

School Reports have been sent home!

# Rivermead review

TERM 6  
JULY 2016

Thank you to all  
for another  
fantastic year!

## The Queen's Birthday Celebrations

On Thursday 9th June 2016 we held an afternoon tea party to celebrate the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. Parents, Governors and local dignitaries were invited to the school and joined in a number of fund raising activities such as 'Splat the Teacher', 'Score a Goal' and 'Guess the weight of the Cake' with each SEAL form group within the school raising money for their chosen charities. All enjoyed tea and cakes throughout the afternoon made by the learners. It was a fantastic afternoon and every learner received a commemorative coin as a reminder of the day.



## Race for Life

On 22nd June the whole school was bussed up to Garrison Field on The Lines to take part in Rivermead's inaugural 'Race for Life'. Learners chose to walk, hop, skip or run 3k or 5k before sitting down to enjoy lunch. Cheers were loud as medals were handed out to all those who took part or helped out. In total learners raised a whopping £1404.35 for Cancer Research UK!!!



## SEAL Form Groups

Our SEAL League tallies merits earned each term as a group. Term 5 SEAL League Results: WELL DONE BADGERS! Also, we have raised £403 to be shared amongst our chosen SEAL charities!



**MERITS  
360**

SAVE  
THE  
CHILDREN



**MERITS  
325**

WWF



**MERITS  
240**

TEXT  
SANTA



**MERITS  
187**

CANCER  
RESEARCH



**MERITS  
174**

CANCER  
RESEARCH



**MERITS  
171**

WHIZZ  
KIDZ



**MERITS  
155**

DEMELZA  
HOUSE



**MERITS  
116**

HELP  
FOR  
HEROES

## SPECIAL MENTIONS

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THOSE MOVING ON! YOU WILL BE MISSED...

Recently, one afternoon, MEBP (Medway Enterprise and Business Partnership) held a Extended Placement Awards celebration with certificates presented by the Mayor to praise learners who had attended an extended work experience placement supported by local companies. Those receiving certificates were: Sean Punyer, Nathaniel Cole (whose Dad collected the certificate on his behalf) and Robbie Maisner from The 6th Form Partnership, Jamie Sterry from Year 11 and Joe Berry from Year 10. Our congratulations to all!

We are very proud of our young learners from Year 10, who have recently completed a two-week work experience placement during term 6. Here are just a few of the feedback comments we received from the companies involved: "His attitude is in the right place, fits in well with staff and introduces himself"; "Very good, Brilliant! The young lady fitted in with no difficulty and was willing to help with everything"; "He always tried everything and did his absolute best". We would like to pass on our thanks to MEBP who we work with to find our learners great work experience placements.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Anderson for her hard work co-ordinating, rallying and generally being incredibly busy this past year to help Rivermead gain the 'Inclusion Quality Mark'. Not only did we pass with flying colours, but also we have been put forward for an extra award.

BIG THANK YOU goes to Mrs Whitton who organised the first Rivermead Inclusive Trust Summer Fair held at Chatham Historic Dockyard. It was a fantastic success with the Local Police attending, a bouncy castle, an American Cop Car, lots of craft stalls and great food. Many of our learners, parents, carers and staff popped down to join in the fun. We raised over £1200 from the sale of the learners Enterprise day crafts, tombolas and raffle draws. Watch out for the Christmas Fair - it is set to be an even bigger extravaganza - with a few appearances from a very famous Father and his reindeer!?!

### Accelerator Tour

On Wednesday 13th July, learners had the opportunity to take part in the Accelerator Tour. This took place in the covered slip at Chatham Dockyard - a great location as it had plenty of space and was waterproof as once again the weather was not kind to us. Each year group took part in a range of events from testing out their running speed against Usain Bolt, to seeing how much power they could generate on a stationary bike in 30 seconds, to investigating how high they could jump from the floor. All who took part enjoyed the activities. Learners described the activities as 'Awesome' (Sam W), 'entertaining, fun and challenging' (William) and 'It was wonderful' (Marcus).

The team have a website and post regular Science based blogs with interesting facts and videos. You can follow them some more at [www.medicalmavericks.co.uk](http://www.medicalmavericks.co.uk)

### DID YOU KNOW?

If you use your camera on a phone to look at an infra-red remote control you can actually see the beam of light coming out of the end of it and not just the red dot - interesting huh?

### Sixth Form Graduation Event

On the 28th June 2016 the Rivermead Partnership learners celebrated a fantastic year of transition at Mid Kent College. Learners and their families attended the Graduation event at the Corn Exchange in Rochester where 150 guests had a truly magical evening! Learners received certificates for their achievements and praise across the board for growing as individuals. The event was attended by Paralympic Gold Medallist Charlotte Evans who gave a speech about her determination to achieve anything. She was truly inspiring to all! Mayoress Tranter also attended and presented the first 'Rivermead Character Award' to Robbie Maisner for his personal achievement over his time with the Partnership. Learners gave speeches and guests cheered for a night we will never forget! Well done class of 2016! We are all so proud of you.



### Observatory Trip

The award for successfully completing the staying healthy project was a trip to the royal observatory in Greenwich for the morning. The learners had a lovely morning and had the pleasure of seeing a planetarium show - they also had money to spend in the gift shop with every learner taking full advantage and spending all their money in the shop.



### Football Tournament

On 27th June Rivermead entered their first ever football tournament. It was held at Polo Farm Canterbury. As you can imagine, the 8 learners who were selected were very excited about this event. Altogether there were a total of 17 schools in the tournament. We were put into group 3. Within the group Rivermead played 5 games in total and proudly won 4 of the games while unluckily losing one - these fantastic results put Rivermead into the semi-finals.

During the semi-final game it looked like our team had run out of steam and as a result we narrowly lost 1-0. This was disappointing for the all as this result meant we couldn't advance to the final. However they did have a chance to redeem themselves by playing a match for third place and they did in brilliant style. They came out 3-0 winners, winning third place and the bronze medal.

Overall Rivermead finished 3rd place out of 17. This is an outstanding achievement for our first ever football tournament. The learners who took part should be very proud of themselves; they led by example on and off the pitch. As a school we will be looking forward to more tournaments like this in the future. The team: Mark R (goalkeeper), Cody W, Ted R, Archie W, Ethan LB, Thomas S, Jordan E, Louis T and lastly Mr Gallacher for organising and supporting!

**Sports Day** - Rivermead's Sports Day 2016 was a huge success yet again! We had a huge turn out from many parents and carers who were able to support our young people. It was a lovely day which promoted team work, sportsmanship, communication and most of all passion and determination. See the pull out for winners and photographs!

**Sports Leaders** - Year 11's have had the opportunity to work towards an award in Sports Leadership. It is a fantastic, fun and practical course with a focus on leadership. Our Sports Leaders planned and taught two lessons at Walderslade Primary School and recently helped the officials at Medway Park with the Mini Youth Games. They have also planned and taught at Rivermead earlier in the year. Well done to all learners who took part.

## Challenger Troop Residential

In June the six learners taking part in Challenger Troop travelled to Sittingbourne for an overnight residential. Leaving Rivermead at the end of the day on Tuesday they met the rest of the Troop at the campsite and jumped straight into the action. The first activity: setting up tents and bashers by working in pairs and supporting each other to set up camp. Instructors then informed them they would need to use their map reading and teamwork skills to locate and collect important pieces of equipment - their food and sleeping bags for the night! Later in the evening, the learners had to cook their own dinner using camping stoves, eating the same ration packs supplied to the Armed Forces. After dinner the learners were split into two teams to fortify a base and defend it from the opposing team. Equipped with laser tag helmets and weapons, the teams had an hour to 'capture' the flag from the opposing bases. Camping over night was a new experience for some of these learners (and was out of their comfort zone) and they all did extremely well, working as a team and looking out for each other. Roll on next year's troop!



## Music Project

Since the start of Term 6, all Key Stage 3 learners have been participating in a competition in music lessons. From a choice of 7 instruments, learners had to research and answer a wide range of questions to form a basis for designing their own instrument made from recyclable and household materials. Each class had a winner and due to the high calibre of instruments produced, three runners up were chosen from the whole of Key Stage 3. The runners up were: Josh G, Stephen M, and Steph B. The winners were: Thomas Sterry, Joseph L, Jayden F-E, William M and Millie A. A very well done to all!

**SEAL LEAGUE** - The SEAL league is calculated by how many MERITS and the ARE YOU READY points, so learners need to remember to bring in their contact books/planners, signed by parents or carers, have a pen and pencil, and remember their PE kits. **Points make prizes** - the winning Seal group gets to have a whole afternoon off school for an activity of their choice!!



The school has invested in rubber wristbands with the words 'Autistic' and the school's phone number printed on them. Whenever we have a trip off-site all learners are given a wrist band to wear to create a sense of safety for our learners should they feel they are unable to communicate with someone from the public.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**Rivermead Inclusive Trust Christmas Fair:** November 26th 2016 in Number 5 covered slip at Chatham Historic Dockyard - If you are interested in a stall please contact Mrs Whitton - they are already filling up quickly!

**ROCC:** Limited number of spaces left on the summer break sessions - 26th July to 19th August. Get in early for October half term: £11 per day, to book email [shortbreaks@rivermead.medway.sch.uk](mailto:shortbreaks@rivermead.medway.sch.uk) or call Mrs Speller on 07469 135150.

**Term 1**  
Wednesday  
7th September  
to Friday 21st  
October 2016

**Meet the Headteacher:** informal coffee morning on Tuesday 13th September 2016 at 9.30am. All parents/carers are welcome. Please contact our school office to indicate whether you will be attending

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER EVERYONE!**  
Lets hope the sun continues to shine and you get your much needed break. Thank you for all your hard work!

