

### **RATTON - A PERFORMING ARTS TRUST SCHOOL**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 Ratton School converted to a foundation school with a Trust, so you are all now members of the Ratton Trust. The whole process has taken over 18 months and I am most grateful for the work the Governors put into ensuring the successful creation of the Trust. I am also grateful for the support, encouragement, ideas - and indeed criticism - we received from staff, students, parents, and the community. Although becoming a Trust was driven by Governors other stakeholders did help shape the process. Governors are clear about the expectations of you the members: how you expect the partners to behave; what you want them to do; and the things that you do not want to change. We are really excited that we have been able to secure the following as long term partners for the school -

- Drusilla's Zoo Park
- Albion in the Community (Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club)
- St Bede's School
- MacConvilles Surveying, Brighton
- Epic (E-Learning), Brighton

Today feels no different from yesterday but I know that (to misquote from my favourite poem) -

*[We] shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and [we] –  
[we] took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

*Mr D Linsell, Headteacher*

### **Eastbourne Shout! attracts over 450 participants**

Despite the wind on Bank Holiday Monday 465 members of the public descended on Eastbourne Bandstand to take part in Eastbourne Shout!

Led by a number of year 7 & 8 Shout Leaders from Ratton and Cavendish schools the crowd joined in with six songs including 'I do like to be beside the seaside', 'Mamma Mia' and 'Yellow Submarine' led by some very special guests from West Rise Junior School. Participants even sang 'Happy Birthday' to Arron Wilder, one of our year 8 Shout Leaders. The event concluded with performances from Rock bands comprised of current and previous students from the two schools.

A very well done to all involved, and we hope you will continue to help us develop the project.



### **Ratton and Partners Dance festival**

This will take place in the hall at 6.30pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May with refreshments available from approx 6pm. Tickets just £2 on the door. The festival will feature dancers from Ratton, Cavendish and Ocklynge schools and will include a variety of solo, duet and group performances, demonstration classes, the Irish dance Sibling group, taught by our own Year 8 Irish dancers and, of course, Ratton Stomps. This will be an enjoyable and informal evening suitable for all so please come along and show your support.

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

Millie Stone, Jack Lindsay, Jamie Taylor, Harry Court, Lauren Johnson, Jude Kean, Annabel Simes, and Chanel Crowhurst

## Y7 P.E. ENRICHMENT DAY

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April ten of our Y 7 Gifted and Talented P.E. students went to Brighton University to experience some challenging P.E. activities.

The students were selected because of their talents in one or more of this list of abilities: physical skills, creativity, social interaction, personal ability, and cognitive thinking skills.

Our students were divided into 5 groups depending on their ability and were joined with students from 11 other secondary schools. The mixing aspect of working with peers from other schools and making new friends was worthwhile in itself.

All the students moved round the fantastic sports facilities of this P.E. teacher training university taking part in activities aimed at developing their ability. The physical development was through speed agility and quickness multi skills tasks. The creativity was through a dance workshop. The social ability was encouraged through team building and trust exercises. The personal challenges included a climbing wall, tri- golf and curling. The cognitive aspect was delivered through a new game called rocketball.

Well done to all those listed below who represented the school and who could be invited back in future years if they maintain their enthusiasm and good behaviour in P.E. lessons.

Robyn Arno, Megan Gates, Molly Hill, Rianna Holbon, Kirsten Jackson, Lydia Readran, Bethany Tagg, Joseph Andrews, George Williams, Nathan Hover, Luke Lawrence Young, and Jake Hobden.

## EASTBOURNE BOROUGH FC COMPETITION

Create a design for a new mascot character, give it a name, add notes to the design to make it easy to understand/relate to Eastbourne, and send it to [sales@ebfc.co.uk](mailto:sales@ebfc.co.uk) or post to the club: 'Mascot Competition' by 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

The winner will be invited to EBFC see their design come to life and meet the new mascot at their first home game, as well as winning professional sports equipment for the school's PE department donated by Winning Look.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May

PFA Race Night at  
Red Lion, Willingdon 7pm

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### Monday 9<sup>th</sup>/Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Year 10 Art exam

### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

GCSE exams commence

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>/Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Our Country's Good Performance 7.30pm

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Dance Festival 6.30pm  
(refreshments served from 6pm)

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### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May

PFA Committee Meeting 7pm

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Governors' Meetings -  
Monitoring Committee 5pm  
Budget Committee 6.30pm

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Parent Voice 6pm

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

Electro-acoustic Evening 7pm

## Water Sports

There are still some places left in the 6 week windsurfing or sailing course which will run in June and July. Interested students please get a letter from Mrs Buckland or Mr Brooke in PE.

## 'Studio 216' Year 10 and Year 11 Drama Group presents: Our Country's Good Performance by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Australia 1789. A young lieutenant is directing rehearsals of the first play ever to be staged in that country - with only two copies of the text, a cast of convicts, and one leading lady who is about to be hanged...

*'Wertenbaker has searched history and in it found a humanistic lesson for hard modern times: rough, sombre, undogmatic and warm'* Sunday Times

Performances in the Drama Studio start at 7.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May with donations for Amnesty being taken at the end of the performance.

## RAMBERT DANCE TRIP REVIEW by AMY BARDEN (YEAR 8)

At the end of last term some of my friends and I, along with a group of others, set off on a coach to the Theatre Royal in Brighton to watch the Rambert Dance Company in their latest show called 'Awakenings'. As the coach stopped in Brighton we all got off and set off on a short walk to the theatre. In around five minutes we were stood looking up at the theatre waiting for Mrs Duncan to bring around our tickets. When everyone had their tickets we were allowed inside the theatre. After purchasing some sweets from the kiosk we went and found our seats. I sat at the back of the theatre along with Amy, Sam, Emily, and Megan as we waited eagerly for the show to start.

As the curtains opened the audience fell silent to watch as six dancers appeared on the stage. The girls were wearing tight tops along with long flowing velvet skirts all in blues and purples. The male dancers complemented this by wearing purple or blue trousers along with matching coloured tops. The dance for the first section was called 'The Art of Touch' choreographed by Siobhan Davies. The dance was different to anything I had ever seen before but was very good. They used a variety of different formations and there were constantly a different number of actors on the stage giving a great performance. The set was simple with a wood background screen at the back of the stage. The music really complemented what the dancers were doing and the dance moves were often linked with the music. You could often tell what the dancers were trying to say in their dances and there were always different stories being told.

As the curtain closed for the first section we talked about what we liked.

After the twenty minute interval everyone was back in their seats as the curtain rose again. As it disappeared we were greeted with lots of large silver balloons floating around the stage and dancers frozen in positions. The costumes for this piece were very different to those of the last. This time the dancers were dressed in very tight skin-coloured leotards. The dancing was different as well: in the last dance the moves were very flowing and upright, whereas in this one there were a lot more sudden movements and a lot of the dancing was done on, or close to, the floor. This piece was called 'Rainforest' by Merce Cunningham and, although the dances were very good again, I didn't see as many stories or resemblance to the rainforest title or music. I thought the formations in this dance were more creative than the last using more of the space and different levels.

Then came the second interval where a few of us headed off for ice creams, talking about the dance. The last dance we saw was called 'Awakening' by Aletta Collins. This piece was very different to the previous two as we watched actors dressed in business suits and work clothes. There were a lot of freeze frames in this piece while other soloists danced which was nice to watch and see the story that was being told. I think this dance worked the best and the sections of the dance flowed into one another well. There were many stories being told in this one that we managed to pick up on. As the dancers finished their piece and took a bow the curtains went down again for the last time.

The show had been great fun to watch and I had really enjoyed it. Overall, I liked the last section best and would say the middle section didn't really work as well as the other two. However, it was a great performance and one I shall not forget for a long time. It was a great day out and I thoroughly enjoyed it.



### PARENT VOICE 19<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm

A date for your diary - Mr Brown will be presenting on ICT safety and protocol for protecting our children and there will also be an opportunity to ask the senior team and school governors present any general questions you may have.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This year we are working on four school priorities -

1. Improving GCSE results to above the national average
2. Increasing and embedding intervention with students who need extra support to achieve their potential
3. Improving teaching and learning in response to OfSTED through our 'Satisfactory to Good' and 'Good to Outstanding' programmes to ensure that all teaching at Ratton is 'good' or better
4. Developing independent learners through our 'Goals' programme which takes place in tutor time and is supported by independent learning tasks using the school's virtual learning environment (VLE). Parents of students in year 9 will be aware of our extended homework topics which are available to them this term, which will help to encourage their independence. This was shared with those parents who attended our March Parent Voice meeting, and I would like to thank them for their input.

Mrs A Wardle, Deputy Headteacher

**Grand Final - May 28  
at the Hippodrome**

Main sponsor



# Eastbourne TALENT SHOW

**WHAT HAS EASTBOURNE GOT?  
TALENT THAT'S HOT!**



*This could be YOUR first step on the road to fame!*  
The excitement is growing. Entries are flooding in. Will YOU be one of those who gets to sing, dance, do stand up, WOW the audience...do anything and everything that gets YOU noticed - and on the fast track to success?

**AUDITIONS TO BE HELD ON MAY 7, 2011  
AT THE HIPPODROME THEATRE, 11am-8pm**

**HOW TO ENTER:** Download an application form from [www.sussexnewspaperevents.co.uk](http://www.sussexnewspaperevents.co.uk)  
or call Faiza Shafeek or Louise Yeowell on: 01323 414493  
or email: [faiza.shafeek@jpress.co.uk](mailto:faiza.shafeek@jpress.co.uk) / [louise.yeowell@jpress.co.uk](mailto:louise.yeowell@jpress.co.uk)

Application forms **MUST** be received from all those who wish to audition, prior to May 7

Twenty two acts will go through to the Gala Final where the winner and runners-up will receive CASH prizes. **PLUS** there are other exciting prizes including a four hour recording session at Appleyard Studios!

*And will there be talent scouts in the audience? You bet!*



**TICKETS FOR THE GALA FINAL AT THE HIPPODROME THEATRE ON MAY 28, 2011 ARE AVAILABLE FROM EASTBOURNE THEATRES BOX OFFICE - TEL: 01323 412000 - JUST £8.50 A TICKET!**

Call Faiza or Louise on **01323 414493** for more information

**Eastbourne TALENT SHOW**  
Auditions: May 7, 11am-8pm at Hippodrome Theatre  
Final: May 28, at Hippodrome Theatre

**APPLICATION FORM**

Complete this form and send it along with your payment to: Eastbourne Talent Show, Attn Faiza Shafeek, Eastbourne Gazette and Herald, Berkeley House, 26 Gildredge Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 4SA. Forms must be received by May 7, 2011.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE NUMBER.....

EMAIL.....

ARE YOU A GROUP OR SOLOLIST? (If a group, please state how many).....

DO YOU INTEND TO PERFORM ANY DANGEROUS STUNTS?.....

TALENT CATEGORY (Please circle the most appropriate)

SINGER                      MAGICIAN                      DANCER                      MUSICIAN  
ACROBAT                      COMEDIAN                      OTHER

If other please state.....

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR ACT?.....

.....

.....

HOW LONG DOES YOUR ACT TAKE?.....

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU COULD WIN EASTBOURNE TALENT SHOW?.....

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.....

I ENCLOSE A CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO SUSSEX NEWSPAPERS FOR:

£15 for a solo act                      *Please tick appropriate box*  
 £30 for a group (a group is more than one person performing)



**Core Values in Action**

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

- ✓ Listening and being quiet in assembly
- ✓ Taking care of school and other people's property
- ✓ Wearing the correct uniform with pride

In practice, recently the school field has been reopened for the summer months and students have demonstrated **respect** by clearing away their rubbish from the field. The vast majority of students have also demonstrated **respect** by wearing the correct uniform with pride without modification.

Mr I Anderson, Senior Assistant Headteacher

**PlayDay - May 14<sup>th</sup> at Redoubt Fortress**

Last year approximately 300 people came along to enjoy a variety of performances, activities and have-a-go workshops. Pop in and play, or bring a picnic and stay all day. Parade ground activities are free including Irish Dance and Stomp performance, semaphore, button / badge and flag making, mosaic, circus, and much more. Entrance to the museum is just £3 per child (accompanying adults free!) and includes performances, your chance to be a museum mannequin and take away a photo, and the Camarada exhibition.

Playday is a fantastic family day with activities suitable for all ages... see you there!

**National Epilepsy Week 2011**

The focus of National Epilepsy Week 2011 (15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May 2011) is information. This is about making sure people affected by epilepsy have everything they need to make informed decisions about their health and lifestyle.

Listen online at [epilepsy.org.uk/radio](http://epilepsy.org.uk/radio) on Wednesday 18 May 2011, 8am to 8pm, to listen to music and chat on the breakfast show, ask questions about epilepsy during the afternoon phone-in, and find out how changes to the NHS will affect epilepsy sufferers with a special programme about health care across the UK.

The day will range from discussion about social attitudes and stigma to informative programmes about treatment and benefits. There will be something for everyone affected by epilepsy.