

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Wednesday 5th June

Y10 Information Evening 5.30pm

Sunday 9th June

9th Irish Night 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Royal Hippodrome Theatre

Wednesday 12th June

Parents' support meeting
with Andrew Wright 6.00pm

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

INSET DAYS NOTIFICATION FOR REST OF ACADEMIC YEAR

Full day closure on
Friday 28th June

Year 9 University of Sussex Graduation

Our Year 9 First Generation students had a fantastic evening on 15th May at their 'Graduation' ceremony at the University of Sussex's impressive Jubilee Building! On arrival the students and their parents were welcomed with drinks and a buffet followed by a welcome talk from the Making Choices team, a campus tour then an information, advice and guidance talk. The students then...

ENDINGS ARE JUST NEW BEGINNINGS

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable mid-term break and has returned full of energy for the final term of the academic year. At this point of the year, it is right that we start reflecting on what has gone well this year and what we need to improve. This is an important part of our virtue of **Responsibility** and should happen when we move from one term or school year to the next.

On the afternoon of the last day of term, we enjoyed a wonderful valediction event with Year 11 students. Valediction is part of the process of recognising and celebrating their achievements in school over the last 5 years. We know that they still have a number of important exams to go and wish them the best of luck over the next few weeks.

I am sure you will enjoy reading about the graduation success of our Year 9 students at the University of Sussex. It may seem a bit soon to be thinking about higher education at this stage of their school career but hopefully this will act as some early inspiration!

We are moving into the time of year when there are large number of school events happening which you will find detailed at the end of this newsletter.

Please enjoy this action packed newsletter.

Mr Knox-Macaulay, Executive Headteacher



...donned their gowns and mortarboards and took to the stage to be presented with their graduation certificates and have their photos taken! Our thanks to all the Widening Participation team for a brilliant evening celebrating all our students' hard work on the First Generation Scholars at the University of Sussex scheme. We are very proud of all of our students and hope that this experience has inspired them to think about applying for University in a few years' time!

ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

The primary objective of the Attendance Team is to work with parents/carers helping children attend school regularly. School attendance and attainment are closely linked. We are here to ensure your children receive the education to which they are entitled and achieve the outcomes for a successful future

We know that excellent attendance is crucial to the success of our students and governmental research shows a strong correlation between attendance and achievement.

>97% attendance = excellent chance of achieving their potential

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Parents are expected to take their family holidays during school holiday times. It is widely acknowledged that any absence from school, be it for a day or a week, is likely to interrupt a child's learning. Children who are absent in term time miss out on the teaching that goes on in their absence. Children returning from a term time absence are also unprepared for the lessons that build on the teaching they have missed.

If an absence is required due to 'exceptional circumstances', it is the responsibility of parents/carers to fill in an absence request form, found on our school website, preferably 14 days before the period of absence.

Each application will be carefully considered by the Headteacher.

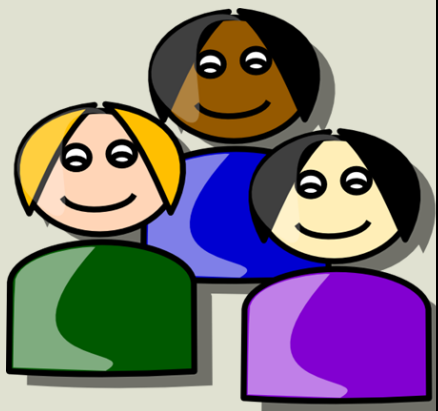
90% attendance = less than 50% chance of achieving their potential

100%

At Ratton School we believe that good attendance and punctuality are essential for a child to reach their educational potential and enjoy a feeling of belonging to their class and school community. In promoting the belief that attendance and punctuality are important values we are preparing our students for a successful future.

It is important that we know where your children are

If students do not arrive at school, we have no way of knowing where they are unless you let us know. We need to be sure that they are safe.



What we would like you to do

If your child cannot attend school (for whatever reason) please use the Edulink App in the first instance **before 8.30am every day of absence** or leave a message on the answerphone -

Tel 01323 504011

Ratton Attendance Team

Mrs Saunderson Extn 119

Mr Brookman Extn 122

If a child hasn't arrived at school by 9.30am and we haven't had a message about absence, our

Attendance Team will try to contact the child's parents/carers by text.

If we do not get a satisfactory reason for an absence, we regard it as an unauthorised absence, and this is noted in the child's record.

Absence is not authorised for:

- holidays
- birthdays
- shopping
- looking after siblings and attending siblings' events
- staying at home because a member of the family is ill
- outings (e.g. theatre visits)
- staying at home to see a visitor
- visits to airports to collect or drop off relatives
- uniform not washed
- interpreting for parents at meetings

LATENESS

Children who arrive at school after 8.45am are marked late in the register.

Unless there is an exceptional reason for lateness, children arriving to school later than 9.30am are marked with an authorised absence in the register

If we are concerned about a child's attendance and/or punctuality, we will ask you to come and talk to us about it.

The Community Team will then get in touch with the parents/carers concerned to support you in getting your child to school.

Can we help you?

If you are having difficulty getting your child to school in the mornings, please let us know immediately – maybe we will be able to help

If you would like to talk to the Attendance Team or Community Team, please contact the school on 01323 504011.

Further information can be found in the school attendance policy.

Year 8 Work Place Visit to John Gosnell Factory in Lewes

On Thursday 16th May a group of Year 8 students visited the John Gosnell cosmetics factory in Lewes. On arrival we were given a warm welcome by Chris Warner, the owner and director who took us to the meeting room where we signed in and completed our medical screening questionnaires. These were required for Health and Safety in the factory. Chris then gave us a very interesting background to the company, which is the oldest cosmetics company in the UK, founded in Lewes in 1677 and is known locally as the 'Soap Factory'. The factory has been at its current site since August 2018 and consists of two companies. One business is a cosmetics and home fragrance manufacturer with manufacturing and packaging operations and the other business is a food and pharmaceutical packager. This side of the business is similar to the cosmetics but under more strict processing rules. There are also supporting departments – the office, warehouse and laboratory. Chris told us that he has 27 staff with 2 part-time and the rest full-time – all are permanent. Students then had the opportunity to ask Chris some questions before our factory tour. We found out that the skills needed to work at John Gosnell included: good timekeeping, ability to follow rules and being able to stand up all day! The working day runs from 8am to 4pm with 2 x 15 minute breaks and half an hour for lunch. Staff work a 4 ½ day week with a nice early finish on Fridays. The company run in-house training and there is a staff canteen. There are no set qualifications to work at John Gosnell and staff start on a 3 month trial. Job roles include production line (blue coats), makers (red coats), lab technicians (green coats), sales staff, accounts, managers and warehouse. John Gosnell pay the living wage and there is an annual bonus paid on the success of the business.



Chris then asked us to put on white lab coats and net hats ready for our tour of the factory. This included: the warehouse where we saw the products, which are packed and sent out, the packing room where bottles of peppermint oil were being manually packaged for sending out, the making room where students each took a turn to fill candle holders with warm wax. We then went on watch staff mixing products, Chris explained the process of making soap and we

visited Matt in the lab who asked students to carry out an experiment. Students took swabs of product from individual petri dishes and observed which one tested for traces of peanut. This is very important as there are strict rules on product leaving the warehouse and its reliability. If any traces are spotted, a cleaning process has to take place. Finally we returned to the meeting room to remove our lab coats and hats. Students found their visit very interesting and they have learnt a lot about all the different work that takes place in this particular factory environment. Chris very generously gave each student a John Gosnell pot of vitamin E cream, which got a unanimous seal of approval! Huge thanks to Chris and his team for taking the time out of their very busy working day to host our Year 8 group who thoroughly enjoyed their work place visit experience!

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.

One of the 12 Rocks of Wellbeing that we are working on is the importance of allowing time for the mind to wander. I know that when I am working flat out organising my work life and my family life, taking time out to just sit and daydream seems like a waste of time or even lazy but actually this time to let our mind off the leash and do its own things can be incredibly useful.

Allowing the mind to wander can allow us valuable processing time and increase our ability to problem solve. Just a few minutes of sitting and just staring out the window can untangle complex thoughts and refresh my cognitive abilities. For others the joy of a nice long bath gives the time and space to unwind a bit.

The trouble is that too many of us reach for our phones as soon as we get any downtime. This means that we are instantly caught up in other issues such as the news or social media and our minds go bouncing from one stimulus to the next and we get little peace.

I know this works for me when I am really trying to remember a piece of information, if it is not coming readily to mind I try to relax my thought process, think of something else and then the answer pops up. Or if I am trying to be creative I am usually more productive if I allow a little mind wandering and doodling before hand.

So next time you have 5 minutes to yourself just allow that mind to untangle and wander. Try not to reach for the screen and see where your mind wanders when left to its own devices.

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 **Cantankerous** and next week it is **Epitome**

CCF ARE BUZZING!

This week the CCF have been on their adventurous training module at Buzz Active on the Cuckmere. They were set up with an initial task of designing and creating a raft out of barrels, wooden poles and ropes. Both teams successfully built their raft putting them through a drop test to test strength. The final stage of the task was to race across the water with the whole team on the raft to collect a rubber duck, then back to shore. The winner was the first to get back to shore with the duck and dismantle the raft.

The second task was Mega Supping. This was a feat in itself as it involved all 10 cadets climbing on to a single board, then using their teamwork to paddle down the river. This seemed impossible at first but they all worked together and everyone was transported successfully. A fantastic afternoon was had by all. Thanks for being a fantastic bunch of Cadets, only a few more weeks to go before our overnight expedition!



Are you in Year 8?

**Do you want to join the Army
Cadets CCF in September?**

**Then see Miss Agnew in the
Finance Office!**



**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
Lea Ducat	Anna Ripley	Bibi Baldwin	Abbie Lewis-Clarke	Charlotte Deveney
Lilia Edwards	Lily Chumbley	Ellie Parter	Louise Rhodes	Haydn Richards
Xin Yi Chen	Emily Ludlam	Amelia Dinnis	Matilda Ranger	Hellen Stratakou
Angelina Liagridonis-Dix	Lucy Laidler	Lara Vaney	India Brown	Wiktorja Swider
Mya Gillman	Megan Parry	Danielle Mapp	Laura Scholes	Jasmine Vine
Leo Higgins	Finlay Kelly	Rebekah Ebdy	Olivia Prentice	Millie Johnson
Brian Zambrano Goncalves	Finn Warner	Billy Smith	Jack Trubshaw	William Chan
Joe Steedman	Lucas Geering	Taylor Priestley	Wesley Greenley	Jamie Clay
Edward Dench	Alex Clarke	Fred Mills	Caleb Scott	Razvan Ilie
Ned Baldwin	Freddie Roberts	Billy Putland	Thomas Tyrwhitt-Walker	Joel Taylor
Raph Badawi	Oscar Smith	George Bradshaw	Alex Partridge	Max Donoghue
		Mati Stanley		Mitchell Bibiloni
				Toby Poppitt-Jones
				William Harker

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.

Year 8 Work Place Visit to PGL Windmill Hill

On Wednesday 8th May, a group of Year 8 students visited PGL Windmill Hill for a work place visit.

On arrival we were welcomed by Anna Reed, who gave us some background to the PGL company and what they do. PGL is a company which runs adventurous activity breaks for young people and PGL Windmill Hill offers 68 different activities at its site. There are 150 staff and the site can hold 450 residents in its 110 bedrooms. The housekeeping department look after the accommodation and all the communal areas. This involves cleaning the rooms and bathrooms and changing the bedding. Students saw some of the activities on offer at the site including archery, giant swing, ropes and the Sports Hall where football & netball matches take place along with other activities including fencing and aeroball. No set qualifications are required to work on the activities, however PGL run a 6-day training course where staff learn the basics including full first aid. Students learned that qualities needed to work at PGL are: a fun and helpful attitude, punctuality and good teamwork. Students asked what job incentives there are at PGL and found out that PGL offer free accommodation and food for their staff on site. There is an apprenticeship scheme and after 34 weeks, staff are paid the national minimum wage and can gain an NVQ in outdoor education. PGL support apprentices who need to retake their English and Maths GCSEs. The PGL season runs from February to November.

Students then visited the on-site canteen where staff in the catering team start work at 7am ready for the residents' breakfast sitting. The dining room is big enough for 250 people to sit and eat. There are 3 sittings for breakfast, lunch and dinner and these each take 2 ½ hours. The meals, which run on a 2-week rota are served by the chef and catering team and there is a chef academy for staff to progress in their roles. We found out that not only does PGL have sites in the UK but also 15 sites across Europe and even Australia! There are opportunities to transfer from one site to another. Anna explained that PGL Windmill Hill is a very busy site and last season hosted 72,000 adventurous young people!

Our Year 8 students thoroughly enjoyed their tour of the site and found out lots of information about working at PGL. A big thank you to Anna for taking the time out of her busy day to host our visit!



EXAM TIMETABLE

History	3 rd June	9.00am
Italian: Writing	3 rd June	1.10pm
English Language Paper 1	4 th June	9.00am
Music: Component 3 Appraising	4 th June	1.10pm
Portuguese: Reading		
Spanish: Writing	5 th June	9.00am
Geography Paper 2	5 th June	1.10pm
Maths (calculator)	6 th June	9.00am
History	6 th June	1.10pm
English Language Paper 2	7 th June	9.00am
Biology	7 th June	1.10pm
Maths (calculator)	11 th June	9.00am
History Weimar & Nazi Germany	11 th June	1.10pm
Chemistry	12 th June	9.00am
German: Listening/Reading	12 th June	1.10pm
Polish: Listening/Reading		
Geography Paper 3	13 th June	9.00am
Dance Appreciation Component 2	13 th June	1.10pm
Statistics Paper 1		
Physics	14 th June	9.00am
Further Maths Paper 1	14 th June	1.10pm
German: Writing	17 th June	9.00am
Further Maths Paper 2	17 th June	1.10pm
Hospitality & Catering (Spec A) Unit 1	18 th June	9.00am
Statistics Paper 2		
Polish: Writing	19 th June	9.00am



RINCEOIRÍ
RATTON




A CELEBRATION OF
Irish Music and Dance
not to be missed



RATTON SCHOOL'S 9th ANNUAL
Irish Night

Sunday 9 June 2019
Matinee 2.30pm - Evening 7.30pm
Royal Hippodrome Eastbourne




STUDENT WELLBEING
TEAM



**THE
DROP IN**

Need to talk about something
that's on your mind?
We are ready to listen.
No judgements.
We are available in room 109
Every Wednesday and Thursday
at 1st break.
11.15-11.35




Year 10 Chef Demonstration at The Langham Hotel



30 of our Year 10 Food Technology students were very fortunate to have a trip to the Langham Hotel where Mike, the Executive Chef, gave them a demonstration on how to prepare and cook a delicious 2 course meal.

Mike welcomed our group and began with showing students how to prepare a chicken. Students were invited to assist Mike with preparing each stage of the meal. Mike explained to students the cost of a chicken and how this is reflected in what the hotel charge per head for a meal. Nothing is wasted when preparing a chicken and Mike gave examples of what each part of the chicken can be served as – for example, the legs and wings can be used for main course and canapé dishes. Students learnt how to prepare chicken wrapped in bacon with a sage & butter stuffing, flambéed in brandy. Mike then prepared the vegetables. Students were then asked to help prepare a



banoffee fool for dessert. Students crushed the biscuits, whipped the cream and constructed the final piece with bananas and a toffee sauce. Mike then taught students some menu maths! Students learnt how much ingredients cost to how much a meal costs to set against how much the customer is charged.

Students were then given a tour of the Langham kitchens and finally were invited into the Langham Restaurant where they were served the same delicious 2-course meal that they had prepared with Mike. Our students had a fantastic time and learned some very useful skills and information to take back to their Food Technology lessons.

A big thank you to Mike, Neil and all at the Langham for hosting our Chef demonstration and restaurant experience!



Jan Kjellström International Festival of Orienteering

As part of the relay team, Amelia Bartlett came in fourth at Easter by the tiniest of shades in the biggest international orienteering competition there is and on top of that on Sunday 12th May (day before her first GCSE) she ran to 'gold' to win the South East Women's Open 3x3 relay in Croydon -



Southdowns Orienteers willing Amelia in and supporting her all the way



FINN SCORES SILVER - TWICE!

On the 25th May, Finn Warner in Year 8 took part in the WKO 5 NATIONS OPEN event in Tilbury for Kicks Eastbourne and achieved 2 x silver medals at Kickboxing in his division.

What an achievement—huge congrats Finn!



KEY DATES THIS TERM

Monday 10th - Friday 14th June

Year 10 MFL Speaking Exams

Friday 14th June Year

7-10 Town Sports

Thursday 27th June

Year 7-9 Sports Day at Eastbourne Sports Park

Thursday 27th June

Year 10 College Taster Day Eastbourne

Thursday 27th June

Year 11 Prom

Friday 28th June

Inset Day

Tuesday 2nd July

Year 10 College Taster Day Lewes

Wednesday 3rd July

Year 10 College Taster Day at Hastings College

Friday 5th July

Year 8 Careers Day

Thursday 11th July

Awards Evening

Friday 12th July

Year 10 College Taster Day at Bexhill College

Monday 15th - Friday 19th July

Years 7- 10 Enrichment Week

Monday 15th July

Blueprint Uniform Shop 3.30-6.30pm

Tuesday 16th - Friday 19th July

Year 8 Camp

Friday 19th - Tuesday 23rd July

Year 7 Boppard Trip

Monday 22nd July

Sponsored Walk

Tuesday 23rd July