

12th November 2010

Issue 5 2010-11

WHAT OUR STUDENTS VALUE

Some time ago I wrote about our school values: respect, integrity, responsibility, participation, excellence and enjoyment. Since then the students have been working on what these values mean for them, and have come up with a list of actions that demonstrate their commitment to these values. I never cease to be inspired by the confident, creative, and caring thinking of our students.

The actions written by our students include:

Respect - treating people how you would like to be treated

Integrity - showing sincerity and honesty in class discussions and work

Responsibility - admitting your mistakes and making up for them

Participation - being able to work as a team

Excellence - never accepting second best

Enjoyment - always looking on the bright side of being at school

These values in action are a creed that, when followed, will prepare our students for a happy and successful life.

Mr D Linsell, Headteacher

LYCEUM CAKE SALE - SUPPORT CHILDREN IN NEED

Heledd Evans and Jessica Davis from Lyceum community have organised a cake sale which will take place on Friday 19th November at breaktime in the Blue Room. Please come along to support Pudsey (and Fairtrade), and eat some yummy cakes and biscuits! If you're interested in baking something for the sale please talk to Mrs Weblin in room 102.



SONG AND DANCE EVENING

Our singers, dancers and musicians are busy rehearsing for the next Performing Arts event of the school year which promises to be a really enjoyable evening's entertainment from our young performers, packed with exciting talent, and beautiful sights and sounds. Ratton students from Years 7 to 11 will be involved, together with some surprise items to be performed by 'guest artists'!

Song and Dance Evening is on **Friday 19th November at 7pm** in the Hall and tickets are available now from the school Finance Office at £3.50 per adult and £1.50 per child.

TRUST STATUS UPDATE

Thank you to those of you who responded to the consultation on Trust Status, you will be receiving a response. The majority of the responses were positive; a summary will be available on the school website. At the Full Governors' meeting on Tuesday 9th November after careful consideration the Governors voted unanimously to proceed to the next stage of the consultation process as we believe the Trust is an exciting opportunity to further raise standards at Ratton. The details of the next phase of consultation will be sent to you in the near future.

Peter Lindsey
Chair of Governors

CONGRATULATIONS!

Many congratulations to our highest achieving students whose hard work and commitment we are proud to recognise. These students are identified due to having received the highest number of rewards allocated by all staff for the relevant week and are awarded for various contributions - such as outstanding work on a longer project or coursework, good effort in class, effort in tutor time and participation in an extra-curricular activity to name but a few!

Week ended 5th November

Aimee Lyon, Keziah Bussell, Megan Dennis, Zachary Cullinane, Amie Woodgate and Rebecca Wyatt

Since September

Nathan Hover, Ryan Gregory, Susannah Hearn, Lara Davis, Aymen Qader, Rebecca Wyatt and Emily Larkin

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 15th November

PFA Meeting 7pm

Tuesday 16th November

Governors' Meetings 4.15pm

Staffing Committee 5pm

Monitoring Committee

Friday 19th November

Song & Dance Evening 7pm

Tuesday 23rd November

Governors' Budget Committee 5pm

Thursday 25th November

Year 8 Subject Evening 4.15pm-7.15pm

REACHING FOR GOLD

The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust have invited our students to take part in **Reaching for Gold!**

Reaching for Gold is a competition for groups of students aged 14-19 in the South East. To take part, up to 10 students must form a group and come up with a project which will have a positive impact in their community, and which has room for expansion and collaboration. This project must tackle one of 3 areas: youth, community, or improving access.

The best project ideas will be selected to move on to the next stage and groups will develop their project with mentoring and support from national and international business partners. At the Grand Final, groups will compete by pitching their project in front of a panel of judges. The winning group will get £3000 to put their project into action.

To find out more information please visit <http://www.reachingforgold.org.uk> and contact Arts Development Officer, Miz Wells (Drama Office or m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk), for support and guidance.

DEMELZA HOSPICE CARE FOR CHILDREN

Vicki Pickering, Community Fundraiser from Demelza, has contacted Ratton to thank staff and students for the £400 contribution raised by our recent MUFTI Day.

Half the proceeds raised on the day went to Demelza and special thanks go to **Chelsea Spence of Apollo** for nominating the hospice to receive these much needed funds. The support shown by the whole school will make a vital difference to the children and families that they care for, so thank you very much to everyone who contributed.

PLEASE DON'T PARK ON YELLOW ZIG-ZAG LINES!

Please can we ask again that parents and carers **do not** park on the yellow zig-zag lines on the road outside the school, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day?

Not only is it against the law but is also very dangerous for students and drivers as they are unable to see each other until the last minute!

Please work with us to keep your children safe

NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 15TH-19TH NOVEMBER 2010

"TAKING ACTION TOGETHER"

HELP US WIN A SHARE OF £10,000!

The Argus has teamed up with Barclays Money Skills to offer 15 Sussex schools (including Ratton) and youth groups (working with young people under 25) the chance to win a share of £10,000! The cash prizes may be used for any purpose and will be broken down as follows:

- 1st Prize £3,000
- 2nd Prize £2,000
- 3rd Prize £1,000
- Four 4th Prizes of £500
- Eight 5th Prizes of £250

A token will be printed every day in The Argus until Saturday 20th November (Saturday and Monday tokens are worth double), so please cut out the tokens and bring them into school where there will be a special collection box in the reception area. Alternatively, please send your tokens into school marked for the attention of Mrs Tracy Comfort, Ratton School, Park Avenue, Eastbourne BN21 2XR.

A STOMPing success - Ratton STOMPS wins award from East Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Service

I am delighted to report that our Ratton Stompers have won an award!

They have been chosen as the winners in the Arts and Culture Achievement category of the ESCVYS Awards 2010 for their commitment and contribution to the community.

The Ratton STOMPS group have been planning and leading their own workshops at several local schools including Ocklynge, St Bede's, Saxon Mount and Hazel Court. They have also performed at countless community events, promoted recycling in Eastbourne town centre by making music with rubbish, Stomped on Eastbourne Youth Radio, and even taught full lessons to year 7 pupils here at Ratton.

The students involved have developed impeccable team work, leadership and communication skills and have shared their skill with literally hundreds of people in the community. They are a great credit to the school and should all be incredibly proud of themselves. Unfortunately there are too many students to name on here - but you know who you are, and you're all stars!!

Miss Kirwan



Last week we received the news that Ratton has become an official Fairtrade school. We were delighted to hear the news and very proud! A huge thank you to all staff and students involved.

Over the last year and a half, Ratton School has been working hard to promote Fairtrade across the school and to the community. In the canteen, Fairtrade tea and coffee is now served for breakfast, and also to the staff at break times. Students have been involved in a 'bananathon'; helped reach the Fairtrade fortnight aim of 1,000,001 swaps of regular items for Fairtrade ones; taken part in summer markets at a local church; made Fairtrade adverts; had cake sales; and given fun engaging assemblies. Staff have also promoted the benefits of Fairtrade in their lessons so students have an understanding of the global context.

It has been a busy time! But there is more to come... this Friday, the Globe Student Leaders are holding a Fairtrade café in the LRC. The Fairtrade student team are planning more fun events to participate in over the year so be prepared to get involved in any way you can.

See Miss Penna for more information or visit <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/schools/>

DIDO AND AENEAS

On behalf of the Governors I would like to congratulate the students on their splendid performances recently in Dido and Aeneas. Purcell's short opera was a difficult choice for them but we were amazed at their achievements; the singers and dancers performed so well and the staging - simple white drapes - added to the drama of the piece.

Thank you to Katy Wood, Alison Duncan and Neil Stocker, and also Dave and Yvonne Cane-Hardy and Lisa Wigmore for their sympathetic accompaniment.

We loved it and look forward to future productions!



HAIRSPRAY

A big thank you to the young cast of the Rattonians Youth Group who presented their version of Hairspray at Eastbourne College during the mid-term break.

What a pleasure it was to see the young people from all the schools in Eastbourne working together for our entertainment. Having recently seen some of the cast in our first Ratton opera, what a contrast to see their performances in this musical!

Well done to everyone, and thank you to Mark Adams and all his splendid assistants.

Mrs J Williams
Vice-Chair of Governors



Don't forget 3rd December, 6pm, outside the Town Hall. Info, lyrics, audio and video now available on the website:
<http://www.ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk>



- Quick Links (right hand sides of home page)
- Christmas Shout (at the bottom)

Silent Night, So Here it is Merry Christmas, and Jingle Bells!

SOMETIMES YOU JUST GOT TO BE THERE!!!