

17th November 2011



Dear Parents,

Remembrance Day was marked with great dignity last Friday. Mrs Rigby and pupils from the Junior School led a beautiful service for the children of the Nursery and Junior Schools, while the Combined Cadet Force Unit, under Major Balmbra, together with Mr Reddin, Mrs Clayfield, and our Head Boy and Head Girl, John Baird and Caitlin Sheehy, led the Senior School in a deeply moving tribute to the fallen heroes of Ratcliffe College and the country. Sarah Kerridge, Year 13, played the Last Post and Reveille at both services with supreme poise.

I would like to thank the many staff, parents and students who were involved in the weekend's activities, from the very successful Fun Music Morning (special thanks to Mr McCall and Mr Waterhouse) and the enormously energetic Ratcliffe College Festival of Football for Junior Schools (special thanks to Mr Gilchrist; one visiting Headteacher and her pupils said that they had been looking forward to this for the past 365 days!), to the many sports fixtures (please see the reports later in this E-Newsletter). And of course, the Parents' Association Quiz and Curry Night on Saturday evening proved great fun for all, with my special thanks to Mr and Mrs Croysdale for organising the event.

Tuesday saw our Year 1 pupils learning about the history of toys at Melton Carnegie Museum, while, in the evening, we hosted the Parents' Association Meeting (Minutes will appear in the Parents' Portal on the School Website) and were treated to an outstanding concert of chamber music. Congratulations to all the musicians who performed so beautifully (please see below the list of students who performed). I also had a meeting with the Trustees of Ratcliffe College during the day, all of whom keep your children and my staff in their thoughts and prayers, and who send you their good wishes.

It was encouraging to see so many Junior School parents at Wednesday evening's meeting on E-Safety, so thank you for your support.

Year 5B, under Mrs Ety's guidance, led the Junior School in a wonderful Junior Assembly this morning, extolling the virtues of rules! They used the Ten Commandments in a most imaginative way, with wonderful acting, recitation and music. With more educational visits tomorrow during the day, and a Boarders' Disco tomorrow evening, we shall all be ready for the weekend!

Looking ahead to Christmas Eve, when we shall gather in the Chapel for Carols at 6.00pm followed by our inaugural first Mass of Christmas, to which ALL families are most welcome, it would be very helpful to know how many guests we should expect. **Please reply to this e-mail to confirm if you wish to attend and, if so, how many will be in your party.** This will assist in our ensuing catering arrangements.

May I wish you and your families a very happy, healthy and blessed forthcoming week.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth P. Lloyd,

Headmaster.

Parent Notices

YEAR 10 DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS

Beauty and the Beast and Ernie's Incredible Illucinations

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Saturday 3rd December at 7.30 pm

Monday 5th December at 5.00 pm

Tuesday 6th December at 7.30 pm



Tickets: £7.00 for adults and £1 for concessions/

School students and children

Carriages
12.30

Arrival
Drinks
7.30

Black
Tie

Disco,
5
Course
Meal
£37.50

Christmas
Dinner
Dance

Saturday
17th December
Parents
Association
Christmas Ball

Senior School News

Congratulations to our Senior School students:

Headmaster's Assembly, 14 November 2011

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Merit Badge			Sam Nightingale

George Rumming, Year 12, was presented with his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award at Headmaster's Assembly last Monday.

Sibella Chew, Year 10, swam in the second round of the National Arena Swimming League, West Midlands division, with the Leicester Penguins last weekend and achieved a Personal Best to win the hundred metres backstroke in the 15 and under age group. The team was placed first overall.

Billy Wheatley, Year 7, won the U11 Cricket Player of the Year for the 2011 season for his cricket club, Barkby United, at the Annual Presentation for the Junior Section of the club last weekend.

Ratcliffe College Music Department Chamber Concert



Tuesday 15th November 2011

Berceuse	(Faure)	
Rhapsody in Blue	(Gershwin)	Junior Orchestra
Habanera	(Paul Carr)	John Baird
Piano Improvisation		Ricky Hsu
Oompah Lompah	(L Bricusse)	Emily Marsh /Sibella Chew
Allemande	(Handel)	Sally Croysdale /William Rigby

Two Spirituals	(G Arch)	Senior Choir
Yellow after the Rain	(Mitchel Peters)	James Waymont
Allegro	(Bach)	William Rigby
I Will Wait for You	(M Legrand)	Klara Glufke
Lord of the Ring	(H Shore)	Senior Orchestra

Congratulations also to all the students in the Senior Choir, Senior Orchestra and Junior Orchestra.

Junior School News

Congratulations to our Junior School pupils!

Certificates of Merit were awarded at Junior Assembly to:

YEAR 2	
Samuel Gray	1 st certificate
Thea Wood	1 st certificate
YEAR 3	
Abbie Hancock	1 st certificate
Annie Rose Reddin	1 st certificate
YEAR 4	
Lucy Antill	1 st certificate
Connor Foster	1 st certificate
Miya Khan	1 st certificate
Rebecca Lindley	1 st certificate
Cleo Loizzo	1 st certificate
Emily McBallantine	1 st certificate
Finlay Noble	1 st certificate
Tom Page	1 st certificate
Freddie Thomas-Atkinson	1 st certificate
Alexander Tyszka	1 st certificate
YEAR 5	
Gianluca Bucci	1 st certificate
Ellis Gee	1 st certificate
Ellie Hollinshead	1 st certificate
James Howling	1 st certificate
Sophie Pole	1 st certificate

YEAR 6	
Arran Grant	1 st certificate
Megha Patel	1 st certificate

Annie Jarvis and Isla Jenks (Year 2) have both achieved the Level 6 proficiency award in gymnastics.

William Westwood (Year 5) and Syston U10's Rugby Club are through to the quarter-finals of the Prima Tiger Cup.

Alexander Purcell (Year 6) has been selected to train with the District Cricket development programme.

Caitlin Lawrence (Year 5), Oliver Foulds and Charlotte Meadows (Year 6) played in the orchestra at the Senior School Chamber Concert this week.

Ratcliffe College Junior School were Shield Winners at the Ratcliffe College Football Festival last Saturday.

Sports

Senior School

Rugby

1st

Despite a poor start, the 1st XV rallied to achieve their first win away at Wrekin, winning 26 – 10. A good try by Harry Jackson gave us a 7 – 5 half-time lead; a better second-half team performance enabled us to score three further tries towards the end of the game. Men of the Match were Tom Allen and James Richardson for their strong running and excellent all-round contributions.

2nd

A valiant fight back from Ratcliffe 2nd XV made for a close finish against Wrekin. The better team for three-quarters of the game allowed the hosts to sprint to a 15-point lead inside the first 15 minutes. A try from Ed Stiven put some wind in the sails just before half-time. The second-half started well: Josh Breen knocked over a couple of tricky penalties which brought the game down to a single score. That is how it remained for the final 10 minutes. Some excellent tackling from Man of the Match, Joe Hesketh, and glimpses of elusive running from Victor Lam and Carter Chan, were unfortunately in vain as Wrekin held on to win a tight game. Final score: Ratcliffe 13 – Wrekin 15.

U15s

The under 15s played a fierce game against Wrekin. Ratcliffe were always in control despite going behind to an early try. The backs scored the tries with good efforts from Eddie Waller and Cameron Gilchrist in a 29 – 19 victory. Simon Riley picked up Man of the Match for his disciplined display and dominant scrummaging.

U14s

A forwards-dominated performance lead to a 17-14 victory over Wrekin. Two tries from Sam Tyler and one from Ben Macmillan, combined with good performances from Jamaal Pinsent-Heskey and Jack Hancock, kept Wrekin at bay for the majority of the match.

U13s

The U13s lost 31 – 26 against St Paul's after a game of two halves. Ratcliffe were 26 points down at the break, but a sterling fight back with tries from Billy and Sam Kaul, Joe Jarvis and Luke Gyesi-Appiah saw them level the score with 5 minutes to go. Unfortunately, a try for Wrekin late on secured victory. Man of the Match was Charlie McLean.

U12s

The U12s won a scrappy match 20 – 0 against St Paul's. Man of the Match, Jamie Lanyon, scored two tries and made many fine tackles.

Rugby County Cup

The U16s set up an interesting encounter with Uppingham School after a comprehensive 39 – 0 victory over local neighbours, Wreake Valley, in the County Cup. The first 15 minutes were interesting as the opposition showed they were very competitive at the breakdown. James Head tested their back three with some testing kicks from hand. Great off-loading and support play saw Ratcliffe start to pull away in the second-half; great running from Will Hoare and James Horner set up another couple of tries. Man of the Match, Ollie James, a nuisance at the breakdown, capped good individual and team performances with a fine try late on in the game.

**By Simon Gray,
Boys' Sports Captain.**

Hockey

1st

Ratcliffe 1st XI lost to Denstone in what was always going to be a difficult game with 4 players missing through injury and illness. Denstone, who are enjoying a very good season, ended a very even first-half two goals to the good. A further injury in the second-half left Ratcliffe with no cover and some very quick goals sealed a comfortable win for the hosts.

2nd

The 2nd XI had an excellent, tight match against a well drilled and organised Denstone side. The defence worked extremely hard to keep the opposition at bay and set up some good attacking moves. A lack of concentration for three minutes enabled Denstone to score two quick goals. Amy Burle in goal was outstanding as was Caitlin Sheehy who played her best game to date.

U15s

The U15s lost heavily to an experienced Denstone side. Strong attacking play from Denstone and well executed short corners made it difficult for the Ratcliffe defenders. Although they continued to push forward, Ratcliffe were unable to find the back of the goal. The girls never stopped working in this game, especially India Walker, who was Player of the Match.

U14s

The U14s were caught off-guard by a strong Denstone team. After 4 goals against them in the first-half, the girls could have let the second-half go the same way, but solid defending and some raw determination saw the girls pushing forward to attack and prevented any further Denstone goals. Player of the Match was Chloe Flowers for her tireless efforts in midfield.

U13A

The U13A game against Denstone was played vigorously from the first whistle. Ratcliffe picked up the pace, but by half-time were 1 – 0 down. The second-half was a much more even game and Ratcliffe fought hard, moved into spaces and passed to their strong side which paid off with a goal. Unfortunately, Denstone scored twice more and the final score was 1 – 3. Player of the Match was Katie Winston for her tireless defending.

U13B

The girls started the match a little slowly, conceding a goal against a strong Denstone side. After a constructive team talk with everyone giving advice, the squad rallied. The second-half saw a refreshed team with a much more determined attitude. It was not long before great play by Olivia Latham and Tilly Wheeler assisted Yasmin Gill to score her first competitive goal. Ellie Higton made some outstanding saves in goal to deny Denstone a further goal. A fantastic break by Emily Marsh and Olivia Perchard, saw Asha Hutchison combine well with Holly Brown, who finished off the attack with a phenomenal shot on goal with only seconds to go, resulting in a well-deserved win. Everyone played outstandingly and showed great character but Player of the Match goes to Yasmin Gill.

U12A

The U12A team played against a strong Denstone team and were 3 – 0 down very quickly into the first-half. Some good play from Olivia Back during two short corners meant Ratcliffe got two goals back before half-time. More positive play from Ratcliffe in the second-half earned them an

equalising goal but an unfortunate collision left an open goal for Denstone to score the winner with the game finishing 4 – 3. Player of the Match was Olivia Walklett who stood strong in goal.

U12B

The U12B team lost 4 – 0 to a strong Denstone team. Ratcliffe did create chances especially in the second-half and were unlucky not to score. Player of the Match was Niamh Delargy.

Netball

In the U18 county Netball tournament, a young and inexperienced first team played well and worked their way into the quarter-finals where they lost narrowly to Uppingham after extra time. Emily Bruiners was Player of the Tournament for her superb defensive play.

Running

Emily Hollis finished a most impressive 9th in the National Cross-Country Relay last Saturday.

**Rebecca Pawley,
Girls' Sports Captain.**

Junior School

Ratcliffe College Junior School held their annual Football Festival last Saturday, with thirteen teams taking part in a new format for the competition. There were three trophies to play for: the Ratcliffe Cup, Plate and Shield. Ratcliffe College entered three teams, allowing more children the chance to represent their school; this they did, with pride. There were some very exciting games throughout the day with a number of games going to the Golden Goal and, as always happens, penalties. The eventual winners of the Ratcliffe Cup were Church Hill Primary School. The Ratcliffe Plate winners were St Bartholomew's and, in the Shield final, Ratcliffe Rovers managed to beat Blessed Robert Widmerpool to lift the trophy. The games were yet again played on excellent surfaces prepared by our grounds staff and a big thank you has to go to Mr O'Hara (Head Groundsman) and his team. Children, coaches, parents and supporters were kept well fed and watered by Ratcliffe Parents' Association and our catering staff. My thanks must go to Mrs Pole (Chairman of Ratcliffe Parents' Association) and Mr Studd (Catering Manager) for, without their support, this event would not be the tremendous success that it is.

A great day was had by all and many complimentary comments were made by visiting schools and parents.

Mr Gilchrist, Acting Director of Sport



Leicestershire Cross Country League, Prestwold Hall, November 12th

Twenty one children joined Mrs Rigby for the November race of the Leicestershire Cross Country League on Saturday 12th November. Once again, we were blessed with dry weather and conditions underfoot were not too bad.

All of the children tried very hard and many improved on their personal best positions in the races. A special mention must go to Annie Rose Reddin, Louis Westwood (Year 3), Connor Foster Rebecca Lindley, Owen Lloyd, Cleo Loizzo (Year 4), Mollie Page, Nicole Spencer, Evie Wood (Year 6) who all finished in the top 50 in their races.



Well done to all of the children who took part, and a big thank you to Mr and Mrs Foster (parents of Connor in Year 4) who have provided us with a super new banner (see above) so we can be easily found in the crowd.

Mrs Rigby, Head of Junior School

Ratcliffe College U11 girls' netball team played their first match of the season on Friday 11th November, against Stonegate. The girls started off brilliantly and the high standard of play continued right up until the final whistle. The girls passed the ball around quickly and accurately, and this resulted in a 13 – 2 win to Ratcliffe. India Beresford was voted as Player of the Match for her outstanding shooting.

The U11 boys fought out a close game against Derby Grammar School. The final score was 10 – 5 to Derby. Ratcliffe scored first, when Jo Jo Evenden ran hard down the wing to beat several players. Derby came back in the second half and in spite of excellent tackling from Matthew Lindley and Billy Hull, Derby scored two tries to take victory. Louis Massarella was given Man of the Match award for good play in the scrum, where he was up against a very good opponent.

In their first full contact game of rugby, the U9 boys put on a display that the seniors would be proud of, securing a fantastic 35 – 20 victory over Derby Grammar. Two tries apiece from the tenacious trio of Finley Back, Thomas Page and Connor Foston, combined with one try from Owen Lloyd, proved too strong for the usually strong Derby. Further mention must go to

Thomas Leite and Guy Mills whose engines never stopped right from the first whistle. Extremely well done to all the boys involved.

The U10 girls came up against a strong Fairfield side who unfortunately dominated the score line. However, the girls made some fantastic tackles and saves from the goal line. Sophie Pole made some excellent saves in goal and was awarded Player of the Match.

An outstanding performance was made by the U11 girls' hockey team, on Wednesday 16th November, against Fairfield. In the first quarter, all of the girls demonstrated team work and determination, and worked together with flair and skill. This phenomenal play continued until the final whistle blew and the score was a 0 – 0 draw. Special mentions go to Jenna Pole for amazing defending and Ru Tsatsa for her attacking.

Mrs Gilchrist, Junior Games Co-ordinator

Sporting Fixtures

Date	Opposition	Time	Team	Home/Away (H/A)	Meet Time
Thurs 17 th Nov	Oundle	2.30 pm	3 rd Girls Hockey	MOUNT - SORRELL	
Sat 19 th Nov	King Henry VIII	2.15 pm	1 st , 2 nd & U15 Rugby	H	1.15 PM
Sat 19 th Nov	King Henry VIII	2.15 pm	U14 & 13 Rugby	A	12.15 PM
Sat 19 th Nov	Worksop	2.00 pm 3.15 pm	1 st Girls Hockey 2 nd Girls Hockey	H H	1.00 PM 2.15 PM
Sat 19 th Nov	Worksop	2.00 pm	U15 A & U14 Girls Hockey	A	12.00 PM
Sat 19 th Nov	Worksop	3.15 pm	U15 B Girls Hockey	A	1.15PM
Tues 22 nd Nov	Dixie G.S.	4.50 pm	U12 Girls Hockey	H	
Wed 23 rd Nov	County Tournament	2.45 pm	U14 Netball	LEICESTER G.S.	
Fri 25 th Nov	Stoneygate	4.30 pm	U10, 11, 12 & 13 Boys and Girls Swimming	H	
Sat 26 th Nov	Lawrence Sh	10.15 am	1 st 2 nd & U15 Rugby	H	9.15 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Lawrence Sh	10.15 am	U12, 13 & 14 Rugby	A	8.30 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Princethorpe	10.00 am	U12 Girls Hockey	A	8.30 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Princethorpe	10.00 am	U13 B Girls Hockey	H	9.00 AM

Contd.					
Sat 26th Nov	Princethorpe	11.00 am	U13 A Girls Hockey	H	10.00 AM
Sat 26th Nov	Oundle	1.00 pm	1st & 2nd Girls Hockey	A	10.45 AM
Sat 26th Nov	Oundle	2.00 pm	U15 B Girls Hockey	H	1.00 PM
Sat 26th Nov	Oundle	2.15 pm	U15 A Girls Hockey	H	1.15 PM
Sat 26th Nov	Oundle	3.30 pm	U14 Girls Hockey	H	2.30 PM

Spiritual News

Sunday 20th November 2011

Feast of Christ the King

This is the culmination of the Christian liturgical year. The Sunday afterwards is the First Sunday of Advent heralding the new liturgical year.

Let us pray that the kingdom of Christ may live in our hearts and come to our world:

Father all-powerful, God of love,
 you have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from death to life
 resplendent in glory as King of creation.
 Open our hearts,
 free all the world
 to rejoice in his peace,
 to glory in his justice,
 to live in his love.
 Bring all mankind together in Jesus Christ your Son,
 whose kingdom is with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Fr President

**FAMILY WORKSHOP: "Preparing children for Advent and Christmas."
 26th November 2011, from 10.30am to 1.00pm at the Rosmini Centre, LE7 7SJ.**

A short retreat for families to reflect on Advent & Christmas using resources from Godly Play, led by Julia Joy (Catechist).

