

## Design and Technology Sustainability Project

Since we are not in our usual workshops, Year 7s and 8s have been designing and making a variety of products.

Well done and congratulations to 8N and 8E on designing and making their mechanism products. Congratulations also go to 7S and 7E on designing and making their Eco-Lights. **Ms Johal**



## Angels, ghosts and gruesome witches:

### Writer Cliff McNish introduces his books to Year 7

There was magic in the air around Beaumont in February when award-winning writer Cliff McNish joined Year 7 students to talk about his work and the inspiration behind his books. Cliff's novels for children and young adults include the fantasy series *The Doomspell Trilogy* and *The Silver Sequence* and the supernatural novels *Breathe* and *Angel*.

Our students always enjoy hearing how authors began their writing careers. Cliff explained that he wrote his first book, *Doomspell*, over six months, not for publication, but to entertain his 10-year-old daughter, Rachel. Rachel insisted that the story include herself as the main character, a dragon, her best friend and, most importantly, a really, really, really nasty witch! It was this story, *Rachel and the Witch*, that was to become the first book in *The Doomspell Trilogy* and marked the start of Cliff's career as a writer.

It was interesting to hear Cliff talk about his memories of the books he read as a boy, and about the English teacher who sparked his love of reading when she gave him a copy of C.S. Lewis' *The Magician's Nephew*. Cliff told students that he didn't stand out in English at school but that he developed his skills as a writer by reading, reading, reading and by continually practising his story writing.

Towards the end of his talk, Cliff introduced his book, *Breathe: A Ghost Story* which he wrote because he wanted to create a truly frightening, novel-length ghost story specifically for young people. To the delight of the students, Cliff turned off all the lights in the hall to conjure a dark and creepy atmosphere in which to talk about this ghostly tale.

We can vouch for the scariness of *Breathe*; the supernatural element stands out sharply against the story's realistic setting and chills the reader to the bone. Following his talk, Cliff signed copies of his books in the library and joined Year



7 Book Club for lunch and chat. He fielded an impressive number of questions and gave a great insight into his work, from the concept of the books to the characters and the cover designs.

Cliff's books are extremely popular with our students. They are highly readable, compelling and stay with the reader far beyond the final page. His visit has inspired more students to give his books a try. **Ms Shepard**

## Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Day (RNS)

A fun day was had by all students in Year 7 RNS 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**



## Beaumont Bake Off

Beaumont Bake Off returned in all its glory in November. 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 charity. In addition to the money being raised for charity, all leftover cake was donated to a local homeless charity on behalf of Beaumont and the House Captains. Thank you to everyone who participated. **Mrs Owen-Brown**



## Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards

As always, we are very proud of our Gold DofE 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**

## The Music Still Goes On

Instead of preparing for the Summer Concert and despite the disruption COVID-19 has caused, at Beaumont School, the music goes on.

Our lockdown video is the closest the students can come to making music together. The piece, Baba Yetu, composed by Christopher Tin for the video game Civilisation IV, had already become anthemic in the Music Department long before the pandemic struck. After this, it has become immortal. The video was launched at 6.00pm on Sunday 14 June 2020.



### Search on YouTube:

Beaumont School Baba Yetu

Over 80 students, alumni, staff, and members of the extended Beaumont Music community have provided musical material for the video, each contribution demonstrating exceptional musicianship.

The music was produced by Kaja Bruce, a Sixth Form student in her final year at Beaumont. The production is simply outstanding, and without a doubt the star of the show.

Video editing has been a true labour of love; countless scraps of paper discarded and laptop crashes. I'll be honest, I prefer rehearsing ensembles to editing videos, but I have been struck by a profound sense of purpose throughout the process.

I hope this video will serve as a reminder of the strength of the Beaumont Music community; those who are a part of it will know the unquantifiable sense of loss brought on by the cessation of music-making as a result of the lockdown, and will long for a return to clubs, ensembles, choirs and bands. **Mr Guinane**

## Year 8 Book Project

Despite the fact that Year 8 students were unable to visit local primary schools in the summer term, the English Department's long running Children's Book Project still took place.



All our students were paired with a 'little buddy' and given information about their interests (mud kitchen, junk modelling, Frozen and so on).



We were delighted with how so many Year 8 students fully engaged with online lessons and produced wonderful books that were suitably written and designed for young readers.

These were shared electronically with our local primary schools. Thank you to students for their effort on this project! **Mr Tatham**



**Each year the Science Department runs a weekly Science Club for Year 7 students who are keen to try a variety of engaging and challenging practical activities.**

The aim of this extracurricular programme is to increase the breadth of the students' scientific knowledge by offering a wide range of enrichment opportunities outside the normal classroom lessons, enabling them to broaden their experience and develop useful scientific skills. This year, the Science Department has had to move the club online. The Science Club involves fortnightly challenges: we share details of the challenges, practical instructions and instructional videos in the Google Classroom every fortnight.

The Science Club Google Classroom is a great place to comment and post to ask questions, share ideas and your results (to compete for House points). The brilliant Sixth Form Science Captains are there to help and answer questions or you can ask your Science teacher if you run into specific problems.

Students who are interested in taking part, should ask a parent/carer to sign, copy and return the permission slip by email to: [admin@beaumont.school](mailto:admin@beaumont.school) FAO Mr Parmar, Science Department. Parents/carers have already received an email with a letter regarding this.

Students will then be invited to join the Year 7 Science Club Google Classroom. Best of luck! We are looking forward to seeing what students can achieve! **Mr Parmar, Dr Burgess**

## Year 7 Science Club



## Beaumont School Screen Free Afternoon, Supporting Others



**After a hard term's work at home, the teachers at Beaumont School decided to give students a 'Screen Free Afternoon'. One of the possible activities was to choose one of three charities to support.**

Many students chose to support Sopwell Community Trust (SCT) who have been delivering home-baked goodies to local care homes and other vulnerable people. The students made enough cakes and cookies to fill three crates! SCT thanked the school and received so many lovely messages of thanks from elderly people.



Students also prepared 30 food bags to support newly arrived refugees and wrote letters and cards welcoming them to the UK and talking about what the best things about Great Britain are.

Finally, many animal lovers chose to support a local dog and cat rescue, Glendee Rescue, based in Welham Green. It was lovely to see families get involved who have rescue pets themselves and know the huge impact that small charities like this do to improve animal lives. **Ms Shepherd**



## Athletics at Westminster Lodge

Well done to all of the Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 athletes who competed last week at Westminster Lodge.

These were our first competitions of the season and the fact that so many athletes have trained so consistently since Easter really showed in the excellent performances across all age groups.

Beaumont had 24 first place positions in events such as hurdles, 100, 200m and 1500m together with discus, long jump, javelin and both girls' and boys' relay. There were many more that finished with excellent performances and personal

bests. We are really looking forward to the rest of the season, well done again to all of you. **Mr Stewart**



## 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**



## Practical Work in Design and Technology



Despite the unprecedented circumstances of not being able to do practical work in the wood and metal workshops, our Year 7 and Year 8 students have adapted extremely well and created highly successful prototypes of their designs of wooden push toys and metal jewellery.

They modelled their ideas using a wide range of materials, including cardboard, aluminium foil, playdough and colour

card. They have also created 3D structures like pop-up cards and decorations using origami.

These exciting activities have not only provided the students with a sense of creativity and emotional well-being, but also a much needed break and sensory feedback using the different materials, including playdough. Well done to 7B, 7R, 8B and 8R for the amazing work! **Ms Kadlott**



## Cuffley Camp 2021

On Tuesday 18 May, Year 7 visited Cuffley Camp for a day of teambuilding and outdoor activities. This was a re-arranged trip, originally scheduled for September, and I am so pleased that the year group was able to benefit from this experience. Students completed a series of different activities, including wall climbing, and luckily for us the weather remained sunny and dry until the last 15 minutes of the day!

Here are some quotes from Year 7.

"After all the stresses of lock down, Cuffley Camp truly was a lovely experience. It was so nice to just have time with my friends and appreciate nature, I'm so glad that we went on this trip, I had a great time". Millie, 7S

"The best thing was it brought everyone together more. I saw a different aspect of people, their fun side. I talked to people I had never spoken with before. I loved going up the climbing wall with some friends cheering me on." James, 7N

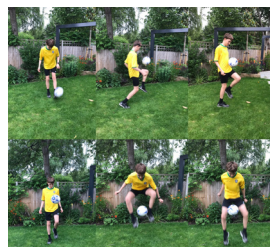
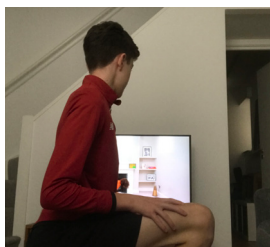
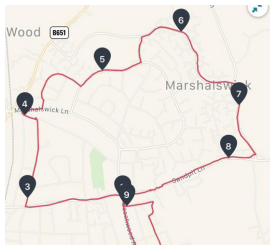
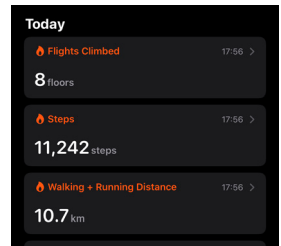
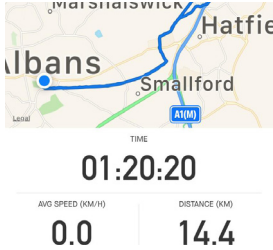
"Adventurous, Educational and Enjoyable are things I felt during the Cuffley trip we did loads of fun activities and also learned a lot about the world we live in." Harry, 7E

"It was amazing that we were finally able to go on our first Beaumont School trip and I can't wait to go on more in the future!" Neyla, 7B **Mr Gray**





## Virtual Sports Day 2020



And what we've missed about Beaumont during lockdown

