

From the Headteacher

As always there is much to celebrate in Beaumont Life and I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I do. We are currently developing a new website and we will put more articles on the web as a result. Nevertheless we will continue to publish Beaumont Life as hard copy, (albeit probably shorter) because we know so many like to have copies to hand at home.

Reading this edition I am reminded of the many different ways in which parents and others in the community contribute to the life of the school through giving of their time, skills, knowledge and resources to support the students. The CED house orienteering event was one such example with parents using their considerable skills to lead an excellent day (p8), as is the BSA. We are looking for lots of support in advance and on the day of Rob's Festival on Saturday 23 June (p12). Please do email in to offer your time to make this an even bigger event than last year and do consider if you could contribute to the equipment needed. The BSA has its **AGM on Wednesday 23 May at 7.30pm** to which all parents and staff are invited; please note the date and come along for the hour. Lastly, can you help, please, with the requests on p7 regarding maths questions and books for Languages?

The Herts Ad is running its School Awards competition for the second year and it would be great to get some nominations...and winners! I would be grateful if you could take time to log on to www.hertsad24.co.uk/schoolawards to make your nominations. There are several categories including student and teacher of the year and the deadline is 1 June. Finally, if you haven't yet done so, please log on to <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> and complete the Ofsted online survey. At the last count 88 parents had done so and it would be good to have every parent completing it.

Thank you, as always, for all the support you give to Beaumont.

Elizabeth Hitch

May Diary Dates

Weds	2	Year 8 Author Alex Scarrow visit Periods 6 and 7 GCSE Drama practicals (external examiner) Hall, performances 5.45pm onwards BSA Committee meeting 7.30pm Library
Thurs	3	Public Speaking Finals Periods 6 and 7 GCSE Drama practicals (external examiner) Hall, performances 5.45pm onwards
Fri	4	Non Uniform Day (Raising funds for Rob's Festival)
Mon	7	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues	8	Years 7, 8 and 9 internal exams (in lessons)
Weds	9	Governor Resources meeting 4.30pm Library AS Drama Section B exam (external examiner) Hall, performances 5.45pm onwards
Thurs	10	Residents meeting 6pm library
Fri	11	Year 12 students last day before Exam Leave Year 11 students last day before Exam Leave
Mon	14	GCSE/GCE Exams start Governor Community meeting 6.30pm Boardroom
Tues	15	Curriculum Enrichment Day
Fri	18	Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Mon	21	Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Tues	22	Beaumont Life deadline Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Weds	23	BSA AGM 7.30pm Library – all welcome for an informal evening
Thurs	24	Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Fri	25	Year 13 Leavers Assembly (am) – REVISED DATE Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Mon	28	Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime
Tues	29	Full Governing Body meeting 7pm Library
Weds	30	Parent Information Evenings - PGL (6pm) and Cantabria (7pm) trips Year 9 Million Makers at lunchtime

for details of sports fixtures please check the PE Blog www.beaumontpe.blogspot.com

Beaumont welcomes comments from parents/carers and families about any aspect of school life.
Please contact us via our email admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

The Drama Department

We have six Drama Captains who lead our three Lower School drama clubs under the supervision of a lead teacher. Our Captains take responsibility for planning and running the weekly lunchtime drama clubs and directing the productions. Our Captains are supported by Year 10 Assistant Captains. The leadership skills that the Captains and Assistants develop put them at an advantage in the workplace and help them to stand out. The students are at the heart of everything we do in the Drama department and we will continue to develop the ways in which students can get involved. Watch this space.

A Drama Captain's view.....

Being a drama captain has been an extremely rewarding and enjoyable experience; we have loved working with our group of talented Year 7s who are well on their way to performing *The Lion King* as their end of year play. Although we take planning and coordinating seriously, drama club would not be the same without some of the funny moments we have shared. Singing 'In the Jungle', playing crazy games and getting to know all of our 59 cast members have all been part of a great experience. We have even been known to dress up in our 'onesie' outfits (a rabbit and a tiger) and run around in them for a whole session which was hilarious for both us and the cast! We are very pleased with the Year 7s' enthusiasm towards drama club, and are grateful for their support of the show, which we look forward to being performed on Monday 25 June.

We would like to thank Miss Shepherd for the opportunity to be so closely involved with the drama department, as we have genuinely loved watching each of our Year 7s grow both in enthusiasm and confidence. We look forward to the show, and hope that their first performance at Beaumont will be the first for many for our cast.

Tulsi Khanna and Claire Nicholson Year 12

The *Lion King* will be performed in the school grounds at 6pm on Monday 25 June. Please meet at the Hall.

All welcome.

News of ex-Beaumont Drama students

Jack Hardwick is currently appearing in *Collaborators* at the National Theatre.

Rob Welling has just finished playing Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Middle Temple with Antic Disposition.

Earlier this year **Josh Hart** was in *Othello* at the Sheffield Crucible with Clarke Peters and Dominic West.

Congratulations

To **Sophie Ruane Lewis** 10S who has been accepted into The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain



Drama dates for the diary

- **GCSE exams** 2 and 3 May, **AS exam** 9 May. Please meet in the Hall by 5.45pm as we have a visiting examiner
- **Year 7 Drama Club** perform *The Lion King* at 6pm on 25 June
- **Year 8 Drama Club** will perform *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* at 6pm on 19 June

Year 8 Drama Club

Being part of Drama Club since Year 7 has made helping Year 8 Drama Club so much fun! It's a fantastic opportunity to work with other year groups, sixth formers and to make new friends. Everyone gets along well and generally has a smashing time. Helping Drama Club is a worthwhile, exciting experience, being part of such an amazing community doing what I love – from leading them in fun drama related games to helping stage performances.

Being part of seeing younger pupils shine, come out of their shells and build their confidence is lovely. Everybody has fun, even the sixth formers and the helpers.

Helping to lead a fairly large group also benefits our leadership skills, and staging scenes is good practice for GCSE drama higher up the school. Having fun whilst learning – RESULT!

Gabriella Mauro 10L

Year 8 Drama

Drama in Year 8 is challenging and fun. As well as learning useful skills we have the freedom to create our own pieces based on modern themes. Our most recent was Soap Operas. Everyone said re-enacting some of their favourite scenes from *Corrie* was great fun!

At Drama Club it's great to be with other people that love drama. We are doing a play of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. We all have a part to play and the Sixth form leaders are all really creative.

Doing drama has opened up a lot of opportunities for me as well as meeting new people. In Year 7 the Best drama school offered a scholarship and I was fortunate enough to win it. Best has helped me develop my drama skills further, all thanks to Beaumont Drama!

Lily Katternhorn-Black 8N

GCSE Drama

GCSE Drama is incredibly useful because you are constantly working on communication skills which are helpful for later on in life. It also enables you to express yourself in different ways and it builds your confidence. You are having fun whilst learning and that's something you can't say for all other subjects.

Drama is different to other lessons because you are always active eg even during the controlled assessment we were constantly moving about so it relieved the stress and stopped you thinking about the camera.

There are a number of brilliant trips to go and see plays at the theatre and it is really good fun. Also, Drama is an enjoyable lesson and the teachers are great so it is something that we look forward to every week.

Aidan Gastaldi-Davies and Sophie Bagge Year 10

Music and Drama

Lake Garda Drama and Music Trip 2012

On 10 April 48 Key Stage 4 students set off to Italy for the second Drama and Music trip to Lake Garda. After a very efficient check in at Gatwick, (thank you British Airways) and a flight to Verona we arrived at our destination in the early afternoon. A great hotel with good food made us all happy straight away.



The trip included a day trip to Venice and an afternoon in Verona. During the Venice trip #projectpigeon was launched (check us out on twitter), some students went on a gondola ride and many masks were purchased. In Verona we went off to the Arena and Juliet's House with photo opportunities galore. A boat trip on the final day allowed us to explore another part of the Lake and eat a little more ice cream. Evening entertainment included: bowling, (with a muster group competition), a quiz whilst eating amazing ice creams and the now legendary 'Shep's Beetle Drive'.



The main focus of the trip was the Drama and Music workshops in which the students participated while we were in Garda. Five one and a half hour workshops and a final presentation really stretched the students' abilities. We were very lucky to have three extremely talented professional tutors. Music was taught by Adienne who works with STOMP! and will be in the closing ceremony at the Olympics this summer. Our Drama teachers Siou and Claire both work with universities and colleges as well as being professional performers and directors themselves.



We were so impressed with how the students approached these challenging workshops and they learnt a great deal.

On several occasions our students were complemented by guest tutors, hotel and restaurant owners on their manners and positive attitude. It was an absolute pleasure to take such fantastic students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who gave up part of their Easter holiday to come with us, Miss Doan, Miss McCrorie, Mr Guinane and Mr Panting – thank you. Year 8 and 9 students get ready for Lake Garda 2014!

Miss Shepherd

What the students said about their Lake Garda trip:

Aaron Herkanaidu: The workshop was a unique and amazing experience. I had so much fun! It was very tiring but what I learnt will definitely help me with my Music GCSE



Beth Wilson: I had such an amazing time. I have always wanted to go to Venice and I'm so pleased it was sunny on that day. I have learnt so much, laughed so much and made a load of new friends. Thank you so much



Rosie Hodgson: I had such an amazing trip. I learnt a lot at the workshops and the day trips were great. Also the evening activities were so much fun!



Gabriella Mauro: The workshops were an amazing opportunity to experience a different way of learning, tips for the future and have fun! The tutors were lovely and so was everyone else. The ice cream was amazing and the architecture was all beautiful! Lake Garda 2012 was the best trip ever. Thank you - I loved every bit.



Gus Mallet: The workshops approached theatre work in a very interesting and creative way, and I feel they will benefit my final performance. As a whole the trip was brilliant and I had a fantastic time. Thank you.



Chloe Pattenden: I enjoyed every aspect of the trip. It's been great fun. The drama workshops were very inspiring. I have learnt a lot about theatre in general as well as myself as an actor. Thank you.



Cerys Falvey: It really, really raised my confidence. I did things I never thought I could do. It was very enjoyable



Adam Jones: The music workshop was really very new, exciting and just different as I think none of us had ever done anything like STOMP! before. It was very good



Megan Beaven: The music workshops were really fun and also helped a lot with my rhythm, counting and ensemble skills. The atmosphere was relaxed but we got a lot done by working with everyone.



Megan Gardener: The Drama workshops were brilliant as we were able to put in our own ideas and develop them as a group. It was really fun because we were all relaxed and at the end we all shared our pieces and it helped us reflect on what we did. We also learnt a lot of new techniques.



Sophie Ruane Lewis: The workshop we took part in was an amazing experience for all of us. Also it was interesting being taught by a different teacher to see the different techniques used and teaching methods. It was hard work but also a lot of fun. Thank you



Seussical-Lower School Musical!

I have been a fan of the Dr. Seuss books since I was a very small child. The stories are fun, crazy and imaginative and of course brilliant! The musical is just like that, if not better! I have to say Seussical is one of my favourite musicals as the characters are so vivid and real and the songs are great! The rehearsals are really fun to be a part of too and we all take on board the advice given to us so that the next rehearsal becomes better.

In Seussical I play a Wickersham monkey (A monkey that is part of a trio who live in the jungle of Nool) and it is great fun. I love singing the songs to Seussical because they are so catchy and have great lyrics. I am really excited about being part of the production and I can't wait until everyone gets to see it. I can honestly say that this show will be AMAZING!

Poppy Oliver 7A



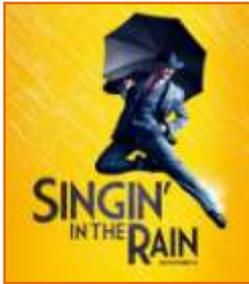
I am Jojo in Seussical the Musical, the school play. We rehearse a lot and it is quite hard work but it is a lot of fun! I auditioned in my first term at Beaumont and when I found out that I got the part of Jojo I was over the moon! I couldn't believe how lucky I was. I don't normally enjoy dancing but here it was very enjoyable. We have just got a new schedule for Seussical rehearsals and I can see that everybody is putting in a lot of effort for this! I always look forward to rehearsals because I go there and I have more fun than I ever thought I'd have at rehearsals for a play. And also at Seussical I'm not pressured. They're not like 'You forget your lines and you die!' because then I get stressed and confused and that makes me forget.

I am very excited about this show and a part of me thinks I'm nervous but I know it will all go well. The dates are 16, 17 and 18 July so don't forget to get a ticket and come watch the best show in the world!

Patrick Quinn, 7N

Seussical will be taking place in the final week of the summer term.
Watch this space for more news.

Tom is Singing in the Rain



Tom Holmes in 9N is currently starring in *Singing in the Rain* at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London. Here are a few words of wisdom from Tom for anyone wanting to follow him onto the stage.....

West End Theatre is world renowned for its excellence. However, getting into the business isn't an easy road. It takes years of training to get to a professional standard, but with determination and ambition, it can be done! The first step is the audition process, which is daunting for many. You have to be prepared to be rejected. It may take months before you get a job which is hard, but if you're determined, you can step down the Yellow Brick Road with pride and Defy Gravity! If you're

successful in the audition, it feels amazing. You feel as though you've achieved something great which is a feeling that doesn't occur a lot. Next stage, rehearsals. These can take days, weeks or even months, depending on the role and show. Usually after around four weeks, technical rehearsals take place in the theatre which involves all the departments in the show; these can be long days and long nights. After all the hard work, the curtain can go up, which is when the adrenalin kicks in, and excitement builds backstage and in the auditorium. Personally I can say that it feels incredible when you see the hundreds of people out in the audience who are paying good money to come and see the show in which you are starring. The words 'darling' and 'lovey' occur a lot, along with the fake tan and hairspray, but it's the fun of it! To any person who wants to be in this tough industry, then I'd say go with your dreams and push yourself as much as you can, and you will be successful.

Focus on.....

The Music Department



Key Stage 3

Music has been one of my favourite lessons in Year 7 because of the freedom we have to compose music for ourselves.

At the beginning of the year we worked in groups to produce a cover of the pop song 'Yellow' using our own choice of instruments and keyboard skills. Recently, we worked independently to write a short Fanfare for a special occasion. I really enjoyed this. The Fanfare topic has been interesting because of the variety of musical skills we need to use to be successful.

Mae Lankshear 7S

GCSE Music

I started GCSE Music this year and so far it's been brilliant, I absolutely love how enthusiastic the teachers are and this makes me so much more motivated to do well. Music is interesting as we get to learn about lots of different genres and we also get to be creative and interpret our own ideas with the help of Miss Doan and Mr Guinane who are quickly converting us all into 'music geeks'! Music lessons are challenging but also very enjoyable; there are lots of resources to use and the department is also really into being online with Twitter and the music blog which are both great and have proved really useful.



After starting GCSE Music I have become much more involved with extra-curricular activities like Big Band and Concert Band, which I have been going to since my first years at Beaumont. I feel like I've become a lot more involved with the department and I highly recommend Music as a choice for musical students who will soon be choosing their GCSEs.

Katy Stern 10R

Concert Band and Big Band

I have been a member of Beaumont's Concert Band for four years, 45 students arrive every Tuesday morning at 7.45, and though the early start may sound painful it is definitely worth it! Our popular repertoire ranges from Coldplay to Gloria Gaynor.

Concert Band gives everybody an opportunity to develop their skills as a musician, at the same time as meeting new friends you might not otherwise get to know. It improves your ability as an ensemble player and displays your commitment to the department, so it acts as perfect preparation for Big Band. In Big Band, which I was able to join two years ago, we perform jazz and swing music and even get the chance to try some improvisation. Both these clubs are fantastic ways to have fun and learn to enjoy a variety of music. The department as a whole has a wonderful atmosphere, and we're fortunate to have such good teachers - everyone is made to feel welcome and the range of ages and abilities is what makes it so enjoyable!

Ally Pugh 11A



Music Captains

At the start of the year, we were fortunate enough to be selected as Music Captains. Responsibilities of the Music Captains are divided equally between all six of us. Some clubs such as String Group run by Emily Almond and Wind Ensemble run by Sarah Walker are managed by Captains. From September, Year 9 Band has been under the direction of Becky Tough and has flourished into an even larger group. New Ensembles have also emerged such as Consortium Orchestra – a student-led orchestra open to students from all three consortium schools, which Yannick Mayaud conducted in the Christmas Concert – and Improvisation Club, created by Luke Bainbridge to encourage a jazz scene amongst younger students. The strong work Emma Doherty did with Year 11 Choir last year encouraged further student-run choirs to be formed; the current Year 11 Choir performed Louisa Briguglio's fabulous arrangement in the recent Easter Concert.

As well as specific assigned roles, we play an active part in the day to day life of the Music Department including warm ups for vocal groups, rehearsals, updating displays and producing a film to be shown on Open Evening.

Music Captains provide a link between students and teachers benefitting all three groups. As well as helping to take pressure off the teachers, we like to think that lower years would hope to take on these roles once they reach sixth form and feel they can approach us with any questions or queries. Those Captains who have been given a position of leadership have benefitted from the variety of skills and responsibilities acquired from their roles. Through Music Captaincy, there is the opportunity to give back to a department that has provided us with so much since the beginning of our time at Beaumont. It is the perfect way to thank Beaumont Music.

Emma Doherty and Yannick Mayaud, Year 12

Being in Choir

My experience of Choir at Beaumont school so far has been absolutely incredible, not just because the teachers are nice, but because the music we learn is always fun to sing. We have sung numerous songs and have done the Christmas concert, the Carol service and the Easter concert and we've still got more to go! I enjoy coming to Choir because the music teachers always pick great songs that the young generation love and their teaching makes it easier to sing. Throughout the last seven months I've learnt a lot of things; one of them is that if everyone works hard and tries their best, you can produce a perfect song. Beaumont school has a high reputation for music and that includes our professionalism as well. Overall, I would recommend Choir to all music lovers and it is open for Year 7s to sixth formers.

Karan Mahatma 7S



Vocal Ensemble

Being in Vocal Ensemble offers you so many opportunities to do incredible things; after all how many school groups give you the opportunity to perform in famous locations all around the world? Initially I'll admit I was worried I wouldn't be able to keep up, having never taken music as a subject. In the end, however, it was quite the opposite; everybody helped me to improve and I have learnt so many new skills within the Vocal Ensemble. In the future I look forward to more exciting adventures with the Vocal Ensemble like the trip to Berlin next year and the VOCES8 concert in June and so many more!

Alex Wells, Year 12

Orchestra



I've been playing in orchestras since the age of eight and of all the orchestras in which I've played the Beaumont Orchestra has been the one I have enjoyed the most. Since joining in Year 7 I've spent 45 minutes each Friday after school playing with the Orchestra. It has helped me build confidence as a player; for a year I was the only viola but now we have two and sometimes even three! I really enjoy going because you are with a group of people with whom you share the same interests. We have played all sorts of music from a variety of composers, my personal favourite being *March Slave* by Tchaikovsky. Not only is the music we make of a professional standard, but also playing in the Orchestra opens up all sorts of great opportunities. I was lucky enough to go on the music tour to Prague last year and, despite the freezing cold, loved every second of it! We played in a variety of places and visited many of the historical parts of the beautiful city. Bring on Berlin 2013!!

Lottie McAlister 9L

When Are We Going To Use This In Real Life?!



Ms Dickson in the maths department would welcome examples of ways in which you have used maths recently (as part of your job or otherwise), for a display in the maths department. A brief description along with your job title would be most appreciated eg "I recently used averages to compare the exam results of two classes I teach (Teacher)" or "I used trigonometry to model risk for pensions calculations (Actuary)". Please either tweet to @BeaumontMaths or email admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk. Please title your contribution 'Maths at Work' and mark emails for the attention of Ms Dickson. Any level of maths welcome! We look forward to hearing from you.

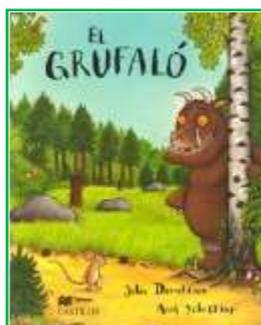
phillipmartin.info

Languages News

Year 7 Information

Year 7 students have received a letter about studying a second language in Year 8. If you want to express a preference for a particular language, you must return the slip by **Monday 14 May**.

Mrs Lutz, Head of Languages



Foreign Language Library

Over the last few months, Mrs Dudgeon and I have been adding to the selection of foreign language books available in the library. Reading a familiar book in a foreign language can be really enjoyable and motivational. What about trying "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" in German, "We're all going on a Bear Hunt" in French or "The Gruffalo" in Spanish? We have everything from very basic single word board books to novels such as Harry Potter. You may read the foreign language books to work towards the Olympic reading challenge.

If anyone has any French, German, Spanish or Italian childrens' books which they no longer need, we would be happy to give them a home in the library for students to enjoy.

Mrs Lutz, Head of Languages



Curriculum Enrichment – House Day 21 March

Languages

House Day in the Languages Department was very lively! Students worked in groups of two Houses to produce a French play in a day and also to have some taster lessons of Greek, Gujarati, Italian and Bengali.

As you can see from the pictures, we had some a lot of fun working on the productions of "Blanche Neige" (Snow White). I would like to thank Mr Meier from Verulam for the script and for helping us on the day. Thanks also to Mrs Rowlands who let me borrow various costumes from Drama which were used to great effect!

All the performances were excellent, so it was a hard decision for our judge, Mr Cross. However, Austen and Newton were the overall winners.



Students really enjoyed their taster lessons of Bengali, Gujarati, Greek and Italian. Thanks so much to Ms Khanam, Mr Parmar, Mrs Forster and Ms Boggi for preparing such interactive sessions.



Mrs Lutz, Head of Languages

Orienteering – what the students said

- I found the day very enjoyable as it gave me a chance to socialise with people in other years. The relay orienteering race was great fun. **James Blake 11A**
- I really enjoyed doing orienteering for CED day. I learnt a lot of new skills and the activities throughout the day were fun and interesting. It also gave me an insight into what the sport is about. I would definitely recommend it. **James Banathy 10A**
- The Orienteering was great. First we watched a video and then did some training for the afternoon, when we went to Highfield Park for an orienteering challenge. **Anthony Donaldson 7L**
- Having done orienteering a few times with the Scouts I had a fair idea of what to expect. The morning was spent learning the basics of map reading and navigation – all the key skills for the outdoors. Everyone took part in these activities with enthusiasm before we spent the afternoon at Highfield Park. The weather that day was practically summer – a wonderful afternoon for running around the park. Overall I'm pretty pleased that Austen did well and that we all had fun trying something new. **Joseph Lowry 11A**
- I participated in the orienteering activity on CED day and I found it an interesting and different activity and one that I enjoyed. Mrs Errington, from British Orienteering, ensured that the day was as enjoyable as possible and her expertise was greatly appreciated. **Samantha Dobson 10L**
- In the morning we did various training exercises around school, getting used to reading the orienteering maps. In the afternoon we walked down to Highfield Park where we did two different activities. The first one was basically a relay – one pair from each House ran around to find five points marked on the map. When they returned the next pair went to find the next five points and so on. The second activity was quite simple; in pairs or alone we had to get as many points as possible in half an hour. It was quite tiring but good fun, and the day was very sunny, making it even more enjoyable. **Alice Webster 10L**
- Throughout the day we learnt more and more about orienteering and what the sport is. It was a lot more physically challenging than I thought so I collapsed onto my bed as soon as I got home. Overall the day was enjoyable especially as the sun was shining. **Ben Hackwood 10A**



Amazing Olympic Artwork!

A fantastic painting day took place in the Art Department on CED Day with Mrs Burns, Miss May and Miss Findlay.

Students worked in their Houses in groups of 10 with two students representing each Year group. It was lovely to see the students working together and the Year 11 students who took the lead in helping their teams were exemplary.

Each house was given a British Olympian who is taking part in the games in the summer, and they were given the task of doing giant paintings on to huge pieces of board. The results were absolutely incredible and the work is currently on display in the Tech Foyer.



Watch this space as the huge boards will soon be varnished and put on display outside the Hall and will look absolutely stunning.

Well done to all of the students that took part on the day.

Miss Findlay

Technology

House Day in Technology was great! For one half of the day we made stop motion videos and in the other half we either made hats or a Croquembouche tower. A stop motion video is when you take a picture, move your model and then take another picture. When you play it quickly it looks like a movie. Our video had to be 30 seconds long, and there are 12 pictures per second. This meant we had to take 360 pictures! It was really rewarding to see the finished product because we all worked so hard. Everyone made sets, characters and props and then we filmed the story.



After lunch we had the choice of Food Tech or Textiles. I chose Food Tech and we took our places in our forms. Our task was to make a Croquembouche tower, which is a tower of profiteroles. It was great fun making the profiteroles, but we did burn a batch. We had to make a caramel to drizzle over the top and it looked really professional. Overall Seacole House won and we came joint third. It was a fun day.

Lily Kattenhorn-Black 8N

Library - Coming Soon!

Beyond Beaumont

Three ex Beaumont students graduated from Aston University in 2011:

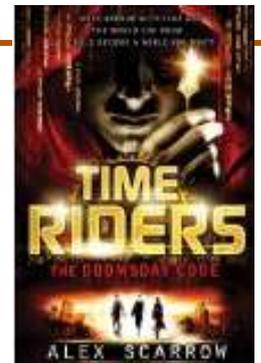
- Craig Watt - BSc in Marketing
- Samuel Goulson - BSc in International Business and Modern Languages
- Zoe Rushbrook - BSc in Human Psychology

Well done to all three.

Author Alex Scarrow is coming to school to talk to Year 8 about his Time Riders series, and his love of reading. He will be in school on 2 May and will be signing books, so if you already own some of his books you are welcome to bring them with you. There will be copies of his new book for sale price £6.99.

More information is available in the library.

Mrs Dudgeon, Librarian



From the Governors

We started our third meeting of the academic year reviewing the evaluation of lesson observations for the year to date which showed that we are on target to achieve at least 90% of lessons to be good or outstanding. All staff are observed at least once during the year.

We then looked at the validated exam data for summer 2011, known as RAISE online, which is how all schools are measured for their performance. We were pleased that we had statistically significantly positive results in many areas and across all groups, including gender, SEN and minority groups.

Our next item for discussion was the report on the homework review which involved a parental survey and input from students. One of the findings of the review indicated that planners could be used more effectively and students were being taught to take more responsibility for planning of their time. This was particularly important for project style homework which needed to be broken down into interim deadlines and is an area that the school is focussing on through Beaumont Skills for Success.

Our next meeting this month will be mainly looking at the updated Plan for School Improvement and Sixth Form.

Alison Wallis, Chair of the Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Committee

Fundraising for Great Ormond Street Hospital

Well done to Adele Robinson and Emily Bates who organised an Arts Evening in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital. They raised around £1000 from the evening of dance, drama, gymnastics, music and art. Naomi Angel from GOSH spoke to a Sixth form Assembly about the work of the hospital recently, and was delighted to receive a cheque for £1000, presented by Adele and Emily.



Poppy Appeal

A total of £194.64 was collected in school for the 2011 Poppy Appeal.

Thank you to all who bought poppies and to those who sold them in school.



Basketball News

Aidan selected for England!

Congratulations to Aidan Gastaldi Davies who was notified over Easter that he has been selected for the final England basketball team.

Aidan was invited to attend his first trial camp in November and has attended four camps/trials since. A team of 12 players including Aidan, and three reserves was selected from an initial squad of around 35. The team will be competing at U15 level in an International Tournament in Copenhagen from 21 to 24 June.

This is an outstanding achievement, and the culmination of a great deal of hard work and dedication over a number of years. Everyone at Beaumont wishes Aidan every success in Copenhagen and I am sure it will be a great experience for him. It is fantastic for Beaumont to have someone competing at this level and should be an inspiration for other basketball players lower down the school.

Well done Aidan and good luck.

Basketball season round up

Congratulations to all of the teams this season. For the first time ever we reached all three girls' finals, unfortunately losing to three strong opponents in each final. If we can increase our squad numbers and develop our shooting as whole squads, we have every chance of winning one or more finals next year.

The Year 7 boys had a limited number of games but were dedicated to training and had an excellent finish to the season, finishing third out of 13 teams in the County Rally. This emulated the Year 8 boys' position from last year and they went on to reach the Under 13 semi final, losing narrowly to St Columba's. They have had a year of significant development, based on high numbers to training and a real enthusiasm and work ethic.

The Year 10 boys struggled early in the season with injury and were unlucky to lose by one point to St Columba's in the County Semi Final.

The Under 16 boys have once again had an outstanding season so far. They have won the County League for the second consecutive year, defeating St Columba's 70 - 52 in the final. They are still competing in the National Championships and are at the Regional round stage. They have been unbeaten in all competitions (District, County and National) for two years and this continued recently against Copleston High School, Ipswich when we won a thrilling game 80 - 79 to reach the last 16 of the National Cup.

Although this season has not been quite as successful as last year, we still reached four County finals, a County rally final and two other County semi finals and are still in one National competition. We therefore reached at least the semi final of every County competition entered. For us to now build on this success we need to increase our squad numbers as we often rely on small but talented squads.

Thank you to all who have played and officiated this year, another excellent season which will hopefully end with another National final!!

Mr Stewart



Liam selected for Sainsbury's 2012 School Games

Many congratulations to Liam Baskett who has been selected to compete at the Sainsbury's 2012 School Games in London from 6-9 May. The best school-aged athletes in the UK are invited to attend the School Games and this is a fantastic achievement for Liam. Well done Liam, and good luck.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance



Mrs Jackie Duffy wishes all students in Years 11, 12 and 13 good luck in their exams this summer. If anyone is unsure about their future plans after exams and would like to see her for advice before going on Study Leave, they can request an appointment with Mrs Duffy via Mrs Darnell in the school office.

Once you have started Study Leave, and during the summer, you can still request advice from Mrs Duffy by contacting her direct on Jackie.Duffy@hertscc.gov.uk

Mrs Duffy will also be available in school to talk to current Year 11 students on GCSE results day – Thursday 23 August 2012. This may be particularly helpful for any students who need to change their future plans as a result of their GCSE results.

Vista will be offering support services for children, young people, parents, families and schools in the St Albans community. We will be developing new services over the next

two years and we value your thoughts and comments. Do feel free to contact Jo Maher at any time on **01727 855134 Ex. 2** or **07939 111152**.

SOME GOOD NEWS!

Vista has been nominated for 'Community Oriented Business of the Year' in the Mayors Pride Awards. We are very proud of this achievement, particularly as we are so new.

The winner will be announced end of April – we are keeping our fingers crossed!

Jo Maher



Parenting Courses and Workshops

For parents of children aged 5-16 years

'Vision of Inclusion in St Albans and Hatfield'

Vista St Albans is a Community Interest Company (Not for Profit) which has been set up to offer parents support with any issues they may have.

Vista is offering the following courses and workshops

SUMMER TERM

COURSES—All courses have a charge of £15 per person

<p>About Boys Course: Course for Mums only of boys aged 5-11 years</p>	<p>Mondays, 10.00am-12.00pm 30 April - 28 May 2012 (excluding 7th May) Mondays, 7.30pm-9.30pm 18 June—9 July 2012</p>
<p>Understanding Teenage Behaviour: Understanding how teenagers feel, focussing on communication and behaviour issues.</p>	<p>Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm 17 April—22 May 2012</p>
<p>Living with Self Harm: A difficult subject for those who need help</p>	<p>Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm 15 May—29 May 2012</p>
<p>Dealing with Your Pre-teen and Transition</p>	<p>Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm 14 June-12 July 2012</p>

WORKSHOP—All workshops have a charge of £5 per person

<p>Internet Safety</p>	<p>Tuesday, 7.30-9.30pm—15 May 2012</p>
<p>Self Esteem and Your Teenage Girl</p>	<p>Monday 7.30-9.30pm— 2 July 2012</p>



Contact us to find out more:
Call Vista on 01727 855134 Ex 2 or Email: vistastalbans@gmail.com

Being a parent can be challenging at times – we can offer individual support as well as a variety of information and guidance to services.
www.vistastalbans.org.uk

Vista is driven by its commitment to improving life chances for children and young people by supporting parents.

First Aid for Teenagers – Saturday, 7 July 2012, 9.00am-1.00pm

A four hour accredited course for young people aged 13 years and over who babysit or care for children run by **MGM Training**. It will be held at Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, AL1 4LW. Cost £25.00 per person payable to secure booking – call 01727 855134 or 07939 111152.

Further information about these and other Vista services:

Jo Maher on 07939 111152 or vistastalbans@gmail.com or visit www.vistastalbans.org.uk

Cucina – your views

We are coming to the end of our third year with our catering service provider, Cucina, and would appreciate feedback from staff and students about the service provided. Students are being asked to complete an anonymous on-line questionnaire – please do encourage them to do so by logging in to www.surveymonkey.com/s/cucinasurvey

It's a simple process and should not take too long. Thank you.

Mr Jones, Premises Manager

BSA NEWS



Beaumont School Celebrates Rob's Festival – Saturday 23 June, 12-8pm

Planning is underway for the third "Beaumont School Celebrates Rob's Festival" which will take place on the afternoon/early evening of **Saturday 23 June 2012**. This is a family event with sports, live bands, BBQ, stalls and much more! The money raised is divided between the Princes Trust and Rob Williams Enterprise Fund and the BSA. Last year this event raised around £15,000 of which £5500 was donated to the BSA to enable us to support the school (see recent purchases below).

Beaumont Year 12 students, led by the "Rob's Festival Sixth Form Committee", play a major part in the organisation of this event together with Rob's friends, staff and the BSA. Please put this date in your diaries and support this very worthwhile fundraising event. More information will be posted soon on the Rob's Festival website at <http://www.robsfestival.com>



If you, or your company, are able to support this fundraising event by providing donations in the form of equipment; catering supplies eg paper cups, plates; beer, wine, soft drinks; raffle prizes; marquees/gazebos or a monetary donation then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact us at

bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

Thank you.



Recent BSA purchases

Telescope – Science, £230
Display Cabinets – Technology, £840
GCSE trophies - £200
Digital Cameras – History and Photography, £550
GIS Software – Geography, £250
Interactive Whiteboard – Economics, £1000
Trampoline End Decks – PE, £2000
Music Folders and Stands – Music, £1685
Maths Resources - £205
Food Technology - £500
IT - £500
Hall Follow Spots - Drama, PE, Music,
Whole School Presentations, £1807
Annual Contribution to minibus - £2000

New Committee Members

We would love to encourage some more parents and staff onto the committee. If you have any available time and could offer some ideas or help at even one function a year, then we would love to hear from you! The next committee meeting is on **Wednesday 2 May** at 7.30pm in the School Library.

Other ways to help our school? If, *at any time*, you or your company can offer services eg catering supplies, printing, marquees, sports equipment/kit or raffle prizes then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Alternatively, many parents make a donation to the school – either as a one-off donation or as a regular monthly direct debit. **Gift Aid** may be claimed to increase your donation. Forms may be downloaded from the BSA website. Thank you.

Many thanks, as always, for your support for BSA fundraising.

Dates for your diary:

Weds 2 May: BSA committee meeting. 7.30pm in the School Library. All welcome.

Weds 23 May: BSA AGM. Have you considered joining the committee?

Sat 23 June: Beaumont Celebrates Rob's Festival (Music and Sports Festival for all the Family). 2-8pm

For more info contact the BSA at bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk or visit our page on the Beaumont School website - accessed from the "Quick Links" on the Home Page - for details of current fundraising events