology with every crotchet and quaver triggered through the slightest movements of her head and thumbs. Josie d'Arby meets this remarkable young woman and discovers how Charlotte was largely written off by mainstream society, enduring cooking classes and music therapy that she describes as "seriously patronising." In this enlightening interview, Charlotte talks about her accident, the moment she re-discovered music, and how this helped every aspect of her rehabilitation. Josie finds out about the moment the Drake Music Project entered Charlotte's life, firing up her imagination with music, providing her with the equipment necessary to perform and compose and helping to crack the shell into which she'd retreated. Doug Bott from the Drake Music Project recalls Charlotte's sensitivity to light and sound, as they worked in these quiet half-lit rooms with the whirr of his laptop drowning out the music they were rehearsing. He fondly recalls Charlotte's progression in those early sessions and celebrates her brilliance and determination to perform classical music. He explains how assistive technology works, and discusses the challenges Charlotte faced gaining acceptance and recognition from the wider musical community.

Josie finds out about how Charlotte ended up in Norway listening to her compositions being performed by Tromso Symphony Orchestra at the prestigious Northern Lights Festival, and Tessa White gives a moving account of her daughter's transformation into the confident young woman she is today.



CAFOD ASSEMBLY*Sr. Julie, OP*

Lent this year began with the Assembly on Ash Wednesday, being taken by John Lux. John is a member of the CAFOD Team and he came to share with the work of CAFOD. The initials **CAFOD** stand for **Catholic Agency for Overseas Development**. He encouraged us to think about how we in St Rose's can help to make our world a better place. John began the Assembly through asking our pupils and young people "Who helps you and how can you help others?". Using their Communication aids the pupils eagerly responded, sharing their experiences and suggestions. John then shared with us the work of CAFOD in Colombia. The aim of CAFOD is to enable people to help themselves...and we can be part of this work. "a little help makes a big difference" was his key phrase throughout the Assembly. We saw pictures of conditions in the villages particular after the floods and earthquakes.....buildings destroyed, farmland no longer workable; families with no food or clean drinking water. He told us about the child soldiers and children living on the streets, many of whom had no family. Everyone was involved in the Assembly through using Communication Aids, exploring the different vegetables or passing around a football made from carrier bags. The boys particularly were amazed at this! Previous to the Assembly we had made cakes to sell and organised an Easter egg Raffle so that we could help the children in Colombia. We raised £120.75. Next term we are inviting John back and through a virtual reality village he will enable our children to decide how their money can be spent in the Colombian Villages. Thank you for your support...in our next letter I will share with you the decisions of our pupils and young people.

Meanwhile as we prepare for our Easter Liturgies, together with our friends all over the World, we pray that in the Peace of the Risen Christ we will always be joined together in our concern for others.

Sr Julie op

COMIC RELIEF Red Nose Day—we raised £102.00 Well done!



Sports News & Results



Tewkesbury Swimming Gala



Gold Medal

Silver Medal

25m F/S

25m BK/S

King of the Pool Shield



Gold Medal

25m F/S

Won Heat winner Shield



Participation Medal

25m F/S 3rd

25m BK/S-3rd

+Aids

A small team due to illness but the three all made up for it !Well done !



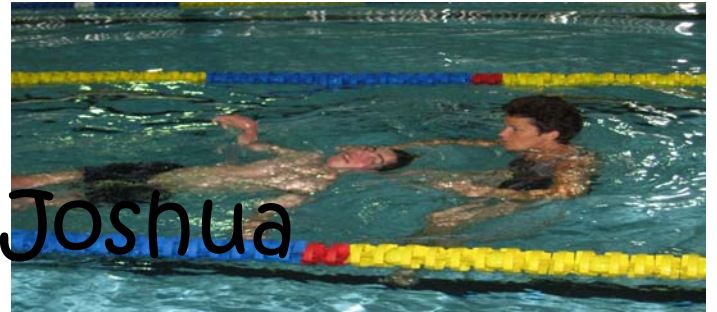
Special Schools Swimming Gala
Tuesday 8th March 2011 At GL1

Sophie

Jenny



Sam



Joshua



Lucy



Hana

All took part in this participating gala!
Well Done



EARLY YEARS DEPARTMENT

Early years this term has welcomed some new children once again. Ethan Brown and Shuja Smith have started to do some afternoon sessions with us.

We have been thinking about transport this term and have enjoyed playing in our bus role play area and the children loved making a train cake!

We have been on a transport spotting walk, which we enjoyed and we counted the different sorts of transport we saw and made a graph when we got back to show what we saw.



We will shortly be visiting Staverton airport where we will pretend we are going on holiday, to finish our transport topic.



Heather Penney



Scouts— Hobbies Badge

Scouts and Explorers have joined forces and have been working on the Hobbies Badge. They decided that their hobby would be looking after pets. The Explorers decided to look after a Giant African Land Snail, while the Scouts looked after two Gold fish.

To make the badge more interesting we asked staff to bring in any pets they had, so we could learn more about them. Miss Skelton brought Barney her dog, Rachel's guinea pig Mima spent the day in school and we met Sky and Loopy, Miss Donnelly's two gerbils.

Josh said "I enjoyed stroking them".

Bradley said "I liked meeting Barney".

Sam Said "I enjoyed seeing the dog"

Ollie said "I liked watching the snail"

Laura said "I like the dog and the guinea pig" **Watch out Josh is about!**

Grilled or toasted?!



Sam meets Barney



World Book Day

On Friday 4th March we had World Book Day events in school. The pupils and staff came dressed in a range of different costumes connected with book characters. In the afternoon each class had a challenge to complete, connected to their English topics, and then we came together in the hall. Each class had to share their challenge, and we were treated to a range of funny poems, songs from EYD, information about authors and stories, as well as seeing every class parading in their costumes! And what a range of costumes we saw - Sophie and the tiger, Woody, Goldilocks, Tracy Beaker, Funny Bones, witches, Horrid Henry, Friar Tuck, the Cat in the Hat, 5 Where's Wally, pirates and the Oompa Loompa's descended again with My Willy Wonka!!! And this is to name just a few of the creative costumes! It was such a fun afternoon and great to do something connected to books all together! All pupils received a World Book Day voucher, as well as a certificate and chocolate. A massive thank you to you all for helping your children to dress up, as well as to the staff for also taking part - to be honest I'm not sure who had the most fun!!!



Keep reading and reading to your child!

Emma Richards



TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS

Academic Year 2011-2012

AUTUMN TERM 2011

<i>Staff only (In Service Days)</i>	<i>1st & 2nd September 2011</i>
Children return :	5 th September 2011 at 9.30am
Children finish:	21 st October 2011 at 3.30pm
HALF TERM	24 th October 2011 to 28 th October 2011
Children return:	31 st October 2011 at 9.30a.m.
Children finish for	16 th December 2011 at 3.30p.m.
CHRISTMAS BREAK	

SPRING TERM 2012

<i>Staff only (In Service Days)</i>	<i>3rd & 4th January 2012</i>
Children return:	5 th January 2012 at 9.00a.m
Children finish:	10 th February 2012 at 3.30p.m.
HALF TERM	13 th to 17 th February 2012
Children return:	20 th February 2012 at 9.30a.m.
Children finish for	30 th March 2012 at 3.30p.m.
EASTER HOLIDAY	

SUMMER TERM 2012

<i>Staff only (In Service Day)</i>	<i>16th April 2012</i>
Children return:	17 th April 2012 at 9.00a.m.
May Bank Holiday:	7 th May 2012
Children finish:	1 st June 2012 at 3.30p.m.
HALF TERM	4 th June 2012 to 8 th June 2012
Children return:	11 th June 2012 at 9.30a.m.
END OF TERM	20 th July 2012 at 3.30p.m.

REQUEST FROM TRACEY AND LINDA IN THE LAUNDRY—PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE COULD ALL ITEMS BE CLEARLY MARKED

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St Rose's School
enabling children to reach their full potential



R.E. DEPARTMENT—EASTER LITURGY

Tuesday 29th March, Palm Sunday, Early Years Dept. and St. Hugh's

Thursday 31st March, The Last Supper, St. Dominic's

Tuesday 5th April, The Agony in the Garden and Jesus' Betrayal,
St. Catherine's and St. Stephen's

Thursday 7th April, The Death and Resurrection of Jesus, St. Joseph's



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

SUMMER TERM 2011

Staff Only In-Service 26th April 2011

Children return 27th April 2011 at 9.00am

Bank Holiday (Royal Wedding) 29th April 2011 - School Closed

Bank Holiday 2nd May 2011 - School Closed

WHEELNUTS CLASSIC CARS MOTOR SHOW SUNDAY 8TH MAY 2011 11AM—5PM

PROGRESS EVENING 12TH MAY 6.00—8.00PM

**South West Junior Disabled Athletics
Championships Exeter
Wednesday 18th May 2011**

**Athletics Training
Starting soon !**



Children finish 27th May 2011 at 3.30pm

HALF TERM 30th May 2011 to 3rd June 2011

Children return 6th June 2011 at 9.30a.m.

SUMMER GARDEN FETE Saturday 18th June 2011 1pm—4.00pm

MID-SUMMER MUSICAL PROM—Thursday 7th July 2011 at 10.00 until 2.00pm

SUMMER BALL—Saturday 9th July 2011

SPORTS DAY—Friday 15th July 2011