



# BEAUMONT LIFE

SECONDARY TRANSFER SPECIAL EDITION 2017  
OCTOBER 2017 [WWW.BEAUMONTSCHOOL.COM](http://WWW.BEAUMONTSCHOOL.COM)

**Welcome** to this Special Edition of Beaumont Life, our monthly newsletter which is circulated to all families at the school. We have selected a range of items which have featured during the last academic year to give you a flavour of what life as part of the Beaumont community is like. We hope you enjoy it.

**Martin Atkinson, Headteacher**

## Duke of Edinburgh Award May 2017

**Five** young people from Beaumont School attended a presentation at Buckingham Palace, London, where they received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards from celebrity presenter, Louis Smith, after sharing their experiences with Trustee for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE), HRH The Earl of Wessex.

**During** the Gold Award Presentation, Prince Edward took the opportunity to congratulate the group from Beaumont School on their successes and heard about their DofE journeys, which took each young person 12-18 months of hard work and dedication. He also heard how they are the first group at Beaumont School to complete all three levels of the Award.

**Headteacher** Elizabeth Hitch said, "Well done to you all and to all the rest of the Gold winners too plus a big thank you to all staff and parents involved and to the Beaumont School Association for all their support financially".

**Ella** Dickson, who is the DofE Coordinator at Beaumont School said, "I'm especially proud of this group, as they are first to achieve their Gold Awards since the award was reintroduced at Beaumont School four years ago. They have demonstrated hard work and commitment in all their sections, and at all three levels. In particular, the young people who completed their awards have put many hours into community groups for their Volunteering sections".

**Speaking** about her DofE experience, Anna Biggs, who was one of the Gold Award holders at the presentation, said, "We have enjoyed it so much and it has given us all amazing memories. We are very grateful to all the people who have helped us achieve our Gold Awards".



## Under 15 & Under 18 Girls are County Basketball Champions!

**Congratulations** to the Under 15 girls basketball squad who defeated Sandringham 71-8 at Queens School on Monday 13 March to become County Champions.

**After** a relatively slow start, the squad really passed the ball well and played some excellent basketball on the way to a comfortable win. It was great to see all members of the team having the confidence to shoot and correct shot selection was also a key positive.

**It** has been marvellous to see the squad develop into a very strong unit this year and I look forward to them going from strength to strength over the next few seasons. Well done to the whole squad!

**The** following day the Under 18 girls played against JFK in the senior final, also at Queens. In a much tighter game, our team defence and fast break meant we were 36-31 up at half time. The third quarter was pivotal and we stepped up our defence to pull away to an 11 point lead by the start of the fourth quarter. We continued to control the game and eventually ran out 70-52 winners.

**It** was a spectacular all round team performance with almost all of the squad scoring. A special mention must go to Holly Brando and Olivia Almond who both won their first County Basketball titles in their last final for Beaumont.

**Well** done to the whole squad, they are the strongest girls' team Beaumont has ever had!

**Mr Stewart**



## Drama February 2017

I was recently lucky enough to be an ensemble member in the whole school musical: Oliver. As a Year 7 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.

**Nell Hayes (10L)**



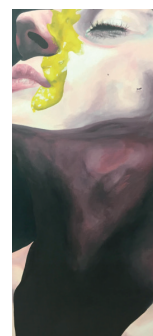
I joined Beaumont Sixth Form in September and so far one of my highlights has definitely been the school show, Oliver. In doing the show I have made so many new friends and bonded with people in a way I would never have without it. My favourite part was the week before the performance, as when we had 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!

**Maria Christofi (Year 12)**

## Samuel Ryder Schools' Exhibition

We were asked to be involved for fifth year in a row in the annual Samuel Ryder Schools' Art Exhibition. The exhibition was a huge success with a broad range of work from many different schools. This year we chose work from Year 13 students, Conor Quinn, Jess Hall and Megan Hodges.

**Miss Finlay**



## Sports Hall & Classroom Opening Ceremony September 2016

**Clockwise** from the top, students and staff welcome Andy Halliday, Team Manager, England/Great Britain Men's Olympic Hockey Team who officially opened the new Sports Hall; students gather with Will Fraser, professional rugby player for Saracens, who helped in the burial of the time capsule; alumni gather outside the new facilities; visitors spot their brick in the Buy-A-Brick fund-raising wall; tree-planting ceremony featuring Beaumont sporting champions and an alumna from Beaumont's opening day in 1938 and the alumni and current students prepare for a basketball extravaganza!



## General Election 2017

Beaumont School was delighted to host a hustings with three of the St Albans parliamentary candidates. The Sixth Formers posed a series of questions to the panel and they now have a much clearer idea now about the candidates' views on a range of national and local issues. Feedback from students and parents indicates that this was a very valuable exercise in democracy at the start of the General Election campaign.

At a time when voter registration rules have changed, it is important that those turning 18 are aware of what they need to do to secure their right to vote. This assembly, therefore, was an important adjunct to the Citizenship programme that Beaumont offers throughout the school.

**Mr de Kort**

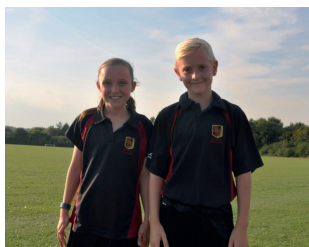


## Beaumont & Sandringham Fun Runs

**Well** done to all of the Year 7 students who ran on Friday 9 September in the Beaumont Fun Run. The two lap girls' race was run by Mia Pullan with Emily Denning and Jaya Barker second and third respectively. In the boys' race, Ben Humphry was first in a very close and exciting race, just pipping Jamie Breen on the line with Liam Hayes just behind in third. Overall 7L were the winning form.

**All** of the boys and girls ran well and should be proud to have competed for Beaumont in the first extra-curricular sporting event of the year, well done to all of you! The photograph shows Mia and Ben, our top placed runners.

**Mr Stewart**



## Year 10 break the code!

**On** Wednesday 3 May 2017, 45 five Year 10 Computer Science and ICT students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Bletchley Park, the iconic residence of the heroic code breakers during the World War II. Throughout the Codes and Ciphers workshop, our students showed resilience and demonstrated their excellent coding skills. Furthermore, they embarked upon a journey of discovery by exploring the momentous contents within the site. Here, the students learnt about the fascinating history of Bletchley Park, including the essential role of the female workforce; surveyed the restored huts, such as the offices used by Alan Turing as well as other great minds, depicting the working conditions of a bygone era; and seeing first-hand fully operational Enigma and Bomb machines.



**Mrs Azizi**

## Focus on Fieldwork

**At** Beaumont, the Geography Department takes field work very seriously and offers every year group the opportunity to take part. As the famous traveller, Geographer and Monty Python star Michael Palin said: 'Schools should place a renewed focus on traditional geography field trips to stop pupils being trapped behind computer screens in the classroom' and we in the Beaumont Geography Department couldn't agree more!

**Our** fieldwork year starts in September with the Year 7 trip to the River Lea in Wheathampstead. This day trip gives our students the opportunity to try out lots of fieldwork methodologies to work out which stage of the River they are in.

**In** October, it is the turn of Year 11 to go on their residential trip to Sheringham in Norfolk. This trip enables our students to gather data for their GCSE controlled assessment.

**In** January our Year 9s get the opportunity to spend half an Enrichment Day gathering data about the possibility of re-branding St Albans city centre. In February, our Year 12 'A' Level students go to Swanage in Dorset for two nights in order to learn methodologies that might be useful for their 'A' Level, and visit case study locations. This is closely followed by Year 8 in March who also get a half day to gather fieldwork data in St Albans.

**Finally**, in April it the turn of Year 10 who get to experience a River trip to Epping Forest. This year will be the first time we have run this trip at Beaumont.

**Ms Kent**



## Beaumont hits the USA

**Once** again our USA History trip was designated to stimulate learning and curiosity, with each new experience a chance for students to learn more about their subject and America.

**This** year we visited the Air & Space Museum for the first time, coupled with an IMAX experience into space. Students and staff were given a truly unique vantage point to witness the lives of astronauts throughout history and the co-operation between nations in navigating beyond our world.

### Washington notables:

The whole group was given the opportunity to sit in the House of Representatives and learn about American democracy. One big change was the security around the White House in Washington and Trump Towers in New York. This gave students an insight into current American politics.

### New York notables:

On arriving at NY we visited the Top of the Rock in the early evening. As the weather was clear students were able to get amazing pictures of the Empire State Building and upper and lower Manhattan. Following our experience of the last trip we ditched the idea of the subway in NY and hailed Yellow Taxis down to Battery Park for our boat cruise to Ellis Island; more beautiful weather.



Ms Esmizadeh

## Drama March 2017

**On** Monday 6 March, the Beaumont Junior Drama Company, made up of Year 9 Drama students, took part in the Welwyn Youth Drama Festival with their production of Arbeit Macht Frie, by Paul King. The play explores the persecution of the Jews by the Nazis in the Second World War, showing glimpses of this harrowing event in history. After the week-long festival, made up of 21 youth theatre groups, and approximately 400 young actors from across Hertfordshire and North London; Beaumont Junior Drama Company were nominated for the Adjudicator's award, winning the Technical Theatre award and winning first place for the Junior award category! Our group, made up of 38 students, is thrilled and proud of their result.



Ms Wallace

## Royal Academy returns to the Art Department

**For** the second year running, we were pleased to host the return of the Royal Academy who did a series of drawing workshops with both Year 12 and 13 students. This was a fantastic experience and opportunity for the students to complete a wide variety of drawings and enhance their Art portfolios.

Miss May & Miss Findlay



## German Exchange

**Imagine** going to spend a week in a foreign country, staying with a family that you've never met before and going to lessons in a different school! For over 25 years, Beaumont has had an exchange programme with Hans-Purmann School in Speyer, Germany, enabling our students to do this.

**In** November, Mr Stewart and I took seventeen students to spend a week at our German Exchange school. As well as spending time with our host families and in lessons, we explored the surrounding area by train.

**We** visited the palace in Mannheim, where we dressed up as eighteenth century aristocrats and were given a baroque dance lesson in the great hall, to the fascination of other visitors!

**On** our trip to Heidelberg, we rode the funicular railway to the castle. Here, we were able to climb on top of the castle's giant wine barrel (capacity 219,000 litres!).

**The** highlight of the trip was seeing how well everyone got on with their German partners. We were very sad to leave and look forward to seeing our new found friends again on their visit to us in the spring.

Mrs Lutz

