



RADLEY



Declamations 2025

The annual Declamations competition concluded this week. The winners in each year group, and the monologues they performed, were:

Shell

- 1st: Jasper (H) - extract from *Hamlet* by Shakespeare
- 2nd: Bertie (F) - extract from *Two* by Jim Cartwright
- 3rd: Robbie (D) - *Lepanto* by GK Chesterton

Remove

- 1st: Rupert (B) - extract from *Wall Street* by Oliver Stone
- 2nd: Jamie (B) - extract from *The Iliad*, Pope's translation of Homer
- 3rd: Will (K) - *Strange Meeting* by Wilfred Owen

Fifth

- 1st: Kumar (F) - *Harlequin and Ticktockman* by Harlan Ellison
- 2nd: Steve (H) - *What The Thunder Said* by TS Eliot
- 3rd: Lex (L) - *The Unreturning* by Anna Jordan

6.1

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3rd: Adam (H) - extract from *White People* by JT Rogers

6.2

1st: Kit (C) - extract from *The Satsuma Complex* by Bob Mortimer

2nd: Louis (D) - extract from *Succession* by Jesse Armstrong

3rd: Mikolaj (G) - extract from *Daddy* by Sylvia Plath

The fifteen commended boys, along with the Warden's personal picks (Finlay, Freddy and James, all Vs), performed their monologues in the Declamations Reprise in Coffee Shop on Wednesday evening. The Victor Ludorum (Overall Winner) was, for the second year running, Kumar of F Social who was presented with the Elizabeth Madgen Casket by the Warden.

Congratulations to all involved and a special thank you to our adjudicator this year, former E Social Tutor, Master in Charge of Cricket and all-round Radley legend, John Beasley. The Warden has declared the 2025 Declamations 'the best of the ten years I've been here'.

A recording of the Declamations Reprise is available [here](#).

Parent Information

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TALKING HEADS



PARENT WEBINAR SERIES

From Stress to Success: How Parents Can Help With Revision

We are delighted that William Truscott, memory psychologist and founder of Exam Study Expert, will be joining Jonathan Porter, Deputy Head (Academic) for our next Talking Heads Parent Webinar.

William will share the research and tips which have seen him become a leader in this field, helping ambitious students study smarter, not harder, in order to ace their exams with less work and less stress. We hope the timing of the session – **Monday 10th March at 7pm** – will mean that parents are equipped with strategies to help their children develop good study habits and to make the most of revision time over the Easter break. Please register for the webinar [here](#).

All Parents

Private View: John Goto Exhibition *Truth & Beauty*

The next exhibition at the Sewell Centre Gallery, *Truth & Beauty* by artist and photographer John Goto, opens on Friday 28th February. Everyone is welcome to the private view from 6-8pm. More information [here](#).

Radley Then & Now: The 1960s

The RadSoc Archives talks kicked off the 2025 season by looking at Radley College in the 1960s. The event brought together a lively crowd, including former dons alongside plenty of their former pupils. The talk was guided by College Archivist, Clare Sargent. Read more and watch Clare's presentation [here](#).

Shell

GCSE / IGCSE Options

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Master to explore the various options available. On return from Leave-Away, the Shells will be sent a link to the GCSE/IGCSE options form. Please discuss their choices with them over Leave-Away. The options booklet can be found [here](#).

It is important to say that, while we make every effort to create a blocking system that allows for as many permutations as possible, some subject combinations are impossible. This is primarily due to the importance we place on, as far as possible, setting by ability, which we believe to be in the best interests of your son's academic progress. Boys must choose one subject from each of the five blocks; regrettably, the blocks cannot change. Please see the Notes page in the booklet for more information. **[action]**

I wish all the Shells a restful break over Leave-Away. It has been a busy half term and I hope they take this time to recharge. I look forward to seeing them back refreshed and ready to tackle the second half of term!

Mrs Rebecca Beattie

Head of Shells

RB.Beattie@radley.org.uk

Parents' Meeting

It was fantastic to meet Remove parents on Sunday 2nd February. I hope the consultations with dons proved useful in identifying the next steps for your son. The talks delivered by the Warden, Deputy Head Academic and myself were recorded and are available to watch [here](#). **[info]**

Field Exercise

The Removes' Field Exercise takes place on Sunday 16th to Monday 17th March. Boys in the Navy and RAF sections will be undertaking a two-day expedition (which also counts as their DofE Bronze Expedition). Boys in the Army Section will undertake two days of basic infantry skills. All boys will be away from Radley on Sunday evening and will not have phones with them. Any boys who are currently sustaining injuries can be incorporated into the various plans. All boys have been emailed information on the kit they need to bring back after Leave-Away. **[info]**

Mr Alan Chandrachud

Head of Removes

AJC.Chandrachud@radley.org.uk

Fifth

DofE Gold

All boys are encouraged to undertake DofE Gold. This will not interfere with their GCSE preparations. You can read a letter [here](#) about it from the DofE Award manager. The sign-up form mentioned in the letter is available [here](#). **[action]**

Fifth NCOs

A reminder to parents of NCOs that Field Exercise takes place on Sunday 16th to Monday 17th March. Navy NCOs will be taking part in NCO/advanced training on Sunday, then helping with the Removes' Field Exercise on Monday. RAF NCOs will be helping with the Removes on Sunday and then some NCO/advanced training on Monday. **[info]**

Apprenticeships: Insights from a Parent and a Current Apprentice

This week is National Apprenticeship Week. Paula Ward shares her experience supporting her son's Big 4 apprenticeship applications and offers valuable insights and tips for others – watch the video [here](#). Or hear George's (2018, C) experience of applying for, and securing, a degree apprenticeship at UBS, [here](#). **[info]**

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6.1

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Interview Coaching: Sign-up Required

Interviews can be daunting, so to help practice this life skill we are offering all 6.1s tailored interview coaching sessions with an experienced external provider. More information and the sign-up link are available [here](#). The deadline is Tuesday 4th March. **[action]**

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Mr Tim Lawson

Head of Sixth Form

TCL@radley.org.uk

6.2

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News



Inter-Social Ergo

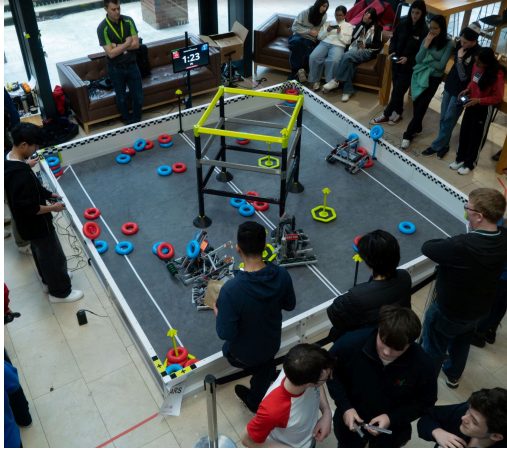
The Inter-Social Ergo Competition saw one of the biggest turnouts in recent memory, as boys and dons gathered in the Barker Gym to watch Francis (6.1, A) claim the biggest individual score of the night of 385 metres. Cosmo (S, E) also put in a stellar debut performance with 346 metres. E Social were victorious again this year, winning the contest overall. Congratulations also to H Social (second place) and F Social (third place). A high-octane and noisy evening to end the term!



Young Art Success

Congratulations to Charlie (S, G), William (V, J) and David (S, D), whose art has been selected for display in the annual *Young Art* exhibition at The Gallery @ OXO in London, which runs between Tuesday 29th April and Sunday 4th May.

David's work has been specially commended and William Butterworth's (2019, F) charcoal portrait of Maggi Hambling (above) won the competition's overall second prize. The competition is also an important charity event, having raised £1.35 million for the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health to date. Details of the exhibition can be found [here](#).

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Radley Robot Ruckus

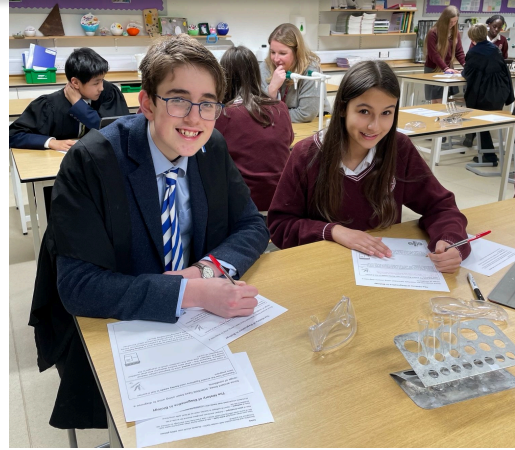
Sunday's *Radley Robot Ruckus* saw the College's top sixth form teams (Ibex, Icarus and Ringo) star in the UK Vex Robotics regional qualifier against some of their top Oxfordshire opponents. All three teams posted excellent scores and will thus travel to Telford International Centre after Leave-Away to stake their claim on a World Championship invite.

This week also saw Radley boys supporting Pegasus School in Oxford in hosting their own inaugural regional qualifier.



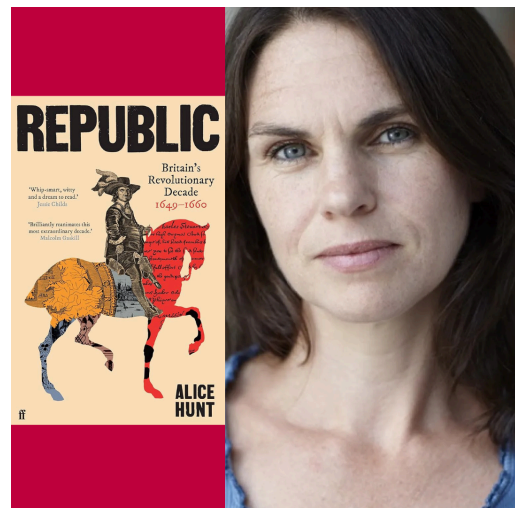
Frantic Assembly

This week, the 6.1 Drama class took part in a Frantic Assembly workshop, led by visiting specialist and performer, Michelle. Frantic Assembly is a theatre company



Thinking Supper

A squad of Shell Junior Scholars visited St. Helen and St. Katharine School on Tuesday for a 'Thinking Supper' – an evening combining scientific experiments and a slap-up meal. Armed with iPads and worksheets, students from both schools were tasked with assessing modern methods of pregnancy testing, working together to analyse test-tubes of urine samples, before (presumably washing their hands thoroughly) enjoying some post-chemistry-breakthrough pizza.



Recovering the Republic!

On Monday 10th February the Radley College History Society welcomed Professor Alice Hunt to speak on 'What

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text. Boys were put through their paces, learning multiple lifts and contact work, along with techniques on how to create physical sequences and ensemble movement.

(University of Southampton) is an historian of early modern England and its monarchy. Her talk was based on her recently acclaimed book, *Republic: Britain's Revolutionary Decade, 1649-1660*. After the talk there were some excellent questions from the boys which continued in Hall over dinner.



PSHE Talks

Two special PSHE sessions took place last Friday, with Joanna Cruse and Sam Cload from 100&First talking to 6.1s and 6.2s about resilience. Chloe Combi, who will be known to many parents from her involvement in founding The Respect Project in collaboration with Radley and Downe House in 2021, spoke to Shells about the project and the way in which it seeks to tackle issues affecting children today, particularly those associated with a digital landscape.



Radley Relays

Tuesday's Radley Relays saw an incredible effort from our Juniors, Inters and Senior cross-country teams. The College's 'A' teams persevered in the face of chilly February conditions and muddy turf, winning 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in their respective categories. Coach Dan Studley described the inter-school competition as "a wonderful afternoon of sport. The results are a brilliant accolade and demonstrate our depth across all year groups against high-level opposition."

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German Open Mic Night

In cooperation with the Oxford German Network, the Modern Languages department hosted 25 students and teachers from seven schools for an evening of animated discussion in the JCR on Sunday. This was a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas about set works and topics on the syllabus in the target language. Those present were also invited to play board games in German before sharing their favourite jokes, sketches and short texts.



History Prizes

In June 2024, the Department of History inaugurated two new essay competitions for 6.1s and Removes - the Andrew Reekes Senior History Prize and the John Beasley Junior History Prize, respectively, named after two former dons whose passion for History inspired generations of Radleian historians. The inaugural winners were William (6.2, B) who won the Reekes Prize and Thomas (V, G) who won the Beasley Prize. It was a pleasure to show the new Prize Board to Andrew Reekes (above) when he visited the College this week.

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 25th February

Hockey vs Bradfield College

Squash vs Bradfield College

Polo vs Stowe

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Hockey vs Teddies and Cranford School

Basketball vs Abingdon School

Fives vs Bloxham School

Golf vs Bradfield College

Rackets vs Eton

Upcoming Events

Leave-Away Ends

Sunday 23rd February, 9pm

Socials

Private View: John Goto Exhibition *Truth & Beauty*

Friday 28th February, 6pm

Sewell Centre Gallery

Talking Heads

Monday 10th March, 7pm

Teams Webinar. Register [here](#).

6.1 Play: The Hearing of J R Oppenheimer

Thursday 13th March, 7.45pm

Theatre

6.1 Play: The Hearing of J R Oppenheimer

Friday 14th March, 7.45pm

Theatre

Gala Concert

Sunday 23rd March, 7pm

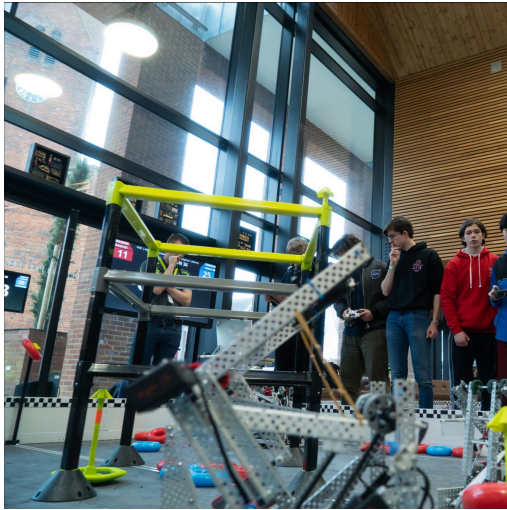
Chapel

Term Ends

Friday 28th March, 10.15am

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 Robot Ruckus



Humanities Symposium



Remove Play



**Sport Fixtures:
Sat 8th February**

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Declamations Reprise



A Moment of Me



The Remove Play



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