



From the Headteacher

On Wednesday 3 October we held a very successful Open Evening which was busier than ever and this was followed by many families attending daytime tours of the school. It has been really lovely to receive so much positive feedback, particularly about the quality of our student guides and helpers.

I recently attended the Upper School Drama Show 'Evita' and the quality of the performance was truly exceptional – well done to everyone involved.

We look forward to the Beaumont Bake-off this Friday where each House will be entering their colourful and varied creations and I have the pleasure of judging (and tasting!).

I hope the students have an enjoyable half term break and take the opportunity to re-charge and be ready to approach the rest of term with renewed energy.

Martin Atkinson

Date	Time	Location	Event
Monday 5 November			Students return to school
	9.00 am	Head's Meeting Room	GCSE English Language Paper 1 resit
Tuesday 6 November	8.20 am	Epping Forest	Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Day
	9.00 am	A7	GCSE Maths Paper 1 resit
Wednesday 7 November	9.00 am	Head's Meeting Room	GCSE English Language Paper 2 resit
Thursday 8 November	9.00 am	A7	GCSE Maths Paper 2 resit
	3.45 pm	Library	Primary Staff Tea
	7.00 pm	Hall (Beaumont)	BSV Education Trust Parent Information Evening (11LEA)
	8.00 pm	Sandringham School	BSV Education Trust Parent Information Evening (11RNS)
Friday 9 November			Non-uniform day for the Christmas Fair
		Cambridge	Year 12 Art trip to Curwen Print
Monday 12 November	9.00 am	D7	BTEC Business L2 online exam
	9.00 am	A7	GCSE Maths Paper 3 resit
Tuesday 13 November			Curriculum Enrichment Day
	7.30 pm	Conference Room	BSA Committee Meeting
Wednesday 14 November			Year 11 study leave commences
		Gym	Year 11 mock exams (exams to Monday 3 December)
Thursday 15 November			Year 12 & 13 interim reports issued
	6.30 pm	Conference Room	Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 19 November		The Farmschool, Harpenden	Key Stage 2 & 3 Sustainable Schools Training Day
Tuesday 20 November	7.00 pm	Hall	GCSE Presentation Evening
Wednesday 21 November	6.30 pm	Conference Room	Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday 22 November	9.00 am		Year 8 interim reports issued
		TBC	Year 8 girls HPV 1 injections
	5.00 pm	Block A & D	Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday 27 November	6.30 pm	Conference Room	Community, Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting
Wednesday 28 November	8.00 am	D8	Year 12 & 13 Royal Academy Life Drawing
Thursday 29 November			Last day of Year 11 study leave (excl. Textiles students)
	9.00 am		Year 7 interim reports issued
	5.00 pm	London	Year 7 English theatre trip to Aladdin
Friday 30 November			Occasional Day (school closed)

LOST
PROPERTY

Volunteers Needed! We urgently need new helpers who would be willing to come into Beaumont on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 10:30am and midday to sort and hopefully return lost property. If anyone can spare a few hours each week please contact reception.



Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Day

During the Curriculum Enrichment Day on Wednesday 19 September, the Geography Department made the annual trip to Wheathampstead to conduct Year 7 field work.

As this is the first day trip for the new Year 7s at Beaumont, it is always an exciting event. The Year 7s went in two groups, with BLEA in the morning session, and RNS in the afternoon.

The weather held out for the day and by the afternoon we had some sunshine. There were lots of good geographical skills learnt over the day but also a lot of fun had! Even Mr Atkinson donned his wellies and joined the students in the river taking measurements.

Ms Anderson

Ms Anderson



Languages Week

During the week of Monday 24 to Friday 28 September, we celebrated Languages Week throughout the school. Beaumont students had international food options in the canteen and were encouraged to try reading a foreign language book in the Library.

Bilingual students taught teachers
their home languages.

Thank you to all the families who participated in the Languages Week quiz and many congratulations to the Busby family who won! **Mrs Lutz**



Latin students travel back in time to Roman St Albans

Over the summer, twelve Latin students from Beaumont went on a lively trip to Verulamium Museum. Together with Latin students from Verulam, STAGS and Parmiter's they explored what life was like in St Albans 2,000 years ago. They dressed in togas and took part in a dinner party and also starred in the entertainment - a real Roman comedy.

Museum staff encouraged them to handle pottery originally used in a Roman kitchen and replicas of armour used by Roman soldiers. They also saw the Roman inscription that shows when the basilica (town hall) was being built in Verulamium, and links St Albans into the history books of the Roman Empire.

Clare Harvey



"The hands-on experience gave me a connection to the past."

Edward Fearn (10R)

"I was happy to see how much of a real Roman inscription I could read."
Matilda Green (10L)

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"Acting in a Roman play was really memorable."

Leonardo Geymonat (10A)

Read & Write

We are delighted to be able to offer our students access to Read & Write at home. This package has a number of features to aid learning but the main ones are outlined below:

- A computer reader – students can put in headphones, select the text and listen to the text rather than read it. This facility will also allow them to listen back to their own work, which can help a lot with the proofreading process.
- A fact finder – a fantastic research tool which allows students to highlight key words and phrases in different colours and then have them organised into a categorised list. In short - an online highlighter!
- A fact mapper – students can create mind maps online, which will also allow them to use the dictionary and thesaurus within the programme to help. Images can also be added to the mind map to aid memory and understanding. This can be a great way to create revision resources on a computer.
- A key word list creator – this facility called 'word cloud' allows you to collate the key words from a text so that you can focus on learning them. As well as creating them from your own work, there are various topics pre-loaded into the software e.g. 'A Christmas Carol' in books or the American Civil War for History.

Learning to use the features of the Read & Write toolbar does take time but it is worth it for the increased independence it offers. Tutor time sessions for every year group from Year 7-13 were run last year so that all of our students can access the software and use it effectively. Year 7 will have a tutor time session devoted to using the Read and Write software during this academic year. Please look out for an upcoming email with details of how to download the software and get Read and Write Gold set-up for use.

New this year: I am planning to run a Parent Information Evening on how to make the best use of this software. When you receive the parent email there will be a link to sign up for the Information Evening and details of date and location.

If the event is over-subscribed, preference will be given to those in Key Stage 4 and above who need to use a reader or computer reader for their external exams. Depending on levels of demand, I will run another training event later in the year again. **Mrs Dine**

U16 netball team reaches the County Finals

On Saturday 29 September, the U16 netball team brought their A game to the Anne Miles Hertfordshire County Schools Netball Tournament and came runners up, qualifying for Regionals in January. We were up against some tough competition but with the lovely weather and determination we were not coming away empty handed. Our first game was against Leventhorpe, an opposition not many of us had heard of, meaning anything could happen! We started off strong, with our shooters on target, so we knew we could take the lead and edge away. After winning that match quite comfortably, we proceeded on with the day, playing schools including Berkhamsted, Parmiter's, Chancellor's, Haberdashers', Hertfordshire and Essex, Hitchin Girls' and our rivals for some time now St Albans High School for Girls (STAHs).



We came up against STAHs in the semi-final and we were not going to lose against them again! After years of losing by one or two goals in the District Tournament Final, that day was **our day** to win. It was level the whole way through the first half, each side scoring in turn. But it all started to change as Beaumont became more and more determined and it was us out in front. Every ball was going to be ours and with each interception we were able to move the ball up the court to the shooters, and score. You could see across every player's face that we wanted to win and we came to win. The final whistle went and the every player erupted into a cheer. We had finally beaten the High School and were through to the County Final, winning 10-5.



In the final we played Berkhamsted who we had originally played in the rounds and beaten by one, so we knew it was going to be a close game. Their shooter unfortunately was too tall and could just stand and get a high ball in to shoot, which was so annoying for our defence. It was a good game but we couldn't take home the trophy this time. But to us we had already won, beating STAHs. We came to the tournament not knowing what to expect and we played our socks off, and it all paid off coming away as runners up in the County. Each and every one of us deserved to be there and we all can't wait to see what happens at Regionals.

Emma Norman (11L)

The team included: Kate Riches (GK), Jocie Leavold (GK), Emma Norman (GD), Daisy Porter (WD), Grace Self (C), Alice Jones (WA), Hannah Hunter (WA), Ellie Flynn (GA), Ellie Ralph (GS) and Miss Fraser (Coach)

Year 7 Girls' Hockey

On Wednesday 10 October, 15 Year 7 girls travelled on the minibus to Queenswood School to play hockey against other schools. There was an A and B team playing on the A and B pitches. It was my first ever hockey match! I loved the experience, even if we didn't win. I think everyone had fun and tried their best. Also, it was surprisingly helpful to watch the B team while I wasn't playing and, even though I got whacked in the foot, I loved it! What a great experience!

Tara Barker (7R)

We played four matches and were split into an A and B team. In our first match, we lost 1-0. Then we had a short break before we played our next match. Every match was ten minutes long. As I was in the B team I only played some matches, so, if I wasn't playing I went to watch the other groups playing. We lost our second and third matches 1-0 and we drew our final match 0-0. Right at the end, Queenswood gave out some goodie bags to some students. It was great fun.

Scarlett Ginn (7R)



Award-winning Authors connect students to reading

Beaumont Library was proud to promote the nationwide Libraries Week 8-13 October which, this year, chose to focus on the essential role libraries and reading can play in wellbeing. Facts and figures on the official Libraries Week website include research indicating that 'reading fiction is associated with higher levels of empathy and improved relationships with others', and 'reading for pleasure has been linked to a reduction in stress, the symptoms of depression and the risk of developing dementia in later life'. (<http://www.librariesweek.org.uk/facts/>). The importance of inspiring young people to read is clear and we have found that inviting authors to Beaumont is an excellent way to engage students in reading. This month, Beaumont organised visits from two award-winning authors: Penny Joelson and Susin Nielsen.

Penny Joelson is the author of our whole school read / *Have No Secrets*, which has been extremely popular with students, family members and staff alike. Penny joined us to launch the 'Beaumont Reads' initiative and to talk to the students about the inspiration behind her book. Following her visit, Penny told *The Herts Advertiser*, 'I was overwhelmed by the buzz from everyone; from students, school librarians, teachers and even parents on Twitter.' Penny also held a book-signing in the Library and it was fantastic to see a long queue of students waiting to buy one of her books!

(<http://www.hertsad.co.uk/news/education/author-penny-joelson-visits-st-albans-school-to-help-launch-reading-scheme-1-5724280>)



Canadian author Susin Nielsen also visited Beaumont in October. The words 'comedy and heartbreak' perfectly encapsulate Susin's books; they tackle tough issues but always do so through humour and endearing characters. Year 8 students listened to Susin talk about her books and her life as a writer. She told them, 'If you want to be a writer, you need to be a reader.' Again, it was clear from the number of students who then came to the Library to meet Susin at her book-signing, how effectively these visits connect readers to authors and encourage them to read their books. Here is what some of our students said about meeting Susin:

"Susin Nielsen gave an engaging speech that inspired us to read and even write. I love it that the school invites writers with really good books that they have in the Library."

Ashan B (8R)

"The author visits encourage me to read books and genres I would never necessarily read. You can ask them questions and learn more."

Rita S (8E)