

A Specialist College in Performing Arts



Our Ref: IAn/AMu

September 2009

Dear Parents

On the evening of Tuesday 29 September 2009 Ratton will hold its Prospective Parents Evening from 5.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. This evening is always extremely popular with many visitors attending and we require Ratton students to support us during the evening.

Your son/daughter has been invited to take part as a Tour Guide.

Your child will need to be in School by 5.20 p.m. and can be collected at 8.15 p.m. from the rear entrance to the School, via Park Lane.

If you agree to your child taking part in the evening, please complete the reply slip below and ask your child to return it to Mrs. Court.

Yours sincerely

Mr. I. Anderson  
Assistant Headteacher KS3 and KS4

✂.....  
Mrs. Court - Finance Office

To: ..... Head of Department

Student's name: ..... Please print

Tutor Group: ..... Community: .....

I give permission for my son/daughter to take part in Prospective Parents Evening on Tuesday 29 September 2009, from 5.30 p.m. 8.15 p.m.

Signed: ..... Parent



Acting Headteacher: Anne Wardle  
Park Avenue Eastbourne  
East Sussex BN21 2XR  
T 01323 504011 F 01323 520364  
E admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk  
www.ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk

A Specialist College in Performing Arts

23 September 2009



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have just received news that the Lonsdale AQA GCSE English and English Literature revision guides are currently available at a discount of 30%. This means that they are available at the discount price of £2.40 each rather than the usual school price of £4.00 each.

Unfortunately, this offer is only on for a very limited period. If you are interested in buying these books at discount we will need to receive your payment, along with the slip below no later than Monday 28<sup>th</sup> of September. After this date we will only be able to get them for the regular school price of £4.00 each.

I would strongly recommend that your child get these books for revision purposes. They are the best example of this type of guide that I have seen and they are written with AQA which is the examining board for English at Ratton. I would recommend that all students (apart from those going for A or A\*) get the English and English Literature Revision Guides. If your child is aiming for an A or A\* in English, I would recommend that they get the English: Aiming for A\* guide along with the English Literature Guide.

Yours sincerely

MR P. LENNON  
Curriculum Leader for English

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Please complete and return to the Finance Office by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Student Name: ..... Year/Tutor/Community: .....  
I would like to order ..... revision guide(s) and enclose the cost of £ . -cheques payable to Ratton School fund with your child's name, year/tutor/community and "English Revision Guides" written on the reverse.

I would like to order the books ticked below:

- GCSE AQA English Revision Guide
- GCSE AQA English: Aiming for A\* Revision Guide
- GCSE AQA English Literature Revision Guide Duffy & Armitage

Parent/carer signature: .....Date: .....

Please Print Name.....



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September 2009

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

**Ratton Visit to Uganda**

As you may know, Ratton sponsor two Ugandan orphans in the village of Kabubbu. This is organised through a Hailsham based charity called The Quicken Trust. The Quicken Trust also operate a sustainable tourism project in Uganda which school groups are able to visit. Ratton ran a very successful visit to this project in July 2008 during which we helped to build a two roomed, brick house for Josephine and her five children. The exciting news is that another trip is being planned, this will take place in July 2010 OR July 2011. This will be discussed at the parents' meeting (see below). The cost per person will be £850.

In addition, each participant must raise £350 towards the cost of materials for the building project. The plan is to organise a number of joint fund-raising activities such as bag packing at local supermarkets and running a car wash to help students and staff raise these funds.

This trip is a fantastic opportunity to experience life in a developing country, to make a real difference and to have a great time with the local young people in a beautiful, welcoming country.

If you are interested you need to attend:

**Uganda Information Evening With The Quicken Trust .  
Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm-7.30 pm Room 120 Ratton School.**

Please return the reply slip below indicating whether you will be attending.

We will look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely



MRS JANE PITTMAN  
Trip Organiser



MS CAROL PEDDLESDEN  
Trip Organiser

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To: Mrs Pittman and Ms Peddlesden, Ratton School, Park Avenue, Eastbourne, BN21 2XR

Students Name..... Year/Tutor/Community.....

I/We will be attending the Uganda Information Evening on Thursday 15 October at 6pm.

Signed..... (Parent/Carer) Date.....

Please Print Name.....

A Specialist College in Performing Arts

Ref: AWa/LBa  
September 2009



Dear Parents/Guardians

**EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURE FOR OPEN EVENING**

As you may already be aware **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September** is our Open Evening when next September's prospective parents and pupils come along to see the school and meet the staff.

To ensure that there is sufficient time to prepare for the evening there will be a shortened school day for the students who will be dismissed at the end of period 4. There will be an extended break-time from 11-11.30am when Refresh will be offering the school meals service as there will be no service at 1.30pm.

Please note that the school bus collection time has been rescheduled for that day and will collect students at 1.30pm from the front gates in Park Avenue.

Hopefully, receiving this news in advance will cause as little inconvenience and disruption as possible, but if you have any queries or need further clarification please contact the school reception staff who will be pleased to help you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Wardle  
Acting Headteacher



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September 2009

Dear Students and Parents

This year, the Dinner Dance Leavers' Ball is being held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010 in the Floral Hall at the Winter Gardens. The evening will be a formal occasion with a three course sit down meal and a disco. The cost for the dinner dance will be £28.00 per person. This price includes the cost of the meal, disco, balloons and there will be bottles of water on each table but please note the price does not include any other soft drinks that will be available to purchase from the bar.

In order to spread the cost of this event, I enclose a payment card. Please bring the card with your payment to Mrs Court in the Finance Office and the amount will be recorded on our files and on your payment card. Cheques should be made payable to Ratton School Fund. Please make sure you keep the card safely as it acts as your receipt.

There is no restriction on numbers at the Winter Garden but we still require a non-refundable deposit of £10 by Christmas to secure a place and so that we can be aware of numbers. Balance of money must be paid before Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>, the day we break up for the Easter break.

We will write again nearer the time giving more details re menu and times but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at School (01323 514313 direct line)

A team of students will be producing an in house Year Book, a record of events recorded in text and pictures depicting the five years your son/daughter has been at Ratton. We are aiming to keep the cost of this to a minimum and further details will be given to the students in due course.

Yours sincerely



Mrs G Court  
Office Manager

A Specialist College in Performing Arts



September 2009

CDe/GCo

Dear Parents

Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, is the European Day of Languages.

There are over 6,000 languages spoken in the world. Behind each and every one of them lies a rich and diverse culture. That is what the European Day of Languages aims to celebrate by showing people across Europe how important languages are and what fun can be had learning them.

Year 8 students will be off timetable lessons 1-4 that day and they will have the opportunity to take part in many cross curricular and cultural activities including samba, African drumming, salsa, flamenco, cooking, food tasting, quizzes and taster lessons in Mandarin, Chinese and Maltese. This also ties in with our new framework for personal learning and thinking skills and will encourage students to be team workers and effective participators.

We really hope your son/daughter will enjoy the day and derive a lot of benefits from it.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Dean & Mrs M Woods  
Modern Foreign Languages



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**Opening Minds Band Project  
Instrument Loan Agreement**

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2009

Your son/daughter is taking part in an exciting project during Opening Minds where every year 7 pupil is given 10 free lessons on a musical instrument. This Band Project will be delivered by two experienced musicians in residence from the East Sussex Music Service, Marcus Plant and Duncan Purvey.

Through learning an instrument it is hoped that pupils will learn important life skills such as team work, discipline and concentration as well as important musical skills. We will be offering clarinet, trumpet, cornet, baritone and trombone.

The project should prove to be an exciting new experience for the pupils and will end with an informal concert/presentation of the pieces they have learnt to play.

For your child to get the most from the lessons they will need to take the instrument home to practice. Not only is this necessary for their progress but it will require them to be responsible for it's care. The pupils must remember to bring the instrument into school every Friday and place it in the instrument store cupboard in the music department until their lesson.

Please check you have adequate home contents insurance to cover any loss or damage when it is away from school. You will be liable for any excess charges which apply.

Please sign and return the reply slip with your child to their next Band Project lesson so that an instrument can be loaned to them.

To be completed by the teacher:

Name of Student:.....

Tutor Group/Community:.....

Instrument: .....Code:..... Value:.....

I can confirm I have instructed the student on the care and maintenance of this instrument.

Signed:..... Name:.....

Date:.....

To be completed by the Parent/Carer:

I agree to the terms of this loan agreement and confirm that I have adequate home contents insurance to cover any loss or damage whilst the instrument is away from school.

Signed:.....Name:.....Date:.....

Our Ref; AMM

21 September 2009

Dear Parents

There is currently a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the Governing Body. If you wish to stand for election as a Parent Governor of the School, please complete the enclosed nomination form.

Parent governors play a very important role in keeping the Governing Body aware of the views of parents and the local community. They are a vital part of the governing body and I hope that there are parents willing to give their time and commitment to this important role. A commitment to serving as part of a team and an enthusiasm for the work of the governing body is paramount to a successful governing body. Governors do not work independently and you will be supported in your role. New governors will be offered an opportunity to attend induction training run by CfBT Education Services to assist them.

Parents are disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor if;

- they are paid to work at the School for more than 500 hours in a School year
- they are an elected member of the Local Education Authority.

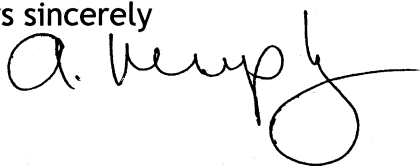
If more than one nomination is received, I shall arrange for parents to receive ballot papers which will include the candidates' election statements, and a vote will then have to take place.

Completed nomination papers must be returned to the School no later than 12 mid-day on Friday 2 October 2009. There will be a box placed in the main Reception for your child to post the nomination paper; **all nomination papers will be void if not placed in this box.**

Votes will be counted at 12 mid-day on Friday 2 October 2009. Candidates may attend the count. I shall arrange for all parents to be notified of the result, through our Connections Magazine which is issued to all parents.

I have enclosed an extract from the Regulations concerning the qualifications and disqualifications connected with the office of governor. Please read them carefully.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs. A. Murphy**  
Clerk to the Governors

A Specialist College in Performing Arts

Dear Parent



**HISTORY TRIP: DUKE OF YORK'S PICTUREHOUSE- 'THE ARMY OF CRIME'**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

The History Department is running a trip for Year 11 students to go to the Duke of York's Picturehouse in Brighton to see the film 'The Army of Crime'. The film relates to our topic of study in Year 11 'Germany 1918-1945' as it covers resistance to the Nazi occupation of France during World War II. It is also useful for GCSE students to get the opportunity to see a variety of historical interpretations. The Duke of York's Picturehouse itself is of historical interest being the oldest operating cinema in the country to retain its original character.

We will travel to London Road Brighton by train from Hampden Park station. Students will walk with teachers from school to the station at the beginning of the lunch break (13:20) missing their period 5 lesson. We will arrive back at Hampden Park Station at 19:34. Please note that it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children are picked up safely.

The cost of the trip will be a voluntary contribution of £8 and this will cover train travel and entrance to the cinema. If students will be over 16 and require an adult ticket this must be indicated on the reply slip. Students will be in school for the beginning of the day and will have to wear school uniform at that time, although they will be permitted to bring a change of clothes which they would change into at the beginning of lunch. Please be aware that the film has English subtitles, so any pupils who wear glasses will need to bring them.

Yours sincerely

R Vinson

.....  
Please cut off and return to the Finance Office by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Student Name:.....Tutor/Community: .....

I give consent for my son/daughter to attend the History trip to the Duke of York's Picturehouse, Brighton on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Enclosed is payment of £8. Cheques should be made payable to Ratton School Fund.

I confirm that my son/daughter has handed in a medical form for 2009-2010, and there have been no changes to it since then.

My son/daughter has not handed in a new medical form for 2009-2010, and will collect one to be completed and handed in.

My son/daughter will be 16 on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and will require an adult train ticket.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian)



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Our ref: AWa/LBa

September 2009

Dear Neighbour

On the evening of Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding our Prospective Parents' Evening for families with children who will be starting at secondary school next September.

The evening is scheduled to run from 5.30-8.30pm and is a very exciting event for us, but I do appreciate that it will be a busy time with much traffic coming and going throughout the evening.

We will try to ensure that any inconvenience is kept to a minimum, and would take this opportunity to thank you in advance for taking a neighbourly and supportive attitude to this event.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Anne Wardle  
Acting Headteacher



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