

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

Many congratulations to our highest achieving students whose hard work and commitment we are proud to recognise.

These students are identified for having received the highest number of rewards allocated by all staff for the relevant week.

### Week ended 16th December

Morgen Carter, Sydney Thornton, Freddie Cullen, Tommy Hendey, Yasmin Barrett, Lewis Powell and Hannah Rowark

### Week ended 13th January 2017

Laura Williams, Marshall Grant, Freddie Brown, Jack Trubshaw, Khadijah Uddin, Jacob Kelly, Albie Springate, Amy Searle and Emily Barber

## Young Enterprise Trade Fair Eastbourne Arndale Centre 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017



Come and support  
Millennium +  
Ratton School's  
Young  
Enterprise  
Company.

They will be selling all you will ever need for your Valentine in original gifts. They have two products – Valentine Gift Bags and Inspirational Quote Picture Frames. Both are post-Christmas friendly and are just the thing to someone you love them!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

## RATTON WELL ABOVE AVERAGE

The secondary school performance tables were released on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January. It was very pleasing to see the hard work of our students and staff from last year recognised with our students making well above national progress across 8 subjects and well above national average attainment for English and Maths. The new performance measures coupled with the new GCSE courses has set a very rapid rate of change for all schools, so we are working hard to ensure that all our students continue to be successful.

I think that one of the most daunting experiences in life is a job interview. So, it was very impressive to see the whole of year 11 being interviewed by a wide range of volunteers, from business to the public sector, to help develop key communication skills for the future.

Year 7 and 8 students took part in a maths probability fair last week and all demonstrated the Ratton virtue of **teamwork**. The fair also allowed students to show how much they knew about calculating probability in a range of different situations with some fairly complex maths!

Please note a date for the diary with the Year 10 parents/carers on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. As ever, we want to aim for 100% attendance particularly as Year 10 are experiencing many of the new GCSE courses.

Please enjoy this first action-packed newsletter of 2017.

*Mr Knox-Macaulay, Headteacher*

## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

### Lyceum Live Lounge: Thursday 26th January 6.30pm

Please join us and enjoy the great selection of talent on offer with students performing in a friendly relaxed atmosphere.

### The Big Vote: Friday 27th January

We believe that students should be given a wide range of opportunities to develop and practise leadership skills in preparation for life beyond school and today students will vote for their representatives for '17-18.

### New Student Leaders take up office: Monday 30th January

### Year 9 Careers Day: Tuesday 31st January

Students will take part in activities to help them think about their future.

### Y10 Parents Evening: Thursday 2nd February 4.15-7.15pm

The purpose of this evening is for you to access further information from curriculum leaders and subject teachers about the progress of your child.

## GREAT RESULT FROM XMAS FAYRE!

Well done to all involved, and to everyone for the fabulous support, in raising over £440 to be shared between our 5 communities.

## WHEREVER MUSIC TAKES YOU, START YOUR JOURNEY WITH EAST SUSSEX MUSIC



Lessons happen in school during the school day, after school at local venues or at Saturday music centres. Most pupils learn in a group with three or four other players so that every student can benefit from learning with others and making music together. ESM also offer individual lessons. Lessons are held weekly for 30 weeks over the school year.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/music/learn-an-instrument/>

## SPOT CHECK SUCCESS

We are delighted to announce that Refresh received an unannounced spot check from the Environmental Health Department on Monday 16th January and retained the highest rating for our standards in food safety management. This confirms that Refresh is well run and has clear, strong food safety practices in place.



Well done to Mrs Lemon and her team in Refresh!

## ROMEO & JULIET

At the end of last term StockPot productions presented an hour long version of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' to packed audiences in the Drama Studio. The cast, from Years 9, 10 and 11 wowed their audience with a modern interpretation of the romantic classic with physical fight scenes and dance in a traverse staging.



After the show Mr Knox-Macaulay said he was impressed with how 'accessible' the students made the language and the 'maturity' of the cast.

Not content to rest on their laurels the cast then completed three performances for the whole of Year 11 who are currently studying the play in English. It is so important that students can physically explore Shakespeare in a live environment as the plays are intended to be seen as this makes the text come to life, promotes deeper understanding and supports final exam success.

We are very proud of this cast who have been working incredibly hard from the end of summer last year to realise this production.

StockPot Productions will return with two new productions, auditioning in Term 3, to be performed in the summer and next Christmas.

## IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY SOON?

Did you know that birthday parties can be booked for either lunch service and the birthday student has a decorated table with balloons and banners.

Prices include a personalised cake and lunch for the birthday student: 5 students £7.50, 6-12 students £10, over 12 students £12.50. Brilliant value and good fun!



## FANCY BEING ON THE TELLY?!

The hit **BBC One** prime time series 'Eat Well For Less?' are currently in production with a brand new series of the show. Applications are now open and they are currently on the lookout for fun and lively families who would love to save some money on their weekly shop and eat more healthily.

The show follows **Masterchef's Gregg Wallace** & award winning greengrocer **Chris Bavin** on a mission to prove that it is possible for families to **save money** on their food budget **without scrimping on taste and nutrition**. They hope that by analysing the shopping habits of UK families, they can help to show where we can source the best and cheapest quality food.

If you would like to apply, the Eat Well for Less team would love to hear from you...



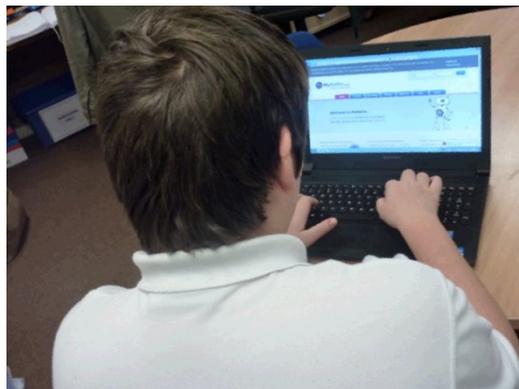
## NEW LEARNING SUPPORT LAPTOPS ENHANCE LEARNING

At the beginning of the academic year, the Learning Support department invested in a pool of laptops intended to be used on an identified needs basis for students in the classroom. Such has been their success that in terms 1 and 2 alone, the laptops were loaned to over 500 lessons.

Some of the benefits we have found in students using a laptop are that printed work can be read more easily. Free software can be downloaded that will read work back for proof reading. For students who have experienced repeated difficulties with handwriting they often find word processing motivational. Word processing work can give students independence from

a Teaching Assistant scribe. Touch typing provides finger memories of spelling, and using a keyboard improves fine motor control and helps gain self-esteem and confidence as computer skills develop and students find they can access the curriculum more effectively.

The department has also been trialling the use of iPads for students whose first language is not English. Being able to use technology to help with translation is proving to be beneficial to both students and staff.



To learn more about how technology can be used to support learning in the classroom, the UK charity AbilityNet ([abilitynet.org.uk](http://abilitynet.org.uk)) has a number of resources and fact sheets available. Alternatively, further information can be requested from Ratton's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) Ms Lienna Gomm, or Assistant SENCO Mrs Michelle Veale.

## YOU'RE HIRED!

Year 11 students recently completed a day of mock interviews delivered by industry professionals to experience a real life interview and gain some skills for when they are attending the real thing! Interviewers gave very positive feedback and students found the event encouraging and informative.



We would like to say a very big THANK YOU to all those people who gave up their time on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January and came into school to

support our careers programme imparting their skills and knowledge to the next generation.

# WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

On Wednesday 18th January the Maths Department had their Probability Fair.



Students from years 7 and 8 went to the hall, more than 140 at a time, to play probability games that they had designed and made. They used their knowledge of probability to decide if games were fair or if they stood a good chance of winning. The students had great fun playing each other's games and trying to win tokens. Some games made more than 300% profit!



Congratulations go to all students for their enthusiasm and participation in the event and thanks to Mrs Chalmers for all her hard work in preparing the resources for the event.



# OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACES UPDATE

The school allotments are in their third season and are being run by a dedicated group of students from Years 7 – 11 known as the Green Team. The Sussex Heritage Apple Orchard is now an established cordon and in another year will be able to be cropped. We had hoped to plant an Eastbourne Pippin and Brogdale have been trying to graft use a tree sadly without success. **Any help in sourcing this tree would be much appreciated.**



Last year, saw the land between the car parks at the front of the school turned over to meadow. Being old pasture, we are waiting to see what seeds lie dormant and show themselves this year. Already we have seen a pyramidal orchid on the site. The site is being created in order to promote bio-diversity and cross-curricular use and a young woodland space has been planted up with natives – birch, hazel, dog-rose and hawthorn. As part of the cross-curricular ambition of this project, bird boxes and insect houses constructed by Year 8 students in Product Design lessons are now in situ around the school and more have been commissioned by the Green Team.



In addition, the area has been successfully incorporated in Year 7 – 8 Maths and is used to explore scale and symmetry. Moreover, there is work in progress to incorporate the space into the Science curriculum.

## HERE COME THE BOYS!

The Year 8 Basketball team recently played against Cavendish and Gildredge House.

In both games Ratton dominated possession of the ball showing great movement and passing. All the boys showed great energy and improved throughout both games. In their first game, despite leading against Gildredge House for the majority of the game, Ratton unfortunately ended up losing 10-8 in the last minute. The second game, this time against Cavendish saw the Ratton team learn from their mistakes and dominate the game, winning with a final score of 14-8. Well done boys!



**Squad:**  
Jude Doocey, Tom Lester, Tom Perry, Sam Willetts, Milan Rohmer and Max Lawrence-Mele

The Year 7 boys basketball team enjoyed a triangular tournament against Gildredge House and Cavendish.

Ratton played three games with each of the ten players experiencing playing on a full basketball court for the first time. Our first game against Gildredge House was very close. Ratton played some excellent basketball and ended the contest with honours even in a thrilling and hard fought 8-8 draw. Our second game, against Cavendish, was again a real nail biter. Ratton scored a one point free shot and were always in the lead, but by the single point until the last throw of the game. Cavendish managed to sneak the last basket edging us out by a single point, winning 8-7. We finished of the evening with a second game against Cavendish, our local rivals. Ratton raised their game to try and beat the old enemy, and eventually ran out comfortable winners winning by 10 points to 2. A great way to finish off a most enjoyable evening.

**The Ratton team:** Reuben Hewitt – Bloom, Billy Smith, Tyrice Whiteoak, Lennon O'Donnell, Sam Trowell, Henry Aston, Liam Lydon, Lewis King, Louis Nicholls and Luke Woolven



# PE DEPARTMENT



## LUNCH & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Late Lunch (1.40-2.10)	Year 9 Basketball (WBR) KS3 Benchball (SLO)	Year 8 Indoor Football (JBU)	Girls Basketball (JUP) Table Tennis (JCY)	Boys Basketball (JBU)	Year 7 Basketball (GKI)
After School (3.15-4.15)	Staff Meetings	All Years Basketball Academy (JBU) Trampoline (JUP)	Trampoline (WBR) Badminton (SLO) Table Tennis Academy (JBU)	All Years Rugby (GKI) Netball Academy (SLO) Girls Football (JCY)	Staff Sport



@Ratton\_PE

**TERM 3**



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COPIES OF KEY POLICIES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE INCLUDING OUR CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING POLICY