



RATCLIFFE  
COLLEGE

8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## HEAD-LINES



Dear Parents,

The College has enjoyed a very busy and productive fortnight since the last edition of Head-Lines. Despite our fair share of coughs and colds, the students (and staff) have been working incredibly hard in and out of the classroom.

Our youngest students have been experimenting with food with their parents' and teachers' support as part of their, 'I'd like to be a Chef' Cookery Day. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their experience and made some lovely things to eat.

Alongside a number of trips, Year 6 students enjoyed a fantastic Victorian Day to support their work in class on what it was like to grow up and go to school in the late nineteenth century. Indeed, with the help of Dr Who and friends, Miss Stanley's Year 6 class took the children back in time during their assembly to walk in the shoes of a 10-year old child in Victorian England. Well done to all those who made this such a memorable day.

Year 6 also enjoyed a Geography field trip to the River Lin to support their study of rivers. The Preparatory School hosted their House Speech Competition Final. The standard of entries was as high as ever and we look forward to hearing the winners perform again later in the year.

In the Senior School, Year 11 Drama students have taken centre stage in the preparation for, and final production of, their examination plays, 'Bed' and 'Romeo and Juliet'. Once again, those who attended, were treated to performances of great maturity, sophistication and great humour. I do hope that the examiner was as impressed as I was. Well done to Mrs Munton and all those involved in supporting the students with their final examination pieces.

Over 50 parents from Year 5 and above attended a very moving and informative Parent Café given by Lorin LeFave, which focused on the threat posed by online grooming through the medium of gaming. Lorin lost her own son, Breck, to an online predator and has now dedicated her time to raising awareness of the dangers of the internet by visiting schools to show the Police video, 'Breck's Last Game.' Lorin also presented to students in Years 9 and 10 who were moved by her personal loss but also her zeal to protect others. If you were unable to attend the café and would like more information, please contact Mr Donegan, Pastoral Deputy Head: [cdonegan@ratcliffecollege.com](mailto:cdonegan@ratcliffecollege.com).

All the students in Years 7-13 have now seen the video and discussed the online safety as part of our celebration of National Safer Internet Day. Students from our E-Safety Committee led an informative assembly on the theme of data and why it is so important to look after your own personal data.



Mrs Reddin and I attended the Ratcliffian Association London Dinner last Friday evening. This annual dinner is held in the Crypt at St Etheldreda's, Ely Place, Holborn. St Etheldreda's is one of the oldest Churches in London, dating back to 1250. King Henry VIII held a 3-day wedding banquet in the Crypt and one of benefactors, Father William Lockhart, led the parish of St Etheldreda's in 1874. It was a splendid evening with around 90 Old Ratcliffians in attendance, ranging from those who left in 2015 and as far back as 1946! It was a privilege to spend time with so many past students who have such genuine affection for their school.

Our boarding community celebrated Chinese New Year with a wonderful meal last weekend. It was super to see the serving area decorated for Chinese New Year, something that our Chinese boarders were very grateful to see.

The co-curricular programme has been incredibly busy despite the challenging weather conditions. The College hosted the Leicestershire and Rutland Cross-Country Championships last weekend. Mia Atkinson, Year 12, was victorious in the Senior Girls' race and the Junior Girls' team secured third spot in the team event to take the Bronze medals. Our sports teams have been particularly successful, and we wish the U13 girls well as they play their Independent Schools' Hockey Cup quarter-final against Redmaids School, Bristol, this afternoon. Good luck, girls.

Congratulations but also commiserations to our Year 6 boys' hockey team who lost by the narrowest and cruellest of margins in the semi-final of the IAPS regional finals on Wednesday. The team played incredibly well to qualify from a tough group to lose their semi-final game on sudden-death penalty flicks. Mr Faulconbridge is incredibly proud of the boys, and we wish them well for the remainder of the season.

Attendance at CCF and DofE continues to be very healthy and our growing Chaplaincy Teams have led a number of beautiful assemblies to raise awareness of the needs of others. In particular, this morning, the Senior School Chaplaincy Team, led by Joanna Chan, reminded us of the incredibly important work of CAFOD.

Next Friday's Casuals' Day will provide students with the opportunity to raise money for this charity and to say prayers for those living in war-torn or famine effected areas and who rely totally on the support of others to get by. It has been so wonderful to see our school vision of Strength of Mind, Strength of Values and Strength of Purpose within the students' work and play.

As we enter the last week before half-term, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the School. I wish you and your families a happy half-term when it finally arrives next Friday, and hope that you enjoy some rest and quality time together.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J. P. Reddin, Headmaster.



CHINESE NEW YEAR MEAL



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## SENIOR SCHOOL

Please [click here](#) to see the Student Awards over the past two weeks.

### SENIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

In this year's Senior Mathematics Challenge, there were 80,000 entries from nearly 2,200 schools. The Senior Kangaroo is one of the follow-on rounds for the Senior Mathematical Challenge, and this year, the top 4,000 pupils were invited to take part from 1,017 schools.

The Senior Kangaroo is a one-hour paper consisting of 20 questions for the best school-aged mathematicians from across Europe and beyond. Merit certificates are awarded to the top 25% of students.

Ratcliffe achieved the following results:

**Certificate of Merit:** Mario Lau

**Certificate of Participation:** Mike Xu

**Mr Higham, Head of Mathematics**

### YEAR 8 EXTENDED BOOK REVIEW HOUSE COMPETITION



The focus of the Year 8 library lessons recently has been the completion of an extended book review. Students are required to analyse all aspects of their chosen book, and are encouraged to demonstrate their response to the book by the inclusion of some creative writing and original presentation ideas.

Click [here to read more](#) about the projects and find out the winners.

**Mrs Williams, Librarian**

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### HISTORY TUDOR HOUSE AND FIRST WORLD WAR PROJECTS

History students were again challenged to extend their learning by demonstrating their independence by producing a plan of a Tudor House in Year 8 and a First World War project in Year 9.

The entries were of an exceptionally high quality, and the results are as follows:

#### Year 8, Tudor House project

**Joint first place:** Rosie Dickerson and Zoe Howling

**Highly Commended:** Maddy Dunstan

#### Year 9, First World War project

**First place:** Rebecca Dias

**Highly Commended:** George Binnie

Well done to all those that took part.

**Mr Cantrill, Head of History**



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Please [click here](#) to see the successes of our Preparatory children in the last fortnight.



ACHIEVERS: 24TH JANUARY 2019



SPEECH COMPETITION WINNERS  
4TH FEBRUARY 2019



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:  
1ST FEBRUARY 2019



TIM DON, TRIATHLETE TALKING TO THE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:  
25TH JANUARY 2019





# THE BIG SIX

## COMMUNITY SERVICE / CHAPLAINCY

### YEAR 8 ALTON CASTLE TRIP

The Year 8 Alton Castle Trip has been arranged. The new dates are Monday 11th March – Wednesday 13th March.

The majority of students will be attending the trip. Alternative arrangements will be made for the few students remaining in school.

The students will be leaving school at 2.15pm and so morning lessons will be as normal. However, there will be no Year 8 lessons after Period 4 on Monday until Period 1 on Thursday 14th March.

Thank you for your support with this rescheduled residential trip.

**Mr Walsh, Head of Religious Studies**

## DRAMA

Some of Year 12 and 13 Drama students enjoyed a trip to see 'Ghost' the Musical at the Curve last week.



Well done to Year 11 GCSE students who performed brilliantly over the last two nights with their excerpts from 'Bed' and 'Romeo and Juliet'.

**Mrs Munton, Head of Drama**

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Duke of Edinburgh's Award students recently went through their first aid practice. The students practised bandages and also learnt CPR.

Congratulations to Eddy Robinson and Edward Smellie on achieving their Silver Award and to Archie Heaney on successfully gaining his Bronze Award.

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



# THE BIG SIX

## SPORT



Ratcliffe College has never been short of talent, and this week we learned that Year 11 student, Fin Back, has agreed a long-term contract with Nottingham Forest Football Club. He will begin the scholarship programme on 1st July after his summer examinations, followed by a three-year professional contract which will commence approximately three months later on his 17th birthday in September. Click [here to read more](#).

Click here to read the [latest sports report](#).

**Mrs Stafford, Director of Sport**

## MUSIC

The Music Department hosted a lovely Scholars' Concert in the Old Library. We were treated to a wonderful array of music from our talented students from all year groups – an excellent way to end the day!

Below is the flier for the Spring Concert, taking place on Thursday 7th March. Please do make space in your diaries if you are able to attend. You would be most welcome.

**Mr McCall, Director of Music**

### *Ratcliffe College Music* *Department*

## *Spring Concert*

*Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March*

*7.00pm*

*Theatre*

*Free entrance & refreshments*





# AND BEYOND...

## INSPIRE: TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS: THE WORK OF SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

On Wednesday 6th February, we welcomed as our guest speaker, Margaret Oldroyd of Soroptimist International.

As a former Federation President of Soroptimist International, a global volunteer organisation that works for peace, Mrs Oldroyd was able to share with our students the many ways in which this organisation has worked to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

### Next INSPIRE

Wednesday 27th February, 5.20pm.  
'What it means to be Jewish today in an increasingly anti-Semitic society'  
Freddy Naftel, Holocaust Educator.

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



## PARENT NEWS

### THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST 2019

Sunday 24th March  
Hosted by Ratcliffe College

Entries will be coming from across the region as well as from Ratcliffe College itself. The day promises to be full of powerful, dynamic speakers on a variety of topics. We would like to invite you to come along and support this exciting event.

All are welcome.

Time: 1pm for a 2pm start.

Light refreshments will be served from 1pm.

Admission by ticket or payment at the door. Ticket price is £5. Tickets available via email – [province15@publicspeaking@gmail.com](mailto:province15@publicspeaking@gmail.com)

### OPERA BY CANDLELIGHT IN AID OF RATCLIFFE COLLEGE MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Saturday 6th April 2019

Tickets: £45.00 each, available from Mrs Govan: [cgovan@ratcliffecollege.com](mailto:cgovan@ratcliffecollege.com) or tel: 01509 817006

Performances by Ratcliffe College Music Scholars and professional opera singers will take place before and after the dinner. A very popular black tie event for Ratcliffe families and friends.

**Please obtain your tickets early to avoid disappointment.**



# AND BEYOND...

## PARENT PORTAL

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

**YEAR 8** - Alton Castle Trip (Rearranged)

**YEAR 7-12** - Ski Trip - February 2020

**YEAR 13** - Mock Examination Timetable - February 2019



**CYGNETS' CHINESE NEWYEAR  
PREPARATIONS AND DINING**

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

**T**he Parents' Association is pleased to announce the Curry and Quiz evening on Saturday 2nd March.

**T**ickets are now available to be purchased from the Preparatory School Reception. So please get a team together and get prepping up!!

RATCLIFFE COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS



**KEEP KORMA  
AND  
QUIZ ON**

Curry and Quiz night

**SATURDAY 2ND MARCH**  
**THE REFECTORY**  
**7.30 - 10PM**  
**BAR OPENS AT 7PM**

Max. team size 12. Tickets £10pp.  
Available from Prep school reception

**O**pen Morning: Saturday 9th March 2019,  
9.30am - 12 noon.

**A**ll support welcome!

**Sasha Bruiners, Chair**

