

### **Don't Get Caught in the Web**

Early this week the BBC Inside Out Show ran an article on Social Media with some startling conclusions. Many employers are checking Facebook and other social media sites before offering people jobs. 41% of employers have rejected candidates because of what was discovered on their Facebook page. The inappropriate use of Facebook and other social media sites can affect our students' chances of future employment. An employer suggested 3 rules when using social media:

1. Be professional - imagine your boss (or future boss) can read what you have written
2. Watch your language - avoid swearing and poor English
3. Think billboard - post nothing on your social media that you would be unhappy about seeing on a billboard in Eastbourne

Whether it is Facebook, MSN Messenger, Bebo, iChat, Skype, YouTube or any other form of social networking - we know our young people are, and will be, using it.

As with all new media, research projects have shown time and again that if young people see a vacant space, they will fill it (and perhaps not always in the most positive way). As the blurring between social and work continues, organisations from universities to work places are using social networks increasingly effectively for work. They often seek evidence that potential employees or students can be effectively collegiate and understand mutuality - that they can use these new social tools for work and for the workplace.

We need to teach young people the way to use them appropriately, to build their sense of entitlement into a sense of responsibility, and to work with them on effective and safe strategies for protection whilst using social media. If we were seeking to develop water safety we wouldn't keep children away from water until they are 16 and then throw them off the pier - similarly with social media, blindly banning them is inappropriate and equally dangerous.

Conversely, if students see social media used in a positive way to enhance learning, it changes the way they perceive these social spaces, which by osmosis become more educational - who wouldn't want that?

On the one hand we are looking at how we can strengthen our social media education - on the other we are also looking at how we can use social media in the classroom.

You might also like to take a look at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sharetakecare> for some useful advice.

*Mr D Linsell, Headteacher*

### **Diana Patience**



We are thrilled that Diana has been offered a place at the prestigious Northern Ballet School in Manchester from this September. If she accepts Diana will attend a fulltime 3-year diploma course in Professional Dance Studies which will involve engaging in a variety of genres in the first year leading on to specialising in classical ballet from the second year.

Diana started dancing for fun when she was only 3 years old and began professional training from 12. Diana says that she hated dancing at the beginning (!) but now admits that she can't imagine herself doing anything else.

Diana loves performing and relishes the responsibility of dancing to such a high and exacting standard and, without a doubt, she lights up the stage when she performs.

We are so very proud of Diana and wish her great success and enjoyment in the coming months and years.

## 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 27<sup>th</sup> January

Shannon Wallace, Freddie Black, Ellie Canavan-White, Matthew Jeffries, Samuel Jones, Daniel Milham, Jess Gould

### Week ended 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Jessica Hipgrave, Louise Etwell, Alice Harvey-Wyse, Joel Bekgrave, Rhys Clarke, Elliott Apps, Kelsey piper, Tara Agrela, Felix Scott

<u>RATTON TRUST CUP</u> <i>inter-community competition with £1000 prize for winning community to spend</i>					
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Adelphi	4.5	5.5	6.5	2	2
Apollo	3	15	3.5	0.5	8
Globe	7.5	15.5	9.5	2.5	2.5
Lyceum	1.5	13	6	6.5	10
Lyric	3.5	16	9.5	8.5	14

## HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

The show was performed over three nights on the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> February and what a performance! I saw it on the Friday, performed to a packed hall, and was just the sort of show we needed on a cold and frosty night. It lifted our spirits!

It was a special joy to see the younger members of the school giving such sparkling performances. There is such a lot of talent at Ratton and to see it encouraged in the early years is so important!

Well done to the cast and musicians, and a special thank you to Mark Adams, Chloe Papagna and Katy Wood as well as to all the parents and friends for their enthusiastic support. Another winner!

*Mrs Williams, Governor*



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February

First day of Term 4

8.40am

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February

PFA Meeting

7pm

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Year 8 Subject Evening

4.15pm-7.15pm

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Advice Evening -

Park College and Eastbourne

Vocational College

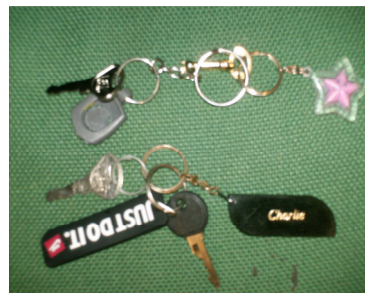
Kings Drive BN21 2UN

5pm-7pm

## ADVANCE NOTICE YEAR 11 REVISION EVENING THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

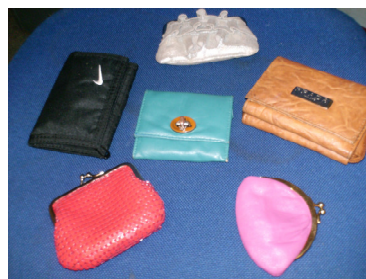
An evening for parents and students - a practical session on how to revise and useful tips for preparing for exams.

Further details to follow...



## UNCLAIMED LOST PROPERTY

If you recognise any of the items pictured here please reclaim them from Mrs Huggins in Care & Guidance



## PLEA FROM OUR NEIGHBOURS

If you drive to drop off or collect your children from the Park Lane entrance please don't drive up onto the grass verges to wait. The verge is already showing tyre marks and with winter weather still to come the grass will deteriorate rapidly.

Your help and cooperation will be much appreciated...

**THANK YOU!**

**ADVICE EVENING**  
**PARK COLLEGE and EASTBOURNE**  
**VOCATIONAL COLLEGE**

Please come along to the Kings Drive campus on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March between 5pm-7pm to gain advice and further information.

**YOUTH'S GOT TALENT**

The annual talent contest takes place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March, so if you have an act and would like to take part please email Miz Wells on [m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk) by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

**HOST FAMILIES WANTED!**

Eastbourne School of English are looking for friendly families to host their adult students this summer. Weekly rates are £110 (single); £100 (twin); £160 (private bathroom). Homestays must be walking distance to Eastbourne town centre.

For further info contact [info@esoe.co.uk](mailto:info@esoe.co.uk) or call 01323 721759.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL OUTREACH**

It has been a very busy term for our primary school outreach teams: Bollywood and Boys Dance at Tollgate; Boys Dance and Worlds Music at Bourne; and this week our Year 8 Dance Leaders and Amy Barden (Year 9) ran six Dance workshops at St John's School. Inspired by the Olympics each year group at St John's received a creative dance workshop led or assisted by our own students. All the children, some aged just 4 years old up to age 10, seemed to really enjoy their time with us, and will be developing their dances to perform to parents.

A very well done to all who have been involved.

Next term we will be continuing as we mean to go on with a Poi workshop led by a number of our Circus Monkeys on the very first day for Bourne Primary School. We also have Irish dance, Shout! and Stomp workshops planned for the coming months. Phew!

Miz Wells

**FREE HEALTH & POSTURE CHECKS**  
**LUSHINGTON CHIROPRACTIC**

This half-term your child can have a "free" health and posture check with Lushington Chiropractic. The clinic is working with the children's charity Barnardo's to help their fundraising. The chiropractors are donating their time, waiving the normal fee, in return for a suitable donation to Barnardo's instead.

Just like the rest of us, children and teenagers' spines can be affected by activities of daily life. Consumer research found that half of teenagers have suffered with headaches, neck, back or limb problems. Modern lifestyles seem to be increasing the risk so it's worth avoiding bad posture and overloading where possible.

These health and posture checks give you the opportunity to discuss your child's case with a fully qualified and experienced chiropractor and you will also be able to discuss any specific concerns you have with them. The focus will be on getting to the root of a problem and on improving overall health (wellness care).

Lushington Chiropractic is a multiple award winning clinic in Eastbourne town centre. These health and posture checks help identify specific things that you/your child can do to improve their health. During this half-term you only have to make a donation to Barnardo's. Booking in advance is recommended.

**Activenture weeks and training: Volunteers needed and training provided**

Activenture would be very pleased to hear from individuals who might like to consider joining Activenture's incredible team of volunteers for a residential activity week as a companion helper (ages 13-18yrs) supporting young people with impairments during school holidays throughout the year. In addition, they require volunteer staff (minimum age 18yrs) to work as part of our team during a week. All volunteers work within small groups so that there is plenty of support from our experienced team. No previous experience is required for either role.

As a youth organisation, it may be of interest that Activenture does not have a membership and that many groups simply use them as an extension to their own programme for young people and leaders. They provide free training, and also cover the cost of seven days (six nights) residential accommodation, meals and activities, at a choice of two outdoor adventure centres in the South East. This has proven to be a very useful means to gain experience in support of seeking further education, employment, or youth worker skills and fulfills the Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Gold Residential Project.

If you'd like more information please contact [les@hindleap.com](mailto:les@hindleap.com) or [www.activenture.org](http://www.activenture.org)

## Ratton School Fantasy Football

January saw two new managers take the bragging rights and scooping the 'Manager of the Month' award for January. **Fraser Hicks** in year 7 won the pupil award, with **Mrs Lock** taking home the teacher award. Congratulations to both of them!

### Year 7 Rugby Taster Sessions with Eastbourne Rugby Club

On **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**, the PE Department will be joined by several coaches from Eastbourne Rugby Club. All year 7 boys will need to bring their football boots with them for their PE lesson along with a mouth guard (these can be purchased from the school reception for £2.50). These sessions will be looking at promoting Rugby in school and also Eastbourne Rugby Club. The year 7 team have fixtures arranged for the first week back after half term, so if you are interested in getting involved, make sure you attend the Ratton Rugby Academy after school on Tuesdays.

### Year 9 Rugby vs Bishop Bell

The first game of the Rugby season kicked off on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February with the year 9 team hosting Bishop Bell. The bitter wind and conditions below freezing took its toll later on in the game for both players, but some decent rugby was on display. **Tom Groves** managed to score 2 tries in the second half, but this wasn't enough to chase back the high score that the visitors secured before half time. Ratton continued to battle right until the end, even though it was clear that Ratton would end the game with a defeat. A valiant effort from the boys in blue and yellow.



**Ratton Year 9 Team:** George Baker, Dani Katz, Oli Hendley, Sam Jones, Tom Groves, Chris Jeremiah, Callum Fryers, Lewis Cole, Jake Botting, Ali Knell, Lawrence Allen, George Oates, Mason Brannigan, Khevane Byroo, Owen Davies.

*Mr Brooke, PE Department*

## Olympic Opportunities at Ratton!

We recently launched our Olympic programme with a visit from **Todd Leckie**.

Todd is a medical student and member of UK Sport British Triathlon World Class Performance Programme based at British Triathlon's satellite centre in Eastbourne. Todd had a number of good results throughout the 2011 season including a podium finish at the Cremona ITU Sprint Triathlon European Cup and is one of the hopefuls for the British Olympic team this year.

Year 7 students and a number of invited top sportsmen and women in the school were invited to listen to Todd as he explained his training programme and commitment needed to become a top athlete. Students were given the opportunity to ask further questions and discovered he started his day at 5am with a 2 hour warm up swim, followed by a 3 hour bike ride and 2 hour run. But as Todd explained this is all in a day's work!

In addition to meeting Todd the students were shown an original authentic Olympic torch from the 2006 Torino winter Olympics. Strikingly different and much heavier than the 2012 torch which Ratton students hope to get a glimpse of, as it passes through Eastbourne on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Ratton PE department are now building on the inspiration from Todd and offering students the opportunity to take part in sports not usually offered during the School curriculum and which are included in the Olympics.

We are very excited with the programme and hope it will inspire many students to take up the challenge and 'Get Set' to get involved in sport in 2012.

*Jane Upton, Acting Head of Physical Education*

