

9th January 2009

Issue 1

WELCOME BACK!

A very warm welcome back to school and to 2009! I hope you all had a restful, relaxing, and enjoyable Christmas break and that you are refreshed and ready to take on the challenges the New Year holds.

Welcome, also, to the first edition of 'Gold Friday' - so named after when it will be published. 'Gold Friday' is a fortnightly newsletter for parents and our community and will allow us to keep you informed about what is happening in our school. We would welcome any suggestions you may have concerning content or layout so do please let us know by completing the slip on the reverse of this letter or by emailing admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk, so that you receive the information and format that you would like.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Anderson, whose specialism is Mathematics, who joins us from Uckfield Technology College as Key Stage 4 Manager with responsibility for Year 10 students, and shared responsibility for Year 9 students (together with Mrs Fitzpatrick). A warm welcome also to Mr Halder replacing Mr Fox who left Ratton before Christmas for a promoted post, and to Mr Humber who is covering Ms Murphy's maternity leave.

David Linsell, Headteacher

Pause for Reflection

The following extract is from a collection of thoughts linked to our assembly themes throughout the year-

"Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!"

Anne Frank

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Y11 Art students Laksha Thulasitharan, Lorna Treloar, Nick Davis, Billy Wood, and Fabienne Worman collaborated with the Y 8 Dance class to produce the stunning new silhouette mural in the Dance corridor. Miss Harris commented that as a professional artist, she was impressed with the commitment and initiative of the art students. We want to know what you think! There will be an opportunity to write comments on the notice board opposite, over the next couple of weeks.

This pilot project was co-ordinated by our Community Arts Department and the Visual Arts Department with some help from Dance and DT so has been a real team effort which we hope will inspire future display projects. For more info or if you have a project idea please see Miz (Maria) Wells, our Arts Development Officer or contact her on m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk

On Thursday all students in years 7, 8, and 9 are invited to join the new KS3 Drama Club - running after school each Thursday in room 220 with students working towards a Drama Festival.

The Rattonians Youth Group have just started familiarising themselves with a new script due for production at Easter. Potential new participants should come to the main hall this Sunday 11th January from 10am-11am. Rehearsals will take place every Tuesday from 7pm-9.30pm and Sundays from 10am-1pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

****Y11 MOCKS + EXTERNAL EXAMS****
(see website for full details)

Tuesday 13th January

5pm Governors' Meeting
(Achievement/Standards)

Thursday 15th January

Year 9 Pathways Evening - for every student in year 9 with their parents or carers. Very important information will be given out with regard to the options/pathways process for year 9 students

Friday 16th January

Year 9 Enterprise Day

Monday 19th January

7.30pm PFA Committee Meeting

Tuesday 20th January

5pm Governors' Meeting (Staffing)

Thursday 22nd January

9am-1.30pm Year 8 girls vaccinations

4.15-7.45pm Year 9 Subject Evening

Thursday 22nd/Friday 23rd January

Y10/Y11 students involved in external performance and workshop entitled 'Smoke'

RATTON SCHOOL CLUBS		
	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Basketball (Y7) Dance (general rehearsal) ICT Club Sport on Courts Table Tennis (Y7/8)	Dance (Street/Hip Hop) ESCC Music Service Fixtures Evening Library (Homework) Club Science & Technology catch-up and coursework support clubs (Y11)
Tuesday	Chamber Choir Dance (general rehearsal) GCSE PE History Skills (Y7) ICT Club Sport on Courts Table Tennis (Y9/10)	Combined Choir D of E Drama (Rattonians Youth Group) Fixtures Evening Kumon Maths Library (Homework) Club Media Club Ratton Flite Club (intermediate)
Wednesday	Art Club Y7/8/9 Christian Club Circle of Friends Dance (general rehearsal) ICT Club Sport on Courts Squad Netball Training (Y11)	ICT catch-up All Sports Acro Dance (Modern/Jazz) Drama (Drama Club (Y7/8/9) Drama (216 Productions Y10/11) English GCSE catch-up Football Football (boys and girls) Football Training (girls) ICT Club Library (Homework) Club Netball Ratton Flite Club (advanced) Ratton Players
Thursday	Dance (general rehearsal) Eastbourne Youth radio ICT Club Sport on Courts Inter-Community Sport Badminton Football Table Tennis Tennis Volleyball	Art course work Club (Y10/11) GCSE/AS Dance (Y10/11) Drama (216 Productions Y10/11) English A/A* classes Fixtures Evening Jazz Group Kumon Maths Library (Homework) Club World Music Group
Friday	Dance (general rehearsal) Girls' Indoor Football (Y7) ICT catch-up/help ICT Club Sport on Courts	Art course work Club (Y10/11) Ballet Fixtures Evening
Saturday am	ESCC Music Service	
Sunday am	Rattonians Youth Group	

RECEIVING GOLD FRIDAY

'Gold Friday' will be sent home with students every gold Friday, and will also be posted on the school website at http://www.ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk/about_our_school/connections_e-newsletter. In addition we will also be emailing it to parents who would find this useful so if you would like to receive the newsletters by email please send your details to admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk (putting 'newsletter' in the subject title) and we will be happy to arrange this for you.

RATTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER RESPONSE FORM

(please detail your ideas and suggestions for content and layout of newsletter and return to reception or send to admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk)