

## RATTON SCHOOL COMMUNITY

So far this year we have been able to give one-to-one tuition to over 100 students, provide free computers for home use to 30 students and offer a range of free trips and visits for many of our students. We have been able to do this because we have received extra money from the Government known as the "Pupil Premium". The amount of money we get is dependent on the number of students who claim free school meals and is set to double from over £440 per pupil this year to nearly £900 next year. There are now 3 good reasons to claim free school meals:

1. The quality of food provided by Refresh. You can be assured that your child will get a wholesome, healthy good value meal;
2. Your child will get extra help if they need it. We tailor the support to meet your child's needs;
3. If your child does not need extra help the money will be used to help other students. You can help others.

There is a really important message here about being part of the Ratton School Community. From time to time some students need extra help - through no fault of their own. Even if you do not want a free school meal or do not believe that your child would benefit from extra help, not claiming could disadvantage other students. **If you think you might be entitled then please claim.**

To be eligible for free school meals parents/carers need to receive at least one of the following support payments:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- An income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs\*
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

\* Note: Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school lunches.

Further information is available either from Mrs Clarke - School Receptionist - on 01323 504011, or the Local Authority at [freeschoolmeals@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@eastsussex.gov.uk) or 01273 481696.

*Mr D Linsell, Headteacher*

## LAST POST AT RATTON

Ratton School marked Remembrance Day with a two-minute silence and the Last Post played by three buglers; Simon Thomas, Mike Cheeseman and Ian Forbes.

Simon, a member of staff at Ratton for three years, has been playing the side drum and bugle since he was eight years old, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. He was previously the Drum Sergeant for 1066 Pipes and Drums and also a long standing member of the Hastings Corps of Drums. Simon has played at many ceremonies and events in England and abroad including The Lord Mayor's Show which took place in London on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November.



## 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 4<sup>th</sup> November

Stephanie Dale, Sophie Downing, Samuel Ives, Amy Stone, Hannah Lindsay, Eric Barrell, Megan Dennis, Joe Andrews, Lara Davis, Amie Woodgate

### Week ended 11<sup>th</sup> November

Allys Stewart, Karise Sewell, Keenan Poolton, Malanie Lau, Nicole Wilson, Madeline White, Megan Gates, Jasmine Benfell, Elliot Davey, Thomas Bacon

## TRUST CUP

The Ratton Trust Cup is an inter-Community competition with a £1000 prize for the winning Community to spend. The results for October were - Lyric 16, Globe 15.5, Apollo 15, Lyceum 13, Adelphi 5.5

Congratulations Lyric! Globe, Apollo and Lyceum are close behind so watch out! Come on Adelphi!

## Peer Supporters in the LRC

If you would like any support from someone of your age to talk over any issues, you can find Peer Supporters in the LRC at lunchtimes. They can be identified by their yellow badges, or speak to Mrs Jenner who will put you in touch.

Anti-bullying Week has taken place this week and our Peer Supporters have been fundraising for the Beat Bullying charity during this week. There has been a cake sale and a 'Guess how many sweets are in the jar' competition plus a collection.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

## Road Safety Week 21st-27th November

Road death is the biggest killer of young people. Road Safety Week is a project by Brake, a road safety charity (registered charity no 1093244), with two aims; preventing road crashes, and supporting the victims. Brake founded Road Safety Week as an annual event to heighten awareness of the extent of carnage on our roads, and the steps everyone can take to stop these needless deaths and injuries year-round.

If you haven't got involved yet, then make sure you do this time. Your involvement could be as simple as making a personal promise to start driving slower, or telling a mate about it, or ordering a free Road Safety Week poster to stick up on a notice board [www.brake.org.uk](http://www.brake.org.uk)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Governors' Resources Meeting 5pm

### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Dance Evening (tickets £1 in advance) 6.30pm

### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Neighbourhood Panel Meeting 4pm

Parent Voice 6pm

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November

PFA Race Night - Red Lion, Willingdon 7pm

### Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Governors' Meeting

Teaching & Learning Committee 4.30pm

### Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Possible industrial action day - to be confirmed

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Year 11 mock exams

## PLEA TO PARENTS

Please can we request that parents and carers dropping/collecting children from school **DO NOT** drive onto the school site or pull up on the yellow zig-zag lines on the main road.

Help us keep everybody's children safe! Thank you.

## CLLR BENNETT VISITS RATTON

We were delighted to welcome Councillor Nick Bennett, accompanied by Fiona Wright, to Ratton on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr Bennett is a member of the Cabinet and Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness with responsibility for quality and standards in educational establishments, school admissions and transport, early years and childcare, school organisation and place planning. Fiona is Head of School Standards and Learning Effectiveness at County Hall.

The visitors met with Mr Linsell and joined him for a tour of the school. Following this, Cllr Bennett met a group of year 11 students and presented them with certificates in recognition of their excellent progress against targets.



## CIRCUS MONKEYS GO PRO!

Two members of our community Circus Skills drop-in have been accepted by Circus Space London.

Former student **Sacha Roberts** and former Causeway student **Dan Windsor** have both been regular attendees of Circus Monkeys. They will study BTEC Level 3 diploma in Circus Skills Performing Arts before going on to the foundation degree and both intend to pursue a career in Circus Skills.

“We’ve been having hour long handstand classes!” says Dan, “It’s really hard work, but well worth it.”

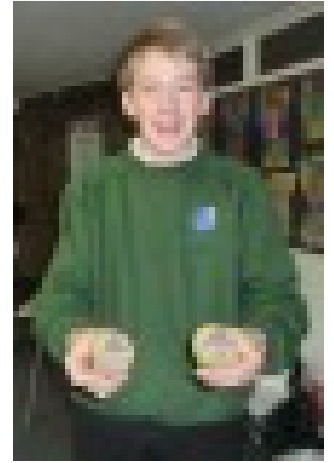


## LYRIC CAKE SALE

Student Leaders from Lyric Community held a cake sale and all the cakes were decorated in green which is the Lyric colour.

A very talented person had made some cakes and created the Ratton logo as decoration. You should just be able to see them in the picture.

The team was delighted to raise over £100 for their charity which this year is Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.



## WOOLLY HAT DAY!

Members of Lyceum Community donned their woolly hats in support of St Mungo's Charity fund raising event on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Staff and students donated £1.00 each and wore a woolly hat to school for the day.

St Mungo's is a charity which seeks to support individuals to change their lives for good every year. The vision of the charity is simple - everyone should have somewhere to live,



something meaningful to do and satisfying relationships with others.

The event raised almost £200.00 for this worthwhile cause.

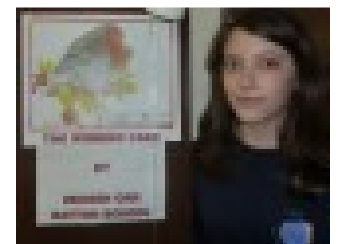
A big thank you to everyone who took part or brought in a donation.

## CHRISTMAS CARD WINNER

Imogen Orr, Year 10, was the lucky winner of a Christmas card competition hosted by The Hawthorns, retirement centre. The Hawthorns invited entries from three Eastbourne schools and the residents chose Imogen's entry to be the winner.

Imogen is part of a Year 10 Art Club and her design was of a robin sitting on a hawthorn branch.

Imogen was presented with a laptop and Ms Sula, Head of Art, was presented with a cheque for £1,000 for the Art department. Both were delighted! Ms Sula is going to spend the money on a printing press which the department has never had before.



Congratulations Imogen!

## LOCAL CHARITY RECRUITS TRUSTEES

Compass Community Arts is a small Eastbourne charity who shares our Arts ethos. Although they work predominantly with marginalized and disadvantaged groups in the community, they have worked in partnership with Ratton School on numerous occasions. They are currently seeking to recruit dynamic, committed individuals, with a passion for the arts and the community and a little time and energy to share, as new trustees. Compass are particularly keen to hear from you if you have skills in: marketing; fundraising; IT and web design; networking. For further information, please contact Derek Legg, Chairman of Trustees on [dlegg80@gmail.com](mailto:dlegg80@gmail.com) or visit [www.compasscommunityarts.org](http://www.compasscommunityarts.org) for more information about Compass.

## Healthy Living programme takes off!

This year all students in year 10 & 11 have had the opportunity to go off-site during their normal PE lessons and experience sporting opportunities outside the school curriculum and in the local community. It increases their awareness of what is available in the Eastbourne area and we hope helps encourage a continued active lifestyle when they leave school.

At the start of term one a number of students opted to go to Knockhatch Adventure Park. During their visits they took part in Go-karting, rock climbing, lazer Quest, Drop Slide, sledging and the trampoline pillow.

At the end of the course, not only did all the students say how much fun they had had, but many students had been challenged to overcome their fear of height whilst rock climbing and taking part in the drop slide! All the activities encouraged the students to develop their own self confidence and confidence in each other. The experience fostered cooperative and team building skills, both of which are so important in life.

The next Healthy Living course offers the students the opportunity to go to the Sovereign Centre and use the gym and swimming facilities. After Christmas we will be going to Lloyd Lanes which offers bowling, Lazer Quest and Pool. Letters are available from the PE department or main reception. The course is heavily subsidised and only costs £15 for the 6 week course and is organised on a first come first served basis. If you would like to join the course please contact Mrs Upton or pick up a letter.



*Go karting at Knockhatch*



*The gym at the Sovereign Centre*

## Ratton School Year 7 & 8 Cross Country

You may remember taking part in the cross-country run when you were at school? Slippery grass... cold weather... horizontal rain and plenty of mud. Not this time! The Ratton School Year 7 & 8 Cross Country event took place last month and was led by some of the BTEC PE pupils in year 10. Part of their 'Planning and Leading' unit looks at organising a sports event and the cross country came as the perfect opportunity. With the sun beaming down on the Ratton playing fields, the 1 mile course was set up and participants were briefed. It seemed like survival of the fittest at times with pupils negotiating the bustling start and windy route throughout the school grounds. BTEC pupils were on hand to help out the participants by directing them around the course and giving plenty of encouragement. The year 7 winners were **Henri Wilder** for the boys and **Savannah Francis** for the girls. **Molly Hill** and **Jake Hobden** took the winning positions in the year 8 competition.

*Mr Brooke - PE*

## Eastbourne District Schools Cross Country Championship

Hampden Park Sports Park hosted the Eastbourne District Schools Cross Country Championship on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

A total of 29 pupils represented the school with the following pupils qualifying for the finals in January: **Sarah Quinn** finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place for the year 7 girls with **Dante Hutchinson** and **Dylan Halpin** finishing in 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> position respectively for the year 7 boys. In the year 8 & 9 events, the Ratton girls finished with a flourish with the following pupils qualifying: **Beth Tagg** (4<sup>th</sup>), **Molly Hill** (8<sup>th</sup>) both year 8 and from the year 9's, **Orla Whelan** (3<sup>rd</sup>). The year 8 & 9 boys' race didn't see any Ratton faces make it through to the next stage. **Charlie Mackay** and **Omar Bozdog** both qualified in 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> position for the year 10's who also beat several year 11's to the finish line.



A valiant effort from all participants was clear to see and everyone who took part should be proud of their efforts.

*Mr Brooke - PE*

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPORTS LEADER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY PLEASE SPEAK TO MR BROOKE IN THE PE DEPARTMENT**