



RADLEY



Rugby Season's First Whistle

Radley's rugby season kicked off last week with a series of home and away fixtures against Epsom College – “the boys should be proud,” commented don Robin Weekes, concerning the Colts 2 who, along with thirteen other teams, poached a worthy victory. Saturday's successes – which also included Radleians tackling teams from Bloxham, Eton and Teddies – followed Friday's formality, wherein the Bigside squad passed the Midge 1s their match shirts for their first College fixture. Teams were also heartened to hear that recent OR Jonno Balding (2020, B) has been selected in the official England U20 squad.

Parent Information

All Parents

Music Flood Week

over the week – leading assemblies, busking, leading singing workshops, or playing with the *Doikayt* ensemble during Thursday's Abingdon Market Place celebration event.

***Doikayt*, 25th September**

Parents are warmly invited to catch visiting band *Doikayt* perform in Theatre at 8pm on Thursday 25th September, joined on stage by some of our Radley musicians. Reserve your free ticket [here](#) for an hour of Klezmer and Balkan party music. All Shells will be attending, and several Socials will hear the band play on Wednesday night during Social Prayers.

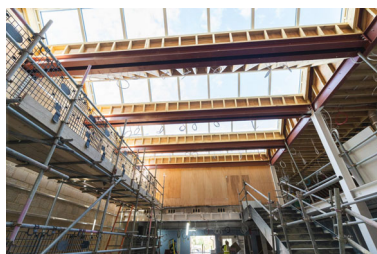
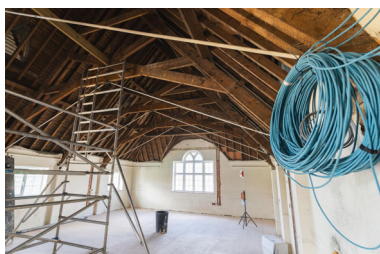
***Drinking Down the Light* Art Exhibition**

All parents are welcome to see this textile painting exhibition by Cassandra Wall in the Sewell Centre Gallery which is now in its last week. The exhibition will finish on Friday 26th September.

Medications

A polite reminder that all medications coming into the College must be declared to the PHM. If it is an ADHD or antidepressant medication, these should be handed in to the PHM, ideally by a parent or guardian.

Music School Update – Week 60 of 71



If only progress always moved at this pace! We are now 60 weeks into a 71-week build and momentum on site has picked up significantly. Today, the site is buzzing with activity, with approximately 60 skilled tradespeople hard at work including plasterers, ceramic tilers, and specialist contractors installing the Silk Hall staging. Mechanical and electrical teams continue their essential work, much of which will be hidden from view upon completion but remains critical to the building's functionality.

If you happen to walk past the front of the building, you'll notice a large excavation that might resemble a swimming pool. Sadly, it's not quite that exciting – it's the drainage attenuation tank. While not glamorous, this vital infrastructure ensures that stormwater is safely managed during flash floods, protecting the wider drainage system.

Over the coming weeks, we will be working on a migration plan to coordinate the relocation of music facilities into their new purpose-built home.

award-winning musical *Hadestown* at the Lyric Theatre, London, on Thursday 26th September.

The trip is open to boys studying English in the 6.1 and 6.2, for whom the show will enhance and develop a sense of the timelessness of myth, and link to aspects of their Poetry and Drama units at A-Level. The trip is also open to boys studying Classical Civilisation in the Vths. The musical will complement their study of Ovid's account of Orpheus and Eurydice within the *Journeying to the Underworld* module of Myth and Religion. To sign up, boys should complete the form which they have received via email. Please contact Elektra Georgiakakis [via email](#) with any questions.

Library

If you are visiting Radley, drop into the refurbished Library to see the new Archives display: the Gold and Silver Books about Copies and Distinctions.

The Radley Foundation – Celebrating 25 Years

This year marks the 25th anniversary of The Radley Foundation. To celebrate, 25 stories have been gathered from across the College and Radley community, each one sharing the impact of donor generosity. Highlights include:

- Lord Craig of Radley (1943, E) - a Radley War Memorial Fund scholar whose career in the Royal Air Force led him to become Chief of the Defence Staff.
- Filmed interviews featuring: [Mikolaj](#) (2020, G) and [Harkirat](#) (2020, L) - recent leavers reflecting on five extraordinary years at Radley.

Your special edition of the *Impact Report* will be arriving through the post soon. In the meantime, you can explore these stories and more [here](#).

Catholic Confirmation

Weekly Catholic Confirmation preparation sessions for boys in or above the Remove year will begin after the Exeat weekend. Thank you to the parents who have already registered their son into the preparation programme. Please contact [Ms Hurley](#) if you would like your son to be added to the group. The Confirmation will be celebrated in Eastertide on Sunday 26th April at 5pm in the College Chapel by Bishop Philip Egan of the diocese of Portsmouth.

Taxi Booking for Exeat Weekends, Leave Aways & Start/End of Terms

The process for taxi bookings has now changed. Booking requests will now be made through a new online portal: [Vectare](#).

For boys on a Child Student Visa:

- Continue to complete the MS Form we send you. Ensure you print a copy of this form and give it to your son to act as the UKVI Letter of Consent.
- Book your taxi via Vectare.

- You no longer need to complete the MS Form. Simply book your taxi via Vectare.
- Ensure the UKVI Letter of Consent is completed by downloading it from the Vectare portal.

Michaelmas Exeat booking window:

- Closes at 12pm (noon) on Monday 22nd September.
- Note: The portal will be closed for Michaelmas Exeat bookings after this time. Please book within this time frame.

After the portal closes, bookings must be made directly with taxi companies and will be charged at the time of booking or travel (not added to your school bill).

Access:

- Taxi Booking Portal can be found [here](#).
- How to book a taxi guide can be found [here](#).
- 'Contact us' page via the Vectare portal: Vectare or the College will respond accordingly.



Raising boys in a digital age: understanding and navigating the impact of pornography. A conversation with Dr Elly Hanson.

Monday 13th October, 6.30pm

Our *Talking Heads* Parent Webinar this half of term is on the theme of pornography. Dr Elly Hanson is a leading expert in adolescent wellbeing. As a clinical



supporting young people in how to enjoy positive relationships. She has also authored a report on pornography and the ways in which it can undermine young people's autonomy, values, sexuality and relationships.

In conversation with our Deputy Head (Pastoral) Ed James, Dr Hanson will look at the current landscape around pornography, recent UK regulatory changes and offer parents advice on how to support and communicate effectively with their sons on this issue.

It promises to be an interesting and informative discussion. There will be a Q&A session for parents towards the end. Please register for the webinar [here](#).

Shell

Well done to victorious Shell rugby teams for their excellent performances against Epsom and Bloxham last weekend. It is great to get Radley sporting 'careers' off to a winning start. Shells have now experienced a full cycle of the timetable. As such, as well as getting a sense of the excellent opportunities of academic life at Radley, they are familiar with and gaining confidence in the routines and demands of the system. We will be expecting more of them in terms of punctuality, scholarly effort to work on good quality preps and learning for tests, and most importantly growing their sense of responsibility for their own learning.

I will be presenting more information on academic matters at the Shell Parents' Reception and Meeting with Form Masters on Friday 26th September. More details are available in the [Letter of Invitation](#). Please read the invitation letter and RSVP to Form Masters if you are not able to attend.

The Shells are also rehearsing and getting ready for their Haddon Cup plays, and some are even looking ahead to the Partsong Competition later in the term. [\[info\]](#)

Events to note:

course in making films. Shells will be involved in learning the history of film, training in the craft of choreography and film camera work, and also making their own short films to be judged in a friendly competition.

- Shell Parents' Reception and Meeting with Form Masters: Friday 26th September, 12noon in Theatre. See above and the [Letter of Invitation](#). **[info]**

Haddon Cup

The annual Haddon Cup will take place in Theatre on Sunday 5th October. Parents are welcome to join us for the competition. Each Social's Shell group will perform an original ten-minute play, written and directed by 6.1 boys from their Social. It's always an entertaining evening! Please read [this letter](#) for more information. **[info]**

Dr Matthew Rumbold

Interim Head of Shells

MIR.Rumbold@radley.org.uk

Remove

Parents Evening

Please find information about the Remove parents' meeting on Friday October 17th [here](#). **[info]**

Combined Cadet Force

Please find information about Remove CCF [here](#). **[info]**



- Friday 10th – Wednesday 15th April 2026: Radley boys visit Barcelona
- Wednesday 20th – Monday 25th May 2026: Viaró boys visit the UK

If you would like your son to be involved in this exciting cultural and linguistic opportunity, please fill in [this form](#) if you haven't already. Final deadline for signing up is Monday 22nd September 2025. You will be emailed confirmation of your son's place on the trip by Exeat weekend. Email any questions regarding the trip to [Mrs Perrett](#). **[info]**



Borneo Trip

In the summer of 2027 we will be taking a trip to Borneo. The trip is open to all current Removes and Fifths. This is a life-changing opportunity for students to explore Borneo with expert guides, while developing their life skills, confidence and independence. We are partnering with World Challenge to offer this 13-night trip, which complements school learning.

Applications are now open, so please visit the [trip page](#) for the sign-up link, itinerary, travel dates, Covid-secure booking terms and trip cost.

Mrs Perrett from World Challenge will be talking to the boys on Monday 22nd September. She will then host a 25-minute Zoom presentation on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm for parents which will include examples of how past students earned the cost of the trip themselves. Please register for the Zoom presentation [here](#). **[info]**

Mr Alan Chandrachud

Head of Removes

AJC.Chandrachud@radley.org.uk

Fifth

Dates for the Diary

To aid your planning, I have provided a list of key dates for the Vth Form covering the remainder of the academic year. Any updates will be shared via the Bulletin. Please make a note of these in your diary.

- 12th – 16th January 2026: Phase 1 Mocks

This is purposefully after the exeat so that you can discuss your son's choices with him over the weekend.

- 13th February 2026: Vth Form parents' meeting

Further details will be shared in due course, but the day will likely follow the following structure: Coffee from 11am, Talks from Head of Year, Deputy Head Academic and the Careers department, lunch and meetings with Dons with the day finishing by 3pm.

- 2nd – 11th March 2026: Phase 2 Mocks
- 28th June – 3rd July 2026: Futures Week

Details will follow from the Head of Sixth Form in the summer term. Boys will need to be back in social by 7pm on Sunday 28th June. **[info]**

IGCSE Orals

IGCSE orals are scheduled to take place shortly after the second phase of mock examinations. Boys are already attending weekly practice sessions in the languages department and should expect the final assessment to take place in the second half of March. **[info]**

Psychometric Profiling and Futures Advice

As your son approaches an important stage in his academic journey, he'll soon be making key decisions about his A-Level options. While these choices present an opportunity to select subjects that align with his unique strengths and interests, it is also important to consider how decisions might impact his future higher education and careers opportunities too. To support him through this process, we offer Morrisby psychometric profiling and futures advice. For more information, and to register your son, please read [this letter](#). **[info]**

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Mrs Jo De Ritter

Head of Fifths

JDR.de.Ritter@radley.org.uk

6.1

A Level English Discover Dublin Trip

We are delighted to offer your son an exceptional opportunity to immerse himself in the literary heart of Ireland through our carefully curated three-day educational expedition to Dublin. This trip will provide invaluable support for A Level English studies while offering a rich cultural exploration of one of Europe's most celebrated literary capitals. More information can be found [here](#). **[info]**

Connecting Students Beyond Radley

It's never too early to prepare for life beyond Radley. Our networking platforms connect your son with the Radley Community where he can get advice on universities and courses, plan a gap year, seek career advice, or explore entrepreneurial ideas. To enable this, your son needs your consent and support, find out more [here](#). **[info]**

Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

6.2

A Level English Discover Dublin Trip

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Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

News



Try and Try Again

On Tuesday, capitalising on Saturday's victory over Epsom, the 1st XV won their opening match of the U18 Schools Cup 50-0 against Collegiate School. Nick Wood described the game as "a fine performance", while Douglas (6.2, L) wrote in the match report, "Radley immediately started strong... [Congratulations](#) to Toby (6.2, L), Harry (6.1, J), George (6.1, B) and Fintan (6.2, L) who represented the XV for the first time."



Shell Games Circus

The Shell Games Circus continued this week with the boys enjoying a rotation of activities including croquet, fives and rowing. A, H and K Socials took on the famous 'Radley Mile' around the Athletics Track, with B, G, J and L due to face the same on the Circus's final day next Tuesday. Richard Hughes, Tutor of A Social commented that the "boys did very well... it was a great opportunity to try out a new sport".



Dame Emily Lawson

Monday afternoon saw a special Theatre talk from Dame Emily Lawson DBE, who led the NHS's COVID-19 vaccine/booster rollouts in 2020 and 2021. Lawson discussed her unconventional career path – including geneticist, development manager, and Director of HR at Morrisons – and how her Jewish roots compelled her to follow *Tikkun olam*, or 'repairing the world' (the self-ascribed obligation to pursue social service and peace to enforce a relationship with God).



Book Launch

Senior Chaplain Bob Evans launched his new book *God and History in the Early Medieval West* to a packed Science Theatre, having previously undertaken a Cambridge PhD on the history of the early medieval west. The Chaplain also teaches a 6.1 CEP option on the topic (rarely discussed at school level) – Evans notes, “The boys really enjoy tackling texts from the world of shield walls and feasting halls

MASSOLIT Essay

“The ‘Eurodollar’ market can work against the US’s interests – so how do you regulate an unregulated system?” Dingding (6.2, D) orated in his now-officially commended entry in the MASSOLIT Video Essay Competition, detailing the history and politics of US dollars held in non-US banks. On Monday, the Prefect received a certificate at Brasenose College for his ‘outstanding achievements’, his video having made the top ten from a 500-strong pool of Competition contenders.



Clay Shoot

Sunday’s RCB annual clay shoot saw a record 114 pairs take on a challenging series of stands. Also on offer was a tour of the kennels and the opportunity to fire an historical blunderbuss and black powder musket. Ultimately, J Social earned the highest score – Archie (6.1, E) and his father won Best Radley Pair and JT Lindsay (R, D) Best Individual Radley Boy. Charlie Herbert writes, “It was terrific to see so many parents, new and old, and to have the

Fixtures & Travel Information

As above, please check **SOCS** for the latest fixture news.

Saturday 20th September

Rugby v Harrow

Rugby v Marlborough

Rugby v MCS

Tuesday 23rd September

Golf v Harrow

Thursday 25th September

Rugby v Bedford

Golf v Bradfield v Wellington Triangular

Rackets v St Paul's

Real Tennis v Cranford

Badminton v Winchester

Cross Country v Abingdon

Friday 26th September

Swimming ESSA Regional Finals

Upcoming Events

Doikayt musical performance

Thursday 25th September, 8pm

Theatre

Book free tickets [here](#).

Field Art Exhibition

3rd October – 16th October 2025

Latest Photo Galleries

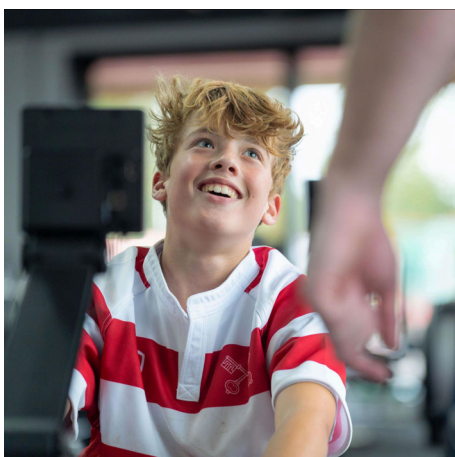
We are grateful to all our professional, staff and boy photographers who work hard to capture the true essence of Radley. As ever, all photographs are available to download from [Flickr](#).



Rugby v Collegiate



Shell Tug-of-War



Shell Games Circus



Library

Latest Videos



Rugby vs Epsom



Shell Tug-of-War



Mikolaj's Story



Harkirat's Story



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