

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Ratton School,

I hope this first edition of the newsletter this term finds you well. I also hope you had a relaxing and restful Easter period with your families, and took the opportunity to see friends again as restrictions have begun to ease.

When I last wrote to you at the end of last term, we were awaiting any possible changes on how the school operates from government over Easter. The update that I can give you is that there were no changes to government guidance for schools, and we are continuing to run the school day and same control measures as last term. Students will continue to wear masks in lessons until at least the 17th of May, in line with the government timeline for reopening society. As ever, we have been really impressed with how our students have returned in a responsible and calm manner, and how they have picked up the routines necessary for learning again.

One change however, that I would like to remind you about, is that we have reverted to normal uniform throughout the day. Previously, students were allowed to come to school in PE kit if they had a PE lesson on that day. We have now returned to our usual uniform expectations which can be found here: [Uniform | Ratton School](#) and students must wear Ratton School uniform throughout the day. This does not include non-Ratton hoodies or joggers.

Home testing twice a week for students also continues this term, and students will be given test kits at school via tutors as term continues. Please ensure that your son or daughter takes a test every Sunday night before starting the school week, and a further test during the middle of the week 3-4 days later. Students should continue to log results via their Office 365 log in.

In this edition of the newsletter you will find a focus on what our youngest students in Year 7 have been up to, and also a curriculum focus on Maths. There is also some important information regarding cycling safety. Park Avenue in particular, has been very busy at school closing time with much traffic and I would encourage all students who can walk or cycle to school to do so for both mental and physical health benefits. Students who walk also need to be conscious of traffic and take care to stop, look and listen when crossing the road at the end of the day, and also to cross only when it is indicated safe to do so by staff on duty.

We look forward to another busy term, particularly for our Year 11 students who are working towards the award of their GCSE grades, and look forward to meeting our Year 7 parents and carers remotely again, on the parents and carers' evening on the 7th of May.

Best wishes,

Mr Peevers, Head of School

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Thursday 6th May
Y7 Parents/Carers Evening

INSETS 2020-21

Monday 17th May
Early closure at 1.20pm

Friday 21st May
Inset day - school closed
to students

Friday 23rd July
Early closure at 12.20pm

IN SUPPORT OF



RED NOSE DAY

**Thank you
for raising
£676.42!**

Celebrating Year 7's and their positive attitudes to school

I wanted to write and share with you some of the positive experiences that Year 7 have had since their return to school in March. From my own parenting experience sometimes a grunt is considered verbose! And you may not have been aware of some of the fantastic work they have been completing and the celebrations we have offered them to say well done. We are determined to celebrate their emotional development and experiences as well as the academic.

Students work towards their Bronze, Silver and Gold reward certificates throughout the year.



Last term saw the celebration of those pupils who had achieved Bronze. We had a movie afternoon with sweets and the whole school took part in a celebratory clap at the end of the day. The corridors were ringing with claps as we said well done for their perseverance and resilience throughout lockdown and the return to school.

Year 7's were thrilled to witness a staff member vs student light sabre battle on the playground! Mr Crosby uses his light sabre as a teaching tool and it was inevitable this would lead to the force being used outside of the classroom. Students had a memorable time seeing a teacher outside of their 'usual' role!

We are rolling out a programme within school called 'Ratton superstars' these pupils are recognized as either working above and beyond in school or home or overcoming adversity to continue to develop. Well done to our latest superstars Darcie and Rhys.

The Year 7's have had the highest attendance of any year group within school at 97.2%! We said thank you and well done by giving each student an Easter egg on the last day of term – not sure how many made their way home!?

We have a series of activities in the pipeline to make sure that our youngest students get all the opportunities they can to develop both their academic and emotional development. More information to follow soon.

Mrs Papagna



MUSIC COMPOSITIONS

Thank you all for your music composition submissions, it was a pleasure to hear such a variety of work and I'm looking forward to hearing more of your work in the coming term.

Mr Kearsey

The overall results are:

Year 7:

Winner: Matthias Whitby
Runner up: Nathaniel Carn

Year 8:

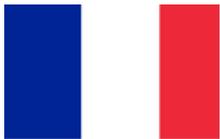
Winner: Reuben Butler
Runner up: Sophie Brook

Year 9:

Winner: Amelie Carbonell-Ferrer
Runner up: Evie Ward

Word of the Week

WOW!



commencer



empezar



etwas anfangen



开始 (kāi shǐ)



To begin (verb)



**Tell your MFL
teacher your
sentences!**



What's new in Maths?

Now we have returned to school students' need to be fully equipped for lessons with at least the basics. This includes - Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Calculator. It also helps to have some geometry equipment like a protractor and compass. Student have quickly adapted back into lessons and are used to the usual lesson format. We have started to use books again instead of folders, which should keep work tidier. We can now look at teaching modules that require more student engagement like constructions.

Year 7 have been excellent and have engaged well during online learning. Back in school we have started with an Area and Perimeter module. Students get confused which is which with Area and Perimeter and so we recapped this first. We then looked at Area of more than basic shapes. We learnt how to calculate Area of 2 more quadrilaterals- the parallelogram and trapezium. We then moved onto the amazing Circle. Circles are special shapes and use a special number – pi, in their formulas. We met 'Sir Cumference,' no, not the Knight! Circumference- how to calculate the perimeter of a circle, also how to calculate Area. Some students found this tricky, but they just need to remember the formulas.

Year 8 have also actively engaged while learning online and have quickly adapted back in the classroom. They have been learning all about Numbers- from Square numbers to Triangle numbers, to Finding the Lowest Common Multiple (LCM) and the Highest Common Factor (HCF). We also introduced them to prime factors and trees. Which they easily understood. Our final look at numbers included using Index Laws. These are numbers with Powers, and they were taught 3 specific rules to follow.

Year 9 have been introduced to the Pythagoras theorem this week, looking at right-angled triangles. They have learnt to identify the Hypotenuse and then using the Pythagoras formula calculate missing side lengths in a right-angled triangle. They need their calculators to do this because not every answer was an Integer – whole number. They also used a previous skill of rounding to give their answers to a certain degree of accuracy.

Year 10 are getting ready to take their first Mock Exam paper. This is taking place in the week of 29th March. Some are trying Higher or Intermediate and lots are doing the Foundation Paper. Because they have only seen papers on Method maths online before, we are going through a whole paper with them in class, first as a trial run. Fingers crossed they know what they are doing. These assessments are to support the students in finding the gaps in their learning and seeing what they are able to do. These have been really helpful and the data has led to recall starters of key topics needed to at and consolidate their learning.

Finally, wonderful Year 11. During school closure they had live lessons and past papers to try on Method maths for practice. We are gathering all the evidence we can to support the grade they will be awarded this summer for their GCSE. Students will be taking assessments in class to build further solid evidence their teachers can use to finalise their grades. Booster sessions have started after school for some students, to try and get them up to the higher grade. Lessons have included recaps on transformations. We wish all year 11 good luck in the upcoming assessments- Just do your best!



Many congratulations to our students who have earned the highest number of achievement points from 22nd March - 1st April

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Katy Brown	Zuzanna Skoczylas	Isabel Rodrigues De Oliveira	Emily Ludlam	Tiarne Mole
Grace Andrews	Kezia Compton	Chloe Smith	Kiki Otto	Hannah Dent
Poppy Robinson	Leah Barber	Tilly Maccormick	Nancy Richards	Minh Pham
Heather Packham-Wells	Larissa Starkey	Angelina Liagridonis-Dix	Scarlet Holroyd	Abbey McKechan
Layla Bowles	Eva Alvey	Izabella Loughton	Aimee McIntyre	Frida Henze-Jones
Lucy Percy	Miki Gasheva	Jackson Bowles	Daisy Crook	Megan Stannard
Jake Green	Didac Gil Ferre	Charlie Robinson	Lucas Geering	Cameron Jones
Henry Eldridge	Max Seefried	James Tanner	William Mulvenney	Alexander Eldridge
Louie Springett	Ieuan Opie	Rufus Tuppen	Dylan Sarna	Brooke Nicholls
Haris Mohammad	James Hughes	Alexander Weston	Jake Gell	Sebastian Chumbley
Ted Warner	Daniel Whitmore	Charlie Hewitson	Leo Wright	Michael Tanner
		Charlie Marchant	Oscar McKenzie	Morgan Lindsay
			Tommy Clayson	



WELLBEING MATTERS

I absolutely love this time of year, bright days, light mornings and blue skies all make me feel good.

As do the spring flowers that are out in abundance - once the tulips start appearing we know the worst of the winter is behind us for another year.

This is the time of year for getting into the habit of exercising outside. In the UK, sunlight doesn't contain enough UVB radiation from October to March for our skin to make vitamin D. So once April hits try to get out in natural sunlight for at least 20 minutes for your vitamin d boost.

Why do we need Vitamin D?

We need vitamin D to help the body absorb calcium and phosphate from our diet - these minerals are important for healthy bones, teeth and muscles. It also promotes good brain function - essential for learning.

From a wellbeing sense, getting outside has remarkable effects. The NHS have explained that there is a strong connection between green space and good mental and physical health. Whether it's a local woodland area or park or by simply getting fresh air close to where patients live, doctors are encouraging people to make the most of the outdoor space around them.

So for an easy and free boost to wellbeing, try and get out and about in the lovely East Sussex countryside and into some green space.

There are some really nice circular walks/rides in East Sussex. If you see me on the Downs give me a wave!

Ms Bryden

Ratton Successes in Sussex Schools Virtual X-Country Competitions



Towards the end of last term students from Ratton competed in the Sussex School virtual X-country competition. Each competitor was tasked to run a **4km off-road run** in their local area and to record their time on a recognised running app. A record of their time & route was then submitted to organisers who calculated the results.

Ratton is very pleased to congratulate all runners who took part and to recognise top results recorded for the students listed below. Positions were recorded for each age group. Students are to be awarded certificates in recognition of their achievements. Congratulations & well done!

Year 7

Katy Brown – 3rd

Year 10

Maddie Bartlett – 5th

Emily Ludlam – 10th

Annalie Brown – 11th.

Mrs Upton (PE department)

CYCLING SAFELY

We are really pleased that so many of our students choose to cycle to school each day as it is a mode of transport that has multiple benefits for students' health and wellbeing, as well as the environment in general. However, we grow increasingly concerned about the behaviour of a small number of cyclists that we would like your support with.

Bike Security

All students cycling to school are required to use the designated bike shed within school to ensure the safety of the bikes. The bike must be accompanied with a lock as no responsibility can be taken for bikes that are not locked within the school designated bike shed. The gates to the shed will be locked during the school day.

Safety

We strongly advise that students wear a helmet to and from school and at all times that they are cycling. We also advise that students regularly have their bikes serviced to ensure roadworthiness. Finally, we would also strongly advise reflective clothing is worn and lights are attached to bikes. Bikes must have a front and rear reflector by law.

Cycling to and from school

It is very important that cyclists obey road traffic laws. Below is a guide:

- **Go With the Traffic Flow.** Ride on the right in the same direction as other vehicles. Go with the flow – not against it.
- **Obey All Traffic Laws.** A bicycle is a vehicle and you're a driver. When you ride in the street, obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings. Additional advice and guidance can be found on the government's Highway Code page [here](#)
- **Be Predictable.** Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars. Signal your moves to others. This enables other road users to anticipate where you'll be as they approach and drive accordingly.
- **Stay Alert at All Times.** Use your eyes AND ears. Watch out for potholes, cracks, wet leaves, drain covers or anything that could make you lose control of your bike. You need your ears to hear traffic and avoid dangerous situations; don't wear earphones when you ride.
- **Look Before Turning.** When turning left or right, always look behind you for a break in traffic, then signal before making the turn. Watch for left- or right-turning traffic.
- **Watch for Parked Cars.** Ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars (like doors opening, or cars pulling out).

Thank you in advance for your support in keeping our students safe.

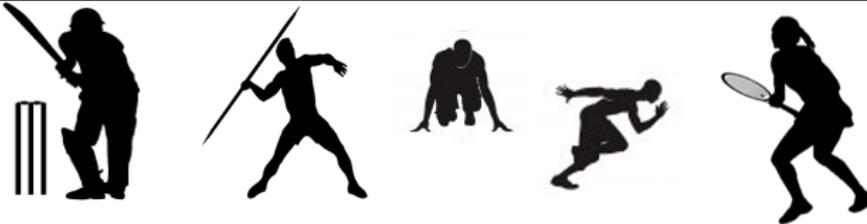


PE DEPARTMENT



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School (2.45-3.45)	Staff Meetings	Year 7 Athletics (JBU) Year 8 Athletics (WBR) Year 9 Athletics (KFJ) Years 7-11 Tennis (JUP)	Year 7 Rounders (JUP) Year 8 Rounders (KFJ) Year 9 Cricket (JBU) Year 10 Cricket (WBR) Years 7-11 Tennis (JCY)	Year 7 Cricket (JBU) Year 8 Cricket (WBR) Year 9 Rounders (KFJ) Year 10 Rounders (JUP) Years 7-11 Tennis (GKI)	Years 7-11 Tennis (JCY)



@Ratton PE

Term 5



East Sussex School Health Service

Aged 11 to 19?

Or parent/carer of a child or young person aged 5 to 19 years old?



Speak to a school nurse in person.

Tuesdays and Thursdays
10am to 3 pm
and 6 to 9pm

Click <https://nhs.vc/east-sussex-school-health>

or text
07507 332473 anytime.



Service provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

Confidential, private and here for you.

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