

From the Headteacher

We were so proud and privileged this month to see Her Majesty the Queen at Hatfield Park and to have Beaumont students sing as she planted the tree in the Jubilee Wood. I was then honoured to meet her in person at the reception in Hatfield House afterwards. We have published a four page special inside this edition to mark the occasion.

It's been a great month for Beaumont: we've had several of our staff recognised by the Pearson Teaching Awards for outstanding teaching plus a special honour for Miss Doan in winning a Distinction for the Use of Technology. In addition Mr Willsher won Disability Coach of the Year in the St Albans and Harpenden District Sports Awards. Then last week Miss Shepherd and Mr de Kort presented our Skills for Success (S4S) at a national conference. I am privileged to lead such a talented and committed staff team.

We are now ready to convert to an Academy on 1 July (see Chair of Governor's article on page 3). I also extend my heartfelt thanks to all those involved in the process.

At the end of June we say farewell to Mr Maillou, D&T Technician after 14 years at Beaumont supporting students in Design and Technology, and to Mr Tobiasiewicz Assistant Network Manager; we also say farewell to Mrs Gibson, who joined us in 2009 as Art and Display co-ordinator, and who has successfully trained as an Art teacher with us. I would like to say a huge thank you to Jean McCann who steps down as governor after nearly 20 years on the Governing Body. Thank you all and our best wishes to you. We welcome Mrs Steels, Geography, and Mr Beattie, minibus driver.

Finally, our very best wishes to all our students who sat examinations this season and especially to those in Year13 and the leavers of Year 11 as they move on from Beaumont. Having worked so hard, I wish you a very happy holiday break and look forward to seeing you again on results days in August.

Elizabeth Hitch

July Diary Dates

Sun	1	Academy conversion
Mon	2	CED WEEK including Year 10 Work Experience
Tues	3	CED WEEK including Year 10 Work Experience
Weds	4	CED WEEK including Year 10 Work Experience
Thurs	5	CED WEEK including Year 10 Work Experience
Fri	6	CED WEEK including Year 10 Work Experience
Sun	8	Olympic Torch relay runs past Beaumont (Hatfield Road) shortly after 4pm
Mon	9	Scholastic Book Fair this week – Library Year 10 Study trip to Rosas
Weds	11	Beaumont Life deadline Year 12 Business & Economics Eureka Challenge trip to Birmingham Summer concert rehearsals P4 onwards (Hall) Summer Concert 7pm, Hall
Thurs	12	New Year 7 Day visit Year 7 Lion King trip – Lyceum Theatre 7.30pm
Mon	16	Lower School musical Seussical
Tues	17	Lower School musical Seussical
Weds	18	Lower School musical Seussical
Thurs	19	Year 7 and 8 final reports issued
Fri	20	END OF TERM Awards Assemblies (Years 7-10) Shortened Day – students dismissed form 12.30pm

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

Focus on.....

The History Department

This year has been another successful year in the History department, especially in the 'headline' year groups with last year's Year 11s again excelling themselves (47% achieving A*-A) and 71% of the Year 13s achieving A*-B grades.

I am pleased again to note the Department's strong involvement in CED activities; in September we had the return of the ever popular Corporal Knight for the Year 9s (now as featured in Downton Abbey and consultant on Spielberg's War Horse) as well as a focus on local History research on soldiers from St Albans who were lost in World War I. Year 7 again went to the ever popular Tower of London and also had an extra visit from Lawrence Alman (ex-student) to bring the Battle of Hastings to life with reproductions of many of the weapons that were used by both Normans and Saxons. I think all were impressed and awed by the sheer size and weight of some of the objects that students were allowed to 'test out'!



Year 8 again toured Hampton Court Palace and particularly enjoyed the opportunity to be presented to Henry VIII and ask some quality questions to the man himself.

Once again the Key stage 3 students have excelled themselves with their homework and shown their talents and enthusiasm for the subject in each of the tasks. I am also impressed with the way that they have embraced the new technology of the VLE to check up on instructions and get extra tips on how to make their work even better. Next year I am aiming to use this tool as a way of collating feedback from students to drive any changes or improvements across the department.



I am also pleased to note that following on from the huge success of the USA trip in Easter 2011, we will be taking even more

students (due to such high demand) to Washington and New York in Easter 2013. We're really not sure who is more excited to go on the trip: the students (in anticipation of the iconic sights) or the teachers (because we know how much last year's students enjoyed it)!



History has also joined the Twittersphere!

@beaumonthistory has been tweeting away giving out top tips and links to students over the exam period and answering quality questions when students have been on study leave and revising. Feedback from students has been very positive and I intend to keep this running and also use it as a tool for highlighting interesting and inspiring events, articles and sites during term time.

This year, my Year 9 classes also stepped back in time to Beaumont during World War II based on my research at the County Archives in Hertford where I managed to dig up the Head's Log Book for the Girls' school (upstairs in the main building). Many of the students were shocked to discover just how much time was missed due to air raids: on 27 July 1944 the students went in and out of the shelters five times, and had to eat their lunch in the shelter "a dreadful day"! (Year 9 also found it 'dreadful' as that year the summer holiday was cut to four weeks!) I will be aiming to do further research over the year, but if anyone has any information about Beaumont, **specifically** during the war then please let me know.

Miss Pearson

Drama News

Three Year 10 students (Zac Gabourel, Erika Yee and Sophie Bagge) and Mrs Rowlands, Drama teacher, have recently been involved in a community dance piece, "The Ballroom of Joys and Sorrows", at Watford Palace Theatre, with performances from 28 to 30 May. The show then went "on tour" to Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park, headquarters of The English Song and Dance Society, for another performance on 7 June. The intensive rehearsals required dedication and stamina and our pupils did themselves and the school proud.

The project was masterminded by the world famous choreographer Kate Flatt who has had a distinguished career and was responsible for the movement in "Les Miserables" and "Cats" amongst many other successful shows.

We were all lucky enough to work with professional dancers, musicians and have the support of the extensive crew and resources at The Watford Palace Theatre.

Many thanks to all the staff who came to view the show and support the students and Mrs Rowlands (especially those who got up and danced at the end). Also to the parents for all the ferrying to and from Watford.

We know how lucky we have been to have had this enriching and enlivening experience.



Mrs Rowlands

Cake Sale for Bone Cancer Research Trust

Recently we held a cake sale to raise money for the Bone Cancer Research Trust. With over 200 cakes made we raised £250. A huge success! Many thanks to Mr Sievewright and Miss May for helping us and to Alicia, Lois, Esme, Ellie, Georgina, Becca, Laura, Olivia and Kristal for baking cakes and helping me. But a big thanks must go to everyone who came and bought cakes: we hope you enjoyed them, whilst supporting a charity that helps so many young people.

Maisie Foster 8A



From the Governors

Throughout this year the main focus for the Governing Body has been associated with our application to convert to Academy status. At the Full Governing Body Meeting on 29 May this was discussed in detail and I am delighted to confirm that the governors unanimously passed a resolution that Beaumont School should become an Academy with effect from 1 July 2012. The name of the school will not change and the Academy Trust will be known as Beaumont School. Since then there has been significant progress and we are currently working closely with the Department of Education and Hertfordshire County Council in order to finalise arrangements for the conversion. A formal letter will be sent out to all stakeholders once conversion takes place.

You will know how carefully the Governors have reviewed and evaluated the advantages and disadvantages of conversion and have widely consulted with all those concerned including pupils, parents, staff, unions and local residents and organisations. The outcome of this review and process of consultation has been very positive and it became clear that there would be significant benefits that would strengthen the school and enable it to maintain its high standards and ethos. It was therefore agreed by all the governors that it would be in the best interests of the school for us to proceed with the conversion.

This process has been co-ordinated by the Academy Management Group, comprising Governors and senior staff and they have guided us through a very complex process and their skills and knowledge in relation to teaching, finance, human resources and the law, have enabled us to achieve a very smooth transition from a Community School to an Academy. This is a very exciting time for the school and I hope, like me, you are looking forward to a successful and rewarding future for Beaumont School and its community.

Rena Prindiville, Chair of Governors



Figure 2: Website

for later life that are not offered by any other subject. These skills include collaborative working. Although in other subjects you do work in groups, in no other subject do you truly learn to work together to produce a product of near professional quality. Within this collaborative working unit, my class learnt to access the work we had to do and set deadlines appropriately as well as to communicate efficiently to

Taking ICT as a subject has helped throughout my life at school. Not only did I have fun learning about making websites and multimedia products including animations as well as an interactive multimedia product, I also learnt key skills that I was able to transfer to my other subjects. By learning in depth about all the MS packages I was given a head start in my other subjects when using these packages within them such as with Statistics coursework as I had already learnt how to make the most of the tools and formulas available on Excel.

A Level ICT has been particularly useful as I have learnt skills useful allocate tasks and discuss ideas. We were also able to explore wikis, blogs, sharing docs as well as the school's new VLE as technologies used within business communications.

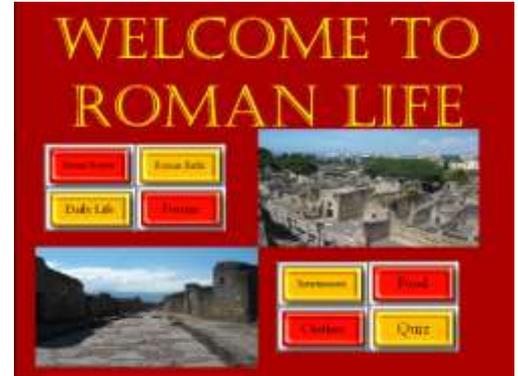


Figure 1: Interactive Multimedia Product



Figure 3: Collaborative Working Pull out Magazine

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Another skill we learnt was how to communicate effectively within a business through the use of presentations, reports, memos and letters. This also taught us how to make each of these forms of communications suitable to a business setting rather than simply for school use as well as about the etiquette required for use of emails in business. We also learnt about the potential problems caused by the increasing use of computer technology within a business and the ways that they can be solved.



Figure 4: Spread sheet

the creation of interactive multimedia products and websites. As I also have a love for history as well as ICT, I chose to make a website about the Tudors and an interactive multimedia product about the Romans. These units allowed us to be creative through the designs of our product as well as technological through our creation of them. This again sets ICT apart from other subjects.

ICT has also taught us the struggle that collecting information from questionnaires and then entering hundreds of pieces of information into a spread sheet can be, but also how technology can be used to overcome most of these problems through the use of forms. It has also taught us how to evaluate our work so that we are constantly learning to improve upon ourselves and to work independently to secure enough information to solve a problem.

The unique nature of ICT as a subject allowed us to incorporate our other interests with our passion of ICT through



Figure 5: Form for inputting data

Gaming Technology was the last unit we completed as part of our OCR Nationals Level 3 and was a fun way to round off ICT at Beaumont School. As well as testing out a few games on the current most popular consoles, we learnt about the true detail and hard work that goes into creating new games and how the development of technology has allowed games to become far more complex and far more interactive than some people believed they ever could.

ICT has been a great subject to take at A Level, as it includes the fun of making a product as coursework, and is the only subject where you can truly get out exactly what you put in.

Sophie Bricknell Year 13

Maths News

Maths Equipment: a reminder

It is vital that students come properly equipped for lessons as the department policy now is that no equipment will be lent out. There really is no excuse for not having the essential items as they can be purchased through the department for a minimal cost. If there are any difficulties in acquiring the necessary items please see Mr Smith, the Head of Department.

The departmental foyer

Thank you very much to Mrs Davies and Mrs Wilson for their reorganisation of the maths foyer area. The displays that they are still in the process of completing are very thought provoking and inspiring. Maths is a beautiful subject, but sometimes we lose sight of this when grinding through long division on a wet Friday afternoon. Hopefully this display will encourage students to think and perhaps do some independent research on the subject.

Maths revision

We have been busy building a bank of revision materials that we have made available on the VLE and as from the next academic year we will be providing access to the Maths Watch revision materials for GCSE and Key Stage 3. The Maths Watch CDs were previously available through the school for a charge of £3.50 but we wanted to make

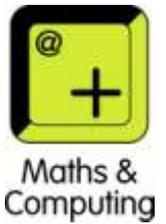
sure that every student had access to this valuable resource and so we have bought a site licence for the school; I am sure that students will find this very useful.

Twitter

Beaumont Maths department is on Twitter! We tweet as @BeaumontMaths and we have big plans for using the account with A-level students from this September. In the meantime we offer interesting maths stories and support for students. Please follow us.

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

Ms Dickson in the maths department would again welcome examples of ways in which you have used maths recently either 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, either tweeted to @BeaumontMaths or emailed to admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk and marked for the attention of Ms Dickson. For example "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)". Any level of maths welcome!



Maths Team Challenge

We arrived at the Maths Challenge hoping to do well. The maths challenge was held at Haberdashers' and we travelled by mini-bus with Ms Rosler. We first competed in the "Group Competition" where we had to solve 10 questions in 40 minutes, with a teacher from another school keeping our score. It was a pretty tough round but we picked up a few points.

Next was the "Cross-number", which we had practised in school so we knew what to expect. After this round we were still on par with the other teams. The third round was "Head-to-head" where we had to answer four questions against another team. At this point, the three dominant teams were both Haberdashers' Boys and Girls and Watford Grammar. We ended up head-to-head with Haberdashers' Girls and beat them by a few points which gave us a great confidence boost! The final event was a relay race which involved running to our teacher to get the questions.

Overall we finished up 17th out of 36 schools, which was an improvement on last year and a position we were all proud of. It was a great day and we really enjoyed it!

James Hennessy and Rufus Neame 8L

Over 240,000 pupils from across the UK took part in the competition and approximately the top 6% achieve gold, the next 13% silver and the next 21% bronze. Thank you very much to Mrs Forster for organising the competition and the entries. Congratulations to the following students who obtained a gold, silver or bronze award certificate in the Junior Mathematical Challenge April 2012:

Year 8

GOLD	SILVER	SILVER	SILVER
Edward Doyle	Alex Curtis	Emily Webster	Michael Winter
Anna Hardisty	James Hennessy	Nathan Hunt	Peter Kirby
Amy Brooker	Cassius Almond	Rufus Neame	Connor Quinn
Kane White	Elliot Mason	Shauna Lils	Kasia Maccougall
Lydia Grinsted	Ellen Dean	Jacob Grisenthwaite	Lucy Homer
	Zachary Moore	Clem Almond	

BRONZE	BRONZE	BRONZE	BRONZE
Edward Sewell	Katie Donaldson	Bryn Williams	Ramin Jannat
Olivia Almond	Hannah Kennedy	Jasmine Spinks	Ryan Lubbock
Simon Jones			

Year 7

GOLD	SILVER	SILVER	SILVER
Andrew Oliver	Laura Knill Jones	Greta Gellr	Kira Stevenson
James Harding	Matthew Lowry	Rhys Liddle	Oliver Hann
	Tamson Sandford Smith	Grace Horne	Stan Lloyd
	Carolyn Barnard	Jafar Hassan	

BRONZE	BRONZE	BRONZE	BRONZE
Martha Stagg	Adam Purkis	Jonathan Larkworthy	Tom Sherwood
Henry Metcalf	Bethany Latham	Patrick Quinn	Annabel Rich

Mr Smith, Head of Maths

Food Technology goes Japanese

We are eagerly preparing for a week of Japanese food and culture and have been collecting cookbooks, crockery, chopsticks, sushi rolling mats and many other articles of Japanese heritage and interest to help maximise our time in this week. We have been very fortunate in engaging Mrs Naomi Hennessy (Mum of James Hennessy 8L) who is from Hiroshima, Japan to help with the planning of our workshops and Mrs Eithne Neame (Mum of Rufus Neame 8L and representative of Billingsgate Fish Cookery School) in coming along to demonstrate some sushi and sashimi with fresh fish from the market.

- 8.30 am Welcome! Youkoso irasshai mashita.
ようこそいらっしゃいました
- 8.45 am Sushi Demonstration and making
10.30am – 10.45am Morning break
- 10.45 am Sashimi demonstration, Japanese salads and side dishes
11.30am – 12.30pm Lunch
- 12.30 pm Bento box designing, chopstick practice
2.00pm – 2.15pm Afternoon break
- 2.15 pm Cultural celebration - food tasting, chopstick competition, tea ceremony



We very much look forward to the workshops taking place! Or, should we say *Itadakimasu* – ‘Let's eat!’

Mrs Johnson

Year 7 Puppet theatre

Preparations for the Year 7 Puppet Theatre Project are also underway! Photographed are students preparing for their productions of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, the Three little Pigs and Hansel and Gretel.

We look forward to reporting more on the superb work being done to produce, direct and perform these shows in the July edition of Beaumont Life.

Mrs Johnson



So far Year 7s have been creating puppets based on fairy tales. I have collaborated with my group to make puppets of ‘Three Little Pigs’. Using an envelope, everyone made a unique puppet by cutting and sticking. For the project we designed a poster. We learnt about all the fascinating different types of puppets and how they work. We listed information about our project – what our theme will be, scenery, and the different characters. We drew our puppet designs so our groups could evaluate them and decide what to do. Now the class is focussing on scenery for the project. It is really great.

Dara Bulut

Sports News

Athletics round-up

The athletics season has been mixed this year with some excellent individual performances and one or two teams performing well at both District and County level.

In the County League, the Junior teams (Year 7 and 8) were committed and produced some excellent performances with the boys team finishing 14th out of 25 teams in their league and the girls team finishing second and qualifying for the County League Final. This is the first time in six years that a Beaumont team has reached this final. The junior girls were regional runners up in the Indoor Sportshall Athletics final and also reached the Regional Final of the Track and Field Cup. They have had an excellent season.

At the District Championships on the 14 June we had a number of District winners:

Year 7: Ruby Self (100m and long jump), Will Sharp (long jump)

Year 8: Lewis Montgomery Moore (discus), Holly Brando Hollahan (discus)

Year 9: Naomi Baker (long jump)

Year 10: Holly Seglah: (200m and Javelin)

The Year 7 girls team were placed third in their competition out of 12, as were the Year 9 girls team, a very good performance from both.

At the Senior Championships earlier in the term the Senior Boys team were placed 4th with Carl Palin retaining his District Championship in the 400m and Rowen Seglah doing the same in the 100m.

The County Championships on Saturday 16 June saw a number of Beaumont athletes compete well. Ruby Self reached the 100m final, as did Adi Milton in the 75m hurdles a year out of age. Olivia Almond, also a year out of age, narrowly missed reaching the final of the 200m whilst Tian Figg was 7th in the Junior Girls discus. Naomi Baker ran a great race to finish third in the 800m final whilst Will Sharp jumped a personal best to finish second in the long jump. Holly Seglah won both of her events, the 200m and the javelin. She is also County Clubs Under 17 Champion at both 200m and Javelin and the County Indoor Champion for 200m. She also represented Hertfordshire in the South of England Inter Counties Championships for Under 20's Women where she came 4th, only 0.004 seconds behind the winning runner. An outstanding season from a high quality and committed athlete. Holly has also broken the Year 10 200m school record this year, as has Ruby Self in the 100m. One or two other athletes may also have broken records this year but I am waiting for official results to come through to confirm them.

Even if you did not always win your event this season, if you have trained hard, improved your personal best and been committed to the team then you have had an excellent season.

Many thanks to everyone who has competed this season.

Mr Stewart

St Albans City and District Sports Awards

Congratulations to Mr Willsher in the PE department who has been nominated and shortlisted for a second year in a row for Disability Coach of the Year. Last year Mr Willsher and Mr Bratley won this category so to be nominated again is a well deserved recognition of his commitment to the students and their sport. Mr Willsher said, 'It is real credit to the motivation of the pupils involved and the help I have had from Mr Bratley and Mr Jump that I have been nominated again.'

Chloe Arnold, 8R

Chloe has worked extremely hard this year and as a result has had great success. She has competed in The Herts County championships and The Regional Championships and won many medals. Chloe has also travelled all over the country to compete in various competitions during the year. She has competed in The District Schools Swimming Team and as a result of this was selected for The County Schools Team. This gala was due to take place next week but unfortunately has been cancelled. Due to her success over the year, Chloe has recently been selected to swim in The East Region School Swimming Team and will compete over 2 days in Liverpool at The National Schools Championships at the end of this month.

The highlight of Chloe's year will be when she competes in Sheffield at the National Championships at the end of July. Last year Chloe swam in one event but her hard work this year has proved worthwhile as this year she has qualified to compete in the 100m and 200m Butterfly and is part of the Individual Medley Team relay. Chloe will go into the competition ranked in the top ten fastest butterfly swimmers in her age in the country.

Hockey

Jacob Lockhart Lister and Adam Jones in Year 10 have both been put forward for JRPC (Junior Regional Performance Centre), the Eastern region level hockey selection. The region includes all the Eastern Counties including Hertfordshire, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Norfolk and Lincolnshire. They will be attending training sessions over the summer with a possibility of team selection. Many congratulations to them both.

Mr Osborne

BSA News

Over £20,000 spent by the BSA on items for the School this year!

At the recent AGM, the Chairman reported on the increasing importance of the fundraising activities of the BSA in supporting the school at a time of restricted Government spending. At the meeting, many of the ways in which BSA funds have been used to support the school were highlighted. A list of how funds had been spent was described and included:

- Follow Spots – for the School Hall (used in recent shows and the Gym and Dance display)
- Maths Resources
- Keyboards, folders and stands
- Telescope – Science Department
- Digital Cameras – Photography and History Departments
- GIS software – Geography Department
- Display Cabinets – for Technology Department
- Laboratory Coats
- Interactive Whiteboard – Economics and Business Department
- Wheelchairs – for Inclusive Zone Basketball
- Sixth Form Block furniture, GCSE trophies, Minibus Fund, Upgrades to Hall Sound/Lighting Systems
- Donation to the Prince's Trust

In order to purchase such items for school, it is crucial that as many Beaumont families as possible support our fundraising efforts – by attending BSA events, giving of their time and/or by regular or one-off donations (preferably with Gift Aid)!

Thank you to all the parents and staff who supported the AGM on 23 May. After a “champagne reception” and welcome from the BSA President, Mrs Hitch, the attendees were treated to a display of **Inclusive Zone Basketball** (IZB) from students, some of whom played in the Nationals Finals in Stoke recently. Mr Jump then invited some of the parents and staff to “have a go” too. Several enthusiastic adults took up the challenge of trying out the wheelchairs – only to discover it is much harder than it looks and certainly tiring. Many thanks to Mr Jump and to students Liam Baskett, Olivia Almond, Jacob Bockenbauer, Will Moroney, Jacob West and Alex Powdrell, for giving up their time for this display. The wheelchairs were purchased with funding obtained following a joint grant application to St Albans CVS submitted by the BSA on behalf of the PE department.

The impressive new **Telescope** for the Science Department, also purchased by the BSA, was available for viewing and although it was still light so could not be used to view the night sky, Mr Sargen had kindly provided plenty of information and some stunning pictures of the planets. Some said they were out of this world!

We would like to encourage more members of the Beaumont School Parent Body to join the committee. Please contact the BSA if you would like more information bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk or just come along to a meeting. BSA diary dates can be found on the BSA page of the school website:

http://www.beaumontschool.com/about_us/bsa.php

If you are unable to give time to help with BSA events, please consider making a regular or one-off donation (with Gift Aid where possible) to the BSA. Forms may be downloaded from the above page. Thank you.

Fleetville Partnership Community News

Self Esteem and Your Teenage Girl Workshop – Monday 2 July - 7.30-9.30pm

Explore how you can raise self esteem and confidence in your teenage daughter. Run by Parent Centred Support and Vista. Cost £5.00 per person for the course. To secure a booking call 07557 361246 or 07939 111152 .



Sexual Health and Personal Safety Workshop – Wednesday 4 July - 7.00-9.00pm

A greater understanding of *binge drinking culture *rights of young people and parental responsibility *under age activity and sexual pressure *where to go for help. Run by Helen Upton, PCSO, School Nurse and Vista. Cost £5.00 per person for the course. To secure a booking call 07557 361246 or 07939 111152 .

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.

Streetdefence – Friday 3 August at Verulam School 10.00am- 12.00pm

The latest and most effective reality based self defence system. Helps you to counter any new threats that may arise on the streets of today.

Special Effects Make Up Workshop – Monday 6th August at Fleetville Junior School 1.00pm-3.00pm

For further information contact Jo Maher on 07939 111152 vistastalbans@gmail.com
www.vistastalbans.org.uk