



THE RADCLIFFE SCHOOL
INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE

RAD NEWS

Issue 10 – June 2017



**Good Luck to all our
students with their exams**



News from The Core

English

We have recently taken a group of 30 Year 11 students to see a Royal Shakespeare Company live performance of Julius Caesar which was streamed across cinemas nationwide. The students behaved impeccably and the performance was interesting and enjoyable for all. It came at the crucial time of year, just before the English Literature exams and the pupils found it valuable to see the play interpreted and performed on stage. Exams are now well underway, however we must stress how beneficial it is for you to continue having conversations with your child about the texts they have read in English. This helps with last minute confidence boosting for Year 11, however it is also extremely useful for our younger pupils to start getting into the habit of these discussions now so they have the opportunity to consolidate understanding of texts and explore ideas and themes with people outside the classroom.

Maths

Congratulations!

The Maths department would like to say congratulations to all of the students in Years 11, 12 and 13 who have been busy revising for, and sitting, their GCSE, AS and A2 exams. There has been a huge amount of effort put in by the students to what we hope will be deservedly good grades in the summer.

All of the staff would like to take this opportunity to wish good luck to students when they collect their results in the summer!

The next two weeks will see Years 7-10 taking their end of year assessments so we would like to encourage students to follow the lead that Years 11-13 have set and prepare as best as they can to ensure the best possible outcomes. We would also like to take the opportunity to remind students and parents that these tests provide staff with invaluable feedback about the strengths and areas that need improving. Therefore, it is vital that these assessments are taken seriously to help staff support students effectively going forward.



Science

Exam Season

In Science this year we say goodbye to A* as we watch Year 11 who will be the last year group to embark on gaining the letter grades (A*-G).

Year 12 and 13 students can also be spotted with noses in books doing all they can to squeeze every last mark out of their examinations and get the grade they want, either for entry into year 13 or into the next phase of life - university, apprenticeships or employment.

They have all worked so hard and we wish each and every one of them the very best when they open their envelopes later in the year in August.

For all other students (Years 7-10) the examination season is also looming with end of year assessments on the schedule for just after the half term break which will give our students the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt and put them into the right learning environments next year.

It is widely reported that this generation is the most tested ever but being ready for these assessments and doing your best in them is an important life skill. Our advice, which works for all subjects, is to revise throughout the whole year and not leave it to the night before.

Before the examination:

- know what is covered in the examination including the questions types and length of paper.
- eat well and hydrate - have a balanced breakfast and (if an afternoon exam) sensible lunch. Bananas are many students first choice and you are allowed water in examinations.
- check that you have everything that you will need; pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, calculator before the examination.
- arrive in plenty of time, you do not want the stress of being late!
- avoid panicking people, they are not going to help you!

In the examination:

- remember to write your name on the paper!
- read all the questions carefully before starting and plan which questions will need what amount of time.
- there is no need to answer the questions in the order given so why not start with one you feel confident about. Just make sure you haven't missed one before the end of the examination.
- if your brain freezes, just start writing anything and you will soon start remembering more details.
- don't spend more time than you planned on a question you like, you might run out of time to answer other questions.

Whatever happens stay calm, you have done all you can and have nothing to fear!

Good luck to you all!



Humanities

This week in the History department we have been running a 'Dragons Den' style competition for Year 7s to design their own business during the Industrial revolution. Contestants so far have put forward some excellent presentations and musical numbers to sell their products to the rest of the class!

Year 8 students are getting groovy with a look into the History of the 1960s and the 9s and 10s are preparing for their end of module assessments.

For all examination groups revision sessions will be running as normal every Wednesday lunch time and after school as well as Thursday lunch time, all the way up to the exams.

Business

Huge thanks to Clive Richards of CJ Richards Electricals and Graham Carter of Calzone Kitchen who both visited the Year 10 GCSE Business students to talk about their local businesses and their experiences of being entrepreneurs. The students quizzed the entrepreneurs on the skills they have had to demonstrate as entrepreneurs and what has made them successful. There was also another special guest speaker, Mr Deller, who spoke to the students about his own personal business Grass Roots Soccer which he runs on Saturdays. The students have now been inspired to independently interview other entrepreneurs in the local business community to find out what makes them succeed.

The students gained lots of relevant examples and inspiration, of what it takes to make a business successful, and they will use this information for their 3 hour controlled assessment.

IAG News

The end of last half term was busy for IAG, Career Workouts continued for year 7. We were very proud of our year 7 students for embracing the challenges of speaking to so many unfamiliar adults. They were mature and sensible making it a valuable experience for all. Well done year 7.

We also had the lunch launch of National Citizen Service (NCS) giving our year 11 and year 12 students a chance to get together prior to their summer experience with NCS. We have 26 students signed up this year and we are looking forward to hearing from them following their valuable journey.

We have continued to meet with students for individual IAG appointments to advise on next steps. We are positive all of our students have a plan for September and we are looking forward to the end of exams so our students can have a well deserved break.



Modern Foreign Languages

Linguists of the Half Term

Congratulations to our Linguists of the Half Term!

French KS3 – **Sikandar Rizwan** (Year 8)

French KS4 – **Alice Gambles** (Year 10)

German KS3 – **Isaac Pawson** (Year 7)

German KS4 – **Qaisar Majeed** (Year 10)

French Trip 2017

The French trip is heading off to Poitiers on Tuesday 13th June for 4 days. They will be visiting Futuroscope and the Puy-du-Fou!

German Trip – Cologne 2018

Open to all students in Year 9 and Year 8 who have chosen German as a GCSE option.

Initial Meeting – Thursday 25th May, lunchtime, in room 31.

Japanese Club – Cinema Visit to '*Ghost in the Shell*'

In an attempt to draw a comparison between the original aspects of the *Ghost in the Shell* (GITS) franchise, the Japanese Club went to see the new live-action adaptation of the same name, which was immensely criticised before it had even been released. Here is our conclusion:

“How does the new adaptation compare to the original?”

Many prominent characters have made a reappearance, including the Major's aide 'Batou', and villains 'The Puppetmaster' and the 'Robotic Spider'. Although this could be seen as lazy on the screenwriters' part, we think this gives viewers who are new to the franchise a taste of many things making up Major Kusanagi's (the main character), story. It is, to a certain extent, a melting pot of everything related to GITS.

The best part of the new film for us was the visuals: the addition of the '*soligrams*' (solid holograms acting as 3D billboards across the city), was so aesthetically mesmerising, we feel it would be worth watching the film just to see them!

On the other hand, the main problem we had with the film was the lack of character development. For someone who might not know about the other related *manga* and *animé*, the lack of explanation and development might leave you confused and waiting for answers. Furthermore, we found it difficult to engage with the story, as we didn't particularly care for the characters involved.

In conclusion, we feel that the film is a great addition to the GITS franchise, however we believe that to truly make the most of the story and setting, it should have been produced as a two-part film or mini-series, which would have given the producers more of an opportunity to flesh everything out and leave the audience satisfied.

Maddy Sturgeon & The Japanese Club



House Sport Competition Update...

So far this year the PE department have run 5 house sports events – Football, Basketball, Table Tennis/Badminton, Dodgeball and Rounders/Softball. At each event students have the opportunity to compete against the other houses and gain some valuable points for their house. At the end of the year these points are added up and the house with the most points will be awarded the famous 'Radcliffe Rose Bowl'.

We have one event left which will be our annual sports day on **Friday 23rd June**, there is still everything to play for. During sports day our students will be competing in athletics, mixed tennis, handball, 6-a-side football and tug or war events.

This is the current house sport standings after collating all the points so far this year:





PE Department News

Forthcoming Fixtures



Tuesday 13th June
Year 7 Girls Rounders Festival
vs. MK Schools at Ousedale



Tuesday 13th June
Year 9 Boys Table Tennis Tournament
vs. MK Schools at Kingston TT Centre



Tuesday 13th June
Year 8 Boys Cricket
vs. Denbigh at Radcliffe



Wednesday 14th June
Year 7 Boys/ Girls Tennis Tournament
vs. MK Schools at MK Tennis Club



Wednesday 14th June
Year 9 Girls Rounders
vs. Denbigh at Denbigh



Thursday 15th June
Year 8 Girls Rounders Tournament
vs. MK Schools at Shenley Brook End



Ian Stewart

1959-2017

It is with great sorrow that we have to announce the death of Ian Stewart, stalwart of The Radcliffe School, and part of the foundations of the English Department. Ian passed away peacefully during the evening of Sunday, June 11th in the Cynthia Spencer Hospice, Northampton. At this time the thoughts of the staff and students, past and present, are with his wife and three children.



A Brief history of Ian Stewart

August 1981, MTV went on air for the first time, Moira Stuart became a BBC Newsreader. The films to watch were Condorman and An American Werewolf in London. Top of the Pops (single charts) was Shakin' Stevens with Green Door and Ian Stewart joined the English Department of The Radcliffe School, having successfully completed his degree in English and Medieval Studies at Lancaster University, together with a PGCE gained from Aberystwyth University. But Ian ignored the lure of Wales, seeking instead the bright lights of Wolverton, or possibly its significance in terms of historic railways.

His application form for that year reveals that he had secured paid employment in his recent past as an armoured car crewman with Securicor. Obviously, this sojourn provided him with the foundations of his classroom management strategies. Some of us in reflective moments might ponder how the hair and beard were contained within the uniform helmet.

March 1992 Polytechnics transformed into universities; John Major announced a 'snap' election; the Duke and Duchess of York separated and Ian was appointed Head of English for The Radcliffe School, a position he held until August 2005, becoming Head of Sixth Form together with a period on the Senior Leadership Team.

Throughout his long career Ian was a dedicated and inspirational classroom teacher, with an encyclopaedic knowledge of English Literature and Language. More importantly, he loved classroom

teaching and revelled in repeating the deeds and words of students who had made him chuckle or made him proud – of which there are far too many to mention. His educational career was not limited to the confines of The Radcliffe School. Spending many years as Senior Examiner for A Level English Literature (AQA), he was responsible for developing the specifications and writing the examination questions which tested the knowledge and analytical skills of generations of students across the United Kingdom.

A well-rounded individual, Ian spent his lifetime supporting his beloved Everton Football Club, played centre forward for the staff football team, followed the fortunes of his County and National cricket teams and indulged in a passion for hill-walking in sunshine or rain - a passion not always fully enjoyed by his family, particularly in dismal weather. Nor indeed his Head of Department, when he slipped from the pathway and seriously damaged his ankle – AGAIN. His expertise on the works of Bob Dylan, Eighties pop music and other, far more esoteric subjects continually bemused his colleagues. Most of all, to his family, friends, pupils and colleagues he was in every sense a really decent human being. And for that we will cherish his memory

Throughout his career Ian Stewart mesmerised generations of students with his genuine enthusiasm for English Literature in all its forms and his, at times, anarchic, robust (always) sense of humour. In addition to his comforting presence within the classroom – a sense that all was well with the world – what is most missed is the sound of his laughter echoing down the corridors.



The funeral service for Ian will take place at 3.00pm on Friday 30 June at Kettering Crematorium, then afterwards at Naseby Village Hall. The family have requested that black is NOT worn, Everton Blue and colour please. They have also requested no flowers, donations if you wish can be made via Hollowells Funeral Directors' website. Any donations will be split between RSPB, Cynthia Spencer Hospice and The Brain Tumour Charity.

The school **have** therefore taken the decision to ban the Fidget Spinner toys with immediate effect. Any student bringing them into school will have them confiscated and will have to collect them at the end of the school day.

Please help us support the learning of all students by keeping these toys at home.



Hayes News



A word from Hayes Head of House, Mr Lee With the GCSE exams underway and in full flow I want to wish the year 11's all the best of luck for the next 6 weeks! I am proud of all the hard work and preparation you have put in - so feel confident! However, it is not a time to stand still, so please see below the message from your new head boy and head girl team, who have been selected by their peers to represent the house and continue our journey in the Radcliffe School setting the bench marks – already reached by our stars of the term! Well done to all

House Stars of the Term

HMN: Suleman Siddiq
HGC: Carolann Blackwell
HTO: Emma Quinn
HMR: Archie Tilling
HMT: Aliza Blackwell
HKM: Shannon Billington
HLT: Umar Awan
HPM: Vithuja Kipson
HMP: Chloe Bourne
HAT: Jessica Pedder
HNC: Dan Green
HSN: Alfie Melville

Representing the house with Pride

Year 7: Sammy Hutchinson
Year 8: Keri Mathers
Year 9: Ishya Jalil
Year 10: Roxana Gal

Hello, as our current Year 11s need to focus on their exams, Year 10s have been selected to take the places of Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies. Head Boy is now **Miller Hartle** and Head girl is **Zainab Athumani**. Our deputies are **Cameron Tait** and **Olivia Stratford**. We all feel privileged to have these roles. We are going to use this opportunity to represent the student voice, and to hopefully change the house for the better. Collectively, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Daisy, Jenson, Chloe and Dale for all of their hard work and we understand that we have big shoes to fill. We hope that all students will feel comfortable approaching us, and discussing any issues or achievements as we need your opinions to be able to do our job. Together, we hope to move the house forward in our last year of The Radcliffe School.

Cowper News



The Summer 1 term has come to an end and “WOW” have we performed well. It is evident that our students have taken on the challenges of assessments and house competitions. Again, Cowper House has consistently performed extremely well over the past 6 weeks and I would personally like to thank all students for their efforts. I am sure you are all aware that our Year 11 have started their final exams and reiterate that if Year 11 students need additional support during this time to please see the House Office. It is also that time when we start planning for next year and if you are interested in the role of House Manager please keep your ears open in our next assembly where further details will be given. Finally, our new Head/Deputy Head Boys and Girls have been selected and I would like to welcome and congratulate Dan Horner as Head Boy, Laura Johnston as Head Girl, Lewis Wells as Deputy Head Boy and Lilly Booth as Deputy Head Girl. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Rounders and Softball Results

Year 7 Girls	1 st
Year 7 Boys	2 nd
Year 8 Girls	1 st
Year 8 Boys	Postponed
Year 9 Girls	2 nd
Year 9 Boys	3 rd
Year 10/11 Girls	4 th
Year 10/11 Boys	1 st

House Head and Deputy Head Students



Star of the term

CAS: Scarlett Malleson-Hull

CKR: Kasie Laight

CGT: Rizwan Syed

CTB: Lily Thomas

CLB: Ben Abbott

CLP: Saba Siddiq

CES: Tayla Kirk

CSK: Aislinn Black

CSM: Jack Restall

CTK: Afthritha Rafeek

CSD: Kirsty Downey



PRIDE OF COWPER

Corley Brown: Improved Effort in lessons

Cameron Dobbs: Improved Effort and Engagement

Kyle Phipps: Improved Effort in lessons

Matthew Whitehall: Growing in confidence

Abdul Rashad: Improved Effort

Lee News



A word from Lee Head of House, Miss Girt:

'The Year 11's are now fully into their exams and are representing the house really well with their attitude and maturity.

The new Head team has been selected and will start their role with the selection of next year's House Managers. If you would like to be considered for this role then please have an application in to the House Office by the end of Friday. Sports Day is coming up and the current House Managers will be looking for participants so please speak to them to select your event.

It is going to be a busy, but enjoyable last half term of this academic year so make sure you make the most out of every opportunity.'

Congratulations
to the Year 9
girls softball
team for coming
1st in your
competition!

Viva La Vida



1st Nikhil Jain
2nd Caitlin Bird
3rd Olivia Bright
4th Taylor Spittle
5th Gracie Mendus



New Head Boy and Girl Team LEE



Head Girl



Deputy Head Girl



Head Boy



Deputy Head Boy



Stars of the term



Pride of LEE



Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



McConnell News



A word from Head of McConnell House, Mr Partington:

Welcome to the final half term of what has been an extremely busy year, with this half term set to be the most eventful yet! I am delighted to announce the new team of McConnell head girls and head boys; Mia Ingrouille, Anna Goulding, Fred Charles and Parth Tagdiwala. I know these students will be fantastic role models and I am looking forward to seeing what impact they can have in positions of such responsibility. At this time we are also welcoming applications from all students in years 7-10 to undertake the role of house manager. Please email applications myself by the latest of Friday 16th June, as we look to shape our team moving forward into the next academic year.

Congratulations to the year 10/11 girls rounders team who were victorious in last half-term's house rounders competition!!

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

I would like to commend two McConnell house students for outstanding achievements made outside of school:

Verity Marangos has managed to reach the national finals and will compete in the category of IDTA Nationwide Medallist of the Year 2017 for Rock 'n' Roll Dance, taking place in Blackpool in November. She and her partner did this by winning their qualifying competition.

Speaking of winning, *Jack Leahy* has also qualified for the British Gymnastics Championships finals in tumbling by coming first in his qualifier held in Sheffield.

Best of luck to both students, we are very proud of you!

Do you take part in any events outside of school that we don't know about? Come and let us know in the house office!

STARS OF THE TERM

MCP



MCH



MCB



MSM



MDM



MGS



MZB



MKJ



MMF



MLC



MPD



MJP



PRIDE OF McCONNELL

