



THE RADCLIFFE SCHOOL  
INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE

# RAD NEWS

Issue 8 – March 2017



## LONGRIGG 2017





## English

### Longrigg

This half term, fifteen Year 11 students were invited to participate in an English intervention at The Longrigg Experience Centre in the Lake District. Longrigg was a truly valuable experience; all students benefitted vastly through a variety of creative activities guided by a team of exceedingly experienced instructors and teachers. Individually, each teacher contributed in producing alternative perspectives within lessons, helping to facilitate the students' tremendous amount of progress throughout the week.

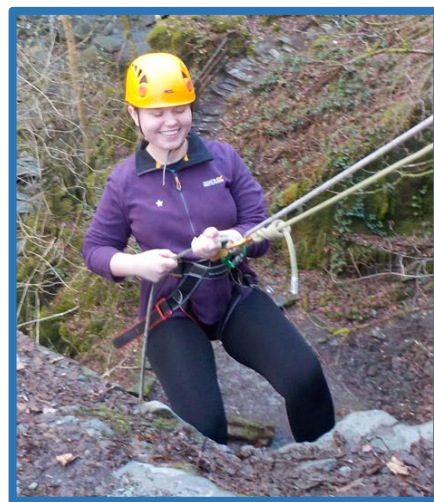
As a consequence of dedicated and precise planning, students were assigned tailored and distinctive independent and group tasks in order to develop essential life skills. It was pleasing to work in a collaborative manner alongside staff to complete daily activities such as: cooking meals, cleaning and food shopping for eighteen people (which included a slight oversight of purchasing 30 pints of milk for the week!).



An early rise at 7am – our hectic days were about to commence! Mornings were filled with breakfast and lunch preparation, teamed with essential English revision sessions. This was closely followed by a somewhat bumpy ride in the minibus to the location of the main activity of the day which consisted of: abseiling, caving, hiking, canoeing and even a visit to Dove Cottage to develop our knowledge of Wordsworth and understanding of his poetry. The exhaustion endured by all was certainly excused by the overwhelmingly picturesque views!

We can say with confidence that all students thoroughly enjoyed the residential trip, and would certainly recommend the experience to anyone who has the opportunity to go in the future.

Maddy Payne (CSK) and Connie Green (HLT)



# ZOONIVERSE

REAL SCIENCE ONLINE

Can you see the  
wildebeest in  
this picture?



If you can, then you can participate in real online science.

Zooniverse claim to be the largest online platform for collaborative volunteer research and it provides opportunities for anyone around the world to contribute to real discoveries in fields ranging from astronomy to zoology.

*"The major challenge of 21st century research is dealing with the flood of information we can now collect about the world around us. Computers can help, but in many fields the human ability for pattern recognition—and our ability to be surprised—makes us superior"* [www.zooniverse.org](http://www.zooniverse.org).

Your help will contribute to actual research, carried out by real scientists from the comfort of your own home, a really useful computer "game". Simply register an interest, complete a few practice tasks and then you will be part of the active science community.

Current projects include; Penguin Watch (spy on penguins in remote regions to help scientists understand their lives and environment); Snapshots at sea (help scientists identify marine mammals); Planet Four (explore Mars and help discover what the weather is like); Milky Way Project (find stars in the Milky way from the infrared image data from the Spitzer space telescope); Bat Detective (help characterise bat calls recorded by citizen scientists); Fossil Finder (search and discover fossils at Lake Turkana, Kenya).

Your time will help these projects move forward so why not give it a go. Your input will be included in these active research projects.

Simple search for zooniverse on the internet or visit [www.zooniverse.org](http://www.zooniverse.org)  
For further details please come and speak with Mr Hatto. Head of science.



## Maths

We recently entered our strongest mathematicians from KS4 (excluding year 10 who were on work experience) into the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge and are pleased to announce we had some excellent results. The students received 5 gold, 9 silver and 20 bronze certificates in total. The five students who received a gold certificate, therefore also qualifying them for the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad, were **Peter Roder, David Roder, Andrew Hutchinson, Jenson Taylor** and **Jasmine Myhill**. Congratulations to them all.



Mr Humble KS4 Maths Leader

## History

It has been all about the Tudors in the History department this week, with year 7, 10 and 13 all embarking on a study of one of Britain's most dysfunctional royal families! This study will culminate in a GCSE trip for year 10 to Hardwick Hall later in the year, to more closely examine the impacts of Tudor fashions on house design.

We will be running trips to famous Tudor sites for future year 10 cohorts as part of the new GCSE specification, and hope to see plenty of students taking the opportunity to study History in the field and bring the subject to life!



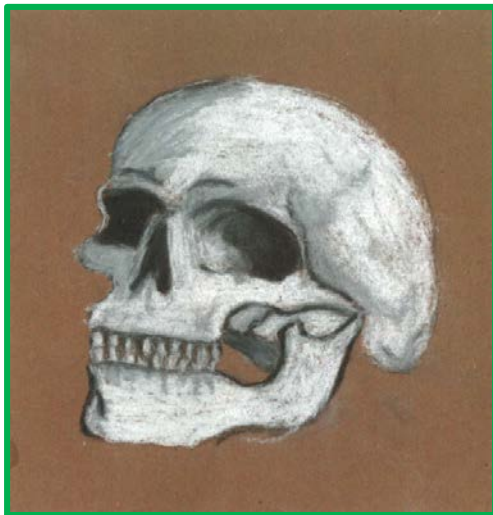
## Art

**Abi Sunasky** is one of our incredibly talented year 11 Art students. As part of her coursework project entitled, Nature vs Manmade, she decided that she'd like to design & paint a mural on one of our Art room walls. She spends every tutorial painting and has spent an enormous amount of her own time working on this piece, to ensure its completion. It will not only be a wonderful and detailed addition to our Art room displays but will give her an excellent grade for her coursework. It's not finished yet, but we enjoy watching it progress every day and look forward to seeing it completed very soon.



## Stefano Buscaglia is our Artist of the Month

Each month we choose a student in the department who has worked hard and given 100% effort. This month we chose **Stefano Buscaglia**, this student is not only works incredibly hard on his own work, but helps other students too. If someone needs extra support, he volunteers to help them and is so kind and thoughtful. Every lesson, without fail he is respectful, polite and happy. Stefano received a certificate, badge and some Art equipment as well as having his work displayed in the department entrance for one month.



He's a pleasure to teach and have in the department. We are looking forward to seeing what he produces when he joins us for his GCSE Art course!



## Modern Foreign Languages

### Vocab Express Global Competition

**\*3<sup>rd</sup> in the World!\***



The Vocab Express Global Challenge took place from the 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March, with dozens of schools from all over the world taking part. In the last competition, Radcliffe School came 16<sup>th</sup>, and our aim was to beat this. And we did – in some style!

In the Challenge Cup, which includes the contributions of all students, we gained a massive **873,815** points, which put us in **3<sup>rd</sup> place!**

In the Genius Cup, which includes the points from our top 25 scorers, we gained **668,415** points, putting the school in **2<sup>nd</sup> place!**

As if these achievements weren't amazing enough, we also had 6 students who gained places on the overall Student Leaderboard: **Darcie Stimpson** (8<sup>th</sup>), **Laiba** (9<sup>th</sup>), **Katie Thompson** (13<sup>th</sup>), **Rachel Thompson** (15<sup>th</sup>), **Cora Ainsworth** (29<sup>th</sup>) and **Annelise Collier** (33<sup>rd</sup>) deserve massive congratulations for all their efforts.

We topped the leaderboard for German with a score of 368,185, nearly 90,000 more points than the school in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and placed in the top 20 for the following languages: French, Italian, Latin, Japanese, Russian, Polish, Mandarin, Hebrew, Portugues, Arabic, Urdu and Greek.

This is a truly fantastic achievement and we are so proud of all the students who took part.

### Linguists of the Half Term

Congratulations to our Linguists of the Half Term!

French KS3 – **Alfie Woodgate** (year 7)

French KS4 – **Cora Ainsworth** (year 9)

German KS3 – **Layla Goddard** (year 7)

German KS4 – **Darcie Stimpson** (year 9)



### First Languages Sessions

Our Languages sessions run by the students have proven very popular, with over 20 students and staff learning Russian and Polish. Here are the dates for the remaining sessions – put these in your planner!

Date	Language	Run by...
15/3/17	Urdu	Maria & Hina
22/3/17	Hungarian	Balint & Roxana
29/3/17	Tamil	Vithuja



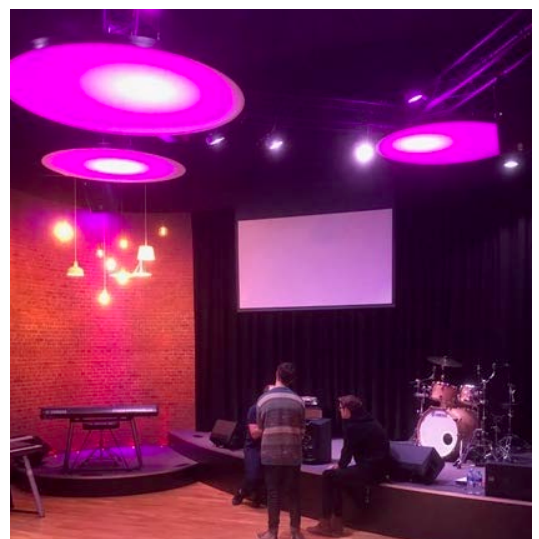
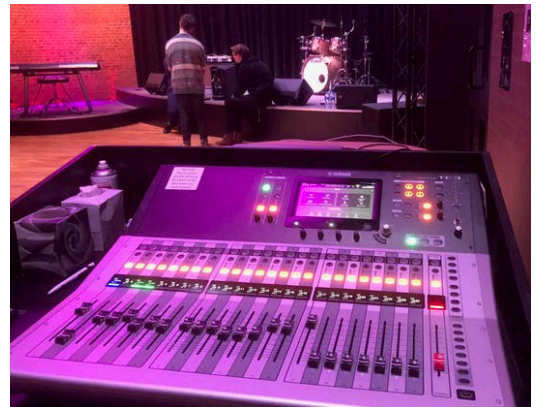
## Music Technology

### The Sound of Success

Year 13 Music Technology students attended a VIP visit to Yamaha Music Europe Ltd last Friday to gain experience in live sound technology and setups. The students, **Tommy Woodward** and **Corin Schencks**, visited the company's testing facilities and specially built studio and learnt how to adapt PA systems to different venue acoustics with Yamaha's sound engineer. It was an invaluable experience for the students who both are considering sound engineer careers in the near future.

The year 13 students are working towards organising and running a live music event of local bands and music in May at The Radcliffe School as part of their final assessment in their Music Technology course. The event will definitely be a great celebratory end for two of Radcliffe's best musical talents' time and musical contribution to the school.

Many thanks to **Martin Wakley** who attended and organised the event.



## Drama

The Radcliffe School Year 12 Theatre Studies were incredibly fortunate this week to go to The Harold Pinter Theatre to watch one of their set texts being performed. **Who is afraid of Virginia Woolf** - Starring Olivier and Bafta award-winning actress **Imelda Staunton** (*Gypsy, Sweeney Todd, Harry Potter*); Olivier award-winner **Conleth Hill** (*Game Of Thrones, Stones In His Pockets, The Producers*); Olivier award-winner **Luke Treadaway** (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Fortitude, The Hollow Crown*) and **Imogen Poots**, in her West End debut (*A Long Way Down, Jane Eyre* and *Me And Orson Wells*).





## IAG News

Individual careers appointments continue with year 11 ensuring all students have a destination post- 16. This week many Year 11, 12 and 13 students will visit the National Apprenticeship show at MK Arena, a great visit giving students key information on their apprenticeship options.

We have also had NCS in school delivering an assembly to Year 11 students, with Year 12 later this week. This was then followed by lunch time drop in sessions for students to ask further questions. Once again, many of our students have signed up to the scheme, which is designed to strengthen their skills and encourage independence and social awareness.



## Design Technology



## Malcolm Poulter

The school are saddened to announce the passing of Malcolm Poulter a committed member of the governing body at The Radcliffe. Malcolm had been working with The Radcliffe School for several years before taking on the role of governor in 2013. Through his role with The Rotary, he mentored sixth form students in business studies and was also a mentor on the annual Cranfield University Business Challenge, supporting one of the teams from The Radcliffe School. He started a successful Rotary Interact Club for students.

Malcolm joined the governing body in September 2013 and has been a loyal and trusted friend and strong advocate for the school. He was vice chair of the Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare Committee and always showed his dedication to the welfare of students at the school. Schools rely on volunteers, often working quietly behind the scenes and ready to commit their time and energies in supporting staff and students; Malcolm exemplified the community-focused volunteer. He had a great belief in The Radcliffe School and what its students could achieve.

Our governing body always seeks to recruit governors who bring something special to the school. Malcolm had many years' experience in engineering, first as an apprentice toolmaker specialising in the aircraft industry. In the late 60's he moved into computer engineering, progressing into management and in the 80's moved into sales, selling. He later became a freelance account manager.

On a personal note I will greatly miss Malcolm's loyalty; I knew that we could always rely on him to give up his time and he was always the first to volunteer to take on additional roles within the governing body. I will miss his gentle humour and the chats we used to have after the meetings and I will miss his quietly attentive presence at meetings. On many occasions he would suddenly make an incisive contribution having listened to presentations from everyone else. The school has lost a friend and the governing body has lost one of its most dedicated members.

Barney Payne, Chair of Governors



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# PE Department News

## Fixture Results

Here are the results from our interschool fixtures played during February/March.

Day	Date	Activity	Result
Tuesday	28 February 2017	Year 9 Girls Football Tournament vs. MK Schools Player of the Tournament: <b>Alicia Baker</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Overall
Tuesday	28 February 2017	Year 10 Girls Football Tournament vs. MK Schools Player of the Tournament: <b>Edweena Aninor</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Overall
Wednesday	01 March 2017	Year 8 Girls Football vs. Denbigh Player of the Match: <b>Lily Thomas</b>	Lost 1-6
Wednesday	01 March 2017	Year 9 Girls Football vs. Denbigh Player of the Match: <b>Paisley Brown</b>	Lost 0-3
Thursday	02 March 2017	Year 9 Girls Netball Tournament vs. MK Schools Player of the Tournament: <b>Daisy York</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Overall
Tuesday	07 March 2017	Year 7 Boys Football vs. Denbigh Player of the Match: <b>Johnny Carey</b>	Lost 0-5
Tuesday	07 March 2017	Year 8 Boys Football vs. Denbigh Player of the Match: <b>Mizan Hussain</b>	Lost 2-5
Wednesday	08 March 2017	Year 7 Boys Rugby County Schools Festival Player of the Tournament: <b>Mason Cram</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Overall



Here are some reports on our interschool fixtures played during February / March.



The year 7 boys were very excited to have the opportunity to play a tournament at the wonderful facilities of Aylesbury Rugby Club, on their new 4G pitch; which is spring loaded to allow contact rugby games to be played in perfect handling and running conditions.

The year 7 boys started off well winning their opening and second matches comfortably and went on to win 3 out of 5 matches, a great achievement considering the opposition were traditionally strong rugby schools. Stand out performances from Mason Cram showing his running capability as well as showing no fear when it came to tackling opponents who were considerably bigger than he is.

A great day all round and I believe the boys have come away with some valuable experiences.

*"The year 9 girls put on an excellent performance at this year's Football Tournament, with positive attitudes and exceptional skill levels displayed by all of the girls, in particular the relationship between Reigan and Alicia who were superb up front, creating many opportunities to score. Georgia also played exceptionally well and many of the team congratulated her on her performance in all of the games proving to be a strong player in defence, preventing many goals from being scored. The first round went extremely well with 2 wins, a draw and a loss which put us as second in the pool and safely through to the semi-finals. The girls were unable to find the same form in the semi-final against Oakgrove and struggled to get through their strong defence. However, the girls certainly did us proud. Well done to all involved!"*

*"After a combination of long Christmas football break and some cancelled fixtures; the Year 8 football team attempted to get their league performance back on track. Playing up hill in the first half the Radcliffe team had a good level of possession but did not make the most of their possession and passing. Denbigh went 3-0 up with three long shot assisted by the stop. The second half was dominated by Radcliffe and they pulled back 2 quick goals. Radcliffe continued to press skimming the post and the Denbigh keeper pulling off a top save. Radcliffe then hit the crossbar and were caught on the counter with two quick goals. The game finished Radcliffe 2 Denbigh 5."*



# PE Department News

## Forthcoming Fixtures



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### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 7 Boys Football**  
**vs. Lord Grey at Lord Grey**



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### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 8 Boys Football**  
**vs. Lord Grey at Lord Grey**



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### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 8 Netball Tournament**  
**vs. MK Schools at Hazeley Academy**



THE RADCLIFFE SCHOOL  
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### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 8 Boys Rugby**  
**vs. MK Academy at MK Academy**



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### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**Year 7/8 Girls Rugby Festival**  
**vs. Bucks Schools at Aylesbury RUFC**



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### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

**Year 3/4 Netball Festival**  
**Middle Schools at Radcliffe**



# Hayes News



**A word from Hayes Head of House, Mr Lee:**...it has been a very focused atmosphere in Hayes house for the last 2 weeks. The year 11 are gearing up for their final Mock practise exams after Easter so we are looking to see them in all required interventions after school where possible, along with the year 10 students now settled back into life after work experience. I have been very impressed with our House managers who seem to be on top of organising for their events, so now we just need a strong turn out to improve results. Good luck and keep going Hayes house!

## House Stars of the Term

It is a real pleasure to be the Hayes head of House. I get to see the students perform on a day to day basis and aspire to improve!

However, I don't often get the opportunity to recognize the achievements of our students outside the classroom.

If you have information regarding your child in Hayes house and any achievements that they are involved in them please let me know so I can celebrate their successes alongside you.

Any information please forward to myself and Mrs Thompson on:

[m.lee@radcliffeschool.org.uk](mailto:m.lee@radcliffeschool.org.uk)

Or

[n.thompson1@radcliffeschool.org.uk](mailto:n.thompson1@radcliffeschool.org.uk)

## Extra curricular achievements Outside the classroom

### Gymnastics:

**Tayah Rogers year 10** – Tayah performed with her new Gym group and came **third** in Eastern Counties Acrobatics Regional Preliminaries, Grade 5 Womens Groups

### Vocab Express:

Students from Hayes in the overall World's 40 :

**Darcie Stimpson (8<sup>th</sup>) / Laiba Tahir (9<sup>th</sup>) / Katie Thompson (13<sup>th</sup>) / Rachel Thompson (15<sup>th</sup>) / Annelise Collier (33<sup>rd</sup>).**

Darcie Stimpson also ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in the world in German, Katie Thompson is 2<sup>nd</sup> and Rachel Thompson is 3<sup>rd</sup> whilst in French, Laiba Tahir ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the world and Annelise Collier is 12<sup>th</sup>



# Cowper News



What an exciting term this has been. Once again Cowper House excelled in and out of the classroom with a number of our students being recognised for their outstanding efforts. I am pleased to say that Cowper House has again taken first place in Behaviour For Learning across all year groups and it is pleasing to see how well our students are contributing towards the whole school community. Our Year 11 students are approaching their final push towards exams and I reminded them to attend the additional revision session during and after school. Lastly, The next round of House competitions is under way, thank you and good luck to all students who will be representing our house in the upcoming Badminton and Table Tennis matches.

## Upcoming House Events

Yr 7 Badminton / Table Tennis  
16/03/17

Yr 8 Badminton / Table Tennis  
15/03/17

Yr 9 Badminton / Table Tennis  
20/03/17

Yr 10/11 Badminton/Table  
Tennis  
13/03/17

**DEDICATION + MOTIVATION**

=

**SUCCESS**

**"Success grows in the Green  
House"**

## COWPER WALL OF FAME

### **Congratulations to**

**LIAM COOPER - MK Festival of Running**

**ALEXEI VITOSINSCHI - Leading Russian classes  
throughout the school**

**JOHN HARKNETT – Achieving level 9 in Maths**

**DEBBIE GOKE-ADEDEJI - Achieving level 9 in Maths**

**LILY BAVERSTOCK – Bucks County Gymnastics - Level 8**

**HENRY DINNICK - County target shooting**

# Lee News



**A word from Lee Head of House, Miss Girt:**

**'I can't believe we are in March already - how quickly 2017 is flying by!**

**Lee House currently sit in 2<sup>nd</sup> place across all house competitions, and we want to push Cowper out of first place so please be collecting stamps, merits, entering competitions and getting to school on time- all these things count towards the house total! With year 11 exams fast approaching, the Head team has come up with some advice on how they're preparing... '**



With exams in 7 weeks, pressure is mounting and with each day I become more terrified and more excited for the 23rd of June when they are all done!

But now all I can do is value every lesson as there are so little of them left and try to do as much revision as I can possibly manage without becoming too stressed!

This is it now, first exam in 57 days, last exam in 100 days and prom in 104 days! Bring it on!

As GCSES are approaching, with year 11's slowly getting ready for the day they sit their first exam. A useful technique that I use is making flashcards and posters. Good luck to year 11 on your upcoming exams!

Well done to...  
Cora Ainsworth who last week took part in the Global Vocab express Challenge and was ranked number 1 in Latin and 29<sup>th</sup> overall!



# McConnell News



## **A word from Head of McConnell House, Mr Partington:**

This newsletter arrives to you just a few weeks from Easter. The Year 11 students have worked hard all year and their progress has been good. They are now on the final straight and it is very important that they keep up the same work ethic. There will be Easter sessions published soon and the expectation is that every Year 11 should attend those. Also revision should have been started in earnest and we will be supporting the students in the best ways they can do this.

It is a real pleasure to be the McConnell Head of House. I get to see the students perform on a day to day basis and aspire to improve! In common with the other Houses we are trying to gather information about achievements outside School I don't often get the opportunity to recognize the achievements of our students outside the classroom. If you have information regarding your child in McConnell house and any achievements that they are involved in them please let me know so I can celebrate their successes alongside you.

Any information please forward to myself and Mrs Randolph on:  
[C.partington@radcliffeschool.org.uk](mailto:C.partington@radcliffeschool.org.uk)  
or  
[m.randolph@radcliffeschool.org.uk](mailto:m.randolph@radcliffeschool.org.uk)

**The past few weeks has seen significant success for the McConnell sports teams.**

**The Year 11 Boys won the Dodge Ball.**

**The Year 11 Girls came joint first in the Dodge Ball.**

**The Year 8 Girls won the Dodge Ball.**

**Well done to all of the students that did a fabulous job in representing their House in all the age groups.**