



22nd September 2011

Dear Parents,

After the roaring successes of the Home Nations Down Under (who would have thought it of Ireland?!), it would have been hard to imagine that Ratcliffe College could rival such excitement; yet we positively *exceeded* it with several matches played last weekend, and I am sure that you will enjoy reading the full reports later in this E-Newsletter. It was fantastic for our girls and boys to have so much parental support at these matches – thank you. Remaining on the theme of sport for a moment:

Subject to a satisfactory response regarding numbers, may I remind parents of all girls in Years 9 – 13, of the **Hockey Tournament this coming Saturday 24th September?** The tournament will give all girls the opportunity to play hockey in a friendly, inclusive environment, where their hockey skills will be nurtured. They should have a lot of fun! Please arrive at the Astro for 10.00am; the tournament will be concluded by 12.30pm. **Mr Taylor will need definitive answers by 1.00pm, Friday 23rd September.**

It was lovely to see so many parents, old and new, at the Headmaster's Reception for parents of the Nursery and Junior Schools last Friday, and I look forward to seeing Senior School parents at 7.30pm tomorrow.

Our Boarders enjoyed a superb day out at Alton Towers last Sunday; Year 3 had a splendid time at Snibston Discovery Park on Monday; while our little Cygnets visited Roots Farm Shop on Tuesday. Years 4, 5, 6 and 8 all had great success in sports fixtures on Wednesday afternoon for our inaugural Junior Games Afternoon, and parental support at home was greatly appreciated.

This morning, the Nursery and Junior Schools celebrated in fine voice and jubilant fashion Harvest Festival, surrounded by cans which parents have generously donated. This was followed by a very successful MacMillan Coffee Morning – thank you for your kind generosity. It was wonderful to see the Church so full with parents, grandparents and friends of families – a great sense of community coming together to support and pray for those less fortunate than ourselves. Tomorrow will be the turn of the Senior School Harvest Festival, together with Year 6's visit to New Walk Museum to learn more about Ancient Egypt. Also tomorrow, the Rosmini Centre will be officially opened, with several of our musicians and readers helping to make this what will no doubt be a memorable event.

Just as a point of order for the future, whenever I may have sensitive material to share with parents, I shall mention the matter in general terms in this E-Newsletter (which may be accessed by anyone

visiting the School Website) but direct you for the detail to our Parents' Portal, for which you need the Password, as per my previous hard copy letter to parents. If you are a new parent or you have mislaid this, please contact my PA, Mrs Govan.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gareth P. Lloyd,

Headmaster.

Parent Notices

Please note that there is an amendment to the date of the **Year 8 French trip to the Opal Coast** which was published in Mr Reddin's recent letter regarding proposed Trips and Visits for this School Year. **The correct dates are: 22nd to 25th June 2012.**

Also, the date of the **Year 12 Parents' Evening** is: **Friday 9th December.**

Apologies for any inconvenience which may have been caused.

Dear Parents,

Go4SET

This year, Ratcliffe College will be competing in the Science and Engineering competition, *Go4SET*. *Go4SET* links teams of Year 9 students with companies and universities to offer a 10 week Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (*STEM*) experience. By providing a real and live *STEM* project, *Go4SET* will raise the pupils' awareness and highlight the exciting future career opportunities in *STEM*.

If your son/daughter has expressed an interest in the *Go4SET* initiative, and you would like your son/daughter to participate, please complete the reply slip below and return it to me at school no later than **Friday 30th September.**

If your son/daughter does sign up for *Go4SET*, *he/she* will be expected to attend the introduction event held at the Discovery Museum in Snibston, Leicestershire, on **Tuesday 1st November.** The trip will last most of the day and will give the students an introduction to the project and an opportunity to meet the companies involved. The students will travel to and from Snibston by school minibus. We will depart Ratcliffe at 8.30am prompt and return to school by 4.20pm.

If you have any questions about the *Go4SET* project, please contact me at School.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Mr Adam Chorley

Head of Year 11, Go4SET Co-ordinator

✂

Go4SET

Reply forms should be returned to Mr Chorley no later than

Friday 30th September

Name of Student _____ Form _____

I (do/do not) give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Go4SET project and to attend the introduction event on **Tuesday 1st November** at the Discovery Museum, Snibston, Leicestershire.

Signed (parent/guardian) _____ Date _____

PLEASE TURN OVER

Dear Parents

**Spanish Homestay visit to Salamanca
18-24 April 2012 (last week of Easter Holidays)**

The Languages Department is organising a Homestay visit to Salamanca in the West of Spain for next Easter.

Those wishing to take part, pupils in Year 10 and above, will be accommodated in pairs or individually with a Spanish family in Salamanca. We will be using a reputable company, who will thoroughly check the suitability of all the families.

In the morning, the students will attend lessons in a Language School, have lunch with their host family and spend their afternoons with us (Mrs Reddin will be accompanying the trip) doing organised activities/visits. We envisage that the latter will include visits to the nearby cities of Segovia and Ávila. We are very excited by the linguistic possibilities offered by this trip, since the students will have the opportunity to learn the language *in situ*, while they experience life and culture within a Spanish family environment.

We estimate the cost of the trip to be no more than £600, depending on the cost of the flights. We will be in a position to give you a more precise cost once flights have been booked, and will, of course, arrange for any spare monies to be credited to your account.

Should you agree that your son/daughter can take part in the visit, please complete the reply slip below, and return it to me at school by **Tuesday 4th October**.

If you have any queries about the trip, please contact me at school.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

M. Casas-Ojeda (Miss)

Teacher of Spanish

RETURN TO MISS CASAS-OJEDA BY TUESDAY 4TH OCTOBER

I would like my son/daughter to take part in the trip to Salamanca from 18-24 April 2012.
I understand that £600 will be added to my school bill at the end of the Autumn Term and that once flights have been booked, this amount is non-refundable.

Full name of pupil (as on passport).....

Date of birth.....

Signed..... (Parent/Guardian)

Date

Senior School News

Congratulations to our Senior School students!

Last week, Ellie Thomas, Year 11, and Charlie Dolan, Year 12, played in the JRPC tournament for Nottingham Lynx in their respective age groups. From this tournament, players are selected for a High Performance Assessment camp or the Futures cup from which the England teams are selected. They will have a nervous wait after the second round of matches next week!

On Sunday 18th September, 15 Ratcliffe hockey players attended a training day run by England Hockey to qualify as umpires. Congratulations to you all.

Last Sunday provided a fantastic opportunity for the Cadets, RAF and Army section to parade through Melton Mowbray for the Battle of Britain Parade. The Ratcliffe Standard was proudly carried by the cadets alongside many other ATC units. We have received a letter of thanks and praise for Ratcliffe's contribution. Well done to all those who took part.

Helen Croysdale, Year 11, has been awarded Most Caring Cadet of the Year and collected most duty hours last year within her St John Ambulance Unit. Well done, Helen!

Joseph Adcock, Caitlin Sheehy, Charlotte Dickinson and Jeremy Ham passed their CCF BTEC National Diploma Level 2 and were awarded certificates during Headmaster's Assembly. Well done, all of you.

Stage 1 FutureChef 2012

The first part of the national FutureChef competition took place on Monday 19th September in the Food Technology Department. I was overcome by the standard and confidence that our students showed, and they are truly talented. The winner of the evening was Lottie Warburton of Year 7. She made Chinese style pork fillet with egg fried rice. Lottie will now go through to Stage 2 of the competition that will take place in November, when she will have a budget of £6 to make a main course meal and a dessert for 2 people. We wish Lottie well in her preparations for this next stage of the competition.

Mrs Karen Burton
Head of Food Technology

An update on Ratcliffe Equestrian Club

The members have been involved with a number of activities throughout the summer. Charlotte Huband, Carrick Anderson and Lauren Bates all qualified for the National Trailblazers show jumping finals at Stoneleigh in July and all were placed on both days of competition, bearing in mind these are National competitions and they had to get through 2 rounds of qualifiers to get there. They all did exceptionally well. Also, over the summer, Charlotte has affiliated to BE and competed in 4 events, achieving 3 double clear rounds which means she can now progress to Novice level.

Up and coming events include the National Schools' Equestrian Association finals at Addington Manor on October 23rd, and the British Eventing (BE) schools' competition at Brooksby on the 24th and 25th of September.

The team's place at the NSEA final was as a result of the team's win at Keysoe in June. The BE event is represented by Charlotte Huband and Hattie Lechki who will ride in the BE100 and BE90 classes respectively.

Catherine Ellis continues to coach the team and holds regular training events. All her help is invaluable to all the team members. New members welcome!

If you need any more information please let me know. We would welcome any spectators at Brooksby (24/25th September) or anyone interested in joining the team is welcome to come along and get a taster of the activities they get involved with.

Mrs Liz Huband, Parent.

Junior School News

Congratulations to our Junior School pupils!

Tilak Pabari, Year 2, has received a Kwik Cricket bronze certificate and badge. Well done, Tilak.

Sport

Senior School Sport

Boys' Rugby

An improved performance this week saw the 1st XV lose narrowly away to Princethorpe. Despite losing lots of ball at the set piece, we competed well and two good tries in the second half from Tom Furlong and Man of the Match, Harry Jackson, brought the game back to 19 – 17 before a late Princethorpe try took the score to 26 – 17.

Momentum continues for the 2nd XV with another outstanding performance away at Princethorpe, winning 17 – 7. Water-tight defence was broken once, with a breakaway try early on. However, Ratcliffe responded well with an individual try from Harry Baum prior to half-time. Straight after the break, an important try from Man of the Match, Guy Britton, put Ratcliffe into the lead, then Josh Breen knocked over a penalty kick to increase the gap further and that's how it stayed until full-time.

The U15s had a great game making some fantastic first phase tackles; they went in at half time 17 – 10 ahead, through two tries by Eddie Waller and another from Nat Higton. Princethorpe rallied in the second half and eventually won the game 34 -17. All 18 boys who played can be

proud of their efforts, especially Eddie Waller who was Man of the Match for two great tries and sterling defensive work.

In blustery conditions, the U14s won comfortably against Princethorpe, 37-10. The forwards worked tirelessly securing untidy ball, whilst the back line, notably Seb Dewhirst, tackled superbly. The Ratcliffe tries were shared around. The scorers were Niall McWhir (2), Ed Purcell, Adam Park, Ben McMillan, Jack Hancock and Man of the Match was Jamaal Pinsent-Heskey.

The U13s were convincing winners 39 – 12. They dominated the game for long periods of time, scoring tries through Finbarr Lloyd, Joe Jarvis, Luke Gyesi-Appiah and Sam Kaul. All departments of the team performed well and it was a great start for the whole squad. Joint Men of the Match were Luke Gyesi-Appiah and Sam Kaul.

The U12s suffered a narrow 19 -14 defeat with Micah Pinsent-Heskey, Man of the Match, scoring an excellent try and making several good tackles. Jamie Lanyon also showed lots of promise as an attacking rugby player.

Sunday saw the playing of the now traditional mixed hockey game with the Old Ratcliffians. The game started in brilliant sunshine with the present students setting a ferocious pace that past students found difficult to live with. Charlie Dolan opened the scoring with a well taken shot from the top of the D, but as the opposition began to enjoy more of the possession, James Taylor equalised and Ellie Thomas, guesting for our opponents, finished a flowing move. Several Ratcliffe players were still trying to claim the school's equaliser before the game prematurely came to an end following a torrential storm. It was agreed that the trophy should pass to the School as, owing to injuries and enforced absences, the Ratcliffians relied more and more on current students to supplement their ranks.

The school golf team played against Oakham School in the first round of the HMC foursome's golf competition at Park Hill Golf Club. All 6 Ratcliffe players competed well but were outplayed by older players with lower handicap. Ratcliffe lost the first match on the 18th green, 2 down, the second match at the 16th green, 3 and 2, and the third match 7 and 6.

Simon Gray
Boys' Sports Captain

Girls' Hockey

Ratcliffe 1st XI were taught a lesson in how to score goals by a clinical Princethorpe forward line. Despite playing some very attractive hockey for a lot of the game, they eventually lost 5 - 0. A slow start to the game allowed Princethorpe to quickly establish a 2-goal lead; Ratcliffe rallied but couldn't turn the pressure into goals. Player of the Match was goalkeeper, Amy Burle.

A superb performance by the 2nd XI saw them beat a strong Princethorpe side 1 - 0; Alice Gilbert scored for Ratcliffe after an excellent passage of play. The girls were under a lot of pressure throughout the second half but their attitude and commitment were impressive.

After being beaten heavily in their last encounter, the U15s were determined to show how much they had improved and did so with great determination and ability. Princethorpe won the game

4 – 2. Goal scorers were Angharad Lloyd and India Walker; Player of the Match was Martha Lewis.

The U14s lost 2 - 0 to Princethorpe. Two early goals caught the girls off-guard but they came back fighting and held the score line for the rest of the game. A stand out performance in defence from Rosie Jones was accompanied by some excellent attacking play by Emma Furlong and Emma Milner, but unfortunately these chances could not be converted into goals.

During a very busy morning of netball, the U13s went from strength to strength in their play at the Loughborough Invitational Tournament. Against some very tough opposition, they won 3, drew 1 and lost 2 matches in their section but their scores were good enough to put them through to the quarter final where, unfortunately, they were beaten by Bedford High School. The whole team deserves praise for their desire to improve and their sporting behaviour.

The U12s played a round-robin format against 9 other schools. The girls worked hard to win 2 and draw 3 of their matches. All the girls worked well as a team and can be proud of their achievement.

Rebecca Pawley
Girls' Sports Captain

Cross Country

Ratcliffe was represented by 7 runners in the first Leicestershire Cross Country league meeting of the year at Groby Community College. All races were extremely competitive. All Ratcliffe runners put in respectable performances. Emily Hollis (Year 10), in particular, ran extremely well in the Intermediate girls' race, finishing fifth in a very strong field. Other Ratcliffe runners were: Olivia Walklett (Year 7), Kate Scarborough, Lydia Satchell and Charlie Evenden (Year 8), Damon Chan and Alice Daniels (Year 9) and Will Rigby (Year 11).

Full Results:

Year 7 Girls:

Olivia Walklett (Year 7) – 25th

Junior Girls:

Kate Scarborough (Year 8) – 34th

Lydia Satchell (Year 8) – 55th

Junior Boys:

Charlie Evenden (Year 8) – 71st

Damon Chan (Year 9) – 72nd

Intermediate Boys:

Will Rigby (Year 11) – 41st

Intermediate Girls:

Emily Hollis (Year 10) – 5th

* Alice Daniels (Year 9), running for her club, finished 12th in the Junior Girls' race.

Sporting Fixtures

Date	Opposition	Time	Team	Home/Away (H/A)	Meet Time
Sat 24 th Sept	Derby G.S.	10.30 am	U15 & 13 Rugby	A	8.30 AM
Sat 24 th Sept	Derby G.S.	10.30 am	U14 & 12 Rugby	H	9.30 AM
Tues 27 th Sept	St Margret's	1.30 pm	U18 Girls Hockey	A	
Tues 27 th Sept	Convent	4.30 pm	U13 A & B Netball	H	
Thurs 29 th Sept	Trent College	2.50 pm 3.30 pm	1 st Girls Hockey 3 rd Girls Hockey	H H	
Thurs 29 th Sept	Mt Sorrell	2.45 pm	2 nd Girls Hockey	A	
Sat 1 st Oct	Birkdale	11.00 am	1 st , 2 nd & U15 Rugby	H	10.00 AM
Sat 1 st Oct	Birkdale	11.00 am	U14, 13 & 12 Rugby	A	8.30 AM
Sat 1 st Oct	Uppingham	2.15 pm	U15 A & B Girls Hockey	A	1.40 PM
Sat 1 st Oct	Lincoln Minster	10.00 am	U14 Girls Hockey U13 A & B Netball	H H	9.00 AM 9.00 AM
Sat 1 st Oct	Loughborough H.S.	9.00 am	U12 7s Girls Hockey Tournament	A	7.50 AM
Mon 3 rd Oct	Loughborough H.S.	4.50 pm	1 st Girls Hockey	H	

MOTHERS PRAYERS



**United in prayer
we save our children**

For mothers who wish to pray for their children. All are welcome from the different cultures and faiths. Meet in Fr. President's Study, next to the Chapel on alternate Wednesdays (**next meeting: 28th September 2011**) at **9.15am** for about **45 minutes**. Cup of coffee afterwards.

Contact mothers are:

Katharine Lloyd - 07980 346606

Sarah James - 07814 555151

The Seven Circles of Prayer

with Father David Tobin.

For those seeking a deeper stillness and prayer, leading to meditation.

Monday 26th September: 2.00pm – 3.00pm, followed by a cup of tea.

October 3rd and 10th; November 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

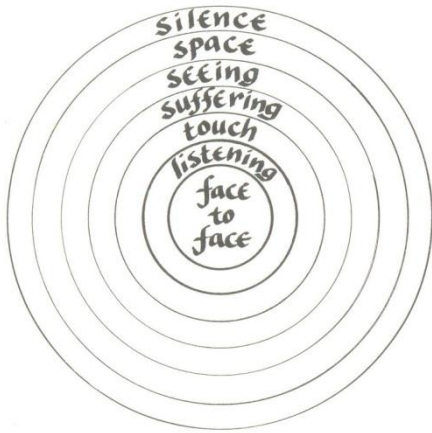
AT THE ROSMINI CENTRE, up the A46, ½ a mile beyond the College - a tricky turn, so approach with caution!

Please email Fr. David Tobin:

dtobin@ratcliffe.leics.sch.uk, if you would like to come.

The first session will be an exploratory one.

The seven circles



Last Sunday, September 18th, we celebrated Home Mission Sunday which is a traditional day of Prayer for the Church's work of evangelisation in England and Wales. This year it coincided with the anniversary of Pope Benedict's visit to the United Kingdom, which was an occasion of encouragement for all peoples of faith.

Recently the Daily Telegraph published some evidence from a survey which indicated Britain to be at the bottom of the international league table of 21 nations in so many important areas of life: the United Nations survey of 2007 found the UK to be bottom for child welfare; third from the bottom for educational standards; bottom for self-esteem and second from bottom for teenage pregnancies. The Catholic Church has invited us to pray:

PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

O God, grant that our nation, once renowned as an island of Saints and the Dowry of Mary, may once again restore the Gospel values as the basis of our national life. May reverence for the gift of life and an esteem for the value of Marriage and Family Life build a Society of Peace, Justice and tolerance for all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

Fr President

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS OF THE FORTHCOMING HIGHER EDUCATION CONVENTION.



**Students in Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 and parents
are warmly invited to attend:**

At the Heart of
the Country
A46/6 miles North
of Leicester

Higher Education Convention

at Ratcliffe College
Thursday 29th September 2011
7:00pm to 8:30pm



- 15 Universities
- UCAS
- Kaplan
- Armed Forces
- Connexions
- Gap Year Organisations
- Student Travel

Ratcliffe College
Fosse Way
Ratcliffe on the Wreake
Leicester
LE7 4SG
Telephone: 01509 817000
Email: gsharpe@ratcliffe.leics.sch.uk
Email: hgrant@ratcliffe.leics.sch.uk
www.ratcliffe-college.co.uk