

## IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Monday 30th September  
Parents' support meeting with  
Andrew Wright 6.00pm

Thursday 3rd October  
Inset day—school closed to students  
Open Evening

Tuesday 8th October  
Year group photos

Wednesday 9th October  
Y11 Careers Day

Thursday 10th October  
Succeeding in Y8 Evening 5.15pm

*Dates may be subject to change—please  
check the website for the most up-to-date  
calendar of events*

## ADVANCE NOTICE OF PART AND FULL CLOSURE DAYS FOR 2019-20

Thursday 3rd October  
Inset day—school closed to students

Monday 4th November  
Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 2nd December  
Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 13th January  
Early closure at 1.40pm

Monday 9th March  
Early closure at 1.40pm

Friday 26th June  
Inset day—school closed to students

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of Ratton School,

It has been a busy term so far at Ratton. Last week saw International Day of Languages celebrated with a range of engaging artistic, sporting and cultural activities delivered to Year 7. Continuing the international flavour, we also welcomed students and teachers from Germany who enjoyed their time with us and learnt a lot working with our older students. As an international school we value these types of experiences and see them as important in opening students' eyes to other cultures. These experiences tie in with our virtues of respect and compassion.

It was lovely to visit Year 7 assembly last week and see the students rewarded for their excellent work on their English and Maths transition work. Students congratulated each other on their excellent efforts. It was also good to recognise the fantastic effort and enthusiasm of the Year 7 boys' football team in their first game against fierce local rivals Cavendish. The result wasn't the one that we wanted, however the amount of chances we created bodes very well for the future and the boys should take confidence from their performance.

It was a pleasure to see so many parents, carers and students at our recent Year 11 Success Evening. A range of workshops focussing on revision strategies, hints and tips around working effectively to build memory and a session on wellbeing in Year 11 were expertly delivered by curriculum leaders and lead teachers. The main focus was on the core subjects of Maths, English and Science, and Year 11 students received a booklet with strategies to help strengthen their long term memories. The challenge at GCSE level is memorising the amount of content across all subjects and students now need to explicitly develop techniques to meet the challenge over the coming months. Any Year 11 students who did not attend will receive a copy through tutoring.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming the community into school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October for our Open Evening. If you have a child currently in Year 6 please do come and meet us and gain an insight into the excellent education offered here.

*Mr Peevers, Head of School*

## STARTING RATTON IN SEPTEMBER 2020

**As you know, we have our Open Evening on Thursday 3rd October and look forward to welcoming many of you to this exciting and informative evening for prospective students.**

**If you would like the brother or sister of a current Ratton student to start here in Year 7 next September, you must remember to apply for a place by no later than the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.**

## International Day of Languages



Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September saw the return of the International Day of Languages. All year 7 students were off timetable for the morning and enjoyed a wide variety of activities which exposed them to different cultures from around the world. Amongst other things they took part in salsa dancing, made gazpacho or crepes, were introduced to Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, Maltese and Greek. They also took part in French cafes, made European monuments and flags. They were also introduced to European Geography and one group learned more about Chinese pandas. It was a lovely morning and much enjoyed by all the students involved.



## MEDICINES AT SCHOOL

Thank you very much to those who have filled out parental consent forms for the administration of medicine at school and to those who have returned their child/dependent's updated care plans. If these have not yet been completed please may I have them back as soon as possible to keep our records relevant.

May I also remind you of Ratton's policy concerning the administration of medications, in short:

**Any medication needed by students for ongoing medical conditions need to be supplied by you to the school, clearly labelled with the students name, tutor group and complete with relevant paperwork. Any pharmacy labels should be left in situ. This includes over the counter medications (Paracetamol/Ibuprofen etc.). Ratton school does not keep Paracetamol/Ibuprofen in stock to administer to students as this would constitute prescribing a medicine, something which we are not legally qualified to do.**

Many thanks for your ongoing support and cooperation in keeping our student's safe whilst at Ratton.

Mr Funnell, Medical Needs Officer (Seconded)

# Eastbourne Heritage Walk

by Rebekah Whitby

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> of September, a few year eights and nines – including me – were given the opportunity to lead an Eastbourne Heritage walk.

Since July, our group has been responsible for the planning. We learnt a lot of fascinating facts about Eastbourne's history and had lots of fun. It was decided that the trail would take us from Hampden Park to Summerdown Road and that we would stop at different historical sites, that are mostly not around today, along the way. A few of these sites were Ratton Manor, The Eastbourne Isolation Hospital and Summerdown Camp. We individually wrote scripts about each historical site to explain in some detail about them.



Finally, with all the detailed planning and decision making done, the only thing we couldn't plan was the weather, and it RAINED! The date came, and we walked down from Ratton to Hampden Park. Even though it was raining heavily eight members of the public still turned up. They were an amazing audience who were very interested in what we all had to say. After that wet, two hour walk our clothes were completely drenched but it was worth it! In my opinion it was a great success and everyone there had fun. We all enjoyed ourselves very much and would like to say an extra special thank you to Ms Gray and Katherine Buckland (from The Eastbourne Heritage Centre) for helping us plan all this and teaching us lots of history!



Many congratulations to our students who have earned the highest number of achievement points from 13th September—26th September

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Sophie Brook	Milula Searle-Boniface	Krishna Hughes-Shellam	Ella Harris	Emily Barber
Anabel Murphy	Angelina Liagridonis-Dix	Emily Ludlam	Laila Whiteman	Beth Higgins
Charlotte Du-Prat	Leah Jones	Rebekah Whitby	Connie Flaherty	Laura Scholes
Lacey Palmer	Poppy Agg	Scarlet Holroyd	Matilda Budd	Chloe Duncan
Saffron Prentice	Rosie Williams	Bethany Thomson	Abbi Parsons	Jess Gashi
Jem Wilson	Devon Whiteoak	Lacey Wallace	Alicia Durnin	Millie Stewart
Zachary Shrubbs	Jackson Bowles	Jack Wickham	Megan Archer	Jack Trubshaw
Billy Graves	Jake Dalton	Freddie Osborn	Rebekah Ebdy	Louie Bennett
Max Seefried	Charlie Hewitson	Reggie Roberts	Louis Nicholls	Thomas Tyrwhitt-Walker
Luke Bennett	Owen Wheeler	Gabriel Farcon	Dale Upton	Tyler Moorton
Mack Watson	Thomas Burbidge	Joe Westlake	Tyreek Nengoma	Richard Labbett
			Cameron Jones	Rio Pitcher
			Joe Whitmore	



# WELLBEING MATTERS

Ratton is proud of its commitment to the wellbeing of staff and students and we have achieved the Optimus Wellbeing Award for Schools

*“Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom”*

These beautiful words incorporate two things known to have a positive impact of our wellbeing - gratitude and gardening.

Gardening is a source of relaxation, comfort and enjoyment for millions of people around the UK, and can be hugely beneficial to mental health. Finding a connection with plants and the environment can help people on a natural route to wellbeing, improving their quality of life, sense of achievement and community belonging.

Gardening is something I have discovered only since moving to Eastbourne where I am lucky to have a small garden to care for. I find that taking the time to really notice the plants, insects and birds in my garden slows me down, gives me space for relaxation and allows me time to think clearly. If you don't have a garden and would like to try it for yourself Eastbourne has a range of community garden ideas.

Firstly any Ratton student is encouraged to join the Green Team who work on our green spaces throughout the year. If you would like your own allotment you can register on the Council Website <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/leisure-and-events/allotments/>



There are also quite a few growing communities in Eastbourne such as Edible Eastbourne - a voluntary, not for profit community group that would like to help Eastbourne develop a resilient, sustainable local food system and help increase access to fresh, low cost or free healthy food for everyone.

I am hugely grateful to the people who make these community projects work. I am particularly grateful to Mr Nick Morris whose vision, hard work and dedication has created the beautiful and bountiful green spaces at Ratton. We also have a fantastic group of students, teachers, family and friends who all volunteer time to work together creating these outdoors sites for the benefit of everyone.

All Well Wishes,  
Ms Bryden



As part of an incentive to improve students' vocabulary, we have introduced a word of the week. There are posters displayed in every tutor room, as well as on the plasma screens, and students are rewarded for using any of the words in their verbal or written responses.

This week the word was **Nostalgia** and next week it is **Oblivious**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YEAR 8 AND YEAR 9 NETBALL TEAMS ON WINNING THE FIRST GAMES OF THE SEASON!



## Year 10 Interface Research Trip to Eastbourne Town Centre

Do you know the 4 languages you can use on Eastbourne Libraries self service machines? Well, the students doing the Digital Information Technology course can. On Tuesday the 24th September 22 Year 10 students spent their lunchtime and normal lesson time in Eastbourne town centre looking at user interfaces for their course.



They visited Eastbourne central library where they had a demonstration given of all self service features including those incorporated for accessibility. From there they looked at the interfaces used at the train station and in the Beacon Centre, including ticket machines, ATM's, Photo Me booths, parking machines and BMI checking machines. From there they visited McDonalds where they got to try out the self service ordering machines.

Oh and by the way, the 4 languages are English, French, Polish and Chinese.

# LOCAL COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS 2019



Plumpton College – Plumpton Campus	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00am – 12.00pm
Hailsham Sixth Form	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am – 12.00pm
Plumpton College – Netherfield Campus	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am – 12.00pm
DV8 – Brighton & Bexhill	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Bexhill College	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
Bexhill College	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00pm – 8.30pm
East Sussex College EASTBOURNE	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College HASTINGS – Ore Valley	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
Plumpton College – Plumpton Campus	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am – 12.00pm
East Sussex College LEWES	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
Gildredge House Sixth Form	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	5.00pm – 7.00pm
East Sussex College - HASTINGS Station Plaza	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College EASTBOURNE	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	4.30pm – 7.30pm
DV8 Sussex – Brighton & Bexhill	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	6.00pm – 8.00pm
East Sussex College LEWES	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	4.30pm – 7.30pm
East Sussex College - HASTINGS Station Plaza	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	4.30pm – 7.30pm

Please see individual college/establishment websites for further details