



# THE ROWANS NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING CHANGE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

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# EXHIBITION

BY MISS RAVATE

On the evening of Thursday 12th June, The Rowans held their annual GCSE Art & Design, Photography, Textiles and DT exhibition. Family and friends attended to celebrate the successes of our talented pupils. There was a variety of artwork on display from paintings, fabric wall hangings, sculptures and DT products. Everyone enjoyed the evening and it was lovely to see pupils proudly sharing and talking about their work with those in attendance. It has been a pleasure to guide pupils on their creative journeys through the GCSE courses and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who joined us at this fantastic event.



# FOOD TECHNOLOGY

BY MR NORRIS

During term 5, our KS3 pupils focused on various cooking methods, these included roasting, boiling, grilling, shaping, frying, baking, steaming and poaching. Once there was a firm understanding of why we cook foods in different ways, why some cooking methods are healthier than others and how to preserve precious vitamins and nutrients during the cooking process, our pupils prepared and cooked some delicious dishes. Some of these dishes included: a mini roast dinner, full English breakfast, poached egg on toast and a school cake coated in icing and sprinkles.

Hopefully your child shared some of these with you, if not, they are all very capable of cooking them, so maybe encourage them to have a go at home?

Our KS4 pupils worked incredibly hard on preparing and presenting fantastic dishes for school dinner every Wednesday, and our GCSE group have now completed their exams and are anxiously awaiting their results. Whatever the outcome, I am incredibly proud of their attitude to learning and the dedication they put in to their revision.

This term has started well, we are focusing on knife skills, timings, presentation and menu planning. Your children will be preparing and making a variety of healthy breakfast and lunch dishes.

Should you wish to see more of what your children are producing in their food lessons, please feel free to follow me on X @MrNorris369382



# YEAR 11 LEAVERS

BY MRS MARTIN

Our Year 11 Leavers Assembly was nothing short of spectacular. With over 50 pupils, parents, and staff in attendance, the hall was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated the end of an unforgettable journey at The Rowans.

The evening was a perfect blend of laughter, nostalgia, and celebration. Mrs. May charmed us with heartfelt anecdotes and hilarious tales, reminding us all of the many cherished memories our Year 11s have created. Her words drew laughter, smiles, and even a few tears as we reflected on how far this remarkable group has come.

A moving film followed - a beautiful montage capturing magical moments from throughout the years. Watching those memories unfold on screen reminded us just how special The Rowans family truly is.

As part of the celebration, each pupil received their very own personalised Oscar award, recognising their unique contribution to school life. Some awards highlighted academic excellence, while others honoured unforgettable personalities and moments with a humorous twist. From "Being the King of social media and drama" to "The rowans award for an incredible academic and personal journey" every pupil left with a smile and a moment of recognition they'll never forget.

But the surprises didn't end there! A hilarious short film featuring pupils and staff recreating iconic TikToks and memorable moments had the whole hall in stitches. The reactions were priceless, especially for those who had no idea they'd be making a cinematic appearance! It was the perfect light-hearted finale to an evening full of emotion and pride.

To our Year 11 leavers - goodbye, good luck, and go shine. Your journey doesn't end here; it's only just beginning. Stay focused, learn from every experience, and never stop believing in your potential. You each have the power to achieve greatness, one step at a time.





# TERM 5 VALUES DAY - THORPE PARK

BY MR KETCHER



Term 5 Values Day trip was a trip to Thorpe Park. Pupils were rewarded for modelling our core values of kindness, commitment and resilience and all had a great day out riding the rollercoasters and enjoying the park.



## MOCK EXAMS

BY MISS CALDER

KS4 pupils recently sat their English and maths mock exams! This process enables pupils to experience what a real exam feels like, giving a valuable insight into the rules and expectations set out by external exam boards. For some pupils, this was their first ever experience of this; but for others it was a chance to practice the process and improve upon previous experiences. Whilst exams are rarely the pupils' idea of fun, and they can be daunting for all involved, so many learners took it seriously and demonstrated the school's core values of commitment and resilience- and staff are so proud of those who tried their hardest to utilise the valuable opportunity.

Mock superstars, who were recognised by staff for working hard and demonstrating a mature attitude in both papers are: Freddie, Skye, Dash, Brad, Charlie and Paige.

# WILLOW CLASS

MR STONE

Willow Class have had a truly action-packed and exciting Term 5 and 6! We kicked things off with a magical visit to the Harry Potter Studios where pupils stepped inside the Great Hall, explored Privet Drive, pulled out Mandrakes and even had the chance to fly on broomsticks. Some brave souls even gave butterbeer a try, which proved to be quite the unique taste! Not long after, we ventured out to Leeds Castle for another brilliant day. This time the Nutcracker characters had moved out and we had the chance to explore the castle properly, lose ourselves in the maze and learn all about birds of prey. The giant play area was, of course, a big hit too!

Back in the classroom during Term 6, we delved into our Roman topic which has captured everyone's interest. From learning how the Roman Empire spread across the world to discovering what the Romans brought to Britain, pupils have really thrown themselves into it. We even designed and built life-size Roman shields and swords. Willow Class have also been working hard on their writing and produced some truly impressive pieces by applying the skills they have learnt. In Maths, they have made great progress across a range of topics and have shown real determination. We have also embraced our new Computing programme, Purple Mash, where pupils created some brilliant stop-motion animations.

As Term 6 draws to a close, we look forward to a few special trips for our Year 6 pupils. With that, we also prepare to say goodbye to Poppy, Harry, Skylar, Makenzie and Alfie. We will miss you all and wish you the very best as you move on to your next adventure!



# WILDWOOD

MR NORRIS

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June Miss Billingham and myself had the pleasure of taking three of our amazing pupils to Wildwood in Herne Bay.

Wildwood is a native species conservation site established in 2002, which has made comfortable, natural homes for Brown Bears, Bison, Red Squirrels, Wild Boars, Deer's, Goats, Sheep, Beavers, Snakes, Badgers and a few more that were hiding from us on the day. There is also a huge park and a drop slide for those who were willing to take the plunge!

It was heartwarming listening to our pupils ask relevant and quality questions during the Barn Owl flight demonstration and the Bison talk, they showed genuine interest and they learnt a lot.

There were many highlights to our day, one of which was watching two lambs being born, whilst the boys thought elements of the birth "gross" to see life coming into the world was a new experience for them, there was a lot of excitement in the air, we went back a few times throughout the day to check on them.

Fears were conquered as we crossed the rope bridges above the bear enclosure, confidence certainly grew as the boys started to bounce it for us, new fears were then developed for Miss Billingham and I!

Wildwood is only 40 minutes away from the school and is a lovely day out (a top tip is to take your own food and drink as it is expensive to buy there, and the queues are very long!). Should you wish to visit the website is: [www.wildwoodtrust.org](http://www.wildwoodtrust.org).



# SYCAMORE CLASS

BY MRS BOWLEY

What a busy and exciting term it has been for Sycamore Class! This term brought some changes as Mrs Bowley stepped in to teach the class while Mrs Martin moved to Aspen Class to cover for Mrs Deacon, who is currently enjoying her maternity leave. The children gave Mrs Bowley a warm welcome and were eager to show off all the fantastic learning they have done throughout the year.

One of the highlights has been sharing stories. The children have loved listening to a wide range of books and even brought in some of their favourites from home to share with their friends. Everyone has been working incredibly hard on their phonics, and it has been wonderful to see them using their skills in their English work. They have written some brilliant pieces about dinosaurs which really impressed us all.

We also discovered some amazing artists in Sycamore Class. The children's watercolour paintings of erupting volcanoes linked to our topic work were absolutely fantastic and are proudly displayed in our classroom.

It has been lovely to see how kind and welcoming the children have been during transition mornings. They proudly showed our new September starters around the outdoor play areas and were wonderful ambassadors for the school making the new children feel welcome and part of our community.

Mrs Buckenham has also enjoyed spending time with Sycamore Class this term and has already built some lovely relationships with the children. We are excited to welcome Mrs Buckenham to our Primary team next year.

Sycamore Class wish you all a happy and restful summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you again in September for another exciting year of learning!

We are proud of Ted and James this term, they have worked hard in maths, solving challenging problems and enjoying reading with adults. Great job! Ronnie has been practicing his fine motor skills and letter formation and is now using them in all his learning. Keep it up, Ronnie! A big well done to Jason, who is enjoying his own learning area in the classroom and is showing great creativity with his Lego models. John has amazed us with his facts about the solar system and is now excited about wild animals, which links perfectly to our topic on animal diets. Louis has shown great effort in reading and maths and is starting to take real pride in his work. We are so proud of your progress!



# ENGINEERING

BY MR MANSFORD

In Engineering students have made a positive start to the course and even complete their first unit of course work. This year we have jumped straight in with the incredibly popular electrical unit where students have learnt how to identify parts of a circuit board, based on a drawing or model. They have also learnt how to safely make their own alarm circuit using soldering techniques. These skill will prove vital for any student looking to go into a electrical engineering or manufacturing career.



# ESCAPE ROOM

BY MRS MARTIN

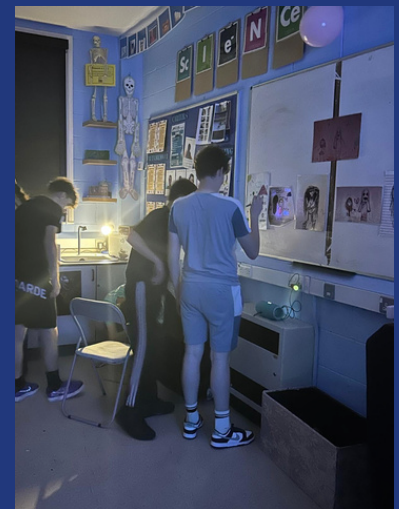
Pupils recently had the exciting opportunity to take part in Medway Youth Trust's horror-themed escape room. The challenge? Work as a team to solve a series of eerie clues and uncover hidden items, such as keys and codes, all in a bid to release the demon trapped inside the room. Throughout the activity, pupils truly embodied our school's core values:

Kindness - seen in the way they shared ideas and supported one another.

Resilience - shown through their determination to keep searching for clues despite the difficulty.

Commitment - evident in their focus and drive to solve every puzzle and complete the escape.

We are proud to report that both teams successfully completed the escape room, with the Year 11 group finishing in the fastest time. A fantastic achievement all round! Well done to all pupils involved - your teamwork, determination, and creativity were truly inspiring!





# MAPLE CLASS

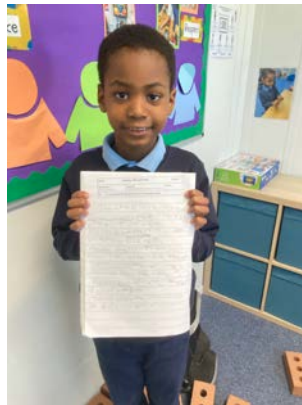
BY MR MAY

The short term 5, saw Maple class exploring the topic of 'On the move'. The class looked at the development of cars, planes boats and even the space-race between the USA and USSR. It was also an opportunity to welcome Finley into the class. He has settled in well, made lots of friends and has demonstrated commitment and resilience to his work, especially writing, something that he has previously found a challenge.



At the start of the term, Maple class headed to Oaklands School to begin their weekly swimming sessions with Garry, their instructor. Despite not being confident in the water, all of the children listened well to the coaching, had a 'can do' attitude and quickly overcame their fears. The class have loved welcoming Rowan and Callum, our school policing team, into the classroom and have learnt about the police and the role that they have in keeping everyone safe. As part of our curriculum enrichment, the class travelled to Wildwood wildlife park and had a wonderful day exploring both local and international wildlife. Their behaviour during the trip was impeccable and every child was a credit to the Rowans.

Term 6 is all about the Romans in Maple class! We have learnt about how they invaded Britain, what life was like during the Roman period, how Boudicca united the Celts against Rome and how the Roman capital city was begun, through the story of Romulus and Remus. The class have loved researching the Roman army and have been keen to develop their design and technology skills when creating their own Roman inspired shields and swords. We have welcomed Teddie into the class and he has settled in brilliantly, quickly making new friends and enjoying developing his reading skills. Swimming has continued and everyone is making progress, from Mark and Finley who can now swim lengths in backstroke and front crawl, to Leonard who was immensely proud of himself for building up the courage to put his face in the water. Our enrichment trip this term has seen us go to Leeds Castle, on an incredibly hot June day! The children toured the castle and loved experiencing a bygone era. With Miss Buckenham's direction, the class completed the maze in record time and they loved learning about the birds of prey that were on display and linking them to their science topic of food chains and food webs. As another academic year comes to a close, all that is left is for Maple class to wish you all a relaxing and restful summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you again in September!



# ASPEN CLASS

BY MRS MARTIN

Aspen Class have had a great term 5 and 6. Our term 5 topic was On the Move. The children were excellent at discussing different modes of transport. They enjoyed making model ships using junk modelling resources and exploring how many cargo containers (blocks) they could carry before sinking!

Aspen class have been super readers and showed excellent behaviour when they visited the local library. They were so engaged in exploring the book selection, and really enjoyed being able to choose books to bring back to school to enjoy with their friends in class.

We also went on another fantastic visit, this time to Wildwood Animal Park. We were so lucky with how many animals we were able to see, including a bear, elk and wolves. As well as the animals, the amazing woodland playground was a huge hit!

At the end of term 5, Aspen class said a very fond farewell (for now!) to Mrs Deacon, we wish her all the best on her maternity leave and hope to see her soon.

During term 6, our topic has been Rise of the Romans. The children have really embraced this topic and enjoyed learning about the Roman way of life, particularly that of the gladiators. They also worked hard making Roman shields and their own versions of Roman inspired mosaics. In Science, the class have

loved our Habitats and Food Chains topic. Particularly getting to witness caterpillars becoming butterflies, and spending time in Forest School exploring the habitats and wildlife that we have around us.

We have been lucky enough during term 6 to have trampolining as our PE unit. The children have really enjoyed going to the trampoline centre each week and practicing their skills. They have been able to do careful bouncing and stopping, seat drops, back drops and front drops, and even begun adding in turns. I'm sure we have some professionals in the making!

The children have had a fantastic end to their year in school and should be very proud of their achievements.





# ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXTILES



# ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXTILES





# GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

BY MR NORRIS



On Tuesday 1st July, an enthusiastic team from The Rowans took part in a Guinness World Record Challenge. We were helping Jamie Oliver claim the title for the largest cookery lesson (in multiple venues) to take place at the same time. We smashed the previous Guinness World Record by over 4000 participants. 17 of us from The Rowans are now joint record holders, along with the 10,515 other cooks who took part. We took part in the attempt because I believe that every child, everywhere, should leave school able to cook confidently and take care of themselves - no matter what life throws at them. Giving young people the essential skills in nutrition, knife safety, budgeting and so much more is extremely important to me. Thank you to all who took part in the challenge, I hope you are as proud of yourselves as I am!

Our world record breakers are: Liv, Lainie, Aaron, Charlie K, Leo M, Charlie R, Stevie, Layton, Jay, Danny, Callum, Joey, Moses, Avram, Freddie, Miss Geraghty & Mr Norris  
Special thanks to our witness' who were: Miss Skinner & Miss Billingham



This term, pupils took part in Mathletics - a high-energy, outdoor maths event designed to build teamwork, resilience, and problem-solving skills in a fun and active way.

Across a series of creative challenges, pupils raced to apply their mental maths skills in real time. One of the most popular activities was Search and Acquire, where pupils solved rapid-fire maths problems and had to locate the corresponding answer hidden around the field.

The day was full of energy, laughter, and learning - with pupils showing great determination, cooperation, and a brilliant attitude throughout. A huge well done to everyone who took part!

## MATHLETICS



# GREAT LEAPS & ARCHERY

MRS SKINNER

This term, groups of our pupils have taken part in a series of exciting outdoor learning sessions at Great Leaps, exploring both bushcraft and archery activities in a woodland setting.

The bushcraft sessions offered pupils the chance to develop practical skills, confidence, and resilience through hands-on experiences in nature. Across the three visits, pupils rotated through a variety of activities including identifying native plants, learning about their uses, and developing safe knife skills by carving their own wooden mallets. One of the highlights was learning how to light fires using flint and steel – a task that required patience, teamwork, and determination. A firm favourite was cooking breakfast over an open fire they had built themselves, followed by some well-earned relaxation in hammocks under the trees.

In addition, three different groups took part in structured archery sessions led by experienced instructors. Pupils began with a safety briefing and quickly progressed to practising their aim and technique on the archery range. Many were trying the sport for the first time, and it was fantastic to see their confidence grow with each shot. Every pupil managed to hit at least one bullseye by the end of the session – a brilliant achievement! The sessions were filled with focus, encouragement, and plenty of smiles, with many pupils keen to return for more.

Both activities provided valuable opportunities for pupils to challenge themselves, support one another, and enjoy learning in the great outdoors. A huge well done to everyone who took part – we're incredibly proud of you all!



# DEN PROJECT

This term, The DEN Project, led by The Rowans Primary Outreach Team, has proudly supported 12 children from various Medway primary schools. Many of these pupils had experienced suspension, permanent exclusion, or transitioned to home education. The DEN offers them a vital bridge back to learning, equipping them with tools to re-engage, rebuild confidence, and return to mainstream education with a renewed sense of purpose.

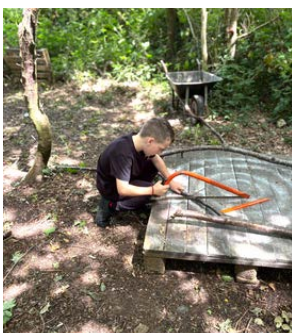
Each Tuesday, The DEN comes alive with hands-on learning and emotional support. Through structured activities like fire safety (yes, they've learned to safely build fires using flint and steel!), tool use, den building, and woodland exploration, children develop practical skills and self-belief. They're not just learning about nature—they're learning about themselves: how to manage frustration, recognise emotions, and strengthen relationships.

We've also welcomed parents and carers into The DEN, offering a supportive space for families to reconnect and begin to heal after challenging school experiences. These sessions have been particularly powerful in helping rebuild trust and strengthening bonds.

Every child who has attended The DEN this term has made progress, whether returning to mainstream settings or stepping into new environments with improved self-regulation, resilience, and a more positive attitude toward education.

We're excited to begin a new collaboration with Medway Virtual Schools, working together to expand support for looked-after children. This partnership opens the door to fresh opportunities, providing experiences these young people may not typically encounter within a school setting.

The DEN is more than a place, it's a path forward.



# DEN PROJECT



# SPORTS DAY



# SPORTS DAY



# WINGHAM TRIP



To continue on from last year's ethos; the importance of practical and real-life learning, we experienced ecosystems in 'real life'. Our trip to Wingham allowed students to visit animals that would exist and thrive in certain ecosystems. From thriving in the heat and humidity of the tropical areas, to the dark and dankness of the nocturnal creatures. Pupils were able to learn about what the animals eat, and why they need to live in the particular environment that they do. We were even able to feed the lorikeets in the 'Tropics'. We developed an understanding of ensuring diets and food are right for each animal, and how the environment allowed each creature to thrive! Amongst so many other things, we learned that JamOH is as strong as a chimpanzee and can hold his own body weight, that MSP is very happy to have his photo taken with EVERY animal and that JC has a good connection with the newly hatched penguins!



# KEEPING IN TOUCH DAYS

BY MRS SKINNER

The Summer Activity programme will run every Tuesday from Tuesday 22nd July to Tuesday 12th August. Each day there will be activities and pupils will be provided with lunch, drinks and snacks. This programme is completely FREE to all pupils.

The details for each day are as follows:

- Tuesday 22nd July - Secondary pupils - Great Leaps - range of outdoor activities
- Tuesday 29th July - Secondary pupils - 10 Pin Bowling
- Tuesday 5th August Primary and Secondary pupils - Carousel of activities - Cooking, Multi-sports and Bushcraft
- Tuesday 12th August- Secondary pupils - Ninja Warrior

There are a couple of spaces left , if you would like to join in please fill in the form here <https://forms.microsoft.com/e/dyKpManF7X> or contact Mrs Skinner 07874634457

# SUMMER EXAMS

BY MRS MARTIN

This year's summer exam series comprised of 19 exams that ran for over 60 hours of exam time covering exam 5 boards. This comprehensive exam series was meticulously planned and executed by our exams officer Mr Straight. Pupils showed our school values of commitment and resilience throughout the exam series, arriving early to school to cram in some last-minute revision and be fully prepared for their exams.

Well done year 10 and 11 for all of your hard work, I am sure it will all be worth it when you receive you results on exam results day on Thursday 21st August.



# ENRICHMENT WEEK



# ENRICHMENT WEEK

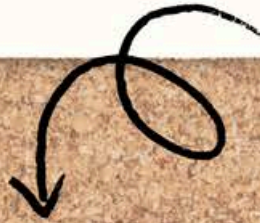




# EXAM RESULTS DAY

## THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>

## AUGUST 2025



*Celebrate*

9-11am  
Come to school and  
collect your exam  
results.



Celebrate all of  
your hard work  
with us!

# FINAL WORD

BY MRS MAY

As we come to the end of another academic year, it's a pleasure to reflect on the many successes and memorable moments we've shared across Terms 5 and 6. Our pupils and children have continued to grow in confidence, skills, and resilience, and we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved.

Learning has remained at the heart of all we do, with pupils and children showing real engagement and pride in their work. Staff have worked tirelessly to ensure each young person is supported, challenged, and inspired to achieve their very best and I know I speak on behalf of you all when I say a huge 'thank you' to all the staff.

We've had a number of fantastic trips and visits this term, including exciting days out to Chessington World of Adventures, Thorpe Park, paintballing, Dover Castle, and the seaside. These experiences have allowed pupils to try new things, build friendships, and make memories - all while reinforcing the values we promote every day in school. Our Sports Day was another huge success and a real celebration of inclusion and teamwork. It was particularly brilliant to see such enthusiastic participation from our girls, who gave it their all and were excellent role models of perseverance and positivity. The whole day reflected our core values of kindness, commitment and resilience, bringing our school community together in the spirit of team work and participation.

Throughout the term, our whole school assemblies, with both primary and secondary pupils together have continued to strengthen our sense of community. They have provided us with the opportunity to celebrate success, have fun and reflect on topical issues.

There are always mixed emotions when we say goodbye to our Year 11 pupils and Year 6 children. They have all been such an integral part of the school and whilst we are sad to see them leave, we are excited to see where their next steps will take them. We wish them all the very best as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives, whether that be secondary school, further education, training or employment.

As always, a thank you goes to our parents and carers for your continued support. Your partnership makes a huge difference to our pupils' and children's success and wellbeing, and we're grateful for your trust and collaboration.

As we head into the summer break, I wish all our families a safe, happy, and restful holiday. Please remember, if you have any concerns over the break, our team can be reached via [help@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:help@therowansap.co.uk).

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year ahead.

*Mrs May*