



THE RADCLIFFE SCHOOL
INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE

RAD NEWS

Issue 9 – May 2017

Congratulations to all the students who added to our overall score in the Vocab Express Global Competition – we came 3rd in the world!



English

The Year 11 students have just finished their final set of mock exams before their GCSEs later on this month. They are continuing to work extremely hard and the examiners who have marked their papers have reported that they have made significant improvements since the mock exams in January.

Some of our Key Stage Three students are currently taking part in the Carnegie Challenge by reading a number of books nominated for the award. They are meeting in small groups with a member of staff to discuss the books and seem to be really enjoying the challenge of trying new genres and eagerly anticipating which book will win the prize this year.

Maths

After successfully qualifying for the Junior and Intermediate Maths Olympiad, the Maths department are pleased to announce that both **Peter Roder** and **David Roder** achieved a certificate of merit and **Andrew Hutchinson, Jenson Taylor** and **Jasmine Myhill** achieved a certificate of qualification. Congratulations to them all.



An example question from this paper was, 'One-eighth of the guests at a wedding were children. Three-sevenths of the adult guests were men. What fraction of the wedding guests were adult women?'

ANSWER = half

Mr Humble KS4 Maths Leader



Science

Don't just watch others get involved, why not become part of your local environment.

TheParksTrust

MILTON KEYNES

The Parks Trust is an independent charity that cares for many of Milton Keynes parks and green spaces. This adds up to 5,000 acres of river valleys, woodlands, lakesides, parks and landscaped areas alongside the main roads – about 25 percent of the new city area.

For school aged natural scientists The Parks Trust offers two groups which allow you to contribute to the environment, work with like-minded people, as well as learn from it.

Youth Explorers is a group of those aged 11-14 interested in learning more about the natural world through practical activities. Fortnightly evening meetings are held at our two education centres, Linford Lakes Nature Reserve or Howe Park Wood Education Centre.

Youth Rangers is a volunteer group for young people aged 15-17 interested in gaining hands-on skills and experience in environmental work. The programme provides monthly outdoor learning opportunities and challenges that will help prepare participants, both professionally and personally, for future studies and careers within the environmental sector. However, the advantages of being a Youth Ranger are much more than gaining cv enhancing skills and knowledge.



We maintain a blog where you can keep up to date with what we get up to each month. Head to www.theparkstrust-youthrangers.weebly.com to check it out.

The benefits of participation include hands-on work experience, learning new skills and the opportunity to work towards earning the John Muir Award as well as The Parks Trust's own award scheme and provides an opportunity to meet new and like-minded people, share experiences, build confidence, contribute to your community, participate in outdoor physical activity, and have amazing life experiences.

Meetings for both groups cover a variety of interesting and engaging topics which include practical conservation work, wildlife monitoring and surveying, bush craft skills, traditional crafts, working with the community, adventure activities, and much more.

How to Join

If you are interested in joining the Youth Explorer group or the Youth Rangers, then please contact the education team at education@theparkstrust.com or 01908 233600. (The Youth Rangers programme is currently full but you can be added to a waiting list. The Parks Trust hold regular Youth Volunteering Days throughout the school holidays for those on the waiting list so they can get a chance to join in with some of the work).



AS Geography

On Friday 17 March the Year 12 Geographers took the train to Birmingham to conduct fieldwork on the need and success of rebranding. We visited Birmingham city centre including Birmingham Library where students investigated local research. They conducted pedestrian, traffic counts and environmental surveys.



On Friday 21 April Year 12 visited Southend to conduct coastal field work. They visited East Shoeburyness and Southend beaches to conduct beach transects, sediment surveys and vegetation surveys to investigate how coastal processes impact the coast.



Both trips are a compulsory part of the course to conduct a research investigation which forms part of the exam.

Mrs Holoway



Modern Foreign Languages

Vocab Express Celebration Lunch

We invited our top 25 scorers to a celebration lunch to congratulate them for achieving such fantastic scores.

These students' scores also counted towards a separate competition, against the top 25 scorers from all of the other schools involved, and achieved ***2nd place***!



Vocab Express Photo!

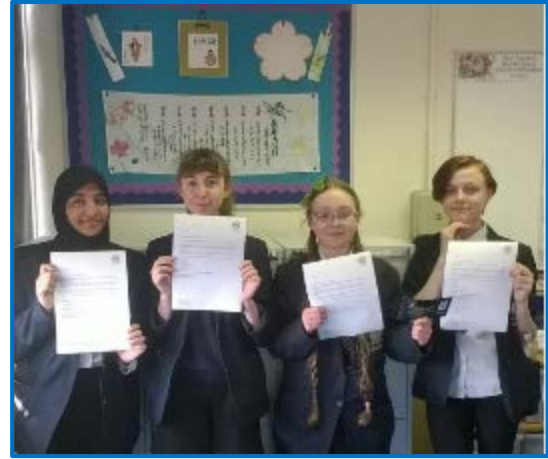
Congratulations to all the below students who added to our overall score in the Competition – we achieved 3rd place in the world.



Japanese Club News

The Japanese club wrote a proposal to Mr Chaaban to allow them cinema tickets to see a Japanese film. Look out for their Film Report in the next Newsletter!

The Japanese Club were excited to take part in a Japanese cookery session after school with Mrs Barr last week. They made miso soup and Kansai style *okonomiyaki* (which looks like a pizza). This was, for many, their first attempt at cooking Japanese food and sampling authentic ingredients. They were able to take some home to share with their families too! The group also managed to give some of the recipe instructions in Japanese. *Gambarimashita!*



Latin Trip

Miss Stapley and Miss Trochu took 10 Latin GCSE students to London to visit the Roman Exhibition at the Museum of London. Luckily, the weather was on our side, so we had a picnic lunch outside St Pauls, before taking part in a guided walk around Londinium. Our guide was very knowledgeable and really brought Roman London to life! Miss Stapley would like to thank the students for their excellent behaviour and engagement for the whole adventure!





Art



The Art department has been in full exam mode over the last few weeks. The Year 12 and 13 Graphics, Photography and Art exams have now taken place. We've seen some outstanding final pieces as well as beautiful sketchbooks, photoshoots and prototypes that the students have been working so hard on. We are always extremely proud of the way in which our students conduct themselves in the exams and how incredibly hard working and creative they are. It is a privilege to watch them create such wonderful work and we look forward to seeing it in all its glory, when it is exhibited for the moderation show.



"Amplitude promotions" : An amped night of success

A night of Milton Keynes alternative musical talent filled Radcliffe's main hall on Thursday 4 May with innovative rock anthems and fresh indie originals.

Year 12 music technology students **Tommy Woodward** and **Corin Schencks**' promotion project 'Amplitude' ran and organised the event with huge success and over 100 attenders. Some of the home grown Radcliffe performers included **Harry Quinn** on vocals and guitar with his electric 2 piece band "Flowertoy".

Many thanks to music staff **Martin Wakley**, **Sam Norman** and **Patrick Woodington** for helping support the event.

Stay tuned for more concerts later this year.

facebook.com/AmplitudeRadcliffe/



IAG News

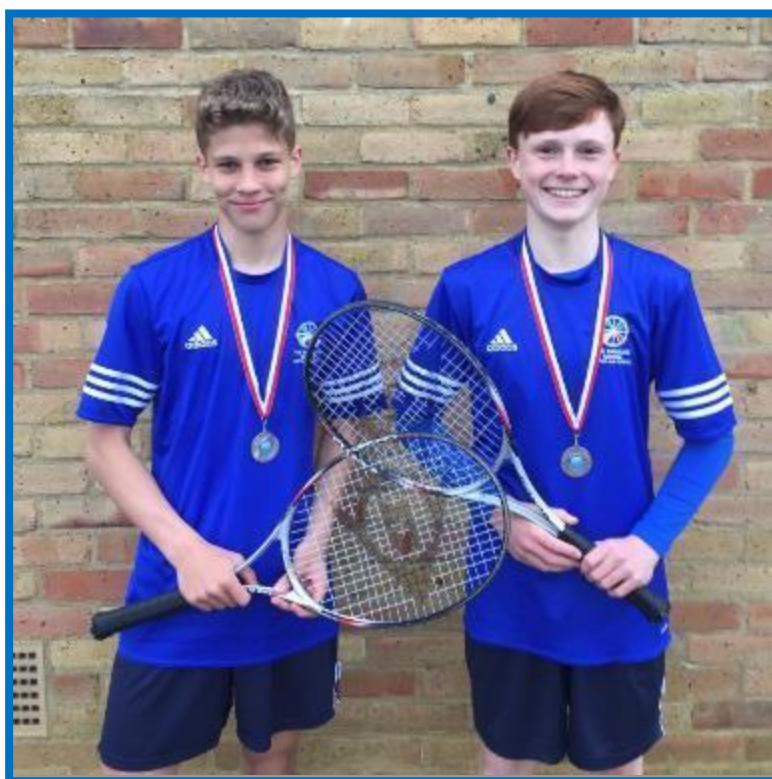
We have been busy with one to one appointments with Year 11 students as well as college visits.

We have also taken a group of Year 12 students to the annual Oxbridge conference at Edgbaston Stadium, Birmingham. The conference gives students an insight into applying for Oxford or Cambridge university, including admissions tests, interviews and personal statements. Students were also able to attend subject specific talks.

The students had an enjoyable and informative day.



Milton Keynes Schools Tennis Tournament



The Year 10 Radcliffe Tennis Team arrived at the MK Schools tournament with very little experience of competitive tennis and as a result were quite nervous at the prospect of taking on the best that MK Schools had to offer. On reflection they had needn't worry. Despite a difficult first round fixture which ended in defeat, the two boys had gained confidence and approached the remaining fixtures in a confident manner. This new found belief combined with some excellent technical skills shown by both Ben and Max meant that in the following three rounds they recorded a draw and two victories. The all round attitude and performance from both players resulted in the Radcliffe Team finishing in second place and picking up a well deserved silver medal. Congratulations boys!



PE Department News

Forthcoming Fixtures



Tuesday 9th May
Year 7 Girls Rounders
vs. MK Academy at Radcliffe



Tuesday 9th May
Year 10 Girls Rounders
vs. MK Academy at MK Academy



Tuesday 9th May
Year 10 Boys Cricket
vs. Denbigh at Radcliffe



Wednesday 10th May
Year 10 Girls Tennis Tournament
vs. MK Schools at MK Tennis Club



Thursday 11th May
Year 7 Boys Cricket
vs. Sir Herbert Leon Academy at SHLA



Thursday 11th May
Year 9 Girls Rounders Tournament
vs. MK Schools at Ousedale



Hayes News



A word from Hayes Head of House, Mr Lee:...for the final time this year I will hand over the newsletter to our head boy and head girl team to let you know of the events and successes and give them the chance to pass on one final message so over to Jenson and Daisy!

As the year is coming to end, we've enjoyed reflecting back upon our houses' best moments – it's been a pleasure being a part of the Hayes House Team.

House Stars of the Term

Thank you to all the staff we have had over the past 5 years, doing all they can (this year especially) to help us achieve our goals.

**Jenson Taylor, Daisy Johnson,
Dale Cook, Chloe Bourne**

Tayah Rogers – Year 10

Tayah competed in the **East Regions gymnastics acrobat competition** and came first so congratulations!

Alfie Woodgate – Year 8

Alfie has been selected by the FA to be a part of their **England Talent Identification Programme** so a huge congratulations to him.

Over the course of this year, we've had the chance to pick many 'Pride of Hayes House' students, giving us the opportunity to reward those who stand out; this was an extremely challenging process due to the amount of wonderful students among our House! Despite our current position this year, we've seen a real improvement in participation and overall unity within the house. It's been an honour to represent you all, as your Head Girls and Boys and we will miss wearing our blue ties with pride!

Good luck to all our fellow Year 11 students in the exams starting next week with Art!

Cowper News



A word from Cowper Head of House, Mr De Beer: I am sure you will agree that this half term is an exceptionally quick and busy one with Year 11 exams just around the corner. I would like to congratulate students for their hard work, our House is currently flying in first place in the overall standings with a points score of 336. As you can imagine competition is fierce among the house teams as we all get points for Attendance, Punctuality, Behavior for Learning, Sports and House Competitions and Vivo's. I urge all our students to put their best foot forward for the next 10 weeks. I would also like to thank all students who have taken part in school and house events last half term. Mrs Fenemore and I are aware many of you give up your free time to support our house and it is much appreciated. Finally, have an enjoyable summer term and I look forward to sharing our success in July.

Overall Standing

(September – March)

Cowper – 336 points
McConnell – 288 points
Lee – 260 points
Hayes – 246 points

Dates for the Diary

Tutor Evening – 18 May 2017
Year 11 Prom – 27 June 2017

DEDICATION
+
MOTIVATION
=
SUCCESS

“Success grows in the Green House”

Upcoming House Competitions

|  HOUSE SPORTS TOURNAMENT ROUNDERS / SOFTBALL | |
|--|---|
| Thursday 4th May | Yr 7 Girls Rounders |
| Monday 15th May | Yr 10/11 Girls Rounders Yr 10/11 Boys Softball |
| Tuesday 16th May | Yr 9 Girls Rounders Yr 9 Boys Softball |
| Wednesday 17th May | Yr 8 Girls Rounders Yr 8 Boys Softball |
| Thursday 18th May | Yr 7 Boys Softball |

If you are interested in the house competition please see your House Manager.

Lee News

A word from Lee Head of House, Miss Girt:

'I can't believe we are in May already- how quickly 2017 is flying by! The Year 11 exams are fast approaching, and I would like to take this opportunity to say well done, good luck and thank you to our Year 11's. They have been a credit to the school throughout their time here at The Radcliffe, and have conducted themselves in the exam build-up in a mature and responsible manner. This Year 11's have been the year group that have provided the most support, and have been positive role models, to other students. They will be greatly missed as a year group, and I hope to see many of their faces still around the corridors when they return with us in September as sixth form members of the school.

Good luck in your chosen next steps Year 11. We will miss you!



HOUSE SPORTS TOURNAMENT ROUNDERS / SOFTBALL



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Wednesday 17th May Yr 8 Girls Rounders
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Thursday 18th May Yr 7 Boys Softball



Upcoming house events:

These will be the last house events of this school year as next half term we will be preparing for, and competing in, Sports day where we will expect participation by everybody in the house in some form or another.

McConnell News



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

I am absolutely delighted to be back in the McConnell house office, especially at such a key time of year, where there is so much to celebrate in our house. Year 11 are working hard in the build up to a very busy exam period and I would like to give my thanks to all of our students who wear their red tie with pride every day. The spring term was a very successful one for McConnell house, at a time when competition amongst all four houses is very intense. I am proud to announce that we managed to accumulate more house points than any other house and in order to maintain this we must ensure levels of attendance, punctuality, behaviour for learning and VIVO rewards remain high, not to mention our sporting success. Looking forward, I hope all McConnell students have a fantastic summer term filled with achievements that I look forward to celebrating with you in the near future.

House Points

Spring Term

McConnell – 118 points

Cowper – 116 points

Lee – 114 points

Hayes – 112 points

Dates for the Diary

Tutor Evening –

18 May 2017

Year 11 Prom –

27 June 2017

Responsibility

Expectation

Determination

UPCOMING HOUSE EVENTS

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
|  | HOUSE SPORTS TOURNAMENT | |  |
| | ROUNDERS / SOFTBALL | | |
| Thursday 4TH May | Yr 7 Girls Rounders |  | |
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| Wednesday 17th May | Yr 8 Girls Rounders Yr 8 Boys Softball | | |
| Thursday 18th May | Yr 7 Boys Softball | | |

We are looking to build on our achievements in last term's house sports competitions in the summer term. If you would like to become a part of McConnell's continued sporting success story, please contact your house manager.