

DECEMBER 2011

Headteacher's Newsletter



Special points of interest:

- Please let the General Office have your email address to ensure you receive notification of when the next newsletter will be on our website
- Reports to parents—
15 December

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we all look forward to the forthcoming break I have been reflecting on just how busy the autumn term has been with lots of events both within and beyond the curriculum. Whilst the daylight hours are getting shorter this hasn't daunted the buzz of activity around the school with numerous sporting events taking place each day, as well as many extra classes running at lunch time and after school.

As Headteacher I never underestimate how fortunate we are at Rossett to have such a committed and dedicated staff who are prepared to 'go the extra mile' to ensure that students have the best experiences and opportunities. At this time of year when we think about others I would like to thank all staff on your behalf for the fantastic work they do.

In early November I was privileged to be part of an adult group visiting Poland to try to understand the reality of the Holocaust. We were fortunate to be accompanied by Arek Hersh, a survivor of Auschwitz concentration camp, which made the horror even more of a reality as he talked about his ordeal as a young child.

It is important for us all to try to avoid the repetition of such atrocities where hatred and prejudice prevented most people from resisting what they knew to be wrong.

I Have Read Their Words by Helise Lieberman

I have read their words. I have looked without comprehension at their pictures. I have walked as softly as I could over the newly-lain stone at Dachau in order not to disturb their memories, to try to hear their whispers of wisdom, dignity, courage.

I can never see what they saw. I can never feel the fear and the sorrow that they felt. What would I have done with the few precious moments before I was marched into the gas chamber and out of the world of humanity? Would I have had courage? Would I have had faith?

If I even so much as try to experience their agony, then I become part of a lie. But if I do not read their words, if I do not look at their pictures, if I do not convey something of them, however distant, to someone else---maybe to you---then I become part of the betrayal.

And this I cannot do.

I would like to wish everyone a peaceful and enjoyable holiday period and look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 9 January 2012.

**Mrs Hunter
Headteacher**



Twitter

Some of you may have noticed we are experimenting with using twitter differently. As well as giving information about sporting and other events, a few staff are using it to promote and celebrate the good work which happens every day in lessons. Check it out at #Rossett

**Little Stars Pre School**

The pre school setting which is on our site (Sports Centre viewing gallery) has recently been refurbished and has some spaces. It takes children from 2 years and is open all day from 8.30am, term time only. Unlike other similar settings they offer an hourly rate with no necessity to book for a specific length of time. If you know of anyone who might be interested then they can phone : 07974 596317

Class of 2010/11 Presentation Evening

We had a marvellous evening in November where we celebrated the success of the year group, many of whom are now in our Sixth Form. We were privileged to welcome Mark Allison (Run Geordie Run) to present the awards and to tell us about his remarkable journey running across the USA in 100 days to raise money for charity. In telling his story, he delivered an inspirational message to us all about how if you really want to do something then it can be done, even against all the odds.



Sixth Form Information Evening—12 January—for parents and Year 11 students.

Sixth Form Taster Day 13 January for Year 11 students—attend sample lessons and get a 'taste' of what life is like post 16, prior to making course choices!

End of term arrangements

Parents who normally collect their children should be aware that we will be finishing at 2.10 pm on Tuesday 20 December. We have arranged for the buses to be here to pick up at this time and will have normal lessons and lunch within the school day.

**Privacy Notice**

The Data Protection Act 1998 put in place numerous safeguards regarding the use of personal data by organisations, including the Department for Education, local authorities and schools. This area of law is complex. The Act gives rights to those about whom data is held (known as data subjects) including:

- the right to know the types of data being held
- why it is being held, and
- to whom it may be communicated.

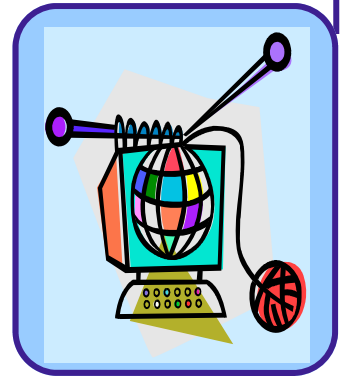
Privacy Notices (formerly "Fair Processing Notices") are designed to meet those needs of the Act and are brought to the attention of all pupils for whom data is being submitted in the School Census.

The process of issuing Privacy Notices was revised in 2009, with a single, short and easily understandable Privacy Notice which includes web addresses for further details of how data is used and shared. This means that Privacy Notices do not need reissuing on an annual basis.

The Privacy Notice can be found on the school website under 'Letters Home'.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

20 Dec	School closes at 2.10pm for Christmas holidays
09 Jan	School re-opens
09-13 Jan	Year 7 Bewerley Park trip
12 Jan	Sixth Form Information Evening
13 Jan	Sixth Form Taster Day
19 Jan	Year 10 Parents' Evening
26 Jan	Year 8 Parents' Evening
02 Feb	Year 9/10 Subject Fair 6.30-7.45pm
02 Feb	Year 8 Course Choices Evening 7pm
08-13 Feb	Ski Trip
10 Feb	School closes for half term
20 Feb	School reopens



Fund raising

Children in Need – raised over £2360.

Sixth Form Rag week – a wide range of events organised by students for students raised just under £900 which is to be distributed between The Samaritans, the school in Tanzania that Rossett have been supporting and a local charity.

Mr West & Mr Binns Uberstache – Movember – raised £635 for MacMillan charity

Craft sale – money raised to finish the roof of the school in Tanzania that Year 13 students helped to make last summer.



Bridge

In the new year we are teaming up with a Leeds group – Bridging the Gap – to bring the game of Bridge to Rossett. This will be open to students in all year groups and we will have specialists into school to help us set up and organise the events. This is an exciting new venture into an area which has proven benefits for learning and mental agility. Look out for further details.

Arts activities

Year 8 have participated in the annual **Arts Activity Day** this week and this year's theme was 'Africa'. Students learned African drumming and dance as well as gospel singing and created African textiles and a giant African mask, both of which will be displayed in school after the holidays.

Our school production, **Grease**, was yet another example of the tremendous work which takes place beyond the school day allowing our students to have those experiences to build their confidence and explore their talents. With over 50 members of the cast and contributions from numerous staff in many areas of the school, it was a real community event. Art and Technology designed and built the set, Year 11 Hairdressing students learned how to focus and work to deadlines under pressure having to create the hair for every show, with Music and Drama staff overseeing it all in their usual very capable and creative way. Finally, the PTA gave the whole event an authentic American feel by serving popcorn and hotdogs throughout the show!

Online reporting

A reminder that all student reports are available on line. If you haven't got your password/log in then please email:

help@rossettschool.co.uk

Paper reports are of course available for those parents without internet access.

Free School Meals (FSM)

As an Academy we are now administering our own FSM.

We would like to encourage eligible parents to apply for FSM— please contact the school's Finance Office.



Just arrived in the Resource Centreand highly recommended

***Caddy's World* by Hilary McKay**

A prequel about the artistic, flamboyant Casson family featured in *Saffy's Angel*.

***The Memory Cage* by Ruth Eastman**

A story about Alex and his grandfather who has Alzheimer's. In trying to help Grandfather to remember, Alex stumbles across secrets.

***The Crowfield Demon* by Pat Walsh**

A sequel to the popular *Crowfield Curse*.

Small Change for Stuart* by Lissa Evans

A quirky adventure with lots of magic and puzzles

Flip* by Martyn Bedford

Alex wakes up in someone else's body! A body switch adventure.

Blood Red Road* by Moira Young

An epic adventure set in a future world.

(*all shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Prize)

***My sister lives on the mantelpiece* by Annabel Pitcher**

A moving story of a family struggling to cope with bereavement and loss. Sad but with some lighter moments too.

***Between Shades of Grey* by Ruta Sepetys**

A well written story of a family sent to a labour camp in Siberia.

In Sixth Form Fiction

***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett**

Set in 1960's Mississippi, a young woman decides to tell the stories of the maids in her community.

***When God was A Rabbit* by Sarah Winman**

A funny, whimsical and unusual story of family and friendship.

.....and lots more new titles available!

School Dress

We have been fortunate that the weather has not been as extreme as this time last year but inevitably, because of the wind and rain, we have had some 'excuses' as to why certain items are being worn. Please support us by ensuring that your son or daughter is correctly dressed and please be sceptical if they say 'it is alright...everyone is wearing this.....' If you are not sure please look on the web site for details or check with the year team.

A few reminders:

- No 'Hoodies'
- Black shoes not trainers or any form of boot
- Shirts should have a button at the top so that they can be fastened with a tie
- Only school sweatshirts—no other black cardigans/jumpers
- Skirts and trousers should be of 'traditional' style
- No extremes of hair colour or style
- No piercing other than one small stud in each ear and no other jewellery besides a watch



Adult Learning for Pleasure courses - Spring term 2012

Please contact Malcolm or Melissa on 01423 563768 or email mhowe@rossettschool.co.uk

Early enrolment is advisable as some courses fill up quickly; please call for availability. Concessions are available for 16-19 year olds.

Day	Subject	Tutor	Time	Fee	Wks	Start Date	Course
M	French Improvers	Y Davies	09.30 - 11.30	£70	10	16 Jan	NV392
M	Yoga 50+ (Little Gym—Cardale Park)	B McLaughlin	13.30 - 15.00	£63	10	16 Jan	NV393
M	Tai Chi (Harlow Methodist Church)	J Marsh	11.45 - 12.45	£46	10	16 Jan	NV394
M	Babysitting (for 14 - 17 year olds)	C South	19.00 - 21.00	£39	9	16 Jan	NV389
M	Using Your Digital Camera - Beginners	M Jameson	19.00 - 21.00	£28	4	16 Jan	NV390
M	Using Your Digital Camera - Improvers	M Jameson	19.00 - 21.00	£28	4	20 Feb	NV391
M	Pilates (Harlow Methodist Church)	A Jordan	13.05 -14.05	£46	10	16 Jan	NV395
M	Furniture Restoration	W Vickerman	18.30 - 21.00	£88	10	16 Jan	NV396
M	Group Piano (Beginners/Improvers up to grade 3)	A Robinson	18.15 - 20.15 / 19.15 - 21.15	£70	10	16 Jan	NV397
M	Introduction to Alternative Therapies Indian Head & Holistic Massage, Relaxation, Chakra Balancing.	T Bradford	19.00 - 21.00	£37	5	9 Jan	NV398
M	Indian Head Massage	T Bradford	19.00 - 21.00	£35	5	20 Feb	NV399
M	Yoga for All	G Beeson	19.15 - 20.45	£53	10	16 Jan	NV400
M	Painting Watercolours for Pleasure (Workshop)	T Kellett	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	16 Jan	NV401
M	Computing for Business and Home– Office 2010	W Thelwell	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	16 Jan	NV402
M	Interior Design	D Tuddenham	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	16 Jan	NV403
Tu	Jewellery Making Using Wire and Beads (materials extra)	C Cooling	11.45 -13.45	£70	10	17 Jan	NV404
Tu	Creating Websites - Beginners guide	H Rees-Jones	19.00 - 21.00	£35	5	10 Jan	NV406
Tu	Counselling - First steps	L Rosewood	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	17 Jan	NV407
Tu	Ballroom and Latin American Dancing – Beginners	C Burns	19.10 - 20.10	£35	10	17 Jan	NV408
Tu	Ballroom and Latin American Dancing – Next Steps	C Burns	20.15 - 21.15	£35	10	17 Jan	NV409
Tu	How to Draw	C Wignall	18.45 - 21.15	£88	10	17 Jan	NV410
Tu	Singing for Pleasure	D Morrell	18.45 - 20.15	£53	10	17 Jan	NV411
Tu	E - commerce - buying and selling on the internet, including ebay	M Jameson	19.00 - 21.00	£28	4	17 Jan	NV413
Tu	Psychology - conformity/obedience, romantic relationships, mental illness	K Rice	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	17 Jan	NV414
Tu	Wine Appreciation	S Pratt	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	17 Jan	NV416
Tu	Painting and Drawing	M Warden	18.45 - 21.15	£88	10	17 Jan	NV417
Tu	Learning Photoshop - How to enhance photos	H Rees-Jones	19.00 - 21.00	£42	6	21 Feb	NV418
Tu	Sugarcraft - an Introduction	L Jameson	19.00 - 21.00	£21	3	6 Mar	NV419
W	Computing - Storing and Editing Digital Photos	M Jameson	09.30 - 11.30	£35	5	11 Jan	NV421
W	Computing Beginners	R Girling	11.45 - 13.45	£70	10	18 Jan	NV422
W	Qigong - for all abilities	L Auckinson	18.00 - 19.00	£35	10	18 Jan	NV424
W	Salsa - Beginners	R Parsley	19.10 - 20.10	£28	8	18 Jan	NV425
W	The Percy, Neville and Clifford families - Local History 1399 - 1700	G Waters	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	18 Jan	NV427
W	Acting – From Skills to Performance	L Campbell	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	18 Jan	NV428
W	Life Drawing (fee includes model)	T Kellett	19.00 - 21.00	£99	10	18 Jan	NV429
W	Group Piano (Beginners and Improvers up to grade 3)	D Morrell	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	18 Jan	NV430
W	Recent Developments in Astronomy	F Stevenson	19.00 - 21.00	£70	10	18 Jan	NV431
W	Music Appreciation (5 Great Composers)	C McClelland	19.00 - 21.00	£35	5	11 Jan	NV432
W	How to Use your Mobile Phone	M Jameson	09.30 - 11.30	£21	3	22 Feb	NV433
W	So you want to write a novel	S Slocombe	09.30 - 11.30	£21	3	14 Mar	NV434
Th	French Improvers	Y Davies	09.30 - 11.30	£70	10	19 Jan	NV435

Rossett Extended School

Rossett School

Green Lane Harrogate HG2 9JP

01423 563768, mhowe@rossettschool.co.uk , http://www.rossettschool.co.uk/adult_education.htm**The Rossett Lectures in Harrogate****Spring Term 2012****Begin Monday 9th January****19.00 - 21.00****Fee £50** (£45 if paid by 6th Jan 2012)

Welcome to our new season of lectures. You are warmly invited to join us for our series of illustrated talks at Rossett School. We are pleased to offer a varied and stimulating range of speakers with topics that are bound to hold your attention during the next few months. Ample opportunity will be given to raise questions of our visiting experts.

The programme has been arranged in association with Maurice Taylor MA

9 January	David Winpenny	Hackfall– A garden back from the brink
16 January	Prof Martin Curzon	The art of the Pueblo Desert Indians
23 January	John Hobson	Lead mining in the Yorkshire Dales
30 January	Dr Suzanne Fagence-Cooper	Leighton and Whistler: The cult of beauty in Victorian painting
6 February	Mrs Jennifer Deadman	Historic farm buildings of Nidderdale
13 February	HALF TERM	
20 February	Dr Clive McClelland	Mozart - the man and the myths
27 February	Jan Cox	The Spirit of the North Caspar David Friederich to the Group of Seven
5 March	Mrs Clodagh Tweedale	'Oh I've got one of those !' Items from the past
12 March	Ben Emmott	Friends and foes of the garden
19 March	Prof Gordon H Bell	Francis Nicholson (1753-1844) and the Golden Age of British watercolours"

Rossett School Extended School lecture programme **Spring 2012**

Please reserve me (insert number of places) Rossett Lectures @ £50/£45

Title: First name: Surname:

Address: Post Code:

...

Tel No: E mail

Total Fee:.....Cash/Cheque payable to 'Rossett School' Date:

Please send completed form and payment to Extended School , Rossett School, Green Lane, Harrogate, HG2 9JP