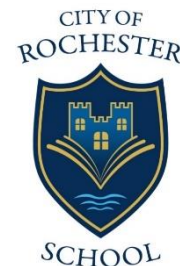


# City of Rochester School Newsletter



## Summer 2 2023 – Academic Year 2022-2023

### Introduction from the Head

As the academic year comes to an end, we look back on what a fantastic year it has been. Our pupils never cease to amaze us with their accomplishments and the progress they make – consistently upholding the school values of Confidence, Resilience and Success.

We say an emotional farewell to 5 pupils who are going onto positive destinations. I am sure all their parents are very proud of the wonderful young people they have become, and we are grateful to have been given the opportunity to work with them and play a small part in their development. We are very excited for their futures as we know they will go on to lead very successful lives.

We hope to announce some exciting plans for our vocational provision from September '23 and I look forward to sharing the news with you in due course.

I think everyone is ready for a nice long summer break. I hope that all pupils will take the opportunity to read some good books and take time to restore themselves with plenty of fresh air, exercise, good food and lots of sleep.

For any pupils who may want to come into school prior to the beginning of term to set up their desks/work areas and to say hello to new and existing staff, we would welcome any visits on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, our school will be open all day, so please just drop in.

I cannot begin to thank all of our parents/carers for their ongoing support of our very special school.

I wish you and your family a wonderful summer break and we hope that you all have an opportunity to spend time with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

With kind regards

Alicja Emmett  
Headteacher

### Key Dates

**Term 6:**  
05/06/23-  
12/07/23

**Summer Holidays:**  
13/07/23-  
05/09/23

**Term 1:**  
06/09/23-  
19/10/23

**Half Term:**  
20/10/23-  
03/11/23

**Term 2:**  
06/11/23-  
14/12/23

**Christmas Break:**  
15/12/23-  
03/01/23

**Bank Holidays:**  
28/08/23  
25/12/23  
26/12/23  
01/01/24

**Reports sent home:**  
11/07/23

### Staffing Update

We welcome Caroline - Learning Support Specialist to the team

*hello*

We say goodbye to Luke, Ray and Kate, who are all moving on with the next stages in their careers. We are wishing them all the best

*Good Bye*



## Life skills lessons

Some of the older pupils have been going offsite for their life skills lessons this term. They have been to supermarkets to find various items and to research how far some food has travelled. They found fruit from Peru and worked this out to be the furthest distance. They had a tour of Chatham Football Club's grounds, changing rooms and clubhouse, visited Rochester Castle and Cathedral and they finished with a meal out at Bluewater.

Whilst enjoying the social time with their classmates, they have been practicing their skills including communicating with the general public, using self-scanning machines at supermarkets, using money and ordering in a restaurant and cafe.

The group have shown exemplary behaviour each week and have been a credit to the school.



## School council & Medway Youth Council

The pupils in City of Rochester School have expressed a concern about the issue of rubbish in our local community. In particular, they spoke about our rivers and parks and how we reduce the use of plastics and increase recycling in school.

They have taken part in various projects to increase awareness and make an impact. This has included litter picking and writing to Medway Council to invite the Recycling Team to join us at a school council meeting.

They presented their project at the Medway Youth Council meeting which was held with other schools at Cliffe Woods Primary. They talked with confidence about what they have learnt and how they want to continue the project in the next school year. They were complimented on their presentation and were told that it was better than presentations made by older members of the youth council.

They have been invited to join other schools at a Youth Conference at MidKent College in November.



## Community Projects:

### Eternal Lakes:

Pupils and staff have cleared all the paths around the two smaller lakes from the brambles and overgrown trees. In addition, a path has been cleared from the car park all the way up to the duck enclosure. With the weather being so hot we have enjoyed paddling our feet at the slipway, a much needed cool off at the end of each session.

For the next academic year, pupils have produced a selection of two-foot square insects and animals to create a fun "go search" game for the visiting children. We now need to paint and varnish them before we install them around the lakes.

The Pure Planet Shop on site now stocks a selection of our keyrings and slate coaster sets, alongside all the other produce they sell.



## CoR Fest 2023

Our annual festival was a fantastic occasion with pupils taking part in a variety of activities. This included, competitions, playing games, taking part in face painting, nail art and DJ'ing. A wonderful time was had by all.



### Prize Giving

It was a very moving occasion with pupils giving presentations on the highlights of their year, reading poetry, giving speeches and playing music. We said goodbye to our 5 leavers and handed out Staff Awards.

