

Dear Parents, Carers and Supporters of Ratton School,

I hope this edition of the newsletter finds you and your families well.

In this edition of the newsletter, you'll find an update on our Open Evening, and Open Mornings for prospective students and parents. I'd like to publicly thank staff and students for their efforts and work in showing off the best that Ratton School has to offer the community. You'll also find an account of the Year 6 into Year 7 Summer School; I think the experience has really benefitted many of our Year 7 students in the mature and confident way in which they have gone about their first few weeks at Ratton.

You'll also be receiving a separate letter from me shortly regarding a Covid update here at Ratton School and some reminders about testing at home. Luckily despite some occasional rain, we have been able to take advantage of the playgrounds and the field so far this term and ensure that our students get some time in the healthy fresh air for a significant amount of time each day, thus helping to reduce the possibility of Covid transmission within the community.

Finally, I just wanted to update you on an external review of safeguarding here at school this week. We invited in safeguarding consultants from East Sussex County Council to give us a health check on our safeguarding practice, including how we keep students safe, manage medical issues, attendance, and how our curriculum deals with issues such as online safety, and sex and health education. There were lots of positives and the verdict of the team was that students are safeguarded effectively at Ratton School. I'd like to thank all students and staff who contributed their time to the review.

Best wishes,

Mr Peevers

## Important DATES!

**Thursday 14th October**  
Student Covid vaccinations

**Friday 15th October**  
Y11 Careers Day

**25th—29th October**  
Mid-term break

**Monday 1st November**  
Early closure at 1.30pm

**Thursday 16th December**  
Early closure at 12.30pm  
Festive Jumper Day

**Friday 17th December**  
Inset Day

**20th December - 3rd January**  
Christmas holidays

**Tuesday 4th January**  
Inset Day

**Thursday 13th January**  
Y11 Parents/Carers Evening 1

**Wednesday 19th January**  
Y9 Careers Day

**Thursday 20th January**  
Y9 Pathways Evening

**Tuesday 25th January**  
Y8/9 HPV vaccinations

**26th-28th January**  
Bugsy Malone



# YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION – SUMMER SCHOOL

We wanted to give you an insight into what we got up to over the Summer Holidays when we had a special week that took place in readiness for our, now, Year 7 students who joined us just a few weeks ago.

We were thrilled to be able to welcome 150 Year 6 students to our Summer School during the first week of the holidays. A week full of fun activities, both educational and team building exercises, and a trip to Knockhatch Adventure Park on the last day! This gave the children a chance to cement relationships that had been built over the course of the week, allowing them to confidently develop relationships that they could carry with them into their first weeks of school.

We are pleased to report that students took part in an array of engaging activities daily, including: sports, Maths challenges, creative writing exercises, a treasure hunt, an introduction to learning Spanish and artistic creations including fingerprint pictures to name but a few!



Most importantly, the students got to meet some of our staff members and became familiar with our school setting. We felt this was particularly important for the children, to offer a sense of reassurance, especially as Covid had put a stop to our transition visits and open evenings.

We felt that Summer School would offer an alternative, focused and calm atmosphere for our new students and ensure that parents felt we were supporting them, as families, by offering them a chance to come to the school and acquaint themselves with the school premises and atmosphere.

The children were most excited and enthusiastic about the daily prizes that were presented to our chosen "Stars of The Day" students. A grand prize of a £300 Halfords voucher was won at the end of the week, by a very well deserving student.

A big well done to all of our 'Stars' that week, each and every one of the students did so well and we hope they all enjoyed themselves. Also, a huge thanks to all the staff members that helped coordinate and support the event.

We have already seen and heard the benefits of their time with us before officially starting a few weeks ago. The year group has done amazingly well at settling into the new routines and Miss Marriott and Mr Bunn (Co-Year 7 Leaders) are particularly proud of the start they have made.



## COULD YOU DESIGN A MURAL TO RAISE AWARENESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE??? IF SO, READ ON...

In the run up to the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (COP26), we'd like to invite your students to take part in the 2021 Grantham Climate Art Prize and design an art mural that sends a message of hope to everyone who sees it - including world leaders. Focusing on local UK species under threat, we're asking young people to send in their designs and stand up for nature! Seven winning entries will:

- **Have their designs painted onto walls by professional artists in Brighton, Glasgow, London, Leicester, Nottingham, Rochdale and Stoke-on-Trent (you don't have to live in one of these cities to enter)**
- **Receive a £250 cash prize**
- **Have their work included in special exhibitions nationwide**
- **Have a photograph of their mural projected onto London billboards in November to coincide with COP26 in Glasgow**

This competition is in partnership with Octopus Energy, Real World Science, and UK Youth for Nature.

To participate you must be aged between 12 and 25, you must live in Great Britain and the artwork must feature an endangered species of local relevance.

**Discover more and enter the competition here: -**

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/.../grantham-art-prize-2021/...>

### **Why this matters?**

Wherever you live in the UK, you are surrounded by different habitats from ancient forests to wetlands, bogs and human-made canals.

Each one supports locally important plants, animals and other living organisms, such as bees which pollinate some of the crops we eat. They sustain each other, and humans are part of that ecosystem too - but many UK species and habitats are threatened by human activities, including climate change.

They need our help now!



**Watch this video: -**

<https://youtu.be/B23cJZPwCQ>

to hear more about the Grantham Climate Art Prize from artist Bryony Bengue-Abbott and Imperial's Dr Will Pearse.



Many congratulations to our students who have earned the highest number of achievement points between 20th September - 1st October

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Ava Thatcher	Erin Pierce	Abigail Line	Evie Ward	Evie Ward
Izzy Williams	Lucy Titherly	Matylda Furmanska	Bethany Cogger	Bethany Cogger
Jane Sear	Heather Packham-Wells	Maisy Holbrook	Erin Strevens	Erin Strevens
Jessica Taylor	Mia Sykes	Libby Jones	Eve Kyprianou-Hickman	Eve Kyprianou-Hickman
Milla Winslet	Evelyn Reilly	Syd Penfold	Yuexin Liu	Yuexin Liu
Trixie Fermor	Layla Bowles	Tamzin Watts	Fraser Mechan	Fraser Mechan
Oscar Creese	Finn Bryson	Harry Orbell	Jackson Bowles	Jackson Bowles
Finley Stevens	Okan Pashov	Daniel Whitmore	Ale Dam Acosta	Ale Dam Acosta
Louie Welsh	Connor Agnew	Ashton Storey	Joshua Dowsett	Joshua Dowsett
Guleser Aslan	Dyako Ahmed	Luke Bennett	Thomas Driver	Thomas Driver
Alex Antoniewski	Daniel Nachon-Harris	Lukas Anta Fernandez		
	Fergus Laing			
	Malik Hekmoun			



# Are you a young person with caring responsibilities for somebody with dementia?



If you are aged 11-17 yrs., you can help us adapt *iSupport* for young dementia carers

## What is *iSupport*?

*iSupport* is an internet-based support package for carers of people with dementia. It includes self-care, problem solving and relaxation techniques. *iSupport* was not designed for younger people who care (or help to care) for a family member with dementia.

## What would I be doing?

You would have access to *iSupport* so that you can have a go at using it. We would then ask you to give us your opinion on how it can be adapted to best support young people in a similar situation to yours.



To find out more please contact:

Patricia Masterson Algar - [p.m.algar@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:p.m.algar@bangor.ac.uk) @PMasterson\_80

 **NIHR** | National Institute for Health Research

 **CARERS TRUST**  
MALES

 **Alzheimer Scotland**  
Action on Dementia

 **PRIFYSGOL BANGOR**  
UNIVERSITY

 **University of Strathclyde**

 **UCL**

## PREVIOUS RATTON STUDENT APPRECIATION POST

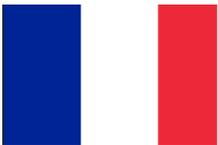
We were blown away by this entry into the [Royal Academy of Arts](#) Summer Show this year.

This photograph was taken by Grace, one of our Year 11 students who left last academic year (back in July of this year).

What a fantastic achievement Grace, well done. You should be so proud of yourself, we certainly are!



## WORD OF THE WEEK



**suggérer**



**sugerir**



**vorschlagen**



**建议  
(jiàn yì)**



**to suggest (verb)**

**Tell your MFL teacher  
your sentences!**





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# Supporting Starting Secondary School

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## What?

Starting Secondary School is a BIG milestone in a child's life. It marks the end of being at a small primary school and the start of being in a much bigger school environment, where there are greater expectations on a young person to be more independent. Come and gain some advice on how to support your teen in developing independence and resilience in their new school

## Where?

Online via Microsoft Teams link sent to you nearer the time

## When?

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 1-2:30pm

To book your place please Email:  
[info@openforparents.gov.uk](mailto:info@openforparents.gov.uk)

OR Scan the QR code to book



## Wellbeing Matters - Building Emotional Resilience

Over the next few issues of the Newsletter I would like to share some ways we can build our emotional resilience. Or another way to put it is how to top up our emotional reserves that we can draw on when times are tough.

There is lots of research that shows expressing gratitude is a really easy way to generate positive feelings and in others.

I will be talking about this in assemblies next week. We always have an assembly that focuses on emotional health and wellbeing in October as 10th October is International Mental Health Awareness Day. If you would like to try a simple exercise at home why not try one of these:

- Look back through some family photos and find one that triggers a memory of a special day. Have a chat about why you are thankful for that day.
- On each day of the week pick a different person in the family and write down why we are grateful to that person.
- Have a chat about the people in your life who have helped you most. What is it about that person that made/makes them so kind and trustworthy.
- Just be extra mindful and saying thanks to everyone who helps you throughout the day.

Just by performing a few of these actions we can develop an attitude for gratitude that increases our sense of wellbeing and builds a more positive environment.

Ms Bryden

## JOIN US AT KNITTING CLUB!

At Knitting Club Maya and Darcie have been learning to knit and crochet (and eating lots of chocolate biscuits!) New members are welcome to join us in room 109 on Thursdays 3-4pm.

Students of all year groups: if you can already knit, feel free to bring along something you are working on. If you would like to learn, just bring yourself: we have some needles and yarn to get you started. Knitting is a great skill to have and can provide much needed relaxation in our busy lives.



**Why not come along on a Thursday for a hot chocolate and find out if it is something you might enjoy?**

*Any donations of super chunky yarn would also be gratefully received if any parents and carers are having a clear out.*

## CALLING ALL YEAR 11 STUDENTS / ATTENTION PLEASE!

Following this week's assemblies with a variety of College representatives in attendance, we're certain that you'll be motivated in thinking and planning for where to study next September when leaving Ratton.

To support your decision, our local Colleges hold 'Open Events' for you to visit their Campus, have a tour and meet the tutors and teachers of the courses you are interested in. A fantastic opportunity for you to get a 'feel' for the environment and courses on offer. We highly recommend you take the time to book/visit any that might be of interest.

To assist you in booking/visiting the local College open events, here are the dates!

### LOCAL COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS 2021

COLLEGE	DATE	HOW TO REGISTER
Seaford Head Sixth Form	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 6pm onwards (please register) Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 10am – 12pm (drop in open morning)	<a href="https://forms.office.com/r/vH6DneUnp1">https://forms.office.com/r/vH6DneUnp1</a> <a href="http://www.seafordhead.org">www.seafordhead.org</a>
Plumpton College	Information Event: Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept Year 11 Taster Day: Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<a href="http://www.plumpton.ac.uk">www.plumpton.ac.uk</a>
East Sussex College <b>HASTINGS</b>	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 4.30pm - 7.30pm	<a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a>
East Sussex College <b>LEWES</b>	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 4.30pm - 7.30pm	<a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a>
Bexhill College	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 4.30pm - 7.00pm	<a href="http://www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk">www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk</a>
East Sussex College <b>EASTBOURNE</b>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a>
BHASVIC	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm - 9.00pm	<a href="http://www.bhasvic.ac.uk">www.bhasvic.ac.uk</a>
DV8 Sussex – Brighton & Bexhill	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 10am – 12pm (Brighton & Bexhill) Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 5pm – 7pm (Brighton & Bexhill)	<a href="http://www.dv8sussex.com">www.dv8sussex.com</a>
Gildredge House Sixth Form	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 4.00pm - 7.00pm	<a href="http://www.gildredgehouse.org.uk/sixth-form/">www.gildredgehouse.org.uk/sixth-form/</a>
Hailsham Community College Sixth Form	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 6.00pm - 8.00pm	<a href="http://www.hccat.net">www.hccat.net</a>
Greater Brighton Metropolitan College	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 4.00pm - 8.00pm	<a href="https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/open-events-2021-22">https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/open-events-2021-22</a>
BIMM - Brighton (British & Irish Modern Music Institute)	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am - 2.00pm	<a href="https://www.bimm.ac.uk">https://www.bimm.ac.uk</a>

Please see individual college/establishment websites for further details



## STUDENT APPRECIATION POST -

### Windsurfing achievement

Angus entered the UKWA National Windsurfing Championships at Grafham Water on 11/12 September which was a great experience for him.

He also entered the RYS Regional Junior Championships and came 3rd out of his fleet!

Well done Angus!

## STUDENT APPRECIATION POST - Year 9

We were proud to learn of one of our Year 9 student's recent achievements for charity. Joseph, amazingly, cycled 300 miles in August to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK. Wow! Joseph planned all of the routes himself and spent most of his summer holiday undertaking the challenge - in all weathers! He has, so far, raised £450!

As a school we're so proud of Joseph and we know that his friends have been really supportive too, by donating and joining him on some of his rides - all of which were cross country. His family couldn't be prouder and we thank them for letting us know of Joseph's achievements.

We will ensure that a donation is made to this worthy charity and to recognise these efforts! Well done again Joseph!



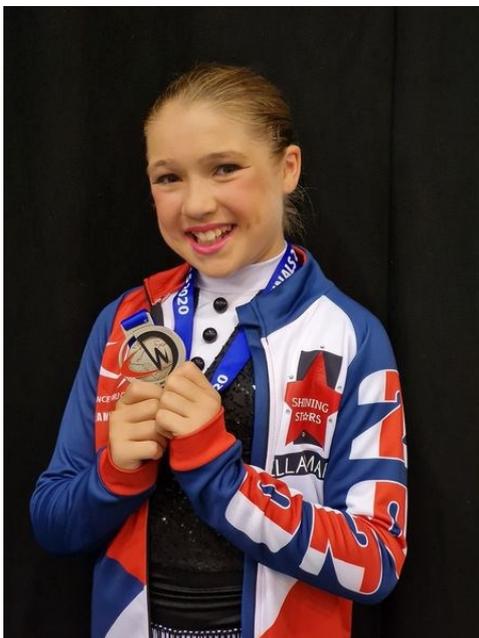
## STUDENT APPRECIATION POST - Year 8

We wanted to give a big shout-out to a star student in Year 8, Ella-Marie!

Ella-Marie's Mum has proudly informed us that over the Summer Holidays, Ella-Marie took part in some group dances in the National Dance World Cup, where she proudly represented England. Wow!

We can confirm that, out of the 5 dances that they took part in, the team came away with 3 Medals, 2 being Silver and a Bronze! What an absolutely fantastic achievement.

A huge well done to Ella-Marie and her teammates, you should be extremely proud. We certainly are!





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# Building Teen Survival Skills

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**What?** A two hour discussion group for parents concerned with their teens safety as they seek more freedom. Learn ways to help them manage potentially risky situations.

**Where?** Virtually online Via Microsoft Teams

**When?** Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 12-2pm



To book your free place  
Email:  
[info@openforparents.org.uk](mailto:info@openforparents.org.uk)

Or Scan the QR Code..





**DID YOU KNOW  
RATTON STUDENTS  
GET 10%  
DISCOUNT ON  
PURCHASES FROM  
DisDressed IN THE  
ENTERPRISE  
CENTRE?!**

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT CLUBS - AFTERSCHOOL & LUNCHTIME!**

Look at all of the fantastic extra-curricular activities and clubs we have on offer.

Our Music Department always go above and beyond to provide a variety of clubs, for varying abilities, all of which promote teamwork, a sense of personal achievement and, importantly, fun!

Please encourage your children, if they haven't already, to sign up for clubs. We want all of our students to achieve their fullest potential and interests both academically through the curriculum, and also outside of their usual school hours.

Extra-curricular activities help students build confidence, promote healthy wellbeing and offer them the chance to interact with their peers, enabling them to build alternative friendships and relationships.

Ask your child to speak to the Music Department for further details.



## Music Extra-Curricular Timetable 2021 - Term 1



	<b>2nd Lunch</b> (1:30pm-1:55pm)	<b>After School</b> (3pm-4:15pm)
<b>Monday</b>	<b><u>West African Djembe Group</u></b> Come and learn how to play Djembe!	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b><u>Open Choir - 217</u></b> Our casual choir which <u>sing</u> a wide range of material. No need to audition, just turn up and sing!	<b><u>Ratton Players - 220</u></b> Our Orchestra! Open to <b>all</b> instrumentalists of <b>all</b> abilities. <b><u>The Minor Details - 218</u></b> This is a choir which mainly sing acapella. Entrance is through audition due to the challenging nature of the material we perform.
<b>Wednesday</b>		<b><u>Bugsy Malone - 216</u></b> Rehearsals for this year's school show. See separate rehearsal schedule
<b>Thursday</b>		<b><u>Bugsy Malone - 216</u></b> Rehearsals for this year's school show. See separate rehearsal schedule
<b>Friday</b>		<b><u>Jazz Band - 218</u></b> Be part of a band that plays Jazz and Funk Drummers, Pianists, Guitarists and Horn players all welcome!



## YEAR 9 FOOTBALL FIXTURES RATTON vs CAVENDISH!

Our very own Year 9 Football Team had their first game (for a long time! Post Covid restrictions) on Wednesday last week. Here are the results and shout-outs!

**Ratton 4 - 0 Cavendish**

**Scorers: Louis R-M, Eden B, Joe C & Toby W.**

**Player of the match: Joe C**

Our Year 9 squad consists of the following students: Ethan, Charlie Eden, Louis, Tommy, Dexter, Alfie, Toby, Cody, Harry, Archie, Joe, Ethan, Louis and Mack.

What a great match it was (what a win!) and so lovely to see the students out playing and interacting with our neighbouring school [The Cavendish School](#).



## YEAR 8 STUDENT APPRECIATION POST

We were excited to learn that Sean M and Harry S were successful in recent football trials, where they were selected to represent East Sussex District (Eastbourne Borough). What a fantastic achievement, well done to both of you.

As an added bonus, in their first match they won (a massive!) 6 - 1. Both Sean and Harry played in this match, with Harry scoring a goal too! Well done lads.

We're proud of you both. Keep up the amazing work, what a great sporting achievement for you both.



## LUNCH & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 <sup>nd</sup> Break (1.30-1.55)	Year 7 Basketball (KFJ)	Year 8 Basketball (JBU)	Year 9 Basketball (WBR)	Year 10 Basketball (JBU)	Year 11 Basketball (WBR)
After School (3.00-4.00)	BTEC PE Intervention (JUP) Gold Week only	Year 9 & 11 Football (WBR) Year 10 Football (JBU) Year 8 Netball (JUP) Year 9 & 10 Netball (KFJ)	Years 7-11 Rugby (OFU/WBR) Years 7-11 Trampolining (KFJ) Years 7-11 Badminton (JUP)	Year 7 Football (GKI) Year 8 Football (JBU) Year 7 Netball (KFJ) Year 11 Netball (JUP) Years 7-11 Badminton (OFU/WBR)	BTEC/GCSE PE Intervention (JBU/KFJ)



### TERM 1

@Ratton\_PE



### Parent2Parent Project

Calling all parents and carers of college and university students!

Would **you** like to share your experience of supporting your son or daughter into college and university and to become part of a network of volunteer parents and carers across Sussex?

We'd like to hear from you if you have:

- Supported a student through making GCSE choices and sitting exams or taking assessments.
- Supported a student through making A Level, BTEC and T- Levels choices.
- Supported a student through applying to higher education or apprenticeships.

Are currently supporting a student studying at university level.

*You will become part of a network of volunteers who will help other parents and carers in similar situations through attending parents evenings, parent forums, webinars, events at colleges, events at universities.*

For more information about how to get involved, please email Fay Lofty [f.lofty@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:f.lofty@brighton.ac.uk)

*Full training will be provided. Grandparents welcome too!*

Please note that some of the info in this newsletter may have been included from other organisations. In including the info this does not mean that Ratton School is endorsing them in any way.

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