



From the Headteacher

Last half term was tremendously busy with amazing performances from the students in two productions, 'Oliver!' and the annual Gym and Dance display. Many, many congratulations to all involved – if you missed seeing them, you missed a treat! I continue to be staggered at the quality of performances of our students. Thank you to all the staff, older students and parents who help to set such high standards.

You may have seen an article recently (16 February) in the Herts Advertiser, 'New era for school' about what we've achieved over the past 13 years at Beaumont. It was a very fair article on the whole and certainly celebrated the brilliant team of staff that we have here. However, as I mentioned last month, the current funding situation, and as it continues into future years, is unsustainable and unless education funding is rapidly increased, we will not be able to maintain this quality of staffing to serve the needs of young people in St Albans. Please lobby our MP and do whatever you can to raise the issues.

I am delighted to report that we have received the largest ever number of applications to join our Sixth Form. This is testament to the superb work of Mr de Kort, Head of Sixth Form, and his team, to the exceptional quality of teaching and to our brilliant students who were so enthusiastic about their subjects at open evening in January.

We bid a sad farewell to Mr Donnan (Premises) this month but wish him all the very best in his move to Dorset and we extend a warm welcome, in his place, to John Moynihan. I hope to see many of you at the BSA Big Band event this coming Saturday with a chance to hear top performances from our students and even our staff!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Elizabeth Hitch

M A R C H

Wednesday 1 March		Hall	Public Speaking Competition Round 2
Thursday 2 March			Governors Day in School
	1:30 pm	Hall	World Book Day - author visit from Sarah Crossan
	7:00 pm	Hall	Year 12 University Information Evening
Saturday 4 March			DofE Expedition Training Day in school
Monday 6 March	6:30 pm	D19	German Exchange Parent Information Evening
		Barn Theatre, WGC	Year 9 Drama Performance Welwyn Youth Drama Festival
Tuesday 7 March			CED
Wednesday 8 March		Beaumont	Year 9 French exchange return visit to Beaumont (to 14/03/17)
Thursday 9 March		Amersham	Year 13 Biology Field Day Visit
			Year 10 interim reports issued
Friday 10 March	6:00pm	Hall/C1/C2	Year 8 Drama Club Show
Monday 13 March	4:30 pm	TBC	GCSE Science Live trip for Year 10 triple scientists
		Pimlico Academy	Year 12 Bright Sparks Schools Concert
			British Science Week
Wednesday 15 March	5:00 pm	Hall	Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 16 March			Years 9/10 intermediate follow on Maths Challenge round
			Year 13 full reports issued
			Year 11 panoramic photo
			Year 8 interim reports issued
Tuesday 21 March	6:00 pm	Hall/C1/C2	Year 7 Drama Club Show
Wednesday 22 March	6:30 pm	Hall	Ski Trip Parent Information Evening
Thursday 23 March	2:00 pm	Hall	Chelsea's Choice Production for Year 9
			Year 10 DTP/Meningitis ACWY injection
Tuesday 28 March		Offsite	Salter's Chemistry Competition
Wednesday 29 March	8:40 am	Hall	Public Speaking Final
Thursday 30 March	3:30 pm	Dining Room	Second Hand Uniform Sale
			Year 9 and 12 German exchange - Germans to Beaumont

Oliver!



In January, I was lucky enough to be part of the four showings of Oliver! I was asked to be part of the band and I am so happy I got the opportunity to be part of something so brilliant. To begin with the band and cast rehearsals were kept very separate so for myself and my fellow bandmates, when we finally joined with the cast, it was very exciting to see the show beginning to come together. After numerous rehearsals, (sometimes doing one song three times) the shows all went better than anyone could have hoped. All the leads were exceptional and the ensemble really brought the show together. I loved being a part of something so special and I am so glad that I got asked to be a band member. Well done everyone, and thank you Music and Drama!

Nell Hayes (10L)

I joined Beaumont Sixth Form in September and so far one of my highlights has definitely been the school show, Oliver. In doing the show I have made so many new friends and bonded with people in a way I would never have without it. My favourite part was the week before the performance, as when we had our first rehearsals with costume, the band and set, it really brought the show to life and we could see all our hard work paying off. Doing the school performance was an incredible experience and it was very special to take part in something so exciting! Well done to everyone involved and we can't wait to do the production next year!

I was recently lucky enough to be an ensemble member in the whole school musical Oliver. As a year seven it was my first show at Beaumont and I was really surprised at the high standards of the performance and commitment. Everyone worked so hard to produce the show which was absolutely amazing, especially all the leads and the teachers. Oliver has definitely been the most exciting thing I have done since coming to Beaumont. I will really miss doing Oliver, it has been really fun and I hope I will be in next year's show.

Molly Sandford Smith (7L)

Maria Christofi (Year 12)

Inspiring Sixth Form Assembly

On Thursday 24 November we had the privilege of hearing Sir Peter Gershon CBE FREng talk about the digital age and how technology has evolved over the years. We learnt about his first experience with computers when he had just finished secondary school and programmed a computer, which cost around two million pounds. He also focused on the safety issues that come with this change, from censorship queries to the importance of knowing where your data is stored online and who has access to it. It was fascinating to see just how far computers have come- from the size of a room to a hand held device and hundreds of times more powerful! We were very grateful that Sir Peter Gershon CBE FREng gave up his time to come and speak to us.

Anna Hardisty, Dan Angus, Gina Hunt (Year 13)



Children’s Mental Health Week – Shelf Help books in the Library

As part of Children’s Mental Health Week (6-12 February), the Library has been asking students to write down **Things That Make Me Happy**. Here are some of the great responses we received from Year 7 students:

“Dance makes me happy and so do my family and friends”

“Reading books from my childhood”

“Swimming makes me happy as I can just float there”

“Doing exercise and reading books makes me happy because they both take me out of real life and into my imagination”

“When I can go home and relax and do whatever I want”

And one student’s advice on **How to Keep Calm**: “Pull and stretch Blue-tack. Listen to calm music. Remember that at the end of the day you’ll be in bed”.

The Library also stocks a wide selection of books featured in the nationwide **Shelf Help** reading initiative. The aim of the **Shelf Help** scheme is to support young people’s mental health through reading. The books include both fiction and non-fiction, and have been selected to provide support and advice on common mental health conditions, such as depression, anxiety or stress, as well as difficult experiences like bullying and stress. The titles on the list have been chosen by young people and health professionals.

Further information on Shelf Help can be found at the following website:

<http://reading-well.org.uk/books/books-on-prescription/young-people-s-mental-health>

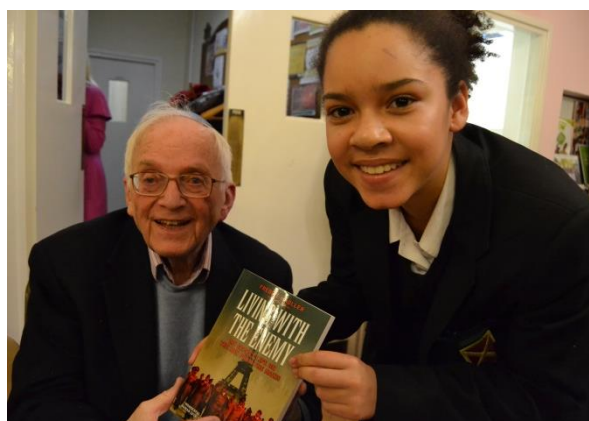
Ms Shepard

Beyond Beaumont

Congratulations to top lawyer and diversity leader Funke Abimbola (parent to Max 9R), who has been listed in the law section of Debretts 500. The Debretts 500 list recognises Britain’s 500 most influential people and is carefully compiled by independent specialists in each of a number of sectors.

Holocaust Commemoration

Well done to Ellie Thomas (10N) who lit one of six candles (one to represent each million that died during the Holocaust) on Wednesday 25 January. The event was part of the Holocaust Commemoration at the St Albans United Synagogue. Ellie visited Auschwitz last year on the trip to Poland.



From the Governing Body

The Governing Body was pleased to appoint Mr Martin Atkinson as Beaumont’s next Headteacher (from 1 September 2017) at its extraordinary meeting on Thursday 26 January. This followed a very robust and demanding recruitment process, led by a panel of governors appointed by the full Governing Body.

We received 14 applications for the post of Headteacher, shortly before Christmas. The recruitment panel then met in early January to select a shortlist of candidates to interview. The panel was assisted in this task by the school’s Hertfordshire Improvement Partner, who regularly works with the school on performance management and was able to advise governors in their discussions. She also joined governors for the interview days.

Six candidates were shortlisted to attend for a first day of interviews on Wednesday 25 January. Each candidate was given a tour of the school and then faced a series of tasks, including data analysis and written exercises; a group exercise; and interviews with a number of panels (which included governors, staff and students) on a variety of subjects, including leadership, governance, teaching and learning, and safeguarding.

At the end of the first day, three candidates were selected to attend a second day of interviews. Each of these candidates gave an assembly to Year 7; they then gave a presentation to the recruitment panel; met with the Leadership Team; and faced an hour-long interview with the recruitment panel, involving a series of ten challenging questions.

Following deliberations on the afternoon of 26 January, the recruitment panel was unanimous in its decision to recommend that the Governing Body appoint Mr Atkinson as Beaumont’s next Headteacher. On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank all those who were involved in the recruitment process – governors, staff and students – as the recruitment panel carefully considered all feedback to ensure that the appointment truly reflected the views of all those involved in meeting and interviewing the candidates. We very much look forward to working closely with Mr Atkinson to lead Beaumont forward from September 2017.

Alex Hall, Chair of Governors



Chartwells are currently recruiting for a Catering Assistant, 25 hours per week, five days a week spread over 39 weeks per year, a DBS check will be required. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in this position, please call Gill on 01727 853867.

Beaumont School is delighted to be able to participate again in the England Rugby Grand Draw - 2017.

Tickets are £1 each with **90p from each ticket purchased going to the school**. Please get involved and return the form to **Reception** with the appropriate payment and your tickets will be sent out by return.

Please send in cash or cheques (payable to Beaumont School) in an envelope clearly marked ‘England Rugby Grand Draw’ and **good luck!**

Mr Panting



Beaumont School - Tickets for England Rugby Grand Draw – April 2017

Name of Student

Form

Name on raffle ticket

Contact address

Postcode

Telephone

Number of tickets required

(five tickets in a book, each ticket is £1, each book is £5)

Amount Paid

£

*Cash/*Cheque (made payable to Beaumont School)