

From the Headteacher

A quick glance at Beaumont Life this month and you see so many colour photos as evidence of students' successes: geography, history, hovercrafts (yes!), S4S visit to the Houses of Parliament and Year 9 Million Makers – they make an excellent record of life at Beaumont in 2013.

We have very few photos (and certainly no colour ones) dating back to 1938 when Beaumont first opened but we do have archived documentation. In 1938 the school opened as separate boys' and girls' schools with many staff about to go off to war leaving supply staff in charge. The history department has been sifting through archived documents including lesson reviews and school rules. As a result we are holding our **75th Anniversary Day on Friday 12 July when we are returning to 1938** for lessons and school dress (including staff!) The history department has provided us with lots of ideas for the day which you will be able to read about in a future Beaumont Life. We're looking forward to lots of fun!

Our BSA Diamond Anniversary Ball held on Saturday 8 June was the opportunity for parents and friends to celebrate 75 years of Beaumont. It was a brilliant evening at the De Havilland Club (University of Hertfordshire) attended by around 150 people, all of whom were treated to exceptional performances from our amazing musicians (Big Band and soloists). The evening raised over £7000 for the school and I am very grateful to all the Ball Committee for organising the event, especially to Mrs Jarman and Mrs Daly who led the team.

Many congratulations also to all the students involved in the Readathon who have raised over £1500 for charities and to all our athletes who have been so successful in recent district and county championships.

Finally, we are delighted that Beaumont has received national recognition from the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) for our students' high attainment in the 2012 GCSE Examinations. Sue Williamson, SSAT Chief Executive, said "Beaumont School should be congratulated for their stunning achievement in securing some of the best GCSE results in the country. Beaumont has proved itself to be one of the best schools in the country at securing superb GCSE outcomes for their students. There is plenty that other schools could learn from Beaumont School's success. These results are testament to the commitment and hard work of the students, teachers and leadership team at Beaumont School and a vindication of their belief in high expectations, good teaching and ambition for every young person." A huge thank you to everyone involved!

Thank you all for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Elizabeth Hitch

July Diary Dates

Mon	1	Curriculum Enrichment Week incl Year 10 Work Experience
Tues	2	Curriculum Enrichment Week incl Year 10 Work Experience
Weds	3	Curriculum Enrichment Week incl Year 10 Work Experience
Thurs	4	Curriculum Enrichment Week incl Year 10 Work Experience
Fri	5	Curriculum Enrichment Week incl Year 10 Work Experience
Mon	8	Year 10 Study Trip to Rosas
Tues	9	Beaumont Life deadline
Weds	10	Year 12 Business competition Birmingham
Thurs	11	Year 6s in school Year 9 final reports issued '1938 Day' – Beaumont celebrates 75 years
Mon	15	Sports Day
Tues	16	Summer Concert 7pm Hall
Weds	17	Reserve Sports Day
Thurs	18	Year 7 and 8 final reports issued
Fri	19	End of Term Awards Assemblies Years 7-10 Short day – students dismissed from 12.30pm

A level results to students 15 August 2013 (A2 results 9am – 12pm, AS results 10.30am -12pm)

GCSE results to students 22 August 2013 (10am – 12pm)

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**

Geography is going places!' – Teaching and learning in the Geography Department



This year has been a busy one in the Beaumont Geography Department. As part of our teaching and learning, we place a very strong emphasis on fieldwork (as back by Michael Palin!) and this year we have run a total of six fieldtrips across all the year groups. These include day and residential trips. Alongside fieldtrips we are constantly trying to innovate and teach in a fun and exciting way to enhance pupil learning. We wanted to give you an insight into what the Geography students at Beaumont have experienced this year and what they have to look forward to in September 2013.

Teaching and learning in the Autumn term



Year 7: Early in the year our Year 7s went to the River Lea in Wheathampstead to collect fieldwork data for their Rivers Assessment. As well as Rivers, during this term they learnt about their personal Geographies with the assessment linked to the Beaumont Field Access and Buildings project.



Year 8: Students learned about 'New India' with one of the teaching and learning tasks being to produce a 3D map of India. The second unit focussed on Climatic Hazards and students produced a news broadcast.



Year 9: Students learned about Tectonics and the reasons that we have tectonic hazards and the impact they have on populations. Towards Christmas they learned about the Geography of War and Conflict.



Year 10: This year saw the launch of the new GCSE specification for 2012. This involved a quick turnaround in the department to update our resources and incorporate changes. We chose the Edexcel B specification as it keeps up to date with current Geography matters. The photo shows some of our Year 10s' playdoh models to explain earth processes.

Year 11: At the beginning of October we took our Year 11s to Norfolk or Wendover/Ashridge to collect the data needed for their controlled assessment. We had fantastic weather this year and the students worked very hard to write up their findings over September to December 2012.



Year 12: Our Year 12s started their AS level, but still found time to take part in other activities. One of these was a Sustainable Schools Assembly given by our Geography captains Ameena, Osama, Ellie and Sioned to our Year 7s and two local primary schools.

Year 13: Students were hard at work getting on with their Cold Environments unit – due to be examined in January 2013 – here they learned about different processes, landforms and human opportunities in glacial landscapes. They also started the Contested Planet unit, learning about superpowers and energy security.

Teaching and Learning in the Spring term

Year 7: Whilst the weather was very cold here in St Albans, Year 7 were learning about Australia and had to complete an assessment about Ecotourism. Following this they looked at the legacy of the London Olympic Games site and wrote a letter to Boris Johnson with some advice on what to turn the site into!

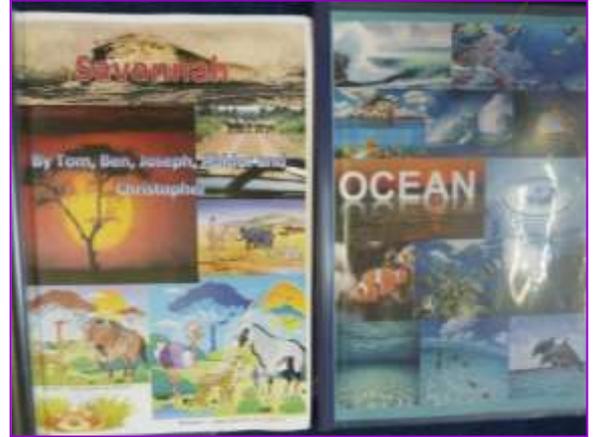


Year 8: They were studying migration issues, in particular the influx between Mexico and the USA; their assessment involved them in considering what life as a migrant is like. They then took ownership for their learning by producing a Biomes booklet.

Year 9: The Year 9s were learning about China this term and at the end of unit had

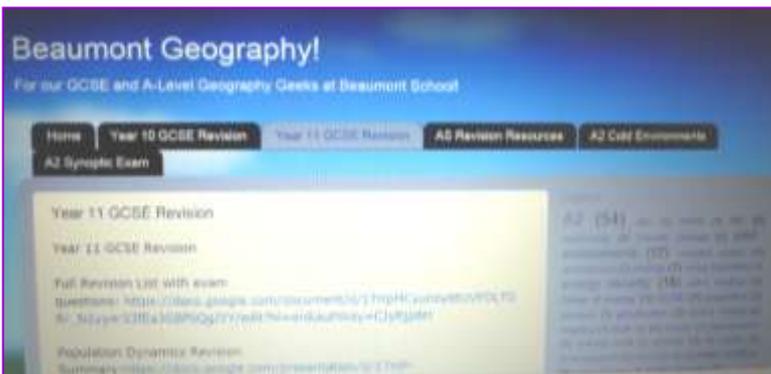
to make and justify an important decision about China's future energy source. This task helps our students to prepare for the GCSE DME paper. They also completed some local fieldwork in St Albans and London Colney to examine whether retail parks led to the 'death of the High Street'

Year 10: Students continued their GCSE course with the Oceans on the Edge and Coasts units. During this term one class produced protest banners to bring the public's attention to the problems of overfishing in the North Sea.



Year 11: Students completed the remaining units for the People and the Planet module and began their revision. In Geography we have a very comprehensive blog site with all the revision resources needed for GCSE/AS/A2

www.beaumontgeoggers.blogspot.com



Year 12: AS students began studying the second unit of their course, Crowded Coasts and Re-branding. As part of this they went on a three day residential fieldtrip to Dorset; again we were very lucky with the weather.

Year 13: A2 students took their Geographical Research exam in January – worth 40% of their overall mark.

Teaching and Learning in the Summer Term

Year 7: have started taking ownership for their own learning and are currently putting together travel booklets on a country chosen by them.

Year 8: are currently working on their Millennium Development goals board game, looking at development contrasts in Africa.

Year 9/10: have started working towards their GCSE, and are currently looking at tectonics.

Year 11: have just finished their decision making exercise GCSE exam. This year it was on development in Uganda.

Year 12: have started A2 Geography and are currently studying Superpowers and Biodiversity.

Year 13: had their Contested Planet exam two weeks ago. This involved looking at the shift in superpower status globally and how Eastern Asia (Japan/China/North & South Korea) threaten this.

Coming soon:

Iceland! Next year we will be running our Year12/13 trip to Iceland – further enhancing our students learning – taking it to an international level!

Miss Kent



The History Department

A Year in History

This has been another great year for us in History. We started off the year with some great results:

- **85% A*-C at GCSE** (compared to 71% nationally) and
- **87% A* - B at A2** (compared to 53% nationally).

We have also continued with a strong presence in the Curriculum Enrichment Day programme, with each of the Key Stage 3 classes having an opportunity to be immersed in an aspect of the subject in depth that would be challenging in the everyday working of the timetable as you can see from the photos below which also include our trip to New York and Washington from Easter 2013.



We hope that you have enjoyed reading in Beaumont Life about some of the exceptional examples of Home Learning that we have received from students this year in Key Stage 3, and we hope that this continues next year. Once again, tasks will be available to view on the VLE from September, should students (and parents) wish to be prepared, especially for the creative tasks. Also, we have made a few changes to tasks based on the most recent home learning survey organised by Mrs Powdrell.

I would also like to say thank you to the teachers, staff and students who either nominated me or supported my participation in the Pearson teaching awards earlier this term, and especially when the judges visited the school in January to see me teach and to quiz staff, students and parents about me for the regional final. I achieved a distinction (of which I was very proud), but the support and kind words that people gave were far more rewarding than that. I feel very privileged to have had this opportunity, and wish Mr Levoir all the best in the final for the Ted Wragg Lifetime Achievement award in October.

Miss Pearson

A few comments from our recent Year 11 survey:

Are you pleased that you chose to do GCSE History?

I'm pleased I picked it, I like the challenge of it and it's very interesting/rewarding

Yes, I am glad because I have found the very topics interesting, however I struggled with some of the exam questions.

Yes, it's interesting and fun and the teachers are brilliant!

History can be difficult, but it is one of the subjects that I am better at.

Yes because it has allowed me to understand events that are even happening today and helps me with other subjects e.g. English.

Yes, I have because I find the subject enlightening and enjoy being aware.

Yes, the topics are very interesting and it makes you think more because you are so interested.

Yes, it's really enjoyable

Already said to my brother (Year 9) that he should do it.

Yes, it's definitely a good subject to do as it expands your general knowledge greatly and its very interesting.

Would you advise Year 9s to choose History?

Visit to Hampton Court

On a cold and wet Curriculum Enrichment Day (14 May) Year 8s ventured to Hampton Court where they experienced many fascinating features linked to royal Tudor and Stuart life. We were very impressed with the attitude and behaviour of the year group; they did not allow the weather to dampen their spirits.

Thank you very much to all the staff involved both on the day of the trip, and those who were involved behind the scenes. I would particularly like to thank my History Department colleagues and Miss McCrorie and Mr Aikman for acting as guides par excellence. Also, thanks to the positive attitude of the Year 8 students, which helped to make my 19th visit (gulp) very enjoyable. Below are some views of pupils in 8E and 8R:

- *I liked the day because we learnt a lot and it was fun.* **Kira Stevenson, 8R.**
- *I would recommend it to other people as I had a fun day. I would advise that they spent more time there.* **Abi Langton, 8R**
- *I liked the maze, it was probably my highlight. We were one of the first people out, as we found it easy.* **Jack Norman, 8R**
- *I changed my mind about Tudor Life as it seemed a lot more fun, they had sports and board games.* **Fintan McGuinness, 8R**
- *"I liked seeing the chapel as it was beautiful and very spiritual.* **Ellie Jenkins, 8E**
- *I enjoyed learning about the changes in Henry VIII's, Thomas Wolsey's and Ann Boleyn's relationships.* **Olivia Oatham, 8E**
- *I learnt that Katherine of Aragon had many miscarriages and only one child survived....I enjoyed going to the kitchens and seeing the spit roast.* **Marcus McGovern, 8E**

Miss Wensley



Year 9 CREST Award



readathon

Beaumont students who took part in the recent Readathon raised sponsorship money totalling £1,565.39; what a fantastic achievement.

Readathon encourages children to read for pleasure. But also raises money to support charities for seriously ill children and to give free books to schools.

Readathon currently supports:

- CLIC Sargent
- Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity and
- ReadWell

Well done to all students who took part, and thank you to everyone who supported and sponsored the students.

Miss Jackson



CREST is a project-based awards scheme for the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths) run by The British Science Association (BSA).

Undertaking CREST is a wonderful opportunity to conduct your very own research project and undertake a real challenge outside of the school curriculum.

Silver CREST Awards stretch students and enrich their studies. Around 30 hours of project work is expected. Joe, Matt and Tom were keen to design, model and then build their own hovercraft! Now the boys are nearing the end of their project they hope to enter it into 'The Big Bang' competition at the National Science and Engineering Projects competition in July.

Mrs Lofthouse

We entered our CREST award through Gifted and Talented Science Club which meets after school on a Thursday. We originally wanted to build a go-kart but we decided on a hovercraft because it contained more scientific elements and therefore would be easier to write up. We built two prototypes (one of which we later modified) to help us understand the principals of how a hovercraft actually hovers. The first prototype we made was a CD with a balloon and we worked out the down force it was producing using a precise scale. Our second prototype used a hairdryer to power it and the skirt was made with a carrier bag. We later modified it by replacing the carrier bag with a bin bag which was lighter and stronger.

We started building the full sized hovercraft on the Wednesday 22 May and by the end of the day we had a machine that lifted, but didn't hover. We came back on Friday 24th to complete it. We added pipe insulators onto the side to act as bumpers and to eliminate creases on the bottom. This was enough to create our working hovercraft that can easily carry the weight of a grown adult. We even got Mrs Hitch on it!

Tom Thurlby, Matt Ellis (9R) and Joe Lee (9S)

Visit to Houses of Parliament

As part of the Skills 4 Success (S4S) programme, Year 10 students were asked in tutor time to think of a Quality Question to ask Anne Main MP should they be given the opportunity.

One question from each form was selected and that student was invited to visit the Houses of Parliament, have a tour and meet Mrs Main in order to put their question to her personally.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the students and we are very grateful to Mrs Main for making time for us in her very busy schedule.

Miss Shepherd

It was a once in a life time opportunity, it was very interesting and enjoyable learning about the history and the events that occurs in the House of Lords and the House of Commons. It was interesting talking to Anne Main as she was very experienced and a powerful speaker. Marius, John I learned so much about the House of Lords and House of Commons and the details of symbolism. It was interesting talking to Anne Main and her lengthy points on our questions.

Kate

It was interesting listen to Anne Main responding to my quality question and it opened our minds to the issues and challenges that surround St Albans.

Verity

Overall the day was excellent; we took a quick tour of the Houses of Parliament where we saw many impressive sights and past Prime Ministers. Anne Main was welcoming to us and answered all our quality questions. I also thank Miss Shepherd for not making us wear yellow fluorescent jackets!

James

SKI TRIP 2013



This year we took a group of very excited students ranging from Years 8 - 13 to Matrei Kals, Austria on the Beaumont School Ski Trip. We were a little concerned about the lack of snow on the ground when we arrived but were pleasantly surprised to be able to ski powder for the first three days in March!! The progress the students made over the week was outstanding with the most experienced taking on very difficult off-piste routes and students who had never skied before skiing black runs by the Thursday - a big achievement. We also had a highly competitive bowling evening, with staff graciously allowing the students to win in a very close grand final. As always it was a pleasure to take out students away; we all had a fantastic time and are looking forward to the next ski trip which will take place in the 2015 ski season.

Miss Moody

The ski trip was an amazing opportunity. As I had never been skiing before, it was a fantastic experience for me. I got to know students from different years at Beaumont during the skiing lessons. The instructors were so good that by the end of the week even beginners were able to go on runs all over the mountains. During the evenings the teachers organised activities which were great fun. To finish off a wonderful week they organised an excellent party. I would like to thank all the teachers for giving up their holiday to take us away to Austria. I can't wait to go again.

Olivia Almond 9R



From the Governors

The Community Committee last met in April. The main focus of the meeting was a review of the school's use of its Pupil Premium funding.

Pupil Premium is additional funding provided to the school for pupils who receive, or have in the past six years received, free school meals and those in public care. In 2012-2013 this amounted to just under £46,000. The government requires schools to account for this spending in some detail and the committee examined how this would be achieved and reported to governors and parents.

The committee was briefed on the processes used in school to identify needs, select the right type of support, and track progress for pupils who receive Pupil Premium funding. The school has developed a central database to track pupils' needs and the additional support being provided and uses this information to help teaching and pastoral staff monitor progress and to identify areas where there may be other barriers to learning that need to be addressed.

There is a wide range of support being provided through the Pupil Premium from 1:1 tuition, through small group sessions focusing on literacy and numeracy skills, to individual funding for school trips and other extra-curricular activities. The committee will return to this topic at its next meeting and a detailed report on Pupil Premium spending and its impact will be published on the school website later this year.

The committee also completed their review of the school's Behaviour policy following consultation with staff, pupils and parents, and this was approved.

Kevin Doyle, Chair of Community Committee

ATHLETICS ROUND-UP County Championships

Beaumont athletes competed in the County Championships at Jarman Park and had our most successful Championships for many years, with three third places, one second and three first places. We also had 13 other performances placing athletes top eight in the County or better.

Particular congratulations should go to our winners:

- Holly Brando won the Junior Girls Discus, throwing 26.05m.
- Ross Adams became a double County Champion in the Pre Junior Boys age group, throwing 9.45m to win shot and 31.95m in Discus, which is a new County Best Performance. He also made the final of the 100m and 200m.

The top eight results are listed below.

Pre Junior Girls:

Eve Harrison: Long Jump 8th 3m83cm, 200m 7th 30.6s

Emily Anders: 1500m 2nd 5m15.8s

Pre Junior Boys:

Alex Banathy: 100m 6th 13.9s, 200m 3rd 28.3s

Callum Hunter: Long Jump 6th 4m14cm

Ross Adams: 100m 7th 13.9s, 200m 5th 28.7s, Shot 1st 9.45m, Discus 1st 31.95m

(County Best Performance and new school record)

Junior Girls:

Adi Milton Hurdles 7th 13.2s

Olivia Almond Javelin 7th 20.04m

Holly Brando Discus 1st 26.05m

Junior Boys:

David Etheridge 200m 6th 25.9s (a year out of age)

Jacob Bockenbauer Triple Jump 6th 10.97m

James Hennessey Javelin 3rd 34.53m

Inter Girls:

Holly Seglah 200m 6th 28.1s

Tian Figg Discus 6th 20.55m

Naomi Baker 800m 3rd 2m28.5s, Long Jump 8th 4m26cm

District Athletics Championships

Congratulations to the eighty plus athletes from Year 7 to 10 who competed at the District Athletics Championships in Watford. The Year 9 boys and Year 10 boys finished eighth in their competitions, with both the Year 8 teams sixth. The Year 10 girls were fifth and Year 7 boys and Year 9 girls fourth. The Year 7 girls were the highest placed individual team, finishing third.

In both the overall boys' and girls' competitions Beaumont was placed fifth, which meant we were third in the overall combined competitions when the Senior age group results were added (Beaumont were third in this competition).

Over all five age groups we had 37 top three finishes and four school records were broken.

Top 3 results:

Third Places:

Year 7 girls 4 X 100m relay (Eve Harrison, Maisie Mead, Phoebe Andrews, Libby Rainford); Adi Milton: Year 9 girls hurdles; Joe Matos: Year 10 boys high jump; Tom Dean: Year 10 boys 200m; Naomi Baker Year 10 Girls 800m; Rowen Seglah: Senior girls 100m and triple jump; Josh Clifford: Senior boys 1500m; Jack Nevin: Senior boys high jump

Second Places: Eve Harrison: Year 7 girls 200m and Year 7 girls long jump; Isabel Todd: Year 7 girls shot; Year 8 boys 4 X 100m relay (Liam Murphy, Henry Peachey, Sam Rodgers, David Etheridge); Year 8 girls 4 X 100m relay (Emily Owen, Bethany Latham, Hannah Ferguson, Ruby Self); Millie Leavold : Year 8 girls javelin; James Hennessey: Year 9 boys javelin; Jacob Bockenbauer: Year 9 boys triple jump; Olivia Almond: Year 9 boys javelin; Year 9 girls 4 X 100m relay (Molly Rogan, Adi Milton, Holly Brando, Olivia Almond); Joe Matos: Year 10 boys 100m; Tian Figg: Year 10 girls discus; Harriett Clifford: Year 10 girls 1500m

First Places: Alex Banathy: Year 7 boys 100m; Ross Adams: Year 7 boys 200m and discus; Oli Wilmott: Year 7 boys high jump; Year 7 boys 4 X 100m relay (George Healey, Ross Adams, Oli Wilmott, Alex Banathy); Emily Anders: Year 7 girls 1500m; Rachel Jones: Year 7 girls javelin; David Etheridge: Year 8 boys 200m and shot; Alex Powdrell: Year 8 boys pole vault; Ruby Self: Year 8 girls 100m; Holly Brando: Year 9 girls discus; Year 10 boys 1500m; Naomi Baker: Year 10 girls long jump; Holly Seglah: Senior girls 200m.

Thank you to all of the athletes who have competed this season. It has been an enjoyable and successful summer of which you should all be very proud.

Mr Stewart

Beyond Beaumont

Ex Beaumont student **Emily Rounds** is co-founder and a trustee of the newly founded charity *KIIDs Trust Varanasi* which currently supports a special needs school and hostel in India. The charity is hoping to recruit new trustees. If you might be interested you can find further information at

www.facebook.com/kiidstrustvaranasi

www.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-

web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1006465



Congratulations to **Miss Cleverly** whose hockey team has recently become English national champions!

James Wilkinson 7L has been selected to play for Herts County Under 12 tennis team. Well done!



MILLION MAKERS



Could you turn an enterprising idea into fundraising profit for The Prince's Trust?

Million Makers is a national competition, challenging teams to come together and raise £1 million for The Prince's Trust and make a real difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people across the UK. The Prince's Trust was set up in 1976 to tackle the ever present issue of youth unemployment. They address this by giving practical and financial support to the young people who need it most. They help develop key skills, confidence and motivation, enabling young people to move into work, education or training.

To continue their vital work they need to raise £50 million this year. They rely upon fundraising from a variety of people across the UK. Over the past three years Year 9 students at Beaumont have taken part in the Million Makers competition in their PSHCE lessons.



Pupils separate themselves into teams of four or five and plan their business idea over the course of three lessons. They have to think about everything from their initial idea and sourcing products to logistics, advertising and costings.

Each form is designated a lunchtime in which to sell their wares, although they are encouraged to raise money

outside of school time as well. Notable ideas this year included car washing, sushi making and 'Sponge the Teacher'. There was also a large number of stalls that satisfied the sweet tooth of many a Beaumont pupil and sales of milkshakes, waffles, brownies, cupcakes and candy floss were high!

At the end of the project, pupils from 9A were asked to reflect on what they had learnt:

'I learnt that in business it's quite tricky to work well and get everything perfect. Not everyone is polite and not everyone likes cakes.' **Isabel Vine-Lott 9A**

'If I was to do it again I would set up somewhere separate, not near the competition.' **Nathan Hunt 9A**

'I would buy less because we had a lot of stock left over and I would have sold things for a higher price so we would gain more money.' **Jessica Hall 9A**

'I realised that you have to work very hard to achieve but in the end you get a good result and that's worth it.' **Alicia Smith 9A**

'I learnt that you need to keep your cool.' **Georgina Bagge 9A**

'Teamwork means a better result.' **Georgia Light 9A**



Big congratulations to the following groups who made the highest amount of money in their forms:

9S Pink Lemonade Ltd: Lydia Grinstead-Tate, Daisy Boston, Eve Storey, Sophia Khanna, Hannah Burnham **£96.28**

9N Funfair: Katie Donaldson, Katie Walton, Francesca Dore, Clem Almond, Lucy Homer **£110.32**

9R Pop 'n' Crackle: Lili Brown, Olivia Almond, Adrienne Milton, Emily Whittaker **£222.65**

9L Sweet Dreams: Tajmun Syeda, Lydia Bown, Anna Biggs, Emily Webster **£113.48**

9E Funfair Food: Laura Malley, Esme Mallet, Rebecca King, Eleanor Hackwood, Olivia Scrimgeour **£110.81**

9A The Bean Squad: Georgina Bagge, Maisie Foster, Lois Fordham, Morgan Trotman **£193.87**



Credit must also go to Emily Ogbourn, Letitia Hatton, Jessica Beton, Ramin Syeda and Ashleigh James from 9N who raised £107.13, Molly Rogan, Chloe Arnold, Robyn Reardon, Monica Bulut and Morgan Jeggo from 9R who raised £211.17 and Alicia Smith, Conor Quinn, Sophie Thomas, Celeste da Palma and Georgia Light from 9A who raised £166.35.

All these pupils will be rewarded in the celebration assembly on the last day of term.

The final form totals are as follows:

R	£655.13
A	£590.93
N	£433.60
L	£380.74
E	£365.99
S	£326.40

Well done to 9R for raising the most amount of money! Miss Cleverly and I are very pleased to announce that the final total (including Gift Aid) was £2808.45, easily beating last year's total of £1976.72.

We would also like to thank the caretakers' team, especially Mr Donnan, who helped lots of groups with getting equipment and clearing up afterwards.

Well done Year 9, you put in a huge amount of effort, worked hard, learnt a lot and raised an outstanding amount of money for charity.

Miss Cleverly and Mrs Sidney

Thank you to all the parents and staff who attended the **BSA AGM** on 22 May, ensuring that the meeting was quorate and giving us a mandate to continue fundraising to support all the students at Beaumont School.

The evening started with a **“Champagne Reception”** - many thanks to one of our parents, Pietro Russo, who kindly donated six bottles of bubbly for the occasion!



After welcoming the parents and staff, BSA President, Mrs Hitch, invited the meeting to gather outside the Library area where several **“Duke of Edinburgh”** (DofE) students and Miss Moody gave an informal presentation about their recent expeditions and showed off one of the new three person tents.

They also demonstrated cooking sticky toffee pudding on the recently purchased Trangia cookers! They thanked the BSA for the purchase of vital equipment to enable around 50 students from Year 10 to undertake this award through school. Many thanks to Felicity Lumley, Annabel Lumley, Eliza De Havilland Llewellyn, Ed Anders, Frankie Cross and Miss Moody for giving up their time to tell us so enthusiastically about their DofE experience.

The attendees were treated to some fine **musical entertainment** by Sidney Brass on clarinet and Lucas Huysmans on violin. We are very grateful to these students and also to Alex Hall who accompanied each of them.

The students kindly thanked the BSA for supporting the purchase of additional resources for the Music department



It was reported at the meeting that the BSA has been successful in **raising £14,190** in the past year. **A total of £10,027 has been spent** on purchases for the school this year with further purchases under consideration. Thank you to all the parents, staff and friends of Beaumont School who support our fundraising.

There has been also been an increase in the number of parents donating to the **School Fund** by standing order. We now have 53 families donating in this way – thank you! If you would like to consider making a regular, or “one-off” donation to the BSA, please download the forms from the school website or contact us for further information. Gift Aid further increases your donation!

A **photographic** presentation from the History department had kindly been prepared by Miss Pearson, using the recently purchased camera funded by the BSA. Miss Pearson described the purchase an “invaluable resource” for the department. The presentation captured a wonderful record of History activities throughout the school and also that of the recent History trip to the USA. Many of you may have seen some of the photos on the VLE.

A **new committee** was elected but we would love to welcome more parents to join us!

Our next meeting is at the beginning of the Autumn term on

**Wednesday 11 September
at 7.30pm in the School Library.**

Thank you again for your continued support.

From the BSA

bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

News from the Beaumont 75th Diamond Anniversary Ball!



A huge thank you to everyone who supported the event - by attending the Ball on the night, donating a prize or service to the Auction or by bidding on the Auction itself.

It was a tremendous success and has raised approx £7500 for school funds.

Sarah Jarman, Ball Committee

Help for First-time Homebuyers

In November, Hertfordshire County Council launched its Local Authority Mortgage Scheme which helps first-time buyers secure a mortgage with a five per cent deposit.

Hertfordshire County Council has put aside £12 million to help hundreds of first-time buyers purchase a home with a deposit of just five per cent. Subject to lenders' usual lending criteria, borrowers are able to select any existing property in the Hertfordshire area up to a maximum loan of £190,000 (£180,500 in Stevenage). First-time buyers put down five per cent of the property price and Hertfordshire County Council provides a cash-backed indemnity of up to 20 per cent as additional security.

The first-time buyer owns the property in its entirety and will have access to a range of products at a lower rate of interest than would normally be available for this level of deposit.

Hertfordshire's Local Authority Mortgage Scheme is available in branches of Lloyds TSB and the Leeds Building Society. More information is available on www.hertsdirect.org/firsttimebuyers



We are delighted that so many members of the Beaumont community have been nominated for Herts Advertiser School Awards. Congratulations to the following:

Teacher of the Year nominees:

Mr Tatham, Miss Shepherd, Ms Esmizadeh, Mrs Powdrell, Miss Pearson, Miss Doan, Mr Panting, Mr Levoir

Sporting Achievers nominees:

U15 Girls' rugby team, Aidan Gastaldi-Davies, Chloe Arnold

Innovation nominees:

Rob's Festival, Year 9 Million Makers

Secondary School nominees:

Beaumont School

Support Staff nominees:

Mrs Crisp, Mrs Hamer, Mr Levoir, Mrs Parry

These nominees have been invited to the Gala Awards ceremony on Wednesday 3 July when the winners of these and other categories will be announced. Good luck to all Beaumont nominees, and thank you to everyone who took the time to make the nominations.

Changes to tutor and lesson times from September

8.30 - 8.45	Tutor Time
8.45 - 9.30	Period 1
9.30 - 10.15	Period 2
10.15 - 11.00	Period 3
11.00 - 11.25	BREAK
11.25 - 12.10	Period 4
12.10 - 12.55	Period 5
12.55 - 1.55	LUNCH
1.55 - 2.40	Period 6
2.40 - 3.25	Period 7 (no Period 7 on a Friday)

There will be a slight change to the timings to the school day from September (see left for new times). This will give tutors and students an extra five minutes in Tutor time at the beginning of the day when students meet with their tutors and are given notices and other elements of pastoral administration take place. The school day will still begin at 8.30am and finish at 3.25pm (2.40pm on a Friday).

Fleetville Partnership Community News



Vista offers support services for children, young people, parents, families and schools in the St Albans community.

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

A workshop for parents with Sally Glossop, Autism Advisor on Wednesday, 3 July at 11.00am at Fleetville Junior School. This event is FREE of charge but please book a place by calling Vista on 07557 361246.

PARENT PARTIES – A New Service!

Would you like to host a Vista Parent Party? We can run an informal lunch or evening party for you and a few of your friends. You choose the topic, invite your friends and provide the venue – we will bring the resources, strategies and ideas. More info: Jo on 07939 111152 or visit the website: www.vistastalbans.org.uk

Superkids – Holiday Brain Skills Programme Monday 5 – Friday 9 August 2013

A programme of 5 two hour sessions covering an important range of tools, techniques and strategies to maximise brain potential. Aimed at 8- 12 year olds. Held at The Sitting Room, 117 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4JS. Cost £95 per child. To book contact Beth 07775 565220 or beth@superkids.me.uk or www.superkids.me.uk

Superkids – Holiday Confidence Building Programme Monday 22 – Friday 26 July 2013

A fun and interactive set of 5 two hour sessions involving crafts, activities, music, games and exercises to help children develop positive habits and boost their self confidence. Aimed at 8- 12 year olds. Held at The Sitting Room, 117 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4JS. Cost £95 per child. To book contact Beth 07775 565220 or beth@superkids.me.uk or www.superkids.me.uk

Drop in Sessions for children in Years 6, 7 or 8 – Samuel Ryder Academy

Sports coaches, dance coaches, table tennis and musicians helping you to run your own activities 6 – 9 Aug 2013. £15 per day or £10 if you book in advance on 07909 043946.

Community Sports Leaders Award Level 2

FREE training programme for all 16-18 year olds run by Herts Sports Partnership. Monday 5 – Friday 9 August at Wheathampstead Memorial Hall, Marford Road, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AY from 10.00am – 4.00pm each day. Booking forms and details: Email: info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk or Call: 01582 832541.

To find out more contact Jo Maher on 07939 111152

vistastalbans@gmail.com: www.vistastalbans.org.uk

Parent Survey March 2013 results

In March we asked parents and carers via ParentMail to complete an online survey that is an exact copy of the one that OFSTED use to measure parental perceptions when they come to visit the school. Under the old OFSTED framework parents were sent a questionnaire; an online system is now used as there is no time to complete hard copies.

We would like to thank the 265 parents who took up the offer to provide feedback. Parents/Carers were asked to rank 11 questions on a scale of whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree.

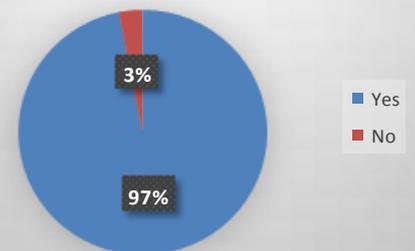
This is the second time that we have asked parents to provide their perceptions using the OFSTED Parent View survey and we are pleased to report that the school **has made positive progress in the responses given to a good proportion of the questions asked**. None of the results showed that parent perceptions had deteriorated since the last survey.

We will use this information to help us evaluate our own progress and decide on any areas of our provision that require further investigation. The results demonstrate that parents feel that their child is happy, safe, making good progress, well looked after and taught well at Beaumont. They also feel that the school ensures good behaviour, deals effectively with bullying and is well led and managed (these items were ranked with over 90% of parents either strongly agreeing or agreeing with the statement).

Perhaps most pleasing was that 97% of our parent body would recommend the school to another parent. This is higher than the results on Parent View for other local secondary schools in St Albans and Harpenden. As normal practice, we will further investigate those answers that were least positive (no question was less than 84% agree). Given the results, we will be investigating further the degree to which teachers set appropriate home learning for student's age, the way in which we respond to concerns and the information we provide about your child's progress.

We will carry out this survey annually and report the findings back to you. We also carry out a more in-depth survey of parent views every other year with the next one due in 2014. If you would like to contribute to the OFSTED equivalent of this survey, please follow this link <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Percentage of parents who would recommend Beaumont to another parent.



Mr A Goodwin Assistant Headteacher

Kirkland Rowell student survey results

In March, students from Years 7 to 13 completed the Kirkland Rowell Pupil Perceptions questionnaire. This widely used self-assessment tool collects information across a wide range of schools, "bench-marking" our results against over one hundred similar schools. Beaumont started using the survey in 2006 and this is the fourth time we have collected our students' views on their learning and aspects of school life. The data from their responses is used by Senior Leadership and Governors to assess the school's strengths and to guide future planning and development.

The analysis from Kirkland Rowell finds that our pupils give Beaumont an excellent overall performance rating. Furthermore, they continue to rate the school's Community Spirit, School Discipline and Control of Bullying as outstanding. Other headlines from the survey include:

- 91% of students feel that Beaumont looks after them well
- 86% of students think their work is marked well
- 82% of students feel that the school treats them fairly and equally
- 82% of students feel that Beaumont encourages and listens to their views

As part of the survey process, pupils were invited to suggest, anonymously, how the school could improve further. In response to the comments received, the school will take immediate action to improve the quality of the girls' toilets and prioritise work already being undertaken to review the range of food on offer in the Dining Hall and also how Home Learning is implemented and managed by the school.

Finally, a very significant finding of the Kirkland Rowell survey is that 94% of students would recommend Beaumont to another student. This is in line with 97% of Beaumont parents who would recommend the school to another parent. This data is taken from Ofsted's 'Parent View' which is a twelve question survey available at <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

While we are proud of the highly positive outcomes of this pupil survey, Beaumont is not complacent and we remain determined to provide the very best opportunities and outcomes for all our students. If you have particular concerns about your child's learning or welfare at school please contact his or her Form Tutor to discuss what can be done to help.

C Cross Assistant Headteacher