

## From the Headteacher

**You** may remember that in March 2012 we received an interim assessment letter from Ofsted giving us the good news that there would be no inspection for us until summer 2013 at the earliest. We were last inspected in December 2008 and can now expect a full inspection anytime between April 2013 and summer 2014. The procedure is now that we have half a day's notice; we will be phoned at midday for a two day visit starting the next morning. We will alert all students in the afternoon and all parents via ParentMail. There is no longer time for parents to complete an Ofsted questionnaire and as it is the school's responsibility to collect ongoing data, we sent another ParentMail last week requesting that you complete an online survey. Ofsted has also set up ParentView (see p6 for information) which we would like all parents to complete each year. If you haven't yet done so, please do. Thank you.

**Students** at Beaumont are fortunate indeed to have so many outstanding teachers and occasionally we have the chance to recognise some externally. To this end I am delighted that 17 of our staff received nominations from parents and students in the recent Teaching Awards – thank you for taking time to make your nominations. I am now thrilled that two of our staff have been taken through to the East of England finals: Miss Pearson for Teacher of the Year, and Mr Levoir for the Ted Wragg Lifetime Achievement Award. There are only three finalists in each category so this is a great honour. The outcomes will be published in May. In addition, our Music Department was one of only six national finalists in the Music Department of the Year Award - many congratulations!

**We** said farewell earlier this month to Mrs Angove who has worked at Beaumont for 15 years in a variety of roles, most recently as our excellent Sixth Form Administrator. Our thanks and best wishes go to her and to Miss Melville (TA) who leaves at the end of this term. Finally, many congratulations to Mrs ten Dam (née Crompton) on her marriage in February half term and to Mr Robinson on his forthcoming marriage at Easter.

**Thank** you as always for your support – it is much appreciated.

Elizabeth Hitch

## April Diary Dates

Mon	1	BREAK New York and Washington History trip (return 8 April)
Tues	2	BREAK AS and A2 French trip (return 6 April)
Mon	15	INSET DAY FOR STAFF ONLY
Tues	16	Students return to school, normal time
Weds	17	German Exchange students visit Beaumont (until 25 April) French Exchange students visit Beaumont (until 23 April) Year 11 BTEC Drama evening, room 60/61 and Hall 5-7pm
Thurs	18	March exam results to students Governors Community Committee Boardroom 6.30pm
Fri	19	Year 8 girls HPV vaccination French Exchange students in school
Mon	22	Beaumont Life deadline
Weds	24	Arts Award evening, Hall and room 60/61 7pm
Thurs	25	<b>Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening</b> Junior Maths Challenge – P1 and 2
Sat	27	DofE practice expedition
Sun	28	DofE practice expedition St Albans Young Musician 2013 finals (see page 9)
Mon	29	Governors Resources Committee meeting Boardroom 4.30pm
Fri	3 May	Non-Uniform Day in aid of Rob's Festival – see page 4

**BEAUMONT  
NEEDS  
YOU**

**SEE PAGE 7  
FOR HOW  
YOU CAN  
HELP!!**



For details of sports fixtures please check the PE Blog [www.beaumontpe.blogspot.com](http://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](mailto:admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk)

# The English Department

## English Club

It's nice as a Sixth former to interact with a younger Year group. So far we have read a play and created student films. I think the Year 7s really enjoy the club, as it allows them to interact with other forms and shows them that English doesn't just have to be about spelling.

**Rosie Year 12**

I really like running the English Club because it's fun to mix with people in other Year groups. The Year 7s are great.

**Anya Year 12**

English Club is fun and enjoyable; it is where you make new friends and eat biscuits, not to mention the fun TV show we made. We have also read plays, acted plays and most of all had fun.

**Hannah 7E**

English Club is amazing; it's one of my favourite clubs. I'm new to this club as I've only been here for five weeks but already I've met amazing people, helped to complete a catastrophic Morning Show and eaten a rather large quantity of biscuits. I love it so much. I really look forward to Mondays.

**Matilda 7R**

English Club is fun and we do many activities. We read a play and have recorded our own version of the This Morning show. Overall the club is exciting and we have biscuits and drinks as well.

**Olivia 7N**

English Club is great – we do loads of stuff such as reading scripts and doing newscasts. We make new friends and bond with our old friends, whilst developing our English skills.

**Raya 7E**

English Club is great. The sixth formers Rosie and Anya help us enjoy and experience this amazing opportunity.

**Luke 7A**

## Accelerated Reading



**Year 7** students are following the Accelerated Reader software programme designed to help students of all ages and abilities 'learn to read and read to learn'. It helps motivate and structure independent reading and involves quizzes and tests. Many students have won prizes in the termly draws and this group has managed to read more than a million words since September.

**Well done** to all our **WORD MILLIONAIRES**  
Joseph Brett, Alice Fraser, Lucinda Ripley  
Rachel Jones, Isabel Todd,  
Eleanor Foster, Oscar Negus-Roman,  
Hannah Blackmore, Megan Jarman,  
Sarah Osgood, Leon Robinson,  
Jessica Clifford, Jamie Biswas,  
Elliot Gibbons, Fraser McFarlane.

**Mrs Proudfoot, Head of English**

## Creative Writing Day



On Wednesday 26 February a small group of Year 10s had the opportunity to attend the University of Hertfordshire for a Creative Writing day, designed to develop their technical and imaginative skills.

Mrs Proudfoot

**When** I was asked to go to the University of Hertfordshire on a Creative Writing day, I didn't know what to expect. There were 10 of us plus a small group from Sir John Lawes School and, all slightly apprehensive, we entered the University. We were greeted by two lovely students who were there to look after us, and then introduced to our 'mentors' for the day, who were students taking a Masters in Creative Writing. During the first session we did several exercises to get our creative juices flowing. We then moved on to building characters and a plot for a short story.

**After** lunch we finished these and read them to the class. There was a real variety of subjects, from an exciting crime thriller to a medieval fantasy work. Overall the day was very interesting and I learnt lots of tips to help me. It definitely encouraged me to write more often.

Elise Cutforth Year 10

## Public speaking

**Congratulations** to the following students who went through to Round 2 of the Public Speaking competition. The highlighted students were successful and will give their presentations again in the Finals.

Student	Topic	Student	Topic
Beth Hardisty 7L	Illegal Baby Names	Jacob Bockenbauer 9E	Should there be greater control over guns on streets?
Alfie Abel 7L	Gang warfare	Aimen Gul 9E	Gender inequality
Alex Banathy 7E	Footballers are not good role models	Melanie Noad 9A	Don't judge a book by its cover
Amy McAlister 7E	Fast food chains should use organic ingredients	Claudia Emmanuel 9A	Is God real?
Sam Small 7A	Bullying	David Andrews 9A	Capital punishment
Annabel Jones 7A	Should video games have limited play time?	Molly Rogan 9R	Assisted suicide and euthanasia – is it murder?
Ellie Davies 7R	Is the death penalty ever right?	Matthew Ellis 9R	Should nuclear warheads be disarmed?
Matt Sims 7R	Dyslexia rools Okay!	Connor Moore 9R	Respect in sport
Hira Asim 7N	Animals have rights too	Stephen Heather 9R	Judging a book by its cover
Hector Parkin 7N	Should gun ownership be banned in America?	Anna Hardisty 9S	Altering DNA
Elliot Gibbons 7S	Gun ownership should be limited	Ibrahim Mizi 9S	Power and responsibility of the rich
Sophie Hicks 7S	Equal rights and pay for women	Tom Pate 10L	Money can't buy happiness
Joe Vernon 8L	Tablets for Beaumont students	Lottie McAlister 10L	There should be more women's sport on TV
Beth Hughes 8L	Life in space	Tian Figg 10L	Human rights; have we lost sight of our human responsibility?
Justice Marima 8E	Internet safety	Naomi Baker 10A	Swimming lessons should be compulsory
Ella Houghton 8E	Bullying	Kate Doidge 10A	Should the internet be restricted?
Kate Chamberlain 8A	Sexism in society	Manish Das 10A	Are academic grades necessary in the education system?
Joe Vance 8A	Euthanasia	Gemma Day 10A	Do make-over shows promote plastic surgery?
Finton McGuinness 8R	Sexism in schools	Krishan Patel 10A	Lost generation
Laura Knill-Jones 8R	Should women's sport have greater recognition?	Jodie Wiltshire 10R	Abortion
Charlotte Lord 8N	Self harming	Oscar Easton 10R	Gay marriage – the right decision?
Sam Carro 8N	Friday by Rebecca Black	Thomas Fogerty 10R	Should we always give foreign aid?
Karan Mahatma 8S	Is space exploration worth the money?	Lucas Huysmans 10N	Is the death penalty justice?
Tamsin Sandford Smith 8S	A Ballooning Problem	Kaylah Ferguson 10N	Body image
Will Mattin 9L	Do we care?	Tom Dean 10S	Has comedy crossed the line?
Emily Webster 9L	What is it to be normal?	Annabel Lumley 10S	Do superheroes encourage reckless behaviour?
Ellie Hackwood 9E	Netball should be an Olympic sport	Sarah Chamberlain 10S	Is the love of money the 'root of all evil'?

## News from the Beaumont School Association (BSA)

### Christmas Quiz

Thank you to the many supporters of the Beaumont Christmas Quiz. The winner of the 2012 Quiz is **Matthew Brown**. Congratulations on your £25 prize! Thank you once again to our Quiz-setters, and markers, for all their hard work. Entrants should have received their answer sheets, but please contact the BSA at [bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk](mailto:bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk) if you require a copy.

### BSA Committee

Have you considered joining the BSA committee? Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1 May at 7.30pm in the School Library. Do come along and join us! Please contact the BSA for further information.

### Dates for Diaries:

- **Weds 22 May: BSA AGM** - 7.30pm in the School Library. Please come along and support us and enjoy a celebratory glass of bubbly and nibbles!
- **Sat 8 June: 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball**. See page 7 for more information.
- **Sat 29 June (NOTE NEW DATE): "Rob's Festival"** – a sports and music festival for all the family. Please support this event in aid of the Princes Trust and the BSA. We will soon be looking for volunteers to help on the day. Please consider offering to help for an hour, if you can.



### Rob's Festival – Sports and Music Festival for all the family

As most of you will know, Rob's Festival is coming up. The money raised is split between Beaumont School and The Prince's Trust which is a charity that works with young people and helps them to get into employment. The Festival has made over £40 000 since 2010.

Much of the money raised for the day comes from sponsorship and the prizes come from donations made to the school by local shops and some well-known brands such as Nando's. We are looking for help to spread the word about Rob's Festival and also to attract sponsors. If anybody in the school community owns a local business or has any connections in any companies it would be greatly appreciated if you could help us. We really appreciate your help as without these sponsorships and donations Rob's Festival would not be as successful.

If you can help in any way or for more information please email us at [robsfestival@live.com](mailto:robsfestival@live.com). Many thanks.

**Rob's Festival 6th Form team**

## From the Governors

This term is proving to be an exceptionally busy one (as, I am sure, the rest of this edition of *Beaumont Life* testifies!). It is certainly the case that the Governors have found themselves in school on an almost daily basis, assisting with department reviews, attending interviews with applicants for teaching posts, and participating in meetings with the County Council. Thank you to all Governors for your time and your commitment to these activities. We have also been fortunate to attend some brilliant Gym and Dance displays in the past month. Congratulations to all involved in those!

On 13 February, the Full Governing Body spent an afternoon in school for their annual Extended Meeting. The focus was on school self-evaluation and strategy, with the Governing Body splitting into various groups to consider specific aspects of each of these. The outcomes of our discussions will inform our planning for the future and our objectives over the next few years. It was a very interesting and fruitful meeting and its impact on the school's Improvement Plan will be discussed again in the near future.

I am sad to report that Rena Prindiville decided in January to step down as Chair of Governors. I would like to record here the appreciation of both the Governors and the staff for the warmth and experience she brought to the role. We are very pleased that she has agreed to resume her role as Chair of the Resources Committee. As Vice Chair, I have agreed to take on the role of Acting Chair until the first Full Governing Body meeting of the next academic year, when a new permanent Chair of Governors will be appointed.

**Alex Hall, Acting Chair of Governors**

## BeauSandVer Community Programme 2013

View our summer term programme at our website at [www.bsvcourses.co.uk](http://www.bsvcourses.co.uk) for details of the courses we offer for adults and children in the evenings and after school. These include

**Spanish, French and German continuation classes for adults**

**Spanish Beginners Course for Adults**

**Arts and Crafts** - Lynsey Lloyd's popular Art Textiles/Creative Embroidery Class

**Woodwork Class**

Contact **Carole Heselton** on 01727 754113 or email [carole.heselton@verulam.herts.sch.uk](mailto:carole.heselton@verulam.herts.sch.uk) for more information or to book a course.

## History News



### Year 8 History - Creativity

**Year 8** students' History Home Learning last half term was to create an artefact/written project linked to the Aztecs which they had been studying in class.

**The** Year group responded to this task in an exceptionally positive and motivated manner. We received a plethora of fantastic work. As well as written guides to the Aztec Empire (one written in the website Tripadvisor style) we had mosaic masks, serpents, weapons, costumes, shields, gods, temples, fans, head-dresses and even a recreation of the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan.

**Many** students had also provided written explanations/evaluations of their work; thanks to the Technology Department for training the students in this area! Displays of the work are in each of the History classrooms.

**I would** like to make special mention of two students' work: Fiona McFarlane (8A) who actually made the clay from which she made her serpent herself, and Grace Horne (8E) whose Aztec temple was made from a material closely linked to breeze block, which was carefully walked/carried into school by Grace and a friend.

**The** History Department was absolutely delighted by all the time and effort that Year 8 put into this work. I am tempted to write to the British Museum and invite them to set up a special exhibition! The quality of some of the work is truly outstanding. Many thanks and congratulations to Year 8.

**Ms Wensley, History Department**



## Beyond Beaumont

**Many congratulations** to **Oscar Simmons** in Year 9, who won the Award for Best Mini Student Film in the St Albans Film Festival with his film "Dog". The festival schools coordinator Hilary Greaorox said, "We are delighted to have found such a great young talent on our doorstep - Perhaps Oscar Simmons is St Albans' next Stanley Kubrick?" As Oscar was unable to attend the awards ceremony, the festival organiser is hoping to give him his award at school. Oscar receives a specially-made trophy and a cheque. There were sixty entries from all over the World – well done Oscar!

**Oscar** was also the overall winner of this year's BFI Kids for Kids Award at the National Film Theatre in London for another film, *A Spark*, which he wrote, filmed and directed. This film stars Beaumont Year 9 student **Harrison Calvert**. Oscar is hoping for a career as a film maker and Harrison hopes to be an actor, so this is great boost for them both.

**Congratulations** also to former Beaumont students Ben Jacobs, James Callas Ball, Nik Stojkov and Tim Kramer who won the Special Mention Award in the Main Short Film category of the St Albans Film Festival for their film 'Gracious Awakenings'.

**Congratulations** to **Daniel Angus** in Year 9 who has been chosen to umpire at the National Boccia finals at the end of March. He has been specifically selected and will be the youngest ever national official for Boccia, which is a real honour. Well done Daniel!

**James Dann** is a former Beaumont student who wants to like to raise funds to do a documentary in the USA on the Second Amendment Gun Law. For more information and to support James go to

<http://www.facebook.com/2ndAmendmentFilm>

**Congratulations** to **Alice Hall** and **William Duffy** who have both graduated from Leeds College of Art. Alice has been awarded a BA (Hons) Photography 2(i) and William a BA (Hons) Graphic Design 2(i)



## Are you a parent? Have you heard of Parent View?

**Parent View** is an online questionnaire for you to give your views about this school at any time of the year.

At the time of an Ofsted inspection, parents are also invited to give inspectors their views using **Parent View**.



**It's easy. It's quick. It's time to log on.**

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

## KEEP WARM, STAY WELL

**Government** figures estimate more than 60,000 households in Hertfordshire are in fuel poverty – spending more than 10% of their income on energy bills. Hertfordshire County Council and NHS Hertfordshire have funding to help families with young children - who are recommended by the World Health Organisation to heat their living room to 21C during the day and the bedroom to 18C at night – to stay warm. They say that children living in a cold home are more likely to catch colds and flu and suffer from respiratory problems such as asthma and that research has shown that cold homes can affect children's ability to concentrate at school and cope with challenging situations.

**Amongst** other things, they can offer:

- Free energy efficiency checks
- Advice on grants, benefits etc
- Help with paying bills
- Help with home insulation, draught-proofing or emergency heaters

**Contact** HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044 or [info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net) if you want to see if you could get assistance.



## Fleetville Partnership Community News

### ST ALBANS & DISTRICT FAMILY FAIR – Saturday 20 April at The Alban Arena

Experience what our community has to offer and join us at this lively and interactive FREE event. Info: [www.stalbansfamilyfair.org](http://www.stalbansfamilyfair.org) or [stalbans.familyfair@gmail.com](mailto:stalbans.familyfair@gmail.com)

### Simple Solutions – Drop-In Session for parents with children/young people with Additional Needs

A workshop for parents with Sally Glossop, Autism Advisor on Tuesday 26 March at 2pm at Fleetville Junior School. FREE of charge but please book a place by calling Jo on 07939 111152.

### Communicating with Teens Parenting Course 17 April – 22 May, 7.30-9.30pm

Six week course in the Summer Term to help you understand your teen, manage conflicts and modify behaviour. To be held at Alban Way, Children's Centre, Sherwood Park, Sherwood Avenue, AL4 9QL. To register your interest please call the Booking Line on **01727 855134 Option 2** or **07557 361246**.

### Carers in Hertfordshire – Support Workshops:

**Caring and Life:** 1 May – How to juggle caring and other commitments.

**Caring and Communicating:** 8 May – Getting the best from communicating with professionals.

**Caring and Coping:** 15 May – Looking at the stress and emotions involved in caring.

All above sessions 10am-1pm at St Paul's Church, Blandford Road. Book at: <http://www.carersinherts.org.uk/> or Maria on 01992 5869699.

### First Aid for Teenagers – Saturday 15 June 2013, 9am – 1pm

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 per person payable to secure booking – call 01727 855134 or 07939 111152.

### MARSHALSWICK YOUTH PROJECT – Drop-In for Young People in Years 7, 8 and 9

Free refreshments, Wii and place to hang out in Sherwood Park Wednesdays after school till 5.30pm term times. Just turn up. Run by YMCA and Marshalswick Youth Project. Further info from Cath on 01727 861121.

[www.vistastalbans.org.uk](http://www.vistastalbans.org.uk) [vistastalbans@gmail.com](mailto:vistastalbans@gmail.com)

### Missing watch or glasses?

We have a number of watches, glasses etc in Lost Property. If your child has lost any please ask them to come to Reception. Thank you.





# BEAUMONT NEEDS YOU

To mark Beaumont School's 75th Diamond anniversary we are holding a Summer Ball. During the evening there will be a raffle and an auction of promises, which will also be available on line. This raffle and auction will raise much needed funds to support our children's education at Beaumont.

We want the help of all parents, children and teachers alike. We need items we can auction and also raffle prizes.

Whether you are attending the Ball or not, you can still demonstrate your support by donating to the auction. Your donation could be anything from a crate of wine, a gift voucher, to the use of a holiday home. A promise of your time or a service you can provide is also a valuable auction prize.

Here are some examples:

A night of babysitting  
Sport memorabilia  
Garden or landscaping service  
Tennis or golf lesson  
2 hours of pet walking  
Promise of washing a car  
Manicure/pedicure

Bouquet of flowers  
Bake a cake  
Decorate a room  
Tickets to an event  
One hour maths tuition  
Taxi run to the airport  
Cook a meal for 4

As you can see the list is endless.

Please think carefully about what you, your family or company could offer to help us raise money that will benefit all our children at Beaumont. For those who have their own business, the donation will advertise your company name.

Please send details of your donations by e-mail and don't hesitate to contact Sarah with any questions or queries.

Tel: 01727 750268

e-mail: [sarahjarman@ntlworld.com](mailto:sarahjarman@ntlworld.com)

Thank you all for your support  
Ball committee

## Music News

### Berlin Music Tour 2013

**The** Tour started when we met up at Central Drive at 5pm to get on the coach (which was a double decker!). After loading all the instruments into the trailer and the suitcases into the coach we were ready to go. After driving for 20 hours and having breakfast at 6am we finally arrived at the youth hostel a few hours early, meaning we had time to do a bit of sightseeing before we had some lunch.

**The** next day we went to the Jewish Museum for a tour. It was very interesting learning about how Jewish people live their lives. Then we went back to the hostel for a hot lunch, which was very nice. Then in the afternoon we went to see the longest remaining piece of the Berlin Wall. Our concert was at the Augustinum Kleinmachnow, a retirement village.

**On** Tuesday it snowed, which would have been fun if I had remembered to bring snow boots! Then we went to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum. On the road where the museum was there was a reconstruction of what the street may have looked like post-World War II. This time our concert was at Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche.



**On** Wednesday we went for our tour of the Berlin wall. Our concert was at St George's Anglican church; this turned out to be our favourite concert.

**On** the last day we split into two groups; half went for a tour of the Berlin Philharmonie, home of the Berlin Philharmonia and the other half went up a TV tower. Afterwards those who had gone up the tower went to the Ampelmann Shop which was amazing. Then we departed for the long coach journey home.

**Mae Lankshear and Bethany Lincoln, Year 8**

## The Concerts

**When** we went to Berlin on the Music Tour the main point was for us to perform in front of the German public. In the week we did three concerts – two in churches and one in a venue. In the churches we performed more traditional music.

**People** seemed to really enjoy our music from our school's array of bands, ensembles and groups such as the Vocal Ensemble, Choir, Big Band, Orchestra, Bainbridge Jazz Quartet and Concert Band. It was great to listen to all the other groups we have and we really enjoyed the concerts.

**Cassius Almond, Alex Curtis, Year 9**





## The Coach journey

**The** 17 hour coach journey to Berlin was epic. Everyone arrived at the Central Drive shops at 5pm (instead of the usual 5am) with their pillows, onesies and bag loads of food and boiled mint sweets, ready to face the long journey that lay ahead. The shortest section of our journey was to Dover; this flew by as everyone was so excited about the week! After the fairly smooth crossing, avoiding any illness, the next six hours were filled with *Cool Runnings*, sleep deprived jokes and a general sense of enjoyment.

**When** we awoke - peckish and extremely tired - we had arrived in Germany. Although most ate breakfast in the service station others chose to snack on the rest of the mint imperials. We then watched *The Princess and the Frog*. Soon after the film had finished we had arrived in Berlin ready to start a week of music filled memories.

**The** return was just as, if not more, eventful (including an epic Sing-along-A Sound of Music) and fun and was a great end to an unforgettable week.

**Naomi Baker (French horn) and Lottie McAlister (Viola)**

## Our last tour

**Berlin was** our third and last music tour at Beaumont. The general feel of tours is always great with all the Year groups mixing together. It was good to see lot of parents who had come all the way to Berlin to support us.

**I think** everyone had a really good time with the Sound-a-long being a highlight of the trip (for everyone other than Miss Snelson!). Another highlight was Mr Guinane's success in managing to organise 60 Burger Kings at 10 o'clock at night!

A major focus of the tour for many people seemed to be food – with everyone looking forward to pasta and jelly for lunch, and MacDonalds for dinner!

**Emma and Hannah**



## St Albans Young Musician 2013

**Congratulations** to the following students who are through to the final of St Albans Young Musician 2013. This will be held in St Albans Abbey on Sunday 28 April 2013 from 1.30-5pm. Tickets are £5 for adults - please come and support them. More information can be found at: <http://stalbandsymc.org.uk>

### By category:

**Solo Vocal** - Emily Almond, Emma Doherty

**Solo String** - Yannick Mayaud

**Solo Woodwind** - Luke Bainbridge, Louisa Briguglio

**Instrumental Ensemble** - Louisa Briguglio, Niamh Quinn

**Small Vocal Ensemble** - Year 13 Girls, Beth Wilson, Alice Webster, Emily Almond, Emma Doherty

**Secondary Choir** - Vocal Ensemble

**Secondary Band** - Big Band

## A selection of Tweets!

@BeaumontMusic Had such a great week, thanks for an amazing last music tour! #Berlin2013

This week has been so amazing! Can't believe it's over already #Berlin2013

@BeaumontMusic thank you so much for the trip it was excellent and everyone performed brilliantly! Well done! #Berlin2013

Had such an amazing time this week on the music tour, thanks so much to @BeaumontMusic! #Berlin2013

Absolutely loved every minute of #Berlin2013 thanks so much @BeaumontMusic for an amazing week!!

Having withdrawal symptoms already @BeaumontMusic #Berlin2013

Salt peanuts salt peanuts #berlin2013

@BeaumontMusic fist pump for the Berlin teachers. Thank you for a wunderbar trip!! #jazzbassoon

Back from the amazing music tour #Berlin2013 and about to go on a retweeting spree - be prepared :D ;)



## Music Tours: Vienna 2008-Berlin 2013 memories

**Berlin** was our last of four tours and having been on all of them so far it meant a lot to us. We went to Vienna in 2008 as enthusiastic Year 8s and did everything from buying sheet music by Mozart's house, to conducting a simulation orchestra at Haus der Musik. Being the youngest made it a very different experience to the subsequent tours as it was the first time we got to know students from the upper years and 'got involved'!

**The** second tour, to Paris (2009), saw us perform in some amazing venues such as Disneyland and Notre Dame Cathedral! From talent shows to interesting swimming pool experiences, the trip was really memorable and marked the beginning of many friendships.

**Prague** (2011) welcomed Mr Guinane into the Beaumont Music family and we had a fantastic time, made better by our tour guide's enthusiasm as she stepped onto the coach one morning claiming 'now I take my clothes off'!

**Berlin** was the perfect end to our touring careers, partly due to the return of The Ridiculously Long Coach Journey, this time having successfully secured the back of the bus. The staff on this trip definitely made it one to remember, be it through battles of who knew the most, life lessons from Mr Plumley or by simply being around for a chat. Musically, this tour saw some old classics return such as *It's Raining Men*, as well as introducing new favourites like *Allegri's Miserere* – obviously not forgetting Ed Calvert's Jazz Bassoon.

**It** goes without saying that none of this would have been possible without Miss Doan and Mr Guinane who have consistently provided us with some exceptional opportunities, both musically and otherwise. A massive thank you from both of us!

**Chloe Haynes and Hannah Perryman**

## St Peter's Lunchtime concert

**Over** the past seven years, Beaumont School Vocal Ensemble has been fortunate enough to be invited to perform at the Wednesday lunchtime concert series at St Peter's Church. During this time, the Ensemble has grown and it's all thanks to Miss Doan encouraging more singers, particularly tenors and basses, to join. We are now able to confidently perform a much wider repertoire including pieces written in eight parts. St Peter's Church provides a wonderful venue to perform these complex pieces to an appreciative audience, which extends into the wider community.

**On** Wednesday 13 February, Year 13 had their final lunchtime concert. As the concert coincided with Ash Wednesday, the programme consisted of Lenten music starting with Allegri's *Miserere*. The Ensemble performed two further pieces; Stanford's *Beati Quorum Via* and *Lay a Garland* by Robert Pearsall. This was some of the most challenging music ever performed by the Ensemble and really showed how much we've improved in confidence as well as ability.

**The** concerts have also provided the opportunity for small group and solo performances which includes instrumental as well as vocal pieces. One particularly notable development over the years has been the introduction of jazz to the programme, further encouraged by Mr Guinane, which audiences have always enjoyed. Every concert we have performed has been recorded by David Pearson from Radio Verulam so we have a wonderful collection to listen to.

**We** really enjoyed our last performance and we feel very proud to be part of such a wonderful group of musicians.

**Emily Almond and Luke Bainbridge**

**I** must congratulate you, your singers and instrumentalists for the most wonderful concert that you gave at St Peter's earlier today. I couldn't believe it when I saw that you were planning to open with Allegri's *Miserere*. What a demanding choral work requiring such controlled singing, yet without a trace of nerves the Choir gave a performance, in the lovely St Peter's acoustic, that could easily be imagined as coming from the Sistine Chapel itself! Your young soprano soloists sang so expressively and your instrumentalists played so competently that I'm running out of superlatives. Congratulations to Alex Hall for his fine accompaniments too.

**When** I was Head of Music at Beaumont (1964-71) such a concert would have been beyond my wildest dreams.

**Congratulations encore!**

**Harvey Dagul**



Scan the QR code to hear an excerpt of the Vocal Ensemble's performance of Allegri's *Miserere*