



BEAUMONT LIFE **SIXTH FORM SPECIAL EDITION 2020-2021**

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 articles which have featured in the newsletter to give you a flavour of what life as part of the Beaumont Sixth Form community is like. We hope you enjoy it.

Martin Atkinson, Headteacher

Zero Poverty Youth Forum



Beaumont and Sir John Lawes delivered a Zero Poverty Youth Forum to students from their own schools as well as students from St Albans Girls' and Sandringham schools. Hosted by Beaumont, during the morning all attendees were welcomed by John McLaverty, Education and Youth coordinator for Oxfam GB with a motivating presentation about the importance of students taking action to make change in their world.

Students from Beaumont and Sir John Lawes led workshops that covered topics such as: issues of global inequality, the link between poverty and climate change and how to solve issues of poverty in the local area. In the afternoon John McLaverty was joined by Daisy Cooper, MP for St Albans, and Peter Cashman from Christian Aid who took part in a Question Time style debate hosted by Beaumont Year 13 Government and Politics student, Finlay Craigmyle, accepting challenging and thought provoking questions from the students.

Mrs Baker

Year 13 students visit Countess Anne Primary School



As part of a Science outreach project, six Year 13 students recently went to teach Year 4 students at Countess Anne Primary School. The topic they delivered was about electricity; the lesson started with a demonstration of the Van der Graaf generator, followed by a workshop of five activities ranging from making a simple motor, to modelling how electricity flows around a circuit. The activities were very well received, with one Year 4 student describing it as 'top notch'. I subsequently received the following email from the Deputy Headteacher:

"Thank you so much for bringing your students along to visit Countess Anne School today. I was so impressed with the way they inspired our Year 4 students and reinforced their learning about electricity. Their interactions with our students were respectful and patient, providing Year 4 with excellent role models."

Very well done to the Year 13 students involved.

Dr Jones

Sixth Form Politics



Year 12 politics students spent the day touring both the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court. The day began with a tour of Parliament. Not only was the history of the Houses explored but the modern day usage was explained. During the tour, the Year 12s were busy looking out for MPs who were passing by. Phoebe Sewell even managed to capture a selfie with Sir Keir Starmer MP as he passed through Westminster Hall. At the end of the tour, students were able to ask questions ranging from what issues the constituency office were currently working on, to the current political issues of the day. Lots of questions regarding new Prime Ministers and potential General Elections meant the debate continued over lunch.

When crossing Parliament Square towards the Supreme Court, students were able to witness the many Brexit protests from both the leave and remain camps, which demonstrated first-hand the topical nature of the subject they are studying. The Supreme Court had more of an immersive style when it came to comprehending the nature of proceedings. All students took part in debating and discussing controversial cases whilst sitting in the actual seats used by the Supreme Court Justices, defendants and claimants. Overall, the trip helped to bring to life all that had been taught in class and therefore encourage further enthusiasm for the subject.

Mrs Tolley

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.

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.

After being fed by the BSA in the interval, the band was joined by 17 former members of the big band, some of whom left the school in 2013. The audience 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



Beaumont celebrates success with the National Youth Theatre



For the third consecutive year Beaumont students are celebrating success following the National Youth Theatre auditions hosted by the school. In January 2020, NYT associates auditioned 26 students at the school. Students spent the morning involved in a three-hour workshop and during the afternoon each had an individual interview and performed a monologue. This year, five Beaumont students who all study Drama GCSE or A level Drama and Theatre at Beaumont, have been offered places with the company.

These students will all be taking part in online classes over summer as the NYT have had to cancel their usual summer residential courses. Head of Drama, Lynsey Wallace said "We are proud of our ongoing relationship with the National Youth Theatre and the wonderful opportunities it offers our students. The audition process is valuable for all our students as they gain experience working with professional theatre makers. We are thrilled that we have such a large number of successful students this year". Mrs Wallace

Elite Football



It has been inspiring to see some of our Beaumont students making great strides in their football development.

Year 13 student Anouk Denton recently made her debut in the FA Women's Super League for Arsenal Women in the North London Derby vs Tottenham, with the Gunners winning 6-1. Anouk has also been a regular in the England Lionesses U17 squad this year. Well done!

Millie Constantine in Year 12 has been getting plenty of experience playing for London Bees in the FA Women's Championship. Millie was also a key member of the Herts Schools U16 squad, who made it to the National Cup semi-finals in March. Great work, Millie!

Year 10 student Romari Forde has made the leap over the hedge at the London Colney training grounds, to join Arsenal Academy from Watford. As an Arsenal supporter, this really is a dream move for Romari. Congratulations!

Will Houghton, also in Year 10, continues to impress for Luton Town Academy U15's and U16's, often playing a year out of age. Kombe Kawimbe makes up the trio of academy players in that year group, representing Cambridge United U15s. All three boys, along with George Still, were selected for Herts Schools U14 last season.

Year 13 student Alex Lankshear and ex- Beaumont student Declan Jackson have both gained experience playing for St Albans City men's 1st team already this season. They have also been part of the St Albans City U18 Academy, along with Year 12 students Leo Geymonat, Stefano Geymonat and Aaron Austin, who have made it through the first four rounds of qualifying in the FA Youth Cup. Next round at Clarence Park coming soon!

Mr Tolley

British Biology Olympiad



Beaumont students recently took part in the British Biology Olympiad (BBO), which is an international competition organised by the Royal Society of Biology. The BBO challenges and stimulates students with an interest in Biology to expand and extend their talents. It enables students to demonstrate their knowledge and to be suitably rewarded with publicly recognised certificates and medals. Four students in Year 13 were rewarded for their efforts. Very well done to all those who participated!

Dr Jones

University Challenge Winners 2019



Our Sixth Form University Challenge Competition goes from strength to strength. This year (its sixth) had entries from 29 teams. The competition therefore stretched out from last November to the final which was held on 2 May, and the finalists had to win through at least three qualifying rounds. This year's winners were "K is for Klever" who used a very broad general knowledge, team work and astonishing speed of reactions to win against spirited and talented opponents.

Mr de Kort

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards



As always, we are very proud of our Gold Duke of Edinburgh students, many of whom have overcome problems with completing their awards due to Covid. As we write, we have had two students who have completely achieved or are about to achieve their Gold Award - Charlotte Harding and Tom Cooper.

As well as the (in)famous expedition, Gold students have to complete four other expeditions (one more than for Bronze and Silver): volunteering, physical, skills and residential. Our Year 13 Golds have done the following, among others:

Volunteering: Katie Balchin volunteered at Rainbows, Jack Cato with Beaver Scouts, Thomas Lees taught First Aid and Tyler Owens coached football.

Physical: Niamh Gallagher did athletics, Tom Linzell played hockey, Jenny Evans did water polo and Omar Diraniah did archery.

Skills: Ethan Cohen-Rose learnt dressmaking, Jasmine Udomjit improved her cooking skills, Etienne Yntema learned piano and Alicia Pole did theatre skills.

Residential: Thomas Cooper worked on a conservation project, Charlotte Harding attended a week long cookery course, Andrew Ellis worked at a Scout camp and Rebecca Edgington went to Biograd Clinical.

These are fewer than half of our amazing Gold cohort and they have worked so hard on these awards - I look forward to being able to celebrate their successes in normal DofE style at a Royal palace in the future!

Ms Dickson



A Level Art & Photography Show

Some of the entries in the A Level Art & Photography Show – congratulations to all students.



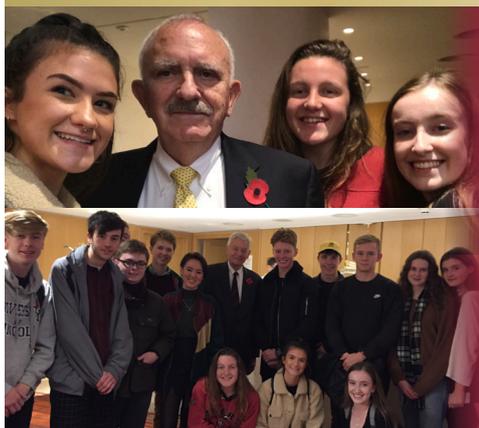
1st XV County Trophy Rugby Success



Huge congratulations to our 1st XV Rugby team who have won the Schools' County Trophy competition, beating Sir John Lawes 34-5 in the final. Two tries by Max Westcombe-Evans and, fittingly, a try for Fergus Sherwood (Captain) enabled Beaumont to run out easy winners in a hard-fought match. A special mention goes to Nathan Glasscoe, as a player who only plays for the school team and not for a club; he had an outstanding match along with Solomon Gosine who also receives praise for his fearless tackling and leadership on and off the field of play. For a number of Year 13 players, this was a fitting end to their seven years of rugby at Beaumont. We wish them all the success in the future.

Mr Robinson

US Politics Today



Our Year 13 Government and Politics class went to the British Library and attended the 'US Politics Today'. Many of us found it interesting to see two former Members of Congress, Tom Petri (a Republican from Wisconsin) and Martin Lancaster (a Democrat from North Carolina), as well as six different lecturers. Not only was it informative for our A level course but also it was interesting with it being the day before the midterm elections in the US. At the lunch break, members of our class ended up in a conversation with one of the former Congressmen, Tom Petri, and were asked our opinions on various topics such as Boris Johnson, Brexit and Donald Trump as well as giving us the opportunity to ask him his own opinions on the state of US politics today. The day was intriguing and exciting, giving us the chance to challenge our perceptions on the two parties as well as look more in depth into certain aspects of the politics of America.

Beth Hardisty

Robs 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 Tenth 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 especially as this was a new experience for most of us. Initial planning started in November, logos and posters were designed and as the new year started bands were found and external attractions were booked, team meetings made sure everyone knew what they were doing and when. We also went out into the community and visited local schools telling them about the event and leafleted the local area.

Elouise Wathen

2019 Year 12 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge



This annual competition aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry. Set by an experienced team of teachers and university chemists, it is designed to be accessible to Year 12 students but will take them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourage them to think about science in the way they would at university.

Mr Palmer

Year 12 Geography Field Trip



The Year 12, A level Geographers braved the windy March weather in Dorset to learn about the impacts of sea level change, coastal management, diverse places and urban regeneration. Lots of valuable time was spent on preparation for individual investigations too. We had smiles, energy and enthusiasm all the way. A fantastic trip!

Mrs Baker