

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Wednesday 19th June
Y7 Boppard Trip -
Parents/Carers Info Evening

17th June - 28th June
Y10 Exams

Tuesday 25th June
Parents' support meeting
with Andrew Wright 6.00pm

Thursday 27th June
Y7-9 Sports Day
Y10 College Taster Day (Eastbourne)
Y11 Prom 7.00pm

Friday 28th June
Inset Day

Saturday 29th June
BTec Music Group Charity Event
at the Devonshire Ward

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

YEAR 11 LEAVERS – PARENTPAY

Please remember to use all your
account balance on your ParentPay
Refresh account before you leave
Ratton School

We were pleased to welcome the MP for Eastbourne and Willingdon, Stephen Lloyd, to speak to students and take questions on the developing environmental awareness and debate happening across the country. He was very impressed with the quality of the questions and promised to take them back to Parliament. He has now put in a 'Written Question' to the Cabinet asking whether every Government Department now includes climate change, as part of their impact assessments of new policies.

Our 9th Annual Irish Night at the Royal Hippodrome Theatre was a wonderful event. Over 70 students from Ratton were involved as well as a choir of children from Motcombe Infant School. There were many fantastic performances and the use of a professional theatre provided opportunities beyond a traditional in-school venue. It was a great example of our virtue of **Teamwork** in action.

We continue to host Andrew Wright and his development work to support positive mental health in students. The next session is on Tuesday 25th June and even if you haven't attended any of the earlier sessions please free to come along - see the link to his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ActionYourPotential/>

Please enjoy this action packed newsletter.

Mr Knox-Macaulay, Executive Headteacher

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!

Ratton students will be helping with the Ocklynge Summer Fair on 5th July 2019. We are looking for your help with donations, chocolate, sweets, toys and games and books so we are able to use these as prizes or to sell. Give your unwanted books, games, toys and teddies a new home!

Please bring your donations into Ratton School on Thursday 4th July and place them in the donations point in main reception, or to Ocklynge School to the school hall (follow the signs) by 10.00am on 5th July 2019.



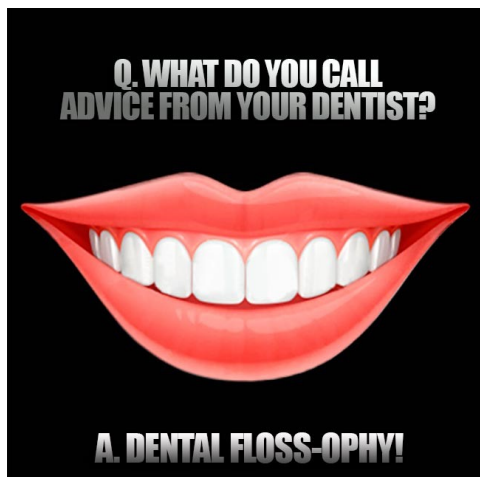
DID YOU SEE US AT THE CARNIVAL?



Irish dance on the back of a truck?! So much fun!!

JAMES GRADUATES FROM BRISTOL DENTAL HOSPITAL

Huge congratulations to **James Powell-Cullingford**, past student, who has passed his degree and is now a qualified dentist. Hope you'll join our Ratton Alumni James and come back in to talk to our current students about your fabulous achievement!



In order to keep you aware of the new developments in social media platforms and gaming and enable parents to understand the advantages and disadvantages to inform conversations with your child we would like to make you aware of the following website:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk>

Ratton Students Care about Climate Change

On Friday the 7th of June a group of concerned students met with local MP Stephen Lloyd.

Head of School, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, and Senior Assistant Headteacher, Shevlyn Byroo, created the perfect opportunity for the students to listen to what was happening on the political stage. They were able to raise their concerns for the local community, town, country and planet. Stephen did not get off lightly as they posed some rather tricky questions to him directly, such as: Is there any way that we could persuade Donald Trump to change his view on climate change? They discussed the impact Brexit was having on climate change discussions and also prompted him into thinking about how we could make Eastbourne a more climate friendly town.



Stephen was very enthused by their passion and urged them to make up their own minds about issues that matter and to “seek out the facts” when making decisions and formulating opinions so that they can be well informed.



LIFE AFTER RATTON

On Wednesday 5th June, as part of Ratton's extensive careers programme, we held a Year 10 Parent Information Evening called 'Life After Ratton'.

There was a great turnout of both students and parents/carers. The evening started with a welcome from Mrs Peters, Assistant Headteacher for Careers, Education, Advice & Guidance, and then parents & students were invited to play a game to find out who is the most influential in a young person's life with regard to their decision-making on their career choices. It's fair to say that parents/carers were surprised to learn that THEY are the biggest influence on their young people!



We were then very fortunate to hear from a former Ratton School student and Future First Alumni member, Hope Gell, who gave an inspirational presentation on her journey after Ratton and how coping with her life-threatening illness inspired her to change her college studies and career path.

Mrs Peters then talked about what the options are for our students going into Year 12, whether it be College or Sixth Form to study A levels or finding an Apprenticeship, Traineeship or other local post-16 provider.

Our second guest speaker, Jayne Jeffrey, then gave a presentation on Apprenticeships: the range & different levels of apprenticeship on offer and the range of different employers who offer apprenticeships and how to find an apprenticeship.

Then we heard from Amber at the University of Sussex who gave a presentation on Student Finance and some myth busting which hopefully reassured our students and parents/carers that finance should not be seen as a barrier to higher education.

Our final guest was Will Jacobs from the National Citizen Service who introduced students to the 4-week government-funded scheme for 15-17 year olds which is the perfect summer programme to sign up to after GCSEs have finished!



The evening finished off with a College Fair with all the local colleges including East Sussex College Group (Eastbourne, Lewes & Hastings), Bexhill College, DV8, Plumpton & Eastbourne College as well as the University of Sussex, Military Prep College, JTL apprenticeship, Heathercroft Academy, Steve Willis Training Centres & the National Citizen Service.

Thank you to all our students and parents/carers who attended and the fantastic feedback. Also huge thanks to all of our presenters and **visitors** who supported the event.



WELLBEING MATTERS

Wellbeing refers to the sense of positive regard we have for ourselves and that we feel satisfied with how things in our lives are going. In this part of the newsletter I share research, tips and activities to try and give our wellbeing a boost.

Ratton have been working on '12 Rocks of Wellbeing.' These are 12 daily practices that have proven benefits for our wellbeing. One of the easier ones to include in your day is simply to listen to music that you like. Listening to your favourite tunes is a dopamine producing activity. Dopamine is that 'feel good' chemical that can lift your spirits and it is triggered when we hear our favourite songs. Music can also be linked to happy memories - think of how we sing happy birthday, or have Christmas songs or how couples choose a 'first dance' at their wedding.

So why not create a few special playlists? I like to have seasonal ones that reflect the time of the year as well as ones to work out to or to relax too. I particularly like making a Summer Holiday play list and when I hear those special songs later in the year it can bring warm and happy feelings back again.

The second thing I want to mention is the brilliant work being done by the East Sussex Youth Cabinet. This is a group of young people who have been elected to represent the voice of children in the county. They have already done some excellent work on Mental Health including producing a guide for teachers. They are now working on producing a guide to help parents talk to young people about mental health and wellbeing.

As a starting point they are distributing two surveys to gain understanding of young people and their parents relationships and their understanding of mental health and wellbeing. Also the survey has been checked by the council so any safety issues and information protection has been taken into consideration.

If you would like to help please find links to the surveys below.

Link for young peoples' survey:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrens-services/esyc-top-ten-tips-for-parents-yp>

Link for parents' survey:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrens-services/esyc-top-ten-tips-for-parent>

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 **Gluttony** and next week it is **Hierarchy**

Ratton School's Annual Irish Night

The craic was mighty on Sunday 9th June as Ratton School presented their annual Irish Night...



Now in its 9th year, the show was a celebration of Irish music and dance and included over 120 performers.

Due to the popularity of the show, which was originally staged in Ratton's school hall, the show was performed this year at the beautiful, elegant and recently renovated Royal Hippodrome Theatre. Both a matinee and evening performance were needed to accommodate the growing following who have come to appreciate what an amazing unique event this is for the town.

Ratton's acclaimed Irish dance troupe **Rinceoiri Ratton** led by Vikki Potten wowed the packed houses with intricate footwork and thundering hard shoe routines. Highlights included dance numbers from "Lord of the Dance" and "Riverdance" as well as routines to contemporary music such as Lady Gaga and Michael Jackson. A particular highlight was a number featuring UV lighting, where only the dancer's feet and hands were visible to the audience.





Ratton's close harmony group **The Minor Details** performed traditional ballads as well as songs by contemporary Irish artists and a number of soloists sang classics such as 'The Town I Loved so Well' and 'The Rare Old Times'. The **Ratton Strike** drumming group also performed in a 'Beat vs. Feet' collaboration.

The group were also joined on stage by participants from their hugely successful Easter workshop, many of them performing on a professional stage for the first time. In addition, pupils from Motcombe Primary School also took part in the show singing 'Down by The Sally Gardens' and 'Red is The Rose' and won the hearts of the audience with their enthusiastic renditions.

Long time supporter Stephen Lloyd MP said: "It was an absolutely fantastic night. The dancers and all the performers gave it their all which was such a joy to see. I have been a big fan of Rinceoiri Ratton Irish dancers for years and on Sunday at the Hippodrome they just stormed the show. Well done all."

Rinceoiri Ratton Irish dance troupe was founded in 2009 and is this year celebrating its 'Decade of Dance'. It is an inclusive dance school whose primary aim is to make Irish dance accessible for all. With a strong reputation in the local community they perform all over Eastbourne at community and charity events, and private functions.

If you're interested in Irish dance then Rinceoiri Ratton's summer school runs between 20th-22nd August at Ratton School. Visit www.RRirishdance.com for details.



RATTON ALUMNI BACK TO SCHOOL!



On Monday 10th June, as part of Ratton's careers programme and our new Alumni initiative, we held a small informal coffee morning for ex-students who have signed up through Future First.

Attendees were welcomed by Mr Knox-Macaulay and were then introduced to Ratton's extensive careers programme by Mrs Peters, Assistant Headteacher for Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance. Our Alumni members range from recent Ratton leavers who are currently at college studying A levels or on a college gap year to an ex-student who re-trained later in life as an Accountant and the Chief Executive of the Let's Do Business Group.

Our Alumni had a tour of the school, reminisced about their school days and even saw some of the teachers who had taught them!

Thank you to all those who attended and we look forward to their help with our future careers events in school.

This is not just a project—it's an M&S project!

Last Friday students from the Ratton Green Team, an enthusiastic group of eco-enthusiasts worked with volunteers from M&S in order to develop a new learning space for science. This area is part of an evolving Outdoor Learning Space aimed at enriching the curriculum and helping students to develop their understanding of the environment. The new pond area is based on their own design and has taken months of preparation. The space incorporates bee-friendly planting, an insect hotel, a pond made from recycled materials and a covered study space.

Ratton was one of 400 community groups across the UK to receive volunteer support from Marks and Spencer as part of a nationwide week-long volunteering drive, committing over 40,000 hours to projects that work to improve the lives of children, young people and families across the UK and we are hugely grateful for their support.



M&S Eastbourne said: ***"We're really proud to be coming together as a team to support Ratton School. At M&S Eastbourne we care passionately about supporting young people in our community. The education of young people is something we know our customers care about too and we were really pleased to be able to get stuck into this project. Volunteering makes a profound difference to communities, and we believe that lots of small actions from lots of people creates a lasting impact to initiatives that do so much good."***

Ratton and M&S were connected to work together by Neighbourly - the social network for social good.

Attendance

Good attendance at Ratton School is 96% and above. Students are required to be in School for 190 days of the year, leaving 175 days for holidays.

100% attendance = 100 reward points

99 - 97% = 75 reward points

95 - 96% = 50 reward points

96%

Stage 1

Student attendance is below 95.9%

- Form tutor conversation and nudge letter
- Medical evidence is required for illness and will be monitored.

95.9%

Stage 2

Student attendance is below 93%

- Meeting requested with community team

93%

Stage 3

Student Attendance below 90%

- You will be categorised as a Persistent Absentee (PA)
- An Attendance Support Plan and meeting with the Community Team
- Students will complete a student voice

90%

Stage 4

Student Attendance below 85%

- If attendance has not improved (10 absences in 6 weeks)
- A referral will be made to ESBS (Education Support Behaviour and Attendance Service) or EWO
- This will be followed by an attendance meeting with ESBS, EWO (Education Welfare Officer and Community Team)
- If attendance does not improve parents may be prosecuted

85%



Attend. Learn. Achieve.

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?

365 DAYS IN A YEAR

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BE IN SCHOOL FOR 190 OF THEM
LEAVING 175 DAYS TO BE AT HOME OR ON HOLIDAY

GOOD ATTENDANCE IS 96% AND ABOVE

PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF DAYS IN SCHOOL	NUMBER OF SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	NUMBER OF LESSONS MISSED
100%	190	0	0
95%	180	10	70
94%	178	12	84
86%	163	27	189
85%	161	29	203
75%	143	47	329

MISSING SCHOOL MEANS:

YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON FUN PROJECTS AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

STRUGGLING TO CATCH UP ON WORK

DISCONNECTING WITH SCHOOL FRIENDS

Attendance
is the
first step
to
Achievement.

**Many congratulations to our highest achieving students
between 10/5/19 to 23/5/19**

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Xin Yi Chen	Kiki Otto	Abbi Parsons	Abbie Coxhead	Ana Christenson
Lily-Rose Hewett	Carly Smithson	Beau Lewis	Katie Bayne	Charlotte Loats
Lilia Edwards	Daisy Kelleher	Georgia O'Connor	Janey Hooper	Daisy Karasani-Jones
Lola Harris	Anya Seymour	Lara Vaney	Sydney Thornton	Holly Hutley
Ariana Shapol	Olivia Brunt	Amelia Dinnis	Zoe Sloper	Katie Baker
Isobel Legge	Joe Westlake	Frida Henze-Jones	Ethan James	Libby Thomas
Izabella Loughton	Roman Webb-Pearce	Laila Whiteman	Mitchell Summerfield	Raven West
Jessica Da Silva	Dawid Kaczala	Rebekah Ebdy	Samuel Kavakli	Harley Gost
Lola Bryson	Endi Gjerka	Sian Wheeler	Charles Sear	Joseph Greenan
Dylan Long	Zephan Robinson	Billy Smith	Richard Labbett	Mitchell Bibiloni
Joe Steedman		Kameron Webb-Pearce	Tom Bevis	Nathaniel Osborne
Edward Dench		Louis Nicholls		Reuven Furney
Fraser Mechan		Dale Upton		Ryan Hover
Leo Higgins		Harry Hacker		William Beeley

Medical Matters

Reminder for students to please bring filled water bottles to school now that the weather is warming up! This will save any unnecessary trips to the medical room for cups of water!

Please remember that all medicines brought into school require a signed parent consent form and must be kept with Ms Williamson in the Medical Needs Room.



If you haven't completed a medical form for this school year, please contact the general office for a copy as this will be needed for any trips and Enrichment Week activities.

INTENSIVE SWIMMING LESSONS AT OCKLYNGE

We are now booking intensive lessons through the Summer Holiday.

These will be offered in the mornings.

Monday- Friday.

29rd July – 2nd August 2019

5th August – 9th August 2019

12th August – 16th August 2019

19th – 23rd August 2019

The cost will be £28.00 per week.

Should you be interested, please let the swimming teachers know.

Any enquiries, please contact the Pool Manager on 07928708540

E mail: ockpool@ocklynge.co.uk

