

PARENTS' SURVEY RESULTS

Many thanks to the 255 parents who responded to the recent survey about parents' perceptions and priorities. Ratton is, and has been for some time, one of the most popular schools in East Sussex; this survey is to help us understand why, and know what we need to do even better to meet the very high expectations of our parents. We also really appreciate the comments; we read them with care and interest and, if you left contact details (remember the survey is anonymous), you will get a response.

Student happiness, developing potential, and the quality of teaching were the three highest priorities for parents and you judged the school to be doing a good job in all these areas. You regarded success in ensuring student happiness as a particular strength of the school.

One of the purposes of this survey was to help us understand what parents would like to see us improve:

- Year 9 parents were happy with the advice and guidance for Pathways, but you would like to see more opportunities for students to receive careers advice about the options available to them for after they leave Ratton.
- You would like to see improved levels of homework (although for some this meant less) - expect to see some exciting opportunities for extended pieces of homework in the summer.
- Some parents said they would like more information about their child's progress. This is an area of great frustration for me as, allegedly, the software exists to give you real time access to a wide range of information about your child. Through no fault of ours, it does not work ...yet.

Mr D Linsell
Headteacher

RATTON U16 GIRLS VICTORIOUS AT AREA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Massive congratulations to the U16 Girls' football team who have won the area football tournament, and now progress through to the county final on Thursday 24th March at the University of Brighton, Falmer. A 13-6 win over Hailsham Community College secured victory.



Lauren Donnachie, Lauren Chandler, Harrison Henderson, Dani Allistone, Katy Lambert, Rachael Dudson, Sian Heather (Captain), and Catherine Lawrence

VALENTINE'S DAY POETRY COMPETITION

Congratulations to Tom Cassidy and William Chaplin, joint winners of the Valentine's Day poetry competition for their poem 'Scripted Love' -

Scripted Love

*Love comes in many forms,
Let that be true or mistaken hormones,
One way to interpret is through a book,
Every unknown page you look,
Whether it turns out bad or good,
It will always be exciting,
As every new page you turn will always
be enticing.*

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 4th February

Millie Ngai-Lenoir, Michael Roberts, Emma Heaton, Jessica Thompson, Robert Hicken, Emily Harris, Katy Dibbens, Jason Fry, Hannah Mundy, Hannah Wickens, Tyler Chambers and Amy Potter

Week ended 11th February

Jamie-Leigh Rae, Natasha Duursma, Beth Tagg, Rhys Clark, Sarah Benaissa and Cerys Simpson

10 weeks to 11th February 2011

Sarah Holden, Amy Barden, Sophie Sands, Sarah Benaissa, Elena Clayton-Harding, Jamie-Leigh Rae, Ellie Chapman and Aidan Pittman

LADY TAVERNERS' TOURNAMENT 2011

The Ratton U13 girls' indoor cricket team won the Eastbourne tournament on Wednesday 9th February, defeating St Bede's, Cavendish, and Ocklynge schools. They then progressed onto the Sussex Final where they defeated The Vale and Warden Park and so earned a spot in the Final of the tournament.

This Final was contested between Ratton and Oathall, with Oathall winning the game.

Congratulations to the team who played very well throughout each game:

Robyn Arno, Beth Byard, Beth Tagg, Megan Gates, Ruby Hilton, Ruby Johnson, Neve Lawrence, Laura McKenzie, Molly Potter, and Molly Hill.

JUNIOR BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

There is an opportunity for students to participate in the above championships.

Date: Sunday March 6th 2011
Time: 9.30-5.00pm
Venue: Eastbourne Sports Centre, University of Brighton, Denton Road BN20 7SR

Students who are interested in participating must collect a letter from Mrs Buckland in the PE office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28TH FEB - 11TH MARCH
FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Monday 28th February

SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS

Tuesday 1st March

First day of Term 4 for students 8.40am

Wednesday 2nd March

Year 7 reports home

Thursday 3rd March

World Book Day

Monday 7th March

PFA 7pm

Tuesday 8th March

Governors' Monitoring Committee 5pm

Charity Football Match 3.30-5.30pm

Thursday 10th March

Year 7 Subject Evening 4.15-7.15pm

Friday 11th March

Evening Rock Concert 7.30pm

Year 11 Art Trip

DIARY DATES FROM THE PFA

Saturday 2nd April SPRING TABLE TOP SALE

On the front lawns at Ratton

From 9am to 12.30pm

Admission Free

Tables/pitches at £10 available in advance from Gill Court at School or on 01323 514313

Saturday 7th May RACE NIGHT

At The Red Lion pub, Wish Hill, Willingdon

First Race starts 7pm

Tickets at £2.50 available in advance from Gill Court at School or on 01323 514313





SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS 2011

It's that time again, so please bring your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers in to the collection box in main reception and help us to get resources for all our students...

Since 2005 Active Kids have donated over £100 million worth of equipment and experiences to nurseries, schools, sports clubs, Scout and Guide groups across the UK - with London and the South East receiving £39,683,680, and East Sussex benefitting to the tune of £1,569,664!

One AKV will be issued for each complete £10 spent in a single transaction at all main Sainsbury's stores, petrol filling stations and Sainsbury's online groceries 'sainsburys.co.uk/groceries' and for each complete £5 spent in a single transaction at Sainsbury's Locals.

AKVs will be issued for purchases made between 9th February 2011 and 31st May 2011

YOUTH THEATRE FREE PLACES

Act On It have 30 free places for keen performers who would like to join a new youth theatre in Eastbourne. The group is open to all. Sessions will focus on developing drama skills and creating exciting new work for performance.

Weekly sessions for 13-18 year olds are on Tuesdays from 5.45pm-7.15pm at the Underground Theatre, Grove Road, Eastbourne.

Act On It and Lucy Murphy from 11JSu, successfully applied for an ESCC 'Life More Ordinary Grant' to set up and run the youth theatre.

Members of the youth theatre will work with Lucy and Act On It to design the drama programme they want. The funding will enable Act On It actor/facilitators to lead the group and work individually with members of the group to build their skills and techniques.

This is a brilliant opportunity for local young people to take the lead, join a new and vibrant group, and work together to develop their drama and performance skills.

Please call or email Act On It - actonitadmin@gmail.com or 07540419692/07540419688 for more info.

WORLD BOOK DAY MARCH 3 2011



We are celebrating this in conjunction with Fairtrade Fortnight. There will be a coffee shop with cakes and a second-hand book sale on **Wednesday 2nd March**, and a new children's book shop stall, cake stall, and a "reading tent" on **Thursday 3rd March**.

In celebration of this event, our lovely **Ratton School staff** have been behind the lens! They have all chosen their favourite books and we'd like to offer you all the chance to come and see the displays that have been put together by staff and students for the occasion. Please feel free to come along **March 2nd and 3rd from 3.15-4.00pm** in the LRC, or keep an eye out in our 'Gold Friday' for more pictures and info!

Books needed in good condition for sale in the LRC to help 'Book Aid'; a charity that helps provide books to African schools and libraries. We would really appreciate as many donations as possible, to help support this fantastic cause.

Mrs Beck and Miss Barrow

Hed:Strong Contemporary Dance School @Ratton

New classes for all at Ratton School in Dance Studio -

Mondays

6.30 - 7.30 - Adult (14+) Contemporary Dance Class - Improvers +, £6 / £3 Students (Discount card available)

Thursdays

3.30 - 4.30 GCSE Extension Class, Ratton Students only, with Miss Morgan - FREE!

4.30 - 5.30

Technique Class beginners to improvers (Guide 11 - 14yrs), with Cat Ben Abbes & Miss Morgan
£3 (£1.50 for company)

5.30 - 6.30

Technique Class Advanced (Guide 14 +), With Cat Ben Abbes - £3 (£1.50 for Company)

6.30 - 7.30 - Adult (14+) Summer body Dance Class, a stretch, tone, and burn class inspired by contemporary dance, all abilities welcome. £6 / £3 students (discount card available)

Please contact Cat Ben Abbes on 07896878210 / Miss Morgan on j.morgan@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk / Miz Wells m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk for more info, **or just turn up!**



Join the company! Hed:Strong launches an exciting new project - 'Out of Place'

A chance to create both a site specific film and live performance piece, with contemporary dance practitioners and choreographers Cat Ben Abbes and Jess Lloyd and Ratton/RAD's very own Miss Morgan.

You will have an interest/experience in contemporary dance and a desire to develop your technique/choreography skills along with a passion for dance and a desire to spread the word. Through this project you will experience what it is like to work within a professional dance company and have the opportunity to influence the development of the company.

Rehearsals will take place in Ratton School gym (please access school from Park Lane and park in rear playground) and on location at Hampden Park in Eastbourne. Rehearsals will usually take place on a Sunday morning:

March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th

April 3rd, 10th, plus full day workshop during Easter Holidays TBC

May 8th (Thursday evening)

Performance on Friday 13th May @ Ratton School

Cost £30 (includes all out of place workshops and rehearsals plus ½ price discount on Hed:Strong classes) For more info please Contact Jess Lloyd - hedstrong@hotmail.com / 07968295862 and **apply before Feb 28th**.

CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH

There will be a football tournament in memory of **Robert Rumary**, a former Ratton School student, who died last year from leukaemia. It will take place on Tuesday 8th March at 3.30pm at Ratton, and Year 8 students from twelve secondary schools will be taking part including Ratton, Cavendish, Eastbourne Academy, Bishop Bell, and Causeway.

Refreshments will be available, as well as a tombola with lots of Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club goodies, and a visit from **David Beckham** (look-a-like).

There will be collections for the Tuesday O'Hara Fund, and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research so please come along and show your support.