



# GOLD FRIDAY

[www.rattonschool.co.uk](http://www.rattonschool.co.uk)

10<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Issue 16 2010-11

## BITTER-SWEET

Recently, I had the privilege of speaking to Year 11 students at their graduation. As well as wishing them well for the future, I told them what I thought of them. For me, there is a real tension in headship between the familiar: really enjoying the company of young people, and the distant; the chief disciplinary - the person who ultimately has to decide on whether students are allowed to remain at Ratton. Well, because of their maturity and positive attitude this year group allowed me to be the type of personal Headteacher I most want to be - friendly and respected. I have been able to enjoy: the friendly chats with the girls in the science corridor before school; the banter with the boys on the bench at break time; the advice from my 'bezzies' on the bus; gauge the happiness of the year group through my Student Leaders; and relish the challenge from my earned autonomy team. On the other hand, they understood not to go too far, and knew how to behave towards me.

For this I am grateful, and their reward - a poem, of course! You will not be surprised that I read them 'The Road not Taken' but I also used 'Invictus' which finishes with two very powerful lines - "I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul".

The parting was bitter-sweet: happy to have known them and helped them on their way; sad to see them go.

*Mr D Linsell, Headteacher*



### RATTON LIVE LOUNGE TONIGHT!

*A relaxed evening of covers from the charts*

*7.30pm in the Drama Studio*

*Tickets  
£2 for students,  
£3 for adults*



## Electro/Acoustic Evening 'A Wonderful Vibe and Beautiful Ambient Music'

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the Drama Studio a wonderful evening of 'live' electro/acoustic music was provided by an array of outstanding musical talent. An intimate atmosphere was created with some very subtle lighting, staging, and an excellent PA sound system which complemented the performers.

A fruit punch was provided for the audience as they arrived with some accompanying John Martyn music which helped create the perfect mood and atmosphere for the evening! All the musicians performed either an original or unique cover version of a song of their choice, and the amazing quality and musicianship was evident for all to see. The beautifully heartfelt performances from the students were all very well received by an appreciative and enthusiastic audience.

At the end of the evening the audience and musicians were treated to a 'final' fruit punch drink and two cakes each! Once again the wonderful 'chill out' music of John Martyn was playing as people started to leave and make their way home - what a way to finish!

Programme Order:

George Curryer, Lisa Sutton, John Sands, Isobella Jackson, Luciano Anagnostopoulos, Sam Jackson, Harrison Henderson, Calvin Prior, Carlie Vilar, Luca Torrens-White, Meggie Dennis, David Cane-Hardy, Jessica Woodrow and Sandy Mill.

*Mr D Cane-Hardy, AST Music*

## DID YOU RECEIVE THIS ELECTRONICALLY?

If you don't receive copies of Gold Friday electronically it means that we don't have a record of your email address. If you would like to receive future copies, as well as other correspondence from Ratton, please send your email address details to [admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk) including your name and your child's name.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> May

Megan Gates, Nathan Thomas, Sarah Holden, Chloe Page, Hannah Mundy, Conor Alexander-Hudson, Ellie Todd, and Lucy Morgan

### Week ended 27<sup>th</sup> May

Tobi Silva, Bethany Mills, Sinead Bacon, Chloe McHale, and Georgina Cruttenden

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*Reminder - lunchtime changes to 12.20pm*

*10-15<sup>th</sup> June - Japanese students in school*

### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Governors' Meeting  
*Policies Sub-Committee* 4pm

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>/ Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June

'Totally Over You' (*see next page*) 7pm

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Drama Festival (*see next page*) 7pm

### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Governors' Meeting  
*Premises, Health & Safety Committee* 5pm

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

German Exchange Students

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

New Intake Evening *details to follow*

## Core Values in Action

At Ratton School we have six core values of which **participation** is one. Students have said that examples of how this is demonstrated in school are by -

- Being actively involved in their lessons
- Taking part in extra-curricular activities
- Supporting and raising funds for the school's charities

In practice, recently all the year 7, 8 and 9 students have been involved in sports day trials. All the pupils in these year groups participated in this and enjoyed the experience. Over two hundred students were recently involved in the school Gala Concert at the Congress Theatre, and a final example; last academic year the school raised in excess of £9000 towards our supported charities through various fundraising initiatives.

## RSPCA YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER AWARDS

ARE YOU A BUDDING PHOTOGRAPHER?

DO YOU LOVE ANIMALS AND WILDLIFE?

CAN YOU TAKE AN INSPIRING PHOTO?

YES? Then read on...

The RSPCA Young Photographer Awards (YPA) is the only national animal photography competition for under-19's that is FREE and easy to enter.

With six categories to choose from there is something for everyone -

- Under 12 years
- 12-15 years
- 16-18 years
- Pet personalities
- Portfolio
- Making life better

There are some fantastic prizes to be won, including a weekend photography break with top wildlife photographer Danny Green and an exclusive behind-the-scenes photo-shoot at an RSPCA animal centre. Plus all finalists are invited to the awards ceremony at the Tower of London in December.

The competition's aim is to encourage young people's interest in animals and an appreciation of the wonder of nature.

You can enter online in just a few minutes at -

[www.rspca.org.uk/ypa](http://www.rspca.org.uk/ypa)



BP Portrait Award: Next Generation offers two exciting free creative opportunities this summer for students aged 14-19 through the *BP Portrait Award*, inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Bookings are now open for short Taster Sessions over London 2012 Open Weekend, and applications are now being accepted for two three-day Summer Schools in August. Further information and booking details from [www.npg.org.uk/bpNextgeneration](http://www.npg.org.uk/bpNextgeneration) See their website for event details, videos of *BP Portrait Award* artists talking about their work, and our online gallery for young people's painted portraits.

## BELLY DANCING CLASSES

Belly dancing classes for fitness and fun are starting at Ratton School on Thursday evenings from 14<sup>th</sup> July from 7-8pm. It's an amazing way to tone up, lose weight, and increase stamina and confidence! Ladies of all ages welcome - no dance experience required and no need to show bellies!

For a fun way to get in shape please contact Alison for further details on 01323 482713 or email [alison.amehar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:alison.amehar@tiscali.co.uk) or contact the website [www.theseagypsies.co.uk](http://www.theseagypsies.co.uk)

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SURVEY

Sussex Police need your help!! As part of the ACPO children and young person's strategy group, a survey has been commissioned to seek the views of as many young people in Sussex as possible. It is an online survey and completely anonymous. They are aiming at young people between the ages of 11 to 25. It is really important that they have the widest possible spectrum of views of young people in Sussex. It will be used to inform the strategy and the future policing of young people in Sussex.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sussexpoliceCYPsurvey>

## UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Please note that we have a large quantity of keys, watches, and other trinkets that need to be returned to their rightful owners. If you have lost/mislaid anything please speak to Mrs Huggins in the Care & Guidance Office.



## DANCE NEWS

Thanks to Ratton dancers for their creative workshops on 'Rivers' at Stafford School last month - Hannah Renton, Diana Patience, Charlie Mackay, Henry Standen, Bronwyn Ryan, Sophie Bruce, Amy Barden, Megan David, Ami Streeter, Honor Roberts, Connal Hadden-Eccles, Callum Ward, and Hallum Cousins.

Good luck to Ben Dobbs, Jacob Hopgood and Charlie Mackay who will represent us in the Sussex Dance showcase at White Rock theatre in Hastings on Sunday.

Contemporary Dance workshops are being held for Year 9 dancers with Rambert Dance Company and Chichester College in school this month.

Watch out for a new Ratton Dance competition - being planned at the moment by Tia Jestico and Stacy Moulding with Mrs Duncan!

## Adrenaline Games Club

Games club started in term 5 and has successfully attracted over 20 students (and a few teachers!) every week. We run the same game across the PC network so students can go head-to-head in the challenge to win the "Golden Joystick" for the best gamer or the wooden spoon for the worst! Those of you who remember the Channel 4 game show "Games Master" will realise how prestigious this award is (Sir Patrick Moore and Dominic Diamond would be proud!). Congratulations to Sean Fitzgerald who claimed the Golden Joystick and a box of chocolates this term.

Games club takes place in room 111 every Tuesday after school until 4.30pm - will the honour be yours next?

*Mr Coates, ICT Teacher*



Sean Fitzgerald 7TDu

## LAMDA EXCELS!

LAMDA students received their results this week for the exam they undertook in April and we are delighted to have a 100% pass rate with over 75% achieving Merit or Distinction. This is a huge accolade for those students in the first year Ratton has run the LAMDA course and we congratulate each and every student on their success - they will receive their certificates during the Drama Festival next Friday night. LAMDA will start again in September and there are still places available for next year's LAMDA course, either as a solo or duologue candidate.

If you would like further information please email

[c.bird@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:c.bird@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk)

## DRAMA FESTIVAL

The Drama Festival takes place next week with two performances of 'Totally Over You' on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> in the Drama studio, starting at 7pm. On Friday night, there will be range of performance pieces in the hall starting at 7pm. Refreshments will be available throughout. Voluntary contributions will be welcomed on the door. We hope that as many of you as possible will come along and support the amazing work students have been doing this year.

## GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Over the weekend 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> May, Year 9 student Matthew Harrison competed at the Sussex County Track and Field Championships. Making his debut, Matthew aimed high competing in four sprint events over the weekend.

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Matthew became the Sussex County 200m Outdoor Champion and the 4x100m relay Champion.

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Matthew finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the 400m final, then won bronze in the 100m.

He finished the weekend with 2x Gold medals, 1x Bronze; Personal Bests in 100m, 200m & 400m. His 400m time currently ranks him at 35<sup>th</sup> in the UK.

He took his form with him into the Young Athletes League meeting at Horsham this weekend, where he equalled his PB, winning the 200m, and then helped run the 4x400m, where he also finished faster than the opposing East Grinstead U17 team.



# SPORTS NEWS

## SOUTH DOWNS SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP & YOUNG AMBASSADORS' ACADEMY 2011



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May saw a chance for fifteen Year 9 & 10 pupils to receive an award in their leadership in a variety of sports. Hailsham Community College hosted the day where over a hundred pupils from local schools were trained to lead and officiate in Cricket, Netball, Tennis, and Athletics.

The Ratton pupils were chosen to attend the course to strengthen their sporting leadership skills in preparation to assist in the planning and leading of future sporting events in the local area.

The following Ratton pupils took part in the event: Paige Jordan-Evans, Joe Williamson, Yasmin McAndrew, Sam Smith, Jack Lindsay, Ewan Toner, Ellie Farrington, Taylor Robertson, Emily Hills, Emily Wilmer, Lucy Ginn, Carlie Vilar, Sarah Benaissa, Lauren Smallwood, and Isabella Barreto De Santana.

*Will Brooke*  
*Teacher of Physical Education*