



Thank you to everyone for doing the COVID-19 lateral flow tests, we have really good rates of completion and we want to keep this up. Whilst on this subject, please remind all students to continue bringing in their own masks every day.

I'd like to share with you my thanks to the BSA for their fundraising which has enabled us to buy a new minibus, which we are already using.

Congratulations to Years 11 and 13 on their hard work so far and my message is to keep going as they work through their final assessments.

We are looking forward to next half term when far more restrictions will be lifted and we are back to a normal school day. I will be particularly pleased to see Years 7, 8 and 9 being able to use our fantastic new Science facilities that they haven't been able to use over this period.

It's been great to see the Year 7 Drama Club on the Amphitheatre making loads of noise and really enjoying themselves these last few weeks - it's beginning to feel a bit more like Beaumont again.

Martin Atkinson



From the Board of Trustees - April 2021

We were delighted that students were able to return to school last month, following the end of the latest period of lockdown. The gradual relaxation of rules has meant that it is beginning to feel that the school is getting 'back to normal'. It is certainly wonderful to see extra-curricular groups meeting, more students using the specialist facilities, and a general buzz returning to the school site. Thank you, as always, to the staff for all they have done to keep students safe at this time, and for continuing to go above and beyond for the sake of the school community.

As a result of changes in the rules relating to academy governance, we have restructured governance for the first time since we created the Beaumont School Academy Trust in 2012. We now have an independent group of **Members**, whose job it is to oversee governance, whilst delegating strategic management to the Trustees. Sitting below the Members is the **Board of Trustees**, which is mostly made up of members of what was the Governing Body. We hope that the new structure (which is required by law) will actually allow some greater flexibility in seeking to diversify governance at Beaumont and bring in new Trustees with a broader variety of backgrounds, experience and skills.

We are thrilled to have appointed a very distinguished group of five Members: **Louise Hardy** (a former pupil and eminent engineer, who was Infrastructure Director for the design and construction of the 2012 Olympic Park); **Elizabeth Hitch** (Headteacher of Beaumont School from 2004 to 2017 and a former Ofsted inspector); **John McAlister** (a parent, former governor and management consultant); **Lionel Wallace** (a former pupil, aeronautical engineer, and this year's High Sheriff of Hertfordshire); and **Professor Matthew Weait** (Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hertfordshire, barrister and bencher of Middle Temple). All of these individuals have connections to Beaumont and/or education in Hertfordshire, and I know they will bring huge added value and vigour to governance at the school.

The Board of Trustees continues to meet virtually, as we have done since March 2020. We are all very keen to visit the school at the first possible opportunity and hope to be in a position to attend school for a strategy meeting before the end of the Summer Term.

Alex Hall, Chair of Trustees

Date	Time	Location	Event – all may be subject to change due to Covid (correct at time of printing, please check website for updates)
Saturday 1 May	8.00pm		BSA School Lottery draw
Monday 3 May			Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4 May	8.25am		Year 13 Assessment Week One (ends 10 May)
Saturday 8 May	8.00pm		BSA School Lottery draw
Monday 10 May	3.25pm	Hall, C01	Year 10 GCSE Drama devising performance exam
Tuesday 11 May	3.25pm	Hall, C01	Year 10 GCSE Drama devising performance exam
	7.30pm	Virtual event	BSA AGM
Saturday 15 May	8.00pm		BSA School Lottery draw
Tuesday 18 May	8.30am	Cuffley Camp	Year 7 team building trip
Saturday 22 May	8.00pm		BSA School Lottery draw
Monday 24 May	8.25am		Year 11 & 13 Assessment Week Two (ends 28 May)
Thursday 27 May	12.00pm		Year 9 full reports issued
Friday 28 May			Year 11 & 13 last day in school
Saturday 29 May	8.00pm		BSA School Lottery draw
Monday 31 May			Half term holiday
Monday 7 June			INSET Day (no students in school)
Tuesday 8 June			Students return to school

“What I found challenging as a child is now my superpower”

Year 12 student, Bantu Ndlwana, was inspired to set up Culture Club at the end of last year for Sixth Form students. He wants to create a forum to discuss some of the big issues about race, identity and culture. Sessions have until now included discussion amongst students but on Wednesday 16 December, a guest speaker spoke to Year 12 and 13s online.

Carrie Timms is Vice President of Global Media and Global Race Equality Lead for Unilever. She started by giving an interesting insight into how a huge global media team organises and innovates before giving the students her top ten life lessons.



Being different is actually ok. Carrie was born in Ghana and raised in Liverpool.

Make bold choices.

Flexibility: so important I'll say it twice!

Think global or at least expansively.

It's how you respond that matters.

Follow your heart and listen to your head.

Keep an eye out for opportunity.

It's a small world. Make an impact every time.

It's ok to make a bad choice.

Love what you do. "Miserable people get miserable results".

Her final thoughts were also invaluable:

- **Please be on time. Other people's time is as valuable as your time.**
- **Build relationships. Create connections. You don't know who might be able to help you out in the future.**
- **Have fun along the way!**

Students and staff had the opportunity to ask questions including about Unilever's response to BLM, whether having a strategy for diversity makes good business sense or is just about being nice? Also, how to be confident to go out into the world when there are barriers (in Carrie's case, the fact that she is black) and what her experience was at school. Carrie explained "it makes business sense to have a diverse business that has a programme to nurture talent, it's vital to have people who support and mentor you throughout". This process started in school for Carrie with her Headteacher who spotted her talent and supported her in her successful application to Oxford to read law.

It was a fascinating session in which we all learned a great deal. Huge thanks to Carrie, Mrs Tolley and Bantu Ndlwana. **Ms Dine**

Award winning Drama

In March, the Beaumont Drama department took part in the 77th Welwyn Youth Drama Festival, which on this occasion was a virtual event. The festival wasn't competitive this year, but medals and awards were still given to some of the productions.

We are delighted that medals for individual excellence were received by Year 13 students:

- Lauren King : monologue performance (comedy)
- Jasmine Udomjit-Taylor : monologue performance (challenging content)
- Jessica Payne : monologue performance (interpretation and accent)
- Hannah Hunter : monologue performance (powerful and emotional)
- Alumnus Matt Sims : unnerving impact of the role



An award went to our production 'Game Over' for impressive storytelling with a strong, salient message to deliver.

Congratulations to all. **Mrs Wallace**

Year 7 protect Antarctica against human threats

Before Christmas, Year 7 spent half a term studying Antarctica. The learning centred around the local and global threats to this unique wilderness. The scheme of work culminated in a competition to design a poster encouraging people to protect Antarctica against human threats. The winner of our competition was George White 7L.

We liked the way George portrayed the threats to the unique wildlife of Antarctica, whilst also alluding to some of the global threats, including the melting of land ice and global carbon dioxide concentrations. George's poster was then taken all the way to Antarctica to celebrate Antarctica day.

George's poster can be seen held up by a marine biologist working in Antarctica on Lagoon Island.

Ms Anderson



The Power of Poetry

Year 9 students studied poetry in the first half of the Spring Term. Many students were inspired to reflect on their own identity after reading Dean Atta's poem about heritage and upbringing called 'I Come From'.

In another sequence of lessons, many students explored their thoughts and frustrations about lockdown after reading Luke Wright's poem about the same topic and how it changed his character ('Bring Me My Devil').

We have brilliant poets in Year 9 and not enough space to publish them all. Here are a few that really struck a chord. Give them a read.

Mr Tatham

Lockdown by Oscar Knowles-Luna

*Before lockdown the virus was a distant threat,
It's just a cough, or a cold or a flu they said.*

*But then countries locked down across the globe,
And everyone worked in pyjamas or robe.*

*I became lazy, demotivation filled my head,
I could barely get out of bed.*

*Needless to say I wasn't at my best,
I was so tired I just needed to rest.*

*Just when lockdown was just bringing out the worst in me,
Something happened that I couldn't foresee.*

*I concentrated and set my mind,
On improving before we left lockdown behind.*

*I started to cook all my lunches,
I studied harder, pulling no punches.*

*So after all, just maybe,
Lockdown brought out the best in me.*

I Come From by Bethan Rajah

*I come from expectations
I come from opportunities, chances and ultimatums
I come from privilege that I can't even begin to understand*

*I come from the people around me
I come from TV, social media and video games
I come from experiences*

*I come from hope for change
I come from desperation for a new future
I come from shame and resentment against mankind for wrong that only we could do*

*I come from judgement
I come from confusion about why people are treated differently*

I come from anger about rights that some people don't have

*I come from the generation that is supposed to change everything
I come from pressure to fix our broken world
I come from power*

I Come From by Freddie Smith

*I come from July 8th, 2007
I come from a warm, fun, busy family home
I come from my mum who keeps everything nice
I come from younger siblings, my grandad's influence and advice
I come from Cunningham Hill, Beaumont School and, hopefully soon, more
I come from traffic and queuing, M1 to M6, sometimes 5 hours door to door
I come from Scouse, Liverpool football and the hot pot too
I come from what will make history of rainbows in windows, home schooling, and the NHS Clap, a world we know as lockdown--HANDS--FACE--SPACE!
I come from St Albans City football, and Oaklands Wolves basketball club
I come from interacting with my friends, we get on like a house on fire
I come from many interests, drawings, architecture, buildings and grand designs
I come from a world of technology and gaming consoles too
I come from Saturday night Dominoes and movies to relax
I come from generations of Frederick on the family tree
I come from a shortened version...
Freddie,
That's me.*

Life in the Biology Garden

A small team of staff have been working hard to bring our biology garden back to life. Following the removal of the old Science block, the garden was fully exposed so we thought it was time to rejuvenate the garden to make it a useful space for all.

The major clearance has now been done, and we have a few ideas for this year:

- ✦ a sensory garden, designed with help from the SEN students
- ✦ a mural to be designed by Art students on the subject of sustainability/nature
- ✦ bird boxes/bug hotels designed by D&T students
- ✦ incorporate our gardening club students into the area
- ✦ the large pond will be used for pond dipping by Biology students.

We hope that the garden will also be a tranquil space for staff to take a break from their day.

We are now at the stage where we could really benefit from your help. If you are interested in helping in the garden, please let me know on admin@beaumont.school.

Thank you.

Mrs Chandler



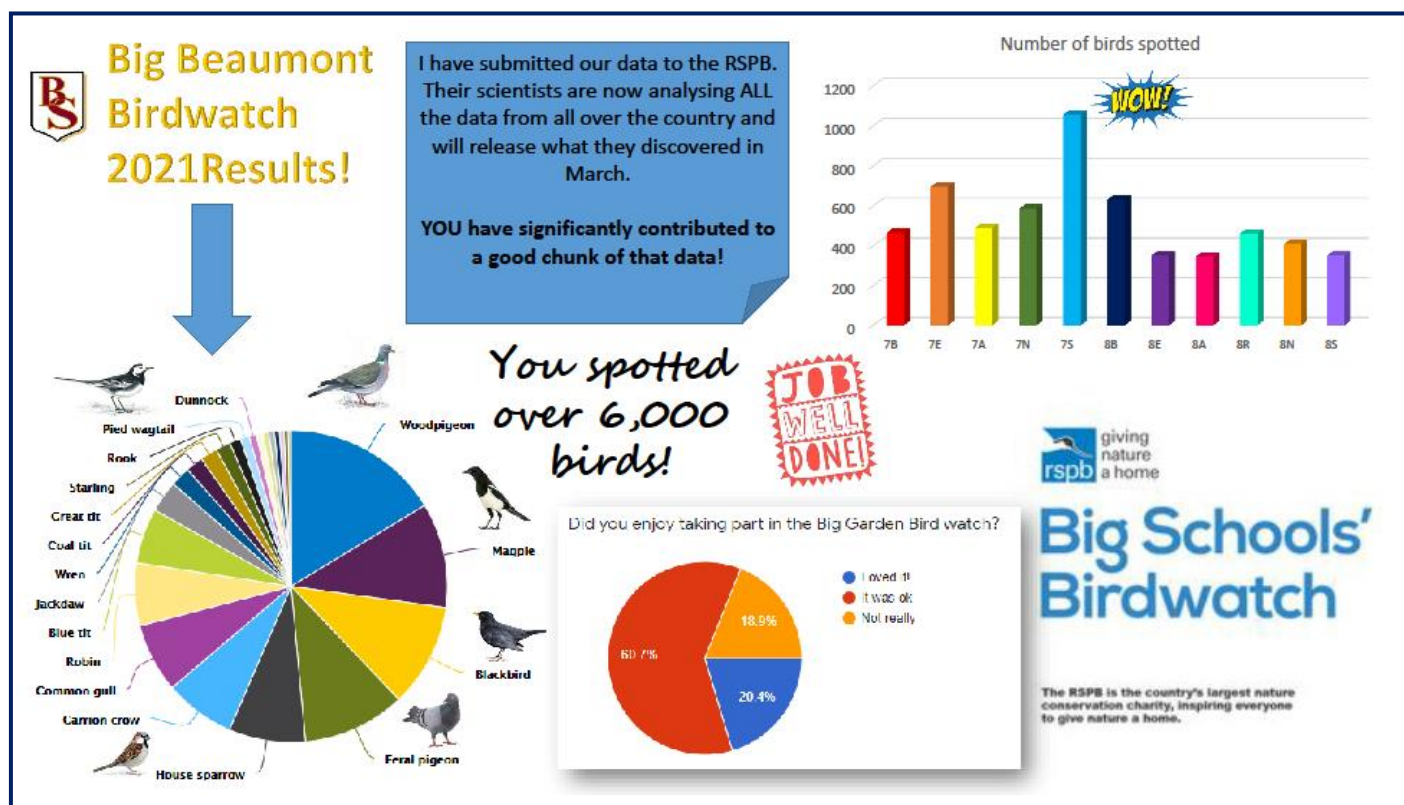
Big Garden Birdwatch 2021

As part of a Citizen Science project, some Year 7 and Year 8 forms (those who have Science on a Friday) carried out the Big Garden Birdwatch during their lesson on Friday 29 January and the weekend that followed. Combined, they spotted and recorded over 6000 birds! All the results were submitted to the RSPB.

Mrs Gorham

So what did Year 7 and Year 8 think about being a citizen scientist?

- ✦ *"I think Citizen Science projects are a great idea because they really get lots of children to get involved and enjoy a nice and fun activity at the same time as taking part of something that not only they're doing but lots of other people too. During these terrible times, I also think it is a really nice thing to do to keep children busy and take their mind off everything else going on in the world at the moment."*
- ✦ *"Because it helps scientists to further understand about things that we haven't discovered, or known about, and it might help us in the future too!"*
- ✦ *"They are a good thing because when we're older we want our kids to see the same animals and things that we saw."*
- ✦ *"Everyone can get involved in Science!"*



Award for ex-student

Due the pandemic there were practical difficulties in recognising the achievements of last year's departing Sixth Formers. We were able to give out exam certificates in January in our car park and happily, at the same time, we could give out the Harriet Rowlands Drama Prize to a very worthy recipient in Clare Baker.

Clare showed immense enthusiasm and dedication to the Drama Department and she was a role model to so many younger students.

We wish her all the very best for her life after Beaumont and are convinced she will continue to inspire others to pursue arts interests, especially in the dramatic field.

Mr de Kort

