



April break

Friday 30th March to
Friday 13th April

Monday 16th April

First day of T5
Ocklynge LGC at 5pm

Tuesday 17th March and Wednesday 18th March

Yr 9 Td/IPV and Men
ACWY Vaccinations

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!

The galaxy is a huge place and the opportunity for us to have a mobile planetarium on site to share with Year 7 students was very exciting. Groups of students were taken to the planetarium and enjoyed a personal view of space. I am sure the experience inspired some good scientific thinking and hopefully inspired a new generation of astronomers or even astronauts!

It was a pleasure to meet a group of Year 9 students to talk about their GCSE pathway choices. I was very impressed with the thoughtful reasons they gave for making their choices. All of the students also spoke about their ambitions for the future and how that guided their decision making. We also discussed the choices they would need to make around college courses in years 10 and 11 and how it will influence their future.

Year 11 have been building up for their GCSE exams this summer and they have already had a number of practical exams this term. To support them over the next few months, we are running Easter revision sessions in a wide range of different subjects. Thank you, in advance, to all the staff giving up part of their break and all the students taking advantage of the support in school over the holiday.

Please enjoy this copy of the Ratton Newsletter and have an enjoyable break.

Mr Knox-Macaulay, Headteacher



CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

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

Week ended 9th March

Daniel Bradshaw, Dale Upton, Rachel Kersten-Freeman, Abbey McKechnan, Jacob Gunter, Daniel Zaman, Leo Tang, Mollie Simpson, Hannah Brook and Freya Packer

Week ended 16th March

Billy Smith, Jacob Gunter, Rachel Kersten-Freeman, Sebastian Chumbley, Brooke Nicholls, Sophie Drakeley and Jessica Long

Alumni Student Malachi Jones is to do a sponsored Abseil down the ArcelorMittal Orbit, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Malachi is doing a sponsored Abseil on April 1st to help raise £200,000 for Tonia Cheney so she can have urgent lifesaving surgery.

Tonia (aged 20), has Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and you may have seen her last year on DIY SOS The Big Build. She is in urgent need of lifesaving surgery to fuse her spine in order to stop it from crushing her brain.

Currently this surgery is not offered in the UK due to the complex nature of Tonia's Ehlers Danlos Syndrome. Tonia needs the £200,000 for the surgery to take place in Barcelona, without it, her prognosis is not positive.

Please help by sponsoring as much as you can afford. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/malachi-jones>



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.

The spring is upon us at last. What a great time of the year for having a clear out. Spring cleaning has very ancient roots with many cultures celebrating the end of winter with a refreshed energy for the new season.

Decluttering is also very good for our wellbeing as it can bring a sense of order, simplification and cleanliness to our homes. Plus if you are able to give any no longer needed items to a charity shop you can also feel good knowing that you have helped someone else.

So how about that cupboard under the stairs? That drawer that things get shoved in? The old toys? The clothes that you haven't worn in two years?

Simplify your life by removing the things that you longer need.

Gemma Bryden AHT for Character Education

BRILLIANT MATHS FEAST!

On Friday 23rd March 2018, Ratton hosted a Year 10 Maths Feast, organised and run by FMSP (Further Mathematics Support Programme). With three teams from Ratton, and teams from four other schools in the surrounding area, we spent the morning puzzling through 5 rounds, each with a different focus, relying on our teamwork as well as our ability in Maths.

Huge congratulations go to all of our participants, as they did fantastically well!

Ratton Team B (Luke Drakeley, Menna Evans, Indya-Jayne Wardle, Millie Springett) won the Practical Round (building and manipulating cuboids)

Ratton Team C (Matt Laing, Callum Halton, Jack Matthews, Suwi Simfukwe) won the Problem Solving Round (with full marks!) and came in second place overall.

Ratton Team A (Levi Woolf, Ben Hinchliffe, Benny Norris, Joshua Chin) won the "What No Words?" round, came joint first in the Practical Round, won the Hexagrid puzzle round, and won the Maths Feast overall!!

We were exceptionally proud of our students, and the way they worked together, accepted the challenge, and hosted our guests.



Celebrating Record Results for the Intermediate Maths Challenge

Over 250,000 students from more than 3000 schools took part in the recent Intermediate Maths Challenge, where students had 60 minutes to answer 25 varied multiple choice mathematical problems. At Ratton, a record 31 students secured Gold, Silver or Bronze certificates that put them in the top 40% of the country. There were also a record 6 students who qualified for follow on rounds of the competition. Levi Woolf, Matt Laing, Suwi Simfukwe, Ben Hinchliffe, Callum Halton and Jacob Kelly sat these follow up papers on the 15th March. We look forward to seeing how they have done in the near future.

Congratulations to all those involved.

Year 8 Rugby come out on top!

The year 8 team went to St Catherine's for a 6 school Rugby tournament. A squad of 14 boys played extremely well, they won five of their six games and scored the most points of all the teams – securing them top spot!

The team was captained brilliantly by **Louis Nicholls** and he encouraged them to play some lovely passing rugby. Seven players managed to score tries during the tournament with **Reuben Hewitt-Bloom** scoring a hat trick of tries, through his blistering pace in one of the games.

A great effort from all of them.



The squad - Rowan Trigg, Michael Morehen, Henry Aston, Harry Rogers, Harry Hacker, James Hastie, Louis Nicholls (Captain), Bradyn Chandler, Seb

SCIENCE WEEK CELEBRATIONS AT RATTON

Ratton students took part in several activities to celebrate British Science week from the 9th – 20th March. This festival aims to raise the awareness of the impact of science on our day to day lives, and encourages students to take an interest in studying science and pursuing scientific careers.

Forensics Day

On the 16th March all year 8 students spent a day as forensic scientists. Students had to find the correct culprit who robbed a local bank (theoretically) by participating in and analysing a wide range of experiments and collecting evidence to determine which conclusions can be drawn. The activities raised awareness of the various skills needed to be a forensic scientist, as well as promoting the different aspects of science and how they can be used. They also were shown how some of the more complicated skills in the new GCSE are applied in interesting real life situations.

Students visited three laboratories during the day including the microscope lab, where they analysed pollen samples found at the crime scene and compared them with other samples to determine where the suspect lived. Students also examined slides of different fabric fibres to determine which clothing was worn by the criminal at the bank. Finally they extracted hair from a piece of clothing found at the crime scene and used this to narrow down the physical appearance of the suspect.



At the ion testing lab, students used various chemical tests to find the composition of samples found at the crime scene in muddy footprints and smears on broken ATM machines. Students used the characteristic colours that each chemical burns to find out which ions are present in the sample. They also performed several chemical tests and

examined the formation of different solids to determine the substances found in samples at the crime scene. Students also had to analyse data from precise techniques like a mass spectroscopy and flame emission spectra to determine the accuracy of their results.

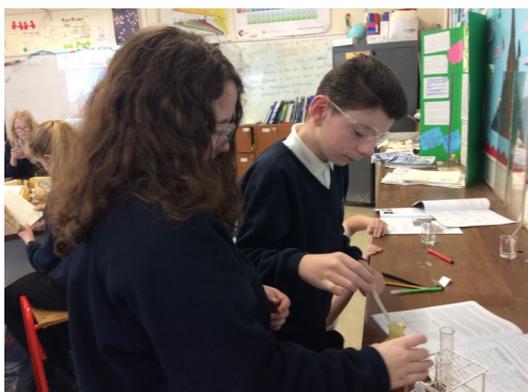


At the chromatography lab, students performed a chromatography experiment to find which pen wrote on a banking envelope at the crime scene. Students also collected and interpreted fingerprints found at the crime scene and learnt about the



common types of fingerprints, collecting fingerprints and how this is used to eliminate suspects from an investigation. Students used these experiments to complete a booklet of their evidence to apply for an arrest warrant at the end of the day.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the day, and learnt a great deal about how forensic science has progressed and contributed to reducing crime in the UK. At the end the day, the team which collected the most accurate evidence won amazon vouchers.



The winning team with 154 points was...

Rose Norris, Leo Sowdon, Zainab Bojang and Madison Smith

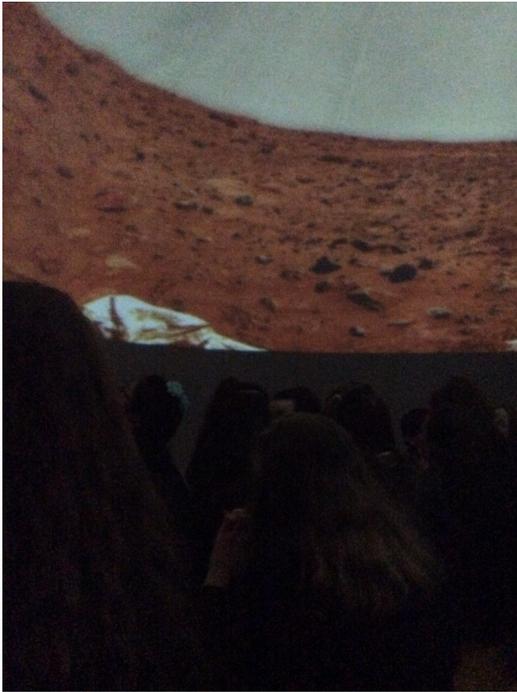
2nd place: 149 points

Ella Harris, Miguel Moreira, Jayden Humphreys and Elizaveta Mazurenko

3rd Place: 137 points

Billy Smith, Mali Francis, Poppy Wright, Katie White and Joe Lee

Inflatable planetarium



Year 7 students were given the opportunity to learn more about the stars and the galaxy when an inflatable planetarium visited the school.

Creative Space, a fantastic local company, brought along their mobile planetarium.

Every year 7 student was given the

opportunity to watch a

fascinating presentation about our galaxy and solar system in the dome, which provided a 360-degree immersive sound and visual experience.

Students learnt about humanity's journey's to the stars, recent missions to Mars and the planets in the solar system.

Students were given this spectacular opportunity to improve their knowledge of space for their KS3 work, and to reinvigorate their awe and wonder for the universe and our place in it. As one of the most popular areas in science, this was a great way to engage year 7 students in their learning of science and ensure they make the best possible start to their GCSEs'.

Student comments included...

'I liked the feel of the experience – it was awesome!' Izzy D

'I liked how you could look around you and feel like you were in space.'



Poster competition

Throughout science week, students from year 7-10 took part in the British Science Week poster completion, themed around 'Exploration and Discovery'. Students could work individually or in small teams to complete a poster with any ideas they liked, as long as it was related to exploring and discovery. Students really enjoyed researching some cutting edge aspects of science including the deep sea, space, robotics and the rainforest. The best poster in each year group won a £5 amazon voucher, and the best 5 have been sent to represent the school in the British Science Week National competition.

Good luck to the students, whose posters have progressed to the next stage.



Easter Holiday Junior Tennis Coaching Course at Hampden Park Tennis Club with Club Coach, Jenny Hughes

Tuesday 3rd April - Thursday 5th April

10.30am - 12.30pm each day

All standards & ages welcome

Cost: HPTC members £24 Non members £27

To book contact Jenny Hughes 07831097864



TENNIS COACHING SESSIONS WITH JENNY HUGHES (ENGLAND PLAYER)

Ratton School is linked to Hampden Park Tennis Club and receives funding from the LTA in order to promote tennis opportunities for students here at Ratton School.

We are very lucky to have the experience and expertise of Jenny Hughes who has played for England.

Ratton is offering subsidised tennis coaching sessions throughout the summer term on Tuesdays 3.30-4.30 for only £3 per hour!!

Letters are available from the Finance Office and PE department.

This is an opportunity not to be missed. Hope to see you there!!

Jane Upton (PE teacher)



An advertisement for Bede's Girls Cricket. It features a photograph of a young girl in a white cricket uniform, holding a red bat and standing on a green field. The text includes the school name "BEDE'S" with "EXCEPTIONAL" written vertically, "GIRLS CRICKET", "10 week courses", session dates "Saturdays 14 April - 19 May" and "Saturdays 9 - 30 June", times "09.30 - 11.00", and cost "£2 per session". It also states "OPEN TO GIRLS YEARS 3 - 8 OF ALL LEVELS ACROSS THE SOUTH EAST" and provides contact information: "To book your child's place please email patch.jenham@bedes.org" and "Bede's Senior School, Upper Dicker, East Sussex BN27 3QH, bedes.org".



facebook.com/RattonSchoolEastbourne

twitter.com/rattonschoo

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