



RADLEY



New Music School

What an extraordinary week it has been for the Music Department – the long-awaited opening of our new Music School is finally here and the halls are once again being filled with beautiful music from our talented musicians! From the very first notes played, the building has been buzzing with excitement, as students fill the state-of-the-art rooms with music, laughter and creativity.

We're so excited to share the new building with you all through the programme of special Opening Season concerts which we warmly invite you to attend. Highlights include:

- Sunday 8th March: Giacomo Smith & the Hot Five with the Radley College Big Band
- Monday 9th March: Celebrity Piano Recital: Sir Stephen Hough
- Sunday 22nd March: New Music School Opening Concert with composer Cecilia McDowall

A full list of concerts can be found [here](#) and booking can be made on our website [here](#).



Oxbridge success

We are immensely proud of our boys' achievements this year. The 13 outstanding Oxbridge offers (10 to Oxford and three to Cambridge - Alexander (H), Fionn (H), and Kelvin (C)), and seven early offers from leading US universities (including Harvard, Yale, Boston College, UPenn, two from Northeastern, and the University of Denver) speak to their ambition, resilience, and academic excellence. More than half of the boys who were interviewed for Oxbridge were successful. These results are a testament to the dedication of our pupils and the unwavering support of their dons. We are thrilled for each of them as they embark on these exciting next steps.

We're delighted by the early wave of university offers received by all our boys. With many already securing places at their top-choice universities, we eagerly await further offers and the chance to celebrate even more accomplishments.

Parent Information

All Parents

New C Social Tutor

We're delighted to announce that Mr Alexander Nash is taking on the role of Tutor of C Social in September. As a superb don and Head of English, Mr

therefore making him a fantastic appointment for the boys in the Social. The Warden stated, "I am very pleased that he has agreed to take on the role and am very confident that the future of C Social, as it has been in the past, is in very good hands."



Sports Team Photographs

Sports team photographs that were taken in November are still online and available to order with delivery direct to your home address. Please use [this link](#), and your email address when prompted, to view and order on the Gillman & Soame website. If you have any queries, please contact Gillman & Soame directly via [this link](#).



Talking to Teenagers

Tuesday 3rd February – 6.45pm

Our *Talking Heads* Parent Webinar this half of term is advice for parents on how to support the emotional and behavioural development of their teenagers through adolescence. [Dr Sheila Redfern](#) is a consultant clinical child and adolescent psychologist, and is the author of the acclaimed book *How Do You Hug a*



Understanding What's Going on in your Child's Mind is also about to be published.

In conversation with Ed James, Deputy Head (Pastoral), Dr Redfern will be talking about the adolescent brain and offer parents advice on how to keep the channels of communication open and connections close during the teenage years. Dr Redfern's clinical psychology practice spans thirty years and she is a parent to three boys.

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

Shell

The Shells have had an introductory talk on GCSE subject choices from Mr Porter. An interesting and worthwhile talk on Digital Literacy by Karl Hopwood will be given to the Shells on Friday 30th January. It is worth asking your sons about their thoughts and reactions to this talk which touches on really important aspects of privacy online, cybersecurity, and sensible communication & messaging. As an independent online safety expert, Karl Hopwood is a member of [UKCIS](#) (UK Council for Internet Safety) and sits on the UKCIS evidence group. Karl's talks are always insightful and a sober reminder of the need for vigilance and careful activity online. Boys have come away from the talk with a realistic and informed perspective about their digital profile, footprints, and use of social media. Next week the Shells will be going on a variety of departmental trips to galleries, zoos and more! [\[info\]](#)

Dr Matthew Rumbold

Interim Head of Shells

MIR.Rumbold@radley.org.uk

Remove

March - starting at approximately 2pm. This is always one of the sporting highlights of the year and is greatly enjoyed by all. Mr Chandrachud would encourage the boys to organise their privis around the event carefully. **[info]**

Remove Play

Join us for this year's Remove Play, *Sherlock Holmes*, on Friday 30th January at 7.45pm or Sunday 1st February at 3pm in Theatre. [Click here](#) to see the production's poster. No booking is necessary. **[action]**

Spanish Exchange Reminder

The final payment deadline for the Barcelona Exchange is Friday 31st January. Payment details can be found on the [attached letter here](#). **[action]**

A place has now become available on the trip. If anyone is interested in filling the spot to please email [Mrs Olivia Perrett](#). **[action]**

PSHE & RSE

This term Removes are focusing on employment and finance, working closely with our [Futures team](#) to develop a better understanding of both employability skills and personal finance. Will Allen (2007, A), Director at Isis Financial Planners, will be speaking to removes about personal finance on Friday 6th February. **[info]**

If you would like to comment on any aspect of our PSHE or RSE provision, or if you have any questions, please contact [Suzie-Louise Naylor](#). **[action]**

Mr Alan Chandrachud

Head of Removes

AJC.Chandrachud@radley.org.uk

Fifth

A reminder about the parents' meeting on 13th February 2026. Do let your son's form master know as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.

Please find below a reminder of the outline of the morning:

10:45am - Coffee (Theatre Foyer)

11:30am - Introduction by the Head of Year

11:40am - Addresses by the Head of Careers, the Head of Curriculum Extension (CEP) and the Deputy Head (Academic)

12:40pm - Lunch with your sons

13:30pm-15:00pm - Consultations with dons (parents and boys)

Please see the end of [Michaelmas term letter](#) from Mrs Jo De Ritter for more information.

[info]

Head of Fifths

JDR.de.Ritter@radley.org.uk

6.1

University Application Preparation

[Attached here](#) is a letter outlining the steps towards preparing for a university application.
[action]

Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

6.2

We would like to congratulate all of the boys who have received offers from Universities thus far. We're so pleased that so many have received offers from their first-choice institutions; however there are still more to come and we look forward to hearing more good news as further offers come in. [info]

Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

News



The Music School saw a special lunchtime performance on Thursday, as woodwind players played pieces by Finzi, Fitkin, Mozart, Milhaud and more to a packed Song Room. The boys' performances were in special preparation for the Gunn Cup competition on 10th February, and marked the first concert in the new Music School building.



Hockey v Rugby

Radley took on Rugby in hockey on Thursday. "The squad should feel this was a job very well done," declared the match report for the 1st XI match, after goals from Wilf (6.2, A) and William (6.1, H) brought the team a convincing 3-0 win.

This week, Shells helped the Radley farm vet to scan pregnant Herdwick ewes as part of their Shell Countryside Centre activities. Confidently supported by Countryside Steward Seb (V, C), they were able to confirm that all the ewes are in lamb, with a couple of twins expected. Lambing is due in the first few weeks of the summer term.



LitSoc with SHSK

On Tuesday, girls from St Helens and St Katherine's Literature Society joined Radley's LitSoc for an evening of presentations centred around the theme of power. Talks ranged from the *Divine Comedy* to the *Hungry Caterpillar*, with the students enjoying further conversations over the subsequent dinner.



We can now announce that, at the end of last term, Radley raised £5,269.78 for our strategic partnership charity Oxfordshire Youth, an amount which includes retiring collections from Carol Services (Radley College, Cothill Prep, Chandlings Prep, and St Hugh's Prep) and £1,737.26 from the Christmas Jumper Day. Along with a large donation of toiletries, this amount will go towards Young Person's Supported Accommodation in Oxford.

On Thursday, Fifth, 6.1 and 6.2 Drama students travelled to the New Theatre, Oxford, to see James Graham's *Dear England*, which charted the nation's footballing successes under revolutionary manager Gareth Southgate. The students enjoyed the frenetic energy on stage, as football matches were brought to life through incredible movement, lighting and sound. "Excellent use of physical theatre," said Nick (V, H) while Gosha (V, D) said "It gave me goosebumps!"



Talk Education Top 250

Talk Education has listed Radley College as one of the top 250 Prep and Senior Schools in the United Kingdom. "Steeped in tradition but not stuck in the past, it's hard not to be bowled over by Radley College," the website lauds.



Badminton v Winchester

Two top badminton pairs from Radley played Winchester in an away game on Thursday. The opposition proved strong and we're proud of the way our boys competed. The match has provided them with welcome practice before Sunday's Inter-Social Badminton competition.



Confidence

Theo (6.1, J), Francis (6.1, E), Terrence (6.1, E) and Finn (6.1, E) prepared a Thai chicken curry and a traditional raspberry trifle for dons in Wednesday's 'Cooking with Confidence' activity. They peeled, chopped, fried, and whisked with increasing assurance and dons were very complimentary about the end result.

Wednesday's second heat of the Inter-Social Water Polo saw E face D and K, and H face C and J. "Well done to all the boys who represented us in the pool," wrote D Social Tutor Charlie McKegney. H Social Tutor Nick Wood also praised his team, calling them "the fabulous nine".

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.

Saturday 31st January

Football v Tonbridge

Hockey v MCS

Hockey v Bloxham

Squash v Bloxham

Tuesday 3rd February

Squash v Eton

Wednesday 4th February

Rugby v Sandbach School

Thursday 5th February

Badminton v Cheltenham College

Football v Teddies

Hockey v Teddies

Swimming v Eton

Tennis v Bradfield College

Upcoming Events

Remove Play *Sherlock Holmes*

Friday 30th January, 7.45pm and Sunday 1st February, 3.00pm

Theatre

No booking is necessary.

Drum Kit Prize

Monday 9th February, 8pm

Silk Hall

Free tickets can be booked [here](#).

Gunn Cup Woodwind Competition

Tuesday 10th February, 8pm

Silk Hall

Free tickets can be booked [here](#).

Radley Then & Now: Music & Music School

Tuesday 10th February, 6pm

Zoom - info [here](#).

Hudson String Prize

Thursday 12th February, 8pm

Silk Hall

Free tickets can be booked [here](#).

Celebrity Organ Recital: David Briggs

Monday 2nd March, 8pm

Chapel

Book tickets [here](#).

Giacomo Smith & the Hot Five with the Radley College Big Band

Sunday 8th March, 6pm

Silk Hall

Book tickets [here](#).

Celebrity Piano Recital: Sir Stephen Hough

Monday 9th March, 7.45pm

Silk Hall

Book tickets [here](#).

Sunday 22nd March, 6pm

Silk Hall

Book tickets [here](#).

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](#).



New Music School



Politics Lesson



Football v Stowe



'Water Marks' Exhibition

Latest Videos



New Music School



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