



THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

We have received a letter from Justine Greening, Minister for Education, confirming that Ratton and Ocklynge were part of our own multi-academy trust—the South Downs Learning Trust. It was an important first step in an exciting journey for both schools towards having an outstanding future. Both schools will keep their own unique identity but we know there are many ways that the formal partnership will benefit both schools.

Meeting year 11 students in tutor groups has given me a wonderful insight into their aspirations and future careers paths. The range of different courses and potential careers is amazing, as is their determination to make their next steps successful. Their choices are supported by an in-depth careers programme that starts from Year 7 and builds momentum as students move into the older year groups. Ratton is proud to hold the Investor in Careers Award which is a quality standard for the management of careers education and guidance.

As a school that holds the International Schools Award, we are always looking to develop partnerships in different countries. We were very pleased to be invited to send a member of staff on an all expenses paid trip to China to make the first steps in providing new opportunities for our students and staff. Miss Dean, who organises our International Schools Award, is going to Shanghai next March and we are looking forward to hearing about her trip and how we will be developing new partnerships.

Please enjoy reading this Ratton newsletter.

Mr Knox-Macaulay, Headteacher

Monday 4th - Friday 8th December

Science pre-public exams

Y11 MFL speaking exams

Wednesday 6th/Thursday 7th

Art/Art Textiles exams

Thursday 7th December

Y9 parents/carers evening
4.15-7.15pm

Friday 8th December

Christmas Dance Showcase

Tuesday 12th December

Academy AGM

Friday 15th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Refresh Christmas Lunch

Christmas Fair
3.30-5.00pm

Monday 18th December

Y11 Love Life Day

Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Concert 6.00pm

Wednesday 20th December

Early finish for Christmas break



Hey, you

**YES,
YOU!**

*I've got something
important to tell you.*

Christmas Dance Show

8th December

6:30 - 8:00pm

In the Hall

Tickets £2



JOIN US
RAFFLE
GIFTS
MINCE PIES
CHRISTMAS CAKE
REFRESHMENTS
3.30PM TILL 5PM
FESTIVE TREATS

15th DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS
FAIR

“A state of wellbeing is one where we feel healthy and at ease with ourselves. We are managing our daily lives well and feel optimistic for the future.

There are a few strategies, actions and attitudes that can increase this sense of wellbeing. There are no magic wands for feeling good, but students and parents might like to try a wellbeing exercise and see if it works for them. I will share one or two new strategies every newsletter.”

Gemma Bryden AHT for PSHE and Virtues

This time I have one word for wellbeing- hygge. It is a Danish word pronounced ‘hoo-ga’ and it cannot be easily translated but could be summed up as a feeling of cosy contentment.

So as the winter takes full effect embrace the concept of hygge and try a few of these things.

Family hygge: Plan a snugly sofa morning. Try and create a Saturday or Sunday when no one has plans. Everyone in the house gets their cosiest clothes on, eg joggers or PJs. Duvets or blankets come into the living room and nests are made! Choose a favourite film to watch or board game to play. Lots of cups of tea help create the hygge vibe.

Personal hygge time: Wait for a bright, but cold day. Get yourself outdoors for a walk, or a bit of gardening. When you are a little chilly come back home and get have a bubbly bath or hot shower. Get your comfy clothes on and read a favourite book or magazine. Enjoy some quiet and comfy me time.

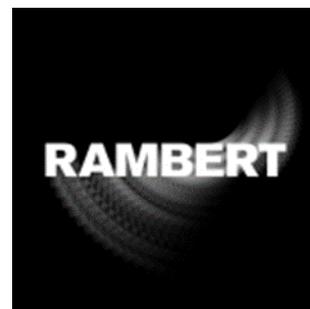
We all lead such busy and demanding lives that hygge time needs to be planned for and if you can manage to include it in your schedule it will have a very positive impact on your wellbeing in the winter.

DR SIMON SINGH VISITS RATTON

On Friday 17th November, the Maths department were pleased to welcome renowned science and maths author, Dr Simon Singh MBE, back in to the department.

He spent some time with top set year 7 and year 8 students, seeing how they worked, and marvelling at the problems they were solving.

We were incredibly fortunate that he brought with him his personally owned Enigma machine. The Enigma machine is a piece of spook hardware invented by a German and used by Britain's codebreakers as a way of deciphering German signals traffic during World War Two and Dr Singh spoke to both classes about the history of the Enigma, and the mathematical work behind it.



In the last week of November, three GCSE Dance students were chosen to attend a three-day workshop with the prestigious Rambert Dance Company. The workshop was held at Eastbourne Colleges' beautiful Birley centre and involved a number of Eastbourne schools.

Our three girls were put through their paces each day by a Rambert dancer, involving technique classes, learning repertoire and creating their own choreography. The grand finale was an evening performance for family and friends and was a culmination of their work. The pupils put on a superb show, showing dedication and professionalism beyond their years.

A huge well done to all involved and especially to our students, Sophie-Lauren Brown, Emily Field and Kiara Reed.

SSSSSSSSNAKES ALIVE!



On Wednesday 22nd November Safia Mollik brought in four of her pet pythons to school to raise money for charity.

Students (and teachers) were able to handle these beautiful creatures and learn about their colouring and behaviour. The students were given the opportunity to learn about reptiles as pets, their life span and behaviour. Some students even faced their fears of reptiles for the first time and learnt about some of the common misconceptions about snakes.

The event was very successful with a large amount of students and teachers attending the event. The event raised around £45 for the charity 'Children with Cancer Fund' which is a cause important to the students involved.



Dance Trip: The Ballet Boyz

I believe I speak for all of the students who attended the trip on Tuesday evening to Brighton when I say The Ballet Boyz were exceptional! As we sat down for the evening unsure as to what the night would entail, we were pleasantly surprised watching the skilful young men perform various dances, each one even better than the last. A story was conveyed through every piece, which gave us the chance to share ideas as to what the meaning was behind each performance, some more obvious than others.

It was an evening, which not only inspired us to improve our dance - style, technique and storytelling - but it also gave us a taste of the dance world and the professionalism of the dancers and how that could be us in just a few years.

We observed them convey their strength, interpret a softer flow, which, stereotypically, a woman would usually have done, and what really grasped our attention is how their actions completely changed the mood of the theatre.



Rose Channer-Cleere Y10

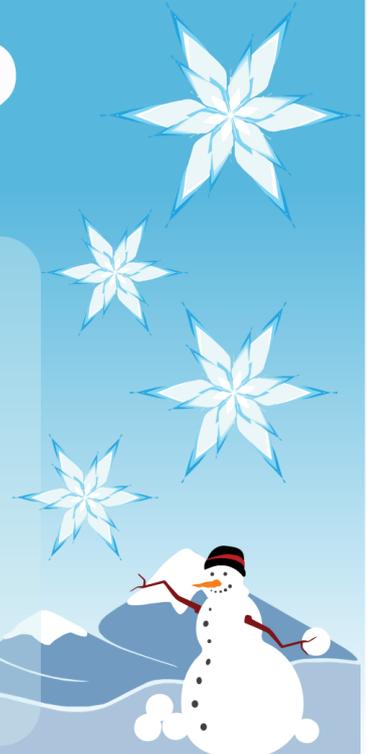
WINTER WONDERLAND CARD COMPETITION

TO ENTER:

Create a Christmas card
or Season's Greetings Card

The card needs to include a seasonal
message or poem, and there will be prizes for
the best cards!

Hand your entries to Miss Stark in
LRC office before 14th December



Part of the
**National Collaborative
Outreach Programme**

Do you have a son or daughter currently studying at university?

Would you like to share your knowledge and experience about university life and student finance with other parents and carers?

The Sussex Learning Network are working on the National Collaborative Outreach Programme and would like to enable parents and carers who have children at university to share their experiences with other parents and carers in school and in community settings.

The ambassador role pays £10 per hour, full training and support would be provided and there are no minimum or maximum hours.

Please email Fay Lofty at f.lofty@brighton.ac.uk for more information and to apply. The deadline for applications is Friday 22nd December.



Ratton School
Christmas Concert

Tuesday 19th December 2017

7pm

*Tickets available in Advance from the
Finance Office*

Adult - £3

Student/Concessions - £2

Proceeds will go to:



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Admission Arrangements for Community & Voluntary Controlled schools in East Sussex 2019-20: Consultation

East Sussex County Council is consulting on its admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools (and, on behalf of the academy trust, for Parkland Infant Academy, Parkland Junior Academy and Shinewater Academy). These arrangements are, broadly speaking, unchanged from 2018-19, but there is a proposal to make the following alterations to community areas:

1. To merge the community area for Hankham Primary School and Stone Cross Primary School
2. To enlarge the area for Iford and Kingston CE Primary School to include the area previously served by Rodmell CE Primary School
3. To include the villages of Streat and Ditchling in the community area for Chailey School (secondary) to create a shared area with Priory School.

There is also a proposal to change the PANs for the following schools:

Uplands Community College- proposal to reduce PAN from 168 to 150

Polegate Community Primary School- proposal to increase PAN from 60 to 90 (subject to necessary planning consents)

Ditchling St Margaret's CE Primary School- proposal to increase PAN from 20 to 24

Forest Row CE Primary School- proposal to reduce PAN from 45 to 30

The link to the consultation can be found here: : <https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/have-your-say-on-the-admission-arrangements-for-20-1/>



Dropped the children off and have a bit of time to spare?

Would you like to volunteer with Age Concern Eastbourne to help brighten up the day of a lonely, frail or housebound person in your area? It could be anything from a cup of tea and a chat to getting a bit of shopping.

Full training given & travelling expenses reimbursed.

INTERESTED... then call Carol at Age Concern Eastbourne on 01323 749034



Holiday and weekly football courses for boys and girls of all abilities, age 4-13.

BRIGHTON / LANCING / WORTHING / UCKFIELD

www.albioninthecommunity.org.uk

Albion in the Community, American Express Community Stadium, Village Way, Brighton B M1 9BL Tel: 01273 878265. Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (No. 5122343). Registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1110978).



Christmas 2017

Location	Dates	Times	Venue	Cost
Brighton	21-22 Dec	9am-3pm	Dorothy Stringer School, BN1 6PZ.	£39
Worthing	21-22 Dec	9am-3pm	Thomas A Becket Junior School, BN14 7PR.	£39
Uckfield	21 Dec	9.45am-3pm	UCTC, TN22 3DJ.	£23

Courses for 4-5 year olds

Location	Dates	Times	Venue	Cost
Brighton	21-22 Dec	9am-12pm	Dorothy Stringer School, BN1 6PZ.	£20
Worthing	21-22 Dec	9am-12pm	Thomas A Becket Junior School, BN14 7PR.	£20

Children aged 5 years can attend courses of either age category.

Single day bookings are available priced at £23 for 5-13 year olds, and £10 for 4-5 year olds. Please call: 01273 878277 to book.

Courses for girls only (ages 6-16)

Location	Dates	Times	Venue	Cost
Lancing	21 Dec	9.45am-3pm	American Express Elite Football Performance Centre, BN15 9FP.	£20

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