



RADLEY



Declamations

This week saw the culmination of the College's annual Declamations competition, which saw nearly 650 boys involved in the first round last month. The six outstanding finalists from each year group performed in Silk Hall in front of their peers and guest adjudicator, Simon Ammora, from the Dragon School. The winners were Dominic (S, K), Luke (R, D), Laszlo (V, C), Kumar (6.1, F) and Guy (6.2, C) for delivering a remarkable showcase of confidence, character and storytelling.

The overall Victor Ludorum, and winner of the Elizabeth Madgen Prize, was awarded to Luke for his moving rendition of a family letter dating from the First World War at Wednesday's Reprise.

"This kind of individually meaningful, original Declamation is one of the things that keeps the competition valued and fresh, along with new performances of some old favourites and all kinds of material in between," writes Master of Declamations, Iain Campbell.

A huge congratulations to all the boys who took part in the competition, which has been a proud tradition at Radley for more than 80 years. Read the full story [here](#).

Parent Information

All Parents

Health Centre Update

Scabies: We continue to liaise with UKHSA regarding the ongoing presence of scabies at Radley, and follow their advice and guidance. The situation remains contained, however we ask for your support over Leave-Away. Please read [this leaflet](#) and discuss it with your son. If you have any concerns about symptoms or possible contact, please visit your local pharmacist for advice and treatment, and please inform the Health Centre [here](#).

Medication reminder: All medication brought into College must be declared to PHMs and the Health Centre. Some medications, such as those for ADHD, must be handed to PHMs for safekeeping. We are already seeing signs of hay fever symptoms. If your son suffers from hay fever, please ensure he returns to school with a supply of his usual tablets, nasal spray, and/or eye drops. Unfortunately, GPs remain unable to prescribe over-the-counter medications in most instances. If your son requires a prescription or GP advice during Leave-Away, please use Long Furlong Medical Centre's online '[Contact Us](#)' form.

Cardiac Screening: We are aware that there is growing interest among parents in cardiac screening for teenagers. To offer reassurance, Radley is currently reviewing the cardiac screening services that are available.

Shell

After an incredibly busy and varied couple of weeks of lessons, music competitions, Inter-Social sports, the Declamations Finals, and Robotics Competition, I would not be surprised if your sons collapse in a heap to rest this forthcoming Leave-Away. They have done very well to get through a rainy term so successfully. I hope they all enjoy a good rest and return refreshed. **[info]**

GCSE Options Deadline

On Monday 23rd February, the GCSE Options form will open. The deadline is Wednesday 25th February. Please find the GCSE Booklet [here](#). Have a good break. **[action]**

Dr Matthew Rumbold

Interim Head of Shells

MIR.Rumbold@radley.org.uk

Remove

CCF Summer Camp in Brecon Beacons, July 2026

fill in the short form [here](#). If you would like any more information please get in touch with [Mr Paul Fernandez](#). **[action]**

Remove Inter-Social Dodgeball, 1st March

The annual Inter-Social Dodgeball competition will be held on Sunday 1st March – starting at approximately 2pm. This is always one of the sporting highlights of the year and is greatly enjoyed by all. I would encourage the boys to organise their Privis around the event carefully. **[info]**

Mr Alan Chandrachud

Head of Removes

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Fifth

Degree Apprenticeships

This week is National Apprenticeship Week, and each year we see more boys exploring degree apprenticeships as a genuine alternative to university. Apprenticeships offer a high-quality, debt-free route into skilled employment with leading UK organisations. No longer the domain of trades, these programmes span industries from finance and banking to engineering, science and more. For a quick overview, click [here](#), or for a deep dive, click [here](#). **[info]**

Mrs Jo De Ritter

Head of Fifths

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6.1

Last Friday saw the 6.1s attend their latest talk in the [100&First](#) series. focusing on developing resilience and mental wellbeing. The speaker addressed some challenging topics, but the boys engaged exceptionally well, and the warm applause at the end showed how the messages had resonated with the audience. The boys will receive their second set of Session Grades for this term today, so please do ask them about these when you see them. We wish you all an enjoyable Leave-Away. **[info]**

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Interview Coaching – Deadline 9th March.

Interviews can be daunting. To help practice this life skill, we are offering all 6.1s tailored interview coaching sessions with an experienced external provider. For more information and to sign up, please click [here](#). **[action]**

Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

6.2

6.2s will receive their second set of Session Grades for this term today, so please do ask them about these when you see them. A major focus over the coming week will be preparation for Phase 2 of mocks, which begin as soon as they return after Leave-Away. As ever, thanks in advance for all your support in encouraging the boys. **[info]**

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Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

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News



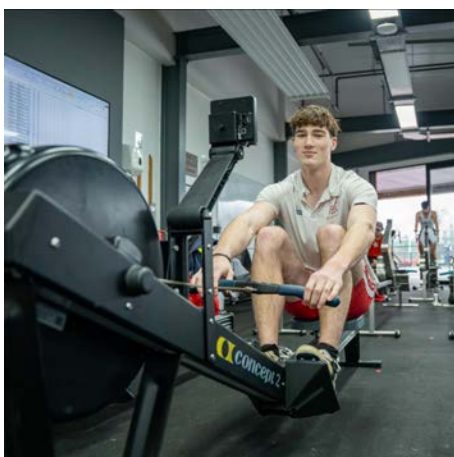
The Gunn Cup

Radley's new Silk Hall hosted the Gunn Cup Prize for Woodwind, which saw 50 woodwind soloists play throughout the afternoon's festival class, culminating in a final adjudicated by acclaimed bassoonist Chris Rawley. Congratulations to all musicians who took part, especially to Jerome (6.1, B), Jasper (R, H), and Joe (V, J) for winning first, second and third place respectively.



OX14 Quiz

Radley, St Helen & St Katharine, Larkmead, Fitzharrys, and Europa School, under the OX14 Learning Partnership banner, gathered in Library for the Abingdon YA Book Award Quiz. Teams answered detailed questions about the six books shortlisted for the award. "It's basically a gladiatorial contest for bookworms!" one student from Larkmead commented cheerily.



Dylan's British Record

Congratulations to Dylan (6.2, D) who has received confirmation that his Inter-Social Ergo Competition performance covering 402 metres in one minute is now the British Record for Heavyweight Men 17-18.



French Exchange

This week, we welcomed 19 students from the Institution Sainte Geneviève for the return visit of our Remove/6.1 French Exchange. The visitors enjoyed attending lessons, Chapel and Social Prayers, as well as exploring Oxford and visiting the Radley Zoo.



Radley Robot Rukus

23 teams from across South-West England gathered at Radley for the Robot Rukus, the last open competition of the 2026 UK VEX season. The College's Remove team 'Crissy', along with the 6.1 team 'Noctus', successfully qualified, and will join the 6.2 team 'Ibex' for late February's National Championships in Telford.



Water Polo Final

"What a final. What. A. Final. The Inter Social Water Polo showpiece between G Social and E Social delivered a contest of relentless intensity, skill, grit and drama. E came out storming ... contesting every pass, and refusing to let the game drift away. In the end, G held their nerve to close it out 7–5, sealing their victory in a match well worth praising." – Master in Charge of Water Polo, Mr Perry Asbury.



Investment Society

The Investment Society welcomed OR Alex Millar (1989, G) to the Science Lecture Theatre, who spoke on the topic "What kind of investor will you be, and in what kind of world?" Mr. Millar is currently the Head of Capital Formation at Southern Right Capital, and expressed his passion for working with complex clients to build long, successful



Dr Jonathan Healy Visit

"Rebellion, plot, revolution – Dr Jonathan Healy of the University of Oxford presented on England's bloody seventeenth century and why 1641-2 matters," wrote Head of History Tim Schmalz. Dr Healey, who has written critically acclaimed books on the English Civil War, discussed the imagery of royalist and republican art, and how the



Radley Relays

“Outstanding... a very significant afternoon for the cross country club,” praised Director of Sport James Gaunt after the Radley Relays inter-schools competition, featuring 92 teams and almost 400 runners. The College’s Inters, Juniors, and Seniors teams came first, second, and fourth respectively, with Flynn (S, D), James (V, K) and William (6.2, K) crowned as Radley’s leg champions in each category.



Cambridge Chemistry Race

Congratulations to the College team 'Radleium' for their achievement in the recent National Sixth Form Chemistry Race in Cambridge. The team solved chemistry problems within a set time limit, coming joint 35th out of 103 schools – an especially impressive achievement given that the team consisted entirely of 6.1s.



Roman Army Talk

Historical fiction writer Ben Kane spoke to Shells and students from Cothill in Theatre, discussing the inner workings of the Roman Army. Kane presented a replica of a helmet (galea), shield (scutum) and centurion’s staff (vitis) to the



Work Experience

Congratulations to the eight 6.1s – Mustafa (E), Edward (F), Adrien (F), James (E), Sooshin (K), Kumar (F), Tom (D), Charles (F) – who have secured a two-week placement at JD.com in Beijing. Competition for these places was strong,

Europe, and what life would have been like as a soldier during this violent time.

process designed to mirror real-world applications, including a video pitch and a presentation to a panel of interviewers.



Drum Workshop

Percussionists from across year groups took part in an energetic drumming workshop led by specialist teacher and band leader, [Keith Fairbairn](#). Students explored a wide range of percussion instruments and experimented with different sounds and techniques. Under Keith's guidance, the boys learned a variety of Latin-inspired rhythms and worked together to develop their ensemble skills.



Drama Workshop



Disney Studios Visit

Radley's 6.1 filmmakers attended the *10 Shot Film Awards* at Walt Disney Studios UK, alongside students from St Helen & St Katharine. Their collaborative film, *The Big Blind* – a thriller following a desperate man who risks everything to save his sick wife – was awarded second place in the Best Sequel Film category. The accolade was achieved in a highly competitive field of more than a thousand films submitted by over 150 leading UK and international schools.



Hudson String Prize

professional actor [Nick Armfield](#) for a monologue workshop. Nick guided the boys through a series of practical exercises exploring extracts from Alan Bennet and Simon Stephens. Director of Drama, Victoria Buse commented, "It was wonderful to see the boys' performances evolve and their stage presence grow as they focused on the specificity of words and physical action."

in the Song Room, with eight boys competing in the evening's competition class in Silk Hall. Congratulations to all those who took part, especially Yimo (R, K), Adrian (V, D) and Merlin (6.1, D) for winning first, second and third place. The contest was guest-adjudicated by [Rafael Lopez Bolivar](#), critically acclaimed violinist from the Royal Music Schools of Madrid and London.

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 24th February

Football v Gordon's School

Hockey v Dr Challoner's Grammar School

Thursday 24th February

Cross Country v Marlborough

Golf v Bradfield

Rackets v Eton

Squash v Bradfield

Upcoming Events

Celebrity Organ Recital: David Briggs

Monday 2nd March, 8pm

Chapel

Book tickets [here](#).

Chamber Music Lunchtime Concert

Book tickets [here](#).

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

Sunday 8th March, 6pm

Silk Hall

Now sold out, join the waiting list [here](#).

Celebrity Piano Recital: Sir Stephen Hough

Monday 9th March, 7.45pm

Silk Hall

Now sold out, join the waiting list [here](#).

Guitar Prize

Tuesday 10th March, 8pm

Recital Room

Book tickets [here](#).

New Music School Opening Concert with composer Cecilia McDowall

Sunday 22nd March, 6pm

Silk Hall

Now sold out, join the waiting list [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](#).





Radley Relays



Drumming Workshop



Hudson String Prize



Hockey v Eton



Music Lessons



Hockey v Abingdon

Latest Videos



Remove Play: Sherlock Holmes



Talking Heads: Talking to Teenagers

