

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 20th September
Full Governors Meeting 5pm

Thursday 22nd September
Succeeding in Y7 Evening 6-7.30pm

Friday 23rd September
Y7 Kidzania trip

Monday 26th September
European Day of Languages

Wednesday 28th September
Early closure for students 1.40pm
Open Evening 4.45pm-7.45pm

LATEST...

Many thanks to Caroline Ansell for joining the Rotarians and our Interactor students this morning.

Miss Bennett has taken over as school coordinator from Mr Morris who was thanked for all his hard work and commitment.

Caroline joined the group for a delicious breakfast spread made by our Refresh staff and then also opened our new Music IT Suite, cutting the ribbon at 8.15am.

Fuller news and pictures will follow and also go up on our Facebook page so if you haven't already followed us please do and keep up to date with all the latest news.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome back to this first newsletter and I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. We are extremely proud of our Year 11 students who posted our best ever results for the old measure of 5 A*-C including English and Maths of 65%. We were also able to celebrate that Year 11 achieved well above national average figures for their progress between year 7 and 11 - almost half a grade better per subject than the national average! Their success will have a very positive impact on their choices and the next stage of their education - we wish them the best of luck for the future.

I enjoyed speaking to all communities in assemblies about the good start to this term and about how we were moving from Ratton Values to Ratton Virtues. The Ratton Virtues are the actions to help develop good character and enable our students to flourish and be happy. Six virtues were chosen after consultation with students and staff and they are:

Compassion
Respect
Creativity
Teamwork
Effort
Responsibility

Our Ratton Virtues will be running through all aspects of Ratton life over the next few years and will be our focus for developing good character.

I also spoke about striving to achieve excellence in the year ahead in all aspects of life. We have lots of talented students who achieve excellence both in and out of school and we want to make sure they continue to aim high. We are able to provide a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities in school from 8am through to beyond 4.30pm. I would like to encourage all students to get involved in clubs and activities and try something new this year.

You may notice the front view of Ratton has changed because we were successful in a bid to replace all of our windows. The work will make a real difference to the learning environment in and out of school and will be completed over the next 3 months. We are planning carefully to minimise the effect it has on the smooth running of the school and look forward to the benefits it will have for all of us in the future.

The Year 11 Success Evening was well attended and will be followed by evenings for other year groups from 6pm-7.30pm over the rest of this term (Year 7 on 22nd September, Year 10 on 6th October, Year 9 on 13th October and Year 8 on 20th October). These evenings will provide the opportunity for us to share how we plan to support our students to make good, or better, progress over the year.

Please enjoy this first newsletter of 2016-17.

Mr Knox-Macaulay, Headteacher

BEST GCSE RESULTS EVER!



We were delighted with our best ever set of GCSE results at Ratton for both the old GCSE measure of 65% 5A*-C including English and Maths, and also for the new GCSE measure with 68% of students achieving an A*-C grade in both English and Maths this summer. This was also coupled with record breaking whole school progress data.



Basic Expectations



Thank you for your support in ensuring that these basics are in place so that student learning is not interrupted



Please let us know if your child is going to be absent

PPRD

All students should have a Pen, Pencil, Ruler and Diary every day



Students should arrive on time for school and lessons to maximise learning time



Full uniform to be worn every day signals that students are ready to work



Mobile phones and headphones should only be used out of the building

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS & PARENTS THE PTA NEEDS YOU



We are a mixture of parents and friends that work together for the benefit of the school. Some are full time parents, some work part-time or work full-time. NONE are specialists in fundraising but all are vital to the success of the school. Involvement is totally flexible and you'll be part of a great network that makes a real difference.

We'd love you to join us so if you'd like to find out more please email lbarrow@ratton.co.uk

School Star!



Our very own Jacky Pierce has been nominated for the School Star award in the 2016 Achievers Awards which celebrates the efforts of the unsung heroes in the community. Jacky, Care & Welfare Manager, has been nominated for her 19 years of service 'carrying out great works outside the classroom' supporting students and parents.

See the Herald for full details of how you can vote for Jacky.

School journeys

Regardless of the amount of years you have been on the road, early morning starts see a lot of drivers distracted and in a hurry. This poses additional risks for students who are walking or cycling to and from school so please consider how you drive and park.

Please don't block crossings, use the zig-zag areas directly outside the school or come down the school drive to collect and/or drop off your child.

Children can be unpredictable and focusing on their friends and the day ahead rather than the traffic so be alert and ready to stop. Speed limits in school zones are lower for a reason so please let's all work together to keep all our students safe.

Thank you!

Summer of Fun at Rockley



Students from Ratton enjoyed a summer holiday with a difference.

A group of them headed off to southwest France for a watersports residential trip. With a setting boasting sandy beaches, pine forests and rolling, vineyard-covered hills, they basked in good weather, whilst trying out some new and daring sports.

They visited Pyla, the tallest sand dune in Europe, where many took on the challenge of trying to run down it without falling over! All over the GCSE students on the trip gained their RYA certificate in dingy sailing whilst away.

Ms Agnew is thanking all of those who went on the trip and says it was one of the best she's ever been on.



PE DEPARTMENT



LUNCH & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Late Lunch (1.40-2.10)	Year 7 Indoor Football (WBR)	Year 8 Indoor Football (JBU)	Girls Basketball (JUP) Table Tennis (JCY)	Boys Basketball (JBU) KS3 Benchball (SLO)	Year 11 Indoor Football (GKI)
After School (3.15-4.30)	Year 7 Boys & Girls Football Academy (BHAFC)	Year 8 & 9 Boys & Girls Football Academy (BHAFC) Tennis Academy (Jenny Hughes)	Year 8 Rugby (JBU) Year 9 & 10 Rugby (WBR) Girls Football (SHY) Badminton (SLO/JUP)	Year 7 Rugby (GKI) Netball Academy (JUP/SLO)	Table Tennis Academy (JCY)

FREE TENNIS COACHING SESSION WITH JENNY HUGHES

(ENGLAND PLAYER)

Ratton School is linked to Hampden Park Tennis Club and receives funding from the LTA in order to promote tennis opportunities for students here at Ratton School. We are very lucky to have the experience and expertise of Jenny Hughes who has played for England. Jenny is offering a subsidised tennis course every Tuesday throughout the year starting on Tuesday 20th September.

Letters are available from the School reception and PE department. This is an opportunity not to be missed. Hope to see you there!! Jane Upton (PE teacher). If you would like further details please email: jupton@ratton.co.uk

HOUSEKEEPING

Parental Refusal of consent to be photographed and published

If for any reason you do not wish your child to be photographed and/or have the photograph published on paper or uploaded to our website you have the right to withdraw your consent. Should you wish to do so, please can you write to Mrs Judith Linsell and we will record and hold the information on our system. Please ensure your child makes this known in any circumstances where their image may be captured.

Emergency Closure

If for any reason the school needs to be closed due to an emergency such as boiler breaking down, weather conditions, fire etc. and you do not wish the school to send your child home early can you write to Mrs Judith Linsell and we will record this information. Please note that the child would still be dismissed at 3.15pm in the usual way.

Providing of information to providers of Youth Support Services and the right to opt out

Once your child is aged 13 or over, we are required by law to pass on certain information to providers of youth support services in your area. This is the local authority support service for young people aged 13 to 19 in England. We must provide both the child's and parent's name(s) and address, and any further information relevant to the support services' role. However, if the child is over 16, the child (or the parent(s)) can ask that no information beyond names, address and your date of birth be passed to the support service. Please see below on how to opt-out of this arrangement.

For more information about young peoples' services, please go to the Directgov Young People page at www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/index.htm or the LA website shown above.

To Opt Out

If you wish to opt-out of this arrangement, please inform the Sims Manager at Ratton School by emailing jlinsell@ratton.co.uk or telephoning 01323 504011 ext 120.

Is your child entitled to free school meals?

If you meet the eligibility criteria below please contact Mrs Plummer by email jplummer@ratton.co.uk for an application form.

- ⇒ Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- ⇒ Income Support
- ⇒ Child Tax Credit- providing your annual income does not exceed £16,960 **but not receiving Working Tax Credit**
- ⇒ Support under part VI of the Immigration Asylum Act 1999
- ⇒ Guarantee element of state pension credit

Space for Hire

General & specialist rooms available at competitive rates.

Long & short term hire available from 5.00-9.00pm weekday evenings.

For more information please contact the Business Team at Ratton School on 01323 504011.

COPIES OF KEY POLICIES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE INCLUDING OUR CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING POLICY