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JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIVE WORKSHOP WITH DIGITAL AWARENESS UK, SUPPORTED BY VODAFONE.

- DATE: Wednesday 26th February 2020
- VENUE: Ocklynge Junior School
- TIME: 19:00 - 20:00
- COST: Free
- REGISTER YOUR SPACE: (Evening) tinyurl.com/wrtdn2o

For more information, please contact berhanes@ocklynge.co.uk



www.digitalawarenessuk.com
www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

17th—21st February
Mid term break

CLOSURE DAYS FOR REST OF 2019-20

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,

In this issue of the Newsletter you will find reviews of our fantastic production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. I mentioned in the previous edition that the show had been a tremendous success and thoroughly enjoyed by some rapt audiences. If you didn't get along to see it, the reviews will give you a taste of what you missed. Again, a big well done to all involved in performing and supporting the production, and we look forward to next year's show already!

Senior staff have been meeting with Year 10 students who have applied to be our next generation of student leaders. It has been great to see our students model our virtues in their applications and interviews, particularly those virtues of teamwork and effort which are crucial in the role. We look forward to sharing the names of those students who are successful in the role with you, and hearing their ideas to take the school forward.

A key part of education is preparing students for the world of work and giving them the experience of meeting people who work in a wide range of occupations. Our Year 9 Careers Day last week allowed students to find out more in terms of making some informed choices at GCSE Options time. Our visitors were very complimentary about our Year 9 students and both students and visitors enjoyed the experience. Year 9 students are currently in the process of opting for their GCSE pathway and we will look forward to discussing their choices with them in their individual interviews.

I hope you have a relaxing and restful mid-term break next week.

Mr Peevers
Head of School

Please can we remind parents/carers that if you plan to visit the school site, you must always report to Reception on arrival to receive a Visitor's badge and to allow the member of staff you are visiting to be informed of your arrival.

Brooke Nicholls DipLCM

Brooke Nicholls from year 10 has just passed his London College of Music Keyboard Diploma exam from the University of West London.

This is a prestigious award and very rarely is it achieved, especially by a 15 year old! In fact, Brooke's teacher from Bonners School of Music, Mr Andrew Gilbert, says that Brooke is his youngest student to pass the diploma and Bonners only ever pupil to achieve it! He went on to say...

"Brooke has been studying keyboard with me since he was 6 years old, for almost 9 years. It's been a pleasure to see this young man work his way up through the grades, playing some wonderful music along the way. It was obvious from the first few lessons that he'd go far and I'm delighted to see him achieve DipLCM status at such a young age."

Congratulations Brooke on all your hard work and dedication.



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The website has lots of information to help you choose the right size for your child, but if you are still unsure, please call us or email sales@sussexuniforms.co.uk where our team will be happy to assist.

DELIVERY

- Free delivery over £50 to UK.
- Orders processed within 5 working days.*
- Fast delivery by tracked courier to UK, Europe or Internationally.
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WHEN TO BUY FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

- JUNE: This is the best time to buy and we have an extended exchange period until end August
- JULY: For items needed for start of school, please make sure you order before 31st July
- AUGUST: Final day for UK delivery for back to school is 20th August (subject to stock availability)

*Allow up to 10 working days in the summer.



MAGICAL SCHOOL TRIP!

On Tuesday 4th February we embarked on our year 9 Harry Potter trip.

The purpose of this trip is to allow students to see where Design and Technology can take them in the future, from design sets and what goes in to the multi layers of a film, to the very first steps of drawing ideas behind the scenes. The planning that goes on for all the props, costumes, robotics and animatronics that are included in the films.

It also allows them to see the depth a job in Design and Technology can



take them and opens their eyes to the exciting future they could be involved in.

The trip was a huge success, all students behaved extremely well and followed the rules set out for the day, it was lovely to see the enthusiasm that the

students had to find out all they could about the different areas and what they would need to do to get there in the future.



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat—Audience Reviews (Becky Robinson)

The students and Performing Arts Team at Ratton School received 3 well deserved standing ovations last week at the Hippodrome Theatre for their marvellous production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. I personally think it was one of the best school productions I have ever seen and I am in admiration of the Performing Arts Team and the students for creating such a highly energetic, slick and exceptionally well co-ordinated production.

The directors had cleverly created the children into 4 groups, the chorus who held beautiful harmonies and led the sound of

“I was simply 'blown away' with it. It was so professional, just fantastic, the choreography was brilliant, the costumes super, the venue perfect, the students amazing”.

the big numbers so tunefully. The ensemble, about 20 students who worked together in unity to create the visual images of the different scenes using movement and physical theatre and the dancers who brought rhythm and choreography skilfully to the stage.

The Ratton students were also joined on stage by 3 Primary School choirs from Parklands, Stafford and Ocklynge who all wowed the crowd with their beautiful singing.



The co-ordination of all these 100 or more children on and off the stage swiftly and professionally was really something!

The casting of the principle characters was superb!

Jacob and the brothers - each with an individual characteristic and personality brought the stage to life with hilarity, superb singing, incredible confidence and unforgettable dance moves! Their teamwork really shone through and they looked like they were having the time of their lives! The audience really enjoyed the humour the brothers brought to the stage and some were still laughing even after the performance had finished.



Janey Hooper was incredibly cool as the Elvis-impersonating Pharaoh, and added charm, charisma and groovy moves to the role.

Joseph played by Luke Corteling-Rice captured the character of Joseph completely with his tuneful voice and presence.

Holding the show together was the incredibly talented Megan Archer as the Narrator, her performance matching professionals twice her age. Such a beautiful voice, so well controlled, acted and performed, a star in the making.



Huge credit and thanks must go to the Performing Arts Team - Mrs Potten, Mr Stocker, Mrs Papagna and Mr Kearsey. Mrs Papagna's choreography aided by Ms Duncan's tango was exceptional and really brought the pictures alive on the stage. Every move the students made was unified and precise. The level of discipline on the stage was really excellent.

Under Mr Kearsey's musical direction, the school band was extremely tight and the singing beautiful to listen to.

Mrs Potten and Mr Stocker's direction and production ideas enabled a slick, inventive and thoroughly enjoyable top quality production.

Everyone I saw left the theatre smiling and feeling uplifted.

Huge Well done to all involved!



Vicky Williams

The excitement in the foyer was building, through the grand entrance of the Hippodrome Theatre, visitors were ushered to their seats.

Behind the scenes footsteps pattered across the landings as the Joseph cast, empowered by hours of practise and the elegant surroundings, prepared for their performance. Costumes were donned, make-up and hair dressed, the call for warm up had arrived at last.

Sonic singing scales broadcast around the old

building, the time had arrived, the cast were in the depths of the theatre, waiting, orchestra sounded and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Coat began.

The rustling in the audience stopped, star struck by the enormity of the cast on stage, the commanding opening song by Joseph setting the scene for the dynamic storytelling by the narrator.

Lights and sound all around, song after song the tension and audience participation mounted, travelling with Joseph on his journey from Israel to Egypt, from favourite son, to prisoner to Pharaoh's number two.

An explosion of colour and joy, this production mesmerised from the opening scene to final encore and well deserved standing ovation. Pyramids glistened, stories were told, Elvis rocked, dancers span and weaved across the sets, voices filling the stage, the whole cast a vibrant colourful array, breathing in and enjoying the rollercoaster experience of performing.

The final bows and encores, the performance had finished but the memories will live on forever. A spectacular production by the students and performing arts staff of Ratton, relished by all who came.

Clare Parter:

Ratton school's Joseph and his amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat – well, what a blast.

Lloyd Webber and Rice wrote this for a school choir and it makes sense seeing the youthful vigour and exuberance that was portrayed in the performance of this classic at The Royal Hippodrome theatre, with so much fun and humour on the back drop of a great





stage set and excellent live music.

At the centre was narrator played by Megan Archer, treating us to perfectly performed singing with gestures and body language conveying the story so well.

Luke Corteling-Rice sang beautifully as Joseph and the addition of younger children from primary schools (Parklands, Stafford and Ocklynge) was very sweet. Several costume changes and then the huge dreamcoat ending made for such a vivid colourful finale. His father Jacob played by Billy Smith with his deep voice and individual dancing skills brought a smile to everyone's faces.

On stage everyone seemed to be having an absolute ball, it was infectious. The use of music genres was pure genius: the Elvis take on the song Pharaoh's dream with a great performance by Janey Hooper was brilliant and the audience was enraptured, wanting more.

The brothers looked a gelled group with many well performed songs both individually and as a whole. A sense of fun amongst them was felt with cheeky ad libs too.

The ensemble was there with dance and song to support all the way through as were the chorus in their colourful costumes. The large cast seemed well rehearsed with smiles that lit up the theatre.

“An explosion of colour and joy. 5 stars”

“Wow wow wow... it really was exceptional.”

Both cast, musicians and teachers alike should be extremely proud of such a marvellous performance which was so well received by all those there watching.

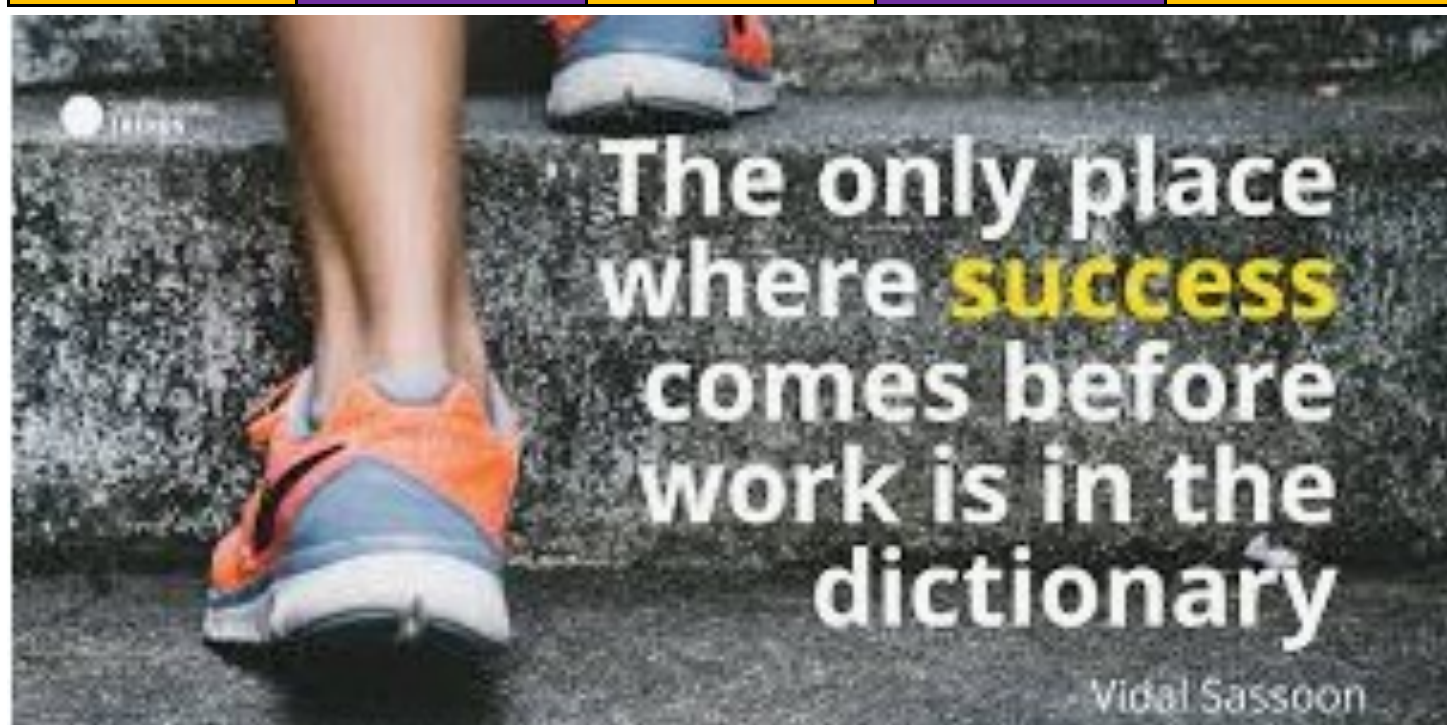
As ever Ratton School delivered a fantastic performance.



Photo credits: Trevor Mould

Many congratulations to our students who have earned the highest number of achievement points from 24th January — 6th February

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Keira Carlton	Mollie Cooper	Harper Winslet	Ella Harris	Abbie Lewis-Clarke
Harriet Dunton	Lilia Edwards	Mia Watt	Maya Goodwin	Victoria Gates
Eva Alvey	Lola Harris	Rachel Kersten-Freeman	Lara Vaney	Leonie Hurtado
Leah Barber	Macy Bryson	Angela Chin	Anna Glynne-Percy	Petra Freitas De Sousa
Iulia Catana	Chloe Smith	Isabelle Dancey-Liversedge	Sophie Sivyver	Sophie Devile
Jessica Baker	Jessica Waterman	Rebekah Whitby	Luke Woolven	Ryan Penfold
Mia Teear	Tilly Maccormick	Tommy Clayson	Joe Whitmore	Tom Lester
Louis Shrubbs	Jackson Bowles	Alex Clarke	Bennur Aslan	Wesley Greenley
Reuben Butler	Freddie Wallis	Gabriel Farcon	Dylan Green	Jack Trubshaw
Didac Gil Ferre	Devon Whiteoak	Finn Warner	Jacob Packer	Sam Willetts
Josh Howell	Jacob Williams	Loui Fry	Lennon O'Donnell	
Loui Dalton	Ned Baldwin	Sonny Pitcher	Louis Nicholls	
			William Bixley	



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.



This edition of the Wellbeing Matters links to Children's Mental Health Awareness Week and their theme of 'Finding Your Brave' and the words come from their website (link below). For some people just getting into school every day is an act of bravery and I am so proud of them for doing it.

Bravery comes in all shapes and sizes and is different for everyone. Life is all about taking small brave steps every day. Bravery could be about sharing worries and asking for help when you need it, trying something new or making the right choices. When you Find your Brave, it can help you feel good about yourself and more confident to face future challenges.

Here are some things that might help you to **Find your Brave**.

1. Think about something brave you've done or a difficulty you've overcome and remember the positive feeling for next time you need to find your brave.
2. Think of something you could do at school or a new activity you could try that might be out of your comfort zone. Challenge yourself to give it a go.
3. Remember that being brave also involves being responsible and making sensible choices; it isn't about taking unsafe risks.
4. Bravery is often associated with acts we can see but many acts of bravery are quiet and unseen.
5. Look out for examples of people **Finding their Brave** in the news, sport, music, your family - they might have some good ideas you could try out. Why not ask the people you live with about a time when they had to be brave.

For more ideas and resources visit:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Ms G Bryden



A Decade of Dance



RATTON SCHOOL'S 10th ANNUAL

Irish Night



An evening of **Irish Music and Dance** not to be missed

Sunday 29 March at 7:00pm
Congress Theatre, Eastbourne

TICKETS: £16. Concessions £10. Children (under 16) £10
BOOK: eastbournetheatres.co.uk

Swimming Gala KS3 - Champions!

Well done to the students who represented Ratton in the Swimming Squad and were crowned Champions of East Sussex after coming 1st place in the Gala hosted at Lewes Priory School on Monday 27th January!



Jackson Bowles (8), Freddie Wallis (8), Louis Shrubbs (7), Matt Clark (7), Ashton Willmott (7), Didac Gil Ferre (7), Zac Shrubbs (7), Thomas Storey (7), Benjamin Martin (7), Emeline Hutchison (8), Milula Searle-Bonniface (8), Layla Wilding (9), Abi Line (7), Daisy Crook (9), Lois Crook (7) and Isobel Dancey-Liversedge (9)

IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY SOON?

Did you know that birthday parties can be booked for either lunch service in Refresh and the birthday student has a decorated table with balloons and banners.

Prices include a personalised cake and lunch for the birthday student: 5 students £7.50, 6-12 students £10, over 12 students £12.50.

Brilliant value and good fun!



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