



RADLEY



## Partsong

The annual *Partsong* competition is one of the highlights of the Radley year. Theatre was packed, with many more watching online, as the 11 Social Partsong teams, involving over 150 boys, performed outstanding arrangements of songs from A-ha, Imagine Dragons, Madness, and many more. The event is entirely organised by the pupils, who arrange the music and rehearse independently throughout the term. Adjudicated by acclaimed composer and conductor Quentin Thomas (presently Director of Music at The King's School, Gloucester). As ever, it was a joyous night, celebrating the amazing singing and performing culture at Radley. Well done to F, A and B Social for their first, second and third place finishes, with Thomas commenting "What you achieved tonight was really quite remarkable". Yesterday's livestream can be viewed [here](#). Please navigate past the opening slide to 29:09 minutes when the competition starts.

## Parent Information

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### All Parents

### Impact of Pornography

On Monday we hosted a *Talking Heads* Parent Webinar on the theme of pornography. Dr Elly Hanson, a leading expert in adolescent wellbeing, discussed the current landscape around pornography and recent UK regulatory changes, offering parents advice on how to support and communicate effectively with their sons on this issue. A recording of the talk is [here](#).

### Head of the Charles Regatta, 17–19 October

14 Radley rowers will compete in the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston, USA this weekend. Photos will be uploaded to [this link](#) on Sunday afternoon.

### Radley Schools Group: Mowden Hall Wins Prep School of the Year



Congratulations to Radley Schools Group's Mowden Hall which has been named 2025 Prep School of the Year at the Independent Schools of the Years Awards! Mowden Hall writes, "This incredible achievement recognises the dedication, passion, and excellence of our entire school community. A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful pupils, dedicated staff, and supportive families."

### Scabies

There have been some cases of scabies diagnosed at school, which has led to a process of identifying those pupils who have had close contact with the individuals. If you and your son have not been contacted, it is unlikely that he is a close contact. However, we attach some information [here](#) about the condition from the UKHSA and advise you to go to your local pharmacy over Leave–Away if you have any concerns.

### Prescriptions over Leave–Away

A reminder that if your son requires a repeat prescription over the break, you can request this from [Long Furlong Medical Centre](#) by completing their online form through the 'appointments' button, followed by the 'contact us online' button. This will take you to their request form, which opens at 8am Monday–Friday, but only accepts a certain number of entries in a day. This means it is important to place your request as close to 8am as

here.

Alternatively, we would encourage you to download the NHS app on your son's phone and activate an account under his email and phone number. 13 to 15-year-olds will need to contact Long Furlong Medical Centre to request login credentials to be able to access repeat prescription requests, but once this is done, you will be able to order repeat prescriptions over all the holidays and request that they are sent to a local pharmacy. For safety reasons, Long Furlong Medical Centre will not accept telephone or email requests for prescriptions anymore.

A reminder that all medications coming back to school must be made know to the PHM, or handed in for daily dispensing. Thanks for your help with this.

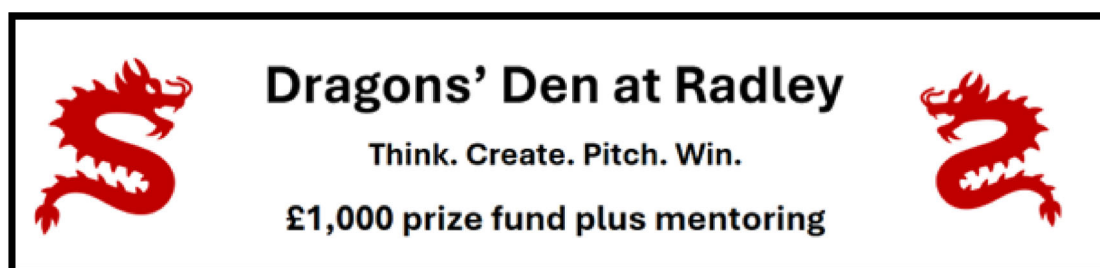
### **Service of Remembrance: 9th November, 10.45am**

Parents of all boys in CCF are reminded that their sons are expected to be in school to take part in the Service of Remembrance. Parents who are planning to attend the service should be seated in Chapel by 10.35am.

### **The Serpentes Essay Prize**

The 2025–26 *The Serpentes Essay Prize* is now open to all boys. A competition created by students for students, it gives Radleians the opportunity to write about the topics they are most passionate about and to showcase their talents to the rest of the College. There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize for all subjects, an open prize, and the *Serpentes Prize*, for the overall best essay across all subjects. Do encourage your boys to participate.

### **Dragons' Den**



All boys are encouraged to step into the Den and pitch to a panel of real entrepreneurs – the Dragons.

- Round 1 – The 60-Second Pitch – Create a one-minute video explaining the idea.
- Round 2 – A 6-minute live pitch with Q&A.
- More information after Leave–Away.

### **CCF Christmas Climbing Trip**

in order of application. Any questions please contact the trip leader, [Paul Fernandez](#).

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

The process for taxi bookings has now changed. All 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 for his journey to act as the UKVI Letter of Consent.
- Book your taxi via Vectare.

For boys not on a Child Student Visa but travelling from overseas:

- 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 and give it to your son for his journey.

Advent Exeat Weekend booking window:

- Opens at 2pm on Friday 7th November and closes at 2pm on Friday 14th November.
- Note: The Vectare portal will be closed for Advent Exeat Weekend 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 is [here](#) and FAQs can be found [here](#).
- The 'Contact us' page is via the Vectare portal: Vectare or the College will respond accordingly\*

\*If it is a query about a confirmed journey, on the day of the journey, and is after 6pm Monday-Friday, or at any time on a weekend, please contact the confirmed taxi company directly to enquire (please refer to your confirmation email for details).

If you advise on your booking request that you are happy for your son to travel with other pupils, we will merge and confirm shared taxi journeys as soon as possible after the booking window has closed.

Please check [Radley College Parent Zone](#) for regular updates.

### **Appearance and Uniform**

Thank you for your support regarding boys' appearance over the first half of the term. As the weather gets colder, may we remind you that plain grey or navy blue V-neck jumpers may be worn as part of school uniform, but not round-neck or zip jumpers. Sixth Form boys may wear overcoats of a sober style. Could all boys please return after Leave–Away with a regulation haircut ready for the second half of the term, which is especially important for Remove boys involved in the Remembrance Service.

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# TALKING HEADS

RELATIONSHIPS FESTIVALS CAREERS PORN  
GENDER MASCULINITY DRUGS  
SEX E-SAFETY PARTIES ALCOHOL  
BANTER SOCIAL MEDIA VAPES GAMING

## PARENT WEBINAR SERIES



### Inside the Adolescent Mind: Dr Lucy Foulkes in Conversation with the Warden



**Tuesday 11th November, 7pm**

Our *Talking Heads* Parent Webinar for the next half of term is on the theme of mental health and understanding adolescence. The Warden will be talking to leading academic psychologist and author Dr Lucy Foulkes. Her group researches mental health and social development in adolescence, with a particular focus on the impact of public mental health awareness and school-based mental health interventions.

Dr Lucy Foulkes has written two books: *What Mental Illness Really Is (...and what it isn't)* and *Coming Of Age: How Adolescence Shapes Us*, both published by Penguin Random House. Her work has been featured in national and international media outlets including *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *New Scientist*, BBC Radio 4, BBC Newsnight and *The New York Times*. It promised 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](#).

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## Shell

The Shells have had an incredible first half term at Radley, and I hope they enjoy a well-deserved rest. It is worth pausing to reflect on just how much they have grown and learnt in a short space of time. They have adapted really well to a new school with a demanding programme, exciting and successful sporting fixtures, and high expectations and standards. I hope your sons will share some of highlights of the term so far with you. I would also encourage you to talk and think about some of the challenges: it is so important to set

a positive and ambitious set of targets and expectations.

As far as academic work is concerned, individual dons may have set holiday work, but I think the boys should prioritise rest. They should, however, read for pleasure and for intellectual curiosity. The next half term will be more focussed on getting ready for exams. This is no need for immediate concern: dons will send out revision guides when the Shells return and I will organise a study/revision talk to help with exam preparation techniques.

The main message is rest and reflection. I look forward to a rejuvenated year group returning in two weeks. **[info]**

### **Securly Parent App**

At the beginning of Leave–Away we will be launching the Securly Parent App as a way for parents to monitor their son's use of their school iPad whilst at home. Please see [this letter](#) from Mr Grice for more information. **[info]**

### **Dr Matthew Rumbold**

Interim Head of Shells

[MIR.Rumbold@radley.org.uk](mailto:MIR.Rumbold@radley.org.uk)

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## **Remove**

It's been a great half term for the Remove year group and I'm delighted with the strong academic start the boys have made. They should enjoy plenty of rest over the break, but should keep their work ticking over with the tasks set by their dons that will help them prepare for the Michaelmas examinations. I hope the boys, and parents, have a wonderful break. **[info]**

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### **Borneo Trip – Sign Up Deadline Imminent**

In July 2027 we will be taking a trip to Borneo. The trip is open to all current Removes and Fifths. The deadline for signing your sons up to this life changing trip is Friday 24th October 2025. To find out more and sign your son up please visit our [trip page](#). If you have any questions, please contact the trip leader [Paul Fernandez](#). **[action]**

## Fifth

I hope you all have a lovely Leave–Away with your sons. Here is a reminder of useful dates this academic year. As always, any updates will be shared in *Bulletin*:

- 12th - 16th January 2026: Phase 1 Mocks
- 15th January 2026: A-Level briefing for Fifths (Boys only)
- 28th January 2026: A-Level options deadline  
This is purposefully after the exeat so that you can discuss your son's choices with him over the weekend.
- 13th February 2026: Fifth form parents' meeting  
Further details will be shared in due course, but the day will likely follow this 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.
- 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]**

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### Personal Careers Advice – Last Call to Register

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](#).

**[action]**

The Geography department is delighted to launch the next departmental fieldtrip to Norway in February Leave-Away 2027. This trip will be of interest to anyone wanting to explore the Nordic landscapes and culture, as well as complementing the A-Level Geography syllabus. It will take in some of Norway's most spectacular fjords and scenery, as well as offering the opportunity to explore Bergen and Voss. It is not necessary to be studying Geography to join the trip, although in the event of it being oversubscribed preference will be offered to geographers. Further information can be found in the [attached letter](#). To sign up for the trip, please complete [this form](#). The deadline for applications is end of Leave-Away. **[action]**

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### **Mrs Jo De Ritter**

Head of Fifths

[JDR.de.Ritter@radley.org.uk](mailto:JDR.de.Ritter@radley.org.uk)

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## **6.1**

I hope the boys enjoy a well deserved rest over Leave-Away. **[info]**

### **Geography Field Trip to Norway**

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### **Mr Tim Lawson**

Head of Sixth Form

[TCL@radley.org.uk](mailto:TCL@radley.org.uk)

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**Mr Tim Lawson**

Head of Sixth Form

[TCL@radley.org.uk](mailto:TCL@radley.org.uk)

## News



### A Kind of Magic

The internationally renowned Drummond Money-Coutts, star of Netflix's *Death by Magic*, visited Radley on Tuesday for a special presentation of, and about, the art of magic. The magician, who has also appeared on the BBC and the National Geographic Channel, even got boys involved with some card tricks...



### Reading Small Boats

20 crews competed in the Reading Small Boats Head last Saturday across two divisions (35 boys in total), picking up wins in the J16 coxless four and J16 pair event, while senior pairs picked up wins in Band 2 and 3 coxless pairs.



## Partnership Update

This week has seen a great array of Partnerships activities. Four boys read with children from Orchard Meadow Primary School, with Head of Fifts Joanna De Ritter reporting, “It was lovely to see them build up relationships with the children.” The dedicated ‘tidying team’ meanwhile trimmed the grassy curbs of St James’ Road in Radley village – “a couple of residents walked past and commented on how much they appreciated the job they were doing.”



## Pond Life

The Natural History Curriculum Extension Programme (CEP) group, along with Mr Noone and



## Earth Science Trip

On Tuesday, ten 6.1 Earth Science students braved “very twisty roads” (according to Head of Geology Chris Bedford) to reach the Jurassic Coast’s famed Lulworth Cove, studying the area’s signature folding and faulting for their A level practical endorsement. The boys measured the Mesozoic strata signature to the area, studying the effects of the same tectonic forces that built the Alps about a thousand kilometres to the south.



## CCF Field Exercise

Last Sunday and Monday, 49 NCOs and 18 staff deployed on the NCO Training and Tactical

Pond on Sunday to help village volunteers remove overgrown weeds and foliage from the ecologically valuable area. Councillor Harriet Moggridge of the Village Pond working group sent an email of thanks, saying, "You can see a pond again and space around it! It was a fabulous community effort."

lessons on ambushes, bushcraft, responsible weapons handling, and Close Target Reconnaissance. A morning of contact drills and orienteering, followed by a friendly game of Airsoft, concluded what CCF Commander Paul Fernandez described as "an awful lot packed into a short time".



## Brazil Exchange

Oliver (R, J) and Hector (R, D) have arrived in Brazil as part of Radley's two-week exchange partnership with St Paul's School, São Paulo. Oliver and Hector will be "immersed in a school with its own confident culture and challenged to make positive relationships, reflecting on their own values and adapting accordingly. This will be an invaluable cultural learning experience."



## Caledonian Society

Donned in kilts and tartan trousers, Radley boys were invited to Downe House for the Caledonian Society's evening of reeling. Downe House writes, "From the elegant dinner to the spirited spinning on the dance floor, the event was a wonderful celebration of friendship and tradition. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and made the night so special – we can't wait for the next one!"



## VEX Robotics

VEX Robotics team Ibex kicked off their 2025/2026 season at Stowe School's *VEX Push Back Buckingham Regional* this week.

Having adopted members of fellow team Ringo, Ibex won the Tournament taking the team straight through to March's National Championships in Telford (the second time in as many years).



## Fundraisers

Removes across Socials have been raising money for the Commonwealth Education Trust, whose Teach2030 initiative supports education in low and middle-income countries. From bake sales and raffles, to touch rugby charity matches and virtual rowing challenges across the Irish Sea, the boys received a special thanks from the CET CEO Betty Abeng, along with representatives from Trinidad & Tobago, Zambia and South Africa.



## Classically Trained

Last Wednesday's Shells' Classics Quiz tested the classical knowledge of the youngest Radleians in Science Lecture



## D Social Fundraiser

One stand-out of the CET fundraiser comes from D Social's Removes this week, who raised over £600 selling cards and

the contest, later reported by Mr Willis-Stovold as being “fiercely fun.”

teamwork” according to Tutor Charlie McKegney).

## Fixtures & Travel Information

We are always delighted to see parents supporting fixtures. Due to the dynamic nature of fixtures and venues, please check **SOCS** and speak to your son before making travel arrangements. Please keep dogs on a lead and pick up after them. Radley is a non-smoking campus. Due to the development of the Music School, parking is restricted at home fixtures.

### **Tuesday 4th November**

Cross Country

Squash v The Oratory

Lacrosse v Stowe

### **Thursday 16th October**

Basketball v Bradfield

Rackets v Malvern

Real Tennis v Wellington

Badminton v Winchester

## Upcoming Events

### ***Every Sunrise Begins with New Eyes Art Exhibition***

7th November – 8th December 2025

*Sewell Centre Gallery*

*Details [here](#).*

### **Remembrance Service**

9th November

*Chapel*

# 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](#).



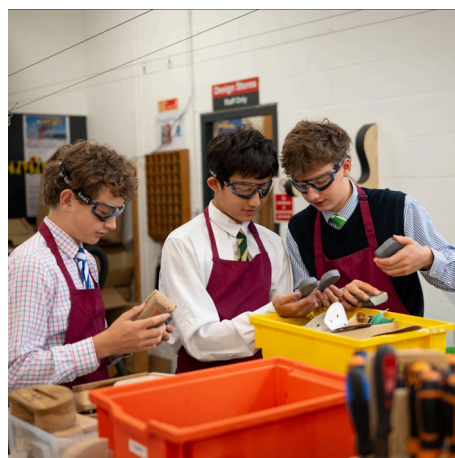
**Eton Fixtures**



**Reading Small Boats**



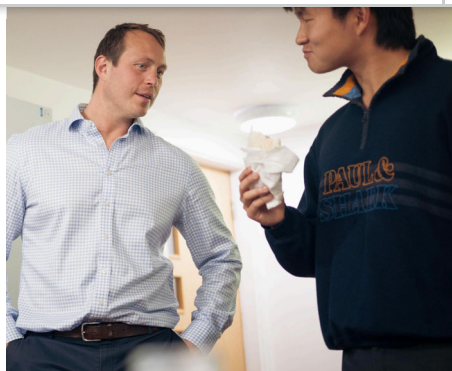
**DMC Magic Show**



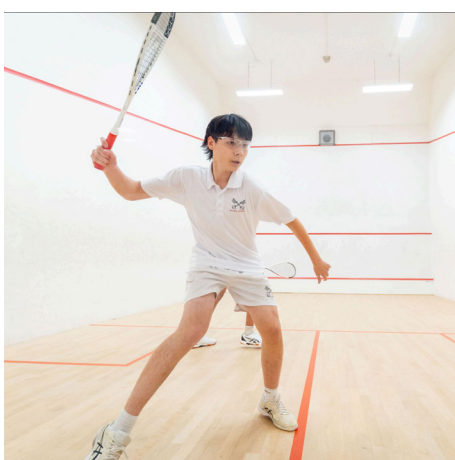
**Design Engineering**



**Library**



**K Social Cocoa**



**Racket Sports**



**Music Practice**

## Latest Videos





RADLEY