

ENRICHMENT AT TESTWOOD

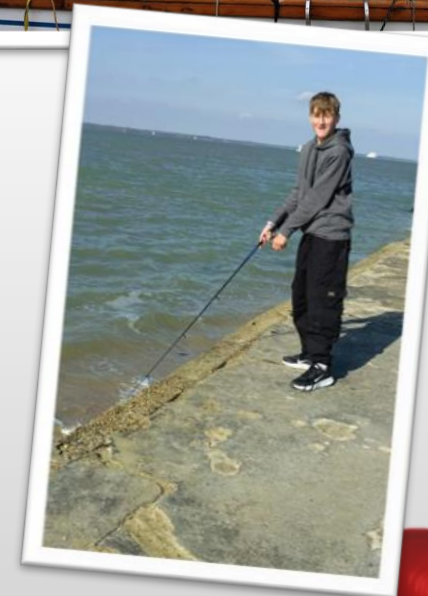
RONA Sailing Project Sail Training Voyage April 2023

Eleven Year 10 students plus Mrs Long and Mr Booker embarked on a five-day, four-night sail training voyage in the Solent. We were accompanied by six members of the “afterguard”; Andy (the skipper), Claire (the mate), Jess, Matt, Emma and Deirdre, who thankfully were all much more knowledgeable about sailing than we were! We were divided into two watches; Port (Jess, Matt, Rosie, Mason, Matt, Dylan, Ben and Mrs Long) and Starboard (Emma, Deirdre, Reuben, Charlie, Michael, Riley, Sara, Megan and Mr Booker), who took it in turns to work in the galley (kitchen) below deck and up on deck sailing the yacht.

Thursday 6th April: We arrived at the marina at Sarisbury Green and were introduced to our home for the next four nights, the Rona II. We learnt some of the basics about sailing before heading out towards Stokes Bay and anchoring up for the night.

Friday 7th April: Having left Stokes Bay in the morning, we sailed around the north side of the Isle of Wight, past Fort Victoria and the Needles, before arriving in Poole in the evening and mooring up for the night.

Saturday 8th April: After some shore leave in Poole we set sail back towards the Isle of Wight. We moored up in Yarmouth right next to the Wightlink ferry. In the afternoon we went to Fort Victoria where we had some downtime and



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played football and rounders. In the evening we celebrated Andy the skipper's birthday and the students completed a scavenger hunt (which resulted in Mason wearing a very interesting costume!)

Sunday 9th April: Having left Yarmouth in the morning after some shore leave, we sailed around the north side of the Isle of Wight to the eastern tip. It was very windy and about half of us ended up feeling seasick. Later on we moored up in East Cowes where we had some shore leave and Miss Barbour came to visit us on the boat.

Monday 10th April: Our last day of the voyage and time to come home. In the morning, Port watch cleaned the inside of the boat whilst Starboard watch cleaned up on deck. It was pouring with rain and we got absolutely soaked! Once ready to go, we returned to the marina at Sarisbury Green in the afternoon at the end of a great trip.

All the students conducted themselves superbly throughout and were a credit to the school. Rosie and Reuben were even promoted to Watch Leaders. We've laughed, learnt new skills, worked really well as a team, done lots of cooking and eaten loads (we've found out the skipper loves flumps) and completed the RYA Start Yachting course. The only downside was that we didn't catch any fish despite Ben's best efforts!

