



2nd February 2012

Dear Parents,

Thank you again for your excellent support at events over this past week, from the splendid *sporting fixtures* last weekend as well as mid-week fixtures, to this morning's lovely *Junior Assembly*. As I write this letter, we look forward to this evening's Year 9 Pantomimes and this weekend's *Family Mass for Education* at the special time of *5.30pm, this Saturday 4th February*. All families and friends are warmly invited to attend.

Over the past few days, we have also hosted the *12+, 13+ and 14+ Entrance Examinations*, in addition to the *13+ Talent Scholarships* (Drama, Music and Sport). This morning, Year 3, under the guidance of Miss Kearns presented a wonderful assembly on the potential harm from abusing opportunities on the Internet, but also the great good that can be achieved through the medium. Quite an undertaking for children aged only 7 and 8 years old!

Looking ahead to next Tuesday, I hope that we may welcome Junior School parents and grandparents to the RATS concert, for *Ratcliffe's Artistically Talented Students!* This will take place in the Music Hall at 12.50pm. Then on Saturday 25th February, it would be great to see support of a fundraising musical event in aid of our *School HCPT Lourdes Pilgrimage*, organised by Mrs Montgomery-Stuart and taking place in Thrussington Village Hall (please see below for details).

Can any parent offer assistance to a female Year 11 student who is seeking *work experience in the field of psychology*? Please contact Mrs Govan if you can, with my grateful thanks.

May I politely remind all parents, especially those in the Junior and Senior Schools, that you must drop off your children at, and collect them from, the *Main School Car Park*, and not the Sixth Form Car Park which is adjacent to the Sports Hall. This ensures a higher level of safety for all of our students. This includes times when you kindly come to support Sports Fixtures. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gareth P. Lloyd,
Headmaster.

Parents' Notices

Please note that the Beckingham Ranges CCF trip has been cancelled this Sunday due to maintenance of the Ranges. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Year 9, 10 and 11 Charity Disco

Thursday 9th February

7.30pm - 10pm



Year 9, 10 and 11 students are warmly invited to celebrate the end of the half term at the...

Valentine's Day Charity Disco

This has been organised by Year 11 students, to raise money for the charity the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA). Tickets for this event can be purchased from reception at a cost of £2. All proceeds will go to the charity.

WHAT WILL YOU BE ABLE TO ENJOY AT THE DISCO?



FOR JUST 50p, YOU CAN ENJOY A SELECTION OF GOOEY CHOCOLATE COVERED MARSHMALLOWS WITH A CHOICE OF 2 DIFFERENT CHOCOLATE FOUNTAINS. ONE WITH **MILK** CHOCOLATE AND ONE WITH **PINK** CHOCOLATE!



DJs PLAYING YOUR CHOICE OF MUSIC



PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE GROUP

REFRESHMENTS

WEARING AN ITEM OF **RED** OR **PINK** CLOTHING COULD WIN YOU SOME SWEETS
IN OUR PRIZE DRAW!

Ratcliffe Lourdes 2012 Fundraiser

HCPT (The Pilgrimage Trust) Group 512

MUSICAL
SUPPER

ACTS INCLUDE
& STEFAN
7/10
GACKOWSKI

TOM ROSS



PLUS SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES

FEB 25
TICKETS CALL:
01664 424599
01162 595233
01664 858914

THRUSSINGTON
VILLAGE HALL
HOBY RD
LE7 4TH
7.30PM Tickets £12
Under 16yrs and Concessions £8

Lourdes Musical Supper Fundraiser

In aid of the HCPT (The Pilgrimage Trust) group 512's annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, there is going to be a fundraiser to take place on **Saturday 25th February**. The 'musical supper' will see performances by Ratcliffe students: Stefan Gackowski and the band '7/10', as well as by Grace Ross and the band 'Little Forts'. The compere for the evening will be Tom Ross, who is a local young broadcast journalist and ex De Lisle pupil.

The event has been organised by some of the students attending Lourdes as helpers this year and will take place at Thrussington Village Hall. There will be tickets on sale for this event, which can be purchased via the details on the posters. There will also be a raffle during the evening and a bar, and all money will go towards this worthy cause. This looks to be a very promising event, with a lot of much appreciated support from many people already. We hope to see a large crowd attending, and would like to thank everybody, in advance, who can support this event in any way.

James Montgomery-Stuart and Caitlin Sheehy

Open to students in current Year 11 and Year 12

Dear Parents

Sixth Form Geography & History Cultural Tour to China, 20th – 28th October 2012

The Geography and History departments are proposing to organise a cultural tour to China during October half-term, 2012, for students in the Sixth Form. The tour is primarily for students studying Geography or History, but is open to all students in the Sixth Form who feel they would benefit from such a unique cultural experience.

Proposed itinerary:

- Day One** Flight to Beijing – afternoon flight
- Day Two** Arrive in Beijing and visit the Beijing National Stadium (Bird's Nest) en-route to hotel
Visit to the Temple of Heaven and overnight stay in Beijing
- Day Three** Visit to the Great Wall of China, followed by a visit to the Sacred Road and Tiananmen Square
Overnight train to Xi'an
- Day Four** Transfer to the hotel and visit to the Terracotta Army Museum
Internal flight to Chongqing and board River Yangtze cruise ship
- Day Five** Cruise along River Yangtze including Fengdu

- Day Six** Three Gorges Cruise including Qutang Gorge, Wu Gorge, Shennong Stream and Five Ship Lock
- Day Seven** Three Gorges Cruise including Three Gorges Dam and Xiling Gorge
Arrive at Yichang, transfer to Wuhan and internal flight to Shanghai, transfer to hotel
Huangpu River Cruise at night to view the Shanghai skyline
- Day Eight** Visit to Oriental Pearl TV Tower and the Old City of Shanghai
Continue to a traditional Chinese tea house and visit the Nanjing Road
- Day Nine** Transfer to Shanghai airport and return flight

This itinerary is subject to minor alterations with regards to the order, but all planned activities would be included. Students would travel to and from Ratcliffe College and London Heathrow by private hire coach.

Students will be staying in hotels in Beijing (first night) and Shanghai (last two nights). The overnight train from Beijing to Xi'an has 4-bed cabins and the remaining three nights are on the cruise ship. All meals are included, with the first meal provided being lunch on day one, and the final meal being breakfast on day nine.

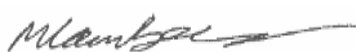
The cost of the tour is £1750 based on thirty students travelling. This includes all travel and activities, meals, accommodation and insurance. One additional cost to consider is that students will require single entry tourist visas.

Further details regarding the tour will be issued in due course. This initial letter is to gauge interest amongst the students and parents. If you wish your son/daughter to be registered for the China Cultural Tour, please complete and return the attached reply slip, together with a deposit cheque of £100 payable to Ratcliffe College. The tour company require an initial payment to confirm flight and accommodation arrangements. Should your son/daughter gain a place on the tour, this deposit is non-refundable and return of the reply slip is a binding commitment to the future payment plan for the tour. If you would like your son/daughter to be considered for the Cultural Tour of China, please could you complete the attached tear off slip and return it, along with the deposit cheque for £100, to Mr Lambert by: **Friday 10th February**.

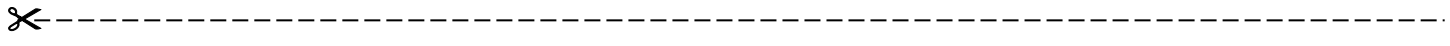
We are sure you will agree that the tour is a fantastic opportunity for students in the Sixth Form to experience many of the world's true wonders, in a very beautiful and unique country. All students in the Sixth Form as of September 2012 are encouraged to consider this opportunity. There will be up to 32 student places available and, in the event of the tour being oversubscribed, places will be allocated through a 'lottery' style draw.

Thank you for taking time to consider the tour and we look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely



**Mr M Lambert and Mr J Cantrill,
Head of Geography and Acting Head of History**



**Sixth Form Cultural Tour to China
Saturday 20th October – Sunday 28th October 2012**

Please return to Mr Lambert, Head of Geography, by Friday 10th February.

I give consent for my son/daughter (name)
to participate in the China Cultural Tour and enclose a deposit cheque of £100 made payable to:
Ratcliffe College. I also agree to the remainder of the trip cost being charged to my school account.

I understand that this reply slip does not guarantee my son/daughter a place on the trip and,
should the trip be oversubscribed, places will be allocated through a 'lottery' style draw.
Deposit cheques for any unsuccessful applicants will be returned.

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print)

.....

Signature of Parent/Guardian **Date**

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MORE NEWS

Senior School News

Senior School Student Achievements

Awards for Assembly on Monday 30th January have been carried forward to Monday 6th February.

Junior School News

Certificates of Merit were awarded to:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| YEAR 3 | |
| Roman Carpenter | 1st certificate |
| Olivia Crawley | 1st certificate |
| Wilson Lee | 1st certificate |
| Abbie Hancock | 2nd certificate |
| Louis Westwood | 2nd certificate |
| YEAR 4 | |
| Stanley Chell | 2nd certificate |
| Miya Khan | 2nd certificate |
| Cleo Loizzo | 2nd certificate |
| Emily McBallantine | 2nd certificate |
| Guy Mills | 2nd certificate |
| Finlay Noble | 2nd certificate |
| Alexander Tyszka | 2nd certificate |
| YEAR 5 | |
| Harry Best | 1st certificate |
| Jonah Carroll | 1st certificate |
| Tess Duffin | 1st certificate |
| Caitlin Lawrence | 1st certificate |
| YEAR 6 | |
| Oliver Foulds | 2nd certificate |
| Millie Smith | 2nd certificate |
| Matthew Wetton | 2nd certificate |

Rajen Gupta, Year 3, received a trophy for the U8's Player of the Day at Syston Rugby Club.

Ratcliffe's Artistically Talented Students (RATS)

On Tuesday 7th February, we will hold the second of our RATS concerts in the Music Hall, from 12.50 - 1.20pm. Each term, children are given the opportunity to perform short items of music, drama, recitation or even present a successful piece of artwork or photography to the audience.

Parents are warmly invited to provide an audience for the children. Please submit possible items for the concert to Mrs Markham as soon as possible, to enable the programme to be drawn up. The aim is to give the children's budding creativity a friendly platform - the first concert was a great success and we can't wait for the second!

Mrs Markham - Junior Music Coordinator

Sport

Senior School

Boys' Hockey

1st

The 1st XI put in another fine performance against Wisbech, winning 1-0 to keep up their 100% start to the season. The victory was hard fought with Ratcliffe dominating possession early on and playing the better hockey, although Wisbech held firm and limited them to a few half chances. The visitors themselves caused a few problems on the break but the defence were strong, with goal keeper, Simon Gray, more than up for the task. Mid-way through the second-half, Charlie Dolan had an excellent opportunity to take the lead which he would normally convert, but illness in the week meant he was not 100% and didn't have his usual sharpness. As the half went on, it looked like a very frustrating draw was on the cards, then with 15 minutes to go, Ratcliffe took the lead with one of their new penalty corner routines; Walter Yell calmly applied the finishing touch into the bottom corner. Wisbech responded in the last 10 minutes, but the team held firm. Man of the Match was Walter Yell.

2nd

Another frustrating game for the 2nd X1 who, having fallen behind to a soft early goal, dominated most phases of play, but were unable to turn their chances into goals. Captain, Stefan Gackowski, finished off a flowing move to put Ratcliffe on even terms, but a poor 5 minute period saw Wisbech secure a 3-1 win. Man of the Match was George Cooper.

U15A

The U15s travelled to Wisbech looking forward to a close encounter. Ratcliffe played by far the more superior brand of hockey, but despite possession and pressure, could not find the killer pass. Wisbech hit them on the counter attack in quick succession to run out 3-0 winners.

U15B

A spirited performance by the U15B team saw them unfortunately lose 2-0. Ratcliffe fought right to the last play and were unlucky not to score when a short corner went narrowly wide of the goal. Joe Unwin looked dangerous up front, and some excellent defending by Dick Wong kept Wisbech at bay throughout much of the game. Man of the Match was Niall McWhir who played well in both defence and midfield.

U14s

The U14s lost a good even game against Wisbech 3-2. Despite being 3–0 down mid-way into the second-half, the boys fought back well to score two quick goals and dominate the rest of the game. Joey Higham and Declan McAuley were Men of the Match for their excellent play out wide.

U13A

The U13A team lost 4-1, conceding 2 late goals. Harry Antill was the Ratcliffe goal scorer with a well taken finish. Man of the Match was Billy Kaul for his excellent defending and determined attitude.

U13B

The U13B team played in a close encounter and can be very proud of their 0-0 draw. Top performances from Harry Redding, Rion Yapa and Nick Heywood kept Wisbech quiet, and Man of the Match, Jamie Lanyon, was a rock in the centre of midfield.

U12s

The U12s played their first full pitch match against Wisbech. An 8-0 defeat looks worse than it was. Man of the Match, Charlie Hancock, will cause the opposition problems once he is fed with more ball and Ganesh Thapa in goal kept the score down with some excellent saves.

Hockey County Cup

Last Friday, the U14s played their County Hockey Tournament. They drew the first game against Soar Valley despite dominating much of the game. The second was a defeat to a very good Oakham outfit. Player of the Tournament was Sam Nightingale.

Rugby County Cup

The **U16s** lost 25–7 against De Lisle mid-week, last week in the County Cup. A disappointing first-half left a mountain to climb but a spirited second-half display saw Ratcliffe score a well worked try through James Head. Will Hoare was Man of the Match with some elusive running, breaking a number of tackles.

The **U13s** played their county cup quarter final v. Welland Park School a week last Tuesday. The boys battled really hard and despite the 21–5 loss, they were the better all-round team, whereas the opposition relied on two good individuals to score their points. This has been a great effort from the team this season; they should take great confidence from it and look to make even greater improvements next year. There were excellent performances from Harry Redding, Alex Keay, Finbarr Lloyd, Luke Gyesi-Appiah and Matthew Lewis.

Simon Gray,
Boys' Sports Captain.

Netball

2nd

The 2nd team scrambled an 18-all draw with the last play of the game against Ockbrook. Despite being the better team and having led all through the match, they made hard work of the final-quarter, allowing Ockbrook back into the game. Mr Taylor spurred the team on in the dying minutes as they rallied themselves and put Chloe Theobald in a good position to slot in the equalling goal.

U15s

The U15s demonstrated determination and skill throughout the evenly sided match. With their stamina and self-belief proving to be their best attributes in securing a well-earned 14-all draw. Every player performed extremely well, but Player of the Match goes to Captain India Walker for her outstanding match play and control of the game.

U13s

The U13 team should be exceptionally proud of their 33-0 win. They were far stronger than the opposition, enabling several of them to change playing positions and giving them the opportunity to try out new tactics which they performed with ease. Holly Blount was Player of the Match for her excellent shooting.

U12s

The U12s started their season with a pleasing but rather too close win against Ockbrook. After gaining an early lead, the visitors came back strongly in the second-half but Ratcliffe hung on to win 13-11. Some accurate shooting from Kate Tyszka and excellent centre-court play by Olivia Back earned them both Player of the Match, while the whole team tried hard to use the new tactics that they have been practising in training.

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

Junior School

Boys Hockey

The U11 boys' A team produced an excellent 4-1 win against Brooke Priory. The team played well from start to finish and thoroughly deserved the win. Matthew Lindley scored a hat-trick, and a good strike from the edge of the D from Oliver Welch finished the scoring. All the boys performed well and should be looking forward to the games ahead.

The U11 boys' B team unfortunately lost against Brooke Priory. The boys were unlucky with this result after some excellent play and a couple of near misses on goal. All of the boys worked very hard but special mention must go to Harry Culpin, who was Player of the Match, and Oliver Foulds and Billy Hull for their passing and movement down the pitch.

On Wednesday 1st February, the U11 girls braved the cold and chilly conditions to play netball against Grosvenor. All of the girls played brilliantly and were the stronger team throughout the match. The game finished with a 5-1 win to Ratcliffe, and Player of the Match was Eleanor Bramble for her 'I can do it' attitude.

The U10 girls had their first competitive netball game, also against Grosvenor. The girls battled the elements and worked hard as a team. Sophie Pole scored her first ever goal. Darcey McKean was awarded Player of the Match alongside Sofia Henderson. Grosvenor went on to win by one goal, but all the girls should be very proud of their outstanding performance.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------|--|---|--|
| Thurs 9 th Feb | Nottingham H.S. | 4.30 pm | 2 nd Boys Hockey | A | |
| Thurs 9 th Feb | Nottingham Trent | 2.30 pm | 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Netball | H | |

From Fr President

Education Sunday is celebrated this Weekend, so it is appropriate to remind ourselves of our Mission Statement.

Ratcliffe College Mission Statement

Our vision at Ratcliffe College is to educate young people in the spirit of the Gospel and the traditions of the Catholic Church, seeking to nurture the God-given talents and potential of each individual in order that each one may become a confident, responsible and useful member of society. While we operate as a Catholic school, we welcome children of other denominations and faiths whose parents feel that they can share in and benefit from the ideals and environment of our school.

PLEASE TURN OVER



CHARITY WEDDING FAYRE IN AID OF
RAINBOWS AND LOROS

AT

RATCLIFFE COLLEGE

FOSSE WAY A46

RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAKE

LEICESTERSHIRE

LE7 4SG

SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2012

11.00AM TO 4.00PM

£1.00 ADMISSION

RAFFLE

SOAR VALLEY BRIDES FASHION SHOW AT 1.00PM

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT

RING RACHEL ON: 01509814306

EMAIL: RACHEL@SOARVALLEYBRIDES.CO.UK

