



**ROAD CLOSURE: NOTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORK ON A46 BETWEEN HOBBY HORSE ROUNDABOUT AND WIDMERPOOL, 19TH FEBRUARY TO 3RD AUGUST. WHERE POSSIBLE, SINGLE LANE CLOSURES (WHICH WILL BE REMOVED DURING BUSY PERIODS) AND OCCASIONAL CLOSURE OF SLIP ROADS WILL OCCUR. DURING RESURFACING, FULL ROAD CLOSURES WILL BE REQUIRED FROM 23RD APRIL FOR 4 WEEKS, FROM 20.00 TO 06.00 HOURS AND DIVERSION ROUTES WILL BE IN PLACE, WITH ACCESS TO PROPERTIES WITHIN THE WORKS.**



**D**ear Parents,

**I**f my travel plans have been successful, I will be asleep in Hong Kong when you receive this edition of Head-lines! Mrs Leite, Mr Yell and I are visiting Hong Kong to meet with current

parents and alumni as well as prospective families as part of our overseas recruitment. I hope the final few days of the half-term have gone well and you are looking forward to spending time with your children over the holiday.

**S**ince the last newsletter, the College has celebrated Emotional Health Week and National Safer Internet Day, which provided the community with an opportunity to consider the importance of both of these important issues, which continue to dominate the national education agenda. We have been delighted with the response of the students across the whole College who used their assembly time and PSHCE curriculum to learn about how to stay safe on-line as well as ways to promote positive emotional health.

**M**rs Leite, Head of Boarding, spoke to the Senior School and highlighted practical steps we can all take to improve our well-being. These are just as applicable to parents and teachers as they are to the young people in our care, so I share them with you now: be optimistic, recognise the good in ourselves, develop a set of coping skills, have a sense of purpose and who you are, make time for yourself, take regular exercise, listen to music and find time to reflect on your day.

**A**t Ratcliffe, the mission of our school supports an environment in which a positive state of emotional health can be achieved. We promote the sense of children and young people feeling good about themselves and being able to function well individually or in relationships, daily. We regularly talk to the students about how to deal with the ups and downs of life, coping with challenges and making the most of opportunities.

**T**here is a strong sense of feeling connected to our community and its surroundings. We believe in students having a strength of purpose and feeling valued. We endeavour to help the students to be resilient and provide a warm, caring environment which enables them to get up again even when life is challenging.



I hope that all the children and young people enjoyed the week and have learnt a little more about how to achieve a sense of balance in their busy lives. On Wednesday 31st January, we were delighted to welcome Mr Jeremy Thomas who spoke to over sixty parents in the Old Library on the topic of emotional health.

I hope you will enjoy reading about all of the students' achievements this week, along with other reports on performances in The Big Six section of this newsletter, and thank you for your support of your children's activities. Over fifty students and staff depart in the early hours of Saturday morning on the annual ski trip. This year, the group is going to Folgarida, Italy. At the same time, our German Exchange trip students leave for Koblenz. Both trips return on 17th February and we wish everyone involved a happy and safe time.

Our plans for future building developments continue to take shape. We are now in the final planning stages for the new Fitness

Suite, while plans for the well-being square in the central quad in the Senior School are also gathering momentum. We hope to start both projects in the summer holidays.

I am delighted to announce that Sarah Outen, MBE FRGS, British athlete and adventurer, will be the Guest of Honour at this year's Exhibition Day. She is also a motivational speaker in the UK and internationally. I'm certain that Sarah will prove to be an inspirational speaker and someone who our students can relate to through her amazing experiences. Please [click here](#) to find out more about Sarah Outen. The Preparatory School Prize Giving Guest of Honour will be Mr Ben Jackson, BBC Radio Leicester Presenter (Old Ratcliffian and current parent).

With my very best wishes for the half-term holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J. P. Reddin,  
Headmaster.



YEAR 8 STUDENTS PERFORMING 'CINDERELLA'.



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Year 8 students visited Alton Castle in Staffordshire for a three day retreat this week. [Click here](#) to read the article.

**Mr Michel, Lay Chaplain**



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## SENIOR SCHOOL

### Achievement Awards

#### Merit Badge

##### YEAR 7

Sam Davies	Nyah Gill
Zoe Howling	Ejemen Joel
Henry King	Ruby Lord
Gizella Perrins	Samuel Pick
Angelica Robinson	Marisa Smith
Alfie Thompson	Jessica Westwood
Romi White	

##### YEAR 8

Fisayo Abiodun	Ella Clark
Guy Gamble	Samuel Gray
Coral Keates	Thomas Leighton
Thomas Murray	Jonathan Shaw
Freya Wilkins	

##### YEAR 9

Temi Abiodun	Annie Bridgwood
Roman Carpenter	Fred Jackson
Jasmin Jarvis Kainth	Harran Mokha
Ilona Perrins	Freya Smith



CONGRATULATIONS TO AMY MASON AND LOUGHBOROUGH FOXES U15'S ON WINNING THE LEICS & RUTLAND COUNTY CUP

### Merit Shield

##### YEAR 7

Hollie Chapman	Rosie Dickerson
Ava Kinch	

##### YEAR 8

Joseph Butler	Scott Mawby
Victoria Wheatley	Freya Wilkins

##### YEAR 9

Maddi Bryant	Amelia Chapman
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### Achievement Voucher 1

##### YEAR 10

Lauren Brown	Sophie Brown
Charlie Foulds	Abigale Griffin
Eisha Patel	Dalila Watson
Emily Watson	

##### YEAR 11

Mia Atkinson	Joseph Collier
Caitlin Lawrence	Dominic McKaig

##### YEAR 12

Katie Honey	Jenna Pole
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##### YEAR 13

Alexandra Offer	
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### Achievement Voucher 2

##### YEAR 10

Aimee Cleminson	Isabella Whalley
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##### YEAR 13

Esme Kelly	Tom Cusack
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### LEXIA PROGRAMME

Congratulations to the following Year 8 students who have completed the LEXIA Programme, reaching level 18 of a rigorous and challenging literacy programme. These students should be applauded for their commitment and perseverance; Joe Atkinson, Guy Gamble, Amelia Haggis, Ezra Starley and James Clark-Pratt.



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## FUTURECHEF 2018

Huge congratulations to Yasmina Lock who came second, being beaten by just one point at Stage 3 of the national FutureChef competition at Loughborough College on Tuesday 30th January. This is a truly remarkable achievement yet again for Yasmina in this competition and we are immensely proud of her. Her main course was deconstructed smoked paella followed by apple and cinamon filo basket with oat cake crumble, raspberry coulis and clotted cream.



## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SECOND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WERE AWARDED TO:-

### YEAR 6

Harriet Ashford-Clark	Lucas Barker
Sophie Bardsley	Francesca Best
Harry Bird	Harry Hings
Mollie Hunt	Samuel Leake
Grace Linnett	Joseph Marsden
Olivia Smith	Harriet Sykes
Jonah Walker	Isabella Westwood

### YEAR 5

Edward Karania	Hannah Morley
Lucas Singh	

### YEAR 4

Thomas Bloor	Max Kew
Oliver Kirby-Doughty	Robyn Parker-Toon
Reuben Slade	Phoebe Smith
Samuel Traynor	Rosanna Wilson
Amelie Wilson Knight	

### YEAR 3

Robert Horst	Rowan Thompson
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THIRD CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WERE AWARDED TO:-

### YEAR 5

Charlotte Shield	Gracie Smith
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### YEAR 4

Samuel Giles	Alex Griffiths
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FIRST CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WERE AWARDED TO:-

### YEAR 6

Esha Karia
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### YEAR 4

Marco Misso
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# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## **LOTTIE NORTH, YEAR 5**

Was awarded a gold medal for achieving first place in a gymnastics 'floor' competition.

## **LOLA GALLACHER, YEAR 4**

Passed her Grade 1 ballet and Grade 2 Modern Theatre Dance examinations with distinction.

## **LUCY MARKHAM, YEAR 3**

Passed her Primary Dance examination with distinction.

## **MATILDA ETTY, YEAR 1**

Passed her Silver Rose Award in tap dancing with Honours. Matilda also achieved her Stage 3 Learn to Swim certificate.



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

There was a red and yellow glow coming from the Nursery on Monday as the children came dressed ready to celebrate Chinese New Year. The day was spent creating a giant dragon, learning how to use chopsticks, cooking and tasting Spring Rolls as well as finding out more about the Year of the Dog and the Chinese culture.

**Miss Green, Head of EYFS**



## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Congratulations to our successful Bronze Award recipients: Harry Culpin and Thomas Hammond.

On Monday 12th March, from 6.00 – 8.00pm, we have our annual shopping evening at Go Outdoors, Loughborough. This is an excellent opportunity to pick up some kit at reasonable prices with additional retail staff on hand to answer any questions and offer advice. I will also be able to answer any questions that you have. You do not need to purchase everything on the kit list as you may already have suitable items at home, such as sport fleeces and base layers. We lend out tents and Trangia cooking stoves to each group so items such as these do not need to be purchased. Please [click here](#) to have a look at the Go Outdoors leaflets as they contain information about recommended kit and some offers that they have on kit bundles.

**Mrs Cole, Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator**

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## CHAPLAINCY

There will be a Year 10 Charity Assembly on Guide dogs on Wednesday 28th February to launch Year 10's chosen charity. There will be some guide dogs and puppies coming in for this also.

[Click here](#) to read more about Guide dogs.

## COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)



### Air Experience Flying Day

On Friday 2nd December, eight RAF Cadets were able to take to the sky with their pilots.

### Meet the Marines Day

On 25th January, nine Army/RAF Cadets travelled early in the morning to a very cold, but sunny Covenham Reservoir in Lincolnshire for a day with the Royal Marine Commandos.

[Click here](#) to read these articles

**Lt Col Balmбра, OC CCF**





# THE BIG SIX

## DRAMA



Last week saw our Year 8 students don colourful costumes and grace the stage for their pantomime performances. Four groups won the year-wide competition with the chance to perform on stage to an audience. Their original 10-minute pantomime versions of stories such as Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Riding Hood were highly entertaining, and the audiences enjoyed getting involved with plenty of participation. [Click here](#) to read full article

**Miss Monk, Head of Drama.**

## SPORT

Congratulations to our successful Year 7 Girls' County Cross Country team



**THE YEAR 7 GIRLS' TEAM TOOK THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE**

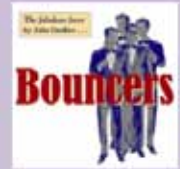
Year 11 Present extracts from...



JOURNEY'S END by  
R.C.Sherriff



TWO by Jim Cartwright



The Woman who  
Cooked Her Husband



Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> &  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February at 7pm

Over 14s only

Tickets £5 Adults &  
£1 Concessions

Please find the link to our weekly Sports Reports below:

[SENIOR SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT](#)

[PREP SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT](#)



# THE BIG SIX

## MUSIC



**T**uesday 30th January saw the inaugural twilight Scholars' Concert, with performances taking place in the Old Library between 5.30 and 6.10pm. This new model for smaller concerts allowed a number of our accomplished musicians to perform some very challenging pieces. You can see the diversity of repertoire [here](#), but we enjoyed a really high standard of playing to a very appreciative audience.

**B**eing in a smaller venue helped to foster a warm, relaxed atmosphere at the end of a busy school day. I was particularly struck by the unforced confidence of each performer. The next major event is the Spring Concert on Tuesday 6th March, held in the Theatre and I do hope you will be able to attend.

**Mr McCall, Director of Music**



**T**he Preparatory School has been extremely busy this week with our first Preparatory School Music Week. Senior pupils wowed us with their musical talents, showing the younger children how important it is to keep up good, regular practice if they want to progress to a high standard. Thank you so far to Eve Millward, Hebe Jackson and Jack Yung who played brilliantly (a young pupil was heard asking: "how do they DO that?"). Parents were invited to attend their child's instrumental lesson this week to see a lesson in action, talk with the teacher about how to help their child practice, and I have even seen some parents having a go themselves at playing! This has been such a popular initiative which we will aim to repeat.

**O**n Tuesday 6th February, we had our third Lower Preparatory Informal Concert. Once again, the children were amazing. Some had only started piano lessons in January and even they performed with great confidence. Children who had performed in our previous concerts had, without exception, progressed well. All the Nursery, Years 1 & 2 children ended the concert singing Spring in my Toes. [Click here](#) to see photographs from our Lower Preparatory School Informal Concert

**T**he RATS concert on Thursday 8th February brought Preparatory School Music week to a close.

**Mrs Markham, Preparatory School Music Teacher**



# THE BIG SIX

RATCLIFFE COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS



## SPRING CONCERT 2018

TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - 7PM  
RATCLIFFE COLLEGE  
THEATRE



Entrance free, pre-concert drinks  
& refreshments in the interval.

Retiring collection in aid of  **hcpt**

STRENGTH OF MIND STRENGTH OF VALUES STRENGTH OF PURPOSE



# AND BEYOND...

## ENGINEERING EDUCATION SCHEME

Six of our students are working with Rolls Royce on this year's project: Matthew Garcia, Poom Hirunwiwatkul, Steven Lai, Lewis Cox, Charlie Harris And Neto Chukwueke.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the project.

**Mr Darlington, Project Supervisor**



## INSPIRE EVENTS

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY WORKSHOP  
7TH FEBRUARY

We welcomed Dr Matthew Rendall from the School of Politics and International Relations at Nottingham University. His workshop was entitled 'Is any bargain fair, if everyone freely agrees'. He posed some thought-provoking philosophical dilemmas to the audience before animated debate ensued. The evening was both highly enjoyable and informative, with some fantastically stimulating dialogue between the students. My thanks to Dr Rendall and to all the students who participated.

[Click here to read](#) about the INSPIRE events that have taken place.

**Mr Neville, Assistant Head & Head of Sixth Form**

## LEARNING LEADERS PROGRAMME

An exciting new programme has been launched by Mr Neville this term. In essence, sixth formers offer short tutorials to students in Years 10 and 11 during 'prep' to help them with revision technique and targeted topic revision.

The programme helps younger students improve their attainment and gives some of our most talented sixth formers valuable leadership and teaching experience. Learning Leaders starts on Monday 19th February (please see timetable in the following link) and is open to all students in Years 10 and 11. Please [click here](#) for more information.



AND BEYOND...



# CONCERT

17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 7.30 PM

The Music Hall, Ratcliffe College, Fosse Way.

Programme to include:

The unusual but lovely combination of **piano, string quartet & voice:**

**Chausson:** Chanson Perpétuelle

**Korngold:** Mariettas Lied

**Philip White:** (U.S.A composer for film & tv): Since Feeling is First'

**Gershwin:** Love walked in

**Jerome Kern:** All the Things you Are

**Haydn:** Piano Trio in Eb major XV:29

**Brahms:** Piano Quintet in F minor, No 1, opus 34

(his epic chamber music Masterpiece)

**An enticing musical menu guaranteed to warm you up on a cold February!**

**Come and enjoy  
an evening of  
beautiful  
chamber music**

Performed by Ratcliffe  
College violin Teacher &  
other local professionals

*Capriccio Ensemble*

Ron Willoughby · violin

Clare Lee · violin

Liz Paling · viola

John Bean · cello

Jeremy Kimber · piano

With Cambridge- based  
singer

Bridget Hardy-mezzo  
soprano

TICKETS £10

OAP/CHILDREN UNDER 16 £6

To include a glass of wine

To reserve your ticket contact:

CALee@ratcliffe.leics.sch.uk

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# AND BEYOND...

## PARENT LETTERS

This is the section where you will find Parent letters which are on the **Parent Portal** on the school website (for which you will need to click on the appropriate link below and enter the password).

Posted on the Parents' Portal This fortnight are the following letters/items of information:-

### YEAR 9

Vaccination Details

### YEAR 11

Year 11 Parents Evening Presentation  
Geography GCSE Guidance  
Maths GCSE Revision Guides

## PARENT PORTAL LINKS

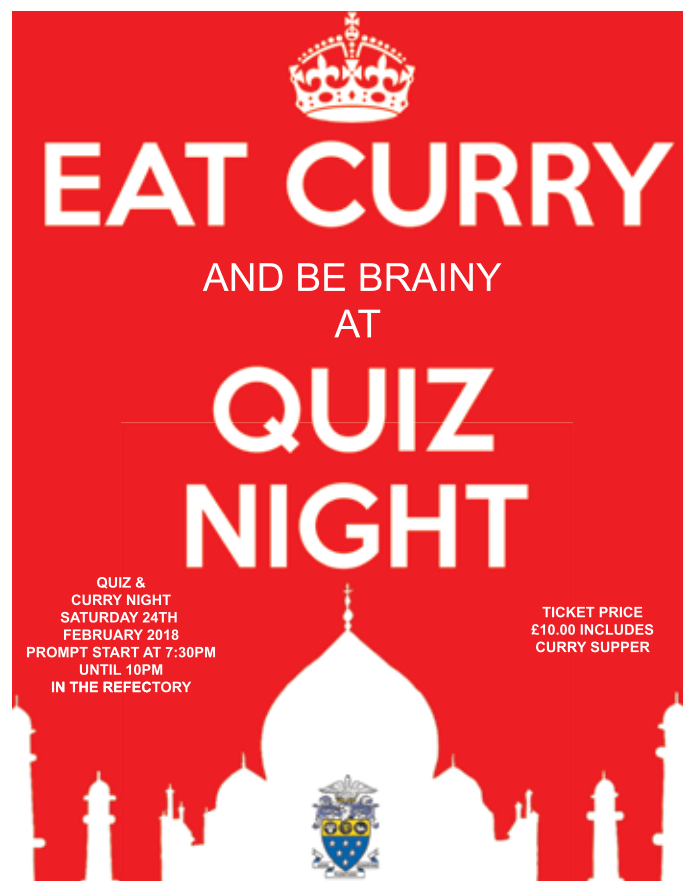
[SIXTH FORM](#)

[YEARS 10-11](#)

[YEARS 7-9](#)

[ALL SCHOOL NEWS](#)

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



RATCLIFFE COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

We would like to invite parents and friends to our annual PA Quiz and Curry night on Saturday 24th February. Please purchase tickets from the Preparatory School Reception. We look forward to seeing you at the event to raise funds for school projects.

### A date for the diary:

Ratcliffe College Spring Fair, Saturday 17th March, 11am until 3pm.

Stalls, fun games, hog roast, Easter egg stall, bouncy castle...

and the Extreme Mountain Bike Roadshow!

More information to follow.

**Alison Etty and Sasha Bruiners**  
Joint PA Chair

