

## **FAMILIES AND HOODIES - THE SAME BUT DIFFERENT**

Two apparently unconnected events gave me pause for thought this week...

The Learning Directors gave assemblies on 'The Family' talking about their own families, why families are important, how families are different, and why it is important to take responsibility within a family. These assemblies had the same theme but were delivered differently, according to the style of the Learning Director and the different culture that each community has developed.

This week the Year 11 students received their hoodies. I watched with pride and pleasure as they enthusiastically tried their hoodies on. They recognised that this was a moment that marked the beginning of the end of their time at Ratton. Each hoody was the same but different.

That's the thing about school - it needs to be the same but different: a group of individuals who come together to be a part of a community and school. We have to share the same values but display them differently; we have to wear the same uniform but be different people underneath; we have to learn the same things but in different ways.

*Mr D Linsell, Headteacher*

## **Events, Events, Events!!!**

Our Stompers, Irish Dancers, Circus Monkeys, Shout Leaders, and other extra-curricular groups are very busy over the next few weeks. Put these events in your diary and come and join the fun!

Good Luck to **Ratton Stomps**, **Rinceoiri Ratton**, and **Random Acapella**, who will all be performing in the **Youths Got Talent** event at the **Winter Garden on Sunday**.

Tickets are still available for the **Ratton Gala Concert**, 7.30pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> April at the **Congress Theatre**. Get your tickets priced £8.50 / £7 from Eastbourne Theatres Box Office.

**Eastbourne Festival Launch Party 6 - 9pm, 15<sup>th</sup> April at Eastbourne College** (invitation only!)

**Eastbourne Festival Street Arts Day (Terminus Road) 23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
Come and cheer our **Circus Monkeys** and **Irish Dancers** as they help get 'The Eastbourne Festival' started with a bang in the afternoon of the Street Arts Day.

## **THE BIG ARTS AWARD MEETING**

Want to find out more about Arts Award? Come to the Drama Studio at lunchtime on **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March** - find out what Arts Award is; what you will have to do; what's the difference between bronze, silver and gold; how to get registered; and who can mentor you.

If you are involved in extra-curricular arts or performing arts activities Arts Award is a qualification for you.

Come and find out what you need to know...

The **Robert Rumary Memorial Football Tournament** on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March was a great success. Ten schools took part and Ratton played really well although not quite managing a place in the semi-finals. Ringmer beat St Richards on penalties. It was a great turn out despite the freezing weather, and the PFA did a superb job of keeping everybody warm with their Fairtrade teas and coffees and some delicious cakes!

We managed to raise over **£130.00** for **Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research** so huge congratulations to all involved.

## **MUFTI DAY RESULTS**

An excellent mufti day on Friday 18th February! Thanks for all your support in helping us raise **£1102.57** to be distributed as follows:

**£276.00** each to the two boys on the scout jamboree who wish to thank everyone;

**£550.57** to be shared amongst the five communities' chosen charities.

## 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 11<sup>th</sup> March

Adam Riggs, Lucy Pedersen, Lucy Ginn, Lauren Johnson, Lara Davis, Jake Hobden, Ritchie Moureau, Bayley Grant, Rebecca Wyatt, and Jamie Taylor

### Week ended 18<sup>th</sup> March

Lisa Sutton, Peter Brabner, Polly Davis, Sarah Trainor, Stephanie Bowers, and Thomas Thwaites

### 10 weeks to 18<sup>th</sup> March

Sarah Holden, Jamie-Leigh Rae, Beth Tagg, Megan Dennis, Elena Clayton-Harding, Charlie Lloyd-Buckingham, Michael Roberts, Ellie Chapman, Mary Sturrock, and Lauren Johnson

## PFA SPRING TABLETOP SALE

The PFA are holding a tabletop sale on the front lawns of the school on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 9am-12.30pm.**

Pitches are bookable through Mrs Court at school on 01323 514313 at £10 per pitch.

There will be refreshments and a cake stall for your enjoyment so please come along and support this fab event!

**Free admission!**

## LAMDA EXAM

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April, Ratton School is holding its first LAMDA examination day. 23 students from across the school have been working on their acting exams since September and will perform pieces under exam conditions in front of a LAMDA examiner. When the results come in, students will receive a qualification that may also carry UCAS points.

We would like to wish the students the best of luck in their exam this year, and look forward to another successful cohort of students taking the exam next year.

## DANCE WORKSHOP INVITATION

St Bede's are offering free dance workshops from the **Paris Opera Ballet**. Contemporary workshops take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 10am-midday, and classical ballet (grade 4+) from 2-3.30pm, intermediate ballet on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May from 10-11.30am. First come, first served - to book places, or for more info please contact Sandra Barber at [sandra.barber@stbedesschool.org](mailto:sandra.barber@stbedesschool.org)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Full Governors' Meeting 5pm

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

German exchange trip returns 1pm

### Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Year 10 Subject Evening 4.15pm

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

PFA Spring Tabletop Sale 9am-12.30pm

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Gala Concert - Congress Theatre 7.30pm

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April

PFA Committee Meeting 7pm

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April

Year 8 reports home

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Last day of Term 4 normal finishing time

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EASTER BREAK**

### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

First day of Term 5 8.40am

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April

School closed in celebration of marriage of HRH Prince William and Miss Kate Middleton

## SPORTS NEWS

GCSE revision sessions are every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes in the small gym, 1:35-2:05pm, bring your lunch! The session content is on the VLE website so could all Year 11 students download this. Any problems please see Mrs Deller or Mr Brooke

Good luck to the **Ratton Trampolining Squad** competing at Claverham School in the Area Trampolining Competition on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**NEW TO RATTON SCHOOL!** Mixed Year Table Tennis Boys against Priory School Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March - come along and support!

**Girls Only Easter Holiday Coaching Camps**  
Indoor at the Deans Leisure Centre, Rottingdean  
For more information see Mrs Buckland in PE

### **Spray Water Sports Summer Club**

This will be a 6 week after-school club running over June and July with activities including sailing and windsurfing. If you are interested in taking part please see Mrs Buckland or Mr Brooke in PE for an information letter and application form

## DANCE NEWS

Dance outreach sessions at St John's Meads and Tollgate schools, led by our Dance Leaders, have been very successful - creative dance sessions where the children warm-up, learn set phrases, improvise with guidance, and then apply a range of choreographic devices to make complete dances on a theme which we share through performance at the end of the session. The benefits to our Dance Leaders and to the children in the schools we visit are many and we look forward to more visits planned for later in the year.

Thanks to Sophie Bruce, Harriet Leeming and Bronwyn Ryan of Year 9, Amy Barden, Freddy Black, Emily Bruzon-Edwards, Owen Davies, Jasmina Rennie, Honor Roberts, Abi Simmons and Ami Streeter of Year 8.

Year 11 GCSE Dancers gave a pre-exam showing of some of their dance pieces last week to an appreciative and supportive audience of family, friends and Governors in the Dance studio. Some strong performance and choreography skills were shown and we wish all our candidates and their dancers well for the exam on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Well done to Year 11 who performed at the Dance evening on 16 March: Jenny Adams, Ashleigh Bremer, Danielle Barnhurst, Bethany Baulcombe, Natalie Dey, Kelly Elliott, Victoria Grafham, Julia Healey, Jessica Horwood, Arielle London and Lauren Wilder. Special thanks to dancers from Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 for their invaluable contribution to exam success by giving up their time and energy so willingly: Amelia Attwood, Gemma Barnhurst, Star Bray, Isabella Barreto de Santana, Eleanor Farrington, Lauren Haffenden, Emily Harris, Neve Lawrence, Hannah Renton, Annabel Simes, Olivia Sparey and Billy Taylor. Anna Ribeiro filmed the exam pieces for us providing evidence of what needs to be improved and Miss Morgan organised sound, took the warm-up, and generally encouraged the dancers to do their best! Definitely a team effort, as always!

As soon as the Year 11 practical exam is taken we will be preparing new dances for the Ratton Dance Festival on 13<sup>th</sup> May. More details about timings and tickets from [m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:m.wells@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk) or if you would like to take part please contact Mrs Duncan at [a.duncan@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:a.duncan@ratton.e-sussex.sch.uk)

### GCSE DANCE EVENING - A GOVERNOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Soon it will be time for the students to perform their work for the examiner, and on the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> March we were able to see their progress so far, and how interesting it was! Many different interpretations were on show as choreography plays a big part in the overall marks. The dancing was good, and with two weeks to go there is plenty of time to perfect the pieces.

Good luck to them all!

*Mrs Williams*  
*Link Governor for Performing Arts*

### EASTBOURNE ROWING CLUB

Established in 1865, Eastbourne Rowing Club has a long tradition of producing top athletes.

The club has taken the sport to local secondary schools and are now looking to increase membership to which effect they are holding an **Open Day in Princes Park on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April.**

This will give anyone interested a safe and structured opportunity to get in a boat and have a feel for the sport. They will be operating from **11am to 4pm** with a break at 2pm when the Mayor will officially name three new boats which the club acquired through fund raising last year.

For further details please contact Bob Noakes, Chair of Eastbourne Rowing Club, on 01323 721022 between 9am-5pm Monday-Friday.

eastbourne  
**SHOUT!**

**We're Singing Again!**

**Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 3pm at the Bandstand**

We're aiming for bigger and better this year, warming up with 'I do like to be beside the seaside,' Our shout leaders (and special guests from West Rise School!) will lead you on a journey through time with 'Greensleeves', 'Summer Time', 'Yellow Submarine', 'Mumma Mia', and a special 'Lady Ga Ga Medley'. We need you to bring your friends, relatives and neighbours along to join in this mass sing-song. You can learn the songs in advance, see our website for MP3s and Lyrics, or just turn up on the day.

**Eastbourne Festival Dance Festival 13<sup>th</sup> May (Ratton School Hall)**

6.30pm, £2 entrance on the door. If you have a dance act you would like to perform see Mrs Duncan before the Easter Holidays.

**Redoubt Playday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 11am-3pm at the Redoubt Fortress and Military Museum**

Pop in and play or bring a picnic and stay all day, there will be free outdoor activities including button and badge making, Twister, Giant Jenga, Stomp, circus workshops, and a variety of performances between midday and 1pm. Entrance to the Museum will be £3 per child (free for accompanying adults) and includes the Camarada Exhibition, Performances, 'have-a-go-at-semaphore' workshops, and the opportunity to star in your own exhibition in our museum mannequins photo booth.

## South Coast School Sports Partnership Rugby 10's Tournaments

### YEAR 7

Eastbourne Rugby Club hosted several Rugby 10-a-side tournaments last week for schools in the local area. The year 7 squad took part in their first ever full contact event and got underway against Bishop Bell by scoring an early try. The lead only lasted a matter of minutes after the opposition managed to squeeze through the Ratton back line four times, and put the game to bed. Both Seaford and Tideway put out strong sides and dominated both games against Ratton without conceding any points. The play off against local rivals Hailsham proved to be the most entertaining of the tournament. After conceding an early try, Ratton battled back and showed true courage in their play. Some excellent handling and recycling of the ball helped Ratton to pierce through the HCC defence 3 times in quick succession, finishing with a 15-10 win to end the tournament on a high.



Year 7 squad: Abdul Hammer, Bayley Grant, Hami Sadat, Joe Hacker, Paul Dyer, Zack Wolstenholme, Jamie Taylor, Toby Hills, Huw Curry, Justyn Cronin, Billy Barnard, Joe Andrews, Lewis Moulding, Hallum Cousins

### YEAR 8

The year 8 team started off their group with a convincing win against Peacehaven. Some strong work from the Ratton pack created plenty of chances for the backs to cross the try line and get onto the score sheet. Celebrations were cut short as local rivals HCC managed to find some gaps in the defence to win a close fought match, which was followed by a courageous performance against Cavendish who were sadly too strong to beat. Ratton qualified from their group, but were sadly sent home after losing in the quarter finals to Bishop Bell. The year 8 team look to get revenge in the next two weeks as they take on HCC on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March and Bishop Bell on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Both games are at Ratton - come and show your support!

Year 8 squad: Chris Hartigan-Jeremiah, Freddie Black, Garratt Weblin, George Baker, Khevane Byroo, Ollie Braby, Owen Davies, Tom Groves, Ross Myers, Reece Giles, Ryan Button, Bruce Partridge, Jake Botting

### YEAR 9

The year 9 team also started off their day well, with a demolition of Bishop Bell with 4 tries in six minutes. Some strong running from the backs and powerful rucking from the pack outplayed Bishop Bell, with Ratton securing a 19-5 win. The team were not able to finish off as strong as they started as they were defeated by Tideway and Peacehaven in quick succession. Both games were full of grit and determination, but Ratton unfortunately could not find the gaps in either teams defence to score any more points.

Year 9 squad: Amro Hammer, Joe Williamson, Tom Wickham, Sam Deadman, Jamie Taylor, Joao Regueira, Matt Lawrence, Omer Bozdog, Connor Pearce, Chester Duff, Aiden Johnson-Bissett, Murat Koksal, Jake Nash, Luca Torrens-White, Nik Melo, Fabio DiRico



### YEAR 10

Cavendish took the points in the year 10's first game with a demolition of our frustrated Ratton players. HCC then followed with a closer game, but once again it was difficult to beat their defensive line and get some well-deserved points. The question 'will we ever score a try?' were muttered shortly afterwards... this was then answered in style, as Ratton crossed the try line 4 times in as many minutes to seal a well-deserved win against Peacehaven. Hopes were now high as the Ratton players went into their final game with nothing to lose. Unfortunately, Lewes Priory finished the stronger and went away the winning team.

Year 10 squad: James Powell-Cullingford, James Weston, Victor Agostini, Thomas Thwaites, Billy Taylor, Oliver Loades, Tom Cassidy, Matt Bilton, Robbie Gough, Alex Miles, Ryan Hall, Lukas Povilonis

**Congratulations to all players that represented Ratton in the tournaments!**

Eastbourne Rugby Club is currently looking for players to join their teams. If you are interested in developing your Rugby skills, then please contact Kevin on 07905 785336 or email [kjd2@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kjd2@hotmail.co.uk)