



What a terrific term with a lot of academic and extra-curricular work and success. I am enormously proud of our whole Beaumont community, our students and our staff. Our new Year 7 students have settled in fantastically to secondary school life.

We held celebratory award assemblies for all year groups last Thursday and it was fantastic to see the recognition for both effort and achievement.

I would like to wish all the Beaumont community a restful festive break, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

**Martin Atkinson**

## Looking ahead

Date	Time	Location	Event (correct at time of publication, check website for updates)
Thursday 5 January			INSET (no students in school)
Friday 6 January	8.30am		Students return to school
	8.30am		Year 13 study leave commences (ends 20/01/23)
Saturday 7 January	8.00pm		BSA school lottery draw
Monday 9 January	8.30am		Year 11 guidance interviews with senior leaders (ends 18/01/23)
	8.30am		Year 13 mock exams (end 20/01/23)
	9.00am	A07	Year 13 CTEC IT resit Unit 1 Fundamentals of IT exam
	1.30pm	Hall/A07	Year 11 CNAT Creative iMedia R081 Pre-production skills exam
Tuesday 10 January	9.00am	Hall	Year 12 CTEC Sport Unit 1 Body systems & the effects of physical activity exam
	2.00pm		Year 12/13 LIBF Certificate in Financial Studies Unit 1 Part A (e-test) exam
	6.30pm	Sandringham School	Sandringham School Into the Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 11 January	9.00am	Hall	Year 11 CNAT Enterprise & Marketing R064 Enterprise & Marketing Concepts exam
	9.00am	Hall	Year 13 CTEC Business Unit 2 Working in business exam
	1.30pm	A07	Year 13 CTEC IT resit Unit 2 Global Information exam
	5.00pm	Online event	Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 12 January	1.30pm	Verulam School	Year 13 BTEC Creative Digital Media Production exam Unit 8 Responding to a commission
	1.30pm	A07	Year 13 CTEC Sport Unit 3 Sports Organisation & Development exam
	7.00pm	Verulam School	Verulam School Into the Sixth Form Open Evening
	7.30pm	Conference Room	BSA Committee meeting
Friday 13 January	9.00am	Verulam School	Year 13 BTEC Creative Digital Media Production exam Unit 8 Responding to a commission
	1.30pm	Verulam School	Year 13 BTEC Creative Digital Media Production exam Unit 8 Responding to a commission
Saturday 14 January	8.00am	Conference Room	Chartered Teacher Programme event
	8.00pm		BSA school lottery draw
Monday 16 January	9.00am	A07	Year 12/13 LIBF Certificate in Financial Studies Part B Unit 1 (written) exam
Wednesday 18 January	6.30pm	Conference Room	Board of Trustees meeting
Thursday 19 January	1.30pm	D03	Year 13 BTEC Creative Digital Media Production Unit 1 Media Representations exam
	2.00pm		Students dismissed early for Sixth Form Open Evening
	6.00pm		Into the Sixth Form Open Evening
Friday 20 January			Year 13 last day of study leave
	8.30am		Year 13 Photography mock exam
	9.15am		Late start to lessons
	7.30pm	Hall	BSA Quiz Night
Saturday 21 January	8.00pm		BSA school lottery draw
Monday 23 January	8.30am	D11	Year 11 Product Design AQA GCSE DT NEA making day (Group 1)
	8.30am	TBC	Year 13 Photography mock exam
Tuesday 24 January	8.30am	TBC	Year 13 Photography mock exam
	9.00am	D04	Year 11 BTEC Sport resit Unit 1 Fitness for Sport & Exercise exam
	9.30am		Sixth Form open morning tours for external students (appointment only)
Wednesday 25 January	8.30am	D11	Year 11 Product Design AQA GCSE DT NEA making day (Group 2)
	8.30am	TBC	Year 13 Art mock exam
	9.30am		Sixth Form open morning tours for external students (appointment only)
	6.30pm	Conference Room	Resources Committee meeting
Thursday 26 January	8.30am	TBC	Year 13 Art mock exam
	6.00pm		Year 9 Options Parent/Carer Information Evening
Friday 27 January	8.30am	TBC	Year 13 Art mock exam
Saturday 28 January	8.00pm		BSA school lottery draw
Monday 30 January	5.00pm	C01, Hall	Year 13 Drama performance exam
Tuesday 31 January	11.20am	Hall	Year 8 theatre company performance <i>Gothic Tales</i>
	5.00pm	Online event	Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening

### Winter Concert

More than 140 students from Years 7-13 took to the stage for the Music Department's Winter Concert. The evening was a resounding success and the audience loved the diverse range of performances. Highlights included Percussion Ensemble's 'Chairway to Heaven' which saw students drum meticulously learned rhythms on the backs of chairs, and Recorder Consort's Nintendo Wii theme for which each player was accompanied by their own printed, customised avatar. The concert concluded with a well-received, large-scale performance of Karl Jenkins' 'Adiemus'. Huge congratulations to all those involved.

### Music Trips and Visits

It was a real treat to take members of the Chamber Choir to perform to staff and residents at Orchard Nursing Home on Friday 2 December. Emily G, Martha B, Erin D, Katie B, Eliza P, Ollie S, Ben D and Charles R sang some of the pieces from our concert repertoire, as well as a selection of Christmas carols. We were very warmly received and it was lovely to see our musicians out in the community, putting smiles on faces. It became quite a sing-along! The students did Beaumont School proud.

The A Level Music students enjoyed an organ recital at St Albans Cathedral, performed by Simon Harden as part of the International Organ Festival. Student organist, Quentin F (Year 13), was also involved in the running of the concert and did a fantastic job.

### Student Successes

Year 12 students, Cailin B and Chloe W, have been busy with performances this term: Cailin gave a brilliant orchestra performance at the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall with the Royal College of Music Junior Department; meanwhile Chloe gave a wonderful solo violin performance at Junior Trinity. Well done to both musicians.

The Music Department is also delighted to celebrate the successes of the following students for passing their music exams: Harley K-G passed his Grade 5 Theory; Emily G achieved Grade 5 Merit on the Treble Recorder; Anisha N, Grade 6 Distinction on the Flute; Oliver S, Grade 7 Merit on Piano; Oliver M, Grade 8 Distinction in Singing, and Oscar D, Grade 8 Distinction on Piano. Congratulations to horn player, Charlotte L (Year 11), who has been successful in her audition to join the Hertfordshire Schools' Symphony Orchestra. Her first performance will be during the Christmas holiday and we look forward to hearing all about it in the New Year.

**Miss Morgan, Ms Bailey**



### Chess Club success!

Congratulations to the Beaumont Chess team for winning all three of their matches in the Herts League A of the National Schools Chess competition and qualifying for the Regional Stage.

Well done to all the Beaumont students: Emily Maton, Katie Ball, Alex Vleju, Sam Flury, Elliot Coates Thea Losse, Charlie Ball and Robert Shaporenkov.

**Mr Brooks**

### Save the Date

We are looking forward to the next second hand uniform sale which will be held on Thursday 2 February. Please continue to bring in any donations to main reception.





## Young Chef Competition

Beaumont students recently took part in the Young Chef Competition at Oaklands College, which is such a valuable experience offered by the Rotary Club. Every student created a mouth-watering two course meal and presented them in an appetising way.

I have been so incredibly proud of all of our wonderful cooks. Many congratulations to Caitlin Lacey, who took home a trophy, presented to her by the Mayor of St Albans. Well done everyone and thank you for taking part.

Year 9 students recently made dairy, gluten and egg-free Christmas cookies. They made the dough during lunchtime on Monday, baked them on Tuesday and decorated them beautifully on Wednesday. Thank you for creating thoughtful little gifts for friends or neighbours who may have one or all of these allergies. **Ms Denton**



## Year 9 & 10 German Exchange returns

In November, 21 students from Years 9 and 10 travelled to Speyer in Germany to stay with their exchange partners for a week. Due to the Covid pandemic, this was the first time we had taken an exchange group to Germany since 2019. For many of the students travelling with us, this was their first time in Germany at all, as they had not had the opportunity to do a residential visit in Key Stage 3. As a group, we enjoyed a guided tour of Speyer cathedral, a visit to Mannheim where we dressed up in 19th Century clothing at the palace, as well as a day in Heidelberg (pictured right).

The German families made a huge effort to entertain our students who did all sorts of fun things at the weekend, including trampolining and ice-skating.

Two of our students were even taken to a Bundesliga football match! We were all sad to leave but look forward to welcoming our new friends to St Albans when they visit in May.

Thanks to all the students for being such fantastic ambassadors for Beaumont, and to Mr Stewart for his continued support of the exchange, not forgetting all the admin staff who do so much to make trips happen.

**Mrs Lutz**





## Speak your mind debate

On Wednesday 23 November, a group of Sixth Form students attended the 'Speak Your Mind Debate' with other Sixth Form students from the local area, held at St Albans Cathedral. The debate was centred on the question *"Is it right that some schools, universities and institutions practise 'no platforming', the action of cancelling or preventing someone holding views regarded as unacceptable or offensive from contributing to a public debate? Is this not an attack on free speech?"*. We first heard from two student speakers who both shared a similar view that 'no platforming' was not an attack on free speech and that we need to think about all of the impacts that free speech can have on people and politics. The question was then posed to the panel, which was made up of Bim Afolami (Conservative MP, Harpenden and Hitchin), Claire Fox (a non-affiliated Life Peer), Daisy Cooper (Liberal Democrats MP, St Albans) and Maswood Ahmed (a businessman and public speaker). They each expressed their views on freedom of speech and took questions from the audience. All questions had to be pre-approved, which led to query of 'How can we have a debate on free speech when all of the questions must be approved beforehand?' After this, the audience could freely ask whatever they wanted on the topic of free speech.



## From the Trustees

We have had two Community, Teaching and Learning (CTL) Committee meetings this term at which we discussed this summer's superb examination results. Part of the CTL Committee remit is to monitor and evaluate results so we were pleased to see both GCSE and A Level results surpassed the targets set by the school. Not only did students eligible for Pupil Premium funding exceed school targets, they also gained stronger results than non-disadvantaged students nationally. Our Pupil Premium student achievements are testament to their hard work and to extra support provided through activities such as mentoring, counselling, and tutoring.

The CTL Committee also discussed findings from a student survey on extra-curricular participation. It was encouraging to see the wide range of clubs and activities on offer and the composition of groups of students participating in them. The school will continue to promote and monitor extra-curricular engagement among students.

Throughout the year trustees review how the school is performing in relation to the Plan for School Improvement. Among the key priorities of the plan this year is the promotion of wellbeing of all students. We will be regularly monitoring and reviewing progress in this area.

Trustees send season's greetings to students, parents/carers, school staff, and the wider Beaumont community, and best wishes for 2023.

**Michele Lloyd**  
Chair, CTL Committee



After a short break, the floor was opened for more general questions, ranging from; do you think there needs to be more arts in education? Have the Liberal Democrats caused polarisation in politics? Should we lower the voting age to 16? and what would your parties do for young people?.

At the end of the debate they held a vote, on whether or not we believed that 'no platforming' was an attack on free speech. They had held a vote at the beginning of the debate too but there was not a vast amount of people changing from no to yes, and vice versa, but there was an increase in the number of people who weren't sure or didn't know.

Overall, we found this an enlightening experience; it was interesting to hear different viewpoints on this divisive topic and we have been encouraged to explore the topic of free speech further.

**Grace Forbes, Niamh Cann**

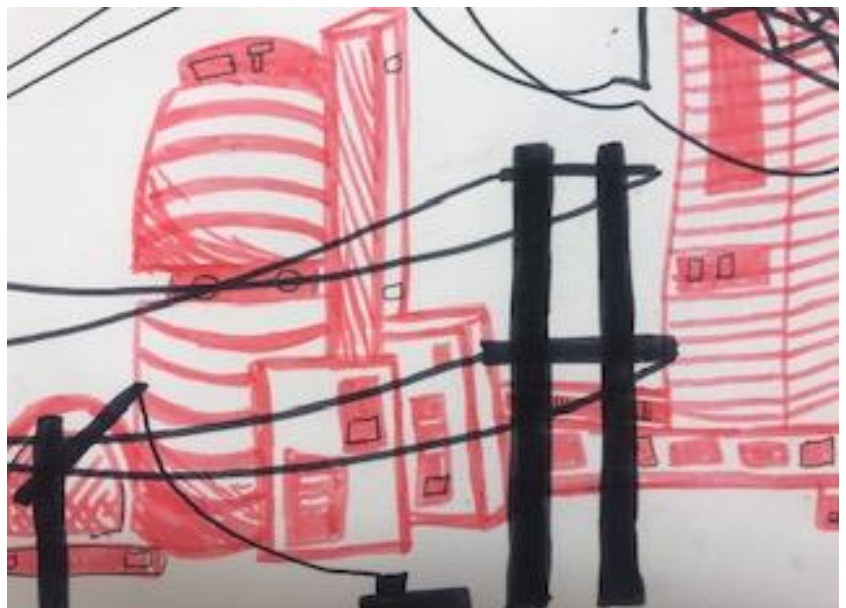


### Graphical drawing experience

On 20 October, Year 11 Graphics students embarked on a 'graphical drawing experience', with Jeanette Barnes, formerly of the Royal Academy in London. The aim of the day was to complete a body of drawings that will be used to support their graphics portfolios. The workshop was extremely successful.

The Year 11s completed some excellent drawings to complement their 'City Scapes' project, and their drawings were eye-catching and expressive in style. We can't wait to see this work in their Year 11 Portfolios. Well done Year 11 Graphics!

Miss Findlay





Year 9A



Year 9A played their last league match against Nicholas Breakspear, resulting in a brilliant 12-9 win to Beaumont. What a fantastic way to end their league games on a victory! Congratulations to Siya on receiving Player of the Match. 9A now have a little break before their next round of the district cup.

Year 9B had their last league match against Nicholas Breakspear, resulting in a fantastic 14-2 win; what a fabulous victory to end the league! Congratulations to Bella on receiving Player of the match. 9B now have a little break before preparing for the tournament.

What an honour to have coached these phenomenal Year 9 teams! Their dedication to training, willingness to learn and develop, and their team spirit have been a joy to watch. Each individual player has progressed but, as teams, they have developed so wonderfully, a real credit to themselves and Beaumont. I look forward to continuing the coaching in January in preparation for the next round of the cup and the Tournament.



Year 9B



Year 8



A strong team performance saw our Year 8 netball team beat STAGs 10-9 in a nail biting contest.

Both teams were evenly matched throughout but our team managed to remain composed to steal the win.

**Miss Osborne**

Great effort from the 7B team in their match versus Sir John Lawes with a 3-3 draw. Well played everyone.

8B welcomed Sir John Lawes to Beaumont in their league match. Some great flows of play resulted in a 6-4 win. Congratulations to Jaya who was Player of the Match.

Congratulations to our Year 11 students after an outstanding victory against Samuel Ryder Academy. It was an unbelievable individual and team performance in chilly conditions. We are incredibly proud of all the players involved. Well done to Meg Knibbs, who was Player of the Match.

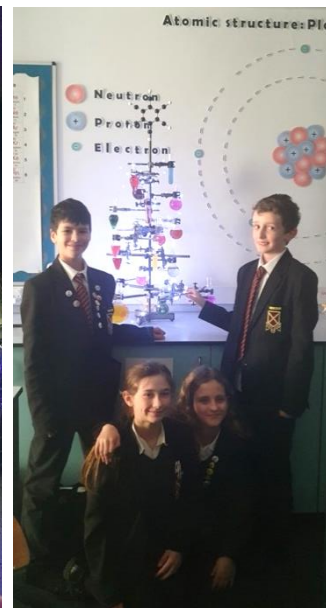
Year 7





## Science Club News

Science Club has been in full flow this term, with Year 7 young scientists enjoying building and testing Mars rovers, experimenting with flame colours, using mobile phones to create their own UV lights, as well as using acid/alkali indicators to make the annual Chemistree!



Year 8 Science Club meanwhile have investigated the sugar content of different fizzy drinks, made popcorn stoves and investigated rates of chemical reactions making fizz pop rockets.

Next term they start their CREST awards, the British Science Association's scheme for STEM project work that inspires young people to think and behave like scientists and engineers.

In exciting news, Year 7 and Year 8 Science Club joined forces this term for a special live satellite link-up with Dr Boys, the Medical Officer at Rothera Research Station, Antarctica! Rothera Research Station is a centre for biological research and is the largest science facility of the British Antarctic Survey.

Students had the opportunity to hear about day-to-day life in a polar research station and ask Dr Boys their own questions including, "what is the weirdest animal you have seen?", "how did you get your job?" and "what is the most serious injury you have had to treat?"

Follow Dr Rebecca Boys @rbflymed on Instagram if you want to discover more!



Science Club runs on Tuesday lunchtime for Year 8 (G17) and Thursday lunchtime for Year 7 (G19). Please do come along if you are interested.

Dr Burgess, Dr Jones, Mr Parmar





## House Competition News

The annual Beaumont House Competition has started in earnest this term. Students have been accumulating house points all term while attending extra-curricular clubs and earning positives each week. Interform bench ball competitions, the Year 7 Fun Run and Duolingo Challenge, the public speaking competition and the Library-run Accelerated Reader challenge have all made a difference to the overall standings.

The main event this term was the Great Beaumont Bake Off, which saw almost every student in Year 7-11 bake or buy cakes (or both!) to earn points for their house and students raised an unbelievable £825 in one lunchtime for the Trussell Trust, St Albans Foodbank! A massive thank you to everyone who contributed their time and their incredible baking skills for the good cause.

The House Competition continues next term - will the early standings hold true or will another House ultimately emerge victorious?

Miss Burgess



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## A day to remember at the British Library

On 8 December, the librarians and a group of Year 10 and 11 students travelled to the British Library to take part in their Exploring Black British Literature workshop. Our session was led by the brilliant Sandra Agard, professional storyteller, book doctor and Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her workshop encouraged us to explore 400 years of Black British writing and to discover a rich history of texts including novels, poetry and plays. It also highlighted the barriers Black writers, including Sandra herself, have faced through the years when striving to get their work considered and published.

Sandra's workshop, her warm and friendly approach and her encyclopaedic knowledge made a great impression on our students:

"I really enjoyed the trip to the British Library workshop. It gave an interesting insight into the experiences and realities of being a Black British writer, both in the modern era and throughout the past. I discovered writers I had never heard of and was able to delve deeper into the lives of those I had. Most importantly, it gave me a reading list of books on an all manner of subjects, from throughout history, including ones written in the 18th century, right up to the present day. A trip to the treasure gallery to see such ancient artifacts as the Magna Carta further added to the enjoyment of the trip. Overall, the visit made for a valuable and interesting experience, one that I will long remember". **Billy** (11R)

Absolutely amazing, very informative and very entertaining. I would 100% recommend it to everyone!  
**Emily** (10B)

In return, Sandra had this to say about our students following our visit:

*"It was an absolute delight meeting these wonderful students from Beaumont School. Their enthusiasm and joy were boundless and priceless."*

The British Library's Black Literature Timeline digital resource is available on their website and includes a free downloadable poster of the timeline, listing key texts and writers from early writing in Africa to the present day. We recommend visiting the resource [here](#).





### Meeting writer Patrice Lawrence in the words of our Year 7 students

"On Wednesday 7 December, the lovely Patrice Lawrence came in to tell us all about herself and her books. We had the opportunity to meet and talk to her and to get a signed book. It was a very good day and I can't wait for the next author visit!" **Scarlet** (7N)

"It was very enjoyable meeting Patrice Lawrence and I now want to read her books. She had a very interesting backstory and her talk was powerful." **Ethan** (7B)

"It was a very special occasion." **Andres** (7B)

**Which four words describe what you thought about Patrice Lawrence and her visit?**

"Funny, entertaining, engaging and real." **Erin** (7T)

"Interesting, funny, cool and once-in-a-lifetime." **Sofia** (7S)

"Calm, funny, honest, interesting." **Livvy** (7E)

"Animated, lively, interesting, thought-provoking." **Zaynah** (7S)

"The event was exciting and I was looking forward to it for days. Now I really want to read Eight Pieces of Silva. Patrice was inspiring and cool." **Olivia** (7B)

"I enjoyed Patrice Lawrence's visit as I've never met a writer before. Her talk made me want to read her books because she made them sound interesting and she drew me in." **Melissa** (7T)

"I enjoyed meeting the author because she was extremely passionate about how, when she grew up, there was no one like her in books so she decided to change that. This is so inspiring." **Zara** (7B)



**For all the Library news, please follow us on social media:**

**Twitter @BeauLibrary Instagram beaumontschool.library Facebook Beaumont School Library**

# Congratulations!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE  
WHO ATTENDED OUR  
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.**

Together we have raised... **\*£744\***  
for our school to spend on **FREE BOOKS**

 **SCHOLASTIC**





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SCHOOL  
LOTTERY

1

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2

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3

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Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.





## COMMUNITY COURSES

If you are interested in joining one or more of them, please email:

[community.classes@beaumont.school](mailto:community.classes@beaumont.school)

### Community Courses January 2023

A reminder that we are now planning to offer face-to-face Spanish and Italian lessons.

All lessons will start week commencing Monday 9 January 2023 and finish week commencing Monday 20 March 2023. No lessons during half term (week commencing Monday 13 February 2023).

#### AT A GLANCE

- cost is £120 for ten double lessons
- minimum of five students per course for a course to run
- if you are interested in joining, please email us (address above) for an



#### French Intermediate

Monday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm

#### French Beginners

Tuesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm

#### German Intermediate

Wednesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm

#### Italian (any level as we are re-starting)

Thursday afternoons 4.30pm – 6.30pm

#### Spanish (any level)

Tuesday afternoons 3.45pm – 5.45pm

Tuesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm

#### Art Textiles

Wednesday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm

#### Woodwork

Tuesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm



Just a glimpse of what the art textiles group has been doing this term.....