

24th November 2011



Dear Parents,

Many of our Year 13 students are currently preparing industriously for University interviews. Amongst them are four Oxbridge hopefuls who are applying to read **Architecture, Civil Engineering, Law and Natural Sciences**. If you are professionally engaged in any of these areas, and feel able to assist Mr Sharpe with mock interviews, he would be delighted to hear from you on gsharp@ratcliffe.leics.sch.uk by the end of the weekend. Many thanks.

We have enjoyed a particularly busy week of activities across all Year groups, including a Year 3 History Trip to Jewry Wall Museum to learn more about the Romans, last Friday. That same day started in the Senior School with an outstanding Chaplaincy Assembly led entirely by our Student Listeners in Year 13, assisted by Year 11 Drama students, as part of the nationwide anti-bullying campaign; the day ended with a hugely enjoyable Boarders' Disco and Supper over in the Sixth Form Centre. The majority of our Year 7 students also enjoyed a memorable long weekend retreat at The Briars, with my thanks to all the staff who accompanied them, while Year 5 pupils departed on Tuesday for their residential trip to Beaumanor Hall, returning tomorrow.

Thank you to the many parents and grandparents who came to support the excellent sporting fixtures on the weekend as part of the 'Super Saturday' celebrations. It was very impressive to witness such tremendous support across the sports, for both boys and girls, and the lunch proved a very fitting way to mark your consistent backing of sport at Ratcliffe College. One appreciative grandparent kindly wrote: "Lunch and sport, just a favourite combination. How kind to include grandparents. Lunch was delicious, so well done to your catering department and dedicated staff. As I recounted, I first sat in that refectory 50 years ago when trailing along with the family to watch an older brother playing rugby for Nottingham High v Ratcliffe. All I can remember was how cold the whole experience was and to sit in a cosy ref yesterday was a different experience altogether!!"

On the academic front, Years 13 and 11 students have been sitting mock examinations all week. Tuesday evening saw the annual Presentation of GCSE results to Year 12 in the Chapel; it was wonderful to see their hard work celebrated appropriately, and good to see such strong parental support once again.

Year 6A, under Miss Watson's inspirational guidance, led us through an amazing assembly this morning, with an outstanding performance of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' (albeit reduced to 10 minutes!) and a clear message of the importance of friendship and companionship. We now look forward to another energetic weekend of sports fixtures and the Boarding Community Advent Mass at 5.30pm on Sunday, followed by a delicious Advent Dinner, with our very grateful thanks to Mr Studd and the Catering Department, who will be kept very busy over the coming weeks!

Once again, please may I mention Christmas Eve Carols at 6.00pm in the Chapel 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 catering arrangements.

With my best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Gareth P. Lloyd,

Headmaster.

Parent Notices

Photographs from the **Ratcliffe College Football Festival** and the **GCSE Presentation Evening** are now available on the following website: www.studio68.co.uk. The password is the same one used to access the Parent's Portal.

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



Friday 16th December, 7.30 – 8.45pm

Raise the Roof for Multiple Sclerosis

A light-hearted, seasonal entertainment in words and music

with “Singing for Fun” and Aoife Miralles (harp)

Free admission - retiring collection (in aid of the MS Therapy Centre, Leicester)

*For further information, please contact Anne Hughes (SfF Director)
on 01509 412152 or via www.SingingForFun.co.uk*



PLEASE TURN OVER

Carriages
12.30

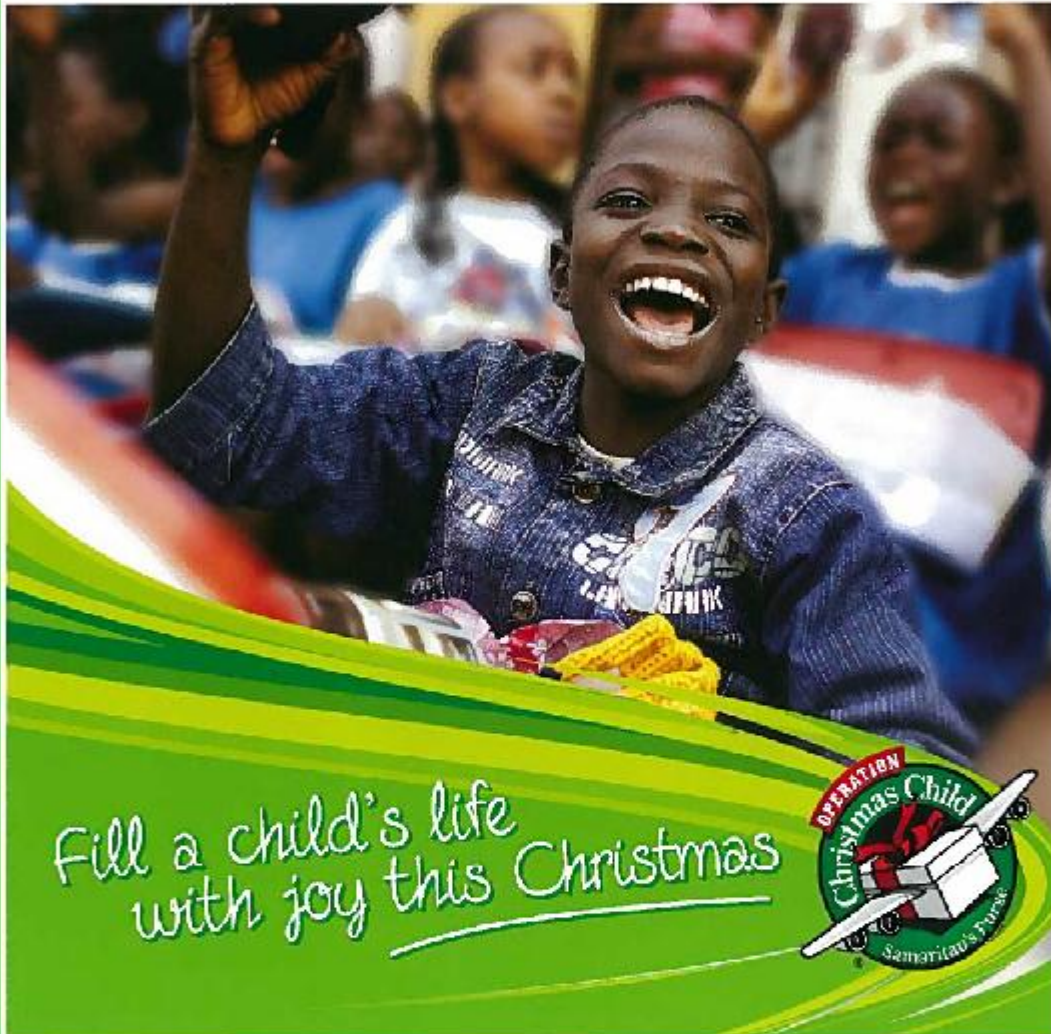
Arrival
Drinks
7.30

Black
Tie

Disco,
5
Course
Meal
£37.50

Christmas
Dinner
Dance

Saturday
17th December
Parents
Association
Christmas Ball



Fill a child's life
with joy this Christmas

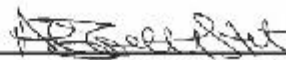


Samaritan's Purse would like to say "Thank You!" to
Ratcliffe College

for joining with us to bring joy into the lives of needy children through
Operation Christmas Child.



Simon Barrington, Executive Director



Area Coordinator

Victoria House, Victoria Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5EX

Tel: 020 8559 1180 Fax: 020 8502 9062 Email: info@samaritans-purse.org.uk Website: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Registered as a charity in England and Wales (1001349), and in Scotland (SC039351) and is a company registered for purposes in England and Wales (2652257)

Ratcliffe College community sent a grand total of 385 shoe boxes off last week (50 or so more than last year).

Senior School News

Congratulations to our Senior School students:

Headmaster's Assembly, 21 November 2011

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Merit Badge	Jack Nightingale		Emma Furlong William Smith

Junior School News

Congratulations to our Junior School pupils!

Certificates of Merit were awarded at Junior Assembly to:

YEAR 2	
Cameron Gordon	1 st certificate
Daniel Hancock	1 st certificate
Isla Jenks	1 st certificate
Chelsea Makandeni	1 st certificate
Shreya Mistry	1 st certificate
Shreya Patel	1 st certificate
Amelia Zalesny	1 st certificate
YEAR 3	
Xavier Henderson	1 st certificate
Jasmin Jarvis	1 st certificate
Amy Mason	1 st certificate
YEAR 5	
Maya Brookes	1 st certificate
Fraser Doran	1 st certificate
Thomas Hammond	1 st certificate
Hermione Lanyon	1 st certificate
Finlay Matthews	1 st certificate
Joseph Summer	1 st certificate
Oliver Welch	1 st certificate
William Westwood	1 st certificate
Continued overleaf ...	

YEAR 6	
India Beresford	1 st certificate
Molly Edwards	1 st certificate
Niamh Noble	1 st certificate
Matthew Wetton	1 st certificate
India Beresford	2 nd certificate

Addendum to last week's cross country report: apologies to Rajen Gupta (Year 3) who came 48th out of 50 and was, unfortunately, missed off the report.

Cleo Loizzo (Year 4) came 1st in a cross country event; she did 30 jumps over a 4 mile course against the clock. She also received a trophy for coming 3rd in a local show jumping competition.

Nicole Spencer (Year 6) has been awarded Young Triathlete of the Year 2011 by Charnwood Triathlon Club.



Year 6 had a super, safe week during the 14th - 18th November, when all of the children took part in 'Cycle wise'. The children took to their bikes and set off for the roads within the campus, wearing their bright tabards, so that they could be seen clearly. The children became competent cyclists during the week and had lots of opportunities to practice their ABCs, left and right hand turns and road awareness. Thank you to Leicestershire County Council for coming in to teach us how to stay safe on our bikes.

Mrs Gilchrist and Miss Watson



Road Safety Club

The Junior School have set up a new lunch time Road Safety Club. Each week, Matthew Wetton and Charlotte Meadows, our Junior Road Safety Officers in Year 6 (JRSO), run a weekly club for different age groups. A competition is run and prizes are awarded for the best entries. The JRSOs teach the children about a different aspect of Road Safety each half-term and also deliver messages in assembly to the rest of the School on how to stay safe when out and about. The winner of the Year 1 competition, to design a bright hedgehog was Avani Gupta, and Daisy Reddin was awarded highly commended. Please look out for the tips and hints that Matthew and Charlotte will be posting in the Junior School newsletter over the coming months.

Mrs Gilchrist and Miss Watson

Sports

Senior School

Rugby

1st XV

In a very close and exciting game, the 1st XV narrowly lost to King Henry's 10 – 8. A great start saw John Wallace score an early try and outstanding defence by all the team kept the scores level for much of the game. A very calm Tom Allen slotted a penalty kick for Ratcliffe to take the lead with 5 minutes remaining, only for the opposition to score a try in the last minute to clinch the win. James Head was once again Man of the Match for an excellent all-round game at scrum-half.

On Thursday 17th November, the 1st team played Ashby Grammar away in the County Cup. A very poor first-half saw us 24 – 0 down at half-time. An excellent second-half display saw us win the second-half 12 – 5, but unfortunately the game was lost 29 – 12. Our line-out was excellent throughout the game, enabling us to create a good attacking platform. Sam Bellamy and James Richardson led from the front in the second-half, allowing Man of the Match, James Head, to have an excellent all-round game at half-back.

2nd XV

King Henry's came to Ratcliffe with a very physical pack that proved to be the difference, winning 22 – 7. King Henry's scored a couple of late tries to hand a spirited Ratcliffe side only their 3rd loss of the season. In a strong second-half performance, Guy Britton, back from injury, scored from some excellent phases of play. Tom Roalfe, back from 1st XV duty, looked a threat throughout and was unlucky not to score. Man of the Match for the second occasion this season goes to Oliver James, superb at the breakdown and good with the ball in hand.

U15

The U15s played an entertaining and competitive fixture against a very strong King Henry's outfit. The forwards played well as a unit with some excellent rucking and scrummaging. Individual mistakes cost Ratcliffe, leading to King Henry's tries. Ratcliffe ran the ball well with Eddie Waller scoring a thrilling hat-trick and Morgan Newby jinking through King Henry's defence to score the first try. Man of the Match went to Morgan Newby for fantastic running from full-back and getting Ratcliffe out of trouble on a number of occasions. Final score: Ratcliffe 24 – 34 King Henry's.

U14

A spirited fight back saw the U14s beat King Henry's 24 – 21. Two first-half tries saw Ratcliffe 14 – 0 down at half-time. Through the introduction of Sam Tyler after the break, Ratcliffe produced a better second-half and took control of the game. Declan McCauley shone in attack, winning the Man of the Match award, scoring a try and setting up one in the process.

Sam Tyler demonstrated some strong running and got in on the scoring with a hat-trick of tries. The team was forced to defend in a nail-biting finish, with some outstanding defence by Chris Curnick helping the team hold on for victory.

U13

The U13s were beaten heavily by King Henry's. Ratcliffe were never really in the game and will be looking forward to next week for a better result.

Ratcliffe students, Alice Daniels and Will Rigby attended the Leicestershire School's Cross Country League Race at Lutterworth College last Saturday. Alice finished in an impressive 13th place in the Junior Girls' race, while Will finished 37th in the Senior Boys' race.

Simon Gray

Boys' Sports Captain

Hockey

1st XI

The 1st XI hosted a strong Worksop team who are enjoying a very good season. Worksop dominated an entertaining first-half and probably deserved to turn round 1 – 0 up even though we always looked dangerous on the break. Ratcliffe controlled the second-half playing some of their best hockey of the season but could not turn their pressure into goals. Frustratingly, Worksop managed to add a further 2 goals to win 3 – 0.

2nd XI

The 2nd XI took until half-time before they really got going. The team, which included 5 substitutes, did well to maintain their structure and a much better second-half saw them earn a well-deserved one all draw; Hattie Lechki was the goal scorer. Strong tackling and defending from Holly Allison, Caitlin Sheehy and Moyo Mosaku set up some good attacking drives from Emma Rayns and Lilly Thomas. Players of the Match were Captain, Holly Allison and Caitlin Sheehy.

U15

The U15s can feel very proud of their latest performance, although two lapses of concentration at the end of each half cost them the win. It was clear from the outset that Ratcliffe were going to have to be at their best from the start against a very strong Worksop side who dominated in territory. Ratcliffe played with such determination and commitment in defence that it was they who were winning the majority of 50/50 balls. Ratcliffe's strength was also the way they took advantage of their limited chances and this was evident when Angharad Lloyd scored the opening goal with the first short corner. After conceding just before half-time, Ratcliffe re-took the lead with their second excellent short corner routine, a well worked set piece which was finished well by Sarah Daniels. Ratcliffe looked as though they were going to hang on,

but a second lapse of concentration just before the end meant the game finished 2 – 2. Player of the Match was Sarah Daniels.

U15 B

Despite being short of players, the Combined U15/U14s played with great determination and real team spirit; they were unlucky to lose 2 – 1 to Worksop's U15B team. Isabelle Holford was awarded Player of the Match for her skilful tackling and intelligent defending; Lois Jones and Lolade Mosaku also impressed with their attacking play. Special thanks are due to Amelia Lallo and Annabel Wright who played for the U14As and then stayed to play for the B team.

U14

The U14s started well in a scrappy game against Worksop. Although their pace was slowed by some frantic defending by Worksop, they had some excellent opportunities on goal and were unlucky not to find the back of the net. Worksop came back fighting after half-time but defenders Ellie Cooper, Milli Ellis and Caitin McMillan worked tirelessly to keep Ratcliffe in the game, earning them combined Players of the Match. When Ratcliffe passed the ball forward, Emma Milner and Amelia Lallo worked fantastically well together and should strive next week to convert some of their many chances into goals! The game ended in a 0 – 0 draw.

U13 girls

The U13s meant business from the start with the majority of the match in Worksop's half. By the end of the first-half, the score was 1 – 0 and by the end of the match we had added another. The final score was 2 – 0, both goals being scored by Greta Mckean who was also named as Player of the Match.

Netball

U12A

Mid-week, the U12A netball team won convincingly 9 – 0 against Our Lady's Convent. After a shaky start they put into practice the tactics they had worked on, and Isobel Thomas and Beatrice Waters were particularly impressive.

U12B

Mid-week, the U12B netball team won 4 – 2 in an exciting game of netball against Our Lady's Convent. They hung on following a strong come back from the visitors with effective defending from Alex Offer and sensible, controlled centre-court play from Lucie Prusinski.

Rebecca Pawley

Girls' Sports Captain

Junior School

Excellent tackling by man of the match, Billy Hull, kept Ratcliffe's U11 rugby team competitive in their fixture against Grace Dieu on Saturday 19th November. Eventually, Ratcliffe's team was overrun by some good play from Grace Dieu who went on to win the fixture.

Junior Colours

Pictured below are Mollie Page and Molly Edwards; Mollie Page received her Colours for netball, hockey and cross country and Molly Edwards received her Colours for hockey and cross country.





... and the boys receiving their Colours for football

In our Celebrations assembly on Friday 18th November, children who have represented the Junior School for a sporting fixture/event so far this year, received their Junior Colours in that sport. The children have their badges sewn on the sleeve of their PE tops and are now wearing their Colours with pride and a sense of achievement.

Sporting Fixtures

Date	Opposition	Time	Team	Home/Away (H/A)	Meet Time
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	U15 Rugby	H	9.15 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Lawrence Sh	10.15 am	U12, 13 & 14 Rugby	A	8.30 AM
P.T.O.					

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
Sat 26 th Nov	Princethorpe	11.00 am	U13 A Girls Hockey	H	10.00 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Oundle	1.00 pm	1 st & 2 nd Girls Hockey	A	10.45 AM
Sat 26 th Nov	Oundle	2.00 pm	U15 B Girls Hockey	H	1.00 PM
Sat 26 th Nov	Oundle	2.15 pm	U15 A Girls Hockey	H	1.15 PM
Sat 26 th Nov	Oundle	3.30 pm	U14 Girls Hockey	H	2.30 PM
Wed 30 th Nov	Loughborough H.S.	4.50 pm	U14 Girls Hockey	A	
Wed 30 th Nov	Loughborough H.S.	4.50 pm	U15 Girls Hockey	H	
Thurs 1 st Dec	Uppingham	2.45 pm	3 rd Girls Hockey	MT SORRELL	
Sat 3 rd Dec	Lincoln Minster	10.30 am	1 st , U15 & U14 Rugby	H	9.30 AM
Sat 3 rd Dec	Lincoln Minster	11.30 am	U13 & U12 Rugby	H	10.30 AM
Sat 3 rd Dec	Kings High	10.30 am	1 st & 2 nd Girls Hockey	A	8.30 AM
Sat Dec 3 rd	Kings High	10.30 am	U15 Girls Hockey	H	9.30 AM
Sat 3 rd Dec	Kings High	11.30 am	U14 Girls Hockey	H	10.30 AM
Sat 3 rd Dec	Kings High	11.30 am	U13 & U12 Hockey	A	9.30 AM

Spiritual News

Advent Prayer for Hope

Lord Jesus Christ,
 who is, who was, and who is to come,
 we pray for the virtue of hope,
 that amidst the trials and difficulties
 of this world,
 we may keep our hearts fixed
 upon you, who reigns over the cosmos.

May your grace enliven us,
strengthen us,
and defend us,
as we await your coming in glory. Amen

By David Bennett

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).

