



'I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear. Have you ever been hurt and the place tries to heal a bit, and you just pull the scar off of it over and over again? I would like to be known as a person who is concerned about freedom and equality and justice and prosperity for all people.' Rosa Parks

Dear Parents,

There has been a wonderful variety of 'mad hair' in evidence at St Hilda's today with some very inventive hairstyles. I can only imagine the thought and care that has gone into such masterpieces and the girls have certainly enjoyed the challenge. Thank you for the support of the Rennie Grove Hospice which is a worthy local cause and also the charity supported at the 10K run this weekend.

Today in assembly we remembered the stand made by such landmark personalities as Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks as part of our activities marking Black History Month. One of our challenges is celebrating diversity in a community such as ours and the girls are aware of the importance of showing respect to all groups in society.

Yesterday, I was very pleased to see several St Hilda's girls' work awarded highly commended and runner-up in the **ISA London North Art Competition**, which I attended at Waltham Abbey. Well done to all the girls whose work was exhibited.



The new **pond** has arrived and I am very grateful to those parents who have agreed to give of their time in helping install it during Half Term.

If any parents are willing to support St Hilda's in marketing the School through a bill board outside their home, please contact the Office.

We are pleased to see more girls using **Homework Club** and benefiting from completing tasks at School. Homework club now runs every afternoon (except Mondays) from 4-5pm. Girls must be booked in to **Homework Club** in advance. When collecting from **Homework Club** or **After School Club** please can you sign your child out and leave the dining room, and the school grounds promptly. Children are not permitted to use the field or climbing frame after school hours. Parents are not permitted to use mobile phones anywhere in the School building or grounds.

My grateful thanks to the girls who brought their envelopes and to all who supported the **harvest collection** for Médecins Sans Frontières. £964 was raised, which is a fantastic amount.

Winter Coat

Although it still seems a distant prospect, I am sure that many of you will be looking out your daughter's winter coat before long. We are happy for the girls to wear their old style winter coat this winter if they still fit into it. The new coat is beginning to be seen more frequently and looks very nice.

PE Kit Washing!

Mrs Rushbrook has requested that all PE Kit in Forms IV, V and VI is taken home each weekend for a wash, and returned on a Monday morning, to aid freshness.

Indonesia Appeal - Friday treats

I am very grateful for the donation of Friday Treats takings today being given to those caught up in the terrible suffering following the Tsunami in Indonesia. This idea came from two sisters Sophie and Chloe and is a very thoughtful gesture.

Poetry Please!

We had terrific fun last Friday enjoying the Poetry Please competition, an annual feast of language. The finalists certainly acquitted themselves well, including Katie in Form VI who wrote her own poem - very well done. The staff as usual let their hair down and made thespian fools of themselves. Mrs Thayer wrote a very funny adaptation of 'Room on the Broom' which was much enjoyed by all.

Movie Night

My thanks go to the School Council who organised magnificently the Movie Night last week. I am very impressed by their organisation and enthusiasm counting money and sorting menu choices.

Remembrance

An advance request to send in a clean jam jar with your daughter over the next week. We are hoping to hold a short remembrance ceremony outside on the School field on the afternoon of Monday, 12th November during which we hope to use the jars as holders for tealight candles to help the girls mark the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, when the guns fell silent at the end of World War I. More details to follow after Half Term.

The next newsletter will be published on Friday, 9th November. Wishing you all a good weekend and a happy Half Term at the end of next week. It is hard to believe we are half way already.

With best wishes

Mr Sayers
Headmaster

Christmas Poster Competition

To: **All the children of Harpenden**

From: **The Town Mayor, Councillor David Heritage**

DESIGN YOUR OWN POSTER

Based around the theme: **'A Celebration of Christmas.'**

The winning designer will:

- * be invited to **turn on the Town Christmas lights at the Christmas Carnival on Sunday 25th November 2018**
- * receive a prize
- * have their **design used for the Town Mayor's Christmas card.**

Create your poster on A4 paper and write your name, age, school year and school or organisation on the back.

Closing date: Friday 2 November 2018

Send your entry to: The Mayor's Secretary,
Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall,
Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL5 2LX.

**The presentation ceremony will take place on
Monday 19 November 2018 4.30 pm Town Hall**

This competition is open to children aged 4 to 11 (Reception to Year 6 only).

There will also be awards given for entries receiving Highly Commended and Commended.

N.B. If posting your entry to the Town Hall please ensure that the correct postage is on your envelope to avoid the entry being held up/undelivered.



www.trainwithross.co.uk



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Swim Clinic

Train With Ross

October Half term 29th Oct – 2nd Nov 1-3pm

St Albans School

5 day course of 2 hours each day working on a stroke each day with a day focusing on starts and turns.

Why this course

We **focus on technique** and drills to improve technique to make swimming easier and use less effort so when it comes to racing there is more energy to increase stroke rate to go faster. There is use of **video feedback** so that swimmers can see where their mistakes are being made to make the improvements they need. We make sure it is a fun week with lots of **exciting drills** all coming together at the end into a **race situation**.

What we ask from you

- Be able to **swim 50m** free/back/breast
- A wanting to **learn/improve attitude**

What does it cost

£125 for first swimmer
£100 for any sibling of first swimmer

To book

Please contact ross@trainwithross.co.uk or **07806751470** for any queries or booking form