



From the Headteacher

It has been an incredibly busy last couple of weeks including a super Year 7 Drama performance, Toy Story, staged on the amphitheatre, a hugely successful tenth Rob's Festival which took place in fantastic weather and was attended by record numbers, a superb Sports' Awards Evening celebrating the truly amazing successes of both our teams and individuals in a vast range of sports, and last night a successful new Year 7 evening introducing Beaumont's next cohort to their Form Tutors and to the rest of the school. I am about to set off to Germany with half of Year 7 for their Curriculum Enrichment week activity and looking forward to practising my German.



There are still more events to come before the end of term including 'Game Over' which is a powerful and potent performance created by Mrs Wallace, Head of Drama and written by well-known playwright Mark Wheeler. The production is supported by the Breck Foundation and funded by the Lottery Community Fund, and of course our Summer Concert taking place on Wednesday 17 July 2019 at St Paul's Church in St Albans, I hope to see you there.

Martin Atkinson

Date	Time	Location	Event *
<i>* Correct at the time of publication; please check website for the most up to date information</i>			
Monday 1 July – Friday 5 July			Curriculum Enrichment Week
Thursday 4 July			Year 10 Work Experience
Wednesday 10 July	6:00pm	Hall	Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition (ends 08/07/19)
	6:30pm	Conference Room	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Parent Information Evening
	7:00pm	Hall	Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
Thursday 11 July	8:25am		Silver Duke of Edinburgh Parent Information Evening
	9:00am		Year 6 Transition Day
	9:00am		Year 12 exam grades issued
	9:00am		Year 8 full reports issued
Friday 12 July			Silver of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition (ends 14/07/19)
	7:30pm	Trestle Theatre	Performance of 'Game Over'
Saturday 13 July	4:30pm	Trestle Theatre	Performance of 'Game Over'
	7:30pm	Trestle Theatre	Performance of 'Game Over'
Monday 15 July		Field	Sports Day
Wednesday 17 July		Field	Reserve Sports Day
		St Paul's Church	Summer Concert
Thursday 18 July	9:00am		Year 10 full reports issued
	9:00am		Year 7 full reports issued
	9:00am		Year 9 interim reports issued
Friday 19 July	12.30pm		Students dismissed early for summer (return 03/09/19)

Hertfordshire schools rise to the challenge for water ideas

Four schools from across Hertfordshire battled it out last month in a bid to be crowned winners of the 2019 Challenge: Water competition.

Challenge: Water is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) based competition for secondary schools organised by local water company Affinity Water and international charity WaterAid, which helps the world's most impoverished communities get access to clean water and sanitation.

Now in its fourth year, it involves young people learning about the importance of water on a local and global scale, then taking part in three STEM challenges designed to test their innovation, collaboration and design skills. The three challenges this year included devising a fundraising campaign for WaterAid, making design improvements to the charity's VIP latrines, and delivering a water saving campaign.

Teams from Beaumont School and Verulam School in St Albans, Croxley Danes School in Rickmansworth and John F Kennedy Catholic School in Hemel Hempstead gathered at The Fielder Centre in Hatfield to present their ideas to judges Pauline Walsh, CEO of Affinity Water, Dr James Jenkins, Head of Geography, Environment and Agriculture at the University of Hertfordshire, Bob Prothero, Education Officer at WaterAid, and Helen Spencer, Director of educational charity SETPOINT Hertfordshire.



The team from Beaumont School were crowned the eventual winners, with the judges commending their use of a physical 1m cube to illustrate weekly water use per person. The judges also praised the “genius” idea of a combined bell and door release in their toilet design, allowing those with disabilities to use it independently yet call for assistance if needed. The winning school also took home a trophy and a £500 cash prize.

Students from Beaumont said, “We learnt a lot more about water and how there is a global problem. We made new friends and discovered a lot about teamwork. We learnt many skills that will be useful in later life such as negotiation, perseverance and collaboration”.

Sarah Caleb, Education Coordinator at Affinity Water, said, “I am immensely proud of the work these students have done over the last five months. As well as collectively raising over £3,000 for WaterAid through their participation, they have come away with a better understanding of the importance of water both locally and globally and why and how we should save water.

Dr Jones



Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Beaumont siblings Bill and Jessie Llewellyn-Jones recently attended ceremonies to receive their Gold DofE Awards.

Bill, who left Beaumont last year, went to St James' Palace in February and Jessie, who is currently in Year 13, received her award at Buckingham Palace in May. We are very proud of all their hard work.

Ms Dickson



A reminder that we would welcome any donations of unwanted good quality, second-hand school uniform including sports kits. All items can be handed in at the main school reception or student services. Thank you.

Beaumont readers represent ‘the children’s choice’

Beaumont Library is an avid supporter of the annual Children’s Book Award (CBA) which is the only national book prize voted for entirely by children at every stage of the process. To celebrate this year’s award, we took a group of Year 7 students to join other local schools at a CBA Discussion Day hosted by Marlborough Library in May.

At the event, students exchanged views on the three books shortlisted for the prize in the ‘Older Readers’ category. They also created artwork, poetry and letters for the commemorative portfolios to be presented to the authors. Each student then ranked the three books in order of preference. These votes are carried forward to the national poll and an overall winner is declared. At our discussion event, *The Light Jar* by Lisa Thompson topped the poll.



Katie (7B) gave the day a glowing report: “I thoroughly enjoyed attending the CBA event at Marlborough School. My favourite part was the author visit and the portfolio work. It was very relaxed and we got to talk, share ideas and eat with students from other schools. The author visit was equally fun as Tamsyn Murray was extremely informative and gripping while explaining about her book *Instructions for a Second-hand Heart* which sounds amazing! All in all, it was a brilliant day and a great experience.”

Thank you to all the students who took part in the CBA this year and to the following Year 7s for representing Beaumont so knowledgeably at the Discussion Day: Katie Ball, Ruby Cahill, Erica Lewis, Thomas Lutz, Emily Maton, Eliza Parsons, Ed Purple and Ellie Swann.

At the beginning of June, the national winners of the three CBA categories were announced at a ceremony in London, with *Armistice Runner* by Tom Palmer carrying off the Older Readers prize. The Children’s Book Award is owned and coordinated by the charity the Federation of Children’s Book Groups (FCBG). Please follow the link below for more information on the award: <http://childrensbookaward.org.uk/>. Mrs Shepard



Life is sweet in the Library!

‘Meeting an idol’ was how one of our students described the recent visit of award-winning author Sarah Crossan.

Four years ago, we chose Sarah’s book *Apple and Rain* as our very first whole school read and were delighted when she visited us back in 2016 to support our inaugural Beaumont Reads scheme. Since that time, Sarah has won the coveted Carnegie Medal book award for her verse-novel *One* and has been appointed as the Irish Children’s Laureate. Sarah’s eight young adult novels are extremely popular with our students and are consistently amongst the most-borrowed books in the school library.

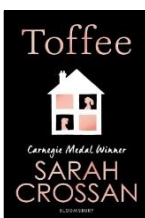
Sarah has remained a good friend of Beaumont, visiting the school and library on numerous occasions. Sarah is a dedicated advocate of poetry and supporter of children’s reading. She also champions libraries and their role in schools and the community. We were very excited when she offered to pop in again in May to introduce our lucky students to her latest verse novel *Toffee*.

During a very relaxed and informal visit, Sarah joined students in the library for cakes and chat. She talked to us about her books, verse novels and about her life as a writer. She was interviewed by Mia (8R) and Alex (8L) and also answered a very eclectic mix of questions from other students! Sarah’s warm and candid personality always leaves a lasting impression on our students.

Here is what some of them had to say about meeting her in May:

‘I loved interviewing Sarah Crossan; she was so interesting and fun to listen to. I was in awe of her and she’s inspired me so much. I love her books; they are so original and imaginative.’ Mia (8R)

‘Sarah Crossan told us lots of the interesting back stories behind all her books. We all enjoyed it; it was a fun day.’ Mia (8E)



‘Meeting an idol was the best ever. Sarah was so nice and so open. I wish to meet her again.’ Laís (8A)

‘Sarah was really inspirational. I enjoyed asking her lots of questions about her life.’ Thomas (8L)

‘Sarah was really funny and nice and answered our interesting questions. My favourite question was, “What’s your favourite pizza topping?” to which she answered “Hawaiian”.’ Rita (8E)

‘I thought the whole experience was fun. I enjoyed talking about insecurities and metaphors. The fact that Thomas got hugged was unforgettable.’ Charlie (8S)

Beaumont leads the way

The Beaumont Leaders programme was launched to Year 8 at the start of this academic year, in order to develop skills required in the 21st century workplace as well as boost confidence and offer more students opportunities to lead events and initiatives across the school. Students applied via a written application that had to be endorsed by a member of staff. Since the team was put together they have taken part in department reviews, tested food for the catering company and visited other schools as part of our work to reduce single-use plastic.

One of the projects the students decided to launch was a charity colour run. The team of Beaumont Leaders then selected the charity, costed the whole event, made phone calls to arrange for a medic to be on site, visited local shops and supermarkets to get donations of water for our runner and planned the 3km route.

The event was held on Saturday 8 June and was a huge success. We have raised over £1500 for the Willow Foundation which will cover the cost of a Special Day for someone with a life threatening condition.

Thank you to everyone who got involved with this event; I have no doubt there will be another Beaumont colour run next year.

Miss Shepherd

The Beaumont Colour Run was better than I could have ever imagined! It rained in the morning, however, I think this just added to the excitement (but it made it a lot harder to set up!).

One of my favourite things about the Colour Run was seeing the smiles as we threw the powder at the people running past our pint powder station, it was also hilarious to watch the disgusted faces on the runners as they tasted the cornflour powder!

On the whole it was an incredible team project that tested our team skills, resilience and resourcefulness. It was an amazing first Colour Run and I hope we'll be doing it again!

Jess Cowen (8N)

