



6th July 2018

HEAD-LINES



Dear Parents,

Wow, what a wonderful end to the academic year! As we finally prepare to catch our breath at the end of a very busy fortnight of activities and events, I would like to thank the students, staff (teaching and support) and you, our parents, for your collective support. There have been simply too many highlights from the end of term celebrations to mention individually here, so we have put together a montage of photographs to accompany this letter. I'm sure you will agree the pictures convey that we are a School which seeks to inspire happiness in all our children and young people, through *Strength of Mind, Strength of Values and Strength of Purpose*.

STAFF VALETE

I would like to formally record my thanks to the following staff for their loyal service and commitment and wish them well in their new ventures:

Teaching Related Staff:

Jonas Bielawa, German Language Assistant; Charlotte Collins, Graduate Sports Assistant; Rebecca Doig, Teacher of Media Studies, Teacher of ICT, Extra-Curricular Co-ordinator; Jennie Harlock, SEN Teacher; Beejal Palfreman, Teaching Assistant (Prep School); Rebecca Pawley, Graduate Sports Assistant; David Robson, Director of Finance; Benjamin Roux, French Language Assistant; Elspeth Sleath, Nursery Assistant; Daniel Spires, Graduate Sports Assistant; Anne Taylor, Head of Academic PE, Head of Netball, PE Teacher; Nigel Taylor, Head of Year 12, Teacher of PE; Sam Turner, Graduate Sports Assistant; Terry Walsh, Head of Classics.

Support Staff:

Brian Rennocks (retiring), Electrician; Tina Wheat, Examinations, Assessment and Data Manager.

Welcome to New Staff

As I mentioned in my Exhibition Day Address, I am now able to confirm the following teaching staff appointments from 1st September. We wish them all well in their new roles and hope that they will enjoy their time at Ratcliffe.



New Appointments	
Ann-Marie Slater	EAL Teacher (commenced April 2018)
Karolina Noble	EAL Teacher (commenced May 2018)
September 2018	
Miss Laura Gentle	Teacher of Girls' PE & Games & Head of Netball
Mr Blade Hibbert	Teacher of Computer Science/ICT
Mr Chris Jones	Teacher of Economics & Business
Mr Mark Lucas	Head of Academic PE
Mr Spartacus Anagnostaras	Head of Latin
Mr Benjamin Plummer	KS2 Teacher
Miss Katy Vickers	Teacher of Music

Internal Appointments	
Mr Philip Gilchrist	Extra-Curricular Activities Co-ordinator (Senior School)
Mrs Merrony Markham	Acting Deputy Head, Prep School (maternity cover from June 2018)
Mr Philip Spencer	Head of Year 12
Dr Luanda Stannard	Faculty Chair – English and Creative Arts Faculty

Graduate Assistants; Academic Support Staff	
Mr Max Bobath	Graduate Sports Assistant
Miss Tilliah Keast	Graduate Sports Assistant
Miss Caitlain McLoughlin	Graduate Sports Assistant
Mr Matthew Laycock	Graduate Sports Assistant
Miss Déborah Collotti	French Language Assistant
To be appointed	German Language Assistant
Miss Charlotte Croxall	Teaching Assistant (Prep School)
Mrs Neryn Zimmermann	Teaching Assistant (Prep School)
Mrs Susan Pascoe	Learning Support Assistant (Senior School, Mathematics)
Miss Emma Lacey	Nursery Assistant
Mrs Anna Bywater	Early Years Practitioner (maternity cover)

SCHOOL MAILING

Please may I request that you carefully read through your mailshot envelope when it arrives as it will include important information to round off this School Year. There will be a second mailing, towards the end of the summer holiday, in preparation for the new academic year, and this will include the Autumn Term Calendar, providing you with key dates from September to December to enter into your diaries.

SUMMER WORKS

We have scheduled a busy programme of summer works and maintenance which will be taking place on the School campus over the summer holidays, which will include beginning work on the Well-being Square in the heart of the Senior School and the Fitness Suite. It is vital (from a Health & Safety point of view) that students sign in at Reception, if they are coming into school for whatever reason or for however short the time of the visit, over the summer holidays. Regrettably, we are not able to offer the use of the school sports facilities out of school time.



TALENT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ENTRY INTO YEARS 7 AND 12 FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

If you are a parent of a child in current Years 5 or 10, may I draw your attention to the Ratcliffe College Talent Scholarships, which are available for entry into Years 7 and 12 in September 2019.

We offer a range of Talent Scholarships – Creative: Art and Design, Drama, Music, Sport and All-Rounder (in Year 7 only) worth up to 50% off the School fees. Please refer to: <http://ratcliffe-college.co.uk/the-college/scholarships-bursaries/>

Please note that you cannot apply for an Academic Scholarship at this time. A letter regarding the latter will be sent out to all parents during the Autumn Term.

If you wish to apply, please contact our Registrar's Department on 01509 817072 / 817031 or email: registrar@ratcliffecollege.com for an application form.

The deadline for scholarship applications is **Friday 30th November 2018**, a date to which we must strictly adhere. **No late applications can be considered.**

PHOTOGRAPHY AT SCHOOL EVENTS

Mr Sunny Hoyle regularly takes photographs at our school events throughout the year and there are some lovely ones from recent events. These can be viewed and purchased from his website: www.showphotos.biz. The password is on our Parents' Portal, under *All School News*.

USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN SCHOOL

Further to our whole school policy change last September, please can I draw your attention to our Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices Policy.

Students in Cygnets to Year 9 may not bring a mobile phone or electronic device into School. Students in Years 10 and 11 may have their phones in school, but they must be kept in their lockers during the day. Sixth Form students may keep their phones with them during the day. The School monitors the Policy and reserves the right to make amendments in future if deemed appropriate.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9, who travel to School by bus/coach may bring a mobile phone to School which must be left at Reception each morning and collected at the end of the day. Should parents need to contact their children in an emergency during the School Day, they can contact Senior School Reception and leave a message which will be passed on to the child via the Tutor or subject teacher. Students may also be notified that they have a message via the television screens around school and will be asked to report to Reception at break time or lunch time to collect their message. Equally, in the unlikely event that a child needs to contact home during the day, he/she can request to use the telephone in the Senior School Reception.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who are boarders may have a mobile phone in the boarding areas, which they may use during their own free time in accordance with the boarding community guidelines.



Students may access their phone at break time or lunchtime to check whether travel arrangements have changed but they must not use their phones to make calls and any text messaging should only be to parents with regard to changes to travel arrangements.

Sixth Form students may carry their mobile phone with them during the School Day, but this should be set to 'flight mode' only. Mobile phones must not be used during lessons or when travelling to and from lessons or to and from the Sixth Form Centre.

Sixth Form students may use their mobile phones to access music, send texts or access the internet when in the Sixth Form Centre lounge or café at break time, lunchtime or before morning registration or between the end of Period 6 and the start of Prep Time. This is a Sixth Form privilege and all students must use their phones responsibly and in accordance with the AUP. Under no circumstances should students be using their phones around school unless in a designated area (locker room or Sixth Form Centre). Parents and students are reminded that iWatches or Apple Watches are not permitted in school. Fitbits may be worn.

LAPTOPS AND BYOD

Parents should be aware that students are not permitted to use laptop computers in lessons unless they have been assessed as having a Special Educational Need which recommends the use of a laptop, or the laptops belong to the School. Tablets are not allowed in School. However, Years 11, 12 and 13 are allowed to bring their own device into School subject to the Bring Your Own Device Policy (BYOD). We are reviewing our BYOD Policy for other years and will update parents in due course. If you feel that your child has a Special Educational Need which requires the use of a laptop, please do not hesitate to contact our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Cluley, who will be able to advise you.

E-SAFETY

Our policy has meant that our younger students' learning has not been distracted and there have been far fewer behavioural issues to manage with regard to inappropriate use of electronic devices over the past two years. While we recognise that the majority of students have the good sense to use their mobiles appropriately, there continues to be a small number of students who flout the rules and bring mobiles into School and use them in School inappropriately. I ask for your support of the School in this regard by speaking to your sons/daughters over the holiday and to impress upon them that the School has a duty of care to keep young people safe and fully engaged with their school work. To this end, parents may wish to explore an App called Our Pact which can be downloaded onto your own mobile phone as well as your son's/daughter's phone. This App enables parents to control when their children are able to go on-line. A number of our current parents are using this App to help them successfully manage the amount of time that their child is using social media or the internet.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association has asked me to draw to your attention to the Parents' Association's Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th September, so please note this date in your diaries. I shall be holding a Headmaster's Reception for Senior School Parents on Monday 17th September and Fr Christopher Cann will be hosting a Reception for Nursery and Preparatory School Parents on Monday 10th September, so we look forward to seeing you at these lovely, first social events to kick-off the new Academic Year.



It has been a productive, rewarding and enjoyable year for the College. Your continued support of the community is valued enormously by the staff and Governors, as well as by me, personally. I hope that you will all be able to take a well-deserved holiday or short break at some point during the long school holiday period. For students in Years 11 and 13 who will be anxiously awaiting their public examination results, I wish them all every success on your respective results days (A Level and AS results on 16th August and GCSE results on 23rd August).

Yours sincerely,

J.P. Reddin

Mr J. P. Reddin,
Headmaster.



RATCLIFFE COLLEGE PICNIC CONCERT



HIGH TEA ON THE FOUNTAIN LAWN AT EXHIBITION DAY



Prep School



Ratcliffe College



Our Facebook



Sport



Boarding

Have a wonderful summer!



Picnic Concert



Celebration Day



Activities Week



Sixth Form Ball



Senior Sports Day

