

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Wednesday 16th October

Mandarin Excellence Programme -
Parents' Evening 6.15pm

Thursday 17th October

Succeeding in Y10 Evening 5.15pm

Monday 21st October

Andrew Wright -
Parents' Evening 6.00pm

Monday 28th October -

Friday 1st November

Mid-term break

*Dates may be subject to change—please
check the website for the most up-to-date
calendar of events*

ADVANCE NOTICE OF PART AND FULL CLOSURE DAYS FOR 2019-20

Monday 4th November

Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 2nd December

Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 13th January

Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 9th March

Early closure at 1.40pm

Friday 26th June

Inset day—school closed to students

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Ratton School,

It has been a very busy few weeks at school, with our Open Evening, Year 8 Success Evening, Duke of Edinburgh Award information session and continuing Open Morning tours. I'd like to thank all students who have been involved in these events and who have given up their time to help share what makes Ratton a special school, and help give such a positive impression of the school to visitors. We are delighted that we have received such a range of complimentary remarks regarding our students from visitors recently, and students who have helped at any recent events should be commended.

As we move into what seems to be an extended period of poor weather, I'd like to reiterate that students will need a coat that will keep them warm and dry and help them to be ready to learn on arrival to school. I'd also like to remind students and parents that hooded tops and coats are not to be worn inside the building and need to be taken off when entering. I'd like to thank the vast majority of students who continue to get it right in terms of uniform. Conversations in school need to be around progress and learning, and our focus needs to be on the quality of provision in school rather than other issues such as uniform.

This week we have an incredibly exciting development at Ratton with the launch of our Mandarin Excellence Programme. We will be launching this programme as part of our ongoing work which led to Ratton School's accreditation by the British Council with the International School Award. In terms of our virtue of respect, this is another opportunity for our students to gain an understanding of other cultures, and as China grows as an economic superpower, an opportunity for our students to develop language skills and get to know about its impact on the 21st Century World.

Mr Peevers, Head of School

STARTING RATTON IN SEPTEMBER 2020

If you would like the brother or sister of a current Ratton student to start here in Year 7 next September, you must remember to apply for a place by no later than the deadline of 31st October 2019.

We also have Open Mornings for Year 6 families every morning at 9.10am or 10.15am until 18th October so please ring on 01323 504011 and book a space if you'd like to see the school in action!

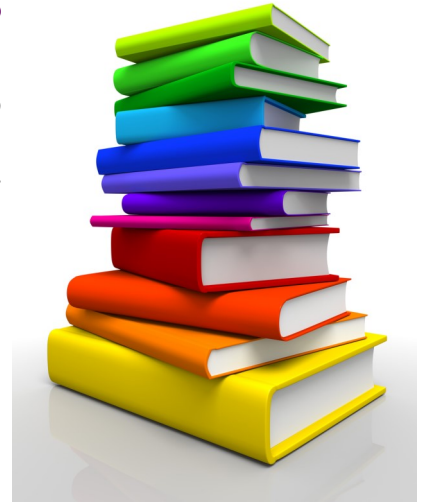
We look forward to seeing you...

CAN YOU HELP?



Have you got a typewriter you no longer need or books about birds, natural forms or flowers? If so, the Art Department would LOVE to have them!

Please contact Ms Wiacek on cwiacek@ratton.co.uk if you can help—thank you!



Information for Parents

We provide our students with access to a school based counselling service delivered in school by YMCA Dialogue, a BACP accredited service. YMCA Dialogue have been providing school counselling services since 1994 and their counsellors are qualified and experienced working with young people; and have Enhanced DBS checks.

Research shows that counselling can have a positive impact on the way that children experience their school and home lives. It is an effective early intervention and prevention measure in helping children manage their worries and regulate their behaviour. Counselling outcomes demonstrate the positive impact counselling has on children's capacity to get the most from their school and home life

There is a counsellor working in the school on Monday mornings and Tuesdays. Sometimes life can be really difficult and it can feel hard to cope. It's OK to ask for help. We work with young people about many issues including; relationships, identity, feeling low, self-harm, finding life difficult, feeling angry or sad, anxious or stressed.

Under the Gillick Competency Principle, young people aged 16 and under have the right to access confidential counselling without parental consent, provided they are able to understand what is being offered. The content of counselling sessions is confidential – unless there is a safeguarding concern. Counselling provides your son or daughter with an opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings and helps develop strengths. The counselling service is integrated within the school and encourages the sharing of information with parents/carers and the school.



YMCA DIALOGUE

Counselling and therapeutic support for children, young people and families



Click here to learn more about the service as a whole:
[YMCA <http://www.ymcadlg.org/health-and-wellbeing/dialogue/>](http://www.ymcadlg.org/health-and-wellbeing/dialogue/)

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

We were delighted to hold a coffee morning last week and raised over £100 in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support - thank you to everyone who supported the event!



British Youth Sailing Regional Junior Championships

In September Alex Eldridge and Liam Griffin participated in the junior regional sailing championships, a festival for all junior sailors who are learning to sail in club boats, through to squad sailors in Recognised Junior Classes. Alex won an award for sailors exhibiting the British Youth Sailing Values and Behaviours and showing a passion for the sport.

A huge well done to both of you!



Many congratulations to our students who have earned the highest number of achievement points from 13th September—26th September

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Taea Trott	Isabel Rodrigues De Oliveira	Nancy Richards	Rose Norris	Victoria Gates
Harriet Dunton	Scarlet Gregory	Poppy Brett	Veronica Olivo Colombo	Petra Freitas De Sousa
Jessica Baker	Olivia O'Dwyer	Rachel Kersten-Freeman	Ella Harris	Hannah Burton
Maisy Holbrook	Lilia Edwards	Angela Chin	Frida Henze-Jones	Sadie Douglas
Rosie Oates	Ruby Freeman	Mara Gonzalez	Lara Vaney	Courtney Crowther
Ben Burbidge	Tilly Maccormick	Olivia Brunt	Luis Arto-Sanchez	Emily Hayward
Max Seefried	Jackson Bowles	Leo Tang	Joe Whitmore	Nicola Kozusko
Zaq Villegas	Leo Romanis	Sonny Pitcher	Billy Smith	Bradley Walker
Django Swanmens	Lucas Taylor	Boris Sankey	Cameron Jones	Charles Sear
Oliver Studders	Thomas Burbidge	Gabriel Farcon	Sebastian Chumbley	James Neville
	Daniel Bainbridge	Jack Pearson		Leon Robinson
	Elliott Creese	Roman Webb-Pearce		Can Boran



Year 11 Careers Day



As part of Ratton's careers programme, on Wednesday 9th October, we held a Careers Day for our Year 11 students.

The day kicked off with a fantastic motivational speaker, Cameron Parker, who got things off to a great start with his positive, motivating talk!

We invited local colleges, apprenticeship companies, MPCT and the NCS to attend a Careers Fair in the school learning resource centre. Alongside the Careers Fair, we ran 8 separate workshops for our students throughout the day.

Every student had the opportunity to attend the Careers Fair and a selection of workshops which included trade & employability, apprenticeships, thinking about university, preparing a cv, motivation and interview & job skills. They also had the opportunity of help with their online college applications.

Our Year 11s really enjoyed their Careers Day and we had some excellent feedback from the day.

Thank you to all our visitors and staff who helped make this a hugely successful day for our Year 11s and we hope that our students now have lots of information to help them on their journey through Year 11 and beyond!



WELLBEING MATTERS

I am really pleased to promote a brand new free service for supporting young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The 10th October was International Mental Health Awareness Day and saw the opening of Eastbourne's i-Rock drop in Centre.

i-Rock is a multi-agency youth mental health service for young people aged 14-25. They are open to anyone who needs support with emotional and mental health. Young people do not need a referral or an appointment. The service offers a friendly, non-judgemental listening ear along with a cup of tea. They can also give some advice if you are worried about a friend or family member. It doesn't matter how big or small your worry is, they are there to help.

It can be a bit scary talking about mental health so having a script in your head, or even written down, can be helpful. Here are some ways to get that first conversation going.

'I haven't been feeling like my usual self lately.'

'I have been feeling really low for a few weeks now.'

'I have these feelings that I don't really understand.'

'I am worried about my mental health.'

Once you get the conversation going the wonderful people at i-Rock will help you talk about it and find some support for you.

As always with mental health issues, remember there is nothing to be ashamed of and there is help available. If i-Rock doesn't appeal to you then talk to any adult at Ratton to get help and support.

Eastbourne i-Rock DC1, 67-69, Seaside Road, Eastbourne BN21 3PL

All Well Wishes,
Ms Bryden



As part of an incentive to improve students' vocabulary, we have introduced a word of the week. There are posters displayed in every tutor room, as well as on the plasma screens, and students are rewarded for using any of the words in their verbal or written responses.

This week the word was **Oblivious** and next week it is **Periphery**

Congratulations to the Year 7 netball team who came 2nd in their first ever tournament and to the Year 8 netball team who came 2nd in their tournament as well!

Year 7 Team (pictured)

Chloe Payno-Davidson, Mollie Thoms, Izzy Smith, Sophie Brook, Anna Fry, Ellie Rolf Stirmey, Niamh Read-Riseley, Lexi Gower, Isobel Sommers and Lois Crook



Year 8 Team

Megan McNamara, Ruby Freeman, Lara Kyprianou-Hickman, Eve Kyprianou-Hickman, Milula Searle-Boniface, Evie Ward, Leah Marriott, Lacey Russell, Sophia Moule, Flora Bamforth, Isabel Rodrigues De Oliveira and Fiorella Pescatorie

On 10th October, the Year 7's had their first proper Rugby encounter against TEA, and ended up scoring 6 tries in a 30-10 victory!



IF YOUR CHILD FEELS UNWELL AT SCHOOL...

Please see the information for the new medical on call system at Ratton. If your child/dependent contacts you directly from their mobile please redirect them to the steps below:

- Students feeling unwell during lessons should speak with their class teacher who will initially provide measures and advice to enable students to remain in lessons as much as possible. If symptoms persist the teacher will then email for medical on call.
- Any students feeling unwell during break times should find the nearest member of duty staff (who are first aid trained) and procedures followed from there.
- The medical officer will attend the class room of on call emails in priority of need. The main priorities are those students with known complex medical issues/students needing medication.
- Emails are prioritised as:
 - 1) Emergency - Allergic reactions/Breathing difficulties/Broken bones/Heavy bleeding/Unconsciousness
 - 2) Urgent - Body fluids e.g blood/vomit
 - 3) Non-Urgent - Generally unwell/coughs/colds
- In the first instance, the medical officer will attempt to provide students with the means to be able to continue in lesson and will often encourage the student to follow the advice given to first break/next lesson/2nd break/home time, depending on time of day and nature of need.
- If the medical officer (or person covering) deems the issue needs further investigation they will make contact with parent/carer to discuss and make a plan, or, request for student to be sent home.

Students are not to make contact with parent/carers directly requesting to go home without going through the medical system as this could potentially lead to a safeguarding issue.

Along with emails regarding generally unwell students/members of staff/visitors, there are sudden injuries and other higher priority unforeseeable incidents which will come in at any time during the day and there must be a system in place to meet the most demanding needs in order of priority. Unfortunately, this will sometimes mean that the medical officer is not in a position to answer medical emails immediately, but they will endeavour to get to as many as possible throughout the day. This may lead to a student being seen later in the day than the request was made and the possibility that the student will attempt to make contact home before being seen.

With approximately 1200 students on roll here, you will appreciate how busy medical on call becomes at times when colds/flu/viral illnesses are spreading through our school population, however, it is important that every student has access to the same facilities and we hope that students/parents/carers will understand the complexities and nature of the new medical system in place. We also encourage students to take an element of responsibility for their own health and resilience when feeling ill during the school day and hope parents/carers will assist the school by keeping students home who are obviously unwell and not returning them until they are fully recovered.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

LOCAL COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS 2019



Plumpton College – Plumpton Campus	Saturday 28 th September	9.00am – 12.00pm
Hailsham Sixth Form	Tuesday 8 th October	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre	Thursday 10 th October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre	Saturday 12 th October	10.00am – 12.00pm
Plumpton College – Netherfield Campus	Saturday 12 th October	9.00am – 12.00pm
DV8 – Brighton & Bexhill	Tuesday 15 th October	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Bexhill College	Wednesday 23 rd October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
Bexhill College	Thursday 24 th October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
East Sussex College EASTBOURNE	Thursday 24 th October	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College HASTINGS – Ore Valley	Thursday 7 th November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
Plumpton College – Plumpton Campus	Saturday 9 th November	9.00am – 12.00pm
East Sussex College LEWES	Wednesday 13 th November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
Gildredge House Sixth Form	Wednesday 20 th November	5.00pm – 7.00pm
East Sussex College - HASTINGS Station Plaza	Thursday 21 st November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College EASTBOURNE	Tuesday 26 th November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
DV8 Sussex – Brighton & Bexhill	Tuesday 26 th November	6.00pm – 8.00pm
East Sussex College LEWES	Thursday 5 th December	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College - HASTINGS Station Plaza	Tuesday 10 th December	4.30pm – 7.30pm

Please see individual college/establishment websites for further details