# June 2018 www.beaumontschool.com

#### From the Headteacher

I am delighted to report that Beaumont School's academic successes were recently recognised by the SSAT (Schools, Student And Teacher) Network Educational Outcomes Awards 2017. On Tuesday 12 June 2018 we were awarded certificates for our success in our GCSE results for 2017, we are in the top 10% of non-selective schools in the country for attainment and also in the top 20% for progress. We were very proud to receive this National recognition. Congratulations to Mr Gray who also received an award for his outstanding work on the SSAT Leadership Legacy Project.



I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Headteacher and there are still a number of exciting events to look forward to. Rob's Festival takes place this weekend and we still have the Art and Photography Show, the Garden Ball, the Sports' Awards Evening, the Summer Music Concert and Sports' Day to go, not forgetting the transition events for next year's Year 7 students. By the way, there are still four tickets available to join a table at the Garden Ball on Saturday 14 July 2018, first come, first served, please e-mail Mrs Rider on <a href="mailto:beverley.rider@beaumont.herts.sch.uk">beverley.rider@beaumont.herts.sch.uk</a> – look forward to seeing you there.

	Sunday 1 July	All day		Silver Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
J	Monday 2 July			Curriculum Enrichment Week including Year 10 work experience
	Wednesday 4 July	8.30am	University of Hertfordshire	A Level Chemistry Spectroscopy Day
U	Thursday 5 July			Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition (to 09/07/18)
	Monday 9 July	5.00pm	National Theatre	Year 12 Translations Theatre Trip
L	Tuesday 10 July	5.00pm	Theatre Royal	Sixth Form French Theatre Trip to Tartuffe
	Wednesday 11 July	6.30pm	Hall	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Parent Information Evening
Υ		6.30pm	Conference Room	Full Governing Body Meeting
_		7.00pm	Hall	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Parent Information Evening
&	Thursday 12 July			Year 6 Transition Day
ω.				Year 8 Full Reports issued
Α	Friday 13 July			Silver Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition (to 15/07/18)
	Saturday 14 July	7.00pm	Beaumont Grounds	Twine & Dine Garden Ball
U	Monday 16 July			Sports Day
	Tuesday 17 July	7.00pm	St Paul's Church	Summer Concert
G	Wednesday 18 July	·		Reserve Sports Day
	Thursday 19 July			Year 7 Full Reports issued
				Year 9 Interim Reports issued
U				Year 10 Full Reports issued
	Friday 20 July	12.30pm		Break up for summer holiday (students return 04/09/18)
S				
_	Thursday 16 August			A Level Results Day (see website for information)
Т	Thursday 23 August			GCSE Results Day (see website for information)
	Thursday 30 August			Gold Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition (to 03/09/18)

Reminder – if you have any unwanted items of school uniform or sports kits you would like to donate to the school, please hand them into the main reception or the student services reception. Proceeds from second-hand uniform sales all go to the school via the BSA. If you are able to help out with the collection and sorting of such items, please contact the BSA.

#### Escape into a book this summer

What better antidote to exams season and the end of a busy school year than a thumping good read? The library team Beaumont has picked displayed a selection of cracking fiction titles for students to explore and enjoy in the weeks ahead. The list contains a wide range of genres and writing styles, from the hilarious Bad Dad by David Walliams to the book everyone is talking about, Angie Thomas' powerful story prejudice and police brutality, The Hate U Give. Read it before it hits the big screen in October! Fans of dystopian fiction will be enthralled by The Call, described as 'The Hunger Games meets Lord of the Flies'. To mark the centenary of women receiving the vote, we have also included Things a Bright Girl Can Do, a feisty story about teenage suffragettes, set against the backdrop of World War 1.

Looking for action and adventure? Travel to the Amazon jungle with the award-winning book *The Explorer*, or to New York with the fast-paced detective novel *The Guggenheim Mystery*, written as a sequel to Siobhan Dowd's popular



The London Eye Mystery. Readers of fantasy novels will enjoy Shadowsmith and La Belle Sauvage, the first instalment of Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust trilogy.

This is just a taster of some of the books on our Summer Reading display. Why not come along to the library and take one home. If you can't find one you like on this list, just ask a member of the library team; we are always delighted to recommend good reads. We allow students to borrow books over the school holidays so be sure to pack one in your suitcase, wherever you're heading this summer!

Remember that reading is the perfect way to lose yourself in another world, to escape and relax. And here's the science-y bit: studies show that, as a method of relaxation for the mind and body, reading is more effective than listening to music, taking a walk, or even having a cup of tea! Visit The Reading Agency website to find out more:

## **LAMDA Success**



I've been going to LAMDA for about a year now. Speaking Works is a drama club that takes place after school on a Friday. We play games to help with public speaking and techniques and work towards end of year exams. The exams have many benefits, for example, the higher grades convert into UCAS points. I have just done Grade 5 and got a distinction as did everyone from our class.

I am overjoyed and can't wait for next year. What I like about the exam, is that you have a variety of options, so, for example, I took acting but you could take verse or prose or public speaking.

This year I particularly enjoyed learning all about improvisation. Speaking Works has improved my confidence and I can say that I have made so many new friends and can't wait to spend the next couple of years with all my classmates and the wonderful teachers.

Lizzie Estell (9S)

#### **Oxford German Olympiad Success**

Congratulations to **Alice Fraser** (Year 12) who has won the German Performance Prize from the Oxford German Olympiad. Alice collected her prize at the ceremony in Oxford on Tuesday 19 June 2018.

#### **Jersey Farm Day Care Centre**

It is with great sadness that Beaumont Music and Drama Departments learnt of the recent passing of John Blandford. A local resident, John was a huge supporter of the arts at Beaumont for many years. He rarely missed a show or concert, and gave generously to support our work whenever he could. My predecessor Hanh Doan met John in 2009, when he asked the Music Department to come and perform at Jersey Farm Day Care Centre. Beaumont's Music and Drama students have visited Jersey Farm every year since, performing for and sharing stories with visitors to the centre. It has become an important event in our annual calendar, and John will be sorely missed the next time we visit.

**David Guinane, Head of Music** 

#### **Fundraising Update**

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of those parents and students who have contributed to the school's various fundraising activities over the last few years. Whether you have contributed to "the bucket" after one of our amazing concerts or performances, you have set up a regular standing order to the School Fund or you have made a generous one-off donation, every contribution is hugely appreciated. Here is an update on the progress we have made to date with these fundraising activities.



The 80-in-18 fundraising campaign was launched in June 2016 in recognition of the school celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2018 with the aim of raising funds to help us to create a new, multi-purpose hall and performing arts centre. So far, thanks to you and your children's support and efforts, this campaign has raised just under £75,000. As part of 80-in-18, we are currently half-way through our Red June community wellbeing and fundraising initiative which encourages staff, students and the wider Beaumont Community to run, ride or roll at least 1km every day throughout June.

Alongside this, our Year 7 students are taking part in a reading challenge with the English Department encouraging students to enjoy reading whilst raising money for the school.

So far Red June has raised nearly £1500 and it's not too late to get involved. Go to our Total Giving site to see the many fundraising activities that individuals and groups are taking part in or to register your own fundraising activity. https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/charity/beaumont-school-st-albans.



Beaumont School, St Albans - TotalGiving™ - Donate to Charity | Online Fundraising for Charity UK

www.totalgiving.co.uk

The Summer Garden Ball which is taking place on Saturday 14 July also looks set to be a spectacular 80-in18 celebratory event.

#### **School Fund**

Since the relaunch of the Beaumont School Fund back in November 2015, we have raised just under £74,000. In recent years there have been real-terms cuts to government funding and your donations have enabled us to continue to provide the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities that we are known for and also to improve facilities across the school, making a real difference to your child's experience at Beaumont. The sort of improvements that we have been able to make thanks to these generous donations include the provision of interactive screens in a large number of classrooms across the school and the refurbishment of the toilet facilities in the Science and Technology Departments.

# What's next on the development plan?

#### **Arts Centre**

If you have been to any of the superb performances in our school hall over the last few years you will agree that the facilities simply do not match up to the quality of the performances and that our students deserve better. Alongside the funds raised through our 80-in-18 campaign we are exploring other funding streams such as grants from charitable organisations and business sponsorship so that we can create a new, multi-purpose hall and performing arts centre.

## Science Block

We have received funding from both Hertfordshire County Council and the Education and Skills Funding Agency to enable us to start building a new Science block later this year which will provide additional Science labs and general teaching facilities. We will soon be launching a "Buy-a-Brick" type campaign to help us to fund equipment for these amazing new facilities, so look out for further information on this.

If you would like to make a contribution to either the 80-in-18 campaign or the School Fund, or feel that there is any other way in which you can support the school with these campaigns, please contact Mrs Rider (01727 732988).

https://beaumontschool.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Gift-Aid-Form-September-2016.pdf

#### From the Governors

Since my last report, the school has been busy preparing for this year's round of public examinations and these are now well under way. Staff and students have been out on the field running, rolling and riding for RED June and as ever the Beaumont community has come together to raise money and to have some fun.

The Governors' CTL Committee has continued to focus on curriculum and community issues. We have had one formal meeting with another scheduled in the latter half of the month. These meetings provide, amongst other things, an opportunity to discuss the reports completed by the Senior Leadership Team looking at particular subject areas. These reviews include discussions of departmental priorities and lesson observations together with feedback from a student panel discussion which is led by the governor linked to the department. The reviews allow staff, students and school leaders to reflect on the teaching and learning within the curriculum area and to consider strengths and areas for improvement.

Agenda items for CTL meetings also cover the continuing review of actions taken to implement the PSI (Plan for School Improvement) together with updates on staffing, curriculum changes and student and staff wellbeing. As the summer term draws to a close the school is as busy as ever with records being broken, seemingly daily, on the Athletics field, Art and Photography shows planned and music concerts being arranged. Just those exams to complete!

See you all at the Garden Ball.

Lisanne Sherwood, Chair, Community, Teaching and Learning Committee









https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/charity/beaum ont-school-st-albans

GET INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES EVERYDAY IN JUNE

BEFORE SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL

**RAISING MONEY FOR 80 IN '18** 

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GET INVOLVED!