



### Year 7 Freshers Fair

The Year 7 Freshers Fair was a big success! As a group of eight Beaumont Leaders, we helped present the large range of clubs on offer this year for the new Year 7 students. This was the opportunity for the new students to find out about the clubs they liked the sound of and to sign up for the ones they would like to attend after school and during lunchtimes.

There was a club for everyone! All students were encouraged to try at least one extra-curricular activity and some even found a new hobby. If students appeared unsure of the clubs they liked, Beaumont Leaders were assigned to help them out and encourage them to try out new things. There were different stalls that were run by the teacher leading the club and the Sixth Form Captains. The people at the stall would explain further about the club and the things that you would do. In the lead up to the day of the fair, posters were made and put up so everyone knew what was happening and where to go. Overall, the event was a big success! **Mia Samuels (9R)**



### Year 7 Team Building

This year, a new team-building trip was added to the ever-busy transition calendar to support our newest intake of students. Aiming to strengthen friendships and build a greater sense of community at an early point in their first year at secondary school, Year 7 spent the day at Cuffley Camp.

We completed a series of outdoor activities, including low-ropes, archery and problem solving. It was a pleasure to take the Year 7 cohort on this new day trip and the students really benefited from spending time with their new classmates and their form tutors. I was particularly pleased that the weather was on our side as the rest of the week was miserable to say the least! Given the success of this trip, we will be running it in future years also. **Mr Gray**



### Year 7 visit to the River Lea

As part of their first Beaumont Curriculum Enrichment Day, Year 7 visited the River Lea in Wheathampstead. As well as taking the chance to work in teams and get to know their new class groups, students took measurements of the channel and recorded river flow and sediment characteristics. Beautiful weather and enthusiastic participation made for a fantastic day! Thank you to everyone who was part of it.

**Mrs Baker**



### Year 7 France 2019

It was a pleasure to take 83 students to the Opal Coast during Curriculum Enrichment Week 2019. As well as spending time on the nearby beaches students were able to visit the towns of Boulogne and Arras and took part in visits to a bakery, aquarium and used their French skills to buy lunch at a local market! My thanks to the members of staff who accompanied the trip, and I hope that 7BLEA are looking forward to the same opportunities next July!

*"I really liked the French trip as we did lots of exciting activities, like going to the market and down in the quarry. I thought that the teachers who took us on the trip were very nice and informative. I would suggest going to everyone, especially if you like finding out about the culture of a country or enjoying learning languages."* **Eliza (8N)**

*"What I liked about the French trip was that we were allowed time to wander around the places we went to. We were trusted. I also liked the park in the evenings because it gave us time to unwind and talk to our friends. We also got to buy souvenirs. My favourite parts were the aquarium and shopping centre. I also liked the prizes at the end of the week."* **William (8N)**

*"I really enjoyed the sweet factory and the beach. I liked going to the park after food. The aquarium was really cool and I liked it when we were allowed to go off in groups! The bakery was an interesting experience."* **Fran (8N)**





### Duke of Edinburgh Award

We recently saw the culmination of the DofE year, which started 16 months ago with applications for Bronze and Silver and ended with the Silver and Gold expedition presentations. For Silver and Gold expeditions our students present on their experiences to an audience of staff and parents, reporting on the highs and lows, what they have learned and how they achieved their aim.

Aims were varied and entertaining and included nature photography, mood diaries, geocaching (without a phone!), a history of slate mining in Snowdonia and a few thoroughly enjoyable vlogs. As I sign off on a hugely successful DofE cohort, with record numbers achieving their awards, I would like to thank students, parents, staff, volunteers and the BSA for everything they do for Beaumont DofE. **Ms Dickson**



### Beaumont Bake Off 2019

Beaumont Bake Off returned in all its glory on Friday 25 October. This year the Beaumont Bake Off replicated The Great British Bake Off, with students asked to create a signature bake, a technical bake and a showstopper. Bitesize bakes were also on offer to help raise profits for each house.

This year the theme was all things pink and all proceeds from the event were donated to Breast Cancer Research. In addition to the huge amount of money being raised for Breast Cancer Research, all left over cake was donated to a local homeless charity on behalf of Beaumont and the House Captains. This year, with a few modifications, I wanted to make the Beaumont Bake Off bigger and better than ever before and I am pleased to announce that we raised a massive £554.79, a great contribution to a fantastic charity.

Overall Results Mr Atkinson gave the 'Atkinson Handshake' to Austen as they won best overall cake but it was Butler House who stole the overall best stall of bakes (results to the right). **Mrs Owen-Brown**



### Beaumont Whole School Read

Celebrating our whole school read with a very special visit from with Richard Blair Beaumont students and staff were given a fascinating insight into the life of writer George Orwell when his son, Richard Blair, visited the school in February. Animal Farm, Orwell's classic fable and political allegory, has been our whole school read for 2019/20 and we were delighted that Mr Blair could join us to celebrate and bring the curtain down on this year's 'Beaumont Reads' scheme. Over the past three months, students and staff have been exploring Animal Farm through a variety of cross-curricular events and activities. This is our fifth whole school read and, as in previous years, all those who read the book and wrote a review received a commemorative badge. Students were very keen to add this year's 'All Animals Are Equal' badge to their Beaumont Reads collection!

During his visit, Mr Blair joined staff for lunch in the library. He then addressed around 150 students from Years 7 to 11 in the Hall. In an enthralling talk, Mr Blair shared childhood stories and family photographs, bringing to life many of the events that shaped George Orwell's writing. In a Q and A session, Mr Blair also answered a number of interesting questions from the students, many of which focused on Animal Farm. At the end of his talk, Mr Blair showed some of the students a special edition of Animal Farm, beautifully bound and personally dedicated to him. **Ms Shepard**



### Year 7 visit the Theatre

Each year the English department organises a trip for Year 7 to see a show in London's West End. In the past, Year 7 have had the opportunity to see Aladdin, The School of Rock, and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

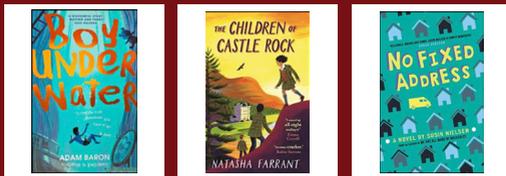
This year we saw Matilda The Musical and it was fantastic! Miss Trunchbull was frighteningly scary: Bruce Bogtrotter was made to eat the chocolate cake as in the film classic, the famous 'pigtail' scene was phenomenal, and we all squealed when the newt crawled up 'the Trunchbull's' leg. It was a brilliant evening and a wonderful show. **Ms McLean**



### Year 7 Library

Year 7s, we need you! Introducing Book Club and the St Albans Schools Book Award Beaumont School is a proud participant in the St Albans Schools Book Award (SASBA) which is heading into its third year. The award was established in 2017 by a number of St Albans schools, including Beaumont, and is targeted at Year 7 students. Each year we confer and produce a shortlist of three fiction titles. Students who wish to take part and 'shadow' the award are asked to read all three books and to choose which one they would like to win the coveted award. We support the award with a range of activities, including a design-a-bookmark and a mini book review competition.

Here are the books on the shortlist for the St Albans Schools Book Award 2019:



The award process culminates in a fantastic discussion day and awards ceremony which is held at St Columba's College.

On this day, students from all the participating schools get together to discuss the shortlisted books and to vote for the eventual winner. This is always a great day out for the students as the author of each book takes part in the awards ceremony in some way. This year's discussion day will take place on 12 December. In order to join us at St Columba's, Year 7 students will need to have read all three books in the running for the SASBA award. Every Wednesday lunchtime, Head Librarian Mrs Mayer-Khan runs the Year 7 Book Club. During these sessions, students get together to talk about and share their thoughts on what they're reading and anything else book-related! Over the coming weeks the Book Club will also be reading and discussing the three books on the SASBA shortlist.

If any Year 7s are unable to attend Wednesday's Book Club meetings but would like to participate in the award, they are still very welcome to take part. For more information on Year 7 Book Club and the SASBA, students can just pop into the library and speak to the librarians. As well as being lots of fun, book clubs and book awards are an excellent way to nurture an interest in books and to encourage reading for pleasure. Discussing books helps students to learn how to interact with others, to think analytically and to articulate and share ideas. Reading fiction has also been shown to improve empathy and to develop emotional intelligence. We look forward to welcoming Year 7s to Book Club and to sharing the SASBA with them! Keep up to date with Beaumont Library's news on Instagram [beaumontschool.library](#) and Twitter [@BeauLibrary](#). **Ms Shepard**



### Rob's Festival

The gazebos have been packed away, the raffle prizes have been given out and the money has been counted. Yes, Rob's Festival is over for another year and what an amazing 10th anniversary it was. We raised a massive £9000 and everyone who came seemed to have a great time. We were blessed with lovely weather and the crowds came out to enjoy everything that Rob's had to offer from the inflatables, to all the house stalls, the lovely food and drink and all the music and sport we had on offer. It really showed off the Beaumont community at its best. Organising Rob's Festival is an amazing opportunity and experience and the team and I have gained so much. This was a new experience for most of us and, with the support from Mrs Rider and information from last year's team, we started to plan this year's event. Initial planning started in November, logos and posters were designed and as the new year started bands were found and external attractions were booked, weekly team meetings and contact with the BSA made sure everyone knew what they were doing and when it needed to be done by. We also went out into the community and visited local schools telling them about the event and leafleted the local area.



Rob's festival would not be possible without volunteers and we had a great turn out from the Sixth Form and from the BSA and parents to help with the set up on the Friday night before the festival and on the day; there was a great sense of camaraderie all through the event. On the day everything ran pretty smoothly and there were only a few small blips which our team managed to solve straight away. It was very satisfying seeing everyone enjoying themselves, meaning that all our hard work paid off. I just want to say a massive thank you to the team, to Mrs Rider, the BSA and most importantly everyone who came and helped make it such a successful event. I think it is really important to get feedback, so if anyone has anything they think was good, anything you would like to see in the future or anything that could be improved on then please let Mrs Rider know. **Elouise Wathen**

### Grimm Tales

This year's whole school production was the imaginative version of 'Grimm Tales' written by Philip Pullman. Full of deliciously dark twists and turns, the Tales came to life through a bunch of players waiting backstage for their performance.

Using ropes, hat stands, umbrellas and brooms the bright and magical cast performed familiar favourites - Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel and Hansel & Gretel - and some unexpected ones too, such as Hans-My-Hedgehog, Thousandfurs and The Donkey Cabbage.

There was live modern music to add a twist to the stories; twinkly lights and much, much laughter from all. Well done to the cast and crew of 'Grimm Tales'! **Mrs Wallace**

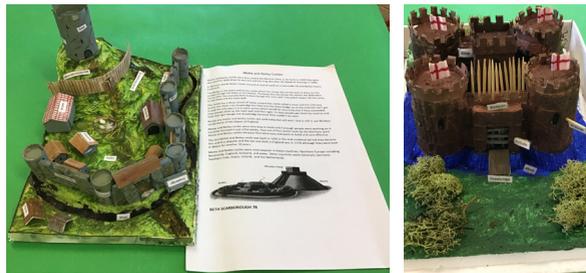




### Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Day

A fun day was had by all students in Year 7RNS when they took part in a Chocolate Factory Production Line during the recent Curriculum Enrichment Day. The packaging for the chocolate was made in Product Design, the decoration in Resistant Materials and the labels in Textiles.

Here is what the students had to say: "I enjoyed the day because it taught me about batch production which is a great skill for making." "I loved the different activities; they were fun and the chocolate tasted really good." **Mrs Denton**



### Year 7 Castle Competition

Year 7 have produced some fantastic work for the annual castle building competition. This is linked in with the topic that they were studying from October to December: the impact of the Norman invasion on England. A significant part of this was the introduction of castles to England, starting with the Norman version. The Motte-and-bailey castle which then evolved across the centuries to the enormous stone strongholds that litter the countryside of the British Isles today. Students could create an accurate representation of a castle from any of these eras.

There was a significant amount of effort displayed by all students who participated, but, in the end, the History Department selected the following students: Beth Scarborough (7R) first, Tilly Foulds (7B) second and Tom Clinton (7R) third because of their excellent combination of accuracy and creativity. Well done to the other 28 students who entered and who will each receive a postcard for their efforts. **Miss Pearson**

### Big Band celebrates Ten Years

As well as celebrating ten years of the Big Band under the direction of Mr Guinane with its usual high standard of jazz, we were delighted to welcome back a number of alumni to join us in what was a very special day and evening.

With prosecco on arrival, the audience was treated to a first half of jazz numbers from the current Beaumont Big Band, featuring Miss Shepherd, Year 12 students Lauren King and Caius Datt as guest singers. Drawing upon their ever-growing repertoire, highlights included the famous Harlem Nocturne, which the Big Band will also be playing at the Royal Albert Hall in the Herts Gala on Sunday 8 March.

After being fed by the BSA in the interval, the current band was joined by 17 former members of the big band, some of whom left the school in 2013. We were greeted with a formidable wall of sound as the band opened the second half with One O'Clock Jump (which also opened the Beaumont Arts Celebration in 2017). Emma Doherty (class of 2013) treated us to a sublime rendition of When I fall in Love, and the return of the Beaumont Barbershop Quartet (class of 2016) brought back some fond memories.

The years and years of hard work from Mr Guinane and the band truly paid off, and the energy of the current band and alumni combined was really quite special. Thank you to the alumni for returning and to the BSA for organising the food and refreshments, as well as decorating our school hall.

**Ms Doan**



### Year 7-13 Music Department

Happy Christmas from the Music Department Beaumont's Christmas Concert was once again a hugely successful evening, featuring performances from vocal and instrumental groups, led by both students and staff. The evening culminated in a massed performance of Christopher Tin's Grammy winning piece, 'Baba Yetu'. **Mr Guinane**

