

Hallfield School: Speech & Prize Giving Day 2024

Deputy Head Boy Speech by Rocco, Year 6

I'm Rocco and I'm truly honoured to stand before you on this fine morning as the Deputy Head Boy of Hallfield School. As I look back on my journey from nursery all the way to Year 6, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and joy.

As I look at your expectant faces in front of me I feel a mixture of nerves and excitement.

First and foremost I want to say a huge thank you to Mr Morrow for giving me the opportunity to be Deputy Head Boy. It has been a such an honour to hold this role and one which I know will have taught me many important life skills.

So where did it all begin? It all started with a chunky one year old being carried through the nursery's large red doors. I was a nervous, curious and shy child clutching onto my parents like a koala....maybe not quite as cute!

Little did I know that this place would soon be known as my second home, which brought challenges, countless memories and a family like no other. Those early years were filled with fun, laughter, and a lot of learning through play. It was here that I learned the importance of kindness, sharing, and working together.

As I moved up to the lower school, the learning became more structured, and I started to discover my interests and strengths. I found a love for reading and a fascination with art where we would make bracelets and keyrings and take them home only for your parents to say.... *"uhh?, what is that?"*

I remember our class projects, the school plays, and the many assemblies where we proudly showcased our talents and hard work.

Near the end of pre-prep I was hit by some news that slapped! COVID. I couldn't wait to stay at home and go nowhere but to my surprise in a couple of months, I was more than ready to go back to school. I couldn't wait to see my friends. My Dad said it was just for key workers' children. I smiled and nodded like I knew what that meant.... It was great, just like a regular school day but extra breaks.

Year 3 was the rise of Zoom! The school arranged Zoom lessons every day, from math tests to memorising poems. I remember finishing my lessons and darting down the stairs six at a time, bearing in mind there were only 12 stairs to find my dad in the garden fully armed and ready at the BBQ making the most of the unexpected sunshine! While I was learning about alliteration, My Dad:

- Slow cooked spareribs smothered in sweet sauce
- Made savoury sirloin seared satisfyingly
- Skewered shrimp sizzled with spicy seasoning.
- Barbequed burgers burst with brilliant barbeque bliss

The teachers at Hallfield have encouraged us to think critically, to be creative, and to always strive for excellence. I was lucky to be part of many exciting extracurricular activities, from sports teams to music.

4JD netted me my first football tournament. I remember scoring my first career goal and running to my teammates to celebrate.

On the fly Ansh asked me to jump on his back so I did, only for him to collapse flat on his face, however we won and went home victorious.

I started playing saxophone with Miss Watson at the start of Year 5 and she has taken me past grade four and a huge shout out to Miss Edgar who has invited me to several bands.

These activities helped me build confidence and taught me the value of teamwork and perseverance.

To my fellow students, I want to say that each one of us has the potential to achieve great things. Our time at Hallfield has provided us with a strong foundation, and as we move on to new adventures, let us carry forward the values we have learned here. Let's be kind, respectful, and always strive to be the best versions of ourselves.

To the teachers and staff of Hallfield School, thank you for your dedication, your patience, and your unwavering support. You have not only taught us academic lessons but also important life lessons that will guide us in the years to come.

Lastly, I would like to thank my parents for their love and encouragement, Messi and Ronaldo are not even in the conversation, you two combined are the GOAT. Your support has been my strength throughout this journey.

Thank you, everyone, for being a part of my journey. I am proud to be a Hallfield student, and I will always carry the spirit of this wonderful school with me.

Yours sincerely,
Rocco