



Beaumont Music Department Tour to Paris

The Music Department took 63 students from Years 8-13 on a five day tour to Paris, during February half term.

We performed three concerts; a sacred concert at L'église de la Madeleine in central Paris, a short set on the Videopolis stage at Disneyland Paris, and an extended concert at the Chapel of the Charles Foix Hospital, on the outskirts of Paris.

As well as performing, the students enjoyed a boat trip on the Seine, at day at Disneyland, as well as sightseeing on the final day. Evening entertainment included a quiz, with a variety of rounds provided by the staff, and an informal concert organised by the Sixth Form students.

The students performed exceptionally well, and were a credit to the school throughout the trip. **Mr Guinane**



Spanish Exchange

At the end of spring term our Spanish Exchange students headed off for their return trip to Puertollano, looking forward to some sunshine and Spanish hospitality. The weather did not live up to our expectations but the Spanish hospitality was something else! We were stuffed with food, taken out on excursions, introduced to extended family and treated with kindness and warmth.

Our trip to Madrid was packed full; we walked for miles, saw plenty of sights and finished with a sit down in the cable car to enjoy a different view and a rest. We also visited the Mayoress, who is keen to encourage young people to make the most of opportunities to travel and experience the world. We were town celebrities and were even interviewed on national Spanish radio!

Toledo was a relaxing day and we looked around the Church and the old part of town. Cordoba was our last full day and we were lucky enough to get to spend it with our exchange partners. We visited the beautiful mosque and looked around the architecture before we let our students have some time with their partners.

We were sad to say goodbye but it is lovely to hear that there are some already booked to come back in the summer. Thank you to all of our wonderful students for making this a lovely exchange. Their Spanish has already improved and I feel that everybody learnt a lot from this experience.

Mrs Bennett



Beaumont PE

Well done to all our students who have participated in football matches and training for Beaumont this year. The teams have had a number of successes, with many making latter stages of district, county and national competitions. Here are some pictures of our winning teams this year. We're already looking forward to next season!

Mr Tolley



Beaumont Leaders

Chartwells supply a wide range of food to students at school and each season they change their menu. To the delight of the Year 8 Beaumont Leaders, they were invited to sample some of the dishes that the company plans to introduce. Dishes included creamy fish pie, chicken gyros, Trinidad chicken rice, tikka naan, Mexican chicken mac pot, raspberry thick shakes and chipotle bean toasties! Here are some of their thoughts:

"Being in Beaumont is such fun since we get many experiences and opportunities to shine and challenge ourselves. One of the amazing opportunities was to try new and different food that might be on the new menu. This allowed us to share our views so that we aren't forced to eat food we may not like. The food choices are varied and large so that we can explore new tastes every day." **Freya (8E), Olivia (8A), Hannah (8L)**

We love being Beaumont Leaders! It was a great experience to be selected and we now appreciate all the hard work that goes into preparing our food. We learnt about all the nutritional values of the food so we can be a bit more aware of what is contained in the food we eat. **Polly (8A), Isabella (8E), Rebecca (8E), Mia (8R)**

This was great! We all really enjoyed eating the new food. We can't wait to be able to get this food regularly! Thank you for the free food Ms Shepherd! **Charlie (8S), Sam (8S), Peter (8S), Ethan (8L)**

I enjoyed tasting different types of food from different countries. **Lluc (8N)**





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.

Very well done to all those who participated! **Dr Jones**

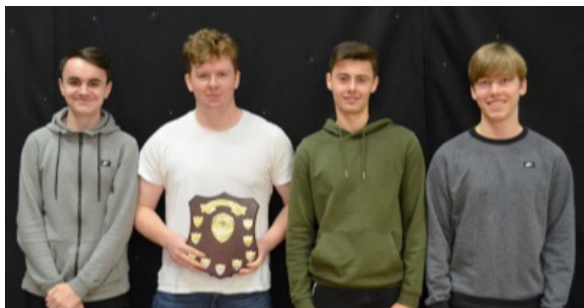


University Challenge Winners 2019

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" (pictured below) who used a very broad general knowledge, team work and astonishing speed of reactions to win against spirited and talented opponents.

Well done to the Year 8s. **Mr de Kort**



Year 7 Hockey

On Wednesday 20 March, the Year 7 girls went to the hockey county finals. Beaumont reached the semi-final by beating the Royal Masonic School 1-0, Queenswood B 2-0 and Dame Alice Owens 2-0.

These are outstanding results considering that seven out of nine players had never played hockey before they joined the school. Beaumont met Queenswood A in the final which was an incredibly tough match but a great experience.

Well done girls, here's to next season. **Ms Moody**



Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry

In April, four Year 8 students were selected to take part in a day trip to the Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry at University College in London, to take part in a science challenge.

The day consisted of practical tasks which were judged as part of a competition, based on both scientific achievement and team organising skills.

UCL, being one of the top STEM universities in the UK, set a very challenging competition. Our students did the school proud; competing against 17 other schools, they came fourth in both competitions (competition was tough as in previous years their score would have placed them in second place). Well done to the Year 8s. Here are some of their comments:

'I really enjoyed the Chemistry Challenge and it was lots of fun. We got to use proper chemicals and it was very interesting to see how many schools there were; we came fourth in both competitions.'

'It was a really fun experience and the best part was that we got to experiment and do everything ourselves without any teachers telling us what to do. We got to sit in a university lecture room and the professor taught us how to make ice cream using liquid nitrogen and we got to try some!'

Mr Parmar



The Royal Navy rustle up an omelette!

On Monday 1 April, we had a visit from the Royal Navy Presentation Team during our Food Technology lesson. Leading Chefs AB Stone and LH Goldsworthy, both Logistical Chef Recruitment Specialists, taught us how to cook omelettes.

First, the chefs talked about their own experiences working in the Royal Navy. They also gave us an insight into the Royal Navy operations around the world. Then our class was split into two teams, becoming Team Mattie and Team Jason. I was in Team Jason.

The two groups competed against each other to see who could cook an omelette in the quickest amount of time. Megan Liddle (9S) was the fastest in our team with a time of 34 seconds. At the end, there was a final between the two quickest students in both teams to see who could be the fastest overall. Our group enjoyed the visit and it taught us some valuable skills. **Alex (9S)**



Year 7 visit to Mountfitchet Castle

On a bright and sunny Tuesday 13 November CED, Year 7 History students enjoyed an historical adventure both inside and outside Beaumont.

Students were regaled with tales of life during the era of the Battle of Hastings by our guest speaker, historical reenactor (and former Beaumont student) Lawrence Alman. As part of this, some students got to handle historical artefacts and dress up (always popular!). To enhance their learning even further, students were also involved in a team-building task linked to castles. Special thanks to Mrs Warmesley for helping with this enjoyable activity.

Year 7s also visited Mountfitchet Castle, which is on the original site of one of the first Norman built Motte and Bailey castles. This further extended their knowledge of castles and early medieval life. As usual, Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed exploring the site. They had the chance to meet the animals, engage with all of the artefacts and costumes available as well as having the opportunity to take lots of photographs themselves. All of this made many students report afterwards that they had really enjoyed the whole day and had learnt a lot. My thanks to all of the staff involved in the trip, both on the day and behind the scenes. **Ms Wensley**



Rob's Festival 2019

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. **Elouise Wathen**



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 which 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 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**

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

During the Curriculum Enrichment Day on Wednesday 19 September, the Geography Department made the annual trip to Wheathampstead to conduct Year 7 field work.

As this is the first day trip for the new Year 7s at Beaumont, it is always an exciting event. The Year 7s went in two groups, with BLEA in the morning session, and RNS in the afternoon.

The weather held out for the day and by the afternoon we had some sunshine. There were lots of good geographical skills learnt over the day but also a lot of fun had! Even Mr Atkinson donned his wellies and joined the students in the river taking measurements. **Ms Anderson**



Food Science Club

Every Thursday a group of Year 9s meet in Food Tech after school and cook with Mrs Denton. So far, we have made pretzels and learnt about how we use yeast as a raising agent for our bread and stretching the protein strands. Two weeks ago we made sushi with avocado, salmon and spring onions. We learnt how to roll the sushi and how to fill the rolls with different flavours. We also learnt how to caramelize mushrooms.

This week we made profiteroles. We soon realised it was a lot harder to make choux pastry than it looks, and not to over-whip the cream to fill them. With Christmas baking and fresh pasta making to come, it is a great way for us to understand harder techniques in food from different cultures and it is lots of fun at the same time! **Johanna (9R)**



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. We were very excited when she offered to pop in again in May to introduce our lucky students to her latest verse novel *Toffee*.

Here is what some of them had to say about meeting her: '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.' **Lais (8A)**

'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. 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.

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**