



BROMSGROVIAN

2017

Contents

Editorial	3
Headmaster's Introduction	4
Pre-Prep and Prep Introduction	5
Pre-Preparatory School	6
Preparatory School	24
Senior School	50
Activities	118
Trips and Tours	182
The Arts	212
Sport	262
Staff Leavers	318



Editorial

In November 1881, a census was conducted at Bromsgrove. One of the questions was about the Bromsgrovian magazine – incredibly, 87% of the School said that the publication would not last three years. Well, 134 years later it is still going strong. Of course, there have been struggles along the way but through it all, one word comes to mind – perseverance.

Perseverance to keep the Bromsgrovian going, perseverance when so many colleagues, friends and Old Bromsgrovians were lost during the Great War, the perseverance of pupils and staff who had to move lock, stock and barrel to Wales when the Government requisitioned the School during World War Two. One could even mention the perseverance of the Governing body when they announced the intention to make the School co-educational in the 1970s – almost unheard of back then.

Even to this day, there is a determination and resilience which shines through at Bromsgrove – whether it is taking part in a challenging DofE expedition, a pupil giving it their all during a sports match or another working hard to improve in class.

To the current pupils - do not discard your school days. I urge you to 'persevere' with reading this Bromsgrovian, for this is your book of memories at Bromsgrove School.

Enjoy this 2017 edition.

Megan Griffiths
Editor

Headmaster's Introduction

Weighty, isn't it?

You have just picked up the 2016/17 edition of the Bromsgrovian. Perhaps remarking upon its size as you did so. I hope that you are about to leaf through its pages, brimming with the year's tales and triumphs. Pausing over photos and stories in which you, or those you know, feature. Rekindling memories. In years to come, nostalgia will seep from these pages. I wish you the luxury of time to simply browse, delve, deep dive through the chapters. As you close the back cover though, where will you lay this volume down?

It is somewhat ironic that I write this introduction just as the School is removing an over-abundance of printers from its offices and classrooms. In this digital age, we produce too much paper, needlessly making hard copies when electronic ones would suffice. Teachers and pupils are being encouraged to scan, email and save straight to hard drive. We should be role modelling environmentally friendly, technologically savvy practices.

Why, then, destroy a forest to publish this hefty publication? Because some mementos deserve weight. Some memories should be made tangible.

Some records have greater gravitas. We could have sent this Bromsgrovian to you digitally, but where would it rest? Computer files are only accessed when we think of them. This Yearbook deserves to lie on coffee tables, bookshelves or bedside cabinets, where it will be stumbled upon and flicked through regularly. A joyful reminder of an eventful year in the life of each Bromsgrovian.

Peter Clague
Headmaster



Pre-Prep and Prep Introduction

Looking back over the past academic year at both the Preparatory and Pre-Preparatory Schools, I am filled with an enormous sense of pride. The family ethos and nurturing environment within Bromsgrove, and the warmth that everyone associates it with, is of immense value.

As in previous years, The Bromsgrovian affords us a glimpse of the myriad of exciting events at both the Preparatory and Pre-Preparatory Schools. It is a record of just some of the things that the pupils and staff have engaged in. As ever, many of the best moments, personal triumphs and highlights are captured forever within the following pages.

The pupils in both schools have certainly been offered opportunities in sport, drama, music, outdoor education as well as the academic sphere. They have been challenged, developed teamwork skills, grown in confidence as well as maturity and represented our School with pride. They have all been impressive and give cause for great optimism for the future.

In both Schools, the pupils are led by staff who always go out of their way to ensure that every child has the best possible education both in and out of the classroom. Opportunities such as the Year 4 Bushcraft camp, the Year 6 Beachcraft camp and the new Year 8 Mountains residential, with the tag line 'no man left behind,' have helped pupils to tackle new challenges, work together for the good of all and to overcome fears.

It has been a wonderful year and I look forward to next year's new adventures with anticipation.

J Deval-Reed
Head



Pre-School

Pre-School children started the year talking about themselves and their family. Pupils enjoyed creating their own family tree and building their own stick family after listening to the story of *Stick Man*. Pupils also learnt about the Harvest Festival, Diwali and the seasonal changes that take place in autumn. They particularly enjoyed going on nature walks, taking photos of the outdoor environment and collecting autumnal objects. Another popular topic during the Michaelmas term was *Once upon a Story*. The children enjoyed role-playing characters from traditional tales such as *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. As part of this, children participated in maths activities involving shape, size, colour and weight. Mrs Martin, our music teacher, taught the children some lovely songs to accompany traditional tales. The term ended with the Christmas story, decorating our beautiful Christmas tree and participating in sparkly Christmas craft activities.



During the Lent term, Pre-School children enjoyed our Superhero and Vehicles topics. They participated in activities that helped to improve their fine and gross motor skills, such as rescuing peas from jelly in order to help Supertato and Superhero mark making through our Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle programme. Children have enjoyed exploring different vehicles and making their own shape rocket, and the Lent term finished with a fantastic performance in front of an audience of parents. The children sang beautifully, danced to songs and performed with confidence.





During the Summer term the children went Down in the Jungle and All Around the World. Pupils learnt about different jungle animals and participated in singing and rhyming activities. They particularly enjoyed our jungle role-play area and were able to retell many jungle tales.

For their topic All Around the World, the children learnt about the many different foods from around the globe. We were lucky to have Daniel Wang's father visit Pre-School in order to show us how to write using Chinese script whilst Zoya Ali-Baig's mother showed us the art of Mehndi. The Summer term ended with the Pre-School and Reception Sports Day and a Circus themed fun day.

Every Thursday this year Pre-School have participated in Forest School, nature walks, cooking and P.E. In Forest School, the children have searched for mini beasts, made dens, explored the Forest Kitchen and enjoyed using the forest swing. In our cooking sessions, the children have made fruit kebabs, muffins, smoothies and many more tasty treats. We encourage independent cooking skills, allowing the children to follow pictorial recipes and measuring their own ingredients using scales. The children have developed balance and coordination during P.E. by using low and high-level apparatus as well listening and movement skills through Music and Movement sessions. They have also enjoyed many other exciting celebrations and events such as celebrating Chinese New Year, going on an Easter egg hunt, re-enacting the tale of *St George and the Dragon*, participating in World Book day and celebrating Chinese New Year.

Finally, we would like to wish Mrs Symonds every happiness and success as she takes up her new role teaching French across the Pre-Prep. The children in Pre-School have thoroughly enjoyed their weekly French lessons and we look forward to more exciting lessons next year. We would also like to wish Miss Waldron the best of luck in Reception as she joins Mrs Dunlop's class as a new Teaching Assistant.

J Townsend and S Symonds



Reception

Reception started the year with a topic called All About Me. Pupils learnt about themselves and every child gave a talk, including information about talents and hobbies. Mrs Dunlop's daughter, Chloe, who is an Old Bromsgrovian, brought in her baby son Joe and the children found out how to look after a baby. Mr and Mrs Greathurst also came to talk to the Reception classes about being Grandparents to George and Chloe. The Michaelmas term closed with a wonderful performance of the Nativity, *Angel Express*. The children sang beautifully, danced, spoke their lines clearly and performed with enthusiasm and we were very proud to perform our play.

During the Lent term, pupils learnt all about Paws, Claws and Whiskers. Charlotte from The Dog's Trust came to visit and told us how to care for dogs and more generally about the charity. Reception visited Umberslade Farm on a very wet day but still enjoyed themselves holding the pets, feeding the lambs and

calves and going on a tractor ride. During the Keeping Safe and Healthy week, the children learnt about the work of Firefighters, Paramedics and Police Officers. There were visits from firefighter Phil Richards, Mrs Albutt with her ambulance and Police Officer Doak. Chris Micklewright, Preparatory School Chef Manager, came to talk to the group about healthy food and they tried a healthy couscous snack and a fruity drink. The children devised questions to ask all of their visitors and all enjoyed their visits. The author, Cat Weatherall, visited and told them traditional stories, which were then acted out.

During the Summer term, pupils came aboard for their topic called The Big Red Bus. They learnt about London and its famous landmarks. Lenny the lion, who usually lives in Trafalgar Square, also visited the classroom. Many children then visited London with their families and were able to recognise landmarks that they had been learning about.



The topic on minibeasts closed the Summer term, with an amazing trip to Bishops Wood Environmental Centre. Pupils went bug-hunting, pond dipping, created natural pictures of minibeasts in the woods and many other exciting activities. Back at School, pupils observed caterpillars as they transformed into Butterflies while studying the stories of Eric Carle. The butterflies were then set free in our outdoor area to start the lifecycle all over again. Gethin Walpole's Daddy came in to tell Reception all about keeping bees and they were even able to sample some of his delicious honey. The term ended with our Early Years Sports Day and Circus themed fun day.

Every Wednesday this year, each class has had a rotation of Forest School, ICT and Expressive Art and Design activities each week. In Forest School, pupils have cooked over the campfire, used tools, searched for bugs and made dens. In ICT they have used iPads, computers and beebots to support their topic work. In Expressive Art and Design, the children have been creative using a variety of different media such as paint, charcoal, collage and clay. They have performed using musical instruments, sang songs and danced to a variety of music.

I hope that this gives a flavour of how hard we work in Reception while having great fun!

C Dunlop



Year 1

At the start of the academic year, Year 1 pupils spent the day as scientists, mathematicians and fashion designers. The children learnt about data handling using coloured teddy sweets, tested different materials to find the most suitable one for Teddy's umbrella and designed a t-shirt for their new furry friend. In the afternoon they all enjoyed a scrumptious Teddy Bear's Picnic and sang lots of songs.

During a Skype session with children in the United States, Year 1 taught their American friends the song, *London's Burning*, which was a fantastic experience for the children on both sides of the Atlantic. They have been in touch with their American friends on a number of occasions throughout the year.

Their fantastic finish to the topic, The Great Fire of London, was a visit from the Freshwater Theatre Company. Using dramatic techniques, the children were transported back in time to 1666 and experienced what daily life was like for Londoners during the reign of Charles II. The events surrounding the fire were brought to life and the reasons for its devastating ferocity and power explored.

It was an excellent morning of drama, full of learning.



Chris Micklewright from School caterers, Holroyd Howe, led a fantastic educational experience for the Year 1 children where they learnt about healthy eating, vitamins and the benefits of milk in our diets. This was followed by instructions on how to make the most delicious porridge (not too hot or lumpy) for the forty-seven hungry bears in the dining room. They were encouraged to try a variety of healthy toppings which were devoured enthusiastically. This was followed by a visit from Old Bromsgrovian Matt Mullan, a professional rugby player who talked about his training and the importance of eating the right foods. The children were amazed that he eats seven meals a day and they enjoyed seeing a selection of his medals and trying on his rugby caps.

External visits have included a scrumptious time at Cadbury World where Year 1 learnt about the chocolate bean journey from Ghana to Bourneville. A thrilling 4D cinema experience on the rollercoaster took them through fantasy chocolate land and the highlight was definitely sampling the delicious chocolate and toppings. Their senses were once more bombarded when Mrs Nuttall visited the class. She demonstrated how chocolate is tempered and we all tasted white, milk, dark chocolate along with bitter cocoa nibs and cocoa butter.

Each child made three different types of chocolate truffle lollipops by dipping them into melted chocolate which then set. Judging by the messy faces, a good time was had by all.

Back at School the children had great fun learning about different vegetables, watching a variety of foods being cooked and tasting a range of root, stem and leaf vegetables. Chef Chris Micklewright set the children a challenge; to buy a small vegetable plant, look after it and then bring it back in to School for the Harvest Festival when they are in Year 2.



There's only one thing to eat in the summer and that's... ice cream! Year 1 were excited to discover the process of how ice cream is made from cow to cone. Pupils saw the milking parlour at Churchfields and then stroked the very friendly calves. This was followed by a visit to see the machines working to make the milk into ice cream. Finally, the children chose their favourite flavour ice cream and sat in the garden to enjoy it.

Following on from this, Mrs Duffy came in to talk to the Year 1 children about healthy eating, hygiene and the charity, Stop Hunger. The children were set a challenge to make a healthy snack to sell during their Food Festival.

After learning all about food this term, Year 1 enjoyed a fabulous Food Festival. Pupils enjoyed showing their parents and the other year groups the items on display - clay fruit, caterpillar animations, fruit collages, ice cream postcards and Aztec tiles. The children had made a variety of healthy snacks which were sold, with the proceeds going to the charity 'Stop Hunger'. The children raised £133.

Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful day as part of their We'll Meet Again topic, having been evacuated on to the Severn Valley Railway. During the day, pupils carried out household tasks in a WWII parlour, went inside an Anderson shelter during an air-raid drill, made a bucket chain and played traditional wartime games.

As part of the same topic, pupils organised two very moving and informative assemblies for their parents and guests about World War II. They recounted many facts and events from this period of our history and performed songs and poems from the 1940s. The assembly finished with parents and children joining for a one-minute silence, after which the Year 2 pupils sang a beautiful song, *We will remember*. Later in the afternoon, peace was declared and Year 2 enjoyed a VE Day street party to celebrate the end of hostilities.

For their One Small Step topic, Year 2 made and launched their own air-compressed rockets, which all reached spectacular heights. During the afternoon, the children learned more about space technology, explored space artefacts and tasted astronaut ice cream.

After weeks of waiting, the Year 2 classes were finally able to launch their Bromsgrove Bear into space. With a video camera attached to the bear capturing live footage of the mission, pupils were able to watch the bear's journey as he



ascended to a height of 35km. A GPS tracker enabled them to find out where Bromsgrove Bear eventually landed so that he could be retrieved, along with the images and videos that were captured during the flight. A competition was held for the children to predict where the landing site would be, plotting their predictions onto maps of the UK. The winners were rewarded with an exclusive Mission Patch similar to that worn by Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake.



Year 2 had a very engaging afternoon with Old Bromsgrovia and author, Graham Jones (Lupton 1977-1982). Graham has written children's books about Time Travelling Toby and his adventures back in time to famous historical events. On this occasion, in keeping with Year 2's topic on Space, he shared with his book about the Apollo moon landings. His presentation involved the children building the Saturn V rocket and recounted fascinating facts about this significant event in history.

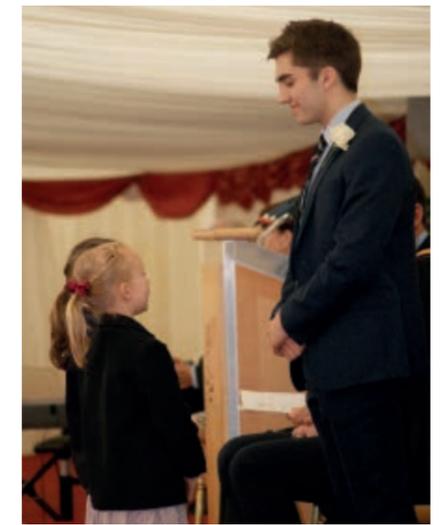
During the Summer term, pupils had a close encounter with a variety of animals to enrich their learning about Africa. They held giant bullfrogs, an African eagle owl, monitor lizard and African pythons. They loved meeting the meerkat and mongoose, African pygmy hedgehog and her two babies, as well as bravely holding a tarantula and closely observing a scorpion. The children were thoroughly engaged and learnt so many interesting facts about these animals and their African habitats. In addition, Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic African drumming workshop where they played authentic African instruments including the distinctive Djembe drums and the big Djun Djun bass drums. All of the children learned traditional rhythms and techniques and created a stunning piece of music as a finale.

Year 2 proudly presented their Out of Africa exhibition to their parents at the end of the academic year. It was wonderful to see the children share their achievements and hard work, and everyone enjoyed the interactive displays. The children particularly loved testing their parents' knowledge of Africa and teaching them some of the interesting facts that they have acquired along their learning journey. To end the year, our Year 2 leavers were treated to a fabulous outing to Hollywood Bowl for Ten Pin Bowling followed by lunch at Frankie and Benny's.





Year 2 Prizegiving



Pre-Prep Activities



Author Visit

Cat Weatherill, author and story teller, visited the School as part of our World Book Day celebrations. She enthralled each year group with different magical stories and activities. She also brought some wonderful musical instruments to accompany the stories and bring them alive.

Chinese New Year

Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a fun morning learning about Chinese New Year with a group of students from the Senior School.

The Pre-Prep pupils wrote their names in Chinese, made lanterns and were all given a lucky red wallet.



Google Expeditions

Year 1 pupils visited London without leaving their classroom. Thanks to Senior School teacher, Miss Johnston and her expertise using a virtual reality app, the children were able to be tourists and visit Tower Bridge, Big Ben and St Paul's Cathedral to support their creative curriculum topic, London's Burning.

Meanwhile, Year 2 took 'One Small Step' on the moon and explored the planets in the solar system... who needs rockets and spaceships?

All of the children were motivated and engaged by the use of this new and exciting technology.

C Cattell

Circus Day

There was great excitement as the Circus came to Pre-Prep at the end of the Summer term. The day began in the Big Top with a very entertaining Circus Show for the whole School. Workshops followed where every child tried their hand at different circus skills including plate spinning, juggling and even tightrope walking.

We all enjoyed a wonderful picnic lunch in the garden and there were ice creams for everyone.

K Western



Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival service was a wonderful way to celebrate and help others. Each year group performed their parts superbly, with Year 2 leading the service. The combined Prep and Pre-Prep retiring collections raised £591.21 for Acorns Children's Hospice.



Red Nose Day

Pre-School had great fun joining in with a variety of 'Red Nose Day' themed activities. They loved their 'red nose' hunt in forest School, searching for red objects hidden in red shaving foam and enjoyed exploring how to retrieve red things that had been frozen in blocks of ice.

The whole School wore red and sang the official Comic Relief song in assembly.



Reading Buddies

Pupils in Year 1 have begun a Reading Buddies programme with pupils from Rising 4.

The Year 1 pupils take it in turns to share a book with their younger peers, thereby fostering a love of reading and stories, as well as providing an opportunity for the Year 1 pupils to take on a position of responsibility within School.



May Day Wacky Races

The Wacky Races on May Day was a fantastic, though rather damp, event. The children enjoyed the fun activities; dressing up in costumes, racing with wheel barrows, filling holey buckets with water and inevitably getting wet were amongst the highlights.

The afternoon was rounded off with ice creams and lollies in School, provided for by the Parents' Association.





Remembrance

On 11th November 2016, the theme of 'Remembering' was used to explain in a simple and understandable way the meaning of Remembrance Day. The Pre-Prep School observed one minute's silence and concluded with prayers. Pupils then planted poppies in memory of the Old Bromsgrovians who died in the service of their country.

St George's Day

The children in Pre-School and Reception enjoyed a day of activities to celebrate St George's Day. They came dressed in red and white and some of the children re-enacted the story of George and the Dragon during the Early Years Assembly. Back in their classrooms they painted shields, made England flags, iced biscuits as edible England emblems, coloured dragons and Reception wrote the story in their own words and drew fabulous pictures. Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable St George's Day.



Snowdrops

In November, all children in the Pre-Prep supported St Richard's Hospice, Worcester by planting a thousand snowdrop bulbs in the School grounds. The community fundraiser from St Richard's, Jayne Sargeant, was delighted with the response and the total raised by the children was £435.15.

World Record Attempt

During the Summer term, Pre-Prep pupils took part in an exciting Guinness World Record Attempt.

As part of Walk 4 Wildlife, the School took part in the mass sponsored walk with other children from all over the country.

All pupils and staff came to School dressed as all sorts of animals and have taken part in animal themed activities throughout the day.

K Western



Year 3

What an exciting time we have had in Year 3 this year.

The Michaelmas term took us on a journey back in time to Ancient Egypt with our Walk like an Egyptian theme. Year 3 became real-life History detectives when they tried their hands at piecing together the past through an archaeological excavation and by cracking the code to decipher hieroglyphic messages. During a fascinating trip to Birmingham Museum, the children learnt all about the rituals and beliefs surrounding mummification and took part in some very dramatic role-play. A highlight of the term for most pupils was a visit from none other than world-famous-time-traveller-extraordinaire, Professor McGinty. The children had a very entertaining time learning all about his travels and gazing upon the many wonders of his travelling museum. The topic ended with the children learning to, quite literally, walk like an Egyptian, with an amazing Egyptian belly dancing workshop.

During the Lent term, Year 3 were transported from the hot, sunny, desert climates of Egypt to the icy wildernesses of the polar regions with their topic, Ice Worlds. Year 3 experienced an ice world for themselves at the SnowDome, and learned about the part that our own School played in the Terra Nova Antarctic Expedition of 1912, with children visiting the Old Chapel to view Scott's sledge. The children were also thrilled to meet a very special guest, explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton. A truly irresistible learning opportunity came in the form of a Skype conversation with a scientific research team based on Svalbård, an island in the Arctic circle. The children generated a phenomenal range of questions to ask Jamie and the rest of the team and it proved to be a very inspiring experience.



Also during this term, Year 3 took delivery of a most unusual package, which contained a strange egg. After much debate and research, the children decided that this must be the egg of an emperor penguin. The children immediately set about writing letters to the RSPB to ask for help and advice. Whilst awaiting a response, they researched penguins and their chicks (just in case it should hatch) and carefully cared for the egg, insulating it and monitoring it closely. Assistance came, just in time, in the form of RSPB officer Oliver, who confirmed that the children's suspicions were correct and immediately took the egg away for proper care. After the departure of the egg, spirits were lifted by participation in The Great Egg Challenge 2017. To complete the topic, the children loved inviting their families to join them at their Penguin Café for some freshly baked cupcake treats, followed by a visit to the twinkly snow and ice-themed classrooms to look at the products they had made.

During the Summer term, Year 3 hopped onto their imaginary aeroplanes and were whisked away to yet another new climate zone with their new topic, Jungle Fever. The children learned all about rainforests and the people, plants and creatures that live within them. They had a fantastic day at Bristol Zoo discovering the vital role that rainforests play in the survival of life on Earth. The pupils handled a range of rainforest artefacts and met some well-adapted rainforest animals from around the world. They also learned a little about cacao, which was followed up by a delicious trip to Cadbury World (at the children's own request), where they were introduced to chocolate production and its origins with the Maya in Central America.

The term ended with a highly energetic Carnival De Brazil day, where the children performed an incredible informal Samba routine, demonstrated their drumming talents with their form Samba bands and delighted everyone with a sweetly sung rendition of a rainforest song.



Year 3 - Mrs Grove, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Allen, Mrs Barley and I all wish you the very best as you move into Year 4. Thank you for your enthusiasm and hard work this year - we have loved teaching you.

R Ivison



Year 4

Year 4 explored Pathways to the East as their first Creative Curriculum topic this year, kicking off with an indulgent and energetic Bollywood dance workshop. Throughout the term, they engaged in many exciting experiences, including the making of traditional Indian tea, creating henna designs and studying the art of verbal Indian storytelling, prior to the writing of their own traditional tale. They spent an unforgettable day in the kitchens at Little Bangla restaurant in Oldbury, cooking and eating their own starter and main dishes, whilst learning more about Indian cuisine. They also spent an informative afternoon at a Hindu Mandir in Birmingham.

The Lent term saw Year 4 stepping back in time to the Tudor era. Introduced with a bang by time traveller, Professor McGinty, the children progressed to re-enacting the Battle of Bosworth and researching many interesting facts about Henry VIII and his six wives. The children donned their own Tudor style costumes to visit Selly Manor Museum, where they explored Tudor architecture and learned more about everyday Tudor Life. The highlight of term undoubtedly was our Tudor banquet, attended by a very special guest.



The final term found the year group delving to the deeps of the Blue Abyss. The children discovered all about the different layers of the ocean and the variety and range of creatures that live there. They researched the challenges facing deep-sea explorers and produced stunning information pages about the Mariana Trench. They expressed their understanding through a range of beautiful pieces of artwork, including jellyfish made entirely from recycled materials:

a reminder to us all about the dangers of plastic to our oceans and seas. They engaged with the tragedy of the Titanic and created their own information pop-up books. As a fabulous finish, the children enjoyed a fun morning of swimming activities, followed by a picnic and a viewing of James Cameron's Challenger Deep film.

R Laurenson

Year 5

A soldier from Ancient Rome visited Year 5 during the beginning of the Michaelmas Term. Titus Lustus taught everyone about Roman life, with some of the boys dressing up as Roman soldiers and the girls taking on traditional female roles.

To coincide with their learning, pupils visited the Roman Baths where they discovered how the elite bathed and socialised together. They took part in various workshops where they had the opportunity to create mosaic artwork and once again transported themselves in time by dressing up in traditional clothes. Year 5 also had a great day at Safeside in Birmingham where the children heard all about staying safe and learnt some very important life skills.

During the Summer term, the Aztec way of life was explored using role play situations. As Year 5 begin to transition into the next year group, the children were able to experience what it was like in Year 6 for the day. They met their new Form Tutor and made friends with others joining Year 6. They are now both ready and excited to embrace all the challenges that await them in their final KS2 year.

With the end of term in sight, pupils enjoyed their final trip to Blackwell Outdoor Adventure Centre. It was a great day and such a lovely end to what has been a super year.

S Keynes



Year 6

It has been a pleasure to spend time with Year 6 as they have enjoyed an eventful, successful and happy year. As tutors, we are always impressed with how the pupils embark on their journey of maturity through Year 6. They seem to arrive in September quite small and lost, but they emerge with much more independence, confidence, and in many cases, height. We feel sadness at saying goodbye to this group of funny, caring, kind children, but look forward to watching them continue to blossom in Year 7.

As usual, the Michaelmas term ended with a trip to Hartlebury Museum, where the children spent the day in a strict Victorian classroom, played with Victorian toys on the cobbled streets and worked as scullery maids and boot boys. The trip is always an enjoyable experience and enhances the pupils' historical understanding and writing in English.



Christmas is always a favourite time at School, especially as soon as the trees begin to appear around Prep. As is tradition, Years 5 and 6 visited the Palace Theatre in Redditch, where this year the group enjoyed *Beauty and the Beast* with soap stars Sam Attwater and Nicole Faraday gracing the stage. Mr Jones took to the stage to perform a dance routine, which has perhaps become just as traditional as the pantomime itself.

The Lent term was just as busy for the pupils in Year 6. They took part in swimming galas and made important decisions about their language choices for when they move further up the School. Many of the pupils spent four days in France savouring the French culture and food. They also enjoyed the expertise of a visiting print artist, a Maths challenge day and visits from the Fresh Water Theatre Company; experiencing life as an evacuee and Loudmouth to learn all about growing up.

The Senior Words and Music Competition was a lovely evening of music and poetry. All of Year 6 learnt a classic poem and performed it in front of their peers - a daunting task for some. The standard on the night was exceptional and the final decision to choose the winners was a difficult one for Mr Norton.

It always amazes us how quickly the School year goes by. At the end of the Summer term, most of Year 6 travelled to the Jurassic coast in Dorset to enjoy coastal activities with Cumulus outdoor pursuits centre. It was a very early start, but it was very much worth it. Not surprisingly, the journey down was punctuated with laughter and talk of the great adventure ahead. Friday night involved camp activities with problem solving and teamwork. After a hearty cooked breakfast at camp on Saturday, activities included sea-kayaking, mackerel fishing, foraging and crabbing on the sea front. On return to camp, the children were given a Good Food Show style cooking demonstration about how to prepare the mackerel that they had caught that day. On Sunday, we awoke to the smell of pancakes wafting across camp before setting off on a trek across the countryside to the beach. Some very impressive artwork was fashioned in the sand and paddling in the sea was a refreshing treat in the heat. Our final meal was a beach barbecue before we set off back on the coach. It was a fantastic few days together and a great way to end what has been a lovely year.

We wish all of Year 6 the greatest of success as they continue through the School. For those pupils who sadly leave us this year, we will miss them, but hope that they are happy and successful in their new schools.

S Cadwallader

Year 7

During Charities Week, Year 7 pupils took part in games of football and netball, which raised several hundred pounds. Pupils visited Belmont Abbey as part of their medieval studies, finding out about the vocation and work of monks in the past and present day. They toured the monastery church, refectory and grounds, and later observed the monks at midday prayer. The day ended with a question and answer session, which was particularly interesting as pupils were able to ask a panel of monks about their lives and their work.

As part of their Art topic, Year 7 had a wonderful time at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Pupils drew a host of colourful and textural plants from the four indoor gardens - Sub-tropical, Tropical, Arid and Mediterranean. The beautiful and very diverse primary observations, have informed the pupils classwork study, where pupils transferred some of the drawing to their ongoing textiles project.

Year 7 were lucky enough to be able to attend a workshop at the Royal Shakespeare's Clore Learning Centre. The Learning Centre is part of the Royal Shakespeare Company and it works with young people to enable them to become familiar with the plays from many differing perspectives. The children took part in workshops that explored the characters in



Twelfth Night, looking at the way in which these characters responded to each other throughout the play. It was a beneficial and enjoyable day because the children were able to understand the Shakespearian characters in a way that was both interactive and academic.

During the Summer term, Year 7 enjoyed visiting both Mawley Milk Farm and Bickley House Farm near Cleobury Mortimer. This was to follow up learning on sectors of the economy and primary industry. Both visits were extremely informative, covering all manner of farming issues from the use of chemicals, agronomy, animal husbandry, sustainability issues, economics of farming and even issues concerning 'Brexit' and the farming community. One group even managed to witness a calf being delivered and another were privileged to see a sheep dog at work rounding up 150+ sheep to whistle commands. Pupils were congratulated by our hosts on the interest they showed and the range of questions that were put before them.



On the last Monday and Tuesday of term, Year 7 took part in A "Trash Fashion Show". The pupils' task was to design and make an outfit and accessories, using newspapers and magazines. Each group of three had to be creative with their design, make it and then dress a real life model. Pupils took photos and videos to record of the whole process, which was then created into a PowerPoint presentation. It was great fun to end the year on, and all of the groups came up with imaginative designs.

G Clark

Year 8

This academic year, Mrs Scheppel, Mr Widdop, Mrs Boardman, Mr Turner and Mr Shone, alongside the pastoral assistants to the year, have had the pleasure of watching each Year 8 tutee grow and excel in many different ways. We have such a diverse set of characters who all have their own way of dealing with School life, and there is much to be commended. Younger peers have looked up to their Year 8 role models for examples of how to act and behave with others in and around School - and what a variety of amazing ways we have seen our Year 8s interact.

Whether it has been the Charities Week liaison where they organised stalls and games or their tireless support of music - playing in orchestras and ensembles and singing in the choir, acting in drama with integrity and conviction and taking part in the numerous lively activities. Overall, Year 8 have impressed many.

There have been many trips for Year 8 to enjoy this year. We pride ourselves on impeccable behaviour and manners out of School and this cohort of Year 8 has not let us down. To hear and see the Year 8 pupils interact with members of the public in a positively accountable way is something I am very proud about.



The Heads of School have undertaken all their important roles with maturity and care throughout the year. The team of four took the time to create an assembly for the Pre-Prep, even in their own transition days to the Senior School. Their clear speaking and honest accounts of their Prep School experiences ensured the younger pupils were eager to listen. Ellen Ashton, Toby Hill, Megan Langford and Harry Richards have made such a wonderfully positive and lasting set of impressions on our younger pupils.

Year 8 are now excited and ready to move onto the Senior School. Their Houses are ready for them, and the summer weeks will be full of planning, preparation and not forgetting relaxation. Preparation will help those that will need to overcome challenges they find along the way and we know that some of our Year 8 pupils will find the change easier than others.

From everyone in the Prep School, we wish Year 8 a successful and individual transition, which we hope will help them to develop their own unique gifts and talents in ways that we may not have seen in the world yet.

We wish all of Year 8 a happy and knowledgeable future.

V Barron

Page House

As we reflect on another year in Page House, we are amazed at how quickly the time has passed. As Houseparents, it is a pleasure and a privilege to see our children flourish and grow during their days boarding with us.

Once again, this has been another busy year in the House. We have celebrated countless Birthdays, decorated the House for Halloween, enjoyed discos, pizza nights, Easter egg hunts and BBQs. The boarders have enjoyed many external trips – shopping is still the most popular with both the boys and girls. Our children have also enjoyed paintballing, visits to Alton Towers and WaterWorld, go-karting and trampolining to name but a few.



We welcome the summer evenings in Page as the pupils love to play outside on the grass and on the Astro. We have recently purchased new football goals, badminton nets, cricket and rounders sets, as well as go-karts. We have held House activities such as dodgeball competitions, where everyone has participated.

Many Boarders have excelled in School this year academically and on the sports fields. We have watched our boarders in School productions, sing or play instruments in concerts and Jazz evenings, and some of our youngest have sung in Chapel.

We would like to thank our Heads of House, Nancy Roberts and Guy Wagstaff, and the Monitor team, who have always been a great help around the House and to the staff.

With a heavy heart we say goodbye to our Year 8 boarders and we hope they take with them happy memories of their time in Page. We wish them all the very best in their move to Senior School.

We also say goodbye to one of our tutors, Mr Kevin Perry-Evans. We would like to thank him for everything he has done for the children this year. We wish him well in his new position as Assistant Houseparent in Elmshurst.

Caroline and I would like to thank all those who do so much for the House - our Assistants, Paul Sutherland and Jo Bowett, Housemothers Kelly Smith and Josie Wheeler, tutors, weekend staff and Housekeepers. Without their support the House would not run as efficiently as it does and we thank them for all the hard work they put in. We would also like to thank parents for their continued support.

T and C Windo

Year 8 Prizegiving



Year 8 Prizegiving



Year 8 Prize Winners

Subject Prizes

Lynch Cup for Mathematics
James Chen

Cockin Cup for English
Sophia Eaton

Lee-Smith Cup for Science
Ellie Roskell

Geography
Matthew Burke

History
Melissa Goulden-Page

Religious Education
Katie Hannafin

French
Freddie Fallows

German
Alexander Palmer

Spanish
Alexander Chkhaidze

Talbot Cup for Latin
Charlotte Holden

Llanwrtyd Wells Cup for Art
Prabhneet Sondhi

Haslam Cup for Design Technology
Elyzia Wong

Warne Cup for Textiles
Iris Tang

Cuckson Cup for Music
Keira Sehdeva

Holland Cup for Performing Arts (Drama)
Rose Willetts

Attainment and Effort Prizes

Attainment:
Ellen Ashton
Ian Chan
Alexander Chkhaidze
Melissa Goulden-Page
Elyzia Wong

Effort:
Anna Connell
Isabella Howdle
Lucy McLoughlin
Rose Willetts
Brooke-Lily York

Sport Prizes

Bentley Cup for Greatest Contribution to Boys' Sports throughout the year
Toby Hill

Staff Cup for Greatest Contribution to Girls' Sports throughout the year
Katie Rolph

Pritchard Plate for Commitment to Boys' Sport
Oliver Brown

Pritchard Plate for Commitment to Girls' Sport
Megan Langford

School Prizes

Donovan Plate for Head of Boys' Boarding
Guy Wagstaff

Donovan Plate for Head of Girls' Boarding
Nancy Roberts

Walford Cup for Social Awareness (Charities)
Freya Tweddell

Webber Bowl for Endeavour (Effort)
Brooke-Lily York

The James Young Bromsgrovian Cup for Best All-Round Contribution
Ellen Ashton

The Wingfield Cup for Outstanding Academic and Music Achievement
Vincent Li

Deputy Head Boy Prize
Harry Richards

Deputy Head Girl Prize
Megan Langford

Head Boy Prize
Toby Hill

Head Girl Prize
Ellen Ashton

Year 8 Valete

ALLDEN, LORELEI, 8SG, House Monitor, Music Colour, I have enjoyed having the opportunity to try every sport and subject. My proudest moment was when I was given the Sport Scholarship.

AMOS, SAMUEL, 8RW, Monitor, Prefect, I have enjoyed the sports that the School does. e.g. cricket. I also enjoyed being in 8RW. I was most proud of collecting my Prefect badge.

ASHTON, ELLEN, 8SG, Head Girl, music colour, drama colour, netball colour, hockey half colour, most outstanding athlete, National hockey finalist and county champions, county hockey and previous county netball player, During my time in the Prep School I have enjoyed the sporting and academic opportunities that are given to us, and all the teachers have helped me improve massively. My proudest moment would definitely have to be the day I was announced as Head Girl.

BATHAM, HANNAH, 8MT, Chapel Choir second place in Cheltenham festival, various sports teams, I was most proud when I received my Art Colour. I also won a prize at prize giving. I enjoyed performing in the Year 6 and Year 7 plays. I was proud of winning the most improved player for hockey in Year 6. I was also proud of getting all my HMCs.

BOND, LUKE, 8MT, Monitor. U11 8-a-side cricket tournament winners, U12 Worcestershire county cup winners, winner of House Music string section in Year 5, music competition finalist in Year 5, Year 6 and Year 8, My favourite part of the Prep School has been the sport. My proudest moment of the Prep School was in cricket when we won the county cup in Year 7, which meant we qualified for the national competition the following year.

BRIDGEWATER, CHARLIE, 8MT, Head of Boulton House, IAPS National Final hockey in Year 6 and 8, Millfield rugby 7s winners in Year 6, vice captain for hockey in Years 7 and 8, hockey colours, art colours, my proudest moment was getting to the IAPS National Finals. I have most enjoyed playing hockey.

BROADHURST, TEDDY, 8SG, Teacher Helper, Vice House Captain, Millfield 7s winners in Year 6, Leicester Tigers academy, My proudest moment was when I first got into the rugby team, my dad took me to a club and I'm now in county and in the A team.

BROWN, OLIVER, 8MT, IAPS National Final for swimming five years in a row, IAPS national Final for hockey for Year 6 and 8, rugby 7s final in Year 6, ESAA athletics captain, I have won Sports Day every year since Year 3, I have enjoyed the sporting opportunities and the facilities available. I was most proud when we came 9th in the country for IAPS hockey.

BULCHANDANI, DEVRAJ, 8RW, Prefect, Monitor, House Music competition (Drums,) I have enjoyed the sports facilities and being in 8RW. My proudest moment was when I became a Prefect.

BURKE, MATTHEW, 8AP, House Monitor, Vice House Captain for Boulton, PE monitor, rugby 7s plate in Packwood tournament, Academic Scholarship, rugby 7s half colour, academic colour, I liked having fun with my mates. My academic colour was probably my proudest moment.

CAMERON, JAMES, 8SG, Monitor, House Monitor, Academic Scholarship, I enjoyed watching the 1st team win the rugby finals during my time in Year 7. My proudest moment was getting the Academic Scholarship.

CHAN, IAN CHEUK LAP, 8AP, House Monitor, Prefect, Buddy, Art, Music full colours, I enjoyed being with my friends in the Prep School and my proudest moment was when I entered Bromsgrove's Got Talent with my friend, Vincent Lee.

CHANCE, MADELEINE, 8MT, Form Monitor, Charities Committee, ESSA athletics, IAPS athletics, Linguist of the Month, My proudest moment was when I got into the cross-country team because before that I thought I would never be good enough. I have enjoyed being a Form Monitor as it is a good role with lots of responsibility.

CHEN, JAMES, 8SG, ICT Monitor, House Monitor, Academic Scholarship, UKMT Group Challenge Competitor, In my time at Prep School, I most enjoyed going to Twickenham for the Natwest Rugby Finals. My proudest moment is when I was told that I had obtained the Academic Scholarship.

CHESTER, OLIVIA, 8RW, Prefect, Buddy, Year 5 prize winner for effort, winner of the Discovery School Scholarship (Summer 2017), I enjoyed helping during charity week. I enjoyed being in 8RW. My proudest moment was when I got chosen to be a prefect.

CHISTYAKOV, KOSTYA, 8MT, Grade 4 Percussion. I have enjoyed art and music at the Prep School.

CHKHAIDZE, ALEXANDER, 8RB, Linguist of the Month in Spanish, I enjoyed preparing for the competitions and events. My proudest moment was when I got the Linguist of the Month award, as I was working very hard to accomplish it.

COLLIN, ALEX, 8RB, Academic Scholarship, Rugby 7s Millfield tournament final four, I was most proud of getting my Academic Scholarship.

CONNELL, ANNA, 8RB, Buddy, House Drama, Years 6 and 7 semi-final of the poetry competition, Around the World in 83 minutes (play), Alice in Wonderland (play), Twelfth Night (play), I enjoyed the drama productions. My proudest moment was winning House Drama.

CONNELL, ELISE, 8AP, Art Monitor, Around The World (play), winner of House Singing with Boulton (Year 7), The thing that I have enjoyed most during my time in Prep School is making friends and making them laugh.

COSTELLO, CHARLES, 8RW, House Captain, winner of the Year 5 poetry competition, Year 6 Scholarship, Year 8 Scholarship, leading role in the Year 6 play, drama colour, Year 6 maths competition in Year 6.

CROWDER, ANABEL, 8RW, Vice House Captain, IAPS in Years 6, 7 and 8 for netball, hockey and swimming, My proudest moment was coming 2nd for hockey IAPS.

DAKIN, POLLY, 8MT, House Captain, Buddy, Charities Committee, Chapel Choir, Prep Choir, winner of House Drama, Drama Colour, semi-finals of the poetry competition, Feste in Twelfth Night, Lady Macbeth in Macbeth, Grade 2 Lamda, Piano and Singing, I was really proud when I won House Drama with Anna. I have really enjoyed the drama productions and musical concerts that I have performed in.

Year 8 Valete

DOOHAN-SMITH, JAMES, 8MT, rugby 7's Millfield tournament winner, two-time National hockey IAPS qualifier, HMC for every Learning Log i ever did, Dean Close hockey tournament 2nd place, 11-a-side hockey tournament winner, Music competition finalist in Year 6, three-time regional hockey qualifier, short story competition finals in Year 6, got into the Book of War Poetry in Year 8, My proudest moment of the Prep School is when I qualified for the National finals in hockey. My favourite part of the Prep School was becoming a Year 8.

DUNLOP, MARTHA, 8AP, Monitor, Charities Committee, Greece Went to Pieces play, Robin Hood play, Around the World play, district cross-country, IAPS athletics, I have most enjoyed the opportunities the Prep School gave me with sport and academics. My proudest moment was when I was chosen to be a Monitor.

EATON, SOPHIA, 8AP, Librarian, Form Monitor, Charities Committee, cross-country team, U12B county hockey champions, My proudest moment was being an IAPS National swimming finalist.

EDGER, MAXIM, 8RW, Form Captain, hockey badge, tennis tournament - winner of the plate, hockey - 1st in a tournament, 2nd in a tournament, 3rd in IAPS qualifier and winner of the plate in IAPS National Finals, hockey A team, I have really enjoyed the people I have met over the first two years of being at the Prep School. My proudest moment was either scoring a hockey goal to take us through to IAPS Hockey or catching the cricket ball from the boundary to take out the county batsman.

FALLOWS, FREDDIE, 8RB, Watt House Captain, Prefect, Form Monitor, A Cricket Captain for Years 6,7 and 8, French Prize. Becoming County Cricket Cup winners in 2016 and 2017 are my proudest moments and my best memories are all the sporting events and School residential trips.

FILDES-SMITH, NICOLE, 8SG, House Monitor

GALLAGHER, PORTIA, 8RB, Monitor, House Captain, I have enjoyed being with the people in my year.

GAVRIISKA, ANTONIA, 8RW, I enjoyed being at School.

GELLER, ROMAN, 8RB, I enjoyed the lessons.

GOLDSTRAW, HOWARD, 8RB

GOODWIN, DANIEL, 8RB, Prefect, House Monitor, Form Captain, I enjoyed the School trips in the Prep School and my proudest moment was getting Grade 2 Piano.

GOULDEN-PAGE, MELISSA, 8AP, Form Captain, Eco-Committee, Editor of Prep School Newspaper, Hymn Book Monitor, Art Scholarship, Academic Scholarship, During my time in the Prep School, I have enjoyed making new friends and new memories, which I will always remember. My proudest moment has been getting through to the Words & Music competition, where I had to read a poem of-by-heart in front of a big audience.

GREEN, POLLY, 8RB, Library Monitor, House Drama, I liked being in the School plays and my proudest moment was being in all of them.

GUEST, MACKENZIE, 8AP, PE Monitor, Charities Committee, A team rugby, rugby half colour (Year 6), IAPS athletics, Year 7 swimming team, Some of my proudest moments were meeting new people and having fun with my mates, and also achieving in my academics and sports.

GURUNG PRANISHA, 8MT, Prefect, Monitor, Form Captain, Linguist of the Month (French), HMC(Geography), Pastoral commendation (RE and History), Prize giving (best effort), I have enjoyed being part of Watt House and winning trophies together. My proudest moment was when me and me teammates won the 4x100m relay and when I came 2nd in the 200m in Sports Day last year.

HANNAFIN, KATIE, 8RW, Monitor, Charities Committee, I have enjoyed my lessons with my teachers because they are informative and fun. My proudest moment was getting good marks in all my tests.

HARRISON, SEBASTIAN, 8MT, Music Scholar, participating in every House Music since Year 5, played Last Post on 11th November, won jazz band competition in Year 5. I have enjoyed performing my musical pieces and showing off my musical talent. My proudest moment in the Prep School was when I became the first person to get a full colour in my year.

HEMBERG, LEO, 8SG, first st place in the AR quiz, multiple stars won in reading, I have enjoyed Friday Tea, Saturdays and Sundays. I was most proud of my AR quiz points.

HIBBERT-MAY, SAMUEL, 8MT, Prefect, U11 8-a-side Worcestershire cricket tournament, U12 county cup winners for cricket, U13 rugby 7s, I have mostly enjoyed the sport. My proudest moment was when we won the cricket county cup in Year 7, and then qualified for the National cup in Year 8.

HILL, MATTHEW, 8AP, Display Monitor, U12 county cricket cup, I have enjoyed representing the School in many sports events.

HILL, TOBY, 8RB, Head Boy, captain of rugby and hockey A teams, Sports Scholarship, final of Rosslyn 7's playing for year above, winner of most outstanding rugby player, colours for rugby, hockey and academic, I have enjoyed being with my friends. My proudest moment was being in Chapel Choir.

HOARE, DAISY, 8AP, Monitor, Around the World (play), Alice (play), Boulton winning the House Singing in Year 7, I have enjoyed spending time with the form that I monitor as they always make me laugh when I am down and also making new friends along the way was fun.

HOLDEN, CHARLOTTE, 8SG, Form monitor, Year 8 Latin Prize. Cheltenham Choir comp - second prize 2017, Drama Colours, Music Colours, Academic Colours. My proudest moment I have had during my time in the Prep School has been being Maria in the production of Twelfth Night. I have loved the musical opportunities: Prep School Choir, Chapel Choir, Ukulele group and Rock group. I also enjoyed being part of productions including Alice, Twelfth Night, and Macbeth. And I loved jumping off the jetty in Aberdovey!

HOWDLE, ISABELLA, 8MT, Prefect, Librarian, Vice House Captain, Alpha Monitor, ESSA cross-country, alpha prize, HMCs for English, IAPS netball, IAPS athletics, I have enjoyed leading and representing my House and my sporting teams. My proudest moment was when Elena and I ran personal bests in our 1500m race.

IDCZAK, MAXWELL, 8RW, Year 6 play, I have generally enjoyed being in my form. I was most proud when I won my first rugby game.

JONES, ISABELLE, 8SG, Monitor, Vice House Captain for Boulton, most improved hockey player, most valuable netball player, two netball colours, most valuable tennis player, colour for tennis, National finals in hockey, A team for everything, set one, county champions for hockey, I have enjoyed the opportunities Bromsgrove have given me - I love the amount of sport and I like the teachers. I have enjoyed the academic side of the School and learn a lot. My proudest moment was winning with the A team - I love playing with all of them and we have such a good spirit.

LAU, KIAN, 8RB, Millfield rugby 7's, Hockey IAP'S, Hockey Colours, Linguist of the Month, I have enjoyed being with friends. My proudest moment was coming 9th in the country for hockey.

LAWSON, BETHANY, 8RW, Prefect, most valuable hockey player, ESSA competitors, IAPS (hockey, netball, athletics) Years 6, 7 and 8, Grade 2,3 and 4 Piano, two art colours, two hockey colours, music colour and an academic colour, A team for hockey, netball and tennis, I have enjoyed playing matches against other schools and staying with my friends throughout my time in the Prep School. I was proud to play for the year above A team in hockey.

LAWSON, HANNAH, 8RB, Prefect, Form Monitor. music colour, rounders colour, I have enjoyed going on trips out of School and learning new things. My proudest moment was when I became a Prefect.

LI, VINCENT ZHENGTING, 8RW, House Music competition overall winner, I was most proud of my role in this competition.

LLOYD, ISABELLA, 8RW, Buddy, house music finalist, What I enjoyed most about the Prep School is the responsibility you have. My proudest moment was when I sang the solo at the start of the Christmas Service in chapel.

MA, JACK, 8SG, Although I've only been in Prep School for a term and a half, I really enjoyed my time. I most enjoyed PE lessons, playing sport with my friends. The proudest moment was when I was told that I improved by 20 marks in my science task.

MADDOX, PHOEBE, 8MT, Sports teams, HMC, I was proud when I performed in the Year 6 play. I enjoyed the House sports.

MALAM, NATASHA, 8RB, most improved hockey player, most improved netball player, best senior athlete, half colour in hockey, I've enjoyed going on the trips. I'm proud of getting the best senior athlete award.

MCLOUGHLIN, LUCY, 8RB, Monitor, Prefect, Sports Scholar, netball colour, hockey colour, academic colour, tennis colour, rounders colour, drama colour, I have really enjoyed all of the extra curricular activities at the Prep School, particularly the sporting ones. My proudest moment was achieving the Sports Scholarship.

MELLOR, LEO, 8AP, Form Monitor, Vice House Captain for Telford, IAPS hockey regionals and winning the plate at Nationals, Hockey Scholarship, Hockey Colour, only boy in year to be in the As for seven sports in Year 7, I have enjoyed having fun with my mates. My proudest time was when we won the plate at the National Finals.

MILLS, CONNOR, 8SG

MOODLEY, TASHIN, 8AP, Subject Helper, I have enjoyed meeting new people and having fun with my friends.

MORVILLE, ELENA, 8RW, athletics competition, fourth in district cross-country, ESSA participant, cross-country team, I've enjoyed the sporting fixtures the most in Prep School. I'm most proud of getting into the athletics team and coming fourth in district cross country run.

MURPHY, ELLA, 8RW, Form Captain, I have enjoyed the sports and I'm proud that I have improved in my lessons.

OSBORNE, LEWIS, 8MT, Twelfth Night (play). I'm most proud of my drama.

PALMER, ALEXANDER, 8SG, Prefect, IAPS swimming time trials, German Linguist of The Month, I have enjoyed learning under the provision of my teachers and I hope to succeed because of this. My proudest moment was when I was appointed as a Prefect, and when I was awarded Linguist of the Month.

PARSONS, MAX, 8RW, Form Captain, rugby 7s, A team rugby, athletics team, ESSA, cricket A team, 3rd in 7s tournament, IAPS last year, half colour in rugby, I have enjoyed going to the 7s tournament and IAPS. I was proud of catching my first batsman out.

PEARSON, DARCEY, 8RW, Form Captain, Prefect, Sports Monitor, 3rd in Year 3 sports day, 3rd in Year 5 sports day, ESSA participant, IAPS netball Year 7, IAPS athletics Year 7, I am most proud about winning a prize last year at prize giving for effort, and I have completed Bromsgrove Prep with no sanctions.

PERRY, SEBASTIAN, 8MT, IAPS National Finals for swimming, IAPS cross-country, ESAA athletics team, My favourite part of the Prep School was PE and Games. I am most proud about getting into National Finals for swimming and finishing 7th in the country.

POPESCU, SARA-MARIA, 8RW, art monitor, art badge, I enjoyed doing art, drama and English. The people here helped me a lot with being away from home.

PRESTON, ROSS, 8RB, I have enjoyed the ski trips.

RICHARDS, HARRY, 8AP, Deputy Head Boy, Charities Committee, Years 3 and 7 year group winner of the poetry competition, I have enjoyed meeting people at the Prep School and my proudest moment was when I was appointed Deputy Head Boy.

ROBBINS, ELOISE, 8AS, Charities Committee, Grade 5 Trumpet, Throughout Prep School the thing I have enjoyed the most is learning lots new things and the School have given me many opportunities. My proudest moment was being in the Charities Committee.

ROBERTS, NANCY, 8SG, Head of Page House, Prefect, Vice House Captain of Darby, I have enjoyed the opportunities to become independent.

ROLPH, KATIE, 8AP, Prefect, Buddy, House Captain (Watt), Malvern cross-country, IAPS swimming National Final, IAPS netball, IAPS hockey National Finals, County mini hockey Winners, Regional mini hockey, ESSA athletics, IAPS athletics, tennis team, A rounders team, ESSA swimming relay finals, Around The World play, Alice in Wonderland play, Robin Hood play, raising money in the Charities Week (£495 with Megan Langford), I have enjoyed playing all of the sport and having the sporting opportunities available throughout my time and I enjoyed doing it with my friends. My proudest moment in the Prep School was qualifying for the National Finals with the hockey team in Year 7.

Year 8 Valete

ROSKELL, ELLIE, 8RB, Librarian, I really enjoyed the Italy trip where we learned about ancient Rome and classical civilisation. My proudest moment was when I got a high test score in chemistry.

SANDHU, SIMRAN, 8RB, Form Monitor, Years 6 and 7 semi-finals of the poetry competition, Around the World in 83 minutes (play), I enjoyed the Year 5 trips - Blackwell Adventure and Twycross Zoo. My proudest moment was achieving 98% in maths and 92% in science.

SAZONOV, NIKITA, 8RB, Art, I enjoyed games in the Prep School. My proudest moment was getting the art reward (badge).

SCOTT, ISOBEL, 8RB, House Monitor, House Music sectional, poetry competition, applied for art scholarship, Art Monitor, I have most enjoyed the art activities during the week and at the weekend. I am most proud of winning my section in House Music.

SCHELL, LOUIS, 8RW

SEHDEVA, KEIRA, 8AP, Winner of House Music competition (1x overall, 3x string), Bourne Cup for best string player, 11+ Academic Scholarship, Music Scholarship, During my time in Prep School I have enjoyed making new friends and new memories. My proudest moment was when I won the overall House Music competition in Year 5.

SHAKES, ALEXANDRA, 8MT, Monitor, I enjoyed the music facilities.

SHANNON, STUART, 8RB, Form Monitor for Year 4, Charities Committee, A Hockey, A Rugby, A Cricket, IAPS Hockey National Finals, Cricket Midlands Finals, County Cricket Champions, House Hockey Captain, Hockey Colours, Most Outstanding Hockey Player Award, Junior IAPS Athletics, District Cross-Country, Academic and Sport Scholar, County Hockey, County Cricket, Midlands Tennis, County Singles and Doubles Tennis Champion. My proudest moment in the Prep School was in Year 6 when we were the first team in School history to win the Millfield Rugby 7s and the first Year 6 team to get to the National Finals for Hockey. I have enjoyed all the sport and facilities at the School, including trips to places near Bromsgrove and to different countries like Italy. I have learnt a lot in the Prep School, especially in lessons, which will help me in the future.

SMALLWOOD, SAMUEL, 8SG, winner of House Rugby, Linguist of the Month, I have enjoyed my time at the Prep School, making lots of new friends. I'm proud of my progress in lessons.

SONDHI, PRABHNEET, 8SG, Form Monitor, Prefect, group winner for Piano in Year 6, Art Scholarship 13+, two attainment prizes in Years 3 and 4, effort prize in Year 5, I have enjoyed having the opportunity to experience many different things, such as trips to Bushcraft which helped in building my confidence and encouraged us to work in a team. I have loved being a Prefect and Form Monitor which has given me responsibility and the ability to manage my own time and independence, and I feel I have proved to be a good role model for the younger pupils. My proudest moment so far is achieving my Art Scholarship.

STONE, FENELLA, 8AS, Prefect, Head of Telford House, Charities committee, Grade 4 Euphonium, House Music finalist, Throughout my time in Prep School I have most enjoyed learning new things and having fun with my friends. My proudest moment was becoming a House captain.

STRELKOV, MIKHAIL, 8MT, ICT Monitor, athletics team, My favourite part of the Prep School has been the sport. My proudest moment was when I ran 800m in 2:33.

SULEMAN, ISRA, 8RW, My proudest moment in Prep School has been when I was Linguist of the Month for Latin. I enjoyed being in 8RW and how fun my lessons were with my teachers.

SUMMERS, POPPY, 8RB, Subject Helper, Eco-Committee, I have enjoyed the School trips and I was proud to be part of the Eco-Committee.

SUNNER, ANAIYA, 8MT, Charities Committee, Eco-Committee, HMC, Young Voices, Jazz Band, Year 3-6 Ensemble, My proudest moment at the Prep School was taking part in the Charities Committee and being a narrator in the Year 4 play. I also got a solo singing part in the Year 3 play. I enjoyed going through the School with my friends and my siblings.

SUNNER, ARJAI, 8RW, ICT Monitor, rugby competition, Year 8 play, I have enjoyed meeting all the new people and becoming friends with them and my form. I was proud to be in a maths competition in Year 4.

TANG, IRIS MENGXIN, 8AP, Librarian, Hymn Book Monitor, During my time in Prep School, I have enjoyed making new friends and new memories that I will never forget.

THAPA, ASSICA, 8RB, House Monitor, PSHEE Monitor, The thing I have enjoyed the most about being in the Prep School is the trips. My proudest moment was becoming a member of Chapel Choir.

TRIGG, LUCY, 8SG, Monitor, Prefect, Head Chorister, Music Colours, Art Colour, Chapel Choir, Prep School Choir, three-times House Music competition vocalist winner, winners of the 2nd team county championships 2016, 2nd team for hockey and netball, 1st team tennis and athletics, I have most enjoyed winning three house music competitions.

TWEDDELL, FREYA, 8AP, Charities Committee, hockey B team tournament goalkeeper - overall winners and no goals let in by me, winner of the Year 3 reading award, credit champion, I have most enjoyed running my stall during Charities Week, and taking part in Year 4 and Year 6 Bushcraft. I was pleased to move up into the U13B field hockey team.

VAUGHAN, GEORGE, 8SG, Library Monitor, winner of the table tennis tournament in Year 7, Words and Music finalist, My proudest moment at Prep School was when I got to the final of the of the poetry competition.

VAUGHAN, OLIVER, 8MT, Charities Committee, Twelfth Night, I have enjoyed the activities that are held in the week. My favourite has been cookery. I have also enjoyed sport at Bromsgrove, in particular, Cricket. One of my proudest moments has been part of the Charities Committee.

WAGSTAFF, GUY, 8SG, Head of Page House, Vice House Captain, winners of county cricket cup in Year 7, winner of House rugby, My proudest moment was when I was made Head of Page and when we won the county cup. I have enjoyed the academics and the great sports facilities.

WANG, QIANHUI, 8MT, French linguist. I have enjoyed hanging out with my friends. I was most proud when I moved up a set.

WEN, DAISY CHIH-WEI, 8AP, House Monitor, Art Monitor, PSHEE Monitor, I have enjoyed making new friends and spending time with them. The proudest moment for me was my announcement as a House Monitor.

WHITBY, BENJAMIN, 8MT, IAPS National Final for hockey, I have enjoyed being the fastest person in the Prep School.

WILLETTS, ELLIOT, 8SG, Monitor, Junior Colours for hockey, cricket, cross-country and rugby, Half Colour for athletics, Senior Colour for hockey, Junior best batsman and most valuable runner. I have played the year above in rugby7s, hockey, cricket and cross-country, In year seven I was vice-captain of the county cup cricket winners, My proudest moment in Prep school was winning the county cup.

WILLETTS, ROSE, 8SG, Prefect, Monitor, Chapel Choir, Prep School Choir, Junior Music Colour, two Senior Drama Colours, winner of the Holland Cup for Performing Arts. My proudest moment was winning a role as Alice in the Years 7-8 play as this was my first major part, and also winning the Holland Cup. I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with my friends on the Outward Bound trip, because although the challenges were tough, doing them with friends made it easier.

WILLIAMS, ALEXANDER, 8SG, Monitor, book winner, tournament winner, Linguist of the Month, I have enjoyed the sport and being with my friends. My proudest moment was when I got into the A team in Year 5.

WONG, ELYZIA YEE LOK, 8AP, Music Scholar, winner of percussion sectional 2016 and 2017, tennis team, During my time at the Prep School, I enjoyed exploring new subjects.

WONG, GORDON TSZ KIU, 8RW, Page House Monitor, Form Captain, art badge, ESAA competitor, IAPS athletics Year 7, I have most enjoyed being in the athletics team and the whole two years at Bromsgrove.

WRIGHT, JAMES, 8RB, Form Monitor, Charities Committee, I have enjoyed the sports and School trips at Prep School.

YORK, BROOKE-LILY, 8SG, Prefect, Monitor, I have won the Drama Trophy twice and won three drama colours, I have enjoyed being with my friends every day. My proudest moment has been being the main part in all the School plays.

Year 8 Leavers



Elmshurst

A year of memories – far too many to name. As always, our festive annual dinner at the Ardencote Manor was a huge success; the boys and attending parents thoroughly enjoyed their evening.





The following term, celebrating Chinese New Year with a whole House take-away went down a storm, and fun and games at the Hog Roast evening at the very beginning of exam period, with tug-o-war was a favourite as usual. One look at our trophy cabinets is evidence of again another successful year in Inter-House competitions.

School wide there has been much to celebrate – The Lower Fourth loved camp, racing with ‘The Chicken’ kit car, playing rugby at Allianz Park, the Cultures Connect Concert success, the production of Hairspray, musical moments from informal concerts to playing at the Upton Jazz Festival, CCF and D of E expeditions and the RAF boys actually flying a plane! The list goes on.

We have an eclectic group of boys and we enjoy and celebrate each other’s individual successes, yet underneath we have the unity and togetherness of one in the family of Elmshurst.

House Honours board awards go to the following for 2016/17:

House Endeavour – Prashanta Rai
House Best Newcomer – Eric Li
House Spirit – Aram Andreasyan
House Contribution – George James

A large number of boys have received their junior and senior House Colours.

As always at the end of the year, it is with a heavy heart that we must wish our Upper Sixth a fond farewell. This year group have travelled their journey together as friends and have always been there to support each other. I wish them all the very best of luck for their required grades in the summer and for their future beyond Bromsgrove. George James (Head of House) and Asim Rai (Deputy) have served Elmshurst along with the House Monitors to a very high standard and they

have set a benchmark for what is to be expected in the continuing year. We also say goodbye to Mr Noble; we wish him well as Housemaster of Housman Hall next year, and to Mr Laskowski who leaves to be a resident tutor in Housman. All in the House will sadly miss both as they have worked tirelessly throughout their time in Elmshurst.

As we welcome the new academic year, we will have much to celebrate; we have Bipin Gurung as Senior Boarder as well as being a School Monitor; Alex Wong and Joe Downes as School Monitors who will all be excellent ambassadors and servants of Bromsgrove. Within Elmshurst, Bipin Gurung will be Head of House and Joe Downes as Deputy Head of House. I look forward to the House continuing to go from strength to strength.

My deepest thanks should go to a number of people who have contributed heavily to the success of the House; Mr Noble and his wife Heather for all of their help and support. The House tutors for all their hard work and encouragement, and not forgetting the most important ladies in Elmshurst, Mrs Fallows and Miss Heard, for keeping me on task and for all their devotion to the House. My final thank you is for the “Men of Elmshurst” for just being themselves.

D J Fallows

Elmshurst Leavers

ANDREASYAN, A., Elmshurst, 2013, CCF, DofE Bronze, Debating Society, EU Referendum Research Project, Cultures Connect Concert, Young Economists Blog, PPE lectures, Model United Nations. Durham - Economics

CHAN, A., Elmshurst, 2015. UCL - Mathematics with Economics

FIERET, J.S., Elmshurst, 2008, Silver in the British Physics Olympiad, House Music, Inter-House Debating, Friday Lunch Debating. York - Physics

FOWKE, H., Elmshurst, 2013, House Monitor, Sport Scholarship, NatWest Cup Rugby winners 2014-2015, NatWest Cup Rugby winners 2015-2016, 1st Rugby. Exeter - Business and Management

GURUNG, P., Elmshurst, 2011, House Monitor, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, National Citizen Service, Chinese Concert, Pop and Jazz. Kingston - Computer Science

IEC, D.K.N., Elmshurst, 2013, Young Enterprise, NCS, MUN, Honorary Scholarship. LSE - Management

INGWERSEN, T., Elmshurst, 2014, House Monitor, 1st Hockey, 2nd Rugby, RAF, Young Enterprise, Sports Leaders.

JAMES, G.W., Elmshurst, 2013, Senior Boarder, School Monitor, House Monitor, Head of House, 1st Rugby, Sports Scholarship. Bath - International Development with Economics

KRIEGLER L., Elmshurst, 2013. Oxford Brookes - Business and Management

LEE, T., Elmshurst, 2012, House Monitor, 1st Basketball, Gym. Newcastle - Marketing and Management

LOU, M., Elmshurst, 2012, MUN, School Production (Hairspray) Band, Senior Jazz Ensemble, Big Band. Durham - PPE

MOSS, D., Elmshurst, 2016. Swansea - Geography

RAI, A., Elmshurst, 2009, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 2nd Football, 3rd Rugby. Gap Year

RAI, P., Elmshurst, 2010, House Monitor, 2nd Rugby. Lincoln - Sociology

RIMLYAND, A., Elmshurst.

TROFIMOV,V.V., Elmshurst, 2010, House Monitor, Cultures Connect Concert, MUN, Bronze DofE, Athletics, B Football, B Rugby. UBC Toronto - Business/Economics

WOOTTEN, G. P., Elmshurst, 2012. Bath - Sports Performance

YEH, B., Elmshurst, 2014, Fifth Form Maths Challenge, CCF, Bromsgrove Service, Charity Shop Helper. LSE - Finance

YIP, C.T., Elmshurst, 2013, House Monitor, 2nd Tennis, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Copper Award, Intermediate Biology Olympiad Bronze Award, UK Intermediate Mathematical Challenge Gold Award, FMSP Year 10 Team Mathematics Competition Runner-up, DofE Silver, CCF Lance Corporal 2016, Cultures Connect Concert, Chinese Concert Committee 2016, Participant of Pop and Jazz Concert 2015. HKPU - Pharmacy



Hazeldene

The daily dose of smiles and laughter experienced in Hazeldene may not be possible to capture in writing, but this year we have seen these in abundance. Our eighty girls are good-natured, witty and incredibly bright – they may be diverse in their interests, yet they are unified in their friendliness and love of the House.





We have had another fantastic year in Hazeldene. Individual sporting successes on ski slopes, badminton courts, hockey pitches and athletics fields deserve praise. It has also been a year of success within the Arts: music has thrived, winning House Song for the second consecutive year. Charlotte Goodall, dressed as Lady Liberty, led the girls fearlessly through *Empire State of Mind*, with Sasha Johnston and Ellie Miners to thank for wonderful harmonies and endless practice. Rachel Xuereb starred as Tracy Turnblad in the School musical, *Hairspray*, and many other Hazeldeneans performed too, with Lily-Rose Faulkner-Schütt and Lauren Court in lead roles.



In Inter-House competitions, we have displayed our usual gusto and competitive flair. Stellar teams have led to victories in both junior and senior hockey and in junior badminton. Our crowning glory has to be on Sports Day, where Hazeldene's name was read out not once, not twice, but three times, as the junior, intermediate and senior trophies were awarded. Tilly Giles and Daisy Mai-Clements also won prestigious *Victrix Ludorum*s.

Academic successes have been felt throughout the year, with numerous grades consistently at 5.1 and above. There were end of year examination prizes for many students, including Best Overall in Lower Fourth for Gemma Calthorpe, Oxbridge offers and subject prizes for Emily Whittle in English. Sasha Johnston was awarded the *Wattell Subject Prize* for Latin.

This year has been packed full of House Events. We have seen traditions continued, with the return of karaoke following our second House Song victory. This time, the event took place with a twist: *Nugget Night*. No fewer than 520 chicken nuggets were devoured by the girls before singing along to Miley Cyrus, ABBA and High School Musical before getting adventurous – rapping along to Macklemore and ballet-dancing to Billy Elliot! We all enjoyed a pizza lunch to celebrate our House Sports Day successes. The Christmas Music Video competition also returned, with the Upper Sixth retaining the title for a second year. 'Zoe's Treat' has proven a popular incentive to get our girls to keep studies tidy and to help our housekeeper, Zoe.

We held a Family Fun Night in September, with the new families initiative starting strongly. The girls were placed in family groups to provide inter-year integration and mentoring, with our Upper Sixth as Grandmas. This event placed families in direct competition, with classic games from Twister to the egg-and-spoon race. Space-hopper skills impressed, as did a cut-throat game of musical chairs. Our Fourth Form had a fun trip to Laser Quest and enjoyed pizza in May. Unbelievably competitive, they also have pinpoint precision with a laser gun.

The Sixth Form event highlight is undoubtedly the Ball. This year's theme brought some razzle-dazzle to the proceedings, with sparkly dress, cummerbunds and bow-ties galore. It was a beautiful evening at Stone Manor with fantastic company. Well done to the Upper Sixth girls for auctioneering and hosting so ably. Coupled with a delicious Cake Sale in March and the Auction, Hazeldene have raised a fantastic £2,100 for MIND, the mental health charity. Our Sixth Form also enjoyed their annual trip to Birmingham's Christmas Market.

Our summer started with a sizzle at our annual Hog Roast and Rounders evening in June. Delicious food and drink accompanied a fun evening celebrating this year's triumphs. My competitive streak raised its ugly head in the Staff vs. Students rounders match; with some generous help from parents and tutors, the staff team narrowly won. Thanks to the Hazeldene Parents' Association who organised this event, and many others. Through their help, we have funded new musical instruments for the House, as well as many trips and events this year. I am grateful for their continued support and time.

This year's Monitor team have been a great asset, leading the House to glory on many occasions, but also organising new events and keeping order. I would particularly like to thank Head of House, Ellen Moore, and Deputy, Josie Wiklund, for their strong leadership and excellent support. Next year's Monitor team will continue to integrate and lead the House: Tash Durie, Holly Foster, Claire Humphries, Talia Mitchell, Holly Peplow, Alex Scott, Elise Spurgin and Hannah Williams have been elected as House Monitors, with Head of House, Megan Longden, and Deputy Head of House, Anna Murray, at the helm.

I would like to thank Zoe Paling for the superb work she has done and to the Hazeldene tutor team for their help and assistance. We sadly say farewell to Miss Garratt, whose support and encouragement for her Upper Sixth tutor group has been exceptional. We wish her well for a bright future with baby Gabriel and Mr Jones.

In our House Song entry, the girls sang: "If I could make it here, I could make it anywhere". Perhaps Hazeldene is not the exact location Alicia Keys was singing about – but these words are apt for our Leavers. The girls have certainly made it here, from their individual talents to their compassion and *joie de vivre*. I am certain they will make it anywhere now. Whether their paths take them to new opportunities, countries, universities or experiences, they will flourish.

L McKee

Hazeldene Leavers

ALLELY, K., Hazeldene, 2010, Silver DofE, Bromsgrove Service, GCSE RM Subject Prize. Royal Agricultural University - Equine Science and Business

BARNES, A.S., Hazeldene, 2012, Bromsgrove Service. Nottingham Trent - Interior Architecture and Design

COLEMAN, E.L., Hazeldene, 2012, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, 1st Tennis, Tennis Captain, Bromsgrove Service - Operation Christmas Child, Lower Fourth Camp Helper, Gold DofE, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE. Leeds - Geography

DOYLE, K.E., Hazeldene, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service, School Guide. Leeds - Geography

GOODALL, C.A., Hazeldene, 2007, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, 2nd Tennis, 3rd Netball, Grade 7 Flute, Windband, Flute Group, Orchestra, Informal and Formal Concerts, Bromsgrove Service, CAS, Tennis Colour, Hockey Colour, Music Colour, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE. Harper Adams - Veterinary Physiotherapy

JOHNSTON, S., Hazeldene, 2006, School Monitor, House Monitor, 3rd Hockey, DofE. Bristol - Politics and German

LOCKETT, C., Hazeldene, 2012, Gold D of E, Flight Sargent of RAF section within the CCF, 1st Athletics. University of Mount Olive - Sports and Leadership

MINERS, E.K., Hazeldene, 2008, House Monitor, Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, Senior Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, Wind Band, Choral Society, Main School Production, Gold DofE, Music Colours. Winchester - Primary Education (QTS)

MOORE, E.R., Hazeldene, 2008, House Monitor, Head of House, Gold DofE, CCF, Flute Group, Wind Band, GCSE Textiles Prize, GCSE Business Studies Prize, 3rd Tennis. Exeter - Management with Marketing

SILK, A.H., Hazeldene, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, 1st Hockey. Cardiff - Politics and International Relations

SLATER, I., Hazeldene, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, Special Achievement Prize, CCF, Gold DofE. Leicester - Geography

STANILAND, A.S., Hazeldene, 2012, 3rd Hockey, Academic Scholarship, Silver DofE. Exeter - Politics and International Relations

WESTON E., Hazeldene, 2000, Pre-Prep Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Swimming Captain 2015/2017, 2nd Netball Captain 2015/17, 2nd Hockey Captain 2015/17, Gold DofE, Art Scholarship, Grade 7 Piano, Lance Corporal CCF, Senior House Debater, School Swimming Cap, Swimming Minor Colours, Netball Major Colours, Netball Minor Colours, House Colours. Reading - Primary Education with Art specialism

WHITTLE, E.H., Hazeldene, 2006, House Monitor, English Literature GCSE Prize, Classical Civilisation GCSE Prize, Academic Exhibition, Art Scholarship, Debating, Literature Society. Oxford - English Language and Literature

WIKLUND, J.C., Hazeldene, 2013, Deputy Head of House, Cross-Country, Athletics, Headmaster's Endeavour Award, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Chapel Choir, Hairspray (Drama Production), DofE, Marmite, Sixth Form Consort. University of Pennsylvania - Nursing and Global Health

XUEREB, R.L., Hazeldene, 2006, U16B Hockey, U16A Netball, Prep School Effort Prize, Junior and Senior House Colours, Fourth Form Drama, National Theatre Connection Festival 2014, Principal in Sweeney Todd and Hairspray, Pop and Jazz, Jazz Gig, Grade 5 Trumpet, Brass Group, Orchestra, Highly Commended in House Music Solo, House Drama, House Sport, Silver DofE. Bristol - Sociology

Housman Hall

And now with the drawing down of the flag, the final call over handshakes and the farewells, it is done: another year has passed us by.





Sixty more Housman Hallians have joined the ranks of OBs and although their time here is over, their presence will not be forgotten, and I know that they will not forget their time here. They have been fortunate that they leave at the end of one of the most enjoyable years in the growing history of Housman Hall. I count myself fortunate to be among such wonderful company in saying goodbye to this fantastic House and the School at this time.



The positive atmosphere that has been present at Housman this year has been reflected in the phenomenal efforts that have been put into House competitions throughout the year. Although the main prize may have eluded us at House Song, our rendition of *Fly Me to the Moon* had the House and many in the School buzzing for days. The girls took this as their cue to have their most successful year ever in sporting competitions, winning trophies in both netball and hockey and being the loudest and most supportive House on show in swimming, rounders and many other competitions. The boys could not quite match the girls' haul in trophies but the performances in all the major competitions were outstanding and the table tennis trophy rests happily on our shelf.

Housman Hallians also excelled in other forms of competition: victorious in the Bromsgrove School Research Competition in the summer; winners of the ensemble prize in House Drama; a semi-quaver away from victory in the House Music competition and Abbah Abbah claiming the Housman Verse prize. This wonderful group of pupils have once again proved that Housman has intellect and soul as well as brawn.

For me, as Houseparent, I have not needed competitions to show to me how special this year has been and how lucky I am to live with such an amazing group of young people. First team sportsmen and women in rugby, hockey, football, netball, badminton, tennis, table tennis and many others have been par for the course this year. Rafts of pupils taking leading roles in Duke of Edinburgh, Young Enterprise, the Model United Nations and School debating is standard fare for these wonderful pupils - and then there was the School play, a production of the musical *Hairspray*. The wonderful performances from so many Housman Hallians including the hilarious stylings of Abbah Abbah and the spine tingling solo from Tosin Attah were personal highlights of a year so filled with them.

Once again, however, I find myself thinking that there is still more that has made this House such a special place. It has been the noise of laughter from pupils catching up at the end of the day. It has been Saturday night marathon games of monopoly or mafia. It has been Tuesday night baking sessions and Thursday "cookies and chat" sessions. It has been the sound of pupils gathered around the piano listening in reverence to their peer's performance and it has been in the kindness that the pupils have shown to each other and to all others. The annual random act of kindness week, the charity Krispy Kreme sale and the fantastic privilege auction have once again shown that Housman Hall is a place where giving to others is at the heart of all that we do and long may that continue.

With so much to celebrate this year, Housman Hall has done so with gusto; our wonderful Christmas party at Stanbrook Abbey and our annual leavers' meal at Grafton Manor were highlights. Our Halloween party, Chinese New Year Celebrations and Summer Hog Roast were equally wonderful events. Then, at the end of it all, was Commemoration. This was our chance to say goodbye to each other and to do so in such style.

It was heart-warming to see so many proud pupils enjoying their final day at the School. It was a last day at Housman Hall for Mr Egan and Miss Wadley who move to Day Houses next year. For Ms D'Angelo and Miss Simmons, it was a day of more significance as they say goodbye to the House and the School. Their efforts have been much appreciated and I know that they will be fondly remembered but sorely missed. This was also my final event as Housman Hall Houseparent and I could not have wished for a more splendid end to my time here. It has been a period that has meant so much to me. I have been proud and privileged to serve in such a splendid House, a House where pride, respect, integrity, charity and endeavour are at the heart of all that we do. I now bid Housman Hall the fondest of farewells and the very best wishes for the class of 2018 and beyond.

J Jones



Housman Hall Leavers

ABBAH, A.K., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, 1st Table Tennis, Worcestershire County Table Tennis Finals 2016, Table Tennis Regional Finals Individual 2017, Debating Society, Sajid Javid Debate, Hairspray 2017 Drama Production, Drama RADA Bronze Award, Bromsgrove's Got Talent, Bromsgrove Service, LEHMUN award, Staff Reading Prize, Cultures Connect Concert, Choir, Drama LAMDA Bronze Award, Poetry By Heart Competition, Housman Verse Prize Winner. Durham - Law

AKINSANYA, O.O., Housman Hall, 2015, School Monitor, House Monitor, School Drama: Hairspray (Ensemble Cast), Sweeney Todd (Make up team), MUN, Debating, Bromsgrove Service: Operation Christmas Child, Sign Language, and Service Blog, Recreational Tennis, Recreational Squash. Warwick - Law with Social Sciences

AKOPYAN, S., Housman Hall, 2014, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Football. Boston - Economics

AYO-YUSUF, R., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Athletics. Exeter - Law

BLASI, H., Housman Hall, 2015. New College of the Humanities - PPE with Economics

CAI, Y., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, Senior Mathematics Challenge 2015-2016 (Gold), Senior Mathematics Challenge 2016-2017 (Gold), British Mathematical Olympiad 2015-2016 (Certificate of Distinction and Top 250 in the country), British Mathematical Olympiad 2016-2017 (Certificate of Distinction and Top 250 in country), British Physics Olympiad 2015-2016 (Silver), British Physics Olympiad 2016-2017 (Gold), British Physics Olympiad (AS Challenge) 2015-2016 (Gold and Top 50 in country), British Chemistry Olympiad 2015-2016, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge 2016 (Gold), Bromsgrove Service, House Football, Robotics, Programming, Mensa Society. Imperial - Mathematics with Statistics for Finance

CHEN, B.Z., Housman Hall, 2015. Melbourne - Mathematics

CHEUNG, S.W.A., Housman Hall, 2015, CCF, DofE. Exeter - Flexible Combined Honours

CHONG, P.Y., Housman Hall, 2015, Maths Challenge (Bronze), Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service. KSL - Maths with Statistics

CLARKE, A., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Netball, Netball Cap, Netball Scholarship for Sixth Form. De Montfort - Law and Criminal Justice

CUI, H., Housman Hall, 2015. UCL - Mechanical Engineering

CUZA, A., Housman Hall, 2015, Head of House, UK Regional Physics Olympiad 2016 (Bronze), Second Place in the 2015 Regional Final of the UKMT FMSP Senior Team Maths Challenge, 201 Magazine - Co-Editor, MUN, Oxbridge Physics/Coding. Michigan - Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science

DAUJOTAS, K.J., Housman Hall, 2012, House Monitor, 1st Basketball, U16 Athletics, U15 Rugby, Best Overall Academic Performance, Endeavour Award, DofE Gold, Honorary Academic Scholarship. LSE - Management

DHILLON, A.S., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, National Citizen Service. York - International Business

FOSTIER, C.M., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Rugby (2015-16) (2016-2017), Natwest Schools' Cup Winners 2016, 1st Rugby, Mathematics Challenge, Rugby Cap. LSE - Economic History with Economics

GBADEYAN, A.D., Housman Hall, 2015, Bromsgrove Service - Residential Homes, School Production - Hairspray, Young Enterprise, Valentine's Day Roses. Derby - Accounting and Finance

GUILLAMON, L.E., Housman Hall, 2016, School Production - Hairspray, MUN, Bromsgrove Service Blog, 201 Magazine, RADA Bronze, LAMDA Silver, Literary Society, House Drama. Warwick - English

GUO, D.J., Housman Hall, 2015, West Midlands Senior Championship 2017, British Youth Championship Qualifiers 2016, British Physics Olympiad AS Challenge (Silver), MUN, Debating, Gold DofE, Fencing, Bromsgrove Service. NYU Abu Dhabi - Physics

GÜRDAL, Y., Housman Hall, 2013, 3rd Tennis, 3rd Hockey, Piano, CCF, Biology Olympiad, Debating, DofE, Brexit Research Project. Queen Mary - Law

HERRIDGE, B., Housman Hall, 2015. Cardiff Met - Sport and Physical Education

HEUNG, M. Y., Housman Hall, 2015, Crest Science Silver Award, Biodiesel Project, Intermediate Biology Olympiad (Bronze), Biology Olympiad (Silver), Chemistry Challenge (Copper award), Animal Sanctuary. CUHK - Global Economics and Finance

HUI, B.J., Housman Hall, 2015. Keele - Physiotherapy

HUI, C.W., Housman Hall, 2015, Biodiesel Project, CCF, DofE. Loughborough - Air Transport Management

HUNT, J., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Rugby - Natwest Cup Winners, 1st Cricket, Sports Scholarship. Cardiff - Sport Management

JUMABAYEV, D., Housman Hall, 2014, Bromsgrove Service: Charity Shops (Cancer Research). UCL - Economics

KIM, A., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, Bronze and Copper for Biology and Chemistry Olympiads, Biodiesel Project, Sign Language. UCLA - Biochemistry

KOVALEVSKAIA, A., Housman Hall, 2015, Biology Olympiad (Bronze), Informal Music Concerts, Make-up and Hair team for Sweeney Todd Drama Production. UCLA - Biochemistry

KULEBAIKAN, D.A., Housman Hall, 2011, House Monitor, Head of House, 1st Badminton (Captain), 1st Basketball, Academic Sixth Form Scholarship, Debating Society, MUN, Silver DofE, Cultures Connect Concert, German GCSE Prize, Lower Fourth English Prize. UCL - Law

LAI, A.H.M., Housman Hall, 2015. Queen Mary - Economics

LAI, K.C., Housman Hall, 2015, DofE Gold, Sign Language course, UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge (Bronze). LSE - Philosophy and Economics

LAM, C.H.Y., Housman Hall, 2015, UK Senior Mathematics Challenge (Silver), Intermediate Biology Olympiad (Highly Commended), Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, Bromsgrove Service, Crest Silver Award, Biodiesel Project, Crafts for Charity. UCL - Planning and Real Estate

LEITHNER, C. L., Housman Hall, 2015, LAMDA Certificate, Sweeney Todd Drama Production, Poetry by Heart, 201 Magazine, MUN, Bromsgrove Service, Volleyball. UCL - Psychology

LEUNG, B.C.W., Housman Hall, 2015, Gold DofE, Table Tennis, Badminton, Two Biology Olympiads (Gold), Residential Homes, Biodiesel Project. Imperial - Biochemistry

LEUNG, W.C.W., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Swimming, Robotics Club. LSE - Financial Mathematics and Statistics

LI, C., Housman Hall, 2015, Chinese Concert 2016, School Charity 2016, Dance Society, Body Balance 2015-2017. Queen Mary - Zoology

MAN, C., Housman Hall, 2015. Durham - Finance with Business

MIKHAILOVA, A., Housman Hall.

MITSUKOV, A., Housman Hall, 2015. Greenwich - Business Management

MPIGI, L.S., Housman Hall, 2015, Bromsgrove Service, Bromsgrove Badge. Texas Tech - Architecture

MUFUTAU-GBADAMOSI, R.A., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, 1st Athletics, West Midlands County Competition (Gold, Silver and Bronze), Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (Copper Award), Bromsgrove Service - Residential Homes and Blog, Sign Language. Dubai Med School - Biomedical Sciences

NEKHOCHIN, A.S., Housman Hall, 2014, 1st Football, 2nd Football. Queen Mary - Electrical Engineering

OLUGBENGA, O.E., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, Debating, MUN. Swansea - Law

OSE, A.M., Housman Hall, 2015. Newcastle - Biomedical Sciences

POLUNINA, A., Housman Hall, 2015. UCL - Arts and Sciences

RIAZANOVA, T.E., Housman Hall, 2015, Debating, MUN, London Oratory School Competition, Rounders. Queen Mary - International Relations

RIDDLE, A., Housman Hall, 2015. Leeds - Mathematics

ROMAGNOLI, L., Housman Hall, 2015. City - Accounting and Finance

SAKUMA, K.S., Housman Hall, 2014, House Monitor, 1st Football, CCF, MUN. KCL - International Relations

SAVCHINA, S., Housman Hall, 2015. Overseas - Finance

SCHIECK, H.T., Housman Hall, 2015, Make-up team for the Sweeney Todd Drama Production, Housman Verse Prize participant, Flourishing Fiver (fundraising team for Primrose Hospice). Surrey - Hospitality

SETHI, A.G., Housman Hall, 2015, Crest Silver. UCL - Chemistry with European Languages

SMALL, C.D., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor, 1st Netball, County Netball Runners-up, County Netball Champions, Sheffield Netball Tournament Runners-up, Netball Player of the Year 2015-16, Sports Scholarship. Grant Thornton - School Leaver Scheme

SONGTHUMJITTI, S., Housman Hall, 2015, Bromsgrove Service, Swimming, Dance Club Leader, 201 pupil magazine. Parsons School of Design, NYC - Fashion Design

SPENNER HERNANDEZ, A.O., Housman Hall, 2015, House Monitor. Bristol - Liberal Arts

TAM, S., Housman Hall, 2015, Intermediate Biology Olympiad (Gold), Inspire 16 Art Competition (Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery) 1st place. Bath - Architecture

TSE, R.L., Housman Hall, 2012, 3rd Football, Art Prize, Orchestra, String Group, Music Concerts, Bronze DofE, Gold DofE, Art Scholarship. UCL - Architecture

TSUI, R.P.Y., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Athletics, 1st Table Tennis, 2nd in Zonal Table Tennis Finals, 3rd in County Individual Table Tennis Championship, UK Senior Mathematical Challenge (Silver), Bromsgrove Service. HKU - Bachelor of Social Sciences

TSUI, R.P.F., Housman Hall, 2015, 1st Football, UKMT Mathematical Challenge (Bronze), DofE. Nottingham - Mechanical Engineering

TSVETANOVA, M.G., Housman Hall, 2015, House Drama Competition, Bromsgrove Service. SOAS - Politics and International Relations

WU, Z., Housman Hall, 2015. BUWE - Civil and Environmental Engineering

YU, F., Housman Hall, 2015, 3rd Rugby, 1st Basketball, 1st Football, 1st Tennis. Newcastle - Sport and Exercise Science

ZHANG, P.F., Housman Hall, 2013, DofE Bronze, DofE Silver, DofE Gold, CCF, Robotics, Maths Challenge (Gold and Best of the Year prize), Physics Olympics (Silver). UCL - Computer Science

Lupton

horae quidem cedunt et dies et menses et anni, nec praeteritum tempus umquam revertitur nec quid sequatur sciri potest.

(Hours and days and months and years go by; time that has passed is never returned, and what may follow we cannot know.)





So wrote the great Roman statesman and orator Cicero in his treatise on old age (*De Senectute*) and, whilst I would not yet describe myself in that stage of life, I can still empathise with his sentiment at the end of another year, and indeed era, in Lupton. Still, here is an ideal opportunity to recall some of those events from the past year for posterity.



The Lupton Cottage is still looking good one year on from its refurbishment, and yet, with a slightly more insular Upper Sixth group this year, the Day Room has become rather the preserve of the gregarious Lower Sixth pupils who have made it their mission to 'treat' all to their hearty line of humour and eclectic musical tastes. Such merriment has rubbed off well on to the seventeen new Lower Fourth pupils, themselves a good mix of talents and characters who have been keen to participate for the Lupton cause.

In truth, sporting competitions have brought slim pickings for the Reds this year, although our juniors collectively had favourable odds in the three major sports. Sadly, the cricket competition fell on the same day as a county fixture; in the hockey, we came to rue goal difference in missing out on a final we would have been fancied to win; and in the rugby final, Wendron-Gordon (deservedly) spoiled the fairytale ending after our heroics in the semi-final in which Fin Morgan almost single-handedly engineered the four tries in the final four minutes to leave Elmshurst and most of Lower Charford aghast at the most amazing of come backs. We have been more successful in individual pursuits, such as Charles Sapwell running the fastest 1.2 relay leg, or Aled Luckman winning the 50m boys' backstroke to claim the Hong Kong Salver. In Nick Jakobsen, we have a genuine all-round sportsman with county representational honours in rugby, cricket and athletics, who was thus a worthy inaugural recipient of a new award, The Matthews Shield, for the Lupton junior sportsman of the year. Due mention should also go to those who have gained 1st team experience this year:

Lawrence Hill was captain of golf (School cap); Joe Harper, Lewis Maddox, Himmat Bhandal, Oliver Plummer, Freddie Owen and Morgan Bennett in rugby; Morgan Berry and Gabriel Thornton for hockey; and George Hatfield, Ben Humphries and Awais Mohammed for cricket. This is, of course, all in the context of the many Lupton boys who have turned out for weekly fixtures across the full range of sports and age groups.

The Arts have seen Lupton successfully grab the spotlight in several areas. Tasked with putting on a performance of no more than ten minutes for the reintroduced House Drama competition, Aled Luckman set about directing an extract from an English version of Nikolai Gogol's *Government Inspector*. It was the standout performance of the evening for its attention to detail, diction, sense of melodrama, humour and ensemble work. From the initial smoke machine effect and their comedic entrances, all of the actors (Aled Luckman, Toby Finemore, Ed Shinner, Tom Anning and Will Porter) were entirely convincing as their characters and held the audience's attention brilliantly to win the new Best Play trophy. Ed (Link Larkin), Aled (Mr Pinky) and Tom also went on to entertain us thoroughly in the School's Artrix production of *Hairspray*. The revival of the House Music competition required each House to enter a soloist as well as an ensemble piece. Not content with a 'safe' option, e.g. something like a duet, Ben Adamson and Archie Batham-Read co-ordinated a twelve-piece jazz ensemble, which swept all before them with a fantastic feel-good rendition of Ary Barroso's *Brazil*. In the solo section of the competition on the same evening, Josh

Osborn-Patel was simply captivating in his performance of F. Strauss' *Nocturno* on the French horn. With a beautiful warm tone, Josh fully deserved his victory – he has since taken up a place in the CBSO Youth Orchestra. In the House Song, our wholehearted rendition of the Fratellis' *Chelsea Dagger* owed much to the time and efforts in rehearsal of the conductor Joe Bellamy, our Deputy Head of House, and Benedict Mann, who co-ordinated the accompanying band. Many Luptonians have contributed to the musical ensembles, choirs, concerts and recitals at the heart of school life, none more so than Ben Adamson, our Head of House, who thoroughly deserved the end of year accolades of his School cap for music, the Turner Memorial Prize for Music, and our own Brazier Cup.

Other extra-curricular endeavours have seen Nicholas Martin take a leading role in the CCF, for which he was awarded the John Hedley Memorial Prize at Commemoration, as well as many gaining their Duke of Edinburgh awards in each category. For the Lower Fourth year group, Dan Walter won the boys' Bromsgrove Badge award for his consistent approach and excellence in the weekly activities. On a House front, our fund-raising saw significant donations made to the national Parkinson's UK and the local St. Basil's charities.

My thanks, as each year, go to the hugely supportive Lupton Parents' Association and its outgoing Chair, Jo Hill, for another year of super, well-attended House events. Our Housekeeper, Angela Cotterill is, quite simply, the heartbeat of Lupton and synonymous with all of its positive qualities. The laconic Mr Beet epitomises the talents, humour and hard work of a Tutor team who are as loyal to the House as the boys, and with whom it has been an absolute pleasure to work. Miss Partridge has been a welcome addition, and we wish Mr Kingston well as he heads down the hill to sort out Walters! Finally, my thanks to our Upper Sixth and Fifth Form leavers, who have given much to the House during their time, as well as my best wishes that they fare well beyond Bromsgrove. As a Lupton leaver myself this year, I know we all cannot help but take some good memories of Lupton with us ("*Lupton 'til I*

Lupton Leavers

ADAMSON, B., Lupton, 2006, School Monitor, House Monitor, Head of House, Music Exhibition, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket A teams in Prep, 3rd Football Captain in Senior, Big Band, Orchestra, Brass Group, Senior Jazz Ensemble, In nearly all concerts in the last five years in all these groups, playing in the Pit Orchestra for the last two Senior Drama productions (*Sweeney Todd* and *Hairspray*), CCF for three years, DofE Bronze, DofE Silver, DofE Gold. Leeds - Liberal Arts

BELLAMY, J.A., Lupton, 2012, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Football, 2nd Football, U16A Football, U15A Football, 1st Golf, U14A Rugby, U15A Rugby, U16A Rugby, U14 Athletics, U15 Athletics, GSCE History prize, University of Cambridge Robsen History Prize, Gold DofE, CCF, Honorary Academic Scholarship. Leeds - History

BERRY, M.B., Lupton, 2010, 1st Hockey, Resistant Materials Prize, CCF, DofE. Liverpool - Architecture

BHANDAL, H., Lupton, 2006, Achieved Lupton Senior House Tie. Gap Year

DEW, A.J., Lupton, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor. Loughborough - Sports Management

GOODWIN, O.G., Lupton, 2005, 2nd Rugby, 3rd Football, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE. Liverpool - International Business

HILL, L., Lupton, 2002, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Golf (Captain), National Golf Finals 2015, National Golf Finals 2017, Sports Scholarship, U15A Cricket, U15A Hockey. UEA - Business Economics

JEYS T.R., Lupton, 2011, CCF Best Shot, Tanzania Biology Trip, winner of the Biology Photography Competition, Physics Cern Trip. Gap Year

MANN, B.H., Lupton, 2009, House Monitor, Music Scholarship, Academic Scholarship, National Maths Challenge (Silver), DofE Bronze, 3rd Football, House Music Winner 2017, Rock Off Winner 2012. Gap Year

MARTIN, N.W.D., Lupton, 2008, House Monitor, Warrant Officer First Class in CCF, Academic Exhibition. Durham - Natural Sciences

MERRICK, J., Lupton, 2010, Prep School Survivor, Rugby, Football. Gap Year

PAPAIAIOANNOU, N., Lupton, 2012, House Monitor, 1st Athletics, 1st Cross-Country, 2nd Football, 3rd Rugby, National Finals in Cross-Country and Athletics, Regional and County wins in Athletics and Cross-Country, Victor Ludorum for Athletics, 1.2 Fastest Lap winner, House Cross-Country (first place twice), DofE Bronze, CCF. Gap Year

PRINCE, J.D., Lupton, 2000, Pre-Prep Survivor, 1st Squash, 2nd Football, Drama Award - Best Male Actor, DofE Gold, Young Enterprise, Debating, Drama Productions. Reading - Investment and Finance in Property

die" and all that). I have been immensely proud and privileged to lead the House for the last eight years and will miss the daily interactions desperately. However, no individual is greater than the whole; we are all part of a Lupton timeline which includes an illustrious past, and for which we hopefully contribute a worthy present. The onus is on those who return in September to keep creating an exciting future (*quid sequatur*, as Cicero would say) under the guidance of Mr Evans, who has my very best wishes for one of the best jobs in the School.

A G McClure

Lyttelton

Following a year of moving House and refurbishments, the seeds of change were planted and we have now had a year of stability and structure to start spreading roots and sprouting upwards.





The Lyttelton spirit was carried with us, but it is now firmly back at home. With routines, staff and friends all settled in, this year has been a time for growth. The spirit and fun-loving nature of our Upper Sixth have acted as the necessary sunlight for the new shoots to reach for, and each year group has made impressive progress.

The year has seen many successes, numerous competitions, and many events old, new and resurrected. Looking back, it is always hard to believe how much has been achieved in just one academic year. Whilst there are many individual achievements worthy of praise, the House works together to support each other, and every School day there are so many small successes, which all culminate to such well earned praise at the end of the year. Well done, Lytteltonians!

Led by Billy Draper-Barr as Head of House and assisted by Oliver Price as Deputy Head of House, my thanks go to our House Monitor team of Freddie Meredith, Tom Swift, Joe Symonds, Matt Townsend and Lawrence Weston (also Deputy Head of School) who played an instrumental role in the day-to-day running of the House, and particularly the organisation of House competitions and events. The House system at Bromsgrove really does promote the development of some strong friendship groups, but this year's Upper Sixth have proved to be one of the closest, most friendly and happiest bunch I have come across. Regardless of the multitude of talents they, often subtly, possess, their interpersonal skills, caring nature and ability to rally all in to having fun, will carry them far in life. They will be remembered fondly and we wish them all the best for their future education and careers.

Sport, as always, plays a large and important role bringing the House together and motivating individuals, and this year's sporting achievements are just as, if not more, monumental than any previous. A wealth of runner-up spots in the Inter-House competitions, gaining second place in the new Day House five-a-side football, the prestigious 1.2 relays (Mitchell Hare being the first Lower Fourth Former across the line), Senior B Team Rugby, Junior Badminton, Junior Football and Senior Table Tennis. Lyttelton claimed the limelight and were victorious in Senior Squash, Junior Cricket, Junior Cross-Country (with captain Henry Marshall coming first overall) and dominated the prized rugby trophies winning Junior A Team and Senior A and B Team contests. The trophy cabinet remains full! Outside of School at National and International levels, the following have competed: James Alma runner-up in the National Fencing Championships, Oliver Lawrence and Lawrence Weston playing rugby for England U17 and U18 teams respectively, Jasper Davidson playing cricket for the Scotland U15 team, and Cameron Ritchie continuing with Leicester Tigers and playing rugby for Scotland U15s. Not to be totally dominated by sport, the whole House performed a superb rendition of California Dreamin' at the beginning of the year in the House Song competition, we were runners-up in both Junior and Senior

Lyttelton Leavers

BROOMFIELD, J.E.J., Lyttelton, 2005, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, 3rd Rugby, House Rugby winner, Geography Prize, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, St James' Cup Debating, Reading - Geography

DELANEY-HALL, A., Lyttelton, 2009, 1st Rugby, 1st Hockey, 2nd Cricket. Liverpool - Architecture

DOLAN, P.R., Lyttelton, 2009. KCL - Liberal Arts

DRAPER-BARR, W., Lyttelton, 2003, Pre-Prep Survivor, School Monitor, Head of House, 1st Cross-Country, 1st Hockey, 1st Swimming, 1st Athletics, ESAA Cross-Country National Finals, ESAA National Athletics Finals, UKMT Gold Award, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, British Physics Olympiad, Debating Matters Regional Finals, School Orchestra, String Orchestra, CCF Senior NCO, Gold DofE, Music Scholarship, Academic Scholarship. Rolls Royce - YINI Placement

JOHAL, S.J., Lyttelton, 2015, Cricket Scholar, 1st Cricket. Aston - Business Management

LEE, S.D.E.R., Lyttelton, 2008, Prep Survivor. Leicester - Management Studies

MARSHALL, C.G., Lyttelton, 2012. Liverpool - Business Management with a Year in Industry

MEREDITH, F.M., Lyttelton, 2016, House Monitor, 1st Rugby, 2nd Rugby (Captain), 2nd Football. Hartpury - Sports Performance

PRICE, O.J., Lyttelton, 2012, Deputy Head of House, 1st Football, 2nd Rugby, Football Major Colours, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE. Liverpool - International Business with a Year in Industry

ROBINSON, T.R., Lyttelton, 2006, 1st Football, Football Cap, 2nd Cricket, 1st Squash, 3rd Rugby, 14A hockey, 1st Golf, National Golf Finals 2015, National Golf Finals 2017, unbeaten season individually in Golf during 2016-2017. Portsmouth - Business Economics

SMITH, G., Lyttelton, 2010, 1st Rugby, 2nd Rugby, 16A Rugby, DofE Silver. Birmingham City - HNC Construction

SWIFT, T.C., Lyttelton, 2009. Leicester - Management

SYMONDS, J.R., Lyttelton, 2012, 1st Squash (Captain), Academic Scholarship, CCF, DofE. Leicester - Banking and Finance

TIBBETTS, W.J., Lyttelton, 2012, Winner of every Rugby 7s Tournament in the U15 Team and played in the U16As, 2nd Rugby, 2nd Football, Rugby Scholarship. Oxford Brookes - Quantity Surveying and Construction Management

TOWNSEND, M.P., Lyttelton, 2010, House Monitor, 1st Hockey, Resistant Materials Prize, CCF, DofE. BUWE - Architecture

WESTON, L., Lyttelton, 2015, Deputy Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Rugby, NatWest Cup Winners 2016, NatWest Cup Semi-Final 2017, Sports Scholar 2015-2017, Rugby Cap. Birmingham - Geography

Debating contests, and there have been memorable performances in House music and drama.

The many events organised across the year have been well supported by the Lyttelton boys and parents to make them all a success. Notable events have included a trip to watch Worcester Warriors, preceded by pizza eating, our annual mince pies and mulled wine open house at the end of the Michaelmas term, another fantastic Burn's Night Ball at Grafton Manor (the last of five performances on the bagpipes by Billy Draper-Barr), A pizza and quiz evening organised by the Upper Sixth, the Leavers' Meal, a recently established New Monitors'

Meal, and just before Commemoration Day, a well-attended Zorb Football and Fish & Chips evening. None of these would have been possible without the selfless support of the PA and we are all grateful for their efforts and time.

As we say goodbye to such a memorable, cheerful and spirited Upper Sixth Form, we wish them good luck. I am certain the boys have enjoyed the year as much as I have, and we look forward to another year of such success and growth.

M Giles



Mary Windsor

Well another year has flown by and what an exciting year we have had. We started the year welcoming thirty new girls into the House, and without exception all settled in so quickly and House spirit remains as strong as ever.





Our introduction of “families” along with the getting to know you party at the end of the first week forged many new friendships. We celebrate having sixteen different nationalities in the House this year, with the girls growing to love and support each other.

We have had a very proactive Monitor team led by Elizabeth Edwards and Rebecca Reeves and assisted by Hanna Fastrich. These girls have been instrumental in helping the pupils settle and creating the homely and supportive feel to the House. We are also very proud to have had both the Head girl, Olivia Bond and Head Boarder, Tiffanie Tseng. Mary Windsor continues to go from strength to strength – the girls have great aspirations and we are happy to support them achieve their dreams.

A highlight was winning the House Song competition creative prize for our version of the song *Africa* by Shakira. Maria Holowinska conducted a very polished performance, led by the Upper Sixth with super dance moves and an excellent band. We have many talented musicians in the House. Drama continues to be strong with Paige Corcoran starring as Velma Von Tussle and Maria Holowinska, Ella Mgbudem and Lauren Milburn in supporting roles in the School musical *Hairspray*. It was a professional performance with so much energy. The musical theme continued with the resurrection of the House Music competition. Held in the Housman Room, it provided an evening of entertainment as well as competition. Tiffanie Tseng and Michaelia Yeung organised our ensemble, with Helen Zheng, Vika Rybak, Lauren Milburn, Yana Sergeeva and Swaan Kress.

Our tutors work extremely hard to ensure that the girls perform to the best of their ability as well as helping to make our House a home. We welcomed Ms Bradford to the team this year. All loyal, dedicated and giving much of their time, the girls and I owe them a huge debt of gratitude. Academically the girls proved themselves with strong effort grades throughout the year. In the summer, ninety percent of the House were commended. Many girls won prizes in Routh Hall, Mark Reading and on Commemoration for their superb academic achievements. School caps were awarded to Tiffanie Tseng for Badminton, Hanna Fastrich for Hockey and Paige Corcoran for Drama. The Wattell prize went to Olivia Bond for Geography and the Philip Denham Cookes prize for Drama to Paige Corcoran. Congratulations to all.

Patricia Blessing and Gerry Georgieva represented the girls at the Fourth Form forum meetings, Tiffany Tan and Michaelia Yeung at the School forum and Laetitia de Belgique and Charlotte Blessing on the Boarders' forum. Our thanks to them all for airing the views and for the feedback to the house.

As a treat for a successful first half term, the House threw a Halloween party. The costumes were superb and they played games in their families. Other House events have included pizza and pop nights and the formal leavers' meal. There has been plenty of baking and a huge effort was put into our recreation cake for the Bromsgrove Bake Off. The House enjoyed the annual Christmas Party at Grafton Manor, a grand venue dressed for the festive season with open fireplaces and the marquee glittering with fairy lights. The girls dressed up and partied after a three-course formal meal and drinks. The girls also arranged our first Sixth Form Ball at Hogarth's Stone Manor jointly with Wendron-Gordon boys. With over 100 pupils, parents and staff attending it was a fun event similar to our Christmas formal, with a meal and dancing. There was a chocolate raffle and fun games with the aim of raising a little money for Get Kids Going, a charity to assist disabled children in sport and mobility in schools all over the country.

For their support of all the girls, I again pay tribute to the Mary Windsor tutor team, to Amy Baker and her dog Paddy, who lives in the House with myself, and to Chris Fletcher, our Housemother who looks after us all. They are all professional and dedicated people who contribute so much to the House and individually to the girls in their care.

At our final assembly, our Heads of House spoke touching words and passed on advice to round off what has been a very successful year. House cups were awarded this year to Anna Huang for Sports, Paige Corcoran for Drama, Tiffanie Tseng for Music and Rebecca Reeves for Art. Senior Contribution to House Life went to Vika Rybak, Langdale Cup for Fourth Form contribution to Scarlett Bond, Hanna Fastrich won the Wallis bowl for Effort in the House community and the Fazel Cup for the Upper Sixth pupil who has achieved academically and contributed to House life went to Elizabeth Edwards.

Our Head of House next year will be Vika Rybak assisted by Michaelia Yeung and Katie Palmer-Reid. Congratulations to Anastasia Ovchinnikova who has been appointed Head Boarder.

Mary Windsor Leavers

BOND, O., Mary Windsor, 2010, Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, 3rd Netball, Staff Reading Prize winner, Senior House Debating winner, EU Referendum Project winner, English Speaking Union Best Speaker, GCSE Geography, EPQ prize, Don Gibbin Prize, RADA, CCF Senior NCO, Gold DofE, Biology Olympiad, Debating Society, MUN, European Youth Parliament, Debating Matters Regional Final, Academic Scholarship, Boarding Scholarship. University of British Columbia - Geography

CORCORAN, P. H., Mary Windsor, 2009, School Monitor, House Monitor, Drama Colours, LAMDA Grade 7 (Distinction), Academic Exhibition, Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, School Productions (Hermione in *The Winter's Tale*, Joanna in *Sweeney Todd*, Velma in *Hairspray*), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, CCF (until Sixth Form), Jazz Concert, GCSE Drama Prize. Warwick - Theatre and Performance Studies

EDWARDS, E.A., Mary Windsor, 2011, House Monitor, Head of House, 1st Athletics, MUN, European Youth Parliament, CCF RAF, Academic Scholarship, Minor Colour in Athletics, Gold Duke of Edinburgh, House Debating. St Andrews - Modern History and Modern Foreign Languages

FASTRICH, H.F.M., Mary Windsor, 2014, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Hockey, 1st Athletics.

FILIMONOVA, A., Mary Windsor, 2013. Westminster - Computer Science

LIU, L.T., Mary Windsor, 2013, House Monitor, Maths Olympiad, Maths Challenge. CUHK – Economics

REEVES R.L., Mary Windsor, 2010, House Monitor, Head of House, CCF, DofE, Choir, Chamber Choir, Sixth Form Consort, Hair and Make-up Team for School Production. Falmouth - Textile Design

SHEVELEVA, Y., Mary Windsor, 2012, House Monitor, C Hockey (junior), 3rd Hockey, CCF Shooting Team, 1st place CCF Shooting (25m Range), School Productions - *The Winter's Tale* and *Sweeney Todd*. Royal Holloway - Management with Marketing

TSENG, K.L.T., Mary Windsor, 2013, Senior Boarder, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Badminton (Captain), School Cap, ABRSM Diploma in Flute, ABRSM Grade 8 in Flute, School Orchestra, Flute Group, CCF, DofE Bronze, Silver, Gold, Bromsgrove Service: Design Technology, Academic Scholarship. UCL - Architecture

This year our small select nine Upper Sixth leavers have been a very close-knit group that have shared many happy years together, and with the creation of our families each of them has been “Mum” to their group. They have contributed in so many ways, making our House a home, riding the highs and the lows of boarding life and inspiring the younger members with their talents. They have led from above and set the bar high for those who follow. Very loyal to Mary Windsor and the embodiment of House spirit, cheering loudly from the sidelines or having fun in the common room – the mischievous antics have brought a smile to all.

T Tweddell



Oakley

Within the machine that is Bromsgrove School, Oakley House has been a warm and welcoming sanctuary, particularly for me during my first year as Houseparent.





With so much to learn, I have been amazed and reassured by how tradition is embedded in School life and often the girls are eager to tell me how things should be done. Not that they have been resistant to new ideas; there has been a sense of mutual respect as the Oakley community has allowed me to create my own home within theirs.



The sheer determination of the Upper Sixth has been evident in their commitment to their academic life and sense of pride in their House, demonstrated to full effect when all 126 students participated in House Song in October. Led by Charlotte Bayliss, Eleanor Birch, Sarah Chapman and Emily Evans, we were rewarded with a respectable runners-up place and I know this will fuel the next battle - many have their eyes set firmly on first place. I was told how Oakley was known for its sporting prowess so our successes in both Music and the Arts have been a wonderful addition to our House celebrations.

So many of our girls have performed on stage: Chloe Leslie, Anna Da Costa Martins, Madelaine Barber Fray, Charlotte Bayliss and Irene Lau were real stars in *Hairspray*. *Still Remembered Voices* was the Fourth Form drama performance in promenade at the end of term and the cast included some stellar performances by Eleanor Johnson, Phoebe Fletcher, Molly-Jo Sword, Lucy Hannah, supported

by Beth Slattery and Lauren McLean. Oakley has been led this year by Veronika Prinzessin Von Croy as Head of House; she has brought a sense of fun to the role and her affable personality has made her the ideal person to welcome our new students; Veronika's charm and quiet support of the boarding community will be missed next year. She was ably supported by the Deputy Head of House, Kate Ward. I was delighted that Kate was awarded the highly prestigious Kelly Bicknell Trophy during our Commemoration Day celebrations; Kate has demonstrated her service to the School in her unfailingly positive approach to the whole community. Kate puts the values of community spirit before herself, the first to volunteer for any event. She is a deserved recipient of this award and true ambassador for the principles of service to the School.

Oakley House is incredibly proud of its National sportswomen: Esme Gibson has now been selected on a number of occasions for U16 England Hockey; Catie Ranger, Hannah Pover and Cory-Jo McGlynn are double National Champions in Netball and, most recently, Abigail Saker won gold in the National Independent Schools' Triathlon - swimming 400m, cycling 10km and running 5km. What a remarkable achievement.

Our sports teams gave it their all in the House competitions this year and I would like to thank all of the girls who signed up for an event, sometimes taking them beyond their comfort zones. It was wonderful to add to the new trophy cabinet at the end of this term with wins in both senior rounders and tennis.

The Parents' Association has made a stellar contribution to House life this year. As well as the regular chocolate hunts at Christmas and Easter, they hosted a magical Christmas party at the Bromsgrove Rugby Club, including the ever-popular photo booths. We are also grateful for their generous contributions to House which have included an impressive trophy cabinet and half a table tennis table. Luckily, Elmshurst bought the other half and this has really encouraged more use of our courtyard space for both Houses. A trip to The Clothes Show and the Summer Party ice cream van have also been much appreciated by the girls, as were the leavers' gifts. I would like to thank the PA for their continued support of our girls this year.

Our Head of House for the next academic year is Dichhya Pun, assisted by deputy Meghan McIntosh. I have also appointed two Senior Boarders within Oakley to recognise their contribution to House life: Caroline Antpohler and Highbury Rodway. We have a very strong team of Monitors in Oakley this year and four of the girls are also recognised as School Monitors: Madelaine Barber Fray, Anna Da Costa Martins, Laura Merritt and Abigail Saker.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to the whole team of staff who support Oakley House day in, day out. For everything that the girls see, a thousand things go unseen but not unnoticed. The Tutors, the Assistant Houseparents and our fabulous Housemothers, Mrs Astill and Mrs Pugh, along with the porters, cleaners, ground staff - our girls are their priority every day. To come into an established team was daunting but I could not have wished for better support and the quiet encouragement of the Helmores in particular. Thank you.

V Adams



Oakley Leavers

BARABOSHKINA, A., Oakley, 2012, Jeffery Lewins Prize for Technology, Tennis. UCL - Architecture

BAYLISS, C.E., Oakley, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, Young Enterprise, 3rd Hockey, U17A Rounders, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Bronze RADA, Silver RADA, School Productions; The Lottery, The Winter's Tale, Sweeney Todd, Hairspray. Manchester - Disaster Management

BIRCH, E.J., Oakley, 2008, House Monitor, NCO Sergeant in CCF RAF Section, School Debating Society, Chorus and Quintet Member in Sweeney Todd Production 2016, Fourth Form Plays (The Witches in 2012 and The Lottery in 2013), RADA Award (Bronze), LAMDA Award (Bronze), The M.J. Ryder Shooting Plate Competition CCF Award, Girls' Rugby Team, School Guide, House Head of Music and Debating and Arts, Oakley Junior House Award, Public Speaking, Fifth Form Study Head, Oakley Joint Head of House Music Competition 2016 (Runner-up), Contestant in Housman Verse Prize and Staff Reading Prize, Chairing and Timekeeping Debates, First Aid Qualification, British Heart Foundation Heartstart Qualification, Chapel Readings for Evensong and other School Services, English Teaching in Preparatory School. Oxford Brookes - English

CARRINGTON-WINDO, E., Oakley, 2015. Nottingham Trent - Coaching and Sport Science

CHAPMAN, S.R., Oakley, 2009, 3rd Hockey, Grade 7 Trumpet, Grade 5 Jazz Piano, Brass Group, Orchestra, Big Band, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Honorary Scholarship, Music Scholarship. Birmingham - Medicine

COLLIN, E.C., Oakley, 2012, House Monitor, Gold DofE. Birmingham - History

DAUJOTAITE, I., Oakley, 2012. UAL - Product Design

DELANEY, E.S., Oakley, 2008, Martin Sykes Award (Graphical Products), CCF, Gold DofE. Leeds School of Art - Art Foundation

DIMITROVA, V., Oakley, 2012. LSE - Sociology

GOODCHILD, K.E., Oakley, 2013, House Monitor, Progress and Endeavour Award 2014, RS Mark Reading Prize 2015, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service: Operation Christmas Child and Sign Language, Fourth Form Drama Production. Manchester - Geography

GUREVYCH, I., Oakley, 2014, House Monitor, Economics Society (for Prep School), Bromsgrove Service: Flourishing Fiver, MUN, Photography. Chicago - Economics

HAWKESWOOD, E.R., Oakley, 2012, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, B Hockey. Nottingham Trent - Business Management and Marketing

KARICHEVA, S., Oakley, 2013, Charity Shop Helper, Residential Homes, PPE, Art, DT Community Project, Senior Physics Olympiad (Bronze). NYU - Economics

KÖRZDÖRFER, D., Oakley, 2014, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Hockey (Captain and School Cap), Reached National Finals with the Indoor U16 Team (2015) and became Midland Champions (2015), Sports Leaders Award (Level 1 and 2), Sports Scholarship for Sixth Form. Bath - Economics

LESLIE, C.R., Oakley, 2011, Drama Productions: The witches, The Wardrobe, Sweeney Todd, Hairspray, CCF, 3rd Hockey, 3rd Netball. Bath Spa - Criminology and Psychology

MAN, C.S.H., Oakley, 2013. KCL - International Development

MIHAESCU, A., Oakley, 2013, House Monitor. KCL - Business Management

POZHIDAEVA, L., Oakley, 2011, 1st Athletics, 1st Cross Country, recipient of the Science, Maths and Technology Cup in Year 8, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE, Fourth Form Drama Production, Academic Scholarship. KCL - Global Health and Social Medicine

PRINZESSIN VON CROY, V., Oakley, 2014, Head of House, House Monitor. KCL - International Relations

RAI, R., Oakley, 2012, Art Scholarship, CCF, DofE. Leeds - Digital Media

ROBINSON, E.R., Oakley, 2015, Young Enterprise, YE Best Presentation Award twice, Young Enterprise Mentor, DofE Silver, European Youth Parliament, Make-up artist for Senior Drama Production, Football, House colour. Cushman & Wakefield - School Leaver Scheme

SAAKYAN, D.Z.H., Oakley, 2014, House Monitor. Chicago - Economics

SALMON, K., Oakley, 2003. York - Social Policy: Crime and Criminal Justice

THOMPSON, M.C., Oakley, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, 2nd Netball, 2nd Hockey, 3rd Tennis, CCF, DofE, RADA. St Andrews - English

WANG, E.A., Oakley, 2013, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Cross-County, 16+ Academic Scholarship, Honorary Scholarship, Choir, Debating, MUN, Residential Homes, Climbing. Cambridge - Human, Social and Political Sciences

WANG, W.Y., Oakley, 2013. Overseas - Fashion

WARD, K., Oakley, 2005, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, CCF, Gold DofE. Swansea - Geography

School House

It doesn't seem like a year since I was last in the position of reviewing a year in School House, however once again I find myself awestruck by the fantastic year that the House has had, and how tirelessly the young men have worked throughout this period.





A notable highlight for me was House Song; it is always tough to rally together seventy boys to prepare for a singing competition, however the Upper Sixth appeared to do this with relative ease, with Tom Muir at the helm to organise, orchestrate and even coax out a good tune. The performance was fantastic, and the boys can be incredibly pleased with their song, which was loved by a huge number of the audience, and clearly the judge, as Tom's efforts meant he was awarded the Conductors' Prize.

Throughout the year, the boys have thrown themselves at every House competition going; whether this be debating, swimming, hockey, drama or table tennis, every time this small, proud House was represented by juniors or seniors, and always supported by their peers. As with every end of term, there are students who have been praised for their efforts, and 2016/17 proved to be another fantastic one for School House. In the Fourth Form, Dan Meredith was commended for his performance in cricket, Ethan McLean for his contributions to drama, and Thomas Chapman for his consistent hard work in music. In the Lower Fourth, Hugh Abraham, Jakob Heptinstall, Jozef Ruben and Max Rusling were all congratulated for their work in drama. Music for the Lower Fourth was a similar story, with Hugh Abraham, Luke Weller and Jozef Ruben all being awarded a commendation. Special praise must go to Hugh and Jozef for obtaining both awards, clearly ones to watch for the future.

The success was not only limited to the Fourth Form however; Archie Holder received minor colours in both drama and music, and fellow musicians Iain Simmons and Tristan Hall also received their minor colours. Oliver Hall and Luke Alcock gained their major colours in music. The same assembly saw two members of the House being awarded the highest

accolade in their discipline, the School Cap; and these caps went to Alex Cox for two fantastic years of golf at the School, and Tom Muir for his continued excellence in music.

Outside of School life, many have achieved a great deal, and it would be impossible to mention everything; however two of particular note from this year are: Sam Osborne, who has been selected to swim for Team GB at the Győr 2017 European Youth Olympic Festival, and Zach Jeacock who has been awarded an apprenticeship at Birmingham City Football Club during his A levels, after making a great impression on the club. Congratulations to both on such impressive achievements. Now to our Upper Sixth. They were small in number, yet big in responsibility, with two out of nine becoming School Monitors. Tom Muir and Oliver Hall had an incredibly busy year because of this, however they still managed to obtain two out of the five special prizes at Commemoration: Tom receiving the Paul Sawtell trophy for his contributions to the School and Arts, and Oliver Hall receiving the Cookes Award for continued contributions across the School, CCF, academics and the Arts. These are two phenomenal achievements, especially in such a strong Upper Sixth Year. Also commended at Commemoration was Alex San - awarded the prize for best in Business Studies.

School House Leavers

ALCOCK, L.J., School, 2010, Bronze DofE, Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Chapel Choir, String Group, Drama Productions: The Witches and The Lottery, Art Scholarship, Honorary Academic Scholarship. Sheffield - Architecture

BILLS, S.S., School, 2012. Aston - Business and Supply Chain Management

COX, A., School, School, 2015, House Monitor, 1st Golf, DofE. Aston - Business and International Relations

DRAYSON, E.C., School, 2008, Head of House, Music Colours, EU Referendum Project (Winning Team), Gold DofE, CCF. Gap Year

FINLAY, M.W., School, 2002, Pre-Prep Survivor, Photography Competition, CCF, DofE. BUWE - Business Management and Leadership

HALL, O.D., School, 2003, Pre-Prep Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, Prize for GCSE results in Biology, Physics, and Chemistry, Best Years Work Prize in Lower Fourth and Upper Fourth, Grade 8 Piano, Grade 8 Violin, Music Minor Colours, Upper Fourth Biology Olympiad, Upper Sixth Physics Olympiad, Orchestra, String Group, numerous Music Concerts, Oxbridge Physics, WO2 in CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Music Exhibition, Academic Scholarship 11+, Honorary Academic Scholarship. Imperial - Civil Engineering

MUIR, T.J., School, 2012, School Monitor, House Monitor, Big Band, Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Chapel Choir, Flute Group, Wind Band, Sixth Form Consort, Music Scholarship. Birmingham - Ancient History

ROCHE, S.T., School, 2012, Rugby, Football, House Rugby, House Football, House Cross-Country, House Basketball, House Badminton. Liverpool - International Business

SAN, A.H., School, 2012, House Monitor, 1st Athletics, U17 Midland Counties Athletics, U17A Athletics, U15C Rugby, U14A Rugby, U14A Athletics, PA Senior Achievement Plate, School House Endeavour Cup, Headmasters Commendation (Lent 2016 and Lent 2017), CCF (with Commendation), DofE Bronze, DofE Silver, IFS Student Investor Challenge, Year 8 Enterprise Assistant, Young Enterprise (Best Company, Best Finance Director, Best Company Report, Best Presentation and Social Ethical and Environmental Award). Bath - Business Administration

My final words are about the Head of House, Edward Drayson. Edward has grown into a great leader this year, displaying the exact character traits that are required to lead School House – he is personable, responsible and always prepared to do what is right. He has been a great lead and worked incredibly well for the boys in this House.

Thank you to all the gentlemen of School House, the pleasure has been all mine.

T Clinton



Thomas Cookes

At Commemoration, we reach the time of year where the Upper Sixth are leaving. I am greatly saddened by their departure. TC class of 2017 have been a very strong group of girls who have worked well together and have always been pro-active in and about the House. I know I will miss them, as will many of the staff.





Throughout the year, Thomas Cookes has changed, developed and progressed. We are a strong House within an outstanding school. Many of the girls consistently perform well in subjects and we have a huge diversity of talents.

There has been much fun to be had in the House this year. We have had Pizza and DVD nights, a wonderful Christmas Dinner and Quiz night for the whole House and we celebrated Pancake Day and Easter with appropriate events. One of our most satisfying occasions is the House Breakfast. On a cold February morning the whole house have breakfast together – quite unusual in a Day House. We also had the wonderful Thomas Cookes and School House Ball, which was well attended. The girls all looked amazing on the night and had a wonderful time. For charity, we raised a record amount of £265 for Macmillan last September and I know the girls worked hard and were very generous towards the Shoeboxes for the Christmas Appeal.

I was impressed with the way the girls came together to perform well as a group for House Song. I would like to thank Nanci Burbidge for all her efforts here. Nanci also aided the House in the first House Drama competition for some years. Holly Heslop, Holly Nicholls, Isabel Kemp and Rhiannon Idczak performed well in *Daisy pulls it off*.

Very impressively, we won the junior debate this year. This is one of few competitions where we challenge the boys' Houses as well as the girls. Francesca Mellor and Elizabeth Aston prepared extremely well, had difficult arguments and won the whole competition. A great achievement.

We have also competed extremely well in many sporting competitions. We have been particularly successful in badminton, netball, swimming, rounders, cross-country and the 1.2 relays. I have to just mention the 1.2 relays as this is a difficult event where every girl has to perform outstandingly to win. The team of Isabel James, Olivia Turner, Elouise Brookes, Elyssa Jones, Freya Harper and Shona Mills were brilliant. They all ran well, however, Shona ran a brilliant first leg, in her first 1.2 competition. She managed to hit the front and the rest of the team were able to maintain her well fought position for the rest of the race. I hope to see her perform at this standard throughout her TC career.

I would like to thank the tutors in TC, without whom I could not do my job. They support me and help the girls immeasurably. I would also like to thank Lorraine who has now recovered and is back helping the girls in so many ways. Finally, thank you to the Thomas Cookes Parents' Association who help run many events throughout the year. Without this support, I would be struggling.

K Hannah

Thomas Cookes Leavers

BALL, L., Thomas Cookes, 2005. Leeds - Fashion Design

BROOKES, H.O., Thomas Cookes, 2009. Reading - Classical Studies

BROWN, L.E., Thomas Cookes, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, School Monitor, 1st Netball, 1st Hockey, 1st Athletics, National Prep Schools' 75m Hurdle Champion 2011, ranked No.1 in England for 70m hurdles in 2011 (U13 level), County Champion for 300m Hurdles and Triple Jump (U17 level), U16A Swimming, U16A Badminton, U16A Indoor Hockey - National Finals, Junior Cross-Country, Victrix Ludorum winner, Junior Colours for Netball, Junior Colours for Hockey, Junior Colours for Athletics, Netball Cap, PE Prize (Fifth Form), Gold DofE, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE, Sports Scholarship. Cardiff - Physiotherapy

BURBIDGE, N., Thomas Cookes, 2003, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, Drama Productions - The Lottery, Sweeney Todd and Hairspray, Staff Sergeant in CCF, directed the House Drama, organised House Music, conducted House Song, Junior House Music and Drama Award, Bronze DofE. Bath Spa - Drama with English

FIRMINGER, S., Thomas Cookes, 2005, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, Gold DofE, Academic Scholarship. Bath - Business Administration

GLASS, E.J., Thomas Cookes, 2012, House Monitor, 2nd Netball, A Netball (Lower Fourth-Fifth Form), A Hockey (Fourth Form), 2nd Hockey (Fifth Form), 1st Athletics, Junior and Senior Netball Colours, CCF for three years (Lance Corporal), Bronze DofE, Bromsgrove Service - Prep School Reading Helper, Foundation Scholarship. Liverpool - Politics with a Year Abroad

IDCZAK, R.I., Thomas Cookes, 2014, Deputy Head of House, MUN, Debating. Durham - Law

JAMES, I.J., Thomas Cookes, 2012, Deputy Head of School, School Monitor, Honorary Academic Scholarship, 1st Cross-Country (Captain and School Cap), 1st Athletics, 2nd Hockey, U16A Netball, 1st East Midlands Cross-Country League, County 800m Champion, 3rd in King Henry VIII relays, Representative of Hereford and Worcestershire Schools Athletics and Cross Country Teams (Captain 2017), Most Improved Cross Country Runner Cup, Silver DofE, Marmite Club, CCF. Bath - Business Administration

JAYARATNASINGAM, J.J., Thomas Cookes, 2009, House Monitor, A Hockey, A Netball, A Rounders, 2nd Netball, CCF, DofE, Netball Colours, House Colours. Reading - Physical Geography

KHAN, B.M., Thomas Cookes, 2015, House Monitor, 3rd Hockey, House Music, Hair and Make-up Team for School Production of Hairspray, Gold DofE, Flute Group, Archiving, Music Group (Bromsgrove Service), Christmas Concert, Pop and Jazz, Commemoration Concert, Informal Concert, German Exchange, House Swimming, House Hockey, Food Forum Rep. Cardiff - Archaeology

LAWLEY, C.A., Thomas Cookes, 2015, DofE, Make-up Team for Drama Production, Bromsgrove Service. Coventry - Disaster Management and Emergency Planning

MARTIN, I.M., Thomas Cookes, 2010, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Silver DofE, Sports Leadership (Level 1). De Montfort - Interior Design

MURPHY, I.R., Thomas Cookes, 2005, Pre-Prep Survivor, Textiles Cup in Year 8, Make-up Team for Drama Production, DofE, Bromsgrove Service, CCF, Bromsgrove Badge Sixth Form Helper. Nottingham Trent - Textile Design

NEALES, K.H., Thomas Cookes, 2010, Head of House, 1st Swimming, 1st prize in ALUPRO and ALFED National DT Challenge, DT National Starpack Challenge (Bronze), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service. Bath - Psychology

PRUST, J. K., Thomas Cookes, 2012. Royal Holloway - History

RALPH, B.M., Thomas Cookes, 2008, House Monitor, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service, Art Scholarship, Academic Scholarship into Sixth Form. Exeter - History

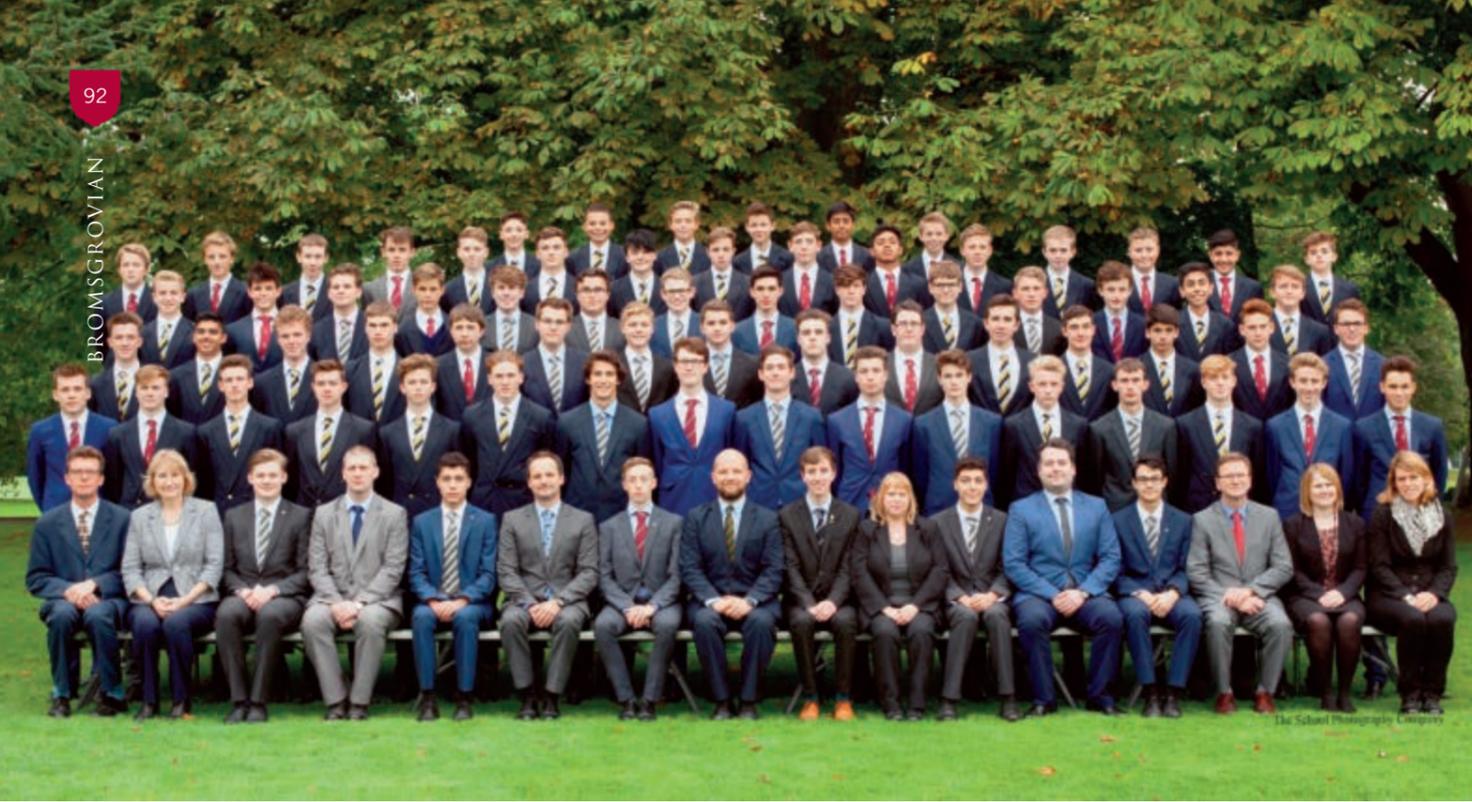
WESTWOOD, P.A., Thomas Cookes, 2010, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Gold DofE, German Exchange. Manchester - Planning with Real Estate



Walters

Throughout my time in the Senior School there have been many highlights and memories, but it is safe to say that without being in Walters throughout the five years I have been in the Senior School, I would not have done as well as I have.





The constant House spirit and community helps the entire Upper Sixth to thrive during our time at the School.

The first highlight involving Walters this year was the annual House Song, singing *Our House*. The performance was directed by Dan Johnson who went on to conduct the House and also perform his own Saxophone solo during our own unique take on the 1970's classic. However, in typical Walters fashion, the House put its heart into the singing to give a strong, bold performance with some superb dance moves from the Upper Sixth.

After House Song came the usual sporting events. In the Inter-House rugby, it was impressive to see some new boys play rugby for the House for their first time and step up to the plate when numbers were needed. In Inter-House cross-country, there were strong performances by the boys including Kieran Walker's top five finish. However, the main highlights of the sporting year must be the 1.2km relay and Inter-House hockey. For the eighth year running, Walters won the 1.2km relays, with Kieran Walker and Hugo Beattie being involved in winning the relay every year they have been in the House. There was also the more surprising win in the Inter-House hockey with Walters upsetting the favourites Wendron-Gordon to win the senior competition. A strong performance in sports day capped off a good year of sporting events for the House.

There have also been some impressive academic results over the year with some superb effort grades. One of the most outstanding academic results in the House came from Sam Phillips who was accepted to read Engineering at Cambridge University. In debating, the standout performance from Max Campbell ensured he obtained the best junior debater award. The House has also had notable music contributions from pupils such as Jude Winter (with a terrific piano performance in solo House music) and George Bingham and Dan Johnson in the team competition.

One of the other highlights of the year was the Walters paintball event in February. Around forty boys with Mr Bell and Mr Vernon descended onto Delta Force and split into two teams. This year the House also had a pool competition where Evan Stokes and Sam Morrice beat myself and Callum Ross in the final.

Although the boys are a huge part of Walters, there are many people working behind the scenes to make sure that House life moves smoothly. I would firstly like to thank our tutor team this year - new additions Mr Vernon, Ms Hunter, Mr Kettle and Mr Wakeford have been able to fit into the House system superbly well with the existing tutors providing support for everyone in Walters. Sadly, Mr Brogden (Deputy Housemaster) and Mr Stone (Tutor) will be leaving us this year, and we all wish them well in their future endeavours.

I would also like to thank our housemother Lesley - without her the House would quickly fall into ruin. Lesley works tirelessly every day to deal with our problems and she is always a person you can turn to for help. Thank you for all that you do. Last but not least we come to our Housemaster, Mr Bell. It was always going to be a challenge taking over from the eternal Mr Wilkins but Mr Bell has matched and succeeded all expectations of him. Despite the fact that there have been some challenges with changing his style of leadership from Boarding in WG to a Day House, he has been able to work with the Monitor team to move past these challenges and has gone from strength to strength. I would also like to congratulate Mr Bell on the recent birth of his daughter, Eloise.

It seems like yesterday that I was joining Walters as a small Lower Fourth pupil, and my five years here have gone by in a flash. I have had many memorable times here and I will miss the atmosphere of the House that makes Walters great. I wish everyone in Walters the best of luck in the future and hope that it continues to be a place of enjoyment amidst a busy School year.

Patrick Waplinton (Head of House)

It is never easy leaving a job that you love, especially one that has been such a big part of your life for some years. However, the time had come to leave Wendron-Gordon behind and join Walters - and what a great first year this has been. Firstly, I would like to thank my new tutor team for their patience, advice and above all else their support. Paddy and his team of Monitors have been sublime and they have proved to be the vital bridge between the House and me. Paddy has beautifully summarised the year and I would like to thank every "Waltonian" that has made the year so much fun. The community spirit and pride in the Walters badge is what makes this House different from all the others. Last but by no means least I thank Lesley - she is more than the Walters housekeeper, she is the heartbeat of the House. I have loved working with her and I look forward to many more years.

Walters Leavers

ASHWORTH A.S., Walters, 2008, 2nd Rugby, Sports Leader (Level 1 and 2), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE. Nottingham Trent - Business and Entrepreneurship

BEATTIE.H.G., Walters, 2007, 1st Cross-Country, House Cross-Country Winner 2016, DofE. Sheffield - Psychology

BROOKES, R., Walters, 2009, 2nd Football, Gold DofE. Liverpool - Business Management

COLLINS, M.C., Walters, 2012, 1st Cross-Country, 2nd Cricket, Lower Fourth District Cross-Country Winner, Lower Fourth French Prize, Upper Fourth German Prize, Grade 6 Jazz Saxophone, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, German Exchange, Biodiesel Project, Biology Tanzania Trip, Antigua Cricket Tour, participant in many Musical Concerts e.g. Pop and Jazz, Christmas Concerts, Mowtown Concert etc. Nottingham - Physics and Theoretical Astrophysics

EDGE, J.S.A.H., Walters, 2004, Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Cross-Country, U13A Athletics, School Commendation, Fifth Form CCF, Bromsgrove Badge, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Lighting for the Fourth Form Drama Productions and National Theatre Connections 2014, Editor of 201 Magazine, CERN Physics Trip 2016. Portsmouth - Computer Science

EDWARDS, D.C.W., Walters, 2006, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, U16A Hockey, Year 8 Choir, Year 8 Prefect, Grade 2 Saxophone, Grade 1 Piano, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, CCF, Young Enterprise Regional Finals, YE Finance Award, YE Best Presentation Award x2, YE Best Company Report award, YE Best Overall Company. Kent - Economics

FITZMAURICE, S., Walters, 2015, 1st Football, 1st Cricket. Gloucestershire - Sports Coaching

GILBERT, J.T., Walters, 2006, Prep School Survivor, 2nd Rugby, School Gardening, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, CCF. Surrey - Economics

JOHNSON, D.G., Walters, 2012, 3rd Rugby, Paul Sawtell Award, Drama Productions - Corny Collins in Hairspray and Chorus in Sweeney Todd, Big Band, Chamber Choir, Chapel Choir, Saxophone Group, Music Scholarship. Lancaster - Geography

PETRAKAS, M., Walters, 2010, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Tennis, Gold DofE. York - Psychology

PETRAKAS, P., Walters, 2010, House Monitor, 1st Tennis, 2nd Hockey, Gold DofE, School Gardening. Leeds - Politics

PHILLIPS, S.R., Walters, 2013, Biodiesel Project, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Badminton, Table Tennis, Senior Maths Challenge (Gold), Physics Olympiad, Grade 1 Piano, Grade 2 Piano, Studied Grade 5 Piano, Oxbridge Physics, Flourishing Fiver, Biology Tanzania Trip, Physics CERN Trip, two Headmaster Commendations. Cambridge - Engineering

ROSS, C., Walters, 2003, Pre-Prep Survivor, 1st Hockey, 1st Badminton, Hockey MVP Cup, Hockey Cap. Sheffield - Medicine

WALKER, K.D., Walters, 2010, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Athletics, 1st Cross-Country (Cap), 1st Swimming, 1.2 Relay Winner (five times), 1st Inter-House Cross-Country, English Schools' Cross-Country, British Inter-Counties Cross-Country, CCF CSM, Holocaust Memorial Ambassador, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE. Bath - Politics and International Relations

WAPLINGTON, P.J., Walters, 2008, School Monitor, Head of House, 1st Hockey (Major Colours), CCF, Gardening, DT Community Project, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, U14 Rugby 7s. Lancaster - Geography

So there we have it... Year one done. Walters House will grow and I will continue to push the boys, but one thing that will never change is pride that I have in them. It is a great job and I look forward to all the successes, challenges and laughs that being at the helm of Walters will bring.

H Bell

Wendron-Gordon

A year that began with the International Induction at the end of August 2016 and ran through until Commemoration in July 2017 saw some excellent achievements within Wendron-Gordon.





With more than thirty new joiners out of a House of ninety, two new members of the tutor team coming aboard, as well as a new Houseparent, there was much change afoot. Fortunately, Wendron-Gordon was in good hands with an experienced and dedicated team of tutors and House staff, allowing for a smooth handover from Mr Bell's tenure.

There was also outstanding leadership from an Upper Sixth year group who really made their mark at Bromsgrove. The year group boasted Bromsgrove's Head Boy, two other School Monitors, and a number of 1st team captains, including those of the senior rugby, football, cricket, hockey and cross-country teams. The Upper Sixth lads' guidance and example set the tone for the rest of the House for a good year.



It was a very successful year on the sports fields, with numerous victories in Inter-House competitions across every term. The junior teams won the football, rugby, badminton and squash competitions, with the seniors winning the trophies for cross-country, swimming, football and athletics. The senior win at Sports Day, combined with fine results also for the junior and intermediate teams, meant that the House were the overall winners on the day, with the boys also winning the much-coveted 4 x 400 trophy. Individual sporting successes saw Beck Cutting selected for England U18s for Rugby Union and Jordan Smith gain full international honours for Bermuda in cricket. James Kinder, Captain of both football and cricket 1st XIs, was awarded the Tony Limbert Trophy at Prizegiving for his contribution to School sport.

In the House Song competition - the theme this year was place names - the boys plumped for *Amarillo*. Much fun was had in practising for the event and the boys performed superbly on the day. Despite not getting the nod from the judge, all in Wendron-Gordon were proud of what they had achieved. The year also saw some fantastic performances in drama, with Miles Rosbrook stealing the show as Edna Turnblad in the School production of *Hairspray*. Miles also won the award for best actor in the revived House Drama competition, which saw ten lads work together on a scene from *Posh*. The final piece was thoroughly enjoyable with some fantastic comic moments - an excellent ensemble piece. Success in other areas too, saw a large contingent of Wendron-Gordon Lower Sixth take part in the Young Enterprise programme, helping the company, Embark, to a very productive and successful year.

Other highlights of the year included the Bowling night at Rubery, run as a Christmas treat, the in-House competitions such as pool and table tennis, the Fifa night organised by Mr Taylor, and, of course, the Stellar Ball - a lovely evening at Stone Manor organised and attended by Wendron-Gordon and Mary Windsor Sixth Formers. Neither will the boys forget the power-cut in the Lent term that plunged the House into darkness for the best part of a whole night.

We wish the Upper Sixth leavers well for all of their future endeavours and adventures after Bromsgrove. They have contributed hugely to a very successful year for the House and we look forward to hearing of many of their successes in the years to come. Special thanks should go to Callum Stirrat, Deputy Head of House and James Kinder, Head of House, for their fine leadership this year; both acted as genuine role models for the younger pupils. The House was honoured to have the Head Boy amongst its ranks this year - George Goodall set a superb example for others to follow. Next year's Head of House will be Xaver Freigassner, with Harry Pugh taking on the role of Deputy Head of House. We wish them and the rest of the Wendron-Gordon monitor team all the best for the coming year. We also wish Vinzenz Freigassner a good year in his role as Deputy Head Boy of the School.

We said goodbye to two fine tutors in Mr Challoner and Mr Edwards at the end of the year and we thank them for their many contributions to Wendron-Gordon over the past few years. Huge thanks to all of the tutor team and housekeeping staff for all of their efforts on behalf of the boys over the year. Most of all, thanks to Mrs Batchelor, who has continued to support, encourage and look after everyone in Wendron-Gordon. Best wishes to all for the year ahead.

D Wilkins

Wendron-Gordon Leavers

BENTLEY, D.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2015, 1st Football. Apprenticeship - Project Management and Quantity Surveying

CHEUNG, V.H.L., Wendron-Gordon, 2015, 1st Basketball, Bromsgrove Service, Squash. Loughborough - Communication and Media Studies

CHOU, H.I., Wendron-Gordon, 2015, 1st Basketball, Intermediate Biology Olympiad 2016 (Gold), Physics Challenge 2016 (Gold), Chemistry Challenge 2016 (Gold), Debating, MUN, DofE, Chinese Concert, Inter-House Music Competition, Full Scholarship and Year 1 exemption from CUHK. HKU - Medicine

CUTTING, B.E.R., Wendron-Gordon, 2008, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Rugby 2014-17, 1st Rugby Captain 2017, NatWest Schools' Cup Winners 2015/16, NatWest Schools' Cup Semi-Finalist 2017, MOM NatWest Schools' Cup Final 2016, Rugby Player of the Season 2017, U16A Hockey, 1st Athletics, Biology Olympiad (Commendation), Maths Challenge (Second Round), Saxophone Quartet, Gold DofE, CCF, Scholarship, Sports Scholarship. Bath - Sport and Social Sciences

EVANS, F.E., Wendron-Gordon, 2001, Pre-Prep Survivor, 1st Hockey since Fifth Form, 1st Hockey Captain 2017, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, School Cap for Hockey, National Hockey Finals (U13), Junior House Rugby (Lower Fourth). Newcastle - Civil Engineering

FUNG, T.C.H., Wendron-Gordon, 2013, 1st Basketball, 2nd Football, GCSE Maths Prize, UK Maths Team Challenge Winner (Midlands), Chinese Concert, Cultures Connect Concert, Bromsgrove's Got Talent. Imperial - Design Engineering

GOODALL, G.H., Wendron-Gordon, 2008, Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Crusaders Rugby, Young Enterprise - Managing Director, Gold DofE, CCF, Drama National Competition. St Andrews - Geography

KINDER, J.P., Wendron-Gordon, 2012, House Monitor, Head of House, Head of House, House Monitor, 1st Cricket, 1st Cricket Captain, 1st Football, 1st Football Captain, 3rd Rugby, Sports Scholar, Cricket Chesterton Cup winners x3, Sports Leader (Level 1). Cardiff - Economics and Politics

NG, L.Y.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2015, House Monitor, 3rd Football, Debating, MUN, House Drama Competition, Italian, Latin, House Debating Competition. LSE - Law

NIAN, H., Wendron-Gordon, 2014, Edinburgh - Architecture

RIESE, N., Wendron-Gordon, 2014, 3rd Rugby, 2nd Football, Bromsgrove Service.

ROBERTS, T.P., Wendron-Gordon, 2010, Prep School Survivor, 1st Shooting, 2nd Rugby, 1st Cross-Country, 1st Athletics, Gold DofE, CCF CSgt, Debating Society, Falling Plate Shooting National Champion, Shooting Regional Champion, Target Rifle Shooting Regional Champion, CIBC. Kent - Military History

ROGERS, O.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2010, House Monitor, 1st Cross-Country, 1st Cross-Country Captain, Cross-Country Major and Minor Colours, Senior House Swimming, Senior House Cross-Country, GreenPower Race Team, Drama Minor Colours, Drama Productions: The Shepherd in A Winter's Tale, Company Roles in Sweeney Todd and Hairspray, CCF Colour Sergeant, Gold DofE, Debating, European Youth Parliament, Honorary Scholarship (GCSEs). York - Chemistry

ROSBROOK, M.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2012, House Monitor, Best Actor in Senior House Drama, Senior Biology Olympiad (Commendation), Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (Commendation), Fourth Form Drama Production of The Wardrobe, Drama Productions: The Winters Tale, Sweeney Todd and Hairspray, Staff Sergeant in the CCF, Gold DofE. Liverpool - Biological and Medical Science

SCHULZE-HAGEN, P.P.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2014, House Monitor, 1st Hockey.

SMITH, J.M., Wendron-Gordon, 2012, 1st XI Cricket, Cricket Chesterton Cup Winners 2015, Sports Leaders (Level 1), Sports Scholarship. Cardiff Met - Business and Management

STIRRAT, C.A.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2009, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Athletics, 1st Squash, 2nd Rugby, 2nd Hockey, Gold DofE. Liverpool - Construction Management

TSE, R.C.H., Wendron-Gordon, 2012, House Monitor, 1st Badminton, 3rd Football, Orchestra. UCL - Philosophy and Economics

TURNER E.N., Wendron-Gordon, 2010, 2nd Hockey, Silver DofE, CCF RAF Corporal. Imperial - Electrical Engineering

Upper Sixth Leavers 2017



Commemoration Day

The Headmaster welcomed guests and extended a vote of thanks to the President of the School, Dr Vivian Anthony, who leaves the Governors after twenty-five years of sterling service. The retirement of another fine servant was acknowledged, with Mrs Catherine Maund being thanked, firstly for a superb Sir Thomas Cookes sermon, and second for her thirty-seven years of dedication to Bromsgrove. A farewell was also offered to the Head of Senior School, Mr Hallows, as he prepared to take up the headship of St Bees School, Cumbria.

Having listened to a thorough review of the year by the President, the Headmaster added his own gratitude for all the loyalty, talent and dedication that lay behind each of the successes in the Senior School. He noted his pride at the way in which the merger with nearby Winterfold House School and the opening of Bromsgrove Mission Hills in Shenzhen had broadened the School family. He also expressed his enthusiastic anticipation of the opening of the new Performing Arts facilities in the new academic year.

The Headmaster then directed the rest of his speech to advice and encouragement for the departing Upper Sixth. Acknowledging that he had probably relied for too long upon references to the All Blacks when speaking publicly (and conscious that they were, in fact, playing a crucial match against the Lions as he spoke), he instead seized upon a



metaphor from the Americas Cup. Which, coincidentally, New Zealand had just won. His focus was upon "VMG", a technical acronym from yachting that stands for Velocity Made Good. In order to win a boat race, competitors needed not just momentum but also adjustments to their trajectory. When the wind changed, so too did their course need to alter. The Leavers were encouraged to make good their velocity by learning how to contend with a bit of wind resistance as they moved on from the School.

Resilience had become a fashionable buzzword in education and the media loved telling schools that they should be teaching young people how to cope in the face of adversity. Yet the Headmaster was disparaging of the phrase "Snowflake Generation", refusing to accept that our pupils are imminently about to capsize and sink the minute that they encountered any resistance. Citing the saying, "A ship in the harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for", he encouraged those leaving the School to sally forth, ready to tack and tack again if they encountered rough seas.

Likewise, parents were encouraged to resist the temptation to paddle out and take over the helm if they felt their child's life appeared to be heading off course. They may just be finding their own way to deal with life, but even if momentarily lost, parents had given them a compass.



Finally, the Headmaster concluded with these words:

*"VMG is Velocity Made Good. But don't just make **good** your velocity. **Do** good with it too. You leave this School with more speed, more advantage, than many people your age. You have privilege. Maybe of wealth or connection but that's irrelevant. So much more importantly, you have the privilege of education.*

*Therefore, you have a moral responsibility to do good with it. **"To whom much is given, much will be required."** You have privilege and now you must pay it forward. Because if you drift away from here and*



go nowhere marvellous. Or if your greed for speed leaves others floundering in your wake. Or if you abandon ship when others need you. Then you are intelligent, but foolish. Rich perhaps, but poor. Successful, but not a success. Use what we have taught you to do good in the world. That is what we charge you to do. And you will, because you are remarkable young men and women. I truly believe that.

Your parents, your teachers, we may have put the wind in your sails, but the hand on the tiller is now your own.

Bon chance. Bon voyage."



Thomas Cookes Sermon

This year, the Sir Thomas Cookes Sermon, delivered during our Commemoration Day Service in St. John's Church, was given by Mrs Catherine Maund. As befitting a member of staff retiring after many loyal years of service to Bromsgrove School, Mrs Maund based her address on the theme of journeys, and the potentially life-changing experiences which they can offer.

Whilst journeys inevitably require some planning of route and timescale, Mrs Maund also focussed on the opportunities for reflection. These can provide strength for the road ahead, and sometimes even offer deviations which may lead to a completely new experience, illustrated by tales such as the Three Billy Goats Gruff, or anecdotes from her own early career, for example finding out that the concert to which she dutifully agreed to accompany two Elmshurst Sixth Form boys in return for a free ticket involved The Clash and like-minded punk bands.

Mrs Maund was keen to point out that gates, whether real or metaphorical, offer not only the comfort of safety when closed, but also the invitation to explore when opened. In the same way that science has proven that an amoeba dies without change and challenge, or nature has witnessed the hermit crab finding a bigger shell when it outgrows its environment, so Bromsgrove leavers should not be

controlled by their past, but take their (hopefully good) memories of School life to their new 'shell'.

Finally, Mrs Maund encouraged all to value the people one meets on the journey as much as the goal itself, since they help to educate us beyond our sphere, sharing in both successes and difficulties. Reminding us that Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus started in disbelief and sadness but ended in joy, excitement, love and true devotion, she quoted the final lines of the popular poem Footsteps in the Sand, which offer the Lord's reassurance that:

"when you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

The central message of enjoying the journey, crossing the bridges with confidence, opening the gates with expectation and valuing those who walk beside you certainly held resonance for all in the congregation, at whatever stage of the route they currently find themselves.

A McClure



Senior Prize Winners 2017



Senior Prize Winners 2017

Wattell Prizes

English

Emily Whittle

History

Christophe Fostier

Religious Studies

Echo Wang

German

Sarah Firminger

French

Iuliia Gurevych

Spanish

Emma Delaney

Latin

Sasha Johnston

Business

Alex San

Politics

Michael Petrakas

Geography

Olivia Bond

Economics

Iuliia Gurevych

Mathematics

Oliver Yang Cai

Design & Technology: Graphics

Emma Delaney

Art

Ieva Daujotaite

Art (Textiles)

Liberty Ball

Physical Education

Lauren Brown

Physics

Samuel Phillips

Other Academic Prizes

William Ledbrook Prize for Biology

Oscar Chou

Amphlett Prize for Chemistry

Brian Chin Wei Leung

Philip Denham Cookes Prize for Drama

Paige Corcoran

John Hedley Memorial Prize (CCF)

Nicholas Martin

Turner Memorial Prize for Music

Ben Adamson

Alison Bramley Memorial Prize for Mathematics

Kipras Daujotas

Chaytor Pepper Prize for Classics (Classical Civilisation)

Emily Whittle

Jeffery Lewins Prize for Technology

Alisa Baraboskina

Housman Verse Prize

Abbah Abbah

Staff Reading Prize

Nandini Bulchandani

Special Prizes

Senior Boarders

Tiffanie Tseng and George James

Deputy Heads of School

Lawrence Weston and Isabel James

Heads of School

George Goodall and Olivia Bond

The Paul Sawtell Trophy (Contribution) Tom Muir (School)

The utterly deserving winner of the Paul Sawtell trophy is Tom Muir. There are so many young people who could be awarded the Paul Sawtell trophy, which makes this young man's achievements all the more impressive. New to the School in the Lower Fourth, Tom immediately made his mark on his peers both in House and throughout the School. His ability to make others smile is incredible, and the way in which he interacts with and leads the younger years exemplifies what it is to be a true Bromsgrovian. With such a naturally personable character, it is no surprise he is not only a House Monitor but also a Monitor of the Senior School.

His talents are vast, but he is best known for his music, achieving remarkable three grade eights within his time at Bromsgrove, for the saxophone, flute and singing. Tom has dedicated an incredible amount of time towards the arts, whether it be Chamber Choir, School drama performances, concerts or leading House Song.

Tom will always step forward in times of need, whether it be for an extra duty, mentoring a younger student or volunteering to run the third leg of 1.2 relay at a moment's notice; he would never let his House or the School down.

The Kelly Bicknell Award (Service) Kate Ward (Oakley)

The Kelly Bicknell Award for Service is presented to Kate Ward. Kate has demonstrated consistent and tireless service to the School and an unfailingly positive approach to the whole community. Within the House, she has embodied everything a role model should be. She is friendly and supportive presence has been appreciated by staff, students and the Parents' Association. Kate puts the values of community spirit first and is the first to volunteer for any event.

Kate single-handedly led her CCF platoon throughout the Upper Sixth, where she led by example and inspired her recruits to achieve first class results in a very short time. She has had responsibility for teaching the recruits Drill, Field Craft, Basic First Aid and Map Reading. She has also supported adult instructors in the delivery of weapon training. Kate has already been awarded her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award and leads by example in the way she learns new skills at every available opportunity. She provided wonderful leadership at the Lower Fourth Camp and is a deserved recipient of this award. She has been a true ambassador for the principles of service to the School. A very conscientious student with a quiet determination, she is selfless and always shows great humility and determination.

The Tony Limbert Trophy (Sport) James Kinder (Wendron-Gordon)

It was lovely to have Tony Limbert's Mother and Sister with us for Commemoration Day this year. The trophy was first presented in 1997 to Robert Gough.

The Tony Limbert Trophy for Sport is presented to James Kinder. This Trophy is awarded to a pupil who has committed themselves fully to sport during their time at Bromsgrove. James has represented the School, demonstrating sportsmanship and skill, in every term over the past five years. He has been a committed rugby player throughout this period, but it is in two other sports that he has really excelled. This year he has had to balance the commitments of training, matches and the captaincy of two of the School's 1st XI teams. In cricket, he has played for the 1st XI since the Upper Fourth and he has been an outstanding captain this year. A genuine all-rounder, showing talent with bat, ball and in the field, he is skilled in all facets of the game. He has displayed some of the best captaincy that the Director of Cricket has seen at Bromsgrove.

As 1st XI football captain he was a composed, stylish and competitive player who led by example. Ever present throughout the Sixth Form, James was the fulcrum of the defensive system; strong in the tackle yet elegant on the ball. For both teams, the success of his leadership stemmed from his desire to win, his pride in his School, and his support for his teammates. And he has balanced his sporting commitments with a heavy academic workload, as well as leading a group of some ninety boys with dedication as an excellent Head of his boarding House, Wendron-Gordon - the House that Tony Limbert was a member of.

The Ben Showell Memorial Rose Bowl (Performing Arts) Rachel Xuereb (Hazeldene)

This year, the Ben Showell Memorial Rose Bowl for Performing Arts is awarded to Rachel Xuereb. Since 2016, this year's winner has regularly sung solo roles in concerts at the School and performed with considerable success. Rachel's considerable focus on developing her own performing skills alongside her encouragement and support of others in productions lower down the School, makes her a worthy recipient of this year's Ben Showell Memorial prize for the Performing Arts. Rachel played the trumpet to a fine standard in both the Brass Group and Orchestra while studying GCSE Music.

Once entering the Sixth Form, she became an increasingly visible presence in the Performing Arts as a whole and in 2016, made an outstanding impact in a supporting role, in the Senior production of Sweeney Todd. Her wholehearted commitment to productions and performances from first rehearsal to final performance has demanded extraordinary dedication; in her singing, dancing and acting she was a shining example to all. In her final year, she produced, directed and performed in the Senior House Drama entry for her House and just six weeks later was singing and acting in the leading role of Tracy Turnblad in Hairspray! She led the company with great assurance and delivered wonderful performances that will remain in our hearts for years to come.

The Cookes Prize Oliver Hall (School)

The Cookes Prize is awarded to Oliver Hall. Oliver is an outstanding student; bright, inquisitive, ambitious – yet modest in his approach. He has a real thirst for knowledge and self-improvement. He is likely to obtain very strong A level results in all subjects, and these will be a true testament to not only his natural talent, but also the hard work that he puts in.

Oliver is a School Monitor and Deputy Head of House, both of which add further demands to his schedule. He takes all this in his stride, and will always rise to further challenges set for him. He has been an influence and an inspiration to both younger years and his peers. Oliver provides a strong figure of leadership to both the boys of his House and the rest of the Senior School. He is a key member of the Combined Cadet Force, attaining the high rank of Company Sergeant Major, and a keen musician. He has performed in School concerts throughout his years in the Senior School, and regularly attends lessons to further his talents. He also displayed his ability in public speaking by addressing the audience at the Pre-Prep Prizegiving and Speech Day. He is a fantastic all-rounder. Oliver has a place held for him at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for when he finishes university, where he will have the opportunity to become a Commissioned Officer in the British Army, and there are few better young men to hold the Queen's Commission.

Additional Academic Prizes

The Don Gibbon prize for the Best Controlled Assessment:
Elouise Brookes

The Martin Sykes Design and Technology award:
Robyn Davies (RM)
& Holly Peplow (Graphics)

BTEC Sport:
Freddie Meredith

IB Awards

Environmental Systems and Societies:
Kara Doyle

Theory of Knowledge:
Iuliia Gurevych

Extended Essay:
Rhiannon Idczak

CAS Prize:
Anna Kovalevskaia

German Language and Literature:
Hannah Schieck

Russian Literature:
Suren Akopyan

Arts Awards

The Bernard Hall-Mancey Cup for the Most Improved:
Elina Agrawal

The Vivian Anthony Cup for Musical Contribution:
Tom Muir

The Janet Cockin Debating Cup:
Olivia Bond

The T.E. Godwin Cup for the Most Improved Junior Speaker:
Jacob Mann

The Most Improved Drama Award:
Abbah Abbah

The Page Cup for Drama:
Miles Rosbrook

The Staff Junior Reading Prize:
Phoebe Fletcher

Extra Curricular Awards

Outstanding Contribution to Bromsgrove Service:
Anna Spenner-Hernandez

Best Army Cadet:
Theo Roberts

Best RAF Cadet:
Candice Lockett

Overall Contribution to Extra-Curricular Life of the School:
Daniel Johnson

Sports Awards

1st XI Batting:
Fahd Janjua

1st XI Bowling:
George Marshall

1st XI Fielding:
James Kinder

The Cosier Cup to Best Girls' Team:
U15 Netball

The Swatkins Trophy to the girl who has committed fully to School sport:
Esme Weston

The Swatkins Trophy to the boy who has committed fully to School sport:
Joe Hunt

Outstanding Contribution to Girls' Games:
Lauren Brown

Outstanding Contribution to Boys' Games:
William Draper-Barr

Sportswoman of the Year:
Candice Lockett

Sportsman of the Year:
Beck Cutting

Lower Fourth

Prizes for Endeavour and Progress:
Sadie Gardner
Nikhil Gour
Joshua Lawson
Alice Liversidge
Shona Mills
Murat Shafigullin

Prize for the Best Year's Work
Gemma Calthorpe

Upper Fourth

Prizes for Endeavour and Progress:
Shams Ali Baig
Max Campbell
Catrin Carter, Lauren Court
Phoebe Fletcher
Thomas Reynolds

Prize for the Best Year's Work
Georgia Doohan-Smith

Mark Reading Michaelmas 2016

English Language
Rachel Weller

English Literature
Matthew Coulson

English as an Additional Language
Adrian Tse

Religious Studies
Elouise Brookes

Mathematics
Nathan Buckley

French
Nandini Bulchandani

German
Madelaine Barber-Fray

Extended Project Qualification
Abigail Saker

Geography
Elouise Brookes

Spanish
Rachel Weller

Art
Meghan McIntosh

Textiles
Holly Peplow

Business Studies
Laura Merritt

Biology
Harry Nicholls

Chemistry
Abigail Saker

Physics
Daniel Moore

Latin
Rachel Weller

Classical Civilisation
Matthew Hegarty

Design & Technology: Graphic Products
Holly Peplow

Design & Technology: Resistant Materials
Natasha Durie

Drama
Nandini Bulchandani

History
Rachel Weller

Music
George Bingham

PE
Elouise Brookes

Junior House Debating
Max Campbell

CCF Best Army Recruit
Patricia Blessing

CCF Best RAF Recruit
Matthew Goodwin

Mark Reading Summer 2017

English
Ananya Sengupta (L4)
Kalea Booth (U4)

Mathematics
Ian Tong Pang (L4)
Joshua Osborn Patel (U4)

French
Gemma Calthorpe (L4)
Hannah Pover (U4)

Physics
Gemma Calthorpe (L4)

German
Claudia Bullock (L4)
Marian Sturku (U4)

Spanish
Anastasia Bukulina (L4)
Ivan Kramarenko (U4)

Chemistry
Ruby Bruton-Gibney (L4)
Jacky Wong (U4)

Biology
Ruby Bruton-Gibney (L4)
Bobby Chen (U4)

Physics
Ivanka Zhao (U4)

History
Bolu Adegomise (L4)
Georgia Doohan-Smith (U4)

Geography
Lucia Goodwin (L4)
Euan Vaughan-Hawkins (U4)

Latin
Lucia Goodwin

Design & Technology
Jessica Rai (L4)

Design & Technology: Resistant Materials
Eva Briskin (U4)

Design & Technology: Graphics
Will Edwards (U4)

Art
Dasha Butler (L4)
Johnathan Chan (U4)

Textiles
Orla Walker (U4)

Classical Civilisation
Joseph Cheng (L4)
Jonathan Burke (U4)

Latin
Sarah Pickering (U4)

Drama
Francesca Mellor (L4)
Miray Kose (U4)

Music
Imogen Vaughan Hawkins (L4)
Jude Wynter (U4)

Religious Studies
Elizabeth Aston (L4)
Jack Scott (U4)

English as an Additional Language
Cherry Fung (L4)
Judy Wu (U4)

Salvete

Elmshurst

Roman Guring
Yui Him Ng
Radu-Alexandru Polschi
Max Buckland
Valentin Korotych
Maksyn Korotych
Justus Krauel
Mark Kyvrikosseos
Julius Langen
Shervin Parandian
Grigorii Rodionov
Artem Veprev
Xuao Zhang
Artem Balan
Thomas Cosh
Alexander Kandelaki
Luke Wilkinson
Chi Man Andrew Wong
Kin Fun Jason Yiu
Vasil Yosifov

Hazeldene

Lucia Evans
Sophie Ford
Isobel Pudney
Violette Pretorius
Lina Schlinkheider
Maddison Hughes
Holly Kenward
Emily Langford
Isabelle O'Connor
Agatha Warner

Housman Hall

Leah Asghar-Sandys
Igor Bodnar
Mariia Brega
Hannah Brock
Ching Hong Chan
Sofia Chernego
Wang Yan Alvin Choi
Cheng-You Chuang
Karan Dhanjal
Yiming Dong
Marley Finn

Rebecca Foster
Morgan French
Ching Laam Fung
Ho Man Herman Fung
King Yeung Kingston Fung
Katie Man Yee Ho
Ka Man Iris Hon
Jacob Hyland
Oluwatomisin Iori
Lok Ming Ip
Simas Jaugielavičius
Tumba Katanda
Hay Yan Daniel Kwok
Tsz Yi Lee
Thien Khoi Nguyen
Tafadzwa Nyamaswe
Rhea Patel
Rhea Patnaik
Ejomafuwe Pela
Alan Bangen Abdullah Rekani
Cho Hong Shing

Iiya Singyugin
Polina Sorokina
Mohammed Taher
Anastasia Tarasova
Linus Tsao
Anasztászia Voronova
Rachel Wan
Taylor Watson
Xinhui Xu
Anna Zabelkina
Anna Abramova
Maxim Balin
Anna Bashkirova
Ho-Ming Joshua Chung
Yue Dai
Ka Man King
Tsz Yan Kwan
Chizi Chike Ogbu
Paolo Romanengo
Theresa Seisl
Yanisa Sibunruang
Fook on Fion Tse
Ada Tylova
Ka Wui Jimmy Yung

Lupton

Thomas Gibbs
Oliver Gibbs
Jack Hughes
Sebastien Adams
James Bayliss
Luke Dudfield
Benet Mac Master-Kilshaw
William Walker

Lyttelton

William Pettifor
Haris Nazir
Cameron Billings
Leo Butts
Oliver Davidson
Oliver Tucker
William Udy

Mary Windsor

Yuanzhou Chen
Nataliya Kolesnikova
Lok Yee Jade Mgan
Niya Popova
Saki Tsubouchi
Joy Tung Hiver Yung
Vidhi Ahluwalia
Maria Senft
Ralitza Domuschieva
Cecile Schulze-Hagen
Mariia Melnichuk

Oakley

Aida Abd Rahim
Sharifah Sakeenan Binte Syed
Muhammad
Yuki Chan
Chi Tong Chau
Rosika Gurung
Nina Hermes
Heidi Neuman
Milaniya Shulzhik
Ekaterina Stepanova
Ji Sem Wong
Bozhidara Yaneva
Lisa Bradburn

Yin Ting Jasmine Chan
Holly Mason
Ellie Preece
Sophie Roy
Yiwen Shi
Polina Dzhgun
Emilia Göbl
Elisa Juls
Luise Benthaus
Alina Bricker
Eileen Habermeyer
Chi Cheng Lam
Sakurako Nakamura
Chiara Trauttmansdorff-Weinsberg
Mulan Yang
Vivianne Zhang Wei
Joelle Yi Ying Booth
Valeriya Chudakova
Milayla De Gouveia
Esme Elwell-Thomas
Zoe Law
Brady McGlynn
Rafaela Nascimento
Elizaveta Potekhina
Susannah Rai
Evangeline Richards
Nina Sel
Shu Ting Wong
Hou Ieng Wu

School

Joshua Draycott
William Evans
Byron Hignell-Halford
John Maydew
Moritz Schlinkheider
Louis Thompson

Thomas Cookes

Molly Stockdale
Hannah Barwell
Megan Bassett-McWilliams
Maria Owens
Ella Timms
Victoria Walkers
Isabelle Bolton

Ana Freer
Natalie Hatfield
Mia King

Walters

Ben Freeman
Henry Collard
Hamish Cross
San Freeman
Jack Hodgson
Joshua Leonisio

Wendron-Gordon

Vladimir Averin
Sunghyoun Bae
Thuong Hoang Ha Nguyen
Maximillian Opengeym
Barnabas Hoi Yui Shin
Cheuk On Tam
Lik Hang Yue
Rafhan Chowdhury
Cristian Cires
Moritz Farny
Mingzhe Lyu
Wai Cheung Solomon Wong
Vitaly Zakalskiy
Stepan Bobrenev
Hiu Fung Li
Victor Mikov
Owen Price
Mayaz Shabab
Arsenii Steshenko
Stepan Tarasov
Chi Lai Jason Yiu

Destination of Leavers 2017

Surname	University	Subject
Abbah, Abbah	Durham RG	Law
Adamson, Ben	Leeds RG	Liberal Arts
Akinsanya, Funbi	Warwick RG	Law with Social Sciences
Akopyan, Suren	Boston	Economics
Alcock, Luke	Sheffield RG	Architecture
Allely, Kate	Royal Agricultural	Equine Science and Business
Andreasyan, Aram	Durham RG	Economics
Ashworth, Alex	Nottingham Trent	Business and Entrepreneurship
Ayo-Yusuf, Robomi	Exeter RG	Law
Ball, Liberty	Leeds RG	Fashion Design
Baraboshkina, Alisa	UCL RG	Architecture
Barnes, Alice	Nottingham Trent	Interior Architecture and Design
Bayliss, Charlotte	Manchester RG	Disaster Management
Beattie, Hugo	Sheffield RG	Psychology
Bellamy, Joseph	Leeds RG	History
Bentley, Dan	Apprenticeship	Project Management and Quantity Surveying
Berry, Morgan	Liverpool RG	Architecture
Bhandal, Himmat	GAP	GAP
Bills, Sam	Aston	Business and Supply Chain Management
Birch, Ellie	Oxford Brookes	English
Blaesi, Hendrick	NCH	PPE with Economics
Bond, Olivia	UBC	Geography
Brookes, Harriett	Reading	Classical Studies
Brookes, Richard	Liverpool RG	Business Management
Broomfield, Joseph	Reading	Geography
Brown, Lauren	Cardiff RG	Physiotherapy
Burbidge, Nanci	Bath Spa	Drama with English
Cai, Oliver Yang	Imperial RG	Mathematics with Statistics for Finance
Carrington-Windo, Ellie	Nottingham Trent	Coaching and Sport Science
Chan, Adrian	UCL RG	Mathematics with Economics
Chapman, Sarah	Birmingham RG	Medicine
Chen, Ben Zefeng	Melbourne	Mathematics
Cheung, Ashley Shun Wai	Exeter RG	Flexible Combined Honours
Cheung, Victor Ho Leung	Loughborough	Communication and Media Studies
Chong, Pheik Yee	KCL RG	Maths with Statistics
Chou, Oscar Hou In	HKU	Medicine
Clarke, Ayana	De Montfort	Law and Criminal Justice
Coleman, Emily	Leeds RG	Geography
Collin, Ella	Birmingham RG	History
Collins, Matthew	Nottingham RG	Physics with Theoretical Astrophysics
Corcoran, Paige	Warwick RG	Theatre and Performance Studies
Cox, Alex	Aston	Business and International Relations
Cui, Jerry Haotian	UCL RG	Mechanical Engineering
Cutting, Beck	Bath	Sport and Social Sciences
Cuza, Ana	Michigan	Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science
Daujotaite, Ieva	UAL	Product Design
Daujotas, Kipras	LSE RG	Management
Delaney, Emma	Leeds School of Art	Art Foundation
Delaney-Hall, Alex	Liverpool RG	Architecture
Dew, Alex	Loughborough	Sport Management
Dhillon, Arrjan	York RG	International Business
Dimitrova, Viktoriya	LSE RG	Sociology
Dolan, Patrick	KCL RG	Liberal Arts
Doyle, Kara	Leeds RG	Geography
Draper-Barr, William	Year in Industry	Rolls Royce

Surname	University	Subject
Drayson, Edward	GAP	GAP
Edge, James	Portsmouth	Computer Science
Edwards, Dominic	Kent	Economics
Edwards, Libby	St Andrews	Modern History and Spanish
Evans, Finley	Newcastle RG	Civil Engineering
Fastrich, Hanna		
Fieret, Jacob	York RG	Physics
Filimonova, Anna	Westminster	Computer Science
Finlay, Matt	BUWE	Business Management and Leadership
Firminger, Sarah	Bath	Business Administration
Fitzmaurice, Sam	Gloucestershire	Sports Coaching
Fostier, Christophe	LSE RG	Economic History with Economics
Fowke, Harrison	Exeter RG	Business and Management
Fung, Trevor Chin Ho	Imperial RG	Design Engineering
Gbadeyan, Deborah	Derby	Accounting and Finance
Gilbert, Josh	Surrey	Economics
Glass, Ellie	Liverpool RG	Politics
Goodall, Charlotte	Harper Adams	Veterinary Physiotherapy
Goodall, George	St Andrews	Geography
Goodchild, Kate	Manchester RG	Geography
Goodwin, Oliver	Liverpool RG	International Business
Guillamon, Liberty	Warwick RG	English
Guo, Danny Jianfeng	NYU Abu Dhabi	Physics
Gurdal, Yasmina	Queen Mary RG	Law
Gurevych, Iuliia	Chicago	Economics
Gurung, Prashant	Kingston	Computer Science
Hall, Oliver	Imperial RG	Civil Engineering
Hawkeswood, Ellen	Nottingham Trent	Business Management and Marketing
Herridge, Ben	Cardiff Met	Sport and Physical Education
Heung, Mandy Man Yu	CUHK	Global Economics and Finance
Hill, Lawrence	UEA	Business Economics
Hui, Brian	Keele	Physiotherapy
Hui, Elaina Chun Wai	Loughborough	Air Transport Management
Hunt, Joe	Cardiff Met	Sport Management
Idczak, Rhiannon	Durham RG	Law
Iec, Denis Kai Nam	LSE RG	Management
Ingwersen, Tom		
James, George	Bath	International Development with Economics
James, Isabel	Bath	Business Administration
Jayaratanasingam, Jess	Reading	Physical Geography
Jeys, Tom	GAP	GAP
Johal, Jujhar	Aston	Business Management
Johnson, Dan	Lancaster	Geography
Johnston, Sasha	Bristol RG	Politics and German
Jumabayev, Dias	UCL RG	Economics
Karicheva, Svetlana	NYU	Economics
Khan, Bethany	Cardiff RG	Archaeology
Kim, Angelina	UCLA	Biochemistry
Kinder, James	Cardiff RG	Economics and Politics
Korzdorfer, Dina	Bath	Economics
Kovalevskaia, Anna	Imperial RG	Biochemistry
Kriegler, Lukas	Oxford Brookes	Business and Management
Kulebyakin, Dan	UCL RG	Law
Lai, Adrian Hon Man	Queen Mary RG	Economics
Lai, Karina Ka Ching	LSE RG	Philosophy and Economics

Destination of Leavers 2017

Surname	University	Subject
Lam, Cecilia Hiu Ying	UCL RG	Planning and Real Estate
Lawley, Charlotte	Coventry	Disaster Management and Emergency Planning
Lee, Sam	Leicester	Management Studies
Lee, Tommy Fong Chun	Newcastle RG	Marketing and Management
Leithner, Cosima	UCL RG	Psychology
Leslie, Chloe	Bath Spa	Criminology and Psychology
Leung, Brian Chin Wei	Imperial RG	Biochemistry
Leung, Wilson Chin Wai	LSE RG	Financial Mathematics and Statistics
Li, Cherrie Wing Tung	Queen Mary RG	Zoology
Liu, Lisa Tianyuan	CUHK	Economics
Lockett, Candy	Mount Olive	Sports and Leadership
Lou, Matthew Cheng Fong	Durham RG	PPE
Man, Charles	Durham RG	Finance with Business
Man, Claudia Sze Ho	KCL RG	International Development
Mann, Benedict	GAP	GAP
Marshall, Charlie	Liverpool RG	Business Management
Martin, Isobelle	De Montfort	Interior Design
Martin, Nick	Durham RG	Natural Sciences
Meredith, Freddie	Hartpury	Sports Performance
Merrick, Jasper	GAP	GAP
Mihaescu, Andreea	KCL RG	Business Management
Miners, Ellie	Winchester	Primary Education
Mitsukov, Alex	Greenwich	Business Management
Moore, Ellen	Exeter RG	Management with Marketing
Moss, Dylan	Swansea	Geography
Mpigi, Leka Sorbari	Texas Tech	Architecture
Mufutau-Gbadamosi, Rasheeda	Dubai Med School	Biomedical Sciences
Muir, Tom	Birmingham RG	Ancient History
Murphy, Isabelle	Nottingham Trent	Textile Design
Neales, Katie	Bath	Psychology
Nekhochin, Arseniy	Queen Mary RG	Electrical Engineering
Ng, Joseph Lok Yu	LSE RG	Law
Nian, Hao	Edinburgh RG	Architecture
Olubenga, Demi	Swansea	Law
Ose, Ana	Newcastle RG	Biomedical Sciences
Papaioannou, Nick	GAP	GAP
Petrakas, Michael	York RG	Psychology
Petrakas, Peter	Leeds RG	Politics
Phillips, Sam	Cambridge RG	Engineering
Polunina, Stacy	UCL RG	Arts and Sciences
Pozhidaeva, Lidia	KCL RG	Global Health and Social Medicine
Price, Oliver	Liverpool RG	International Business
Prince, James	Reading	Investment and Finance in Property
Prinzessin von Croy, V	KCL RG	International Relations
Prust, Jordan	Royal Holloway	History
Rai, Asim	GAP	GAP
Rai, Prashanta	Lincoln	Sociology
Rai, Rebika	Leeds RG	Digital Media
Ralph, Bryony	Exeter RG	History
Reeves, Rebecca	Falmouth	Textile Design
Riazanova, Tiffany	Queen Mary RG	International Relations
Riddle, Anne	Leeds RG	Maths
Riese, Noah		
Roberts, Theo	Kent	Military History
Robinson, Ellie	Cushman & Wakefield	School Leaver Scheme

Surname	University	Subject
Robinson, Tom	Portsmouth	Business Economics
Roche, Sebastian	Liverpool RG	International Business
Rogers, Oliver	York RG	Chemistry
Romagnoli, Ludmilla	City	Accounting and Finance
Rosbrook, Miles	Liverpool RG	Biological and Medical Sciences
Ross, Callum	Sheffield RG	Medicine
Saakyan, Diana	Chicago	Economics
Sakuma, Ko	KCL RG	International Relations
Salmon, Kirsty	York RG	Social Policy: Crime and Criminal Justice
San, Alex	Bath	Business Administration
Savchina, Sofiya	Overseas	Finance
Schieck, Hannah	Surrey	Hospitality
Schulze-Hagen, Philipp		
Sethi, Alisha	UCL RG	Chemistry with European Languages
Sheveleva, Yulia	Royal Holloway	Management with Marketing
Silk, Ali	Cardiff RG	International Relations and Politics
Slater, Imogen	Leicester	Geography
Small, Chelsey	Grant Thornton	School Leaver Scheme
Smith, George	Birmingham City	HNC Construction
Smith, Jordan	Cardiff Met	Business and Management
Songthumjitti, Sirinda	Parsons School of Art	Fashion Design
Spenner-Hernandez, Anna	Bristol RG	Liberal Arts
Staniland, Amy	Exeter RG	Politics and International Relations
Stirrat, Callum	Liverpool JM	Construction Management
Swift, Tom	Leicester	Management
Symonds, Joe	Leicester	Banking and Finance
Tam, Sonia	Bath	Architecture
Thompson, Megan	St Andrews	English
Tibbetts, Will	Oxford Brookes	Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management
Townsend, Matt	BUWE	Architecture
Trofimov, Viacheslav	UBC	Business/Economics
Tse, Ron Long Hin	UCL RG	Architecture
Tse, Roy Chun Hin	UCL RG	Philosophy and Economics
Tseng, Tiffanie Kar Leong	UCL RG	Architecture
Tsui, Rachel Pui Yu	HKU	Bachelor of Social Sciences
Tsui, Ryan Pui Fung	Nottingham RG	Mechanical Engineering
Tsvetanova, Maggie	SOAS	Politics and International Relations
Turner, Edward	Imperial RG	Electrical Engineering
Walker, Kieran	Bath	Politics and International Relations
Wang, Echo Anran	Cambridge RG	HSPS
Wang, Wendy Yuwen	Overseas	Fashion
Waplinton, Patrick	Lancaster	Geography
Ward, Kate	Swansea	Geography
Weston, Esme	Reading	Primary Education with Art
Weston, Lawrence	Birmingham RG	Geography
Westwood, Poppie	Manchester RG	Planning with Real Estate
Whittle, Emily	Oxford RG	English
Wiklund, Josie	UPENN	Nursing
Wootten, George	Bath	Sports Performance
Wu, Caelyn Zixuan	BUWE	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Xuereb, Rachel	Bristol RG	Sociology
Yeh, Brian Chak Fung	LSE RG	Finance
Yip, Henry Chun Tung	HKPU	Pharmacy
Yu, Jack Feiyang	Newcastle RG	Sport and Exercise Science
Zhang, Philip Peng Fei	UCL RG	Computer Science



Head of Year

Pupils enjoyed a varied programme of external speakers, Inter-House competitions and smaller breakout groups to enable discussion over the course of the past academic year. As in previous years, a key component of Head of Year is the delivery of PSHEE. For the Lower and Upper Fourth forms, these sessions have included learning about first aid, alcohol, healthy eating, personal safety, from conception to contraception, body image, pressures on girls/boys, saying no and sexting. Thinking ahead to future years in the School, pupils have also had introductions from members of the Common Room to the CCF, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, GCSE options and the International Baccalaureate.

In Junior Inter-House debating some members of the year group put forward some excellent questions. On the sporting side, pupils participated in cross-country, swimming and supported their Houses in the 1.2km relay. Highlights of the year for the Lower Fourth have included the anti-bullying presentation entitled 'the boy in the photograph', the annual falconry display and the science lecture by Nick Barker from the University of Warwick. A first for Head of Year was the lecture theatre being turned into a recording studio for Lower Fourths to record WWI songs, which will be used during our Commemorations of 1918.



Mr Ruben gave two interesting lectures to the Upper Fourth on 'what makes good art' and the 'history of American politics'. Dr Whitbread spoke on the fascinating topic of 'Syria and the Middle East: how historical events have led to the current crisis'. We had a number of external

visitors presenting on a diverse range of subjects including human rights by Amnesty International, an exciting magical science show by Dr Matt Pritchard, alcohol awareness by Henry Maybury and an interactive presentation by the Central England Reptile Rescue.

Mr Paul West, Chairman of Governors, led an insightful session into diversity in the Police force. Mr Ruben delved into a history of Rock music and Mr Challoner's presentation on British Values and Citizenship culminated in a test, which proved quite taxing to all nationalities. This was swiftly followed by an A to Z of Finance by Mr Egan and Dr Whitbread's lecture considered what life might have been like should the Battle of Hastings have ended differently.

Personal wellbeing is of vital importance in today's society and Julie Wilkinson from Brave the Rage returned to lead a workshop on improving self-esteem and positive self-identity, whilst tackling the emotional issues of cyberbullying and anger management. John Hoskison was guest speaker at our Christmas lecture where he spoke about the dangers of taking unnecessary risks and the temptations faced by young people. Based on his own life experiences, he aims to make young people realise that taking unnecessary risks can sometimes have dire consequences.

Head of Year sessions for the Sixth Form involves a wide and diverse variety of lectures, activities and workshops to enrich their academic, pastoral and co-curricular provision. This year these included talks on 'how to start a revolution', 'why study humanities?', 'architecture through the ages', a health centre presentation, interpreting UCAS league tables and a visit from the National Citizen Service.

Several UK and International universities have visited including LSE, UCL, King's, Imperial, Surrey and New College to advise our Lower Sixth form in readiness for their university applications. The House debating competition provided alternative stimulation along with workshops on safe driving and managing digital technology. In the summer term, serious preparation for university applications began including our International fair and the UCAS application day, both very well received. This year's Lower Sixth form are a diverse, stimulating, motivated, lively, intelligent and impressive mix of young people who will surely go onto greater things in their final at the top of the School in their all-important final year.

The Upper Sixth form have been an exceptionally motivated group of students very much focussed on their individual objectives for the future. These students included the first cohort of linear A level students and this has necessitated a different approach to their Upper Sixth year. Much of the early part of the Michaelmas term was devoted to their future, with university applications and researching alternative options such as the School Leaver Programme and Apprenticeships. International university presentations from the University of British Columbia and New York University, and the top five Dutch Universities, have been very well received alongside talks regarding UCAS and Oxbridge.

Senior debating was again a hard fought competition with a very high standard of debate from all Houses. The final was as informative as it was competitive, and a fantastic way to finish the demanding Lent term. This year, the Upper Sixth had an insight in to the work of the School Archivist who gave presentations to a number of Houses in the Old Chapel, with some pupils delighted to see their own relatives mentioned in the material being archived for future generations of Bromsgrovians. The Upper Sixth were impressed by old copies of the leavers' book and were really pleased to see that the Class of 2016/17 book that they have worked so hard on this year with Megan Griffiths would join the collection.

Throughout the year, pupils have taken an active role in all sessions and welcomed speakers with an open mind. It is hoped that the knowledge that they have gained will set them up to make informed decisions in the future.

With thanks as always to our Assistant Head of Year colleagues for their support and guidance during sessions throughout the academic year.

S Ascough, F Bateman, F Diver T Johns and E Johnston

Academic Review

Bromsgrove remains a large and exceptionally diverse School. The size of the School makes it hard for teachers to know every individual student as well as they would like to. In recent years, when I have written this academic review of the year, I have philosophised about the value of academic endeavour in a generalised way and then quoted a large number of headline statistics. However, as we look at the vast tapestry that is our School, we realise that it is stitched with tiny individual filaments. This year, we can best celebrate all of us by looking at one of us.



Hence, I will take the opportunity to mention an individual whose talents and aspirations are unique. In September, one student asked for some comments on his draft university application. The application began with the common sin of boastfulness - academic research had been undertaken on a medical crisis when, in reality, it quickly emerged that that the research involved no more than reading a small fragment of a book. Looking for other examples of exaggeration, I asked for confirmation that he was really taking six A Levels, only to be told that a seventh A Level had been left unmentioned due to its lack of relevance. Intrigued, I asked for detail on the 'science olympiads' that had been vaguely name-checked in passing, only to be told top awards in all three had been achieved. As our conversation closed, another seemingly throwaway line on the application was picked up - something about research undertaken at Macau University. This research was surely a university visit, possibly going as far as a coffee in the Starbucks at the Students' Union? I

was assured the research was real - the student had been part of a post-doctoral team investigating a neural biosignal acquisition system and had designed a micro-machined capacitated ultrasonic transducer. Whilst undertaking this work, he delivered some undergraduate lectures on Electromagnetism, surface tension and its parameters and fluids in centripetal motion. The contact he had made before joining the team had been established after he had won a national physics competition - another detail seemingly so inconsequential that it did not in itself merit a line in the first draft.

I was left in no doubt that this particular student was operating on an intellectual level that I could barely imagine. However, as much as I was struck by the quality of his mind, I felt humbled by his modesty and kindness, without brag or bravado, his simple desire is to undertake biomedical research to effectively help others rather than to enrich himself. Indeed in the following weeks as more and more Upper Sixth pitched in with their university applications, it was notable that there was unique individualism to each of their talents and aspirations, yet there was a grounding in common decency and values.

Against a global cultural back-drop of boastfulness and fearful isolation, when so many feel anxiety about 'others' and for the future, in many ways it is reassuring that more than ever before, Bromsgrovians are seeing the world as a single community that needs to embrace change and face up to challenges collectively. Whilst in recent years we have tended to see a trickle leave to British Columbia, Hong Kong University and Michigan, a growing number are taking up opportunities beyond our shores. Two leavers are proceeding to Chicago, one choosing the vibrancy of their Economics Department over Cambridge's, the other enticed by a national academic scholarship. Other exceptionally gifted students are leaving us to UCLA, NYU, the University of Pennsylvania and a dozen other institutions abroad.

A student's education does not start when they join Bromsgrove, nor does it end on the day they become a leaver. But whilst passing through Bromsgrove, students evolve from being generalists to specialists. Last year the basic GCSE results were as good as they ever have been with a record number of A*s achieved. In the Sixth Form, the broadest of choices is available to students. Most continue to take A Levels, with just shy of a half of all entries securing at least an A grade, whilst three-quarters achieved at least a B. The IB average points score of 39.1 was the School's strongest ever on this programme, whilst results in BTEC remain exceptionally strong as well. As our leavers now move on to study accounting, zoology and every subject in between, they take with them a shared warmth, pluckiness, self-discipline and willingness to graft - but as they leave their schooldays behind they will go on to make their very individual ways in the world. They will also leave behind threads in the fabric of Bromsgrove School. They are now woven into everything we are, forever, and for that we thank them.

P Ruben



Prep School Activities

Overview of Prep Activities

It has been another successful year for Prep School activities, thanks to both the extensive variety on offer and the commitment and dedication of the staff. Artistic activities continue to be some of the most popular, with Fashion Fun, Hama Beads and Sewing Crafts added to the always over-subscribed Canvas Painting, Pottery, Textiles and Making History. The fantastic pieces of work produced are on display around School for all to see.

We have also had a wide array of alternative sporting options this year including badminton, football, fencing, karate, clay shooting, horse riding, golf and chess. Ultimate Frisbee continues to be popular with all ages. We have doubled the number of LAMDA exams taken by our pupils this year, and pupils were invited to first aid classes, which has been a new addition for this year.

It has been a fantastic time for activities, and we are looking forward to what they will bring us next year.

M Turner





Afternoon Tea Party

Lively conversation flowed at the tea parties throughout the academic year. One member of each tutor group in Years 7 and 8 were invited to attend and celebrate their positive attitude to learning which was reflected in their engagement grades.

J Holden

Cake Decorating

The Prep cake decorating team had a wonderful time completing their Great Festive Bake Off challenge. Mrs Deval-Reed had a difficult time judging all the fabulous entries, but the winner was Amelie Jackson. Very well done to Amelie.

R Whiting



Charities

It has been an extremely busy year for Charities at the Preparatory School. Our committee of Year 8s worked hard to organise and coordinate many different fundraising activities throughout the year. In the Michaelmas term, we took part in the Birmingham City Mission toy collection. Pupils donated new and nearly new toys, which were distributed to families in the Birmingham area. Also in the Michaelmas term, the pupils enjoyed coming into School in their own clothes for Children In Need as well as our annual collections taking place during Harvest Festival and the wonderful carol services at Christmas. The services raised money for The Children's Society and Primrose Hospice. Pupils have also adorned their uniforms with poppies for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and daffodils for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

The most exciting part of the year for our Charities Committee has to be Charities Week, which took place during the Lent term. This year the whole Prep School (including the teachers) had the opportunity to vote for the charities they wished to support. Eight charities were shortlisted by the committee, while the rest of the School voted after listening to a short presentation by the committee. Primrose Hospice and The British Heart Foundation were the two charities

eventually chosen. Charities Week itself was a hive of activity – we had cakes to eat, a soggy splat-the-teacher event, quizzes to puzzle us, a hook-a-duck stall, a huge tombola and other stalls and challenges. The Prep School managed to raise a massive £2315 for each of the chosen charities. A charitable Year 4 pupil, Grace Morrall, also organised her own bake sale later in the year, with over £400 raised.

A special mention must go to this year's committee; Freya Tweddell, Anaiya Sunner, Polly Dakin, Martha Dunlop, Ellie Roskell, James Wright, Eloise Robbins, Mackenzie Guest, Matthew Burke, Katie Hannafin, Sophia Eaton, Madeleine Chance, Oliver Vaughan, Sebastian Harrison, Stuart Shannon, Harry Richards and Fenella Stone.

S Cartwright





Dens and Shelters

Pupils in Years 3 and 4 learnt about the importance of having a shelter, and raised money for Save The Children in the process.

Numerous boxes, blankets, tents and tarpaulins were brought in to School and the pupils were set various challenges throughout the day. The challenges included making a den for a teddy out of newspaper, putting up a tent and building a shelter to hold four people.

The work of Save the Children supports families who do not have a shelter and changes lives for the better. Thank you to everyone for helping make our world a better place - the pupils managed to raise £156, which will pay for two reading clubs for a year in Rwanda.

S Dakin



Eco Committee

The Prep School Eco Committee was extremely proud to be awarded the Eco Schools Bronze award. Their activities include installing the recycling point where batteries, stamps and ink cartridges can be recycled for charity, and supporting the Geography department by collecting plastic bottle tops. The Committee gave a presentation to pupils outlining the importance of having a reusable water bottle in School to reduce the plastic waste, encouraging every pupil to bring in their own bottle to use. They installed a green wheelie bin on the concourse to collect compostable fruit waste, and they raised £80 from their stall during Charities Week.



Cyber Security Festival

Six schools from the local area joined Bromsgrove Preparatory pupils for an exciting day investigating Cyber Security.

The Cyber Security Festival was run by the Tablet Academy and sponsored by The Cyber Security Challenge. Held across two repeated sessions, pupils were introduced to the concept of Cyber Security and given the challenge of unlocking the code for a brief case that was at the back of the room. In order to crack the code, pupils had to work their way through a series of five tasks that had been left on their desk.

The tasks were significant and the pupils had just two hours in which to unscramble all of the information. A myriad of skills were required including visiting a sound editing suite to change the pitch and reversing a recording. The teamwork and buzz of excitement in the room was clearly visible.

Bromsgrove won the afternoon session, managing to crack the code thus saving the world from a Cyberattack.

J Holden and E Johnston

Etiquette Day

From dancing to dining, Year 8 etiquette day proved to be a super end to the year. The Headmaster led the day with a lecture giving an insight into body language and first impressions. Pupils were then treated to a master class in international table manners by Assistant Head, Miss Scannell and Mr Illingworth from Holroyd Howe. There was great amusement when the pupils were taught to use chopsticks and then worked in teams to move sweets from bowl to bowl. A visit to the International Centre introduced the pupils to the nuances of etiquette ranging from

Bulgaria to Greece. Decision-making and teamwork were developed by Dr Rimmer and Dr Werrett. A real highlight was the dance session led by Dr Ruben in the Old Chapel, where pupils were expertly guided through expressive dance and had the chance to learn how to waltz.

This eclectic mix of activities gave pupils an enjoyable insight into many aspects of life as a global citizen as well as being a thoroughly enjoyable day.

J Holden



Arctic Live

Our Year 3 pupils are extremely fortunate to be one of only 135 groups of children worldwide to participate in Digital Explorer's Arctic Live 2017 event.

They enjoyed taking part in an innovative and pioneering learning experience, connecting live in real-time via Skype with an expedition team in the northernmost permanent settlement in the world, Ny-Ålesund.

This was an experience that Year 3 are unlikely to ever forget, and one which has certainly enhanced their learning about the Creative Curriculum theme, Ice Worlds.

R Ivison



Forest School

Forest School has continued to thrive this year, with groups of Years 3 and 4 attending every week. Throughout the year, they have enjoyed learning about the natural environment. The pupils have developed a real appreciation of how trees, plants and wildlife adapt throughout the changing seasons.

Pupils have benefitted from both experienced Forest School Assistants and a new member of the ground's staff to scaffold their learning. They have mastered skills when working in teams, solving problems and showing resilience.

Whatever the weather everyone is enthusiastic when it is Forest School day. The fire pit remains at the heart of the area and it is a place to reflect. The pupils have built and ignited the fire, broadened their cooking skills and demonstrated an awareness of safety.

There have been so many highlights including cooking pancakes, planting willow arches and making an aqueduct. We hosted the WFSA (Worcestershire Forest School Association) skills share involving twenty local Forest School Leaders who visited and contributed ideas.

Forest School continues to play an integral part of learning for Years 3 and 4. These experiences provide pupils with life-long skills. Outdoor learning at Bromsgrove is going from strength to strength, from a commendation at The Malvern Show, the environmental conscious Eco Committee and the launch of a new School Gardening Club in September 2017.

S Dakin

Harry Potter Day

Twenty years ago a book was published. A book that started a series that would delight and inspire millions of children, and adults around the world. That book was *Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone*.

At the end of the Summer term, Bromsgrove Prep marked this anniversary by turning the School into Hogwarts for the day. The day started off with a procession of pupils in various costumes - there were many Harrys and Hermiones, but also present were Albus Dumbledore, Gilderoy Lockhart, Ollivander, Sybill Trelawney, Delores Umbridge, a handful of Dobbys, Winkys and Malfoys, dementors, Hedwig, a unicorn and Moaning Myrtle... the list went on. The dressing up did not stop at the pupils, as the teaching staff also got into the spirit. Not only did they dress up as various professors and other characters, but gave their lessons magical twists; Science became Potions with pupils making fire paper and bubbling concoctions, Maths ran times table duels, many wands were made in Art and Design Technology, even Quidditch came to our fields in PE... and Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ appeared outside the English department.



The catering staff did the Hogwarts Kitchen's proud by presenting a feast fit for Harry himself. Lunch began with the gamble of tasting a Bertie Bott's Every Flavour Bean, which were hidden under the drinking cups. Unfortunately for some, dirt, vomit and earwax were all found alongside cinnamon, apple and strawberry. Each table was set with a candelabra and the food appropriately labelled with worms and hippogriff eggs.

Strange things happened in the library too, with a restricted section appearing and new categories labelling our bookshelves. Madame Pince had been in contact with Mrs Talbot prior to our day and we held a book cover competition for a new entry for the Hogwarts Library. The winners and runners-up were delighted with their special anniversary edition books.

Despite the unusually hot weather the costumes, and high spirits, held up all day.

K Ison



Loudmouth Theatre

Year 6 enjoyed watching the production, *My Mate Fancies You*, and got involved with various workshops taken by Loudmouth Theatre Company. This well researched and interactive programme explores the often daunting physical and emotional changes associated with puberty

and growing up in both a fun and highly informative way. They were able to ask the questions they may otherwise be unsure of asking, in a safe and welcoming environment during the workshops.

E Mullan





Linguists of the Month

We are delighted at our pupils' efforts and enthusiasm for their language studies. The following pupils have been awarded the title of 'Linguists of the Month' this academic year.

September: Mackenzie Jones, Xanthe Matthews, James Battelley, Emily Dyer, Isra Suleman, James Chen

October: Alice Wilson-Marsh, Henry Grey, Lily Rose, Gabriel Brown, Charlie Hodgson, Joe Morgan, Sophia Meadows, Sandro Chkhaidze, Sophia Eaton, Luke Bond

November: Sam Smallwood, Sophie Pover, Freya Tweddell, Alex McGettrick, Caitlin Smith, Henry Scott, Emily Dyer, Oscar Bridgewater, Seth Benjamin, Farah Croce

December: Charlotte Holden, Cameron Owen, Sebastian Bullock, Teah Petrova, Henry Greaves, Billy McDonough, Heidi Fryer, James Cameron, Isobel Scott

January: Freddie Fallows, Melissa Wang, Justin Fung, Eleanor Boardman, Howie Goldstraw, Ellen Ashton, Ollie Wilkins, Katherine Sutherland, George Christodoulou, Riya Ratra

February: Pranisha Gurung, Archie-Greaves-Hall, Ally Palmer, Iris Tang, Thando Best, Tallulah Bond, Ava Colley, Jack Gilbert, Daniel Underwood, Lydia Wilson-Marsh

March: Rosco Dines, Phoebe Dinnen, Finbar Dinnen, Isla Sutherland, Henry Mitchell, Hannah Lawson, Justin Fung, Anna Connell, Josh Graesser, James Humphries

April: Thomas Grove, Sophia Moberley, Joseph Boardman, Amelie Jackson, Kian Lau, Jasmin Underwood, Izzy Lloyd, Jared Spurgeon, Abigail Barker, Katie Murray

May: Matthew Burke, Henry Conyers, Freddie Fallows, Henry Jones, Freya Lawton, Alex Li, Eva Mein, Katie Rolph, Simran Sandhu, Assica Thapa

June: Devraj Bulchandani, Madeleine Chance, Emily Collett, Elise Connell, Hannah Hunt, George Lamb, TJ Oakley, Aoife O'Donnell, Gareth Tindall, Alexander Williams

R Boardman & C Kippax

LAMDA

Congratulations to the following Prep School pupils who passed LAMDA exams earlier in the year:

Isabella Hyams, Lachlan Halls, Sagar Wood, Megan Price, Delilah Wood, Leah Marie, Tallulah White, Erica Lewis, Lola Broadhurst, Amelia Fox, Aanika Sanikop, Monty Pritchard, Amelia Lees, George Christodoulou, Joseph Billig, Monty Cooke, Henry Foster, Henry Greaves, Georgiana Howdle, Montgomery Lees, Frederick Lees, Maria Christodoulou, Austin Cooke, Isabella Hicks, Hamza Suleman, Charles Cooper, Gabby Billig, Anna Connell, Polly Dakin, Lidia Belcuore, Gabriel Brown, Elise Connell, Kiki Tan, Megan Wilson, Lola Hill and Georgia Hancox.



National Enterprise Challenge

Representatives from the National Enterprise Challenge visited the School during the end of the Summer term to test Year 8 pupils' creative and entrepreneurial skills. Working in teams, the students worked on a real life business challenge – this year, to invent and design a new theme park ride.

After a full day of working on the idea, designing it on paper and then presenting it to a panel of in-house judges, Team Galactic Space Chase were announced as Bromsgrove's winners.



Mathematics

Year 8 pupils have been working collaboratively with Year 12 pupils from the Senior School during Maths sessions at the Prep School. This session is run by Mr Evans, and takes place every Thursday afternoon.



Malvern Spring Show

After twelve months of planning and preparation, pupils and staff were excited to create their garden design at the Malvern show ground. Mrs Dakin and her team of greenfingered gardeners from both Prep and Pre-Prep travelled to the show ground to undertake the build and the planting up of the show garden. The garden, entitled "Out of this World", had a space theme which has enhanced the learning experiences of all involved. The end result was fantastic and included creative planting, a rocket bench and a beautiful mosaic. The garden was commended and the team were delighted to be awarded runners-up in the build category. They were equally delighted that Monty Don, Joe Swift and Chris Collins (the former Blue Peter gardener) all admired it too. We are very grateful to Mrs Dakin for her enthusiasm and to Mr Whitlock (parent) for his energy and commitment to the garden creation. A special thanks to School gardeners Scott and Ashley who have been working on this project from the start and have conveyed their passion for gardening to the pupils.





Olympic Hockey

The Preparatory School girls' hockey team were treated to a training session and Q&A with Olympic hockey star Hollie Webb. Hollie clinched GB's win against the Netherlands when she scored the winning penalty, securing the gold medal for the team in Rio.

Our girls were thoroughly inspired by the experience, especially getting to hold Hollie's gold medal.



Prep School Marmite

Close to the end of the summer term, Dr Ruben led the first of the 'Marmite' taster sessions in Prep School.

Pupils enjoyed a wonderful introduction to the theme of "That's not appropriate"; looking at whether children are really scared by what grown-ups think is scary themselves.

J Holden



Orchard

All three sections of the School community came together during October to plant an orchard on the Prep School site.

We look forward to promoting the benefits of our own orchard to pupils, and watching it grow for many years to come.

Nutrition Talks

Years 6, 7 and 8 learnt about a healthy diet to promote wellbeing during an assembly with Amy Roberts, a Nutritionist from Holroyd Howe. Amy was impressed by their enthusiasm and knowledge our pupils already have about nutrition.



PSHEE

Congratulations to Nell Stone and Eloise Robbins for their PowerPoint presentation chosen from the whole of Year 8 which clearly demonstrated their understanding about 'Consent; No Means No' which comes under the topic of Healthy Relationships. Their task was to produce a presentation suitable for pupils of their own age about respecting the rights of others, communication, negotiation and considering the freedom and capacity of others to make choices.

The two winning pupils were presented with a voucher each by PC Neil Sharpe from North Worcestershire Youth Engagement & Cadet Team.

Year 7 took part in the Risk Taking unit during their PSHEE lessons, learning what the difference is between a risk and a danger with social media and the internet, railway safety, alcohol and drugs. PC Sharpe gave frank and honest information through a variety of scenarios to all the pupils.

E Mullan



Race Car

The Preparatory School DT Club received a donation of a Goblin Race Car from the Greenpower Trust. This is an initiative to encourage students into engineering and motor racing from a young age, inspiring the next generation of racing drivers, engineers and designers.

At their first ever race of the season, the quote of the day certainly was 'more power please!' After all the building, developing and construction, the battery sadly let them down. As hard as the battery was trying to push out volts, the disc brakes were doing the opposite. The two opposing forces cancelled out the go-cart and the top speed was less than half of the other teams.

If success is based only on winning a race then we failed miserably, however this is definitely not the case at all. The whole team for giving it a go were definitely the winners here. The learning outcome on the drawing board was very simple – build a go-cart. The team has learnt infinitely more than this. The extended team has been outstanding too. Mrs Deval-Reed, Mr Clague, and School Governor, Geoff Strong, and all of the children's parents, have supported the team unreservedly and it is very heart-warming to be involved in such a fantastic project. Bring on next season.

P Sutherland



Science Week

Years 3 and 4 had great fun celebrating British Science Week with a whole day dedicated to the subject. The fun started with a House Science quiz and all pupils enjoyed meeting an eccentric scientist who needed the children to use their knowledge to save the Exploratorium science machine from imploding. Throughout the morning, children took part in experiments including testing a blubber glove, making toothpaste, finding the strongest magnet and recreating the digestive system. The day finished with a gallery of the wonderful science posters the pupils have made based on the theme of Change.

S Lewis



Sir Linkalot

Year 8 enjoyed a full day of investigating study skills. This included an introduction to the world of linking by Andy Salmon, also known as Sir Linkalot. The tips and tricks for remembering were delivered in a very engaging way, which certainly enthused all the pupils. Other sessions included using sketchnoting and an introduction to a range of revision techniques. The session for parents was well attended and created plenty of interest in these learning techniques.



Tree Planting Ceremony

Former Junior School Headmaster and Old Bromsgrovian Jim Page (S 45-49; Academic Staff 61-89) organised a special tree planting ceremony in honour of the late Nancy Wilkes.

Parents, pupils, teaching and domestic staff who were involved with the Lower School in its first few decades in the newly built Cobham House were sad to hear of Nancy's death last February.

Nancy was one of eight children brought up on a farm in Woodcote where money was very tight and life was hard - no mains water or electricity - but after schooling in Bromsgrove she obtained a job with a local accountant and joined Bromsgrove School as John Webber's secretary in 1966. Headmaster's Secretary soon turned into School Secretary and it was in that capacity that for twenty-three years her strengths as a diplomat, organiser and friend made her the true heart of the School.

In retirement, helping others continued to be of the greatest importance to her but she has also left a lasting and valuable legacy in the fascinating book she wrote *Woodcote Green and the Chronicles of the Turbutt Family* - available from the Library. There was standing room only at Redditch Crematorium where her large family and many friends gathered to celebrate her life. Jim Page led the tributes and her son, Roy, and daughter, Judy, completed the planting of the tree and the occasion concluded with Frances Page reading A.E. Housman's *Loveliest of trees the cherry now*.



The Great Egg Challenge

Year 3 took part in the Great Egg Challenge. Working collaboratively in teams of six children, their mission was to design and make packaging to protect a hen's egg. They then tested their handiwork by throwing the packages down the big hill at the end of Maple. The children were 'eggs-tremely egg-cited' that all of the eggs survived!



World Ocean Day

Year 4 celebrated World Ocean Day with many exciting global connections, including a fascinating talk from Dr Foster about his conservation work, particularly with sharks in the Pacific Ocean.

Following this, the children joined Digital Explorers for a live global broadcast speaking to an expert in marine biology. This amazing opportunity enabled the children to enhance their knowledge about the Blue Abyss. Our pupils were shocked to learn how polluted our oceans are, the effect this has on sea creatures and what we can do to help. The message was powerfully delivered by Zoomarine's educational department in Portugal via a video skype call. Year 4 now understand the need to have a water bottle in School every day in order to avoid the use of plastic cups.

Finally, using recycled plastic materials, Year 4's creative talents emerged with the making of some amazing jellyfish.

G Billig



Year 7 Science

Year 7 finished their Cells topic in Science with a fantastic project. Pupils were asked to create a model or poster to show a specialised cell. The end results included colourful posters, clever 3D models and even some amazing cakes.

S Cartwright

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

2017 was another successful year for our Year 8 top band students who took part in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Junior Maths Challenge. This is a prestigious national competition run by the University of Leeds aimed at top notch Mathematicians throughout the country. Solving the highly challenging problems requires extensive mathematical knowledge and extremely good logical thinking skills. Over 250,000 pupils from across the UK sat the challenge. Our students attained between them: one Gold, eleven Silver and fourteen Bronze certificates.

Best in School and Year Group was awarded to James Chen, our Gold certificate winner. Well done and many congratulations to all who participated.

C Roskell



Words and Music

The Years 6 - 8 Words and Music evening was a truly wonderful occasion and enjoyed by all who attended. Mr Norton, Director of Performing Arts, was most impressed with the quality of our finalists and the variety of poems the pupils had learned. Many congratulations to all the finalists who had done so well to reach the finals and special congratulations to the winners:

Year 6:
Gabriel Brown -
Do Not Go Gently (Thomas)

Year 7:
Fred Hanson -
Invictus (Henley)

Year 8:
Leo Mellor -
O Captain! My Captain! (Whitman)

Overall Winner:
Henry Scott (Year 7) performing If (Kipling)



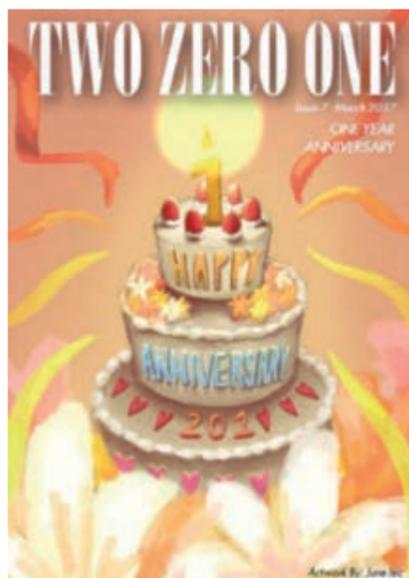
Senior School Activities

201 Magazine

201 has had a successful first year. The brainchild of Alia Derriey (then Upper Fourth) and Sixth Formers AnaMaria Cuza and Madalaine Macradai, it has become a half-termly publication written by students. A prompt is offered for each edition and these have ranged from "Do You Believe in Globalisation?" to "Why do we fear change?" and "Should we fit in?". We are incredibly proud of the original artwork and design supplied by June Iec and Anya Butler. The IT expertise of James Edge has ensured that each edition is given a professional touch.

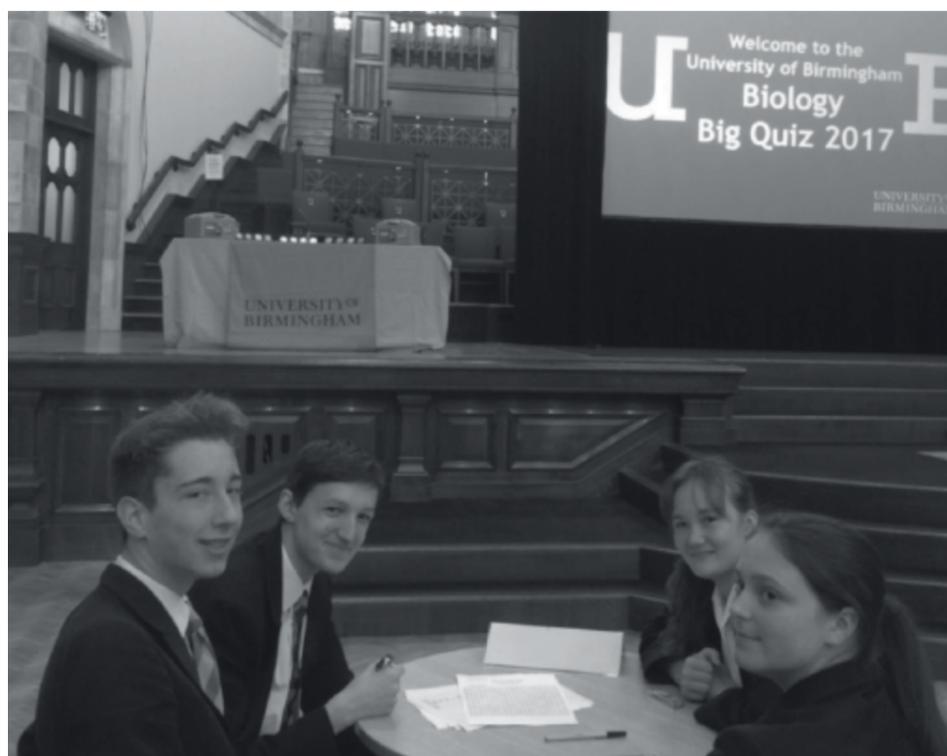
With regular contributors and occasional writers from every year in the School, this is a magazine for all and it continues to go from strength to strength.

V Adams



Biology Big Quiz

Upper Fourth pupils represented Bromsgrove School at the University of Birmingham Biology Big Quiz event. Our two Bromsgrove teams were fantastic ambassadors, putting in impressive performances.



Biofuels Project

The first full test batch of biodiesel was produced in our in-house designed and built processor system at the very end of the 2015-16 academic year. Over the course of this year, our homegrown gravity fed waste vegetable oil system has been fully integrated and the third party supplied dry wash system has been coupled to the processor. The net result has been the production of three complete batches of biodiesel (375 litres), with a School minibus testing it out over the winter months, part fuelled by the batch.

Ongoing modifications to the system have continued throughout the year with very positive feedback from an external agency reviewing our compliance with Health and Safety regulations. The next phase of this exciting and unique project will require the installation of a fuel tank and distribution system with nozzle and metering to ensure the fuel is efficiently delivered to School transport.



The project remains a unique challenge for Sixth Form students to hone a wide range of skills and bring knowledge gleaned in the classroom to solve, at times, some challenging problems. All the pupils involved this year should take pride in their achievements and it has been a delight to work with them.

This year those giving of their time on a Monday/Saturday were Brian Chin Wei Leung, Kipras Daujotas, Ekaterina Antsiferova, Joshua Hei Yeung, Timofei Chernega and Maxim Kim.

M Stone



Bromsgrove Bake Off

All eleven Senior Houses came together on Wendron-Gordon lawn during the last week of the summer term to each bake a cake for the highly competitive Bromsgrove Bake Off 2017. The theme this year was Recreation and the cakes on display ranged from Wimbledon to Rugby to a recreation of House Song. Housman Hall's swimming pool entry, complete with blue coloured liquid, was judged the winner by the Headmaster, Mr Clague.



Biology Challenge

The Biology Challenge is a prestigious national competition where the best biologists enter. We are pleased to report that nine of our students have been awarded gold. These are in the top 5% of those who entered.

Well done to Georgia Doohan-Smith, Kalea Booth, Abigail Hughes, Jonathan Burke, Max Campbell, Jack Scott, Alek Florov, Sarah Pickering and Oleksii Moskalevskiy.

Biology Olympiad

More than 7500 talented biology students have taken part in the 2017 British Biology Olympiad. The medal winners were:

Brian Leung and Nikita Bedov received a gold award, having been in the top 6% of those who took part.

Timofei Chernega and Mandy Heung both scored silver medals, and Anna Kovalevskaia received a bronze medal.





Bromsgrove Badge

The Bromsgrove Badge Award is an exciting programme undertaken by all Lower Fourth pupils. It provides participants with an introduction to a wide range of extra-curricular activities and a taster of the outdoor education pupils can expect later in the School as they embark on the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Furthermore, the programme seeks to develop pupils' citizenship and key transferable life skills.

September 2017 began with preparations for the annual Malvern Field Day. Pupils were taught how to read a map, use a compass and they impressed with their teamwork skills, all of which were essential as they set off on their challenging 17km walk over the Malvern Ridge. This year actually saw most pupils walk a little extra, thanks to some questionable map reading on the first stretch! As ever, though, pupils completed the walk in excellent spirit and with some relentless energy – a few groups even decided to run parts of the route. Such enthusiasm was, as is tradition, rewarded with chocolate, given out by Mr Mullan.

For the second half of the Michaelmas term, pupils embarked on a six-week course on respect, allowing for discussion on some challenging issues regarding gender, race and self-respect. During the Lent term, pupils began a rota of eight activities, including photography, camp-craft, web design and public speaking, alongside an off-site visit to Aztec Adventure for canoeing and climbing. The final part of the year included preparations for Lower Fourth Camp.

R Simmons



Bromsgrove Challenge

During the summer holidays, Lower Fourth pupils were given a number of challenges to complete. The aim of the Bromsgrove Challenge is to introduce pupils to Senior School activities that connect to Bromsgrove Service (D of E, Bromsgrove Badge and IB CAS). It enabled pupils to learn new skills, find out about their strengths and interests and also provide an opportunity to help others.

Pupils raised a staggering total of £10,860 for local and national charities.

Runners Up
Meredith Atkinson
Izzy Walters
Eleanor Hughes
Gemma Calthorpe
Francesca McCaig
Lena Siller
Tom Holroyd
Alfie Harvey-Gilson

The overall winner was Eleanor Rea (Oakley). Her challenge, to sew gowns and pyjamas for children in hospital, was particularly innovative, creative and incredibly thought provoking.

BTEC

The Upper and Lower Sixth BTEC Sport students attended a series of human performance workshops at Worcester University. They investigated the effects of exercise on the body systems and the assessment of body composition. They also looked at different scientific methods of measuring performance.

The lecturers at the university were hugely impressed with the students' knowledge, understanding and physical fitness; it was an excellent learning day.

Bromsgrove Service

Over 250 pupils have taken part in Bromsgrove Service this year in twenty-five activities, with a number of students carrying out additional projects for IB CAS. Pupils have contributed to the wider local community, as well as supporting the Prep and Senior Schools. The transition between Senior and Prep has been developed further by introducing crossover activities.

Prep School pupils have enjoyed joining in creating crafts for charities, Science Club and signing for the deaf to name but a few, as well as benefitting from reading groups, language leaders and Prep boarder helpers. This year has also seen the introduction of bilingual gatekeepers who have created user-friendly translations of documents and brochures for international students. Young Archivists is another new venture with pupils discovering and cataloguing the School's history and artefacts. Pupils who are interested in coaching have also had the opportunity of completing the Lawn Tennis Association's coaching course Level 1, which proved extremely popular.

All pupils have embraced their role as ambassadors for the School, readily participating and supporting one other and they have enjoyed giving something back to our community.

J Golightly





Bromsgrove Service – Blue Cross Animal Sanctuary

The Blue Cross is an animal charity which endeavours to “provide support to pet owners whom cannot afford veterinary treatment, to help find homes for unwanted animals and to educate the public in the responsibilities of animal ownership”. Over the past academic year, Bromsgrove students have been volunteering at Blue Cross in order to help the animals and staff as best they can.

The animals, for the most part, are at the sanctuary because of abandonment by their previous owners and it is the Blue Cross which undertakes to find new homes for them. As you might be aware, animal sanctuaries are often very busy places to work and as a result, it is challenging for the staff to manage their administrative and practical roles all the time. This is the primary reason why it is important for volunteers, such as ourselves, to visit the sanctuary. Every animal taken in by the Blue Cross has its own individual story and our duty, as volunteers, is to take care of them and give them the love they need and deserve.

We visit the sanctuary every Saturday morning, helping the staff with the hands-on aspects of animal welfare work. Each week we take a handful of dogs for a walk, either within the centre or around the local fields. As well as working with dogs, we also tend to the cattery. During this time, we endeavour to expose the animals to positive human interactions. The Blue Cross, through partnership with the local veterinary practice, also provides clinical care to deserted animals until a new home can be found.

Volunteering at the Blue Cross has always been a very rewarding experience. Since our first day at the sanctuary, our knowledge and understanding of animal behaviour, physiology and health has vastly increased. From an extra-curricular perspective, volunteering at the animal sanctuary can be added to your Duke of Edinburgh profile, used within your CV or, as an IB student, incorporated as an aspect of your CAS portfolio.

However, we would say that perhaps the most rewarding part of the experience is not knowing that your volunteering is going towards your own future, but that your work with the animals is going towards their futures and that you are making a huge positive difference to their lives. It is difficult to describe in words the feeling of watching an animal you have previously worked, go home to a new family as a result of your efforts - it is a daily reminder to ourselves of the good we can achieve. I believe I speak on behalf of all the volunteers when I say that we have thoroughly enjoyed our time at the animal sanctuary and can definitely recommend it to anyone interested in animal welfare, or simply anyone who has a passion or love for animals.

S Yeung, J Grove and W Nadin



IB CAS

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) is at the heart of the IB, involving students in a range of activities that take place alongside their academic studies. The three strands are characterised as creativity which helps students to explore ideas leading to an original product or performance, activity which helps students engage in a healthy lifestyle and service which is a collaborative engagement with the community in response to an authentic need. CAS broadens the mind, promotes teamwork and enables students at Bromsgrove to become actively involved in matters of international importance as well as considering issues within the local community.

There is a high-level of personal choice involved in the CAS programme and it often enables students to find an activity or cause they are really passionate about. They can use the School's extra-curricular programme to support their CAS portfolio but they can also seek activities and experiences outside of School.

This academic year, IB students have become involved in many community-based projects and have thoroughly enjoyed the process. For example, a group of IB students organised a Christmas event for local elderly residents. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to work in a team and get involved in their local community. As this was such a success, students also organised an Easter Afternoon Tea event for elderly residents with crafts, cake and bingo. Furthermore, students helped collect food items at Tesco supermarket for the FareShare charity. Other IB students organised a collection of unwanted sports equipment for a local charity initiative run by the BBC. Students have also been active within the School community, raising money with bake sales, arranging Bromsgrove's Got Talent as well as organising activities for younger students in the Prep School.

L Hunter



ComicCon

Members of the Marmite Elite Gifted and Talented Society, from Year 7 to VIth Form, met for the annual Mini ComicCon. This year's theme was taken from Doctor Who, Can We Regenerate?. Whilst sonic screwdrivers and fezzes were prominent, as ever, the chosen narrative was used to spark discussion of some very big issues. The trope of the Doctor regenerating asks us to consider change: one of the key quotes of the day was from George Bernard Shaw – 'Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.'

There were screenings of modern and vintage episodes, pizza and a Tardis cake. Garden discussions included What Would I Change?, and Best. Monster. Ever. These seem to be particularly tragic and binary times in the world: our discussions celebrated conversation, education, subtlety, negotiation and the hope for change. Alice Ruben, an OB currently studying at Bristol University, gave a fascinating presentation on processes and values in modern science fiction media production. Merchandise was available in the form of badges and coasters.

Awards of 'Gifted' Marmite pots were made to Haydn Stanney, Sarah Pickering, Leia Thompson and Finlay Shaylor for exceptional analytical contributions.



Congratulations to all who have participated in Marmite for your many gifts and talents: above all thank you for your kindness, humour and optimism.

M Ruben

Chinese New Year

For over twenty years, pupils learning EAL have been presenting Chinese New Year to younger pupils in the local community, and this year was no different. Bromsgrove students taught lessons to pupils at Pre-Prep and Hagley Primary School.

The children learnt about the story of Nian the monster and the animals that had a race to put the years of the Zodiac in order. Activities for the children included lantern making and learning to say Happy New Year in Chinese.

Our Year 10 pupils learnt presentation skills and more about the art of keeping a class of primary school pupils entertained, with excellent results.

J Boonnak



Alone

*Alone I stood,
through tree roots and mangled wood.
In the clearing which man
had so barbarically created:
the whistles, the thud of the impact,
the creaks as trees were uprooted.
Only shattered and pulverised wood
remains.*

*Men's screams on both sides filled the air
with thick sorrow.*

*The slight slump as empty shells
disappeared
into the viscous, drenched mud.*

Alone I stand.

*Nature found a way
to renew the green canopy surrounding
me.*

*Only I remember, only I carry the metallic
scars of War.*

James Bateman

Commemorating The Somme

100 years ago on 18th November 1916, the Battle of the Somme was finally over. It had been raging in Northern France for 5 long months, with over 1 million men either wounded or killed. Indeed, the first day of the battle, back in July of 1914, saw almost 60,000 British casualties. One area that was particularly devastated was called Delville Wood. After the battle had ended, the entire area was obliterated as the landscape was destroyed by the legacy of the bloodiest battle in British military history. Only one living thing remained; one lone hornbeam tree bore the scars of bullets and shells in its bark but it was still alive amidst the devastation. If you visit the area today, this incredible tree is surrounded by a fence to protect it from visitors as the rest of the wood has grown up around this remarkable survivor of war. I see this as a message of healing and reconciliation. It symbolises the strength of the survivor.

In Staffordshire, we have a National Arboretum which is a beautiful place of memorial for all of those who have died in battles all over the world, right up to the present day. People visit it to remember the dead and the survivors of war find comfort in the peaceful surroundings. The Arboretum has been commemorating the centenary of WW1 with a variety of events. One initiative asked pupils to write a poem inspired by the story of the last remaining hornbeam tree. I did my research and discovered we had a few examples of this native UK tree in the grounds of Bromsgrove School. So I took my English class to visit a couple of these trees back in June and I told them the story behind the last remaining tree on the Somme. This generated some incredible responses. You can imagine how thrilled we were when it was announced that one of our pupils, James Bateman, had won the competition – his winning poem entitled Alone can be seen below.

At the start of the summer holidays I drove up to Arboretum to collect our prize. The prize was a tree that had been grown from a sapling of that original tree in France. The fact that we now have that tree planted in our grounds is remarkable. The same DNA, the same roots and moisture from that devastated battleground now grow in our grounds and will continue to do so for another 100 years, long after we have all left this place. There will be forever a permanent link between our roots and that of the scene of WW1. I see it as a symbol of peace and an everlasting reminder of the sacrifice so many gave for their countries: we will never forget.

V Adams





Cookery Lesson

Seventeen Sixth Formers took part in a Cookery Class run by Head Chef, Chris Prosser and the School's Nutritionist, Georgia Obertelli. The purpose of the class was to introduce the students to cooking simple, yet nutritious meals in preparation for living independently. Five dishes including pasta bolognese and garlic bread were created from scratch. The students then sat down to enjoy the meal together.

Z Leech



Chemistry Finals

Champion Pongpeaw, Mark Cheng, Marian Skutru and Shams Ali Baig took part in the West Midlands Chemistry Teachers' Centre finals. The finals consisted of the best Chemistry teams in the county, where they were questioned on a wide range of topics and our pupils were placed fourth out of ten teams.



CREST

A fantastic year has been had by our CREST Silver award group. Twelve students have been working throughout the year on their projects - ranging from "Is the five second rule really true?" to investigating the best methods of measuring refractive indices for solutions. Students have been challenged to develop their own methods and investigations, as well as presenting their findings to our external assessor. The skills learned this year will last them a lifetime and a great sense of independence and maturity was shown by all.

P Woolley

Pupil	Project	Award Achieved
Easter Chan	DIY face masks	Silver CREST award
Mark Cheng	Effectiveness of anti-bacteria soaps	Silver CREST award
Bipin Gurung	Dental Hygiene: What substances make the worst stains	Silver CREST award
Andrii Iermolaiev	Finding concentrations using refractometry	Silver CREST award
Vanessa Ip	Anti-bacterial properties of natural substances	Silver CREST award
Maggie Lau	How damaging is hair dye?	Silver CREST award
George Marshall	Which anti-dandruff shampoo is best?	Silver CREST award
Ruby Ngan	DIY soaps and detergents	Silver CREST award
Amanda Wu	Is the five-second rule really true?	Silver CREST award
Emily Williams	DIY leaf structure model	Silver CREST award
Champion Pongpaew and Mikhail Shabalin	Measuring transpiration in plants	Bronze CREST award

Cross-stitch

Michelle Ma has attended a weekly cross-stitch activity on a Saturday from October 2016 - June 2017, as of her Bronze D of E Award. During this time, she has been working on a design that will be donated to the charity, Love Quilts UK, who make personalised quilts using cross-stitch squares, stitched by volunteers for children with medical conditions that require long hospital stays. Michelle's design celebrates her Chinese heritage by incorporating a cute panda, a bamboo plant and Chinese characters that mean "luck, fortune, health, happiness". The design is Michelle's own creation and represents more than fifty hours of effort. This activity has allowed Michelle to enjoy and improve a relaxing craft, be creative with her own designs and make a selfless contribution to others.



L. Newton



Design

Lower Sixth Design Technologists attended the Design in Action conference at the University of Warwick. Amongst the inspirational speakers was Professor Daniel Charny from Kingston University discussing purpose within Social Design and the third industrial revolution highlighting community benefit over profit. Matthew Beaven, Chief Exterior Designer at Jaguar's Advanced Design Studio explored the creative process of bringing a car to market from initial sketch using the C-X75 which starred in the latest Bond movie. James Roberts, founder of MOM Incubators Ltd showed his product inspired from watching the war in Syria unfold discussed how he went from design student to funded Startup progressing his business from initial idea to a global lifesaving incubator. In the coming months, the students will use this experience to enhance their own creative journey as they begin to design for a new client.

Debating Society

A busy debating season started with the first round of the Central Region Debating Matters competition, with Olivia Bond and Billy Draper-Barr returning for a second year, this time accompanied by Joseph Ng and Henry Stone. The team travelled to Birmingham for the Central Final, proposing the statement that 'We should accept the risk inherent in contact sports' and opposing 'There should be limits to free speech on social media'; all four spoke knowledgeably about their given topics.

Bromsgrove also competed in the English-Speaking Union Churchill Public Speaking competition. With three maiden speakers in the team, it was a pleasure to see them rise to the challenge of the county final. Scarlett Bond chaired her presentation with confidence; Max Campbell was a perceptive questioner; and speaker Jacob Mann was persuasive and eloquent. The Lower VI team of Madelaine Barber Fray and Harry Liversidge travelled to Cheltenham to compete in the county final of the Schools' Mace competition. Speaking in opposition to the motion that 'This House would legalise physician-

assisted euthanasia', both Madelaine and Harry were narrowly beaten to the regional finals but acquitted themselves very well. In the Inter-House debating competitions, the strong Mary Windsor team of Olivia Bond and Alia Derriey won the Senior Debating Final, while the Junior Cup went to Francesca Mellor and Elizabeth Aston representing Thomas Cookes, with an additional Best Speaker award presented to Max Campbell of Walters.

Meanwhile, the popular lunchtime debates have seen students coming together to discuss pertinent issues of the day – from the American presidency to the Eurovision Song Contest.

As recognition for her commitment and achievements in debating and public speaking over the years, Olivia Bond received the Janet Cockin Debating Cup, while the T. E. Godwin Trophy for consistent engagement and improvement went to Jacob Mann.

R. Whitbread



Expedition Club

This year, the club has made two trips to Snowdonia, hiked locally and used several climbing walls.

In October 2016, two groups of direct entrant Duke of Edinburgh Gold participants visited Snowdonia to experience the thrill of hiking and surviving in 'wild country'. Jumping into the Duke of Edinburgh Award at the deep end, the participants had to learn quickly how to navigate and look after themselves in this challenging environment. Back at School, the group did several local hikes to learn some of the finer points of accurate navigation.

The next two terms were devoted to climbing, and members of the club made several trips to climbing walls in Birmingham and Worcester, as well as using the outdoor climbing wall at the Prep School.

The pinnacle of the year was another trip to North Wales in April 2017, this time for climbing, bouldering and abseiling on rock. With expert instruction, Expedition Club members developed their techniques and experienced the thrill of climbing in an outdoor environment. The combination of the outdoors, height exposure and awesome views made this an unforgettable trip.

D Tamplin



Falconry Display

Due to extremely poor weather conditions, the annual falconry display to Lower Fourth pupils in Head of Year was relocated to the sports arena, which made for an excellent new location. The Falconry Centre in Hagley visited with a range of different birds of prey, each with their own personality. Their falconer explained about the physical adaptations of the birds and their native habitats, habits and their diet in the wild.

This year, pupils were treated to a Northern Hawk Owl, an Ashy-Faced Barn Owl, a Spectacle Owl, a kestrel, a Harris Hawk and an American Bald Eagle. It was a special day for Etna, the Ashy-Faced Barn Owl, as it was the first time that her handler had attempted to let her fly over people. She showed no fear and completed her challenge; flying low over the whole group of Lower Fourth in order to get a treat.

The Lower Fourth were an excellent audience - they learned a great deal about the behaviour and habitats of the different birds and they made sure they were very low to the ground when they flew over.

F Diver

Defence Lab

The Lower Fourth learned important lessons when they welcomed James and Matt from Defence Lab.

Defence Lab run practical self-defence and fitness programmes for children and adults, which are taught alongside ethical, moral and character education. Whilst it is somewhat natural that young people gravitate towards the different moves and advice on physical attacks, the main message was clear - if you are threatened or at risk, the best defence is to be somewhere else or get away without such confrontation.

Pupils learned a range of personal safety tips about staying aware, staying together, staying calm and staying in touch. That is not to say that pupils missed out on self-defence moves. The group were shown several easy to learn techniques that allowed pupils to overcome differences in weight and height and get themselves to safety.

Whilst it is never easy to talk about the dangers of the modern world, it is important that pupils know how to conduct themselves in a range of situations and that they understand how to predict, avoid and, if necessary, deal with problems if they arise.

F Diver





Flourishing Fiver

This year, a team of thirteen students comprising Fifth Form, Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth worked tirelessly to raise as much money as possible for local charity, Primrose Hospice. The Hospice gives each student £5 at the start of the year which they must then use in enterprising ways in order to raise more. Last year's team raised just over £1400 and so the new team very quickly made it their mission to beat this accomplishment. That drive and determination never left them, and they set about hosting more events than ever before. There have been numerous film nights held in the LRC where snacks have been sold, Page House enjoyed a Christmas Party in the Hospitality Suite and they designed and sold calendars including pictures taken by students in the School. All of their efforts have led to a total of over £2300 being raised, a record breaking amount. All students involved should be very proud of their efforts.

J Holdsworth



German Café

Sixth Form pupils studying German enjoyed an evening out at an authentic German Café where they ordered typical German specialities (in German of course) and completed a quiz about German life and traditions between each course.

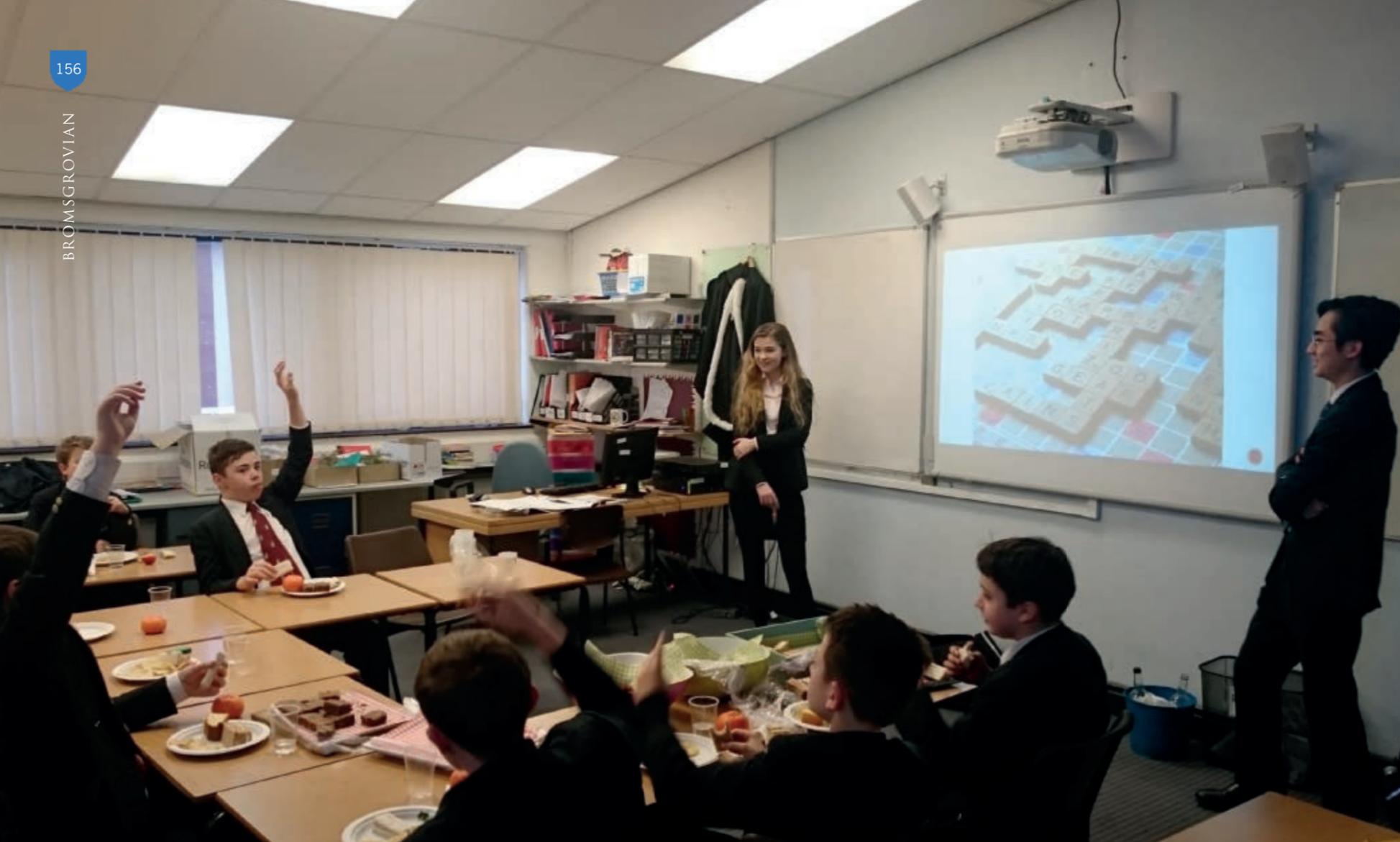
The pupils had a great time and learned a lot about German culture as well as sampling some delicious food.

M Beet



I Love Boarding Competition

The I Love Boarding Competition was launched to all boarders in Prep and Senior during the Lent term. They had to tell us why they love boarding at Bromsgrove using the hashtag #ILoveBoarding in any way they wanted to express themselves. The winner was Alexander Schraner from Wendron-Gordon House for his imaginative video, filmed and edited entirely himself. The Headmaster presented Alexander with his award.



Lost Woodshill Apple Research Awards

Bernwode Nursery set the challenge to students to undertake research and write to orchards and apple societies to find out what happened to this once abundant and now 'lost' local apple.

The pupils clearly undertook a lot of independent research and spent time carefully looking through various records. The following are to be congratulated on their success:

Headmaster's 1st choice - Jake Lowe
 Headmaster's runner up - Phoebe Fletcher
 UIV 1st Place - Will Edwards;
 2nd Place - Sarah Pickering
 LIV 1st Place - Meredith Atkinson;
 2nd Place - Josh Lawson

G Wright

Mathematical Olympiad

The following pupils took part in the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls where they joined over 2100 girls nationwide in the competition run by the UK Mathematics Trust. Certificates were awarded to all.

Well done to Vanessa Ip (certificate of distinction), Lisa Liu, Tiffany Tan, Diana Saakyan, Michelle Ma, Zoe Zheng and Nicole Zhou.



Learning Mentors

Bromsgrove Service and IB CAS Fifth and Sixth Form pupils have been helping to lead sessions to Years 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented pupils.

In their weekly activity session, Senior School pupils have researched and prepared the lunchtime activities. Topics have included film, feminism, poetry and gaming.

Over the course of the academic year, Senior pupils have really grown in confidence in the delivery of these sessions and Prep pupils have benefitted from imaginative, relevant and fun activities.

F Diver



Marmite

Doctor Who, probability, Horrid Henry, the physiology of laughter, Frankenstein, fracking and Zootropolis. All of these things, the members of The Marmite Society would live, breathe and go mad as a hatter for. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Year 7 to Upper Sixth Gifted and Talented students had the privilege of attending Marmite - we have learned so much that we had to share it with you.

Jamie: With my dear friend Ellen here, I have been part of Marmite for two years now, so when Dr Ruben asked us to write about days of Marmite, how could we say no? During this time, we have learnt, spoken and laughed about so many things with Dr Ruben and our friends. Winnie the Pooh (a wise bear!) once said *"Life is a journey to be experienced, not a problem to be solved"* which is an example of what Marmite is all about - seeing beyond just ourselves and looking at absolutely amazing and influential *stuff* from the past, present and future. Doctor Who anyone?

Ellen: Ok, now it's my turn to talk about awesome academia. At the beginning of the year, we undertook the theme of "What Remains?", reflecting initially on palaeontology. Who doesn't love a Pachycephalosaurus? Just me, apparently... As part of this theme we studied texts including Brueghel's paintings and the forensics of Sherlock Holmes, asking what is lost, what changes and what endures... To quote Dr Ruben, *"If all meaning is lost, what remains that is useful to the academic?"* The term was rounded off with a screening of Jason and the Argonauts (with garlic bread, pizza and cake, as ever). Harryhausen's remarkable animated skeletons reminded us that many of the 'absolutes' of the modern world are just fashion.

Jamie: Sorry readers, she got hungry when writing this. After a long Christmas break revising for mocks, Marmite decided to lighten the joys of January with the theme "Are You Joking?" Sadly, I am not. We were able to discuss some great fictional characters including Horrid Henry and the legend that is Sheldon Cooper from *Big Bang Theory*, the most brilliant chap with Asperger's (apart from myself). This led us to Silberman's book, *Neurotribes*, which argues that we should re-evaluate the way we see Gifts and Talents to include the Henrys and the Sheldons. The notion of "stereotypical nerd" shot out the window and we laughed with, not at the characters, across ten seasons - humour as inclusion. Speaking of stereotypes, has anyone watched *Zootropolis*? We did. As the Oscars agreed, it is the best film about racism and determination I have ever seen. So good that after that Movie and Pizza night, Ellen and I ran across Gordon Green singing the theme tune! You know, in a sophisticated, intellectual way...

Ellen: You weren't meant to tell anyone that! I'm writing with an uncultured swine.

Jamie: I'm writing *with* you, we're equal, inclusion.... ?

Ellen: !

Ellen: With the final season of Marmite coming to a close and GCSEs and A-levels in full swing, we only had three weeks of fun left. This meant we had to make the most of it with the theme "That's So Random".... which could be the reason Jamie and I are writing this. This topic led from the random rubber duck disaster, which allowed earth scientists to map the Pacific Gyre, to the seemingly impossible collision of space junk, which turned out to be far more likely - and catastrophic - than anyone thought. It was a profound thing to fathom the probability of events we used to consider random... although Jamie and I still can't fathom how to calculate pressure difference in physics. Plenty of Marmites can, though - that is how Gifts and Talents work.



To conclude, it was another year of Marmite hard work and fun. The Sixth Form's annual exploration of 'Nature and Culture' revisited *The Tempest*, *Frankenstein*, ballet, *Barbie*, *Blade Runner* and *The Matrix*... the secret world where computer code is visible and daylight is for other people... just a documentary about Marmites, then... Years 7 and 8 were welcomed, with seminars which queried the idea 'That's Not Appropriate' in children's fiction. Then on a hot summer Sunday, we celebrated our annual Marmite ComicCon.

Finally, led by Mr Beet, we visited Cambridge and the many university colleges it has to offer

Jamie: Don't forget the brownie at the café!

Ellen: Yeah, that too.



Jamie: During this year in Marmite, whether it was your first or last, we have all learned amazing things from Dr Ruben and each other, discussed and laughed about big ideas and eaten some of the best cake in the Universe - which we both hope to remember when I am writing my best-selling novel (*jokes*)...

Ellen: And I am living with forty cats, one of whom will be named "Steven" (*not even joking*)...

Jamie and Ellen: It just remains for Marmite to wish you all 'PEACE... out of this world'.

Jamie Cox and Ellen Kitchen

MUN

Fruitful debate has once again been plentiful in Model United Nations this year, with over twenty students representing various member states at two conferences. Alongside the external conferences, this year has seen the introduction of MUN for Prep School pupils who have relished the opportunity to hone their debating skills and learn from more experienced public speakers.

At the first one-day conference at the London Oratory School, students tackled prevalent issues such as the question of cyber security and the controversial topic of doping at international sporting events. Delegates represented Japan and Ethiopia superbly, with several raising points of information and taking the floor in the General Assembly.

Haileybury MUN, the biggest in the country, was by far the most challenging and thought-provoking. An inspirational speech by Martin Cox of the John Locke Institute aimed to stir students to strive for academic excellence and become the leaders of the future. The students subsequently gave everything they had to the debates of the weekend and profited hugely from them. Harry Nichols must receive mention for receiving the award of Highly Commended Delegate.

As MUN moves forward to next year, it is hoped that many more Prep pupils can get involved in the weekly sessions, thus providing them with an understanding of the way conferences work and the skills necessary for succeeding in writing and passing resolutions.

R Simmons



Modern Languages Competition

Pupils participated in a National languages competition run by Vocab Express. The aim was to complete a variety of vocabulary learning tasks in a limited amount of time. Three winners were selected for each language:

French -
Shams Ali Baig, Valentina Malagon,
Jacob Kleinen

German -
Phoebe Fletcher, Lauren Court,
Ruvrashe Madzingo

Spanish -
Jamie Cox, Yik Ming Wong, Callum Lee

National Citizen Service

Jamie Grove, Highbury Rodway, Anna Martins, Shekinah Obi-Umahi, Oluwatosin Attah and Meghan McIntosh graduated from the National Citizen Service earlier this year.

The idea of NCS is to encourage young people to make a difference, embark on different challenges and build skills for life.

Maths Feast

Bromsgrove entered a team in the Year 10 Maths Feast, run by the Further Maths Support Network. The team, consisting of Helen Wu, Tina Cai, Lucy Lyu and Ivanka Zhao, competed against seventeen other teams from local schools in a series of challenging and fun mathematical problems. They had a wonderful morning and scored third place overall.

Mathematics Challenge

Early in February, ninety-seven pupils from the Fourth and Fifth Forms entered the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge, which aims to stimulate mathematical thinking and enhance problem-solving skills. Of these, many were awarded certificates for their achievements, including the following pupils who attained a Gold certificate. Well done to Clarence Chen, Mark Cheng, Louis English, Jenny Jo, Tristan Hall, Andrii Iermolaiev, Vanessa Ip, Lucy Lyu, George Marshall, Ruby Ngan, Champion Pongpaew, Ishwar Puna, Johnson Shi, Chris Ye, Ivanka Zhao, Nicole Zhou.

In addition, seventy-six pupils competed in the Senior Mathematics Competition in November.

Between them they achieved a fantastic set of results including fourteen Gold certificates, twenty-eight Silver certificates and twenty-four Bronze certificates.

Congratulations to our Gold winners: Philip Zhang, Sam Phillips, Alin Petz, Sophia Wang, Gene Lee, Stefan Baditescu, Gillian Chu, Helen Zheng, Jack Wu, Timofei Chernega, Oliver Cai, Nicole Zhou, Chris Ye and special mention to Roger Zhao who scored the Best in School.



Online Safety

During the academic year, Bromsgrove School was awarded the 360safe 'Committed to Safety Online' Award. The School has made a commitment to engage with the 360-degree safe self-review tool as a means of reviewing practice and implementing actions which will improve the online safety at School.

E Johnston





Physical Geography Photography Competition

The creativity of our pupils across the curriculum was at the forefront as the School presented prizes for the Physical Geography Photography Competition.

The winning entries included a photograph capturing the power of the Niagara Falls, a fascinating isolated moss in a hydrosere environment and a view of the mountains of Andorra.

Andorra

The photo was taken while I was in Andorra, a small country on the boarder of France and Spain, celebrating my results. We went walking to see some famously beautiful lakes. The walk took a lot longer than expected - almost six hours to get all the way around the three lakes - including breaks for lunch and a swim in the freezing alpine water. It was an experience I will never forget as it produced beautiful views like this one. It may look like it was an easy walk by the photograph but unfortunately the trail had us walking through the middle of scree slopes. This photo was taken at the half way point of the walk and I like this photo in particular as it just shows the beauty of the mountainous landscape in Andorra and it shows a perfect view of all three lakes.

Matt Finlay (first place)



The Optimism of Survival

Chubu-Sangaku National Park, Japan Due to subsidence from an earthquake, the National Park has been partially flooded at low levels causing trees to die due to waterlogged conditions. However, this optimistic moss has decided to grow upon the smallest area of a dead branch that happened to surface the still waters, favoured by the damp and moist conditions provided by the river water that surrounded its colonisation. An interesting enquiry question would be to investigate the role of pioneer species causing succession through hydrosere and ecosystem changes by understanding more about the biodiversity around the area. It would also be useful to investigate the managing fragile environments.

Tiffanie Kar Leong Tseng (second place)



Why is the water on the Niagara River diverted?

The photo features the Niagara Falls in Niagara City, Canada. The Falls is a waterfall formed during and after the Ice Age. A waterfall is formed through continuous hydraulic action, an erosional process. For a waterfall to form, there has to be a layer of more resistant rock over a layer of less resistant rock, this is known as differential geology. As the water flows over the rocks, the top layer of more resistant rock can withstand the power of hydraulic action longer, while the layer of soft rock underneath the top layer is eroded faster, resulting in the top layer of rock being undercut and a waterfall is formed. A waterfall erodes backwards as the top layer collapses when it is no longer supported by the layer below it as the lower layer of rock is eroded.

The Niagara Falls was eroding backwards at a rate of ten feet per year before the water on the Niagara River is being diverted. The rate is too fast, and not willing to let the Falls erode back too quickly and affecting the lives of the people nearby, the Canadian government decided to divert the water on the Niagara River to slow down the erosion. The rate of erosion is currently one feet per year, and the diverted water is used to support various industries as well as generating electricity.

Ruby Ngan (third place)



Poetry

To celebrate National Poetry Day 2016, the English department held a poetry competition on the theme of messages. The winner was Hafsa Suleman for her poem, Precious Garden, which impressed for its extraordinarily expressive vocabulary and deliciously ironic twist.

Your Precious Garden

*So friable and fresh,
Oh!
Forgive me,
For I have yet committed another sin;
From your precious garden.*

*So vibrant and blue;
Another flower snatched from your garden...
Oh your precious garden!
Full of hanging fruits
And lazy vegetables,
From snozzcumpers to whimsical berries
From your oh so precious garden.*

*Again, I'm full to the brim with catastrophe;
The flower sleeps in my mosaic vase,
Filled with zest and zing,
I think it needs a new friend:
From your precious garden.*

*I'll try to keep myself away;
Away from those pulchritudinous petals,
Just one day and only one day,
I'll take EVERY blue flower:
From your precious garden.*

Written by Hafsa Zohra Suleman



Remembrance Day

Trumpeters Archie Holder, Sarah Chapman, Archie Batham-Read and Charles Sapwell played the Last Post and Reveille with great dignity at School, in Bromsgrove town for the British Legion and at Hanbury Church over the Remembrance weekend.

Shoe Boxes

The collection of Christmas Shoe boxes was a real success with sixty-three boxes collected. The money raised from the sale of Krispy Kreme donuts paid for the delivery of the boxes. Thank you to all the pupils who bought a doughnut or contributed to a shoebox.

Student Investor Challenge

Joyce Lee, Amanda Wu, Tiffany Tan and Amy Ying made it through to the semi-final of the *ifs* Student Investor Challenge. Having finished 156th in the combined Active and Strategic league table in the first round, their team got down to the top 500 teams out of nearly 6500 who entered.

The *ifs* Student Investor Challenge is a UK wide investment game for students with a top prize of a trip to New York. Teams invest their virtual money in a set of stocks and other investment instruments. Teams must create two portfolios. The Active Investor portfolio allows teams to trade every day. The Strategic Investor portfolio only allows a limited number of trades per month, encouraging long term thinking.



Tennis Leaders

Fourteen students put their names forward to take part in a new and exciting Tennis Leaders' course, as part of Bromsgrove Service.

Tennis Leaders is a formal qualification aimed at students starting out on the tennis/sports leaders career pathway. Students completed the core module, introduction to tennis, and four additional modules volunteering at a tennis venue, leading a practice session, helping at a school and helping at a competition.

All students performed extremely well in demonstrating excellent leadership qualities,

Well done to: Ellie Carrington-Windo, Louis Crusse Honebrina, Joshua Cunningham, Benjamin Fitzmaurice, Aksell Ilmanen, Henry Kohler, Sam Fitzmaurice, Chun Ki Lau, Thomas Maidment, Charlie Smart, Tommaso Vago, Coco Wallentin, Harrison Wright and Zhipery Xie.



Storm Doris

Geography students took the opportunity to study weather systems first hand when Storm Doris raged around the area. The School's weather station (kindly donated by the PA) recorded wind speeds, with gusts of over 59mph. Miss Diver used the half-hourly data feeds from the weather station to link the weather experienced in Bromsgrove to the weather bomb that was causing havoc in the local area and further afield in the UK.

The ITV Central news team responded to one our enthusiastic tweets and sent in a film crew to record pupils studying the effects of the weather – pupils and staff enjoyed watching themselves back on the news later.

E Gill



Tea and Carols

A group of IB1 students organised a festive tea, mince pies and carols event for elderly residents of Bromsgrove. This was organised for their IB CAS portfolio as a project to make a difference to residents in the local community. Residential Homes such as Breme House, St Johns Court, Burcot Grange and Rashwood House were invited to spend an afternoon listening and singing along to Christmas carols by the School choir as well as enjoying a game of bingo.

The IB students greeted the residents in Christmas hats and jumpers to add to the festive cheer. It was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by pupils and residents alike.

L Hunter

Snakes

In a very hot Head of Year session, the Upper Fourths were visited by the Central England Reptile Rescue & Birds of Prey Sanctuary. Students learnt about habitat, diet and biological features of different types of reptiles.

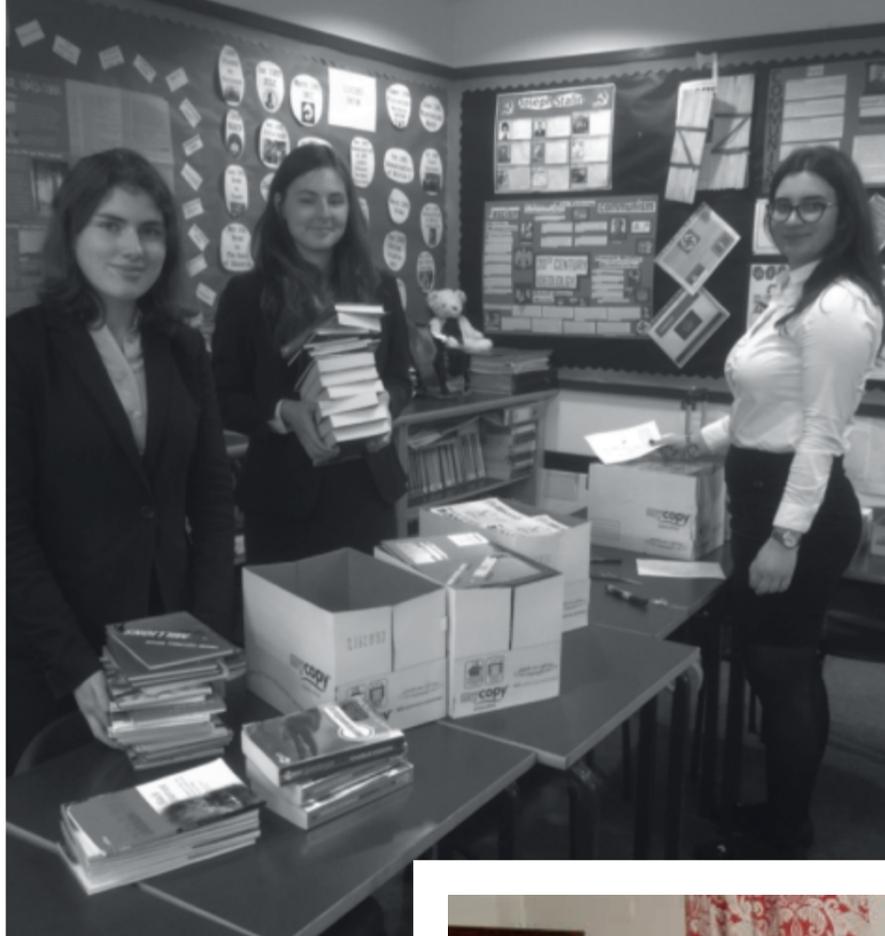
The group saw some of the Sanctuary's animals including lizards, turtles, tortoises and geckos. The highlight of the afternoon was when four students had the chance to hold a snake. Amin Makkawi, Lauren Court, Alice Oliver and Ben Hollingworth all bravely volunteered to come to the front - although, apart from a very cool Lauren, they found it quite nerve-wracking once they actually started to hold the very active snakes.

E Johnston

Textbooks for Africa

International Baccalaureate students collected old text books as part of their Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) and following an extensive search, managed to fill a total of twenty boxes.

All of the students involved in the project were extremely motivated to collect as many books as possible. Numerous subjects had curriculum changes for GCSE and A Level this academic year, so a vast amount of textbooks were not needed anymore. Therefore, students decided to do a Whole School collection to give the books to Schools Aid, who then send the books to Africa to support the advancement of education and help young people in disadvantaged communities. Prep and Senior School teachers were happy to see books going to a really good cause, and the students were positive, organised and happy with the outcome of the project.



Young Archivists' Club

Eight students have attended Young Archivists' Club this year as part of Bromsgrove Service. They have participated in many archiving activities, preservation and repackaging of photographs and documents, draft listing items for the catalogue, creating displays for small, themed exhibitions, using social media to share and promote the archive, researching to answer enquiries from Old Bromsgrovians and family historians, and interviewing former students and teachers for our oral history archive. They have been a very valuable addition to the archive team (currently just the Archivist!) Here's what students said about their experiences.

"Once I started the activity, I enjoyed it and looked forward to coming each week. I recognised that my experience would depend on what I made of it, so I decided to find my 'niche' in the archives and base my work around it. This was firstly looking

at old, discontinued pupil magazines; as a founder and co-editor of the current pupil magazine 201, I had a particular interest in former pupil magazines in the School, especially as I hadn't been aware that they existed."

"I loved reading old articles and poems, which were a snapshot into student life 100 years ago. I helped with the club's Twitter account, and in particular the 'Throwback Thursday' tag, posting numerous times, including a picture of an old poem from a student magazine, and writing the caption."

"Young Archivists' Club is great! You get to learn so much about the 'old' Bromsgrove and those who were here, and if you are a history fanatic as I am, it is definitely for you. I have done so much this year, from learning the history of Bromsgrove to finding out information for people (or their family members) and I even interviewed



Old Bromsgrovians on their experiences, which was fascinating and, in some cases, hilarious. It has been such a lovely experience and I cannot wait to come back next year! It's the archives that make history and history precedes everything else, being part of this and able to learn from it has been such a privilege."

Archive Club will run every Tuesday afternoon from September 2017.

N Thorpe (Archivist)



World War One Recordings

The LRC was turned in to a recording studio for the Lower Fourth pupils to record their singing and whistling of WW1 songs as a combined ensemble. These recordings are to be used to commemorate the Great War and will be kept in the School's remembrance archive.



World Wildlife Day

Proclaimed by the United Nations in 2013, World Wildlife Day is a really special event for all of us (humans) to think about the impact we are having on the amazing environment that we ourselves rely on to survive. For the first time ever at Bromsgrove school, the event was organised and run by a pupil Nikita, Bedov and included a presentation with guest speakers and students. For those attending, there was a unique experience of interacting with a carpet python and spur-footed tortoises, brought from a local rescue centre.

It was a great success and all the students enjoyed it.

Nikita Bedov

World Wetlands Day

IB1 SL Geography pupils celebrated World Wetlands Day to mark the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar. Each year, World Wetlands Day focuses on a different theme. The theme for 2017 was Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction. Pupils learnt about Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire which was the first nature reserve owned by the National Trust. Today it is one of Europe's most important wetlands home to over 9000 species.

F Diver





Young Enterprise

The Young Enterprise activity has once again seen huge success this year. The thirteen students which make up 'Embark' decided on their product of a balancing wine bottle holder early on in the process and have spent the year updating their designs and ensuring high quality.

The team, who were originally selected based on their potential in interview, have truly flourished both in terms of the specific skills they have developed, as well in confidence. Going from strength to strength throughout the year, the team took on board the advice they were given after being placed third at the Worcester Christmas Market and going on to win Best Trade Stand and Best Overall Company at the Spring Trade Fair.



The end of year competition saw them take home Best Company Report and Best Overall Company at the Area Final and the Best Company Report again at the Regional Final, which was against some excellent teams.

In addition, at the end of the Summer term, it was announced that Amy Ying had won the Young Enterprise Journey Award for the West Midlands. This is awarded to a student who has developed the most throughout the programme. The Regional Coordinator for YE presented the trophy to Amy at School.

Embark should be particularly proud of the way they have come together as a team and most significantly from a business stance, the significant amount of profit they have made. The skills they have developed and memories they have made will now stay with them as they move forward with their education and future careers.

J Holdsworth



The Chicken

Chicken uses 'madras'tic measures to come second fastest Kitcar on the planet

Team Chicken have had an amazing season this year and have won six trophies in four races and dominated in every race so far, making them the team to beat at Rockingham in October during the World finals. Some 150 teams from all over the planet attended the races and were travelling in from Brazil, USA, Poland, Ireland, Scotland, Portugal and South Africa.

For the Kitcar International Finals, Team Chicken were on the front row of the grid with well over thirty Kitcars behind them all looking straight at Aled wearing the mascot chicken costume as he held the car and driver steady on the starting line. When the flag came down the race started and we all waited for The Chicken to return after the first busy lap. It did so in true fashion and we settled in for a long race. Two perfect pits and reasonable weather meant we were consistently in fourth place around the circuit and that's how it stayed by the end of the race where we were off a podium place by three quarters of a mile in distance.



The other three teams above us must have pushed as hard as possible to get the distance and beat us to the top spots - but this did not deter us from making sure this did not happen again at the F24 world finals the following day.

Sunday arrived and although a touch deflated about almost breaking into the top three the day before, we knew that this was the day we needed to get things right. We raced against eighty other teams for next year's seeded rank and to become the furthest Kitcar in F24 history (which currently stood at 33.8 miles in one and a half hours).



Race two started and with our fastest and lightest drivers in and the tech now working flawlessly on the car, we started in a positive manner pulling away from all the other Kitcars by some margin. After the first few laps we were way ahead and needed good pit stops and perfect use of the tech in order to keep it up. Both pit stops were fast and calculated and as we remained at the top of our category we noticed that the car was slowing during the last third of the race by a second a lap which didn't bode well for our standings. However, other cars were falling behind and as the race progressed we climbed from 42nd to 27th and eventually won the Kitcar category for this race, with over 34 miles, beating the current record...it was now up to the exact distance of the other cars to see if we had won the overall Kitcar category.

We were 0.06 miles behind the race leaders (their best time was from race one) and so we came a very respectable second fastest Kitcar in the world and 27th overall out of approximately 300 other teams, moving from 49th to 27th position in the standings

I would like to thank the following for the driving, engineering, commitment and efforts throughout this season: Mr Matthews, Aled Luckman, Ellie Chan, Will Edwards, Tristan Stephen-Jones, Sam McCabe, Alek Florov, Scarlett Bond, Harry Fussell and Champion Pongpaew who brought home yet another trophy for design technology and good handful of medals too.

Thank you also to this year's sponsors Gorilla Glue UK, Digital Speedos.co.uk, Trumeter, BAL Aluminium and Bay Plastics. The hunt for next year's sponsors of our two race cars, The Chicken, and new car, The Egg, begins.

S Broadbent



Race one started in torrential rain and as Aled pushed the car off the grid line, we settled into a difficult race with poor visibility. The racers spread out as the race progressed and the rain stopped as quickly as it had started. We made our usual two faultless pit stops before completing the race in the top forty overall and fourth fastest Kitcar...again! Drastic measures called for 'madrastic' action and the team worked tirelessly to put a faster sprocket onto the motor in order to push for the extra mile we needed. In Race one, Team Chicken completed 33.8 miles and with a quicker cog we may have had a chance. However, this would mean that the batteries would drain faster and to help with this we pulled out our secret weapon... Trumeter's Ammeter. Along with varying the speed depending on the reading from the meter, we would be able to slow if needed so that we could just use up the batteries without over doing in on the hill or against the wind and then accelerate to victory with the rest of the course.



Chapel Matters

As I write this year's article for The Bromsgrovian, I reflect upon over a decade of doing so and all the pupils, members of staff, Old Bromsgrovians and School families who have come to the chapel in that time and for what purpose.

All our students in the Preparatory School and Senior Schools attend chapel once or twice a week and, over the course of a week, there are over 1400 pupils in attendance. To address such a large number on a regular basis is, for me, a great privilege and an awesome responsibility. I have to admit that after eleven years as Chaplain, I am still a little nervous speaking to so many, even when I have done so regularly for so many years. During my years as Chaplain, there have also been thirty-four Baptisms, forty-four Confirmations and eleven Weddings. These 'Occasional Services', as we call them in the Church of England, are very special occasions when current pupils, Old Bromsgrovians and their families come together to celebrate birth, new birth (in faith) and the joining together of two people on their 'big day'. Recently, as part of our Upper Fourth Religious Studies curriculum, I conducted 'mock weddings' in Chapel. I wonder how many will remember their marriage lesson taken by the Rev and think about it possibly being their wedding venue, in the future?

Every year at Remembrance, we have our flagpole ceremony and our Remembrance Sunday services, when we think, in particular, of the Old Bromsgrovians who paid the ultimate sacrifice in time of war. We have the Last Post and then two minutes' silence, followed by the Reveille as per tradition. During this year, when faced with tragedies in the world around us, we have also had other times of silence in Chapel to pay our respects and to pray for peace.

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers'. Through our talks, our prayers, our silences, our sharing of 'The Peace' at Holy Communion, our meeting together as people from a number of nations and religions we are playing our part, I hope, in maintaining and creating peace in the world.

Chapel matters for so many reasons but especially as a place where we can be, and learn to be, peacemakers.

Reverend P Hedworth



International Centre

This was an exciting year for the International Department. In 2016, the old International Centre was demolished to make way for the new Performing Arts Centre, and we were rehoused in the Former Police Station on the Crescent. The new International Centre has everything our international students could ever want: classrooms are spacious, light and kitted out with the latest technology; we have coffee tables and cosy chairs in a communal area designed to facilitate student conversation; and thanks to funding from the PA, there is a gigantic world map on the wall which gets everybody talking.

2017 was also immensely exciting. In January, IB1 students of English B thoroughly enjoyed a trip to London to see the Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, a play based on the book which pupils were reading in class. The set was incredible and it was lovely to hear the students re-evaluate their understanding of the text after seeing the play. The creative written assignments produced by the students for this literature section of the course were outstanding.

In February, Upper Fourth pupils celebrated Chinese New Year by preparing presentations for primary school pupils in local schools. The story of Nian, the monster, was told, and how firecrackers and the colour red was used to scare him away from the village. Our Upper Fourth learned valuable lessons about presenting to a real audience and they were wonderful ambassadors for the School.

In March, the inaugural Cultures Connect concert took place, and students performed various acts from their home languages and cultures. We were left breathless by Mariam Makhmutova's poem in Russian, and another highlight was Hugh Xie, who played the Erhu, or Chinese Violin, so well that he received a standing ovation. The whole event was planned and executed by a student team very professionally indeed, and the success of the event bodes well for future years.

A special mention must go to our Year 8 pupils this year, who travelled to Birmingham in June to take the Preliminary English Test. They were tested all day in the four areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking. And of course, they all performed superbly well.

J Boonak

Futures

Bromsgrove Futures has enjoyed another successful year with students making the most of what the department has to offer. It is always telling when OBs respond to invitations for help for our current student body; they want to give back, guiding and advising - whether they left two years ago or twenty, their enthusiasm to help move students onto their next step is remarkable. Our former pupils really do make the department and we are hugely grateful for their input.

Our students continue to amaze with the breadth and variety of where they choose to go to after Bromsgrove. Higher Education was still the most popular route for our 2016 leavers, with 87% of students going to UK and overseas universities. The most popular destinations are the London universities (KCL, UCL, LSE and Imperial), the South (Bath, Cardiff, Bristol and Exeter) and a little further North (Leeds, Lancaster, Liverpool, Manchester and Durham). The newer universities are good competition for the more traditional universities, with Oxford Brookes and Nottingham Trent popular choices due to their vocationally based courses and excellent industry links.

Outside of the UK, Mrs Bateman has been busy building awareness and interest in international opportunities; this continues to grow with over sixty students making applications abroad this year. A number of students received significant scholarships including the ILOT award at UBC, NYU Abu Dhabi and a student with three sports scholarships has offers to the US. With offers from the University of Chicago, the University of Pennsylvania, NYU, NE, Boston College, the University of California, Parsons College of Design and Texas Tech, Bromsgrove students have really made their mark on the extremely competitive US market. Students are also looking to other parts of the world, including Switzerland, the Netherlands, Australia and Hong Kong. A first for the School this year is a student with a place at the Gulf Medical University, UAE.



The rise of the School Leaver Programme has piqued our pupils' interest, with one student receiving offers from six companies. Another student has accepted an Apprenticeship with a firm of surveyors, where she will be earning and learning. It is pleasing to see students looking outside the box with help of Mrs Ashcroft, our Careers Adviser, to find out what really suits their ambitions. Futures have been working closely with the CCF, and three young people have won university and gap year scholarships with Sandhurst Military Academy – highly commendable.

Bromsgrove Futures will be launching their own portal during the next academic year, an initiative that will help students find all the information they need in one place. We owe thanks to Mr Higgins, who has built the site for us. This is very exciting and will include video clips of OBs talking about their decision-making and 'how to' guides to facilitate applications, CVs and interview technique etc.

To all students that are graduating this year, please remember that Futures is always here for you – we need you to allow the department to offer such a unique and strategic service.

Z Leech and F Bateman



Housman Verse Prize

The 2017 Housman Verse Prize was won by Abbah Abbah for his moving poem entitled Our Wall.

OUR WALL

*Stop. Breathe. Think.
You're a basic student in school,
With a dark uniform that stands still,
Beside mediocre grades and friends,
careless and cool.
While fate and fortune dictate your will.*

*You began as an infant,
Whether pink, yellow, brown or black,
Sprawling helplessly like an earthworm,
While life prepared to attack.*

*At that age with a simplistic cycle,
You stumbled through the beginning,
You knew nothing, and lacked desire to
know,
Your sin was emptiness.
Your wall; ignorance.*

*With time a flower bud opened;
To the knowledge of life; brightness of day,
And with friend's and family's support,
Eased into a world of comfort.*

*Stop.
Then came anxiety, baring its fangs,
Its teeth poisonous, its breath stank,
A wall of predation, it consumes and
confiscates
Leaving in its wake, changes and
deadlines and academics and—*

*Breathe.
Peer Pressure seeps in. Friendly as
always,
An acidic wall of suggestion you can't
refuse,
An idea becomes a shout; a shout, a
chant.
And slowly you do things you don't want,
Like that one party you hated,
Or those old friends you spoke to with
hatred,
Till you look in the mirror and scowl at the
person you've become.*

*I know what it's like to be yo--
Actually I am you.
As I am everyone
And everyone struggles just like you.*

*So Start. Live. Act.
Because you may just be a basic student
in school,
With a dark uniform that stands still.
But your grades are careful, your friends;
cool.
And only you can dictate your will.*



CCF

The Bromsgrove School Combined Cadet Force delivers a wide array of opportunities, open to both Cadets and adult volunteers, from parade afternoons to overseas exercises. Our CCF is successfully in exceeding the aim set by the MOD, which is to deliver training that promotes the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness and a sense of service to the community, ultimately developing the cadet's powers of leadership.

To achieve a successful programme, the adult staff are key and Captain Catherine Maund retires this year having served twenty-five exemplary years. Throughout this time Capt. Maund has been a staunch supporter providing continuity, direction and inspiration to over four thousand Cadets. On behalf of all Contingent members, past and present, thank you for everything you have done and we wish you a most fulfilling retirement.



With great sadness, the Contingent said goodbye to Captain Alan Joseph who died on 4th, June 2017. Having joined the Army in 1964, Capt. Joseph began supporting various CCFs from 2000 onwards. His immense knowledge, experience, enthusiasm and kindness has caused many a Cadets to raise their life's aspirations because of his involvement. In the words from one group of Cadets "We are who we are, because of you." Rest in peace.



The photographs tell a story and, in their own words, two Senior Cadets paint their picture of what CCF means to them.

Cadet Colour Sargent Matthew Hegarty:

"Last summer I had the opportunity to spend six weeks in New Brunswick, East Canada on the prestigious Royal Canadian Army Cadet exchange. The course was based around expedition skills, teamwork and leadership, which culminated in an eighteen-day multi-mode expedition spanning trekking, canoeing and kayaking, covering a total distance of over 280 kilometres. The trip was full of 'once in a life time' moments - kayaking alongside turtles, American eagles, meeting a diverse range of new and amazing people. Without doubt, this shall remain one of my most formative experiences, and I will be forever grateful for the opportunity that was afforded me through the CCF."

October half term brought a change of scenery in the form of the week long Cadet Infantry Battle Camp in Sennybridge, Brecon. Along with twenty other cadets who came from various CCF and ACF detachments around our area, I took part in an intensive, varied and thoroughly enjoyable training package covering everything from exercises in woodland to the make-up of an anti-armour ambush culminating in a forty-eight hour urban exercise in a specially built town within the training area. The course was like nothing else I've ever done with CCF, and I strongly recommend it to every cadet who can seize the opportunity."



Cadet Colour Sargent Oliver Rogers:

"The Combined Cadet Force is one of the best things you can involve yourself in at Bromsgrove. The sheer number of activities and opportunities to grow your skills and yourself as a person is immense. I have been lucky enough to take advantage of just a few of the many trips and courses on offer; ranging from skill-at-arms competitions with the Contingent, all the way to week-long ski courses in Germany. These courses, run by the Cadet Centre for Adventurous Training (CCAT), are by far the best of all the possible options you have in the CCF and offer great experiences that will not cost you all that much. For example, I spent a week learning how to canoe in Lancashire - I had an amazing time with some great like-minded people and it was a great way to start my summer."

Aside from this aspect of the CCF, fundamentally the Cadets is based on a military structure with a military set of values. It gives you an insight into the workings of the Armed Forces and can lead into organisations such as the University Officer Training Corps, Reserves and of course the Regular

Forces. In February, I was awarded a Gap Year Commission (GYC) with the British Army, having attended the Main Board at Westbury. My gap year will start with the Reserve Officer course at Sandhurst, after which I will be attached to a regular regiment for the remainder of the year before heading off to university in 2018, where I hope to join the Reserves. Major Quentin and Staff Sergeant Farnes were part of the reason I found out about the scheme and supported me throughout the application as I progressed. I cannot thank them enough and I would recommend anyone, whether they are thinking about a career in the Forces or simply attending an adventure training course, to have a look into where you can go with the CCF."

I have enjoyed and gained a lot from my time with the Cadets and I wish next year's Senior NCOs all the best."

CCF, the best youth club I know. Visit www.armycadetadventure.co.uk and give it a go.

Major A Quentin
(Contingent Commander)



Duke of Edinburgh Award

2017 saw another bumper crop of over 250 students enrol onto all levels of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, including several students starting Gold as Direct Entrants. The Award remains ever popular with Bromsgrove students seeking recognition for all their efforts volunteering, participating in physical activities and developing their skills. During the twelve months from July 2016, thirty-five Gold, 108 Silver and 102 Bronze awards have been presented, with many Gold students opting to collect their award from the Palace and the Duke of Edinburgh himself.

Expedition venues this year have been as beautiful as ever and included the Forest of Dean, Shropshire, Exmoor, Lake District, Snowdonia and South Africa. Gold students did experience some of Britain's finest examples of persistent rain and wind in the Lake District in April and deserve special praise for enduring one of the wettest trips on record, whilst remaining in high spirits. Silver students were also treated to some poor weather on their final day in Exmoor. However, the Silver practice expedition in Shropshire, the Gold assessed expedition in Snowdonia and the Bronze expedition to the Peak District enjoyed better weather.

Staff calculated the distance covered by all participants this year on their practice and assessed ventures to be approximately 10000 miles, the equivalent of walking from Bromsgrove to Sydney. An astounding number of miles.

In preparation for their expedition, students have attended weekly training sessions at all levels covering campcraft, cooking, kit, first aid and route planning. In addition to completing their other sections, students have been using the eDofE website to record and collect evidence of their achievements. Alongside the numerous and varied sporting activities completed by students for their Physical section, some Skill activities this year have included performing arts, music, baking, photography and, new for this year, sign-language, cross stitch and training a service dog. Many students used their participation in the CCF or Bromsgrove Service for their volunteering section. Students across all levels, if paid the minimum wage, would have earned £27,000 for their volunteering hours. A remarkable collective achievement.

J Farnes (i/c Bronze),
L Newton (i/c Silver) and
A Baker (i/c Gold)



Prep School Trips



Art Gallery

Year 8 enjoyed a visit to a hidden jewel in the Midlands - Walsall Art Gallery is not where you would expect to find Pissaro's, Epstein's, Tiff's and many more famously celebrated artists' works from around the world, however the eclectic mix of modern and traditional paintings, sculptures, photographs and many more engaged the pupils entirely.

Our Year 8s found themselves in the curated space of artist, Rachel Goodyear. Her work is modern, vibrant, challenging and highly skilled and this made our Year 8s question the artwork, why it is made, why we use different materials and how the gallery space helps to discuss the art work on show. We all agree - the place is definitely worth a visit in the summer when you have a spare afternoon.

V Barron



Beachcraft

Year 6 were blessed with sunshine on their adventure to Dorset. They enjoyed kayaking, mackerel fishing and a visit to the Lifeboat Museum in Swanage. Camp life was much fun, particularly the water fight on Monday night. Despite the rain, pupils spent the last day on the beach; tucking in to a barbecue, paddling in the sea and burying themselves in the sand.

Beachcraft was the highlight of the year for me. I loved singing silly songs and learning how to light fires. The mackerel fishing was amazing, even if the boat was a bit wobbly! The mackerel tasted great, especially served on a bed of foraged samphire. The kayaking was great but very, very wet.

Thomas (Year 6)



Botanical Gardens

Year 7 went on a great art trip to the Botanical Gardens to draw inspiration from the botanical life; flowers, plants and leaves. The drawings have now become an integral part of their Textile project.

A Elliott

Classics Trip

Over the Easter holidays, nineteen pupils from Year 8 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Rome and Sorrento with the Prep Classics Department. The first couple of days were spent exploring the beautiful city of Rome, both Ancient and Modern. After dinner on the first night, the group strolled to the Trevi Fountains where they joined other tourists in flicking coins into the fountain to ensure a return to Rome at some point in their lives.

The next morning brought with it sunshine and walking aplenty. There was a tour of the Colosseum and Roman Forum in the morning and after lunch they admired the ornate decoration of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

Travelling to Sorrento on the Saturday included a stop at Tiberius' amazing grotto (a dining room built into a natural cavern) on the coast, before settling into the hotel.



The following day there was a whistle-stop tour of Ancient Pompeii before the tour party earned gelato and pizza in the afternoon. This was soon followed by a trek up to the top of Mt. Vesuvius, a live volcano. By this time, the group were ready for their own tour behind the scenes of a gelato shop, and a hands-on demonstration from Signor Davide about how to make proper gelato; of course, it would have been rude not to try some afterwards.

The final evening closed with a quiz and an awards ceremony before rising early to whizz around Naples Archaeological museum, before catching a plane back to the UK.

P Skerratt



Bushcraft

Year 4 had a fabulous three-day residential adventure at Bushcraft in Oxfordshire. Every child slept outside under a shelter made out of tarpaulin and branches - the dawn chorus was something they will all remember.

The group were lucky enough to have the opportunity to go cray fishing, cook kebabs over fires, learn to prepare food and much more.

S Dakin



Modern Languages Trip

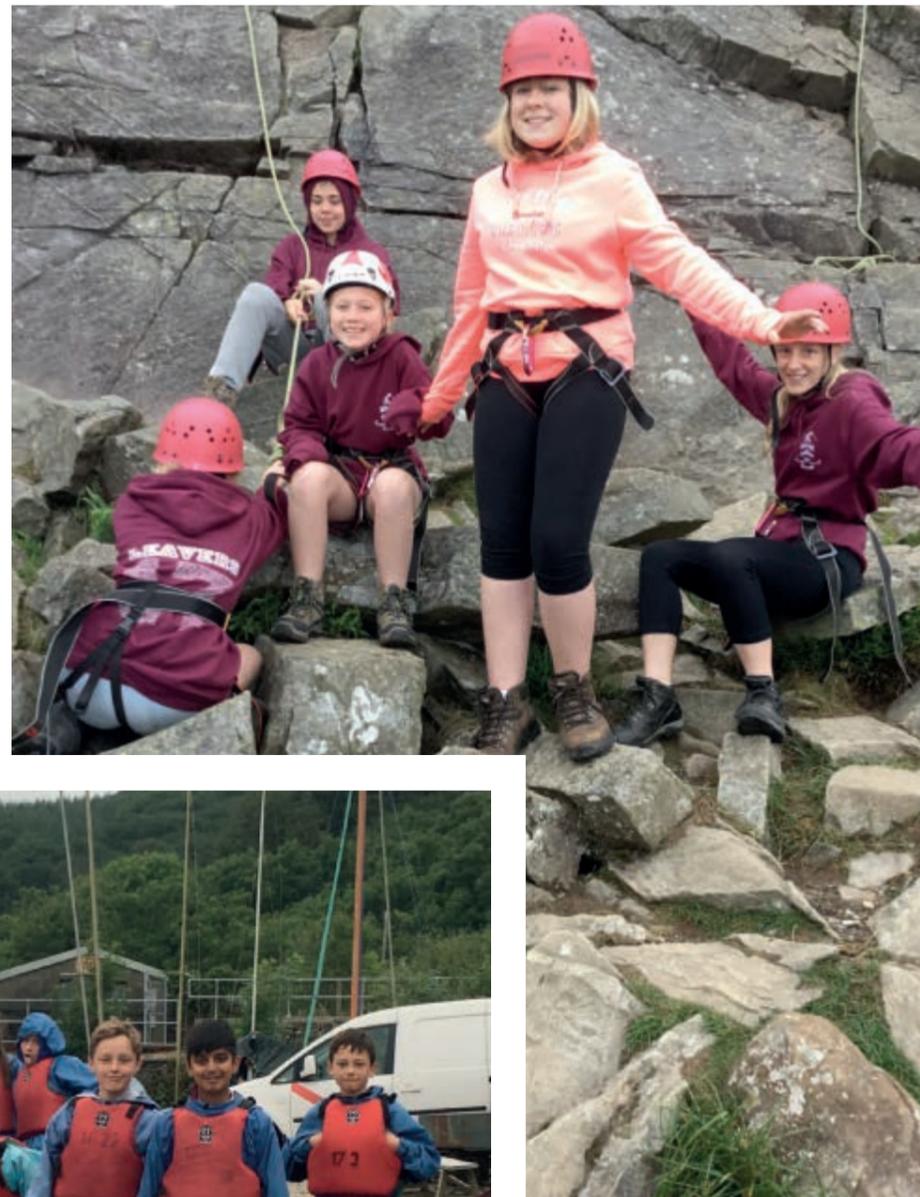
At the beginning of February, forty-seven pupils from Year 6 set out to Étapes, northern France. They were dealt cold conditions (even snow) throughout their stay but it was a trip filled with authentic French sights, sounds and smells.

There were many planned excursions each day, but among the pupils' favourites were the bee farm, biscuit making, Nausicaá (the sea-life centre in Boulogne), a primary school visit and a brief visit to the beach in Le Touquet.

From a culinary perspective, many of our travellers sampled the customary baguette, croissants and chocolat chaud, as well as delicious evening meals and fun evening activities.

The group returned home tired, but richer for the excellent experience and hungry to learn more.

C Kippax



Outward Bound Trust

The Year 8 residential to Aberdovey was a memorable experience for all involved. The focus for the course was 'no one gets left behind', a strap-line borrowed from the Lilo and Stitch film; Year 8 focussed on teamwork in testing locations.

Each team undertook a variety of activities determined by the needs and abilities of the groups. Abseiling, rock climbing, gorge walking, canoeing and hiking were just some of the experiences that pupils enjoyed.

All pupils took part in a signature activity of the Outward Bound Trust: Jog/dip and the Jetty Jump to seal their weekend. All pupils pushed themselves outside of their comfort zones and improved their communication skills. The accompanying staff were impressed by the year group, and we all left with amazing memories to close Year 8.

J Holden

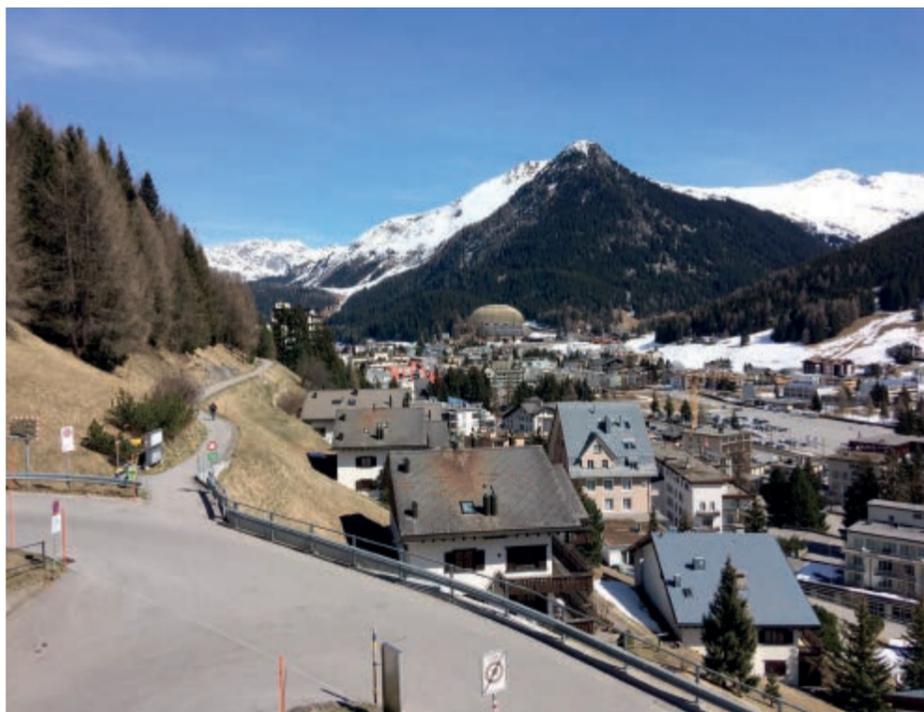


Prep Ski Trip

This year the ski trip returned to Davos in the region of Klosters. Once the logistics of moving in to the accommodation, fitting skis and boots was over, the pupils embarked on six days of skiing. Davos has a huge range of slopes that are perfect for a group as diverse as ours. The ski instructors were excellent as always and encouraged everyone from beginner to advanced. Skiing through the trees on a beautiful red run was certainly one of the highlights for many students. In the evening our students were entertained in the swimming pool, bowling and a pizzeria.

As always the students were excellent, making this trip a thoroughly enjoyable week. Next year's trip to Sestriere has already been organised.

P Sutherland



Safeside

Year 5 headed off to Safeside in Birmingham for an interactive day as part of the Junior Citizen programme. Eleven life-like scenarios including a canal scene, supermarket, street scene, purpose built rooms in a house and much more took the children through an interactive, practical journey. The children learned how to recognise key dangers and understand how to reduce risk both to themselves and others. They also took on the role of the police taking a turn with the speed gun outside and the children were pleased to see many drivers were keeping with the speed limit. The children were presented with a certificate at the end of the day to show they had participated in the programme.

E Mullan

Sealife Centre

Year 5 visited the Sea Life Centre, producing some beautiful primary observations of the various exotic fish on display which has inspired their work in Art. Back at School, a whole host of clay fish have been created.

A Read and V Barron

Snowdome

Year 3 wrapped up warm in their winter woollies for a fun-filled trip to the Snowdome in Tamworth.

The children had a truly wonderful time sliding down the slopes on snowtubes and sledges, pulling each other along on wooden toboggans, building snowmen and igloos, playing in a snow cabin and creating snow angels.

To experience such chilly temperatures made them feel like real polar explorers and, when their fingers and toes began to tingle a little, they discovered the importance of thermal and waterproof clothing.

All of these experiences inspired and supported the children's learning in Topic, English and Science lessons this term.

R Ivison



The Commandery

Year 8 visited The Commandery in Worcester, where they learnt about weapons used and the gruesome reality of the English Civil War. They enjoyed dressing up in contemporary costumes and armour and handling the weapons.

A Scheffel





Prep Hockey and Netball Tour Diary

Day 1

Early on Halloween morning, twenty-nine Preparatory School pupils and four staff met at Birmingham Airport excited for Bromsgrove's hockey and netball tour to Spain and Gibraltar. After a short flight, we arrived at Malaga airport and transferred to our hotel. After freshening up, we enjoyed lunch and time at the pool before our first hockey training session at the Benalmádena Pueblo ground in Malaga. The girls enjoyed playing on a water-based pitch, many of them for the first time.

Day 2

After breakfast, we travelled back to the hockey ground to play against Malaga Hockey Club. They were a very strong club but our U13A team were evenly matched. After half time, the score was 2 - 3 and we were very much still in the game. However, the heat of the Spanish sun took its toll and our girls ran out of stamina to lose 6 - 3. Our U12As were up against a very strong side and despite some lovely play lost 1 - 5. The U12s and U13s then played a second match against mixed teams and despite our best efforts both teams lost 6 - 2 and 6 - 0. Back at the hotel, the girls demonstrated their abilities in Bromsgrove's Got Talent.



Day 3

The girls visited the infamous 'Rock' where we met the inhabitants and took some monkey selfies. After lunch, we headed to Victoria Stadium for our first netball training session and matches against three local clubs. Our teams were all successful - the U13A team beat EY 21 - 6, the U13B team beat the Power Angels 11 - 3 and the U12A team beat the Lollipops 11 - 4.



Day 4

We had time in the morning for some shopping followed by lunch. After taking the local bus back, some of the girls braved the chilly salt-water pool at the hotel before changing into their netball kit for their final matches of the tour. Once more, the girls were successful, winning two out of three matches. The U13A beat Ohanas 19 - 4, the U13Bs lost to EY 3 - 19 and the U12s beat the Power Angels 16 - 5. In the evening, the girls enjoyed a meal at Michelangelos and tour awards were presented.

Tour Awards

Players of the Match (netball):
Katie Rolph, Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins, Portia Gallagher, Ellen Ashton, Maddie Chance

Players of the Match (hockey):
Evie Derbyshire, Katie Murray, Lucy Trigg, Megan Langford

Best Defender award:
Ellen Ashton (hockey)
and Bella Howdle (netball)

Best Shooter award:
Darcey Pearson (netball)

Most Scored Goals:
Lucy McLoughlin (hockey)
and Angelina Sanghera (netball)

Most Improved: Lucy Trigg (hockey)
and Izzy Lloyd (netball)

Team Spirit awards:
Megan Langford, Abigail Barker,
Izzy Rusling and Natasha Malam

U13 Player of the Tour:
Lucy McLoughlin (hockey)
and Izzy Jones (netball)

U12 Player of the Tour:
Katie Murray (hockey)
and Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins (netball)

Overall Best Tourer:
Libby Rolph

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this tour, especially the teachers - Mr Dudley, Mr Terry and Miss Parker - for giving up part of their half term holiday to come along and help.

J Danks

Senior School Trips

Boarders' Trips and Activities

There have been a wide variety of trips and activities put on for the boarding pupils this year, with a larger amount of joint trips run with Page House. This has given a greater opportunity for both Senior and Preparatory School pupils to socialise together. New places have been visited and exciting activities successfully completed, with a large number of pupils taking part in midweek and weekend trips throughout the year.

The traditional physical trips have continued with paintball, high ropes and go karting, as well as the new indoor trampolining activity. Trips to Birmingham, London, Bath and Cheltenham also took place, much to the enjoyment of pupils. Thanks must go to all of the boarding tutors for their assistance with the trips. Our trips and activities offer the pupils the chance to socialise with pupils from other Houses, relax outside of School and try new experiences.

L Mullan

ALP

The ALP pupils enjoyed a trip to the Falconry Centre, where the boys got a flying/handling session with the birds and learnt lots about the different birds' diets and behaviour. During the afternoon, pupils went bouldering.

CAS Trip

Twenty-three IB1 students enjoyed a trip to Prague and South Bohemia, during which they took part in voluntary work, started the construction of a labyrinth from natural materials at a local school and helped to clear and preserve a pond.

L Hunter



Cambridge

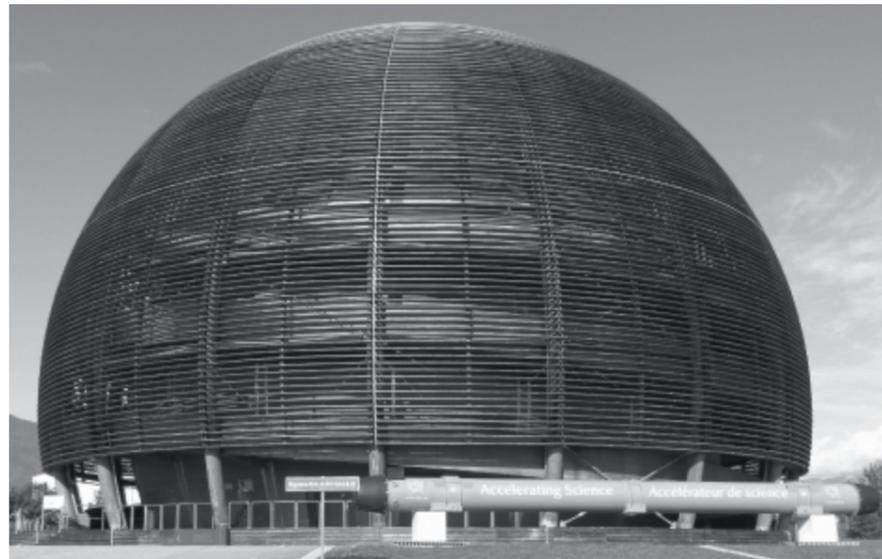
Twenty Marmite pupils set off for a trip to Cambridge accompanied by Dr Ruben and Mr Beet. The main aim was to visit the town and colleges to get an idea what it might be like to study at Cambridge University. It was also a fun day out, a welcome end of term reward and a chance to visit the Fitzwilliam Museum, home to a huge range of ancient and modern art and artefacts.

Our first stop was King's College chapel built by Henry VI in the mid fifteenth century. You could hear collective exclamations of "wow" as the pupils took in the scale and grandeur of the building, which has the best example of fan vaulting in the world. The pupils were amazed that such a feat of engineering was built so long ago. It is from here, of course, that the service of nine lessons and carols is broadcast throughout the world on Christmas Eve.

From here, we walked through the historic streets taking in Trinity College and St John's College on our way. Fortunately, it was also a university graduation day and the pupils were able to see robed students processing to the Senate-House for the graduation ceremony. As the Fitzwilliam Museum contains items as varied as Egyptian mummies and impressionist paintings, the pupils had already done some research and targeted areas of specific interest to them. After lunch on the arts faculty site in Sidgwick Avenue, we headed to Robinson, the newest undergraduate college where we had an excellent tour and question and answer sessions with the school liaison officer.

Despite the long journey, it was a pleasant day and the pupils gained a real appreciation about what such universities have to offer.

M Beet



CERN

Twenty-one pupils went to Geneva to visit CERN, the international physics research centre. Whilst there, they were treated to a visit to the CMS detector, where they were taken 100m underground to look at the detector up close, as well as seeing the original particle accelerator from the 1950s. There was also a lecture from a professor with 40 years' experience at CERN.

The pupils also visited the UN building, explored Geneva's old city and experienced an evening of traditional Swiss food and music.

H Potheary

German

For the sixteenth year running, seventeen pupils took part in the annual exchange with the Gymnasium Hermannswerder in Potsdam. The pupils stayed with host families and took part in a number of trips in Berlin and Potsdam.

History is all around you in Berlin and Potsdam and the pupils experienced everything from the eighteenth century palaces of Frederick the Great to the exhibitions celebrating the events of 1989. The walking tour on the first day allowed the pupils to get their bearings in Berlin, as did the spectacular view from the dome of the Reichstag, Germany's parliament building. Lord Foster's glass dome enables a 360-degree view of this beautiful city. Other highlights included learning about the 2000 years of German-Jewish history

at the Jewish Museum, taking part in international sports matches with other pupils from Poland, France and Holland, and taking an amazing underground tour of the Cold War bunkers beneath Berlin. In Potsdam, pupils strolled around and visited Glienicke Brücke, the famous spy swap bridge made even more famous by the recent film, *The Bridge of Spies*. The German families commented on how much they had enjoyed hosting our pupils and they were all excellent ambassadors for Bromsgrove and the UK. This was a fascinating, enriching experience for them and I know they are looking forward to the arrival of the German pupils at the end of September.

M Smith, G Tyrrell and M Beet



Exchanges

Spanish

Just before the end of the Lent term, twelve pupils embarked on an intensive revision course in Málaga with Enforex. Pupils enjoyed the trip tremendously, especially the visits to Nerja, Córdoba, Granada and the birth place of Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca. Pupils enjoyed trying a variety of new foods including tapas and paella.

French

Fifteen pupils took part in the French trip to Normandy where they visited cultural and historical sites such as the Mont Saint Michel. They were also involved in a variety of activities such as fencing and bread-making, all conducted in French. The weather was excellent and the pupils had a great time whilst improving their language skills.



Geography Field Trips

The Geography department have had another busy year outside of the classroom, investigating a wide range of both physical and human elements to the subject.

Carding Mill Valley

In March, the sun shone brightly for the Upper Fourth visit to the Carding Mill Valley, where pupils carried out river investigations. The group collected data on a range of variables of the river such as measuring the velocity, collecting bedload sample sizes and other fluvial characteristics. Pupils also studied how the National Trust manage tourism at the famous Shropshire honeypot site. The data collected will prove invaluable as it goes towards 30% of their final GCSE examination.

IB Geographers also visited the Carding Mill Valley in June as part of their Internal Assessment. They collected data at twelve sites along the long profile of the river to enable them to investigate how river characteristics change with movement downstream and to relate it to Bradshaw's model. They measured the depth, width, velocity, slope angle, bedload size and shape at each site, and took photographs which they will be able to integrate into their reports.



Betws-y-coed

The Lower Sixth immersed themselves straight into their fieldwork studies during the annual residential to Betws-y-coed in Wales. Pupils visited Llanberis as part of the Changing Places topic, where they had to consider the history of the town and how there have been social and economic changes over time. This will be used as a contrasting case study to an area of Birmingham that pupils will visit in the Upper Sixth. The following two days were teeming with geographical experiences, visiting Crickieth to observe coastal management and Harlech observing

psammosere succession. The final day linked to the Water and Carbon topic and pupils will make use of the measurements collected as part of a case study of the Conwy valley and the river catchment. This was a busy four days for pupils and staff but they gained a great deal from the trip.



Birmingham

Upper Sixth and IB Geographers visited Birmingham as part of their A Level and IBDP courses. The day began with a tour of the transect from Birmingham's suburbs right into the heart of the city. The group visited Optima, a local housing association, and Jo Lea, an employee at the association, spoke to pupils about the benefits and the reasons behind this partnership scheme. The remainder of the day involved a walking tour of Birmingham starting in the Jewellery Quarter observing the change of land use over time, visiting the Eastside District where the HS2 train station is proposed to be located and making use of the existing Curzon Street station. Pupils finished the day by looking at differing land use in the Bull Ring, Grand Central and finally considered investment at the new Library of Birmingham and in Brindley Place. Pupils greatly enjoyed the day and said that they have seen a different side to Birmingham and visited places they would not normally have gone.

E Gill

London

Both sets of IB Geographers enjoyed a great day in London, focusing on inequality and regeneration in this World City. The group visited the Isle of Dogs, Canary Wharf and the Olympic Park. In each area, the group evaluated the regeneration technique and discussed the social and environmental issues facing the contrasting areas of London.

The highlight of the day was seeing the view of London from the top of the Orbit in the Olympic Park on a gloriously sunny day, which helped to put the urban models and issues that we have covered in class into context. The group were led by Bob Digby, the former president of the Geographical Association and a chief examiner. Mr Digby complimented the group on their excellent Geographical knowledge and also their enthusiasm after a 5.30am start.





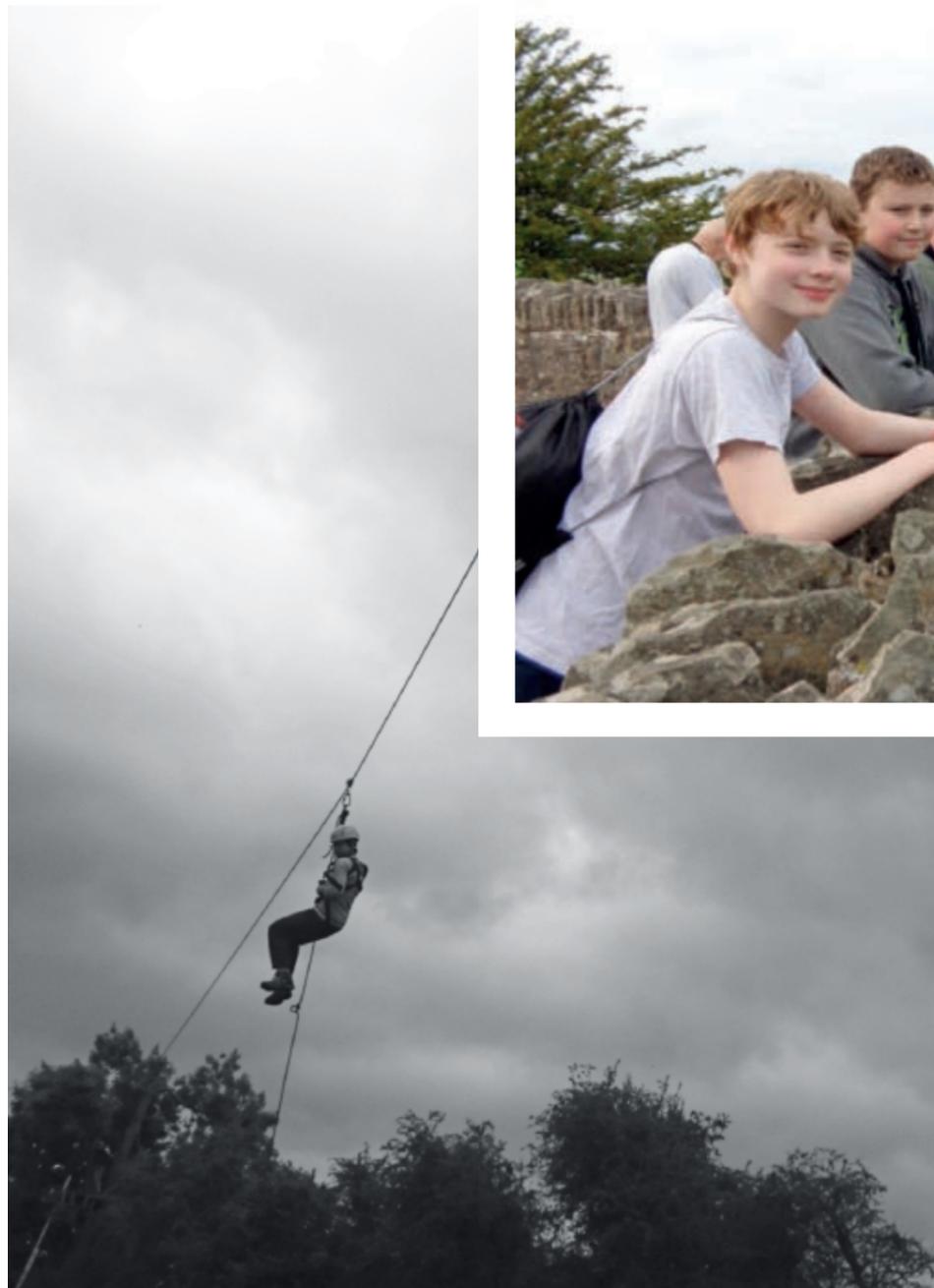
IB History Trip

In March 2017, IB History students travelled to the beautiful and historic city of York to attend a revision day for their IB exams. Organised by Bromsgrove School and York St John University, a series of lectures and workshops from the university lecturers and senior lecturers helped develop students' contextual awareness alongside their analytical source and essay technique.

Dr Ian Horwood opened the day with a lecture on remembering the Russian Revolution, challenging students to think of the cultural and sociological impacts of historical events. Dr Graeme Callister delivered a presentation on the rise of Napoleon, drawing out in particular

historiographical debates on Napoleon's military career. Finally, Dr Chris Price chaired a presentation and workshop on inter-war diplomacy. As a former IB History examiner, Dr Price's insights into examination technique were invaluable to the students as they prepared for their exams this summer. The lecturers were impressed by the pupils' mature approach to critical learning and their high levels of historical knowledge and understanding. The day ended with a tour of York's old town, before students travelled back to Bromsgrove having further developed their revision and examination preparation.

R Whitbread



Lower Fourth Camp

Lower Fourth Camp is the final stage of the Bromsgrove Badge programme. The entire year group spend four days camping in the Forest of Dean and this year we enjoyed some excellent weather. A wide range of challenging outdoor activities was undertaken, including kayaking, caving and raft building alongside the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expedition. Far more importantly, pupils had the chance to relax, play games and have fun with their peers after a challenging first year in the Senior School.

Once again, this year, the activities were undertaken in excellent spirit: pupils challenged themselves to go into the caves and there were desperate attempts to stop the staff and Sixth Form raft winning the competition.

With such heat throughout the week, the walkers were pushed to their limits and the sheer determination of so many students to complete their expedition was outstanding. Mention must be made of the twenty-four Sixth Form students who accompanied the Lower Fourth, and without whom the camping trip would not be the same. Their guidance and enthusiasm was invaluable to the Lower Fourth and staff.

As pupils look back at their time away on camp, I hope that they will be proud of their achievements and look forward to completing their Bronze Award next year.

R Simmons



Lower Fourth Malvern Field Day

Lower Fourth pupils enjoyed a challenging walk across the Malvern Hills, aided by some fine weather. They sustained good pace and enthusiasm throughout the day and completed the course with good speed. Many of them learned about the need to read maps carefully rather than following others and on the necessity of working together as a group.

Pitt Rivers

Upper Fourth Art and Textiles students visited The Pitt Rivers and Natural History Museums in Oxford. They produced some excellent drawings in support of their GCSE portfolios based on the theme of Transformation.



McLaren Visit

The Greenpower Race Team consisting of Will Edwards, Scarlett Bond, Alek Florov and Tristan Stephens-Jones were invited as VIP attendees to McLaren in Woking. This was a visit that excited the students greatly as the building is not usually open to the general public.

McLaren's main headquarters is a large, roughly semi-circular, glass-walled building, designed by the architect Norman Foster. The building was shortlisted for the 2005 Sterling Prize and has about 3,000 people working there on a daily basis. It's home to the McLaren Racing Formula One Team and McLaren Automotive, the makers of the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren, F1 and P1 series.

The pupils were taken on a tour of the main showroom which housed some of the most iconic race cars in McLaren's history. They were told about aerodynamic development, behind the scene stories and of course how electric power has started to dominate design in road and race cars the world over.



Oxford and Cambridge Conference

Twenty Lower Sixth students attended the Oxford and Cambridge Student Conference at Edgbaston Stadium with Mrs Buckley and Miss Partridge. Students listened to lectures on Oxford and Cambridge life and learnt how to make a competitive application. Every subject was represented, with current lecturers and existing Oxbridge students giving talks and Q&A sessions. Our students found it to be an enlightening and helpful trip, focusing their minds on future university plans.

J Partridge

The trophy corridor must have been 100 meters long, flanked by trophy cabinets from every decade dating back from the 1950s. The corridor is placed strategically to remind and encourage staff to remember why they are there and to make them feel proud of the brand that they work for.

The production line was the spotless epicenter to the building, where cars were being built and tested before being sent out to customers. It gave our students a taster of what it would be like to work for such a bespoke and exclusive manufacturer.

The team saw many comparisons with The Chicken in that they work on the tiny details, pit changes, aerodynamics (no matter how small) and have a desire to win and be the best team in the world.

S Broadbent



Rugby Tour

In July 2017, forty-two boys and four members of staff embarked on a three-week rugby excursion to Hong Kong and New Zealand for what promised to be the tour of a lifetime. Following our twelve-hour overnight flight, we arrived mid-morning in Hong Kong. After checking into our hotel, we travelled to the King's Park Sports Ground for our first training session.

Our first matches of the tour took place the following day vs Hong Kong Select XV. Both teams recorded victories, which was a great start. The following day gave us the opportunity to undertake some sightseeing before heading to the airport for our onward flight to New Zealand.

On arrival in Auckland, we transferred to Kelton Boys High School where we received a Maori welcome. The following morning, the boys enjoyed a guided tour of Auckland and walked to the top of Mount Eden.

The Kelston matches proved to be a good introduction New Zealand rugby, with both Bromsgrove teams competing well against some strong boys.

The next day, the team had time to visit the waterfront and join the thousands of Lions fans to soak up the atmosphere before watching the All Blacks game. The whole occasion proved to be a real highlight of the tour.



Our next stop, following a short flight to the bottom of the South Island, was to the very picturesque Queenstown. During our stop in Queenstown, the team enjoyed a world famous Ferg Burger, the Shotover jet boat ride, the Gondola and a ride in the Luge.

We then travelled a further two hours south for our third fixture against Menzies High School in Wyndam. Both teams played great rugby to record their first victories on New Zealand soil. The next day we started our journey back up through the South Island where we stopped off in Dunedin for three days, where we had our fourth match of the tour against King's High. This fixture proved to be close fought. In the evening, the boys were fortunate enough to go and watch a Super Fifteen match between the Highlanders and Queensland Reds.



Following our stop in Dunedin, we continued our journey up the South Island to Christchurch. This gave the whole touring party the opportunity to see first-hand the devastation caused by the earthquake in 2011. We also visited the Orana Wild Life Park where some of the boys enjoyed a very up close and personal encounter with the lions.

At 5:00am the following morning, we loaded the coach for our trip to Picton where we caught the ferry to Wellington in the North Island. Before our final fixture of the tour against the Hutt School, we visited the New Zealand Rugby Football Union Head offices. Both matches against the Hutt School were very competitive, with the both teams winning, and the 1st XV recording their best result of the tour and our 2nd XV holding on at the end to a lead they had held throughout the match.

The final stop before our return flight home was to Rotorua, stopping off at the stunning Lake Taupo for lunch. Once we arrived in Rotorua, we transferred to the Te Pula Maori Cultural Village where we watched a show including songs, dance, warriors weaponry display and the world famous Hakka. A number of the boys, led by Mr Bell, were given the opportunity to learn and then participate in the Hakka.

T Windo



Snowdonia

Twelve members of the CCF travelled to Snowdonia in order to complete their DofE practice Expedition. In July, the same twelve Cadets went to South Africa to complete a multi activity Expedition as their Gold and Silver DofE Final Expeditions, so the wilds of North Wales in the depths of winter were the ideal training ground.

Saturday dawned, cold and wet with snowy flurries bombarding the group as they queued for breakfast, but spirits were high and after some swift food and preparation, the Cadets were being dropped off at their start points with the instructors and their big rucksacks in order to complete leg one.

Sunday dawned a little brighter but with strong cold winds, so again the Cadets set off to learn more skills and do battle with the weather. After an exhausting day,

they arrived off the hills just in time to beat another round of snow flurries.

Monday came and the final day of activities was upon them. This was the day when the two extra activities for the multi-activity expedition were to be practised. On the bikes there were some tumbles but the paddling went well for all. These activities provided the final part of the jigsaw, and saw the completion of their training. It was then back to camp to sort out kit and have some proper hot food that hadn't had to be cooked on a Trangia.

The Cadets achieved something special in the few days they were away, through battling the weather and the conditions and the fatigue, they should be proud of themselves.

J Farnes

Hockey Tour

Thirty-nine pupils and four teachers left Bromsgrove for Johannesburg for the Boys' and Girls' Hockey Tour. After a twelve-hour flight, Ollie Walker was given the honour of carrying their tour mascot, Leo the Lion.

From the High Performance Centre accommodation, the group went on their first training session on the excellent water-based astro. They also visited Fort Schanskop and the Voortrekker Monument where they were given a guided tour telling them about the history of the Dutch, British and Zulu wars over the past 400 years. At the Freedom Park based in Pretoria, the pupils learnt about the history of the apartheid and the struggle for equality in South Africa.



The first match against Hoërskool Zwartkop ended in a well-earned 6-0 victory for the girls. The boys fought hard for a narrow draw of 3-3. In Cape Town, the girls drew their two games and the boys lost 2-1, despite fighting hard in the heat. Their second game against DF Malan resulted in triumph for both the girls and boys, despite close score lines ending 1-0 and 2-1 respectively.

After staying with their host families overnight, a traditional home cooked South African breakfast was devoured before heading off to see the sights of Cape Town.

The first stop was Lions Head Mountain, where the group embarked on a fun hike to the top to take in the incredible and breath-taking scenery of Table Mountain. At Langa Township, pupils learnt how people within the community live and what is being done to help them. They were taught some traditional African music, which was enjoyed by all and had everyone singing along. The children were very welcoming and treated the group to a small performance.

For their last set of matches, the Bromsgrove teams travelled to Bellville School. The girls went up against strong opposition, but the final result was a well-deserved 1-0 win to Bromsgrove. The Bromsgrove boys came out flying and with great team spirit and team work, the match ended 5-1.

With two wins under Bromsgrove's belt, the girls now faced the Bellville 1sts. This was a tough game that was well fought by both sides. But unfortunately, Bellville ended the girls' unbeaten streak with a 1-0 win.

Having put up a strong fight against another Bellville side, the boys went 1-0 down in the first half. A great team talk fired up the boys and Bromsgrove went 3-2 up, eventually winning.

The team enjoyed a post-match function with the opposition, before leaving with their billets. Everyone then spent an afternoon of leisure with their hosts for the final time; some going shopping, others playing mini golf or visiting the traditional market.

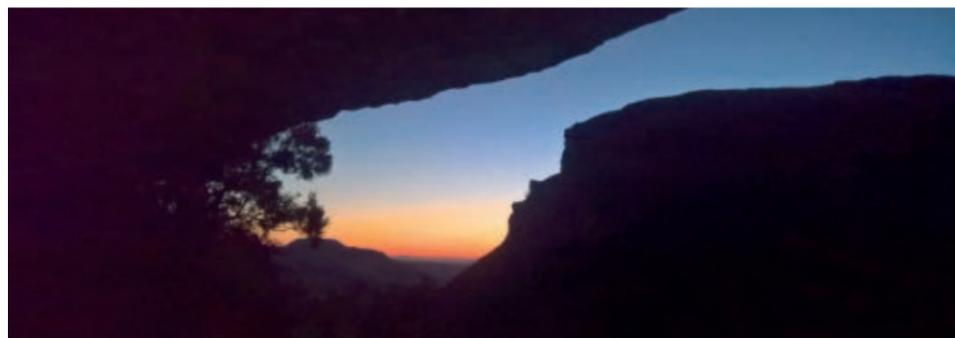


CCF in South Africa

It is often said that millennials are softer than their predecessors, they spend too much time attached to technology, they cannot survive without WIFI. Well, it was a privilege to take twelve of our Cadets to South Africa this summer, and they very much disproved these theories. Two days after Commemoration Day, and after a summer of public examinations, we boarded our flight to Durban, carrying the minimum of kit that would suffice for the expedition. On arrival, we were treated to a night in a travel lodge and fish and chips for supper, before things became more arduous.

Day two saw us move to a hutted camp at the head of the Wagendrift Dam, where our expedition would commence. We spent the afternoon route planning and packing, followed by our first South African sunset.

After a hearty breakfast and a canoe rescue lesson, we paddled off down the reservoir with some trepidation over what the next five days would hold. Fifteen kilometres later we reached a hard portage to get to the campsite - canoes are easier to paddle than carry. We then met up with our bikes and road tested them to a local school where we engaged in an afternoon of work. We helped sort out the school's vegetable patch, so it would be ready to feed the children when they went back to school. Camp was built and we spent the evening huddled around a Braai (BBQ), eating dinner and trying to keep warm as the winter temperatures dropped to freezing.



After breakfast, the cold was soon forgotten as we started the bike day with a massive hill climb. We spent the day cycling thirty-five kilometres across a game reserve and had lunch 400m from some White Rhinos. This epic day was followed by another night with the temperature dropping to minus five. A ten kilometre bike ride was followed by a change of kit as we swapped to trekking gear and donned our heavy packs to hike into the Drakensburg Mountains. After an afternoon of arduous trekking, we reached our home for the night in the Caracal Cave, 2000m above sea level - this was much warmer than previous nights.

The next day we headed off for an easier trek to Aasvoelkrans Cave, for our final expedition night out. We all got a good night's sleep and on the promise of showers, everyone was ready on time the next morning. R and R followed and a chance to shower and wash our clothes, silver and gold DofE Expeditions complete. But the respite was short lived for phase two meant us moving on to learn about the history of the Isandwala and Rourke's Drift Battlefields, walking the harsh arid terrain of the fugitives' trail followed by a river crossing. The next two nights were spent living in a bush camp in a game reserve.

Here we saw many different animals (but alas no lions), and we all felt we were really living at one with nature.

The final treat of the expedition came as we moved to St Lucia. We had the relative luxury of a hotel room with proper hot showers. We went on a hippo tour, enjoyed a beach day by the Indian Ocean and took part in an all-day Safari. At last, we saw lions in their natural habitat. For the final day of the trip we encountered crocodiles and discovered many interesting things about these animals.

As we headed to the airport, there was so much to reflect on and remind the Cadets what they had achieved; it all took time to let it sink in. The Cadets certainly returned home with lasting memories and new life skills.

J Farnes



World Challenge

It was with much excitement and some trepidation that fourteen pupils, Mr Brogden and I set off for the World Challenge Expedition to India. After a long flight, we arrived in the hustle and bustle of Delhi and the adventure began. The first task was to negotiate crossing the city to the train station - we 'enjoyed' a 20pence curry and boarded our train for Chandigarh. On arrival, we took our first knuckle gripping tuk-tuk ride to our hotel. The next morning after some much needed rest, the group travelled to Manali by bus where we spent the next few days giving the pupils a chance to plan the month - they had to organise the trek, book transport (easier said than done), accommodation and source a pick axe and toilet tent.

Having travelled all day by jeep through the mountains, crossing the Rohtang Pass and on to Kaza in the Spiti Valley, we pitched our tents and dug the all-important toilet hole. We trekked through the Himalayas for fourteen days and covered roughly 100 miles from Kaza to Kafnu. We reached altitudes of 4680m and even crossed an 800m snow field. The landscape changed dramatically from the stark moonscapes of the Spiti and Pin Valleys at the start into meadows, pastures and forests towards the end. We made

many river crossings by paddling, wading, using fallen trees and a bucket bridge (imagine a shopping trolley on a pulley over a raging torrent and you have got the picture!) We were well looked after during the trek and were accompanied by a local guide, cooks and muleteers (all of our heavy packs were carried by the mules). 'Dinner Ready' was a welcome sound each evening, however I think most of us have eaten enough dahl and rice to last us a lifetime.

At the end of the trek we took a bus to Shimla where we finally got a much needed shower; trekking washes happened if we were near a river and had the courage to get in the freezing water. Shimla was very relaxing but soon it was time to take the three trains to Jaipur, the last one being our first experience of an Indian sleeper train. Jaipur was a bustling and busy, fragrant place with lots to see and do. We visited the 'pink city', the Amber Fort, the City Palace, Jantar Mantar and the Monkey Temple. All of these places were visited by tuk-tuk dashing down bumpy back streets avoiding cows, cars, buses, motor bikes and the odd camel.



All too soon it was time to move on to Udaipur and our project. After another journey by sleeper train, we arrived early in the morning and were greeted by our hosts who took us on a tour of the city. Udaipur was a huge contrast to Jaipur, much calmer and cleaner. Our project involved three days of painting in a school for deaf children. Everyone worked hard and we were able to donate some extra money to enable the school to purchase new mosquito coverings for the windows. The daily commute by tuk-tuk was definitely the way to travel to work.

We left Udaipur by sleeper train and arrived in Agra where we visited the beautiful Taj Mahal and the very impressive Agra Fort. Before we knew it, it was time to return to Delhi to catch our flights home.

This trip was a life changing experience for the pupils involved and they were a credit to Bromsgrove and fantastic company for the month - well done to each and every one of them.

S Brain





Pre-Prep Drama

Year 1 Nativity

Cast

Mary
Isabelle Ballard

Joseph
Lucas Ashurst

Carol Singers
George Cutter, Milo Ellson, Bertie Fountain,
Jake Jeff-Johnston, Jack Pritchard,
Henry Shirley, Gethin Walpole

Angels
Romie Bibbey, Charlotte Earp,
Lily-May Mullan, Saiya Sehmi, Daisy Slater,
Edith Stones, Maya Tindal

Shepherds
Louis Albutt, Maxwell Ash,
Tobias Crabtree, Daniel Duffy,
George Greathurst, Dylan Jones,
William Jones, Sebastian Langton,
Alfie Smith

Innkeepers
Lachlan Halls, Elliot Hill, Archie Lea

Innkeepers' Wives
Sofia Cooper, Freya Kettle, Isabella Wright

Stars
Charlotte Ascough, Ella Cunningham,
Tabitha Downs, Amber Edwards,
Priya Giles, Isabella Hyams,
Darcie Jackson-Adams,
Gabrielle Kavanagh, Ariya Oozageer,
Sakina Porbanderwalla, Darcy Sutton

Kings
Benjamin Barnes, Leo Fuller, Harry
Helmore

Pages
Eric Li, Edward Nuttall, Sagar Wood

Year 2 Cinderella

Year 2 performed Roald Dahl's *Cinderella* at the end of the Summer term. The whole cast were fantastic - singing, dancing and reciting their lines with confidence and enthusiasm. A special mention must go to Neave Colley and Archie Wilson who made an unforgettable pair of Ugly Sisters and Grace Laurenson and Wilf Gilbert who played the roles of Cinderella and The Prince brilliantly.

K Western



Cast

Cinderella

Grace Laurenson

Prince

Wilf Gilbert

Prince's Helpers

Alex Bennett and Joseph Simon

Fairy

Abigail Round

Ugly sisters

Neave Colley and Archie Wilson

Clock

Samuel Brown

Cleaning Props

Daisy Apperley, Isobel Boardman, Lola Broadhurst, Olivia Grove, Charlotte Hibbert-May, Zariya Petrova, Caitlin Pridden, Delilah Wood

Rats/Horses

Yasmin Hughes and Rachel Liu

Rats/Footmen

Samuel Harries and Ndanji Simbeye

Rats/Coachmen

Nahum Benjamin and James Hoare

Jam Maker

Monty Pritchard

Townpeople

Victoria Baker, Olivia Faber, Erica Lewis, Leah Marie, Emily Meese, Megan Price, Aanika Sanikop

Tango Dancers

Sophia Bhardwaj, Sienna Billings, Benjamin Brettell-Elowe, Benjamin Conroy, Valentino Demetrios, Amelia Fox, Lydia Greaves, Edward Head, Daisy Jones, Beau Langford, Alfie Slater, Tallulah White

Waltzing Dancers

Charlie Adcock, Cooper Bridgewater, Jess Gallimore, Ella Head, Seren Hickman, Shayan Jilka, Oliver Jones-Elliott, Curtis Norton, Elina Patel, Imogen Woolmore



Prep Drama

'All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once they grow up.' - Pablo Picasso

If we do not work together as educators, students and parents to provide children with opportunities to act, play music, paint and be creative, then we will lose those skills that are highly desirable in the workforce.

Bromsgrove Preparatory School is creating an outstanding environment for children to achieve their goals, whether that be to improve their confidence or to take on the leading role in a production. The whole department is thriving and it is a joy to see such enthusiasm for the subject resurging.



Twelfth Night

In November 2016, we celebrated the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare and performed our version of Twelfth Night. Viola played by Isabella Rusling and Sebastian played by Henry Jones were separated after their ship was lost at sea and washed up on the shores of Illyria. This tale of misplaced love, misidentification and trickery was presented by children in Years 7 and 8.

The show was a unique experience, with the Drama Studio arranged as a traverse theatre, the acting area running diagonally across the space with audience spread out on either side. Performing in traverse was an immediate challenge for the performers, however, they quickly found ways of adapting, discovering the special energy such a dynamic arrangement lends to a cast. Having previously chosen to perform in the round with Alice last year, we took on the task of another different performing style, giving children first-hand experience of alternative ways of acting.

As unfair as it is to single anyone out, performances by Rose Willetts as Toby Belch, Louis Schell as Orsino, James Humphries as Fabian, Polly Dakin as Feste and Brooke York as Olivia were excellent

The show had somewhat of a surprise understudy role thrust upon the Director, Mr Woolhead, after Lewis Osborne injured his head and was unable to perform as Sir Andrew Aguecheek on the first night. The children certainly rose to the occasion and presented work at a very high level.

Hard work and dedication were evident from the staff who helped during the production. Costuming by Jane Hughes and Claire Whitfield was a triumph, as usual. Caroline Goodall was invaluable in assisting with direction. Mark Tooker and Paul Sutherland provided props and scenery, which added extra humour to the letter scene. Michelle Corrie assisted with songs and music, which is particularly present in this Shakespeare production. Tim Norton, the School's first Director of Performing Arts, lent his expert hand to the first Drama Studio performance of the year and George Elliot excelled himself with his first show at Bromsgrove, managing lighting and sound and proving that it really does take a small village of dedicated staff to put on a play.





Easter Service

The Drama Department were commissioned to perform during the Easter Service as an alternative to the Year 6 Musical. Year 6 pupils Polly Dakin, Rose Willetts, Imogen Thomas and Mr Woolhead worked together to adapt Jan Pienkowski's novel, *Easter*. Children devised scenes that told the story of *Easter*, focusing on Jesus' life immediately preceding his death. A wide and impressive range of dramatic techniques were practiced in rehearsal, which we employed as storytelling devices. There was an extremely moving final section depicting the crucifixion itself and this was performed very effectively using some beautifully designed and manipulated shadow puppetry.

Cobham Theatre Development

The Preparatory School are eagerly anticipating the new Cobham Theatre. There would be no theatre without work to fill the space and the children at the Preparatory School are certainly starting to produce some drama pieces of the highest standard. A professional theatre demands professional work. Next academic year should prove to be a real celebration of Performing Arts at Bromsgrove. The challenge over the last two years has been to shake up the rules of performance - if audiences get used to the rules, change them. Over the coming years we hope to make our dramatic performances fresh and exciting, constantly re-inventing how we present theatre to ensure our audiences never quite know what to expect.



Prep House Drama

The Preparatory School staged the inaugural House Drama competition this academic year. Children performed short scenes in pairs to Years 6, 7 and 8.

Pupils from Years 7 and 8 have been busy preparing scenes since January 2017 and, after a very intense series of auditions, the finalists were chosen.

The children then performed their scene to their peers.

Congratulations to the finalists:

Jessica Whitlock and Natasha Bahra:
The Angry Doctor

Polly Dakin and Anna Connell:
Headlines

Fred Hanson and Jared Spurgeon:
Stagestruck

Isabella Rusling and Grace Warren:
Fault

Brooke York and Rose Willetts:
Bridesmaids

Polly Green and Melissa Wang:
Goggle-Eyes

The children were competing for the position of best performance, which was won by Polly Dakin and Anna Connell with a well-constructed and perfectly performed scene. Jessica Whitlock and Natasha Bahra performed a very funny scene entitled *The Angry Doctor* and were awarded the runners up prize. Rose Willetts and Brooke York came in third place with their scene, *Bridesmaid*. A special mention goes to Fred Hanson who was awarded best actor for the wonderful recitation of Shakespeare during his piece. Polly Dakin and Anna Connell won best overall Performance.

C Woolhead

Senior Drama

Hairspray

When John Walters released his outrageously camp film *Hairspray* in 1988, it took little time to achieve cult status among a small but constantly growing audience of fans. Almost fifteen years later, its infectious, feel-good charm transferred effortlessly to the stage in the form of a larger-than-life Broadway musical. Garnering more than thirty international awards, it was this incarnation that was brought so energetically to life at the Artrix in January 2017 by Bromsgrove students.

Set in 1962 Baltimore, Maryland, the musical revolves around the rise of 'pleasantly plump' teenager Tracy Turnblad from provincial obscurity to local TV stardom as she follows her dreams to become a dancer on the Corney Collins show. At the same time, she picks up the rallying cry against racial segregation in the USA. It is an unlikely story, but the civil rights movement is saved from becoming merely a preachy backdrop to the Cinderella narrative by some truly hilarious dialogue that constantly undercuts the sometimes-simplistic moral high ground of the piece.

For all its apparent superficiality though, *Hairspray* is technically a huge challenge to pull off for any director, let alone someone attempting something on this scale for the first time; many congratulations are due therefore to Mrs Lucy McKee for maintaining a calm and detailed overview of the piece and her large support team throughout the rehearsal period. So many things can be overlooked in preparation and execution and it's easy to get lots wrong, but from the first notes of the overture, the professional quality of the band - under Mr James McKelvey's assured direction - put the audience in a state of great anticipation; this was no 'school play' we were about to see. The glorious strength of the brass and reed section never overpowered the guitars and special mention must go to Ben Adamson and George Bingham who reigned supreme in the rhythm and percussion section of the pit.

With a huge company of forty-five performers on stage, the vibrantly colourful and energetic opening number set a very high standard for the next two and a half hours. There are a large number of dance sequences in the production - it is a musical about a TV Dance show after all - and there was great confidence and accuracy from all sections of the ensemble in each; everyone had been tirelessly drilled, over hundreds of hours, by their choreographer, and School Governor, Dr Clare Lidbury. From the precise technical patterning of the Madison dance contest to the sheer mad exuberance of the wild Dodgeball sequence in the gymnasium scene, her choreography captured the style of both the piece and the period, as well as the mood of each scene with great imagination, filling the stage with an endless sequence of thrilling pictures.

Musically, this is also a fiendishly difficult piece in terms of the range and style of voices required. Luckily for Bromsgrove, Tosin Attah's deep contralto suited perfectly the demands of the strong and sultry Motormouth Maybelle; her powerful rendition of *I Know Where I've Been*, in the second act, brought the performance to a standstill every night, and will long remain in the memory of this reviewer. Similarly, Abba Abba brought a seductively smooth charm to his role of Seaweed J Stubbs and astonishing high notes to *Run and Tell That*, superbly supported by Lauren Court as Little Inez as well as the entire group of Dynamites.

The piece offers many opportunities for a large cast with a huge range of exaggerated characters. Miles Rosbrook rose to the challenge of performing the traditionally drag role of Edna Turnblad, Tracy's mother, with tremendous aplomb. Just the sight of Edna, in curlers and a housecoat ironing with a bright pink iron, or taking calls on her pink telephone, was enough to raise a broad chuckle. Edna is no pantomime dame, however and Miles brought a great sensitivity to the production through his convincingly truthful approach to the part.



Timofey Abbasov as Edna's delightful husband, Wilbur, similarly brought a sense of reality to his relationship with this huge over-sized, loveable woman. Their duet together in the second act, *Timeless To Me*, was one of the real highlights of the production - neither actors would claim to be great singers, but the way they performed with such conviction to each other and danced around the stage together, dusting the stage with real magic, worked like a charm on the audience.

About Rachel Xuereb's Tracy, there can be no doubt: here was a young star in the making. Heavily padded and appropriately coiffured as a 60s teen, Rachel looked every inch the part, but the astonishing power and confidence of her voice, combined with a spot-on characterisation of wise-eyed, super-charged energy leant every moment she was on stage to a genuine Broadway class act.

The leading performers were augmented by a dazzling array of supporting characters including the two further mother and daughter combinations in the musical: Paige Corcoran's malevolent Velma Von Tussle and her scheming child Amber, played by Lily-Rose Faulkner-Schütt; Madelaine Barber Fray's hysterical Prudy Pingleton with Anna Da Costa Martins' hilariously innocent Penny. These four also contributed strong singing voices to the cast alongside a veritable oil slick of Brylcreemed, smooth talking gents among which, Dan Johnson's teflon-coated Corney Collins and Ed Shinner's, forever self-grooming Link Larkin, merit special mention.

Notable in this highly technical production was the fact that for the first time at the Artrix all lighting and sound effects were operated by students, and a superb team of over ten pupils formed a highly trained and committed team of technicians, led ably by Libby Guillamon. As the new Director of Performing Arts at Bromsgrove, what impressed me more than almost anything else during the entire production process, was the work of Will Edwards and Ellie Johnson who, along with the support of our DT staff, produced some of the most perfectly constructed and finished props and scenic elements that I have ever seen outside of the West End. Their 1960s Television Camera alone was enough to convince many that we had hired everything from London.

Other stand-out moments in the piece - the wonderfully dramatic, side-lit opening of the second act in the jailhouse, with bodies draped in wild angles upstage of a wall of pink jail bars; the breathtakingly quick costume changes of Tracy and Edna in Mr. Pinky's Hefty Hideaway during *Welcome To The Sixties*; and the appearance of Will and Ellie's magnificent nine foot high powder blue hairspray can in the final scene - leant a rich gloss to what was an extraordinary slick coiffure of a production.

Hugely popular with its cast and audience, all involved deserve enormous congratulations for creating such a very successful series of performances.

T Norton



Hairspray Cast

Tracy Turnblad

Rachel Xuereb

Edna Turnblad

Miles Rosbrook

Penny Pingleton

Anna Martins

Velma Von Tussle

Paige Corcoran

Amber Von Tussle

Lily-Rose Faulkner-Schütt

Link Larkin

Ed Shinner

Seaweed J. Stubbs

Abbah Abbah

Motormouth Maybelle

Tosin Attah

Corny Collins

Dan Johnson

Wilbur Turnblad

Timofey Abbasov

Little Inez

Lauren Court

Prudy Pingleton

Madelaine Barber Fray

Harriman F. Spritzer

Matt Hegarty

Mr Pinky

Aled Luckman

Matron

Robyn Davies

Council Members

Emily Evans, Maria Holowinska, Vinzenz Freigassner, Tom Anning, Archie Holder, Nanci Burbidge, Sam Ison, Chloe Leslie, Harry Nichols, Josie Wiklund, Nanci Burbidge, Oliver Rogers, Abbie Gill, Charlotte Bayliss

Dynamites

Elina Agrawal, Kiren Doyle, Christie Lloyd, Funbi Akinsanya, Nandini Bulchandani, Deborah Gbadeyan, Shekinah Obi-Umahi, Ella Mgbudem, Hannah Jones, Holly Nichols, Lauren Milburn, Harry Nichols

Ensemble

Anya Butler, Heidi Collie, Xaver Freigassner, Abbie Gill, Maria Holowinska, Irene Lau, Ellie Miners

Band

Tom Muir, Mr Tom Martin, Mr Matt Roberts, Adrian Lai, Mr Richard Knight, Miss Fiona McCanlis, Mr Allister Gittens, Benedict Mann, Matthew Lou, Ben Adamson, George Bingham

Hairspray Technical Team

Deputy Stage Manager

Liberty Guillamon

Assistant Stage Managers

Harry Ruben, Anna Spenner-Hernandez, Alexander Spurgin, Grayson Leversha

Lighting Operator

Nikita Bedov

Follow Spot Operator

Ethan O'Brien

Sound Design and Operation

Daniel Moore & William Porter

Set Design

Will Edwards & Ellie Johnson

Set Construction

James Beattie, Jonathan Chan, Lauren Court, Will Edwards, Matt Goodwin, Ellie Johnson, Mr Owen Matthews

Director of Make-Up and Hair

Ms Emma Densem

Assisted by

Caroline Antpöhler, Joyce Chen, Olivia Crowder, Jojo Dong, Mel Gilroy, Isobelle Jenkins, Izzy Kemp, Bethany Khan, Charlotte Lawley, Katie Palmer-Reid, Dichhya Pun, Highbury-Louise Rodway, Maria Starikova, Katie Taylor

Costume Hire

Triple C Costume Hire & RSC
Costume ConstructionTundun Basorun,
Miss Hollie Barton & Mrs Fiona Diver

Radio Mics Balanced by

Mr Steve Kingston

Radio Mic Assistants

Demi Olugbenga & Dominic Gardner

Director

Mrs Lucy Mckee

Musical Director

Mr James Mckelvey

Assistant Musical Director

Miss Fiona Mccanlis

Choreographer

Dr Clare Lidbury

Drama Technician

Mrs Sophie Purcell

Theatre Technician

Mr George Elliott

Director of Performing Arts

Mr Tim Norton

Still Remembered Voices: Fourth Form Production

"Blessed are the dead that the rain rains upon."

So wrote Edward Thomas in 1916. And so the unseasonal drizzle that drenched the audience and players on the last night of "Still Remembered Voices" was more than fitting. A devised piece, led by directors Miss Jill Bradford and Mr Paul Dinnen, this was a culmination of research, interviews and practical improvisation delivered with conviction by its stunning Fourth Form cast.

It was also a production that relied upon a talented technical crew of students under the guidance and encouragement of Mr Elliott. An ambitious challenge on paper: to communicate the impact of war through a performance in promenade utilising multimedia, modern dance and the backdrop of the full span of a century of conflict. I was moved by the remarkable way the performance shifted its expansive gaze from all-too-familiar scenes of enlisting, trench life and images of refugees to focus in on multiple smaller scenes of personal loss and grief. For its young cast to be able to bridge that gap was truly extraordinary.

This was no easy ride for the audience either. From the opening scene outside the café we were ordered, bawled at, registered, even belittled by the powerhouses of Matthew Goodwin and Eleanor Johnson, ably supported by the cast who kept us marching in line through the grounds of School. The poignancy of walking on the same paths that had been walked upon through the decades by men and women who would go on to have their lives forever changed by war was at the front of our minds, particularly as we came past the Old Chapel which had been commandeered as a temporary dressing station.

As we passed the prisoners of war lined up before the firing squad we sought refuge from the rain in the comfort of the drama studio. But this was no comfortable watch. The images on the screen of prisoners, refugees, evacuees, returning heroes, grieving families and the smell of burning was an assault on the senses.



Commedia Del 'Arte Workshops

In the studio the commitment to the piece by every single actor was palpable. As Mrs Eaton narrated a mother's message to her lost soldier son, Michelle Ma's expressive dance held us spellbound in agony with its control a painful echo of a mother's grief. The audience kept being tested with each new wave of emotion, emitted so naturally by Phoebe Fletcher in her nurse's diary scene.

So this was a study of grief. This was a tribute to the fallen and to those left behind. The process had clearly been a personal one for the cast and crew and their own histories were blended seamlessly with that of the School and of a nation. As parents, families and teachers watched with breathless realisation when they spoke their own names in a roll of honour at the end, what began with a roll call of young recruits at the café now closed with a register of the dead and the living in a masterclass of poise and sincerity.

One might only hope that, if you did not get to see it this time around, it would be well worth persuading Miss Bradford to revisit the piece next year when we come together to mark the centenary of the end of the war that was meant to end all wars.

V Adams

Over fifty Drama students across four sessions from Lower Fourth to the Upper Sixth took part in workshops with Didi Hopkins, the country's foremost practitioner of Commedia, in order to train them in the use of masks, the creation of character and improvisation.

With Didi was Elliott Ross, an actor who appeared with the RSC last year and a specialist in clowning and physical theatre. Elliott assisted in creating short improvised performances with the students in small groups.

Commedia Del 'Arte or 'the comedy of the artisan' was the first truly professional theatre and combined the physical skills of the street performer – tumbling, acrobatics, juggling – with the plots and characters of Classical Roman comedy and the prose writings of the Renaissance.

Although in its purest form it is rarely seen performed in Britain today, there are still a number of professional troupes working in Italy and France. Its influences in theatre and performance are absolutely *everywhere*, however. Manuel the waiter in *Fawlty Towers* is an archetypal 'Zanni' figure, Darth Vader an all-powerful Magnifico.

Training in Commedia is not only of enormous benefit to an actor, developing highly complex physical skills and the ability to connect quickly and effectively with an audience, but it is now increasingly being used as a business tool in companies across Europe to train executives to think quickly and creatively 'on their feet'.

T Norton





Senior House Drama

After several years' absence, it was with great pleasure that the House Drama Competition returned to Bromsgrove School in December 2016. In a packed Drama Studio, ten Houses performed extracts from ten separate plays in a diverse evening of theatre that ranged from Godber to Gogol, Bennett to Berkoff.

Hazledene gave a strong start to the competition with *Shakers*; the cast were well-drilled by Rachel Xuereb in a stylish and pacy production which provided an excellent contrast to the very physical but dour black comedy of Elmshurst's *A Grave Situation*, a piece originally set in Huddersfield but somehow hilariously relocated to Vladivostock. Natural comedic timing and a strong sense of choreography made Elmshurst worthy runners up for Best Play.

School House and Lyttleton gave strong presentations of Stoppard's *Arcadia* and Bennet's *The History Boys* respectively. Each group provided intelligent and confident approaches to their plays which impressed the adjudicator and held the audience. Special mention must also go to Anya Butler who stepped in at the very last moment to perform with lucid clarity, focus and sensitivity for Oakley House opposite Chloe Leslie in *The Wardrobe*.

One of the most memorable pieces of the first half, however, was undoubtedly Housman Hall's performance of *Dahling, You Were Marvellous!* It was thrilling to see so many actors on stage – most of whom had never performed before – in this very funny satire about theatrical 'luvvies'. Each cast member worked effectively to re-create Berkoff's nightmarish first-night party in a sequence of highly stylized tableaux and vocal caricatures. A very popular entry, they received a Special Award for Ensemble Theatre which

reflected their impressive team work. After the interval, the Drama Studio was transformed into something akin to Da Vinci's Last Supper for Miles Rosbrook's bold staging of *Posh* for Wendron-Gordon House. The long table, stretching the full width of the stage was an arresting, utterly appropriate image for Laura Wade's play. Miles' commanding performance as the opportunistic and aggressive Alistair Ryle, also earned him the award for Best Actor.

Following this, Mary Windsor and Thomas Cookes made excellent choices with *Stags and Hens* and *Daisy Pulls It Off!*, and Olivia Corcoran became a worthy runner up for the Best Actor award. Lupton meanwhile scored a huge hit with their highly theatrical interpretation of *The Government Inspector*. From the opening moment, Tom Anning, Toby Finnemore, Aled Luckman, Will Porter and Ed Shinner held the audience in the palm of their hands. Their piece, combining wild clownish make-up, muffling costume and strong pantomimic characterisation, had a discipline, comedy and polish that made Lupton clear winners for Best Play and Aled, the director and leading actor, became recipient of the 2016 Performing Arts Award.

Christopher Thomas – Old Bromsgrovian, former actor, composer, and now Head of Drama at Canford School – adjudicated with great warmth, good humour and sensitivity bringing the evening to a close with a resounding endorsement of Drama at the School and looked ahead towards a bright future for the Performing Arts at Bromsgrove.

T Norton



LAMDA

It was our first year running the renowned London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) qualification in the Senior school, and what a start it was. Our first cohort passed their exams with flying colours – seven out of the eight students achieved a Distinction and one student achieved a high Merit.

Depending on the grade that they are studying for, students are required to learn and perform either two or three monologues. Each piece has to be more than three minutes long and, if studying bronze, silver or gold, must be from different theatrical time periods. Miss Bradford coached the students throughout the first term and a half, giving the students the encouragement and positive feedback throughout their sessions. For their part, the students were a joy to work with, making the LAMDA sessions fun and inspiring. In addition, the students not only gained a qualification, but they also learned a plethora of skills along the way – from effective use of their voice, to confident use of body language, all of which will stand them in good stead for the future.

The examiner was very complimentary about the stagecraft, flair, and focus shown by all of the students, and awarded Abbah Abbah 100% for his performances of Bassanio from *The Merchant of Venice* and Mark from *DNA* – a truly remarkable feat.

The Drama department is looking forward to welcoming new students throughout the coming years and everyone is confident that they will shine as brightly as their predecessors.

J Bradford





Prep Music

Cheltenham Festival for Performing Arts

Over 100 pupils from Years 5-8 took part in the Cheltenham Music Festival at the Town Hall. This was a wonderful occasion of extremely high quality music. Our junior choir were the first to compete with their versions of *Can you Hear Me* by Bob Chilcott and *Fly Away* by Bessig. Both pieces were performed extremely well and the adjudicator complimented the choir on their harmonies, use of sign language and discipline. It was with great delight that the junior choir were awarded the Joan Bell Cup for first prize in this category.

The Chapel Choir performed *The Water of Tyne* and Rutter's version of *It was a Lover and his Lass*. The adjudicator was extremely complimentary of the technical skill of the Choir and said that it was one of the most difficult competitions he had judged. The Chapel Choir were thrilled with second place in their category. The day was a truly memorable occasion for all the performers, and the Music department staff were tremendously proud of all they had achieved.



House Song Competition

Preparatory School pupils performed with their Houses for the highly anticipated House Singing Competition - a fantastic whole school event, which was enjoyed by all. The competition opened with a spectacular performance from Hazeldene House, the winner of the Senior School Inter-House Song Competition, who provided a great incentive to the Prep pupils.

The four Houses all sang superbly and the adjudicator, Mr McKelvey (Director of Music), was impressed by the quality of each performance.

Darby emerged as victors with a wonderful rendition of *Food, Glorious Food* from Oliver, complete with an opening piece starring Mr Clark as Mr Bumble and Teddy Broadhurst as Oliver asking for more food. However, all of our Houses gave Mr McKelvey a very difficult task in deciding the eventual winner. Watt's performance of *The Candy Man* from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Telford's *Be Our Guest* from Beauty and the Beast and Boulton's *Honey, Honey* from Mamma Mia were all confidently sung by staff and pupils, and thoroughly enjoyed by an appreciative audience of parents.



Junior and Senior Concerts

Our Junior and Senior ensembles have grown in size considerably, and this year we held Christmas and Summer Concerts. Our groups have been so committed throughout the year and a huge thank you and congratulations go to Chapel, Prep School, Junior and Years 5-6 Choirs, Senior and Junior Orchestras, Jazz, Brass, Rock, Ukulele, Drumming and Recorder Groups.



Year 3 Strings

Now in its third year, the strings initiative continues to go from strength to strength. Since September 2016, every Year 3 pupil has had the opportunity to learn the violin, viola, cello or double bass in group lessons each week. With their teachers, they have been learning a range of pieces to develop their playing technique and reading skills, practising and preparing for their performances in the Hospitality Suite (November 2016) and The Memorial Chapel (May 2017); both concerts were a huge success and a very proud moment for teachers and parents alike.

A number of our Year 3 pupils will be continuing their instrumental lessons and have joined the Prep Junior String Orchestra. We look forward to continuing their musical journey as they move up through the School.



Informal Concert

Prep musicians treated parents, teachers and friends to variety of performances in an excellent informal concert in March 2017. The occasion gave several performers a valuable opportunity to play to an audience and share their musical talents. Congratulations to all those who took part and a big thank you to the visiting music staff who work so hard to teach and inspire their pupils.



House Music Competition

In the Lent term, the annual Bromsgrove Preparatory School House Music Competition Final was held. As Routh Hall was unavailable at the time owing to the Performing Arts refurbishment project, the event took place in Housman Room, which is a small but perfectly formed venue. Meanwhile, back at the Prep School, pupils were entertained in the Sports Hall to a live video stream of proceedings. The competition truly demonstrated the wealth of talent of Bromsgrove pupils who received valuable feedback from the School's Assistant Director of Music, Richard Knight, who was adjudicator for the afternoon.

Congratulations to Vincent Li (Telford), the overall winner, who showed great musical maturity in his performance of Liszt's Liebestraum.

Category winners:

Woodwind:
Ricky Xu (Boulton) Clarinet
Strings:
Keira Sehdeva (Watt) Violin
Piano:
Izzy Scott (Telford)
Voice:
Lucy Trigg (Darby)
Brass:
Sophia Meadows (Telford) Trumpet
Percussion:
Elyzia Wong (Boulton) Xylophone.

The overall winning House was Telford.

Chapel Choir

I have very much enjoyed training and conducting the Chapel Choir this year. The Memorial Chapel is at the heart of the School's musical life and the choristers are kept busy preparing music for the regular services and festivals held each term. This year, pupils have tackled some varied and challenging works, often singing in three-part harmony, and they are now unphased by having to learn a descant each Wednesday morning just fifteen minutes before the service.

Throughout the year, pupils have developed both vocal and musical skills, with particular attention given to diction, phrasing and the production of a pleasing, clear tone. They have become more confident in their own ability and many are happy and eager to sing solo parts.

The most special time of the year for any Choir is Christmas and the Prep School's Carol Service is a very special occasion. Having spent a great deal of time researching repertoire for this event, I was thrilled when Richard Knight, Bromsgrove's Assistant Director of Music, offered to compose a piece especially for the Prep Chapel Choir.

The result was a work incorporating a lyrical melody, which beautifully conveyed the meaning and the emotion of Sabine Baring-Gould's text. The children worked hard to convey the expressive nature of this piece in a manner worthy of performance. The Choir has since gone on to perform at Cheltenham Festival and experience a 'lighter', secular choice of programme. This performance in a competitive setting was the culmination of nearly a year's hard work and commitment from the children and I was extremely proud of them.

It is an exciting thought that next year we will continue to build on skills acquired and take advantage of the many performance opportunities available. Although we sadly say goodbye to our Year 8s, I hope they will continue to sing in the Senior Chapel Choir and beyond. We also look forward to welcoming our new contingency of Year 6 singers who will be joining us.

M Corrie



The Infant King

Each year, Christmas is always a focus for my composing life. In recent years, I have been very lucky in having a seasonal piece sung by two fine professional chamber choirs, Tenebrae and Ex Cathedra. In 2014 and 2015, I composed pieces for the Senior School Chapel Choir, so it was a welcome change to be asked to write a piece for the Prep School. When I myself was at school, I remember singing Sabine Baring-Gould's poem The Infant King to a traditional Basque tune; it seemed like a good candidate for some new music for our Prep Chapel Choir.

R Knight

Senior Music

This was a year with a difference: due to the renovation of Routh as a concert hall and Cobham as a theatre, performing spaces were hard to find. However, the music still played on wherever we found ourselves. From Old Chapel to Hospitality Suite, Housman Room to St John's Church, the musical opportunities grew to new levels this year for all students.

Choral Music

Our choirs remain a centrepiece of the department's life. The Chapel Choir membership has been at an all-time high this year, singing at all School services throughout the year, and leading those in attendance at the Tea and Carols' event for local residents. A particular highlight is always the Advent Carol Service, where this year the choir tackled some challenging contemporary music by James MacMillan and Arvo Pärt. Pop Choir has sung in concert too, alone and with accompaniment to great acclaim. Our Chamber Choir have been heard further afield too, singing two services of Evensong at Hereford Cathedral and Worcester College, Oxford respectively. The latter service was a joint effort with the undergraduate choir conducted by its director, Thomas Allery, together singing music written in Oxfordshire and Worcestershire – by Matthew Martin, Herbert Murrill, Bernard Rose and the great Edward Elgar – and in grateful thanks for our joint benefactor, Sir Thomas Cookes.

As we continue to remember those who lost their lives in the First World War, one could not help to be moved processing into the Worcester College Chapel in noticing the list of names remembered there who also can be found in our own Memorial Chapel. A memorable occasion.



Music Scholars' Concerts

Two recitals by Music Scholars were given this year, giving a platform for the thirty award holders between Years 7 and Upper Sixth. Many congratulations to each performer for sharing their talents on these evenings; if you weren't there, you missed two good concerts. However, as with all our performances, you can catch up by seeing them on the School's YouTube channel. You can also subscribe so you never miss one again.





String and Brass Concert, St John's Church

The String Orchestra and Brass Group gave a morning Coffee Concert at St John's Church in October to a packed audience, raising much-needed charitable funds and further strengthening the link between School and church. Of course, coffee usually accompanies cake and this was no exception with many of our pupils doing their bit to dig in and enjoy the well-earned post-concert refreshments.



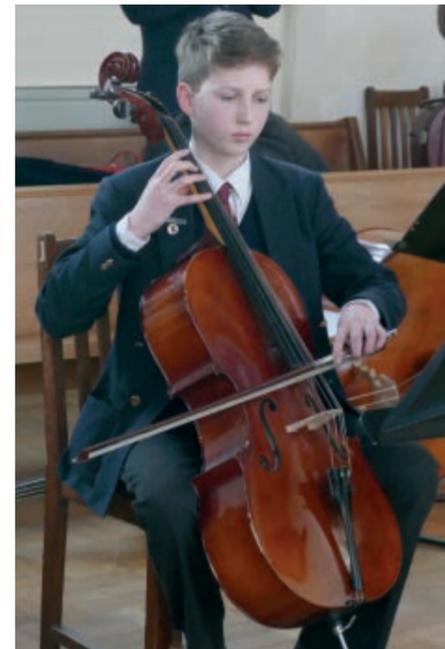
Inter-House Unison Song Competition

The hotly contested annual Inter-House Song Competition had as its theme music with a connection to 'places'. No House dared tackle *Jerusalem* in the end, but yet again there were many rousing and creatively-choreographed songs for all to enjoy. Hazeldene emerged triumphant with *Empire State of Mind* and Oakley in second, whilst Mary Windsor picked up Best Creative Prize and Tom Muir received the accolade of Best Conductor, despite / on account of (delete as applicable) being dressed as a lobster.



Christmas Concert

Collaboration with a difference was the theme of this year's Christmas Concert, taking place in the Arena where the bleacher seating ranks were turned inwards to make something of a stage for the performers, ranging from Year 6 to the Upper Sixth in age. It was fabulous to hear all music groups playing and singing festive repertoire, many taking to the concert platform together joining forces and displaying the very many talents of all our pupils.



String Workshop Day

We enjoyed a first for Bromsgrove: a string chamber music day, where twenty-three of the finest players came together to learn new skills in trios and quartets, coached brilliantly by our specialist team of string-playing professional teachers. The day included musicians from the Prep and Senior Schools, as well as invited players from Winterfold. It concluded with a celebratory concert where each group performed what they had worked on during the day, and including two String Orchestras who had just a few moments of rehearsal time.



Senior House Music Competitions

The House Music Competition made its way back on to the annual cycle of events again, although in a revised format. Fifty-five performers took part in the Ensemble Competition and we enjoyed hearing a smorgasbord of musical delights from vocal ensembles to piano duets, trios to Argentine tango quartets. Congratulations again to Lupton for their in-House Jazz Band and to Josh Osborn-Patel for his win in the evening's Solo Competition. The competition was judged by Richard West, Director of Music at Loughborough Endowed Schools.

Informal Concerts

The Informal Concert series continued this year with five concerts for soloists and smaller chamber groups – these concerts are open to all performers of any age and ability and are a fabulous way to welcome musicians to take to the stage in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The audience, usually numbering forty to fifty people, are treated to an array of musical talents from various styles, cultures and genres, new music and old favourites, and are always appreciative of anyone who steadies their nerves to communicate musically from the concert platform. All performances can be seen on the School's YouTube channel.

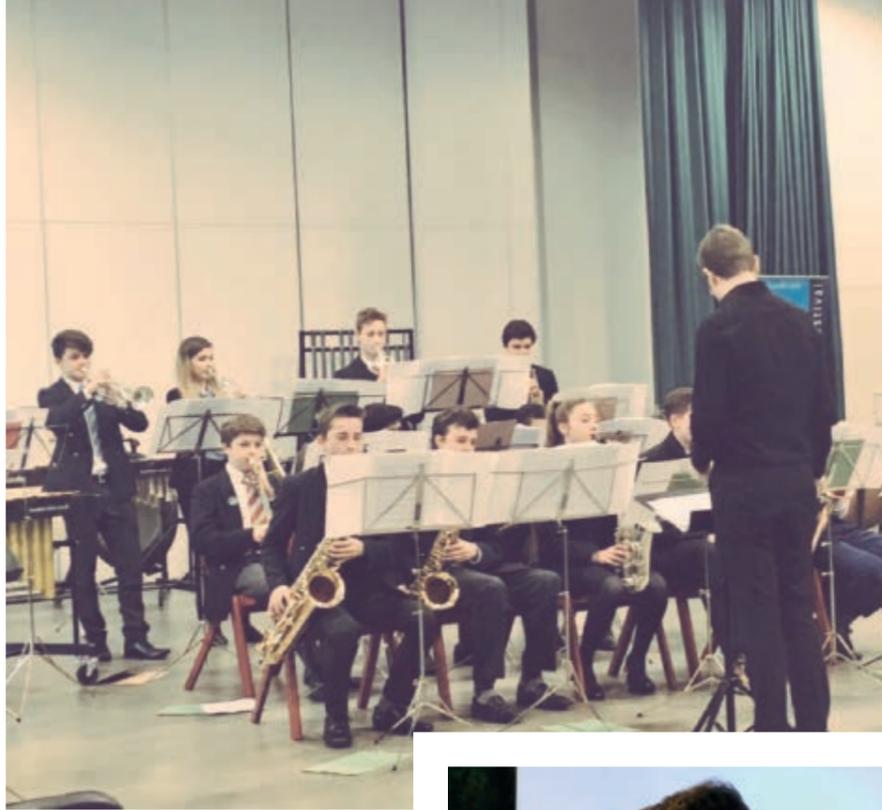


Jazz at Bromsgrove

We have enjoyed two Jazz Gigs this year comprising of a selection of Jazz classics from solos and ensembles, which saw both Prep and Senior School pupils take to the stage. Similar in feel to Pop and Jazz concerts, the audience enjoyed cabaret seating to relax, eat, drink and be merry to the accompaniment of some great live music from our talented musicians.

The concerts featured performances by the Big Band, Saxophone Ensemble, Senior Jazz Combo, Fourth Form Jazz Combo and the Prep Jazz Group as well as a range of solo performances. The second concert had a Motown theme where those ensembles took to the stage once more and were joined by the Oakley Singers, the Sixth Form Consort and Pop Choir.

This year the Big Band travelled to All Saints Academy in Cheltenham to represent the School for the first time in the regionals of the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF). It is the largest and most active festival for wind ensembles in the UK.



The band were exceptional and well supported by many parents, which led to them achieving a Silver Award.

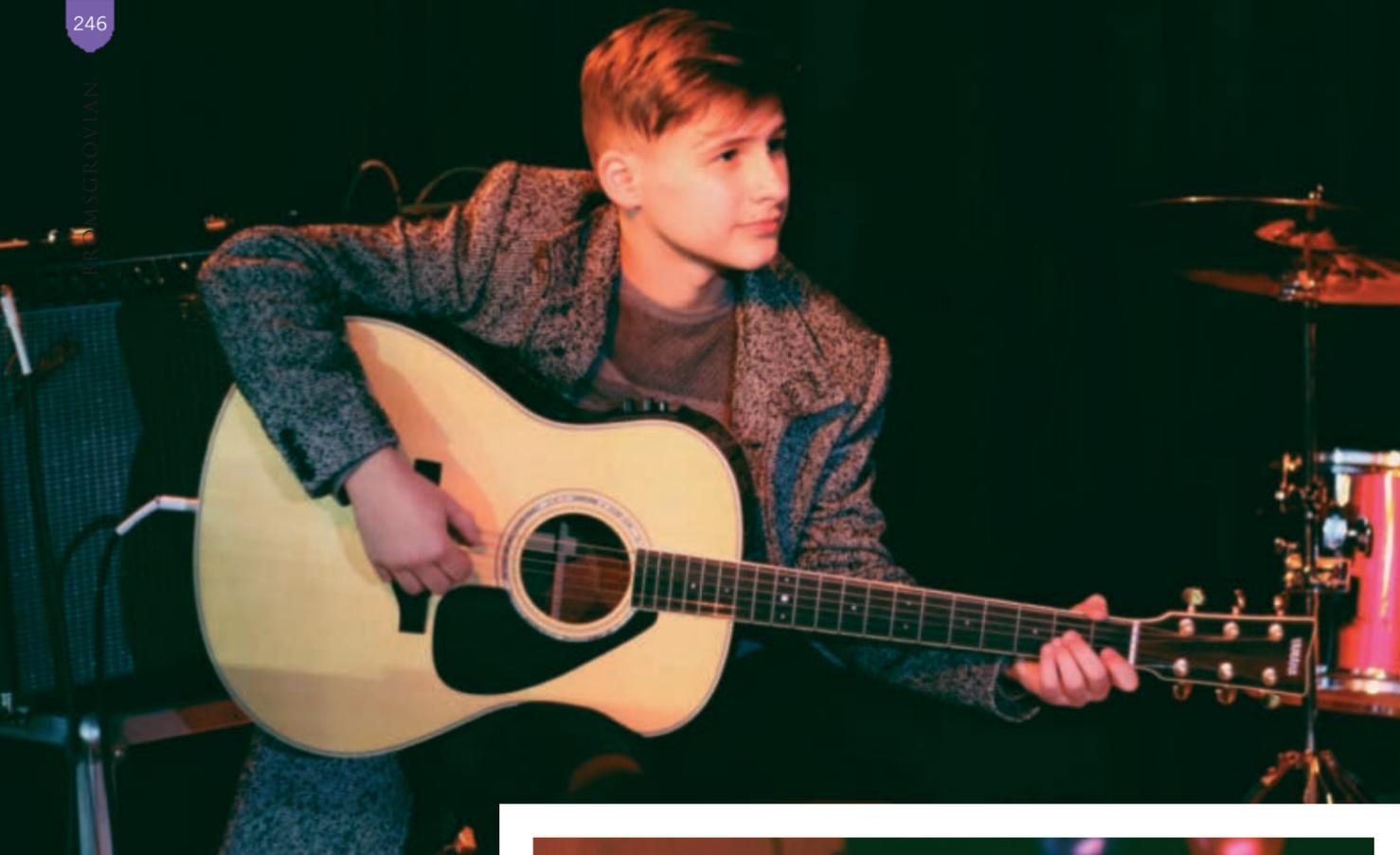
During June, the Big Band debuted at Upton Jazz Festival at 'The Best of Young Jazz' stage. The students were in good spirits and they embraced the atmosphere with the Upton Jazz Festival's 'Instaframes'. A round of applause erupted from the audience with a demand for an encore so the band performed *Play That Funky Music* as their final number. The Big Band look forward to returning to the NCBF and Upton Jazz next year with high hopes.



Leavers' Concert

Twenty-two musicians from the Upper Sixth gave their all in a final performance at the Leavers' Concert in the Hospitality Suite, just one day before study leave. That these fine people afforded the time to entertain a large audience whilst preparing for terminal examinations says something very great about their commitment to the School and to each other. The standard was as good as anyone could remember, and the bar has been set high for next year's troupe, many of whom performed as accompanists or were there in support of their friends.





Cultures Connect Concert

The inaugural Cultures Connect Concert was an outstanding success, showcasing performances from around the globe. The organising committee was entirely pupil led, and they were determined to create a rich display of cultural talent from the student body at Bromsgrove School. Audience members were painted with the flags of their home nation and enjoyed an eclectic mix of Russian rap, Chinese violin, and German festival songs. An emotional Russian poem, read aloud beautifully, proved that understanding a language was not necessary to move an audience.

J Boonak



Individual Successes

Practical and Theory music examinations are internationally recognised qualifications, which can contribute towards university applications and the skills needing for success with Duke of Edinburgh Awards. 133 music exams were taken this year with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, Trinity or Rock School. Of these, eighteen were awarded Distinctions and there were 42 Merits. A record number achieved Grade 8 this year. Jude Wynter wowed the judges at the Bromsgrove International Musicians' Competition's Young Musicians' Platform in February, taking First Prize. Josh Osborn-Patel has enjoyed a year with the Junior Royal Academy of Music and the National Youth Orchestra as horn player. Emily Evans and Maddie Bache have sung with Ex Cathedra's Youth Academy in Birmingham, performing and recording music in the region, and Ben Adamson and George Bingham have appeared in the percussion section of the Orchestra of St John's this year.

Many congratulations to all Bromsgrove musicians – the future is clearly bright for many who continue to impress all with their creativity, energy and passion for their art, and we are certain that the new Routh Concert Hall and Cobham Theatre will provide just the right settings for their music to be heard.

J McKelvey and F McCanlis





Prep Art

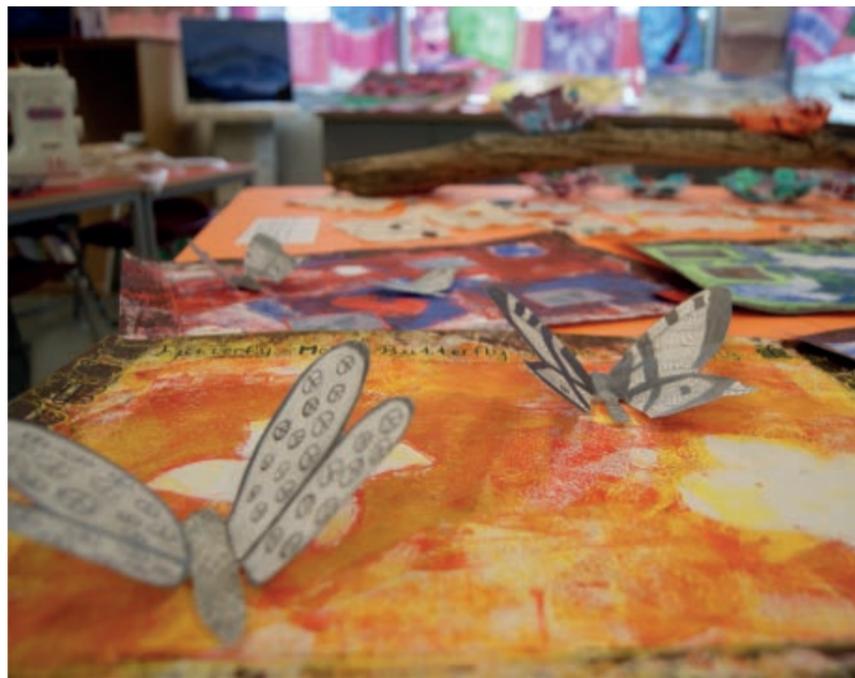
Open Art Exhibition

Pupils from Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 revealed their amazing creative talents to parents and teachers at the Open Art Exhibition during the Summer term.

A variety of beautiful work was on display, ranging from hanging textiles and paintings to sketch book studies, printing and pottery; the imagery revealed a host of the pupils' fantastic abilities. Colours and textures filled the Llanwrtyd Centre art rooms with life and learning.

The art show was a beautiful end to a superb year of art education that celebrates our pupils' dedication and success.



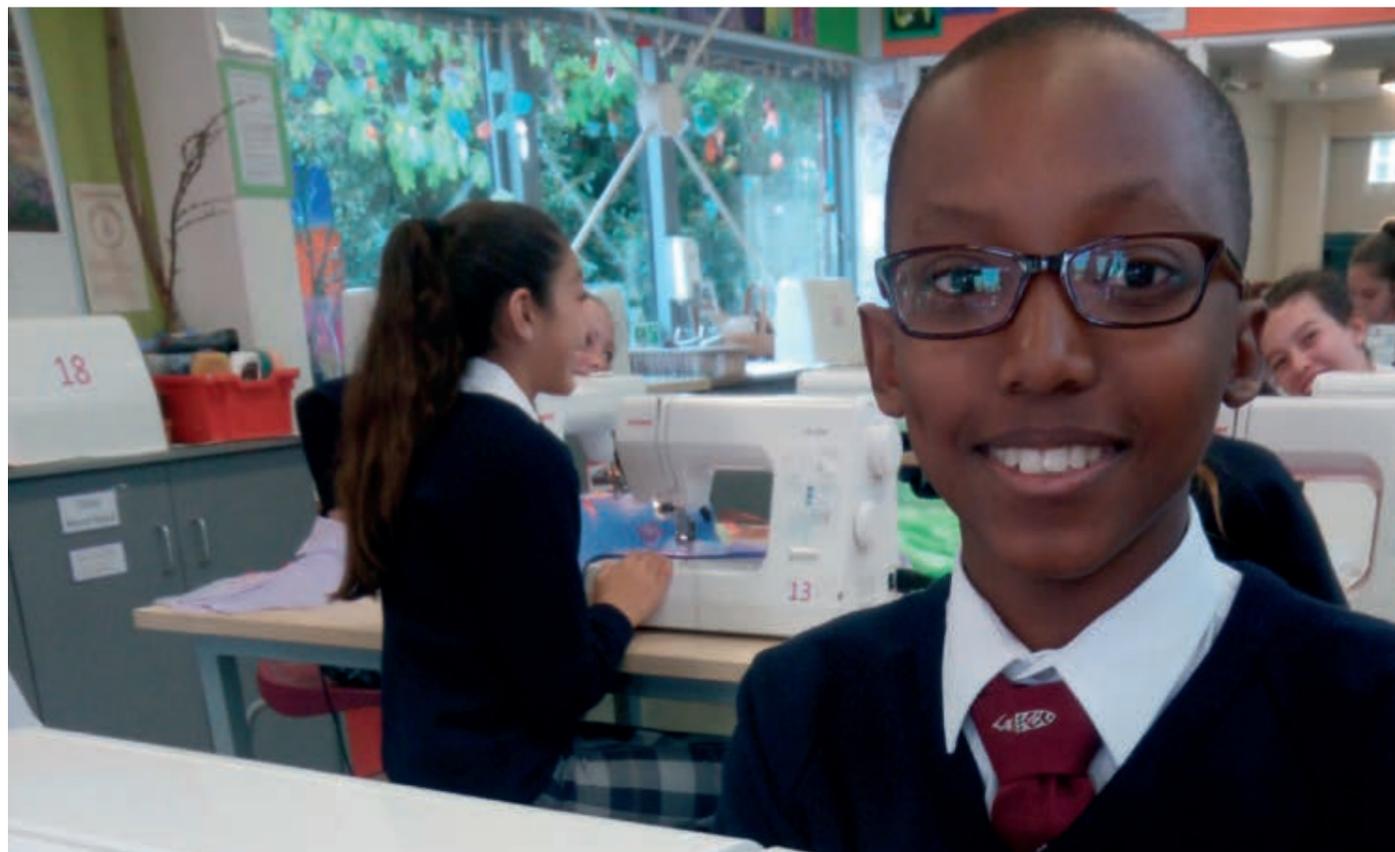




Printmaking

Year 6 were given special printing workshops by the Printmaker, Naomi Greaves.

Class winners received beautifully printed wooden brooches from Naomi's personal collection.



Sewing

Year 7 have been putting the brand new sewing machines to good use, making gorgeous machine embroideries.



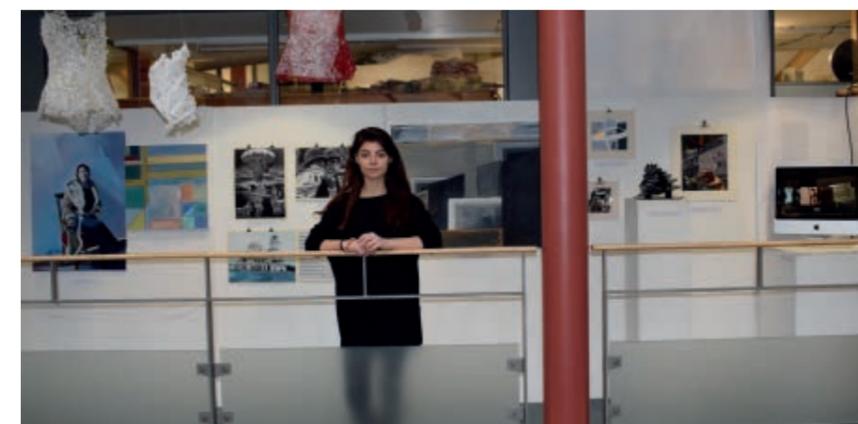


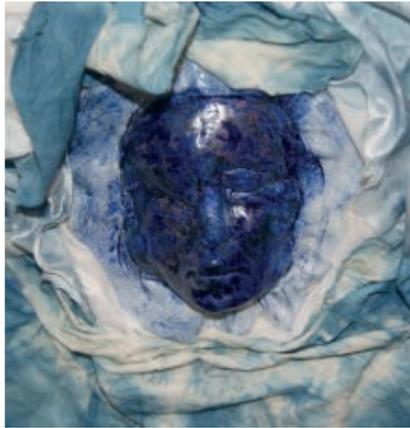
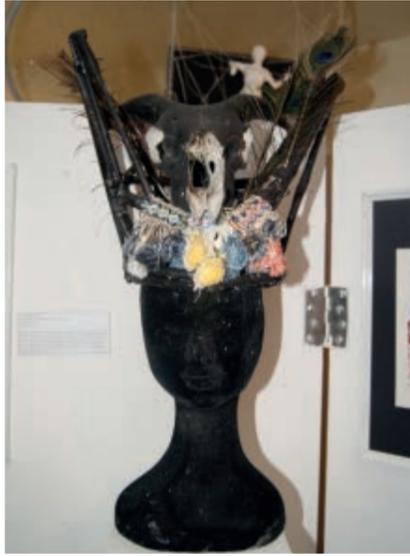
Senior Art IB Art Exhibition

The IB2 Art end of year exhibition is an assessed component of the IB Visual Arts course and the students worked hard to display their work in context with the themes and concepts they have been exploring.

Well done to Hanna Fastrich, Dina Korzdorfer and Hao Nian who have been studying Visual Art at Standard Level and Andreea Mihaescu, Leka Mpigi, Bryony Ralph, Hannah Schieck, Sirinda Songthumjitti, Megan Thompson and Maggie Tsvetanova who have been studying at Higher Level.

S McWilliams





Staff Art Exhibition

The Art Department hosted a spectacular exhibition Private View in September, showcasing the works of our staff across the whole School.

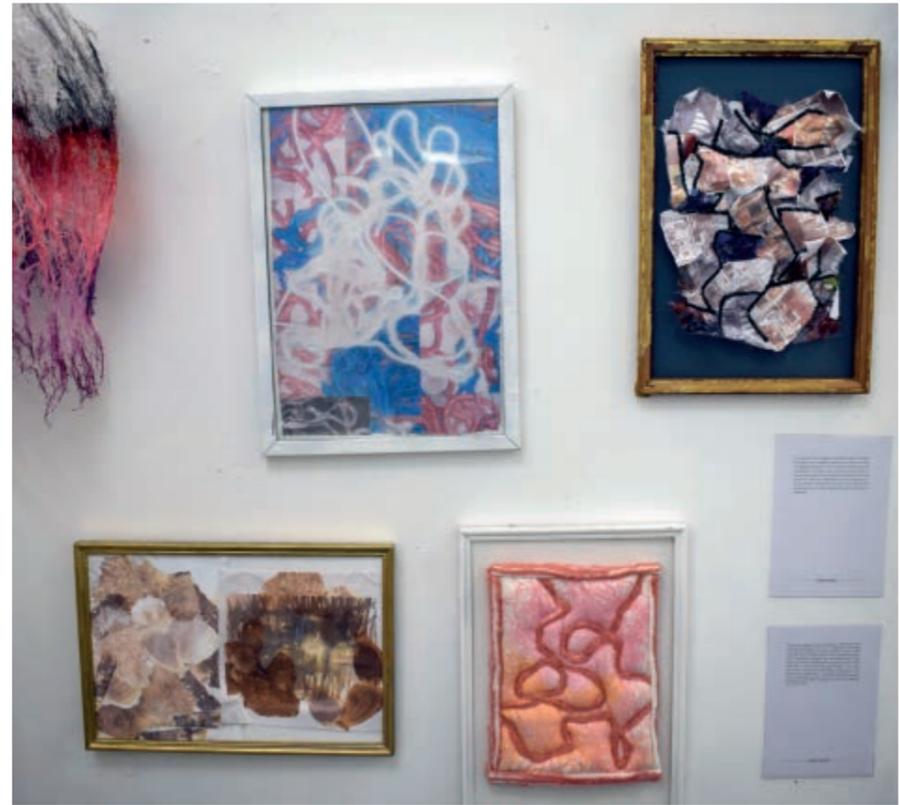
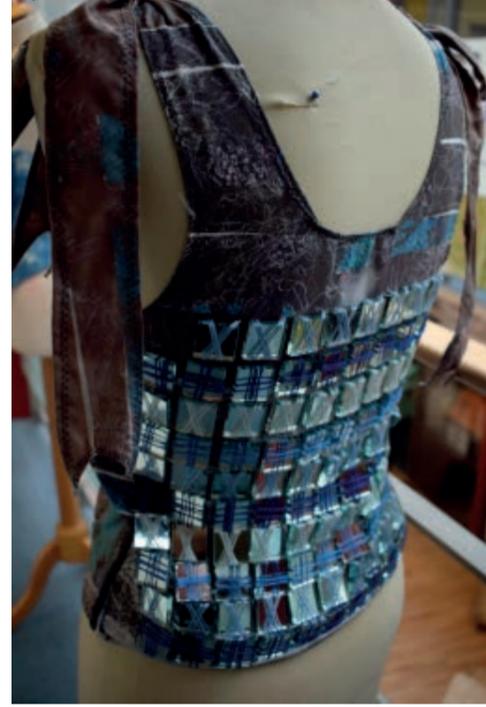
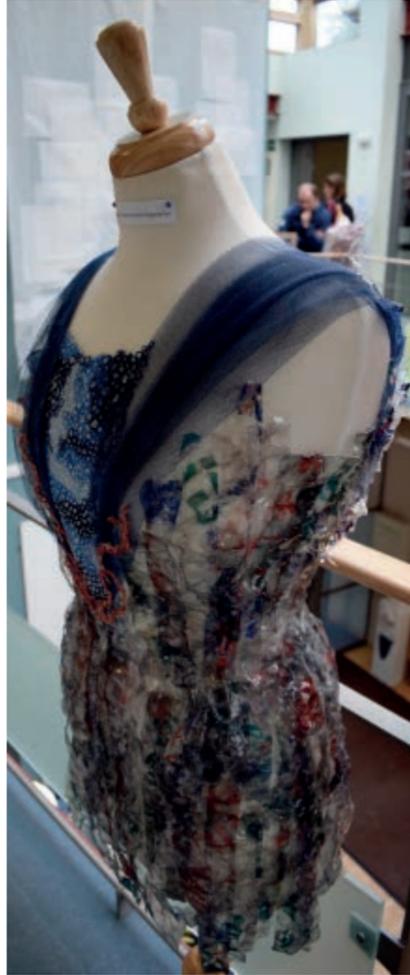
Work varied from textiles and sculpture to glass and conceptual assemblages. One of the surprise stars of the show has to be a beautiful collection of wood turning from the Headmaster.

Next year, it is hoped that more staff will join us in exhibiting, inspired by this year's celebratory presentations.

S Morgans



End of Year Show



Sport

Prep Athletics

This has been an incredibly busy and successful term of athletics, especially for pupils in Years 7 and 8. Our second year of incorporating the hammer event into the boys' programme proved successful and we introduced pole vaulting into the programme. Overall, the level of progress made by so many of our pupils was illustrated when the joint boys' Years 7 and 8 team qualified for the ESAA National Cup Final.

During the County round of the National Cup, Sebastian Purvis ran the fastest time for the 800 metres for a Year 7 boy since 2001, putting him third overall. Our leading boys from Years 7 and 8 were in action in the first round of the ESAA track and field cup, where they scored 406 points - the highest points tally out of nine counties in our region and the sixteenth best in England from five hundred teams.



Individual highlights included sixteen new personal best performances and a new School record in the hammer for Matthew Burke (a lifetime best performance of 31.58metres). Our highest point scorers in two events were Louis Upton 42points, Matthew Burke 41points, Oliver Brown and Alex Collin 37points, Mikhail Strelkov 34points, Teddy Broadhurst 33points, Sebastian Purvis 31 points.

In the ESAA athletics competition at the Ryland Centre against local opposition, the girls accumulated 342 points. On this score, Bromsgrove Prep were through to the Regional Finals where they came fourth and bettered their results total to 362. Only two points separated them from second place on the day, which meant that the girls were extremely close to achieving a place at National finals.

The Prep School junior boys' track and field team achieved something very special by winning the Midland A Final of the National track and Field Cup, and therefore qualified for the National ESAA Cup Final. There were numerous personal best performances, twelve in total. The boys scored 433 points, which ranks them eleventh in the country out of 601 entries.

Year 8 athletes took part in the Year 9 District Championships, with many boys achieving new personal best performances. Alexander Collin (triple jump and 300 metres) gained selection for the District U15 team in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire County Championships. Matthew Burke set a new School record in the hammer with the 4kg weight.



Our athletes took part in the annual Herefordshire and Worcestershire County Track and Field Championships at Nunnery Wood, Worcester. Matthew Burke produced one of the best ever throwing performance by a Prep pupil to win the U15 age group hammer event, with a new lifetime best performance of 31.98 metres. This even broke his own School record by over ten metres. Matthew is ranked number one thrower in the event in the West Midlands region and he went on to create Prep School history by becoming the first ever Prep pupil to have a podium finish at the prestigious Mason Trophy English Schools' Inter Counties competition. Alexander Collin also represented the District and came fifth in the triple jump and tenth in the 300 metres. Many congratulations to both Matthew and Alexander. Three Year 8 girls represented the Bromsgrove and Redditch District athletics team - well done to Lucy McLoughlin in the shot put, Madeleine Chance in hurdles and Natasha Malam in the 800m.



Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 took part in the annual IAPS track and field regional round qualifier at Tilsley Park, Oxfordshire. The standard was very high and our athletes who finished in the top six positions were Rohan Adams (6th, 70 metres hurdles PB), Billy McDonough (1st, 70m Hurdles PB and 3rd, long jump - national finalist), Harry Draper-Barr (1st, discus and 3rd, shot put PB x 2 - national finalist), Louis Upton (2nd, 70m Hurdles and 5th, javelin PB x 2 - national finalist), Sebastian Purvis (3rd, 1500m and high jump), Alexander Ranger (4th, javelin), Joe Morgan (5th - 100m PB) and William Brown (6th, long jump).

The 4x25 metres sprint relay team came second overall with a new School record.

Our Year 8 boys for whom this will be their last IAPS event achieved the following: Oliver Brown (2nd, 75metres hurdles PB - national finalist), Gordon Wong (3rd - 100 metres PB), Alexander Collin (3rd - triple jump), Max Parsons (3rd - shot put), Benjamin Whitby (4th - 200 metres and discus PB x 2), Mikhail Strelkov (5th - 800 metres PB), Sebastian Perry (6th - 800 metres) and Leo Hemberg (6th - 75 metres hurdles). The 4x100 metres sprint relay team came fifth overall.

Amongst the huge number of performances for the girls, our best results included Angelina Sanghera coming 6th in the 200m final, Darcey Pearson jumping 4.30m and Tash Malam 4.45m in long jump (PB) placing them 6th and 4th respectively. Isabelle Oakley threw 19.04m in javelin and came 6th. Isabelle Jones came third in javelin throwing 22.74m (narrowly missing out on a place in the National Finals). Well done to Madeleine Chance who jumped 1.40m in the high jump equalling 1st place and qualifying through to the National Finals. Lucy Trigg also qualified to the finals in triple jump jumping 8.64m. Both girls also finished in the top six in the 75m hurdles event with Lucy achieving a season best of 13.6 secs.

The Prep boys' team achieved a remarkable feat in qualifying for the National ESAA cup final in July, having won the Midland Final. The team came 9th on the day, and individual highlights included Matthew Burke becoming the first Bromsgrove pupil ever to win an individual final in the forty-year history of the competition. Alexander Ranger and Louis Upton both broke the Year 7 javelin record - Alex threw the furthest and we scored more points in the javelin than any other school there. Alex Collin came 5th in the 800 metres.

Five boys from Year 7 were in action at the annual IAPS track and field championships at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham. Louis Upton and Billy McDonough were tipped to shine once more in the 70 metres hurdles, and they did not disappoint. Louis was the fastest qualifier from the heats and Billy the third fastest qualifier. Drawn next to each other in lanes four and five, the boys produced a great race with Louis winning in 11.24 seconds to be crowned National Champion and Billy coming second in 11.48 seconds. Next up was Harry Draper-Barr in the discus, producing a lifetime best performance of 30 metres. The boys were not done there as the Year 7 4 x 100 metres relay team comprising of Billy McDonough, Louis Upton, William Brown and Joseph Morgan ran superbly to come third in the final and win a bronze medal.

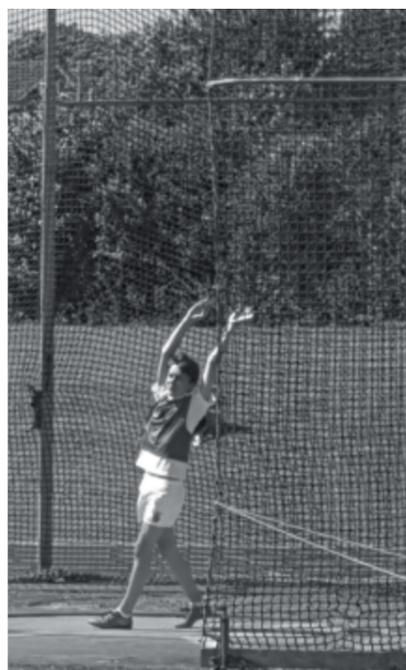
For the girls, Madeleine Chance and Lucy Trigg competed at the same event. Madeleine jumped 1.30m in high jump and Lucy achieved a personal best in triple jump of 9.20m and came 6th place overall.

J Danks and G Jones

Awards

Most Outstanding Athlete:
Alexander Collin and
Natasha Malam (Senior);
Rohan Adams and Ruby Hodges (Junior)

Most Improved Senior Athlete:
Gordon Wong and Lucy Trigg (Senior);
Sophia Mills (Junior)



Senior Athletics

Once again, athletics has continued to improve with a large number of competitors having participated in fixtures throughout a successful term. Kieran Walker and Isabel James were the captains this year.

There have been a huge amount of positive performances throughout the athletics season and all of these are underpinned by the hard work and effort that the pupils have demonstrated during training sessions.

The junior boys' team stood out with their performances by winning most of their events on each Saturday against other Schools. The senior boys also competed positively, with a large number of the team made up of Lower Sixth pupils. Harry Liversidge, Georgy Muradov, Archie Freer, Alex Wong, Harry Pugh, Cameron Baxter and Tristan Bland have all competed brilliantly throughout the year.

Some of the junior and intermediate girls were involved in a multi-events competition where they competed in a range of track and field events, with Hannah Sahota finishing sixth for the junior girls and Tilly Giles finishing fourteenth for the intermediate girls. The girls also competed in the English Schools' track and field cup where they won the first round, but narrowly missed out on qualifying for the National Finals during the Midlands round.



There was more success in the English Schools' Track and Field Cup with the boy's team performing well at the regional round to progress further in the competition. Unfortunately, the boys did not progress to the National Final, narrowly coming second, but the team managed to produce five personal best performances, an outstanding performance by all. There were strong performances for the junior girls of Hannah Sahota, Emily Gittoes and Daisy Clements in the county championships, coming first, second and third respectively in the 75m hurdles, with Daisy also achieving second place in the long jump.

For the intermediate girls, Kitty Luscombe came third in the 300m, and Olivia Corcoran first in the 80m hurdles. For the seniors, Candy Lockett won the hammer and achieved a new championship record for Hereford and Worcester Schools.

Following these impressive performances, Daisy Clements, Emily Gittoes, Hannah Sahota and Orla Walker represented Hereford and Worcester at the Mason Trophy, with Orla Walker crowned regional champion in the 1500m steeplechase. Additionally, senior girls Candy Lockett (hammer) and Abbie Saker (3000m) will be competing in the English Schools' Track and Field Championships, with Candy having attending for her fifth and final

year. Congratulations to the following boys who were chosen to represent Hereford and Worcestershire County at the Mason Trophy: Vasilii Borisov, Jamie Wood, Samuel Roberts, Lewis Harper, Ethan Hart and Ewan Guy. Everyone should be proud of their achievements here.

Overall, this season has been successful for both the boys and girls, and there will undoubtedly be many more strong performances to look forward to next season.

L Mullan and Isabel James

Senior Badminton

This year has proven to be another successful one for the School badminton teams. Both the boys' and girls' teams have had younger players take up the reigns, after a number of senior players left the School last academic year. Everyone has stepped up and performed well throughout the season.

The boys' team improved considerably over the course of the year, even though the results might not always show it. Pupils have applied themselves well in the training sessions and have performed very well on a Saturday. The girls have been successful, winning most of their fixtures against strong opposition. The highlight of the year was their performance against Cheltenham College, with the girls winning a close fixture 6 – 3.

There was more success at junior level. The U14 boys' and girls' team progressed through North Worcestershire to eventually come third in the County round, narrowly missing out on the Regional Final. The U16 boys also managed to qualify for the County tournament, progressing to the final but narrowly losing to a strong opponent. The U16 out shone the other teams by progressing through both the North Worcestershire and County tournaments and qualifying for the Regional Final - the first time that the School has managed to reach this stage. Beth Hambling, Orla Walker, Maria Karicheva and Michelle Mok performed extremely well this season and we thank the captains, Tiffanie Tseng and Dan Kulebyakin, for their efforts this year.

L Mullan



Senior Basketball

The boys' basketball season has been tremendously successful with each team only losing three fixtures all year.

Senior Boys' 1st Team

The 1st team started the season slowly, with a narrow loss to Old Swinford, but managed to improve slowly to win the next three games comfortably. There was a huge amount of hard work put in to training, which the boys found always pays off. This was especially true during the Lent term when the team won all of their seven games. Well done to all of the boys and thank you to Alex Wong for captaining the side this year.

Junior Basketball

The future looks promising for basketball at Bromsgrove as both the U15 and U14 teams have been very successful. The U15 team won all of their games this year, scoring 377 points and only conceding 111. There are many players who have already made the step up to represent the 1st team, including Edward Aston, Marky Prakaisriroj, Sam Duan and Figo Man. Hopefully more of the team can replicate this form next year.

The U14 team did not lose a game outside of the County tournament. The boys regularly attended training and progressed brilliantly throughout the season. The team were very close to progressing into the National knockout stages but unfortunately came second due to points difference.

L Mullan

Prep Boys' Cricket U13A

The 2016/17 Prep cricket season a complete contrast to last year, with only one Wednesday being claimed by the weather. Because of this, ninety-six games were played as a whole, with the highlights being both U12 and U13 teams winning the County finals and the U11s coming runners up in the RGS The Grange six-a-side. The U13A team made it two years in a row in reaching the Midlands' Final of the Banbury Cup, narrowly losing to Solihull. Special mentions must go to Freddie Fallows, Matthew Hill, Samuel Hibbert-May, Archie Greaves-Hall, Elliot Evans, Jack Warner, Oliver Holden, Thomas Ashton, James Battelley, Joseph Whitlock and Kaashif Ali Baig, who have all represented their respected age groups and the year above. This year we have run nineteen teams with more than 120 fixtures involving over 200 boys. Well done to all involved and a special mention to all staff that have helped over the term, allowing pupils to develop and experience cricket.

This has been a good year for the U13A team, with excellent performances against John Masefield School and Prestfelde Prep School. Overall, the team have made excellent progress over the winter and throughout the season, with a number of individuals showing signs of having the potential to be outstanding young cricketers. Despite the season not finishing in the way everyone would have hoped after narrowly losing to Solihull, the boys should be proud of their achievements and I hope that they continue to enjoy their cricket whilst at the Senior School. Stand out performances have been Freddie Fallows 5-9 and averaging thirty-three with the bat, Elliot Willets scoring over 350 runs averaging thirty-two and Matthew Hill 3-20 bowling and averaging thirty with the bat. Special mention must also go to Samuel Hibbert-May with his pace bowling and hard hitting.



U13A Results

Abberley Hall – Lost by 53 runs
 Old Swinford Hospital – Won by 130 runs
 Dean Close – Won by 1 run
 Cheltenham College – Lost by 7 wickets
 Moor Park – won by 162 runs
 St Anselm's - Draw
 John Masefield – Won by 9 wickets
 The Downs Malvern- Cancelled
 Prestfelde – Won by 37 runs
 King Edward VI Five Ways - Cancelled
 Bredon Hill – Won by 7 wickets
 Monmouth – won by 21 runs
 Hanley Castle – Won by 153 runs
 Solihull – Lost by 36 runs
 Foremarke Hall – Won by 23 runs
 RGS Worcester - Tied

U11A

The U11A team had a reasonable season and showed much improvement throughout the year, culminating in a fantastic seven-wicket victory against rivals Warwick School. Other notable performances were comfortable wins against RGS Worcester and Fairfield Prep, and a dominant winning draw versus touring team St. Anselms, Backwell. At the start of the season we just lost out to both Abberley Hall and Dean Close in close competitive games which could easily have gone either way.

Also early in the season in the County eight-a-side tournament, the U11As disappointingly did not win a game, but a much-improved performance towards the end of the year in the RGS Worcester six-a-side competition meant that they qualified for the final but lost to a strong Blakely side. The Captain, Oliver Holden, was far above the rest often retiring on fifty runs and bowling at a great pace for that age – he also represented Worcestershire as a competent all-rounder.

K Perry-Evans and C Munn

Cricket Awards

Best Senior Batsman
 (Paul Greetham Cup): Matthew Hill
 Best Senior bowler: Freddie Fallows
 Best Senior Fielder: Toby Hill
 Best Junior Batsman: Oliver Holden
 Best Junior Bowler: Millun Gill
 Best Junior Fielder: Robbie Bayliss

Senior Boys' Cricket

The 1st XI enjoyed a generally successful year, using a combination of hard cricket paired with a special team bond. The season started well with wins in all of our first five games. The first Saturday fixture saw us beat Clifton away in a two-wicket thriller. Having bowled well to restrict Clifton to an under par score, things were looking bleak after losing three early wickets. However, the middle order rallied before another collapse saw us staring at defeat. Special mention has to go to Jordan Smith, who saw us over the line to an unbeaten twenty-two, putting on a partnership of forty with George Marshall for the ninth wicket.

A mid week T20 followed, where Fahd Janjua scored a magnificent unbeaten hundred to help the team secure a large margin of victory. However, perhaps the highlight of the season was the seventeen-run win over a very strong Millfield School side. After winning the toss and electing to bat, we found ourselves 15-2 due to some very good bowling. However, Jacques Banton and George Hatfield began to build a game changing partnership, seeing them score 98* and 49 respectively. Having climbed up to 212 on a tricky wicket, our bowlers set to work, backed up by some outstanding fielding we managed to bowl out Millfield seventeen runs short. George Marshall ended with figures of 3-33 backed up by Jujar Johal's figures of 3-26.

Unfortunately, our winning run came to end against an impressive Magdalen College side. Having been bowled out cheaply in the first innings, we did not have a lot to bowl at, and ended up on the losing side. Following this, we encountered a disappointing loss to local rivals Malvern, which saw us knocked out of the Chesterton Cup, a competition in which we had enjoyed success in previous years. We bowled exceptionally well to restrict a Malvern side boosting many academy players, to 189. We ended up twenty-five runs short in end.



We enjoyed a mixed end to the season as our much-anticipated game against Shrewsbury fell victim to the rain; however, we put in strong performances to beat both Monmouth and Solihull on consecutive Saturdays. Our last match ended in defeat to Stowe, yet the boys can hold their heads high.

Overall, to win eleven out of fourteen games has been a remarkable effort, and has contributed to making our season a very enjoyable one. The side will lose six players from the Upper Sixth this year, which marks somewhat the end of an era. Looking ahead to next year, we know that the 1st XI will be left in more than capable hands. There is a lot of talent emerging from the younger year groups, which I am confident, will take the side to another level in the seasons to come. Whilst our performances on the pitch were the most important part of the season, it has to be said that the boy's commitment and camaraderie this year is what stands out.

A special mention must go to the junior teams for their performances this term. The Year 9 and Year 10 boys have enjoyed many victories, with standout wins for the U14C and U15C v Stowe. The U14A and U15A were both crowned County Champions, beating strong Malvern teams. The U14 win means that they qualify for the ESCA National U15s tournament next year. In addition, the U13A and U12A took part in their respective County Finals.

I would like to thank Mr Fallows and Mr Tongue for guiding the side through the winter training schedule and the tough and tireless season. I would also like to thank Mr Riley for his support on match days, along with the Head Groundsman, Richard Hare, and his team for preparing the ground each week for us to train and play.

James Kinder
(1st XI Captain)

Senior Girls' Cricket

Girls' cricket has gone from strength to strength this year, with the addition of the U17 team. The season started with a fine display of talent and a win over Rugby School. Bromsgrove set a target of 96/2 off 15 overs and a fine display of bowling and fielding meant they bowled Rugby out for 50. Captain Maisie Hucker took three pivotal wickets, closely followed by Emily Clark and Tilly Giles with two each.

Next up, the girls welcomed Leicester Grammar School for a first round National Cup match. After a slow start with the bat, loss of some early wickets and some outstanding bowling from our opposition, Bromsgrove posted a target of 77/9. This was swiftly knocked off by some excellent batting performances from the opposition.

One of our most fearless games was against a very strong and composed Shrewsbury School side; although they knew the odds were against them, the girls put on a strong bowling and fielding attack, which showed stability and control, and, as a result, it was not the one-sided game they thought it would be. Following this, the girls bounced back, continuing to improve the quality of play throughout each game. The season's experiences were a learning opportunity enabling the team to focus on improving their batting cohesion and bowling accuracy.

In the final game of the season, a nail biting match against Rugby School ensued. Elouise Brookes opened the innings and despite a few early wickets, she top scored with 23 off 24 balls. Scarlett Bond steadied the innings and utilised her defensive skills she has acquired this season to help Bromsgrove post a reserved 85/5 off 15 overs. The girls knew it would require accuracy and control within the field to win. Outstanding bowling performances from Martha Edge, Phoebe Fletcher and Maisie Hucker saw the girls bowl Rugby out with four runs required off the final over.

Every member of this team has showed outstanding spirit and they never let their heads drop after a defeat; instead, it just encouraged them to work even harder in the following games. Both teams this year have been a great example of respect, endeavour and great enthusiasm, qualities that have not only enabled this season to be successful but also enjoyable for every member of the team.

E Buckingham



Senior Cross-Country

With two terms of training and racing last winter, there is plenty of running to report on this year. Bromsgrove School cross-country traditionally takes place during the Easter Term. However, over the last few years, training has been rolled out into the Michaelmas term to help better prepare our runners, and this academic year saw the introduction of new fixtures. Team Captains, Oliver Rogers and Isabelle James, have been committed runners and members of the team throughout their time here, and did a terrific job in helping to organise and motivate the teams. Two friendly competitions with both Shrewsbury and Wellingborough were organised early in the season, one at Bromsgrove and one at Wellingborough, and these provided good race practice after some obvious sedentary summer holidays. A new event for Bromsgrove runners, and our first official competition of the season, was the Sutton Park Pairs race. Pairs of runners are entered, set off on the four mile course at the same time but in opposite directions - a psychological twist to usually being able to see your rivals. The next new event was at Cannon Hill Park, running against many of the Birmingham schools; both the boys' and girls' teams won and Abigail Saker was the first girl home.

During the Lent term, the focus of competition was on the East Midlands Independent Schools Cross Country League (EMISCCL), with races this year at Rugby, Wellingborough, Welbeck, Oundle, Worksop, Uppingham and Stamford, with the best three results to score for individual and team medals. Struggling for depth in our U18 boys, there were no medals, but Kieran Walker ran consistently well always finishing in the top ten. In the U18 girls, Abigail Saker finished first in the two races she competed in; Isabelle James won individual gold, and Orla Walker gained individual bronze, despite running against girls three years her senior.

The best results came from the U16 boys, with Charles Sapwell taking individual gold, Laurin Scherer individual silver, and some real commitment and determination throughout the squad to get team bronze; an impressive collection of medals. Included in the race at Oundle was the annual stand-alone Midland and North Independent Schools' Cross Country (MANISCC) competition, where Isabelle James and Orla Walker attained gold and bronze medals respectively.

An exciting highlight of the season is attending the highly competitive and long-standing King Henry VIII Relays, where teams of six boys and four girls run a fast 2.3-mile loop around Coventry's Memorial Park. Many of the best runners in the Country compete here; our boys' team did well to hold their own, finishing just over half way down the field. A talented and optimistic girls' team of Abigail Saker, Orla Walker, Lena Siller and Isabelle James hoped to improve on last year's position of fourteenth. They achieved a Bromsgrove best of third overall, with Isabella James and Abigail Saker coming in fifth and sixth fastest laps respectively, and winning the most improved team award.

To end the season, the scenic Attingham Park Spring Relays took place. The boys' team of Hugo Battie, Charles Sapwell, Laurin Scherer, Osman Khashiev, Oliver Rogers and Matthew Collins finished second overall, and the unstoppable girls' team of Isabella James, Abigail Saker, Orla Walker and Shona Mills finished first. There have been some great results this year, and I am still hugely impressed by, and grateful for, the efforts made by every member of the cross-country squad. There have been some brave personal battles over cold, wet and muddy courses, from those at the front to those at the rear of the field. Most improved runner this year went to Benjamin Payne.

M Giles



Prep Cross-Country

Bromsgrove Preparatory School hosted the first round of the U13 ESAA National Cross Country Cup around our Senior School grounds. The Prep boys ran very well against six other schools and finished in fourth position overall. Individually our runners finished in the following positions: Sebastian Purvis 3rd, Alexander Collin 10th, Leo Mellor 23rd, Billy McDonough 28th, George Lamb 29th, Louis Upton 30th. Unfortunately, the boys did not qualify for the Midland Final at Warrington.

At the beginning of December, Year 8 took part in the annual District Championships. On a pleasant but cold afternoon, the boys all ran very well with Daniel Goodwin, Leo Mellor Stuart Shannon and Charlie Bridgewater all selected to represent the district at the Herefordshire and Worcestershire County Championships.



Our leading U11 and U13 runners took part in the 25th annual National Preparatory Schools' Cross Country Championships at Malvern College. The course is very demanding and the runners should be congratulated on their results here, with Sebastian Purvis (50th place) coming home as the first Bromsgrove boy.

A record number of teams took part, with the U11 boys coming in 54th place and the U13 boys 25th. Many thanks as ever to Mr Skipp for training our pupils throughout the year.

G Jones

Cross Country Awards

Most Outstanding Runner:
Sebastian Purvis
Most Improved Runner:
William Hobbs



Senior Equestrian

This year, Bromsgrove re-introduced an equestrian team. The group kicked off the year by competing in the National Schools' Equestrian Association show-jumping competition. We had one individual, Isabella Walters in the 80cm, one team in the 90cm made up of Chloe Derbyshire, Emily Gieron and Shawni McColgan and two individuals riding in the 1 metre, Chloe Derbyshire and Emily Gieron. Overall, Bromsgrove came home with two sixth places. This was a great experience for all riders.

Two Sixth Form pupils, Kate Alley and Olivia Turner, competed in the NSEA one day event representing Bromsgrove, with Kate finishing sixth place on a double clear and Olivia finishing eleventh with a clear cross-country. Olivia also competed for the School at the arena eventing and finished in fourth place.

Before May half term, three of our team riders, Evie Derbyshire, Isabella Walters and Chloe Derbyshire, went to Princethorpe College to take part in the NSEA two day event. This involved competitors completing dressage, show jumping, tracks and roads, steeplechase and cross-country. We all thoroughly enjoyed the event. Isabella Walters achieved a double clear, over a tough cross-country course to finish twelfth, an amazing achievement.

We would like to thank Mrs Buckingham, our team manager, for the support she has given us throughout our first year. We are especially grateful for all of the new kit provided to ensure that the team looked smart when representing the School. Next year we will continue to improve as a team and have hopes of qualifying for the Schools' National Championships in October 2018.

Chloe Derbyshire



Senior Fencing

It has been an excellent year for fencing at Bromsgrove School, with a number of experienced fencers joining the club - James Alma coming up from the Prep School, Sam Sung joining at the start of the year, and Atticus Chen and Elsa Tsia competing alongside us later in the term. Many of our fencers took part in competitions during 2016/17, ranging from local friendly events such as the team event at RGS in Worcester, the Individual Foil and Epee events at KES Birmingham, and the Epee age groups at Warwick School, through to county and regional events and even National Championships. Highlights included Jianfeng Guo finishing second in the West Midlands Senior Sabre Championships, Sam Sung winning the County U14 Foil Championships, James Alma and Elsa Tsia both getting third at the King Edwards School event and Elsa Morikova, Mark Cheng and Elsa Tsia achieving third place at the Warwick Age Group Epee.



A squad of five pupils - Mark Cheng, Tatiana Mirikova, Atticus Chen, Sam Sung and Elsa Tsia - competed in the Public Schools Championships in London. Whilst all five secured victories at both Foil and Epee, the stand out results were Sam finishing seventeenth out of 105 in the boys' Mount-Haes Foil and Elsa finishing eighteenth in both the girls' Mount-Haes Foil and the Epee events.



At the West Midlands Age Group event, Mark Cheng finished third in the U18 Epee. Elsa Tsia and Tatiana Mirikova both achieved third place in the girls' Foil (U14 and U16 respectively). However, Sam Sung was in dominant form and won the U14 boys' Foil without losing a single fight. Because of their successes, all the pupils qualified for the British Youth Championships National Finals in Sheffield, from which the stand out result was Sam finishing 20th.

Overall, it has been a competitive and successful year for fencing at Bromsgrove. Long may it continue.

N Chapman



Senior Football

Assessing the 1st XI results, it would be too easy to conclude that it was a season of two halves. However, from the squad trials to the last fixture of the season, this tight group played an expansive and committed brand of football, in large part due to the excellence of the leading players. A core of players had matured from Lower Sixth to form the bedrock of the progressive 3-5-2 formation. The team were the epitome of captain, James Kinder - attack minded but with a ruthless feisty edge, playing hard to win each game. Ryan Tsui, Ben Herridge, Dan Bentley and Charlie Marshall would physically dominate opponents in midfield, allowing the pace of newcomers, Freddie Edge and Joe Downes, to complement the experience of Oliver Price up front.

Including a pre-season win over Bristol Grammar School (4-0), the 1st team had only conceded one goal by half term. This was against a highly talented Spading Grammar School team in the semi-final of the LB Regional Cup.

James Kinder, plus fellow defenders Jack Wu and Sam Fitzmaurice, pressured opposition relentlessly, whilst the talent of James Cox was able to shine as the playmaker. Notable away victories were attained at St Edwards and Princethorpe, with a goal difference of plus ten. Often goalkeeper Ko Sakuma, enjoying his third season with the 1st XI, was relegated to spectator status.

Twenty-seven players would regularly train on Thursdays under the guidance of Mr Brighton, thereby creating a pool of talent which ensured the 2nd XI were highly competitive, as well as providing competition for places. Even during training games, there would be an element of bite in the tackle; players used to winning ensured that standards did not drop. Due to the training regime, the progression of player development should be enhanced next year with the expectation that Nathan Boothroyd, Vlad Bondarenko and Richie Chang will cement their starting places, having each made appearances during the season.

Whilst Nathan Buckley and George Hatfield will hopefully replicate their combative 2nd XI performances.

Beyond the seniors, a special mention must go to Mr Wilkins' U15A squad: having fielded a much-weakened team in the first fixture and losing, they went the remainder of the season undefeated. Each victory with a minimum three-goal difference; definitely a group to watch for the future.

All Bromsgrove footballers owe a debt of gratitude to the tireless enthusiasm, encouragement and commitment of their coaches, as an outlet for their talents, often with limited space to practice. In particular, Mr Brighton (1st XI coach) ensured that Bromsgrove football was played in the right spirit but with a competitive edge. My thanks to all.

S Matthews



Prep Golf

The Preparatory School Golf Team comprising of James Humphries, Toby Hill and Megan Langford competed in the National IAPS Championships at the Hill Valley Golf Club in Shropshire during the Summer term.

The team performed very well indeed and can be proud of how they played, finishing, as a team, in the top 10. Special congratulations to Megan who played brilliantly and came 3rd overall in the girls' category with a fantastic score of 42 points.

D Pover



Senior Golf

Over the year, the team played thirteen fixtures, two practice days and competed for the School Championship. Bromsgrove professional Robert Laing continued as our coach and his advice has been invaluable. In fixtures versus other schools, we won nine and drew one amounting to a successful season.

Our annual encounter with the Old Bromsgrovians led to a comfortable 3-1 victory. The School team retained the trophy with fine wins for Lawrence Hill and Alex Cox, Nick Sfrantzis and Joe Bellamy, and Richard Vaughan and Jack Hill. Lawrence made a gracious speech in reply to the Captain, Anthony Webb, who spoke in admiration of the fine representatives of today's School.

The HMC Foursomes saw us make excellent progress to the Midlands Final with wins against Uppingham, Rugby and Oakham Schools. However, Warwick School proved too strong and we narrowly missed out on the trophy. In the ISGA cup, a first round bye and then wins against Malvern College and Monmouth meant we won our area and qualified for the National Finals. The team of Lawrence Hill, Tommy Robinson and Alex Cox felt privileged to play two rounds on the Open Championships' course of Prince's and Royal St. George's in Kent. It was a tremendous experience, and a placing of 15th out of twenty was a worthy result against the strongest golfing schools in the country.

Golfers had success outside of School too: Charlotte Campbell won the Bromsgrove Ladies Open competition and she will be next year's captain.

On the hottest day of the year at Redditch Golf Club, twelve pupils competed in the School Golf Championship. After nine holes, Tommy had a four shot lead over Charlotte Campbell and Richard Vaughan, with Lawrence and Alex another shot behind. Furthermore, last year's winner, Evan Lewis, was a further shot back. However, by the 15th, Lawrence had levelled the scores. Tommy kept his nerve to birdie the next finally winning by two shots with a score of five over. Golf is continuing to go from strength to strength and we look forward to what the 2017/18 season holds for us.

N Riley

Prep Hockey

Boys' Hockey Season

It has been another busy term of boys' hockey at Bromsgrove Preparatory School, with 171 fixtures in ten hectic weeks. All boys from Years 5 to Year 8 have relished the opportunity to represent the School, travelling far and wide to test out their skills against some of the best hockey schools in the country. Matches were played against schools such as Dean Close, Foremarke Hall, Cheltenham College and Solihull. The U13A team started the season in emphatic fashion winning the 11-a-side Dean Close Padfield Tournament for the first time in our history and then days later followed this up by becoming runners-up at the Foremarke Hall Tournament, where we maintained our phenomenal record of having played in every final for last seven years.

The six Year 7 teams had a seventy-five percent winning percentage while the U13B, U11B, U11C and U11D teams all had great seasons. We fielded teams at U13E, U12E and U12F for the very first time too. More boys than ever have made 1,800 appearances for the School, which on average is 180 appearances a week.



Boys' U11A

The U11s had a tough start to the season losing 10-1 to Dean Close. Thereafter, the boys started to develop and understand a new playing tactic, which proved worthwhile in the following fixtures. The boys recorded their first every hockey win as a team beating Winchester House 6-1. They carried on improving throughout the season and were in good form at the Rugby School Tournament, winning two, drawing one and losing three. They finished fourth overall.

The IAPS South West qualifying round for the National Finals was the biggest event for the boys this season. They managed to make it through the preliminary tournament and qualify for the main cup competition. Unfortunately, the team failed to qualify into the IAPS National Finals, finishing ninth place out of thirty-two teams. A special mention must go to Robbie Bayliss and Rohan Adams who both received the most valuable player award during the IAPS tournament.

As the U11A season ended, the boys had to replay Dean Close, who were National runners up two days previously, so a daunting task lie ahead. The improvement made was highlighted through the result where the team only lost 5-0, compared to 10-1 at the start of the season. The boys played twenty-six games and won six, drew six and lost fourteen. Overall, there has been a huge improvement in the boys' hockey. They should be proud of how much they developed this season.

J Harris

Awards

Most Improved Player:
Kian Lau (U13A) and
Henry Goldstraw (U11A)
Most Valuable Player:
Stuart Shannon (U13A) and
Robbie Bayliss (U11A)

Boys' U13A

The U13A season started with a bang, with the team playing some fantastic hockey to win the Dean Close Invitational Hockey Tournament. The U13As entered in two-cup competitions, the IAPS and ISHC. They qualified for the IAPS National Finals day at Millfield School after coming third at the North and Midlands qualifier at Repton School. At the IAPS National Finals, the team won the Plate competition to achieve a ninth place ranking overall in the country. In the ISHC, they progressed through to the quarter-final stage after beating KES Birmingham and a very good Bristol Grammar side, but were knocked out by Calday Grange in last eight when a win would have secured a place at the Olympic Park pitch in London. Regular matches produced wins versus Solihull, The Dragon and Bilton Grange whilst drawing versus Foremarke Hall. Toby Hill, Stuart Shannon, Elliot Willetts, Maxim Edger and Charlie Bridgewater all represented the U14A team at the Midland Finals. Maxim scored forty-two of the teams ninety-eight goals and was backed up by Elliott Willetts with eighteen goals.

It will be exciting to see how far the team can take their hockey as they progress through the Senior School. I would like to wish the boys every success going forward.

G Jones



Girls' Hockey Season Senior Teams

Our U13As had a mixed year in terms of Inter-School fixtures, but nevertheless qualified through to the quarter-finals of the National Schools' Cup competition, placing them in the top eight schools in the country. This team were also crowned County Champions 2017.

At the IAPS competition, the girls played some great hockey to win through to the quarter-finals, where they faced Swanbourne House School. This was an exciting game where the result could have gone either way and many goals were scored at both ends of the pitch. The final score of 4 -3 sadly went Swanbourne House's way, and therefore the girls narrowly missed out on a place at the National Finals.

The U13B team have had a good season winning five out of their ten friendly fixtures. In addition, the girls played in three different tournaments, facing many strong A teams in the process. The U13C team have had a very successful hockey season this year, winning six out of their ten games, drawing one and losing only two. They have worked extremely hard with some outstanding play in their matches. The U13D team have shown great enthusiasm and determination to improve and win. Their skills and confidence have come on leaps and bounds since September and this reflected in their improved results as the season progressed.



Throughout the season, the U12A team have gone from strength to strength and the girls have improved dramatically in several areas. Their attacking strategies have become more assertive, they are now using width more confidently and short corners to their advantage. The highlight of the season was qualifying through to the regional mini hockey competition at Cannock Hockey Club, where they finished sixth out of twelve schools in the Midlands. The U12B hockey squad have all grown as individual players. They played ten matches, of which they won three. Despite this, the teams were evenly matched and their attitudes towards hockey have been positive, showing many qualities of a good sportswoman. The U12C team had a season of highs and lows, playing ten matches - winning three, drawing three and losing four. Teamwork was a key asset and the team showed great resilience in the face of strong opposition. The U12D team skills have certainly improved through their hard work and determination. From the five matches played, they won one, drew one and lost three. However, this did not dampen their spirits or enthusiasm for hockey. During matches and training, they listened to guidance for improvement and worked hard to achieve this. When attending away fixtures, they have been a credit to themselves and the School; behaving with dignity and respect at all times.



Junior Teams

The U11A team have had a frustrating season with things not quite coming together until the very end where they qualified for the regional mini hockey competition. We look forward to seeing this team's potential next year. The U11B, C and D teams have been enthusiastic and have made significant progress over the term. The best part of the season has been the tremendous team spirit and continued hard work from all girls. They have listened carefully to advice and this has enabled them to become a very competitive team this year.

The girls have shown passion, determination and amazing team spirit. The U10B team won three out of seven games, often convincingly. The girls displayed constant effort and commitment throughout the season in both squads and games, which translated into successful outcomes and some very satisfying wins. The U10C and D girls have developed an excellent foundation of core skills from which to build in their future hockey games next year.

J Danks

Awards

Most Valuable Player:
Bethany Lawson (Senior) and
Ruby Hodges (Junior)
Most Improved Player:
Isabelle Jones and
Natasha Malam (Senior);
Sophia Mills and Daisy Grey (Junior)

The U10A team have had their first term of playing competitive hockey, and from the start of the season they have shown determination to improve and grow with their knowledge. Their progression in matches and training has been incredible, and they have come on tremendous amounts since the start of the year.



Senior Boys' Hockey Teams

Although it was a difficult year for the 2nd XI, they remained competitive in all of their fixtures, often taking squads of fifteen or more to each match. A young and promising U16A team reached the Midlands Finals and despite competing closely in the group round, the boys were unable to secure a place in the semi-finals. The U15A team had a positive season, showing some real promise for the future as they recorded victories over BGS, KES Birmingham, Denstone, Bloxham and Cheltenham College, the highlight being a 1-1 draw away at Repton. The U15Bs played some entertaining hockey, with a 1-0 win against Millfield being the highlight.

The U14As had an up and down season during their Saturday fixtures but performed well to reach Midlands' Finals. The U14B team enjoyed an unbeaten season, winning four and drawing three of their seven matches, most notably beating Dean Close 5-1 at home. Finally, the U14Cs demonstrated depth in the year group, only going down 2-3 against Cheltenham College in the last play of the season.

Congratulations to Upper Fourth boys Theo Gardner and Jack Stokes who have been part of the new England Hockey Performance Centre. With the change to the Player Pathway, resulting in a decrease in numbers at this level, this is an impressive achievement for both boys and we look forward to following their progress in years to come.

J Terry

Boys' 1st XI

With a number of the squad having left the School last academic year, it was always going to be a season of transition for boys' hockey. Unfortunately, there were losses to Repton 2-6, BGS 1-6 and Millfield 1-6 early on. In a new venture, the boys took part in the HGWB Hockey League that allowed an opportunity for them to play on Wednesday afternoons. After wins against Rendcomb College 4-0 and Malvern College 7-1, the team eventually finished third in the League. The boys were able to take positives from their mid-week games to play well against Denstone College (unfortunately going down 0-1 despite an incredibly positive and dominating performance). In the England Hockey Knockout Cup, the boys went down 2-8 to KES Birmingham in the first round and this was followed by a swift exit from the Plate as the team ended up on the wrong side of a penalty shootout against Shrewsbury VI Form College.

Although Saturday results continued to go against the boys, it was incredibly encouraging to see the squad arrive promptly to training with a determination and drive to improve. Their efforts were rewarded in the final game of the season. With a dramatic last minute goal in front of a large crowd, the boys produced a truly memorable 3-2 victory over Stowe to finish the season on a high. I must commend the boys for how they represented the School this year, showing great maturity and resilience every single week.

Special thanks must go to Mr Riley who umpired and supported the boys each Saturday, as well as Mr Prosser who helped provide a fresh voice on many occasions during the week.



Senior Girls' Hockey Teams

The Girls 2nd XI enjoyed a positive season, staying competitive in most of their matches - a particular highlight being a 1-0 win away at Malvern. The U16As continued to show their passion for hockey as a year group as they reached the Midlands semi-final, only to be narrowly beaten 0-2 by eventual National runners-up, Repton. During Saturday fixtures, the girls showed why they are a force to be reckoned with, winning all but two of their fixtures. It was a tough season for the U16Bs, however the team always kept their spirits high in training and in matches. The U15As continued to show the promise that took them to the National Playoffs last year, with a number of girls making their debut in the 1st XI, as well as a run to the quarter-finals of the ISHC. The U15B side continue to show the depth in the year group as they won more than half of their games. The U14As began their hockey at the Senior School positively and although results may have not always gone in their favour, they continue to demonstrate a willingness to improve. In the county tournament, a penalty shootout loss ended their England Hockey Competition participation. As results for all teams proved inconsistent, it was the U14Bs who left the biggest impression on the season. During Saturday matches, they were denied an unbeaten season by a narrow 0-1 loss to Marlborough College, as they swept all other B teams a side; it will be exciting to see what they can achieve in the future.

Outside of School, a number of the girls experienced success representing their clubs. Louise Brookes, Dina Korzdorfer, Megan Longden and Claudia Moberley represented Stourport Hockey Club at the U18 Club National Indoor Finals, where the team reached the semi-finals. Esme Gibson, Siena Horton, Lauren Watts and Lydia Wright represented Stourport at the U16 Club National Outdoor Finals, where the team finished a creditable third in the Country.

Megan Longden, Esme Gibson, Siena Horton, Georgina Jaynes-Copper and Fleur Gallagher were selected to take part in the New England Hockey Performance Centre that ran from January to July 2017. Special mention to Siena who reached the U15 England Hockey Hi-Performance Camp in October 2016 and to Esme who was selected for the U16 England Hockey Futures Cup in November 2016 - both girls represented the Mercia Lynx Region.

Following the Futures Cup, Esme was selected to the England U16 girls' National Age Group Squad, making her one of the best twenty-six players in the country within her age group. She has since gone onto to represent her Country against Ulster, Belgium and Germany over the spring and summer months.

At the end of the Michaelmas term, Director of Hockey, Ben Dudley, moved on to become Head Coach at the University of Bristol, bringing to an end his second stint at Bromsgrove. We wish Ben all the very best in his new role at Bristol and thank him for his dedication to ensuring hockey at Bromsgrove School continued to grow. Andrew Gooderham began his role as Director of Hockey after Easter and will take the South Africa Tour this summer. Andrew brings to Bromsgrove extensive knowledge of Junior International Hockey having represented England as a junior and is currently working with the England U16 girls.

J Terry



Indoor Girls' Hockey

Indoor proved to be a success again this year, with the U18 girls qualifying for Midlands Finals. Despite scoring what seemed like a large number of goals and securing an impressive 2-1 win against Trent College, the girls missed out on a place in the Midlands semi-finals, once more cruelly on goal difference. With all but two girls able to play again next season, the team are very much looking forward to another extensive indoor hockey programme. Although the U16 girls failed to get out of the County Finals of the Indoor, the squad featured a number of Fourth Form pupils who will again represent the School in this age group next year.

Girls' 1st XI

After a transitional season last year for the girls, and with over half of the team in the Lower Sixth again this year, it proved to be a great opportunity to see them continue their development. The rewards of playing the youngsters up last season really came to fruition instantly as the girls picked up wins against Gresham's School, Denstone College and Malvern College, which quickly followed an ISHC first round win against Wycliffe. Unfortunately, the girls were denied progression beyond the County Finals of the U18 England Hockey Competition, as they cruelly went out on goal difference, despite playing some impressive hockey.

There was a frustrating 1-6 loss to an established Wellington College, but the team continued to up their efforts in training for the weeks to come. Confidence in front of goal was restored, with a 5-0 win against Bloxham School, and the team finished the first half of the term with a 0-2 loss against Cheltenham College.

Following the break, the girls returned to play their best hockey of the season as they drew 1-1 with Clifton College. Although the game finished all square, the standard of hockey on display was very high, leaving the coaches and supporters thoroughly impressed. The girls produced another spirited performance against Rugby School in the ISHC third round but narrowly went out 2-3 in an end-to-end game. As attention turned to the Midlands Indoor Finals, the girls did not finish their outdoor season quite as they would have liked, with Marlborough inflicting a heavy defeat.

In what proved to be an inconsistent season in terms of results, the majority of the side will feature again next season alongside a few additions from the year below. This summer the girls will head out on tour to South Africa, which will provide a great opportunity for them to build towards next season.



Prep Netball

Senior Netball Teams

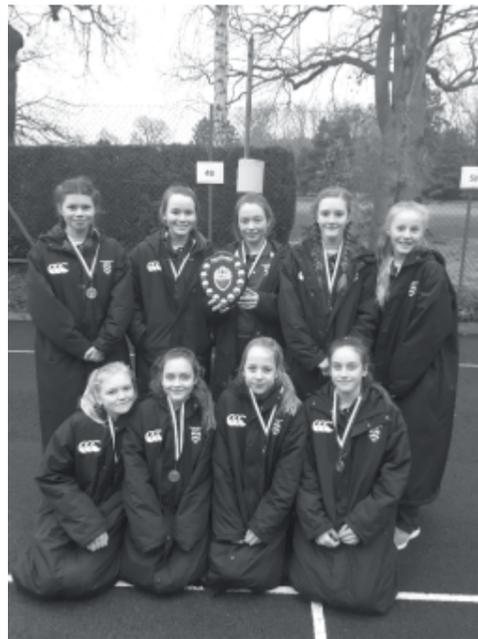
The U13As have had a very successful netball season. They have played thirty-three matches, winning twenty-five, drawing one and losing seven – many of these by just one or two goals.

A highlight of the season was winning the Cheltenham Ladies' Invitational Tournament. Sadly, this team were extremely unlucky not to progress through to the IAPS National Finals where, yet again, just one goal separated them from victory.

The U13B team have had a good season, with excellent teamwork and dedication from all of the girls involved. Of the twelve matches played, the team won six, with a particularly convincing game against Trent College. The U13Cs have worked together and played some outstanding netball. Their best match came at the end of the season, determined to finish with a win, against Beaudesert Park. The U13D girls' skills have improved immensely and they now play as an impressive and cohesive team unit. Overall, they won two, lost two, and really improved as a unit over the course of their time training together.

The U12As highlights included winning a place at National Finals, having come third in the Regional IAPS competition. The girls consistently improved their performance throughout the season and now possess the building blocks of becoming a very good team in the future. The U12B and C teams made huge improvements in their skill level over the term as they listened carefully to the advice given by coaches. The girls put this into practice with each match they played, showing fantastic play down the court. The U12D team have been a pleasure to work with, they have consistently worked hard throughout the season and made good progress in their skills.

Shooting was a particular highlight of the netball term, with the efforts made during break time practices becoming noticeable during match day.



The junior teams have been focused and competitive throughout the season and they are becoming excellent netball players. Pupils have taken on board the aspects we have worked on in training and they were tireless during matches, fulfilling the goals they were set.

The U11A team have had a busy season playing sixteen matches, winning eight and drawing one. This team demonstrate huge potential and they can look forward to exciting times ahead. The U11B team have worked hard this season, playing thirteen games and winning four. The progress made has been excellent and girls have shown improvement in all areas.

Junior Netball Teams

The U11C team have played their matches with resilience and commitment and we have seen progress being made for all players, be it defending or attacking. We often played teams that were of a higher level and the girls rose to the challenges this brought them. The results card of the U11D netball season only tells one-half of a story. The opposition we met during Wednesday fixtures have often been stronger than our team, but the progress that the girls have made in teamwork and understanding match play has been significant.

The U10As have continued to play as a team, regardless of the score line. At the U10 tournament, they fought hard to gain fourth place, and worked well as a squad, switching positions in order to get the best for the team. The U10B girls had a wonderful season this year. They won seven of their twelve games played, many very convincingly.

The girls were dedicated in squads and showed great spirit and enthusiasm to improve their skills. The U10Cs have tried hard this netball season despite many changes to the team and formation. The girls have found their strengths in different positions, and over the last few weeks of the season were really starting to play more like a team, winning one of their four matches. The U10D team train regularly and work hard on applying taught skills in the games that are played. They have enjoyed two matches, winning one of these against tough opposition The Dragon.

J Danks

Awards

Most Valuable Player:
Megan Langford (Senior) and Emelia Moberley (Junior)

Most Improved Player:
Natasha Malam (Senior);
Sophia Mills and Midia Belcuore (Junior)



Senior Netball

1st Team

The 1st netballers have enjoyed another successful campaign during the 2016/17 season, with wins against some highly competitive sides. The results demonstrate the outstanding commitment and dedication shown by the whole squad, with their sheer determination and the ability to bring uniqueness on to the court during some hard-fought games.

As a relatively new combination, the 1st team did not show any signs of inability to cooperate, even when faced with losing Lauren Brown to injury during the early stages of the season. Elyssa Jones, Ella Gardner and Jessica Fullard proved themselves right from the get-go by playing an age group up. Elyssa repeatedly intercepted with grace in defence and contributed greatly to the sheer number of conversions, which is partly why she won our Player of the Year award.



Ellie Bennett was an indispensable player, delivering top quality feeds into the shooters with great accuracy. Imogen Faulconbridge was able to dominate all defenders she faced, finishing her moves with incredible shooting consistency. Lauren Neilson-Watts was able to lead from the back as the team's main Goalkeeper, reading and responding to the tactics of the opposition. Rhea Lester-James brought speed to the team, proving herself a highly effective centre-court player. Ayana Clarke was able to show her versatility, having a significant impact in both attack, where she added countless goals to the scoreboard, and in the defending circle, where she was able to counteract the opposition's set play and force numerous errors.

From winning the County School's tournament to competing with prowess against Oxford University, to ending the final game of the season with smiles and a victory, the 1st team netballers have put on displays of excitement with explosive energy right throughout the court. Thank you girls, it has been a pleasure.

Chelsey Small
(Captain)





Senior Netball Teams

The 2016/17 Netball season at Bromsgrove has proven to be the most successful in recent history. From the U14s right the way through to the U19s, they have won tournaments and trophies galore – eleven in total.

The U14 team, captained by Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins, managed to clinch District and County titles as well as an Invitational tournament. They also qualified for the National Finals and finished a creditable 10th in the country. The U16 team, captained by Mollie Trow, won the District and Regional West Midland Tournament, which also took them through to National Finals. They narrowly missed out on a quarter final place on goal difference alone. The U19 team, captained by Chelsey Small, were County champions but narrowly missed out on qualification for the National Schools Finals. They also

defeated the Old Bromsgrovian team in what is always a closely fought match.

Topping all of those achievements this season, however, were the mighty U15 team, captained by Kitty Luscombe. Not only did they win the Uppingham Invitational tournament and the SKY Sports Challenge Tournament, they also played in two separate National Cup competitions and swept past all the opposition to reach the Finals of both. In the National School Sports Competition, the U15s convincingly beat Lingfield and Notre Dame School 66-22 to lift the National trophy, and in the Independent Schools Cup they faced old rivals Grammar School at Leeds in what proved to be a nail biting finish. Bromsgrove scored the winning goal in the last ten seconds to triumph 34-33 and be crowned U15 Independent Schools National Champions for the first time.



Overall, this has been an amazing group effort by all the girls and coaches involved at the School and in Bromsgrove Netball, the future looks very bright indeed.

E Buckingham



Prep Rounders

This year the Prep rounders' teams have been concentrated into Years 5 and 6, whereas Years 7 and 8 have been focusing on tennis and athletics.

Due to a very wet Summer term the U11s have played very few matches, however the girls have worked hard in training sessions and learnt a lot about the strategy of the game. The highlight of the term for the U11A team was a tournament at King's Hawford where they played against five other schools, winning two, drawing two and losing one match. It was a very enjoyable afternoon with the girls playing well and finishing in joint second position.

The B, C and D teams have all worked hard on their skills and enjoyed their fixtures against other schools over this very short term.

The U10As won all of their games, with the last victory against RGS The Grange as the best so far, winning 17.5 – 5.5 after two innings. Although matches have been cancelled, they have had the opportunity to progress during squad sessions, improving their throwing, catching and batting ability. The A team have enthusiastically encouraged those in lower teams when mixed together at squads.

The U10B, C and D teams have really enjoyed their season and approached every match positively. The C team enjoyed one win at Oxford which they were delighted with and more importantly, have not let the defeats affect their attitude or motivation. All junior teams have seen numerous changes and player movement which has meant a few girls have been able to try out the key positions of backstop, bowler and second post. Their catching and throwing skills have improved significantly so they are becoming better fielders and they have shown determination to try and get half and full rounders, not being scared to take risks to do so. As a group, they are starting to understand that there is a tactical approach to the game as and they are keen put it into practice what they have been learning this year.

J Danks





U11A

The U11A team have enjoyed a season of improvement. They were quick to absorb advice and pick up new skills in training but sometimes were guilty of being afraid to put them into place come match day. They played with purpose, always displaying a sense of pride in the jersey. In a twenty match packed season (half the matches played in two tournaments), our most notable wins saw us triumphant versus Abberley Hall, Cheltenham College, QEH Bristol, Denstone College and RGS Worcester.

U11 squad members: Joshua Coyne (captain), Oliver Holden, Robbie Bayliss, Ben Collett, Gareth Tindall, Toby Lewis, Joseph McLoughlin, Oscar Bridgewater, Finbar Dinnen, Millun Gill and Maximilian Jehan

C Kippax

Prep Rugby Awards

Most Outstanding Player:
Toby Hill (Senior) and Toby Lewis (Junior)
Most Improved Player:
Alexander Collin (Senior) and
Finbar Dinnen (Junior)

Prep Rugby

U13A

The U13A team had an average season by Bromsgrove's high standards winning only five games out of fifteen, with sadly frustrating injuries to Guy Wagstaff, Matthew Burke, Elliot Willets and Mackenzie Guest who all missed a large part of the season. Basic skills and the focus did improve throughout the season with plenty of repetition and persistence during training sessions. Toby Hill always led by example and was consistently the stand out player whilst Kian Lau was certainly the bravest and always in the thick of it. Alex Collin was not one to shy away from contact, regularly making try saving tackles, and was always an attacking threat going forward at pace. Teddy Broadhurst was our leading try-scorer with eighteen tries.

Notable victories were recorded against Kingswood School Bath, King's School Macclesfield and Dean Close, whilst a 20-20 draw against Denstone College and a 45-35 loss against Monmouth were memorable games of rugby in which they started to show some character and promise.

U13A squad members: Mikhail Strelkov, Kian Lau, Mackenzie Guest, Sebastian Perry, Samuel Hibbert-May, Matthew Burke, Oliver Brown, Toby Hill (captain), Benjamin Whitby, Stuart Shannon, Max Parsons, Teddy Broadhurst, Alexander Collin, Guy Wagstaff, Maxim Edger, Elliot Willets

C Munn



Prep Rugby Teams

Always evolving, always looking to develop our players season after season, this has been the philosophy behind our rugby. A staggering total of 202 fixtures have been played (seventy-one at senior level and 129 at junior level). With the 'New Rules of Play' now in full operation for all age groups, one of the main targets and successes this year has been the organisation of triangular fixtures up and down the country against the strongest schools possible.

The U13A and U13B teams played a triangular with Millfield School and Kingswood School, Bath. The U12A, B and C teams had a triangular with Solihull School and Caldicott School, the U11A, B and C had a triangular with Monmouth and QEH, Bristol while the U10A, B, C, D and E teams had a triangular with The Dragon and Caldicott and additionally with Winterfold House and Magdalen College, Oxford.

The U12A team were one of the most successful A teams throughout the Bromsgrove School system which included a memorable double versus Warwick School and a titanic tussle versus RGS High Wycombe. The U12 age group will be touring Northern Ireland as U13s in October 2017 and we look forward to some promising matches from this team then.

The U10C team deserve a special mention as they played thirteen fixtures and only lost two – a phenomenal record. Another success story has been the introduction of a games afternoon for Year 4, with many fixtures taking place for the boys from A to D team level, which should stand them in good stead for the future.

G Jones



Prep Rugby 7s

The U13 Rugby 7s team took part in three tournaments this season. The first was at a wet and windy Packwood Haugh School in Shropshire. In the group stages, Bromsgrove defeated Ellesmere College 35-0 and St. Hugh's 50-0 with very convincing performances but unfortunately lost to St. Mary's Stonyhurst 25-5 and thus qualified for the Plate competition for teams that came runners-up in their group. The team proceeded to beat hosts Packwood 15-10 in a tight game and then Abberley 25-0 comfortably in their final game ensuring that Bromsgrove came home with some silverware.

Millfield is always a special tournament to attend, with teams competing against some of the toughest Prep Schools on the Rugby 7s playing circuit. In the group stages, the team beat Sandroyd Prep, Llandaff Cathedral School and drew with old adversaries Dulwich Prep. This meant that the Bromsgrove boys topped the group placing them in the Cup competition with other group winners. These were Millfield Prep, Caldicott Prep and Taunton Prep. Although the boys were defeated in all of the three games, they acquitted themselves extremely well, particularly in the second half against the eventual winners, Taunton Prep, when they showed an excellent fighting spirit.

The final tournament of the season saw the boys attend the prestigious HSBC National Rosslyn Park Schools' 7s in London. In a keenly contested group, the team managed a victory over Walhampton but were defeated against King's Hall School and Rokeby School. This placed the boys in the third placed group, playing both Sandroyd and Sedbergh Prep Schools. The team kept their best performances for these two matches and were victorious in both, but only overcoming Sebergh with the last play of the match to win 25-20. The experience of the day will stand the team in good stead as they progress to the U14 tournament next year.

C Munn

1st XV Senior Rugby

How do you follow the successes of the last two seasons? Unbeaten in 2015/16, winners of the NatWest Cup for two years and with so many standout players. It was always going to be hard.

A dismaying start to the season, with a number of key players plagued with injury, including Harrison Fowke, Lawrence Weston and George Wootten, the 1st XV were on the back foot. Not surprisingly for a mostly new and young team, we had a slow start to the season, losing a pre-season friendly against a very well prepared Canford School.

The regular season did not start as we had wanted, losing our opening match against Warwick School. There were also further losses to Bedford School and Oundle.

With three defeats at the start of the season, things needed to turn around, and so it did. Suddenly, with the beginning of our NatWest Cup journey, the very young team grew in stature and confidence. Work rate, team spirit and some moments of brilliance meant that the RGS Worcester side were swept aside. There was also progress in our regular games, with a strong win versus Solihull, a great performance against Millfield as well as successes against Bloxham, Stowe and Monmouth.

Our good run in the NatWest Cup continued - both Lawrence Sheriff School and Sandbach School did not stand in the way of our march towards the closing rounds. The performances continued to improve with a fantastic away win against a Clifton College, who had not lost at home for over two years. A further win set us up for the last game of the year, against Warwick in a repeat of the first game of the season. This was our best performance yet, by some distance, with the defense setting the standard to follow. The 24-3 victory meant a lot to the group, setting us up for the remaining cup fixtures.



Beck Cutting
(Captain)



Senior Rugby Teams

Once again, rugby has continued to flourish with many pupils participating in fixtures throughout a successful term. We have regularly fielded sixteen teams on a Saturday afternoon resulting in over 240 boys playing rugby and representing the School.

The U16A team enjoyed a good season winning seven of their matches, drawing two and only losing two games all season. The team also reaching the North Midlands' final for the second year running, but unfortunately due to a very congested season, the final did not take place. Unfortunately, our U16 VII side lost a close fought match against Eton Collage at the Rosslyn Park National Sevens tournament resulting in the team not progressing to knock out stages. Our U16C also enjoyed a very successful term, recording four wins and only one loss.

The only defeat in all Saturday fixtures for the U15A team was a narrow 10-0 lost to Warwick on the opening weekend of the season. Throughout the term, there were some excellent individual performances as well as whole team improvement as the season progressed. This progress cumulated in the boys overturning their early season defeat to Warwick with a 14-12 victory in the final fixture of the season. It was also pleasing to see the U15B team enjoy a successful season with some outstanding wins against Millfield and Clifton to name but a few. The U15Cs also played some great rugby and finished the season unbeaten.



Our U14A team enjoyed an excellent year at both XII & VII. Their only defeat during the Michaelmas term was a close 0-5 loss to a very strong Millfield side. In the Lent term, the team entered five sevens tournaments, winning both the Dean Close and Prior Park tournaments, and being runners up in our own tournament, with a very close 14-19 defeat in the final. This prepared the team well for the Rosslyn Park National Sevens tournament where the boys recorded some excellent results in the first day and only lost out in the semi-final to a strong Wellington College 7-8. The U14C and D teams had very positive seasons with the C team only losing one game and D team finishing the season unbeaten.

Overall, this season has been a very pleasing year for boys' rugby and there will undoubtedly be many more strong performances to look forward to next season.

T Windo



Senior Squash Boys' 1st Team

An enthusiastic group of players have performed well for the School squash team this year. Due to a number of older players leaving the School, young and inexperienced players were tested with fixtures against strong opposition. The senior players consisting of Keshav Laroiya, Joe Symonds (captain), Toby Davis and Alex Waplington have been brilliant all year. They were ably supported by younger players, some representing the School for the first time. Tom Reynolds, Joe Colebrook, Figo Man and William Upton finished the year having all represented the 1st team.

The squash team also entered the National Cup for the first time, and although they did not progress out of the regional group, all of the fixtures were very close and the boys can be proud of their achievements.

L Mullan



Prep Swimming

2016/17 has been a very exciting year with pupils from Year 2 attending regular squad sessions during term time, more Individuals joining swimming clubs and increased numbers wanting to take part in both competitions and training sessions.

Fixtures against the following schools included all year groups from Years 3 to 8: Holy Trinity School, Edgbaston High School for Girls, Warwick Prep, Warwick Junior, St Martins, Solihull Junior, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Blue Coat school, Witton School, King's Worcester, The Old Hall, Monkton Prep, Westacre School, Nottingham High School, King Edwards Vllth High School, Bishop of Hereford Blue Coat School, The Dragon School, Bedford School and RGS Worcester.

House Swimming

All pupils take part in this annual House competition competing in a minimum of one event each. Well done to Telford who amassed 265 points to become the victors for the 2016/17 academic year.

Final results

1st Telford	(265 points)
2nd Darby	(242 points)
3rd Boulton	(241 points)
4th Watt	(227 points)

Bromsgrove Invitational Swimming Gala

With this being the 33rd year of this prestigious event, the competition just gets stronger with twenty-six schools attending from seven counties.

The boys swam in some incredibly fast heats, taking them into the finals for both the U11 and U13 age groups. The U11 team of Oliver Holden, Ben Collett, Robert Riley and William Pridden did extremely well and received bronze medals in both the medley relay and the freestyle relay.

Once again the competition was very strong with our U11 girls finishing 10th and the U13 girls' team of Katy Rolph, Louise Osborne, Hannah Hunt and Bryony Lowe finishing 6th.



IAPS Swimming

Thirteen of our leading swimmers competed in the IAPS National Final at K2 Leisure Centre in Crawley after early qualification in February. The boys swam extremely well with the U10 4 x 25 metres medley relay team comprising of William Pridden, Oliver Dieppe, Beau Vaughan-Hawkins and Robert Riley finishing in ninth position overall.

Individually, Beau Vaughan-Hawkins finished 10th overall in the U10 25 metres butterfly, breaking his own U9 School record and setting a new School record in the U10 group. William Brown finished 12th overall in U12 25 metres butterfly, Cyrus Passman finished in 11th position in the U12 50 metres freestyle and Oliver Brown finished in 16th position in the U13 50 metres breaststroke. Sebastian Perry finished 7th fastest overall in the heats and maintained that position when finishing in 7th position in the final of the U13 50 metres backstroke.

The girls swam equally well, with the U12 girls' relay teams setting the pace in the medley and freestyle, finishing 6th in both events. The team Included; Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins, Louise Osborne, Bryony Lowe and Hannah Hunt.

Individually, Isabelle Kavanagh swam her heart out and finished 14th overall in the U10 backstroke and Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins had the swim of her life in the U12 girls 25m butterfly finishing 9th. Bryony Lowe swam in the U12 backstroke finishing 12th overall. Louise Osborne competed in the U12 freestyle finishing 12th overall. Finally, Katy Rolph competed in the U13 freestyle - another great swim in what was the toughest event of the afternoon. Katy finished 15th in a time of 32.79 secs.

Both the boys and girls were a true credit to one another and to the School.

ESSA Primary School Relays

Four of our leading boys competed at the English Schools' National Final after qualifying at Ponds Forge, Sheffield. The team included William Pridden, Robert Riley, Ben Collett and Oliver Holden.

The boys competed really well against the top twenty-four teams in the country. For Year 5 pupils William Pridden and Robert Riley, it proved to be invaluable race experience. Overall, the boys finished 12th in the freestyle relay with all four boys improving on their Individual times from the initial heats.

Awards

Most Outstanding:
Sebastian Perry and Bryony Lowe (Seniors);
Ben Collett and Isabella Kavanagh (Juniors)
Most Improved:
James Box and Katy Rolph (Seniors);
Frazer Jones and Tara Sekhon (Juniors)

Senior Swimming

Swimming has been at an exceptional level this year, with the boys' U18 team achieving strong wins against several schools including Cheltenham College and Stowe School. The girls' 1st team have had an impressive season, winning four galas. The girls' most successful match was in the Abingdon Sprints, attaining gold in the 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay and an excellent swim from Talia Mitchell in the 50m Breaststroke. The girls' 73-52 win against Cheltenham Ladies College was one of the highlights of the season, with Rachel Weller winning the 25m butterfly. The girls also came 1st in the 4 x 25m Freestyle Relay and the 4 x 25m Medley Relay, with a team of Niamh Donavan, Abigail Saker, Rachel Weller and Esme Weston. India Hanke has also had a notable season as a freestyler, especially against Stowe.

The boys achieved great success at the Bromsgrove Invitational Relays, attaining gold and silver in their races. This was preceded by success earlier in the year at the English Schools' National Swimming Finals where the boys' U18 team of James Cuthbert, Tristan Bland, Wilson Leung, Marcus Ng and Ivan Lee narrowly missed out on the final, coming 11th in the freestyle and 21st in the medley. The U16 boys have also had a successful season winning four galas and competing in the Abingdon Sprint Relays, where the boys placed a strong 3rd overall.



The Stowe Triangular Tournament was an accomplishment for the girls, with Paulina Geus winning the 100m Individual Medley and the U16A team comfortably winning the Freestyle Relay. The U16As also achieved an overall silver medal in the Abingdon Sprints, with the team of India Hanke, Paulina Gets, Orla Walker and Catrin Cater. Alice Oliver swam exceptionally well against Cheltenham College in the 50m Butterfly and Daisy Scott in the 50m Breaststroke. All the girls' efforts were commendable.



The girls' U14A team have enjoyed many notable fixtures, winning the majority of their events. Special mention to Elizabeth Aston, who was strong and consistent in her Breaststroke Individuals and the Individual Medley. Grace Dieppe won the 50m Breaststroke in the Triangular Tournament, with excellent swims also from Ruby Hanke and Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins.

With strong performances throughout the season, pupils have put a solid effort in to their swimming this year and they have been duly rewarded with win after win. We hope that the following year can be just as successful as this one.

T Bland and E Weston
(Swimming Captains)

Senior Table Tennis

Table Tennis has moved forward tremendously after a successful first year. A mixture of genders and year groups have been involved in both U16 and U19 age groups.

In December 2016, four teams took part in the National Schools' Cup, starting with the Worcestershire County round. Our U16 and U19 girls won their respective competitions and then a week later, the U16 and U19 boys triumphed in their own competition.

Having won the Worcestershire Cup, the teams travelled to compete in the zonal finals the following January. Both U16 teams performed well at times but lacked the consistency to progress out of their group. The U19 boys managed to reach the knockout stages but faced very tough opposition and lost. However, the U19 girls' team were superb and finished runners up, narrowly finishing second to a team made up of national league players. This was good enough however for them to qualify for the National Finals.



Following weeks of training, the U19 girls travelled to Bristol for the Finals. On the day, Karen Chu and Rachel Tsui acquitted themselves well but did not progress out of the group stages. Both girls trained and played brilliantly well but came up against extremely strong opposition.

With thanks to captains Abbah Abbah and Karen Chu for their hard work and commitment to table tennis this academic year.

L Mullan



Prep Girls' Tennis

The tennis season has given a large number of the Prep girls the experience of competitive matches against other schools. The U13 teams have had some very close matches, with the U13A team winning all but one fixture against The Dragon. The U13s had two strong pairs entered in to the LTA Team Tennis competition, which comprises of singles and doubles. A fantastically close match against King's Worcester put them through to the next round. The U13 and U12 B and C teams have played fixtures this term, with at times forty-two pupils playing at once. Those teams recorded good wins against Malvern St James and Trent College. The junior teams also enjoyed playing matches against a number of local schools, with the U11A and U10A teams beating Malvern St James, Dean Close and Warwick Prep. All girls in Years 7 & 8 attended the AEGON tennis championship in June, which was a very enjoyable day out.

J Danks

Awards

Most Valuable Player:
Lucy McLoughlin (Senior) and
Freya Lawton (Junior)
Most Improved Player:
Martha Dunlop (Senior) and
Katherine Sutherland (Junior)



Senior Boys' Tennis

Boys' tennis at Bromsgrove continues to grow and this year we were pleased to welcome a number of talented pupils from the younger years. The team, captained by Harrison Wright, opened with a pre-season tournament at Rugby School where the boys made an excellent start to the season, with the seniors playing well. The juniors showed excellent teamwork and real talent as Stuart Shannon and Cameron Owen managed to get to the semi-final.

Our first competitive match against another school was a closely fought fixture with our near rivals KES Birmingham. The 1sts narrowly lost and the 2nds played superbly to win. Further fixtures followed with wins over Trent College and Bloxham before the prestigious County Tournament held at Malvern College. The first pair, Vasilii Borisov and Luke Lau, took part in a doubles tournament. They performed brilliantly but narrowly lost in the final. The boys took part in the singles U18 Scott County Cup. The School had five entries into this event - Vasilii Borisov, Hugo Hall, Luke Lau, Harrison Wright and our youngest competitor, Stuart Shannon. All pupils played with extreme dedication, with three out of the four semi-finalists represented. Vasilii made it through to the final, which he lost an agonising 11 – 9 in a tie break.



The junior boys won their tournament and qualified for the AEGON U15 Boys' Schools National Finals. The best of luck goes out to the team - we are sure they will make the School proud. The team consists of Kelvin Liu, Joshua Osborn-Patel, Georgy Markov and Andy Chia.

Harrison Wright
(Boys' Captain)



Senior Girls' Tennis

The girls' 1st tennis team consisting of Lisa Shaw, Charlotte Campbell, Claudia Moberley, Isabelle Dunlop, Laura Merritt, Megan Walker and Emily Coleman have progressed greatly throughout the season, continuing from their excellent performance last year, with strong players, Georgie Jeynes-Cupper and Elouise Brookes, joining the team. The girls started the season well with a 5-4 victory against Rugby School. They then concentrated on their second and first serve consistency, as well as their match play tactics. The team went on to gain three more victories against Clifton College and Wycliffe college (both 7-2), and Bloxham School 5-4 in sets. The overall result was four wins and only two losses.



The 2nd team had a strong season with a completely new team of Mollie Trow, Lydia Wright, Katharina Knopp, Elyssa Jones, Holly Foster and Talia Mitchell. They started the season with a loss against a strong Rugby School side. However, after this match, they worked hard to improve consistency and their game play tactics. As the players improved, the team started on a winning streak; 6-3 against Clifton College, 7-2 against Bloxham, 9-0 against Wycliffe and a 5-4 win against Trent College. Overall, four wins and just one loss across the whole season should be congratulated.

The 15A team, captained by Phoebe Fletcher, won four out of their six School matches. Particularly pleasing were the results against Bloxham and Malvern College, where the girls fought hard to beat both teams 7-2 in sets. The 15B team showed excellent progress and improvement throughout the term and won three out of their five matches; an 8-1 victory against Clifton College and a 9-0 victory against Malvern College being the most convincing.

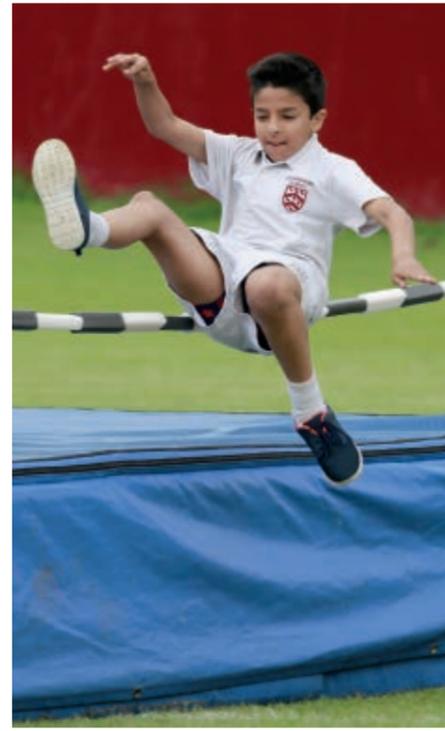
The 14A team had superb spirit as well as ability and won the majority of their fixtures. Victories against some strong opposition such as Rugby School and Trent College demonstrated their skill level and tactical doubles awareness. The 14B team also proved exceptionally strong this year, only losing one of their fixtures, and that by a single set 4-5 to Clifton College. With such strength in depth, the coaches look forward to seeing their continued improvement next year.

A team of U14 players also competed in the AEGON Cup competition. This is a singles and doubles competition and the team of Claudia Bullock, Gemma Calthorpe, Bobby Mekushina, Victoria Moberley and Sofia Hodges played an excellent standard of tennis throughout. They beat all in their path to win their group and book a place in the knock out stages starting in September 2017.

Emily Coleman
(Girls' Captain)



Prep Sports Day



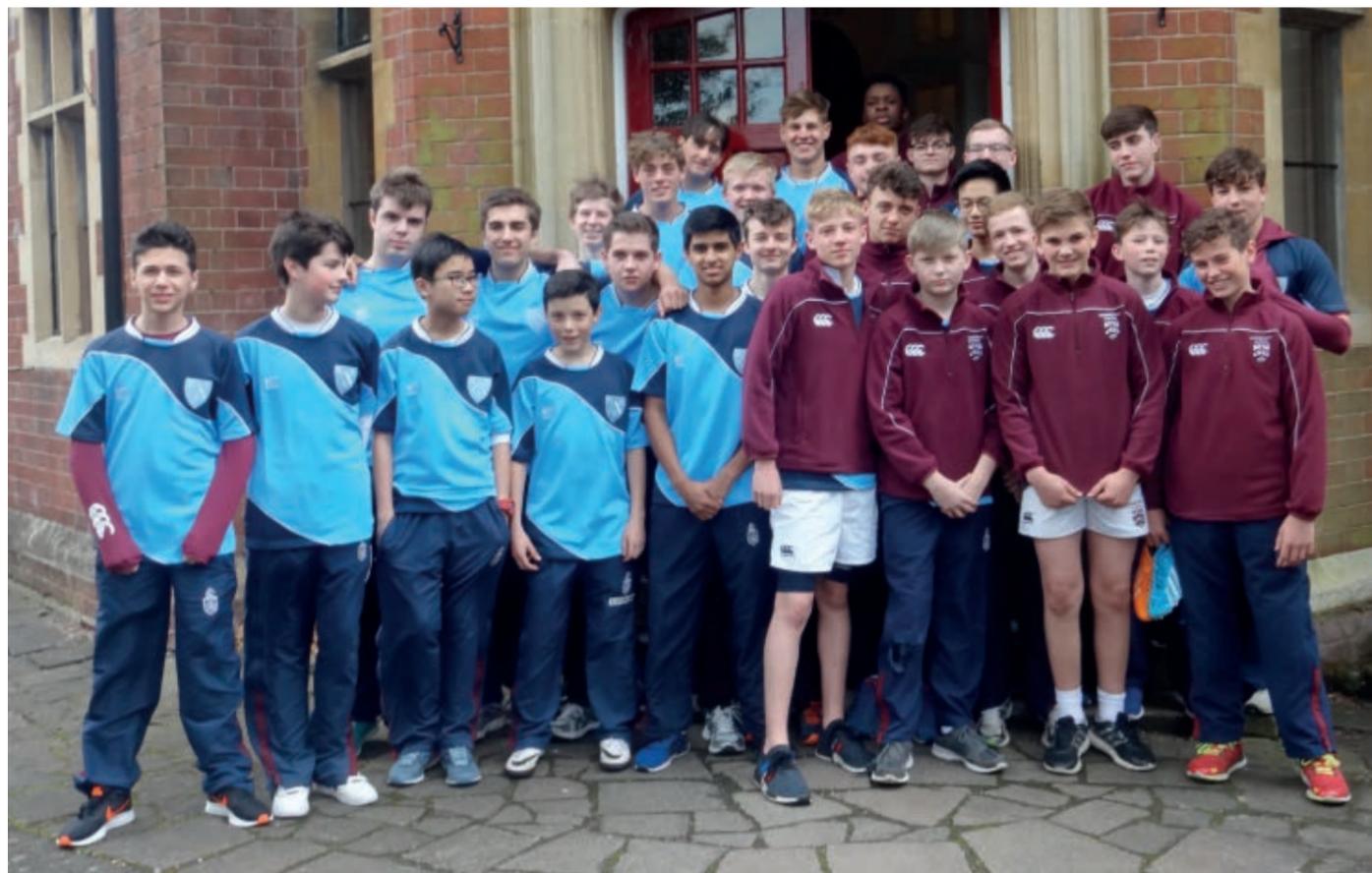


Senior Sports Day

We were lucky enough to have blue skies and sunshine for the Senior School Sports Day and there were a number of positive performances and sports day records achieved.

The individual Victor and Victrix Ludorum trophies were awarded to:
 Junior - Ethan Hart (Lyttelton) and Daisy-Mai Clements (Hazeldene)
 Intermediate - Adrian Wong (Elmshurst) and Tilly Giles (Hazeldene)
 Senior - Harry Liversidge (School) and Isabel James (Thomas Cookes)

Special Trophies:
 Senior Girls' 100m winner - Lauren Brown
 Girls' House 4 x 200m winners - Hazeldene
 Boys' House 4 x 100m winners - Walters
 Boys' House 4 x 400m winners - Wendron-Gordon
 Overall House Winners - Wendron-Gordon and Hazeldene



Honours Awards 2016/17

Athletics

Senior School

Caps: Isabel James, Candy Lockett, Kieran Walker

Major Colours: Lauren Brown, Bill Draper-Barr

Minor Colours: Kieran Brinn, Harriet Fuchs, Anna Huang, Lewis Maddox, Charles Sapwell

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Ellen Ashton, Teddy Broadhurst, Matthew Burke, Oliver Brown, Madeleine Chance, Alexander Collin, Anabel Crowder, Isabelle Jones, Bethany Lawson, Natasha Malam, Billy McDonough, Lucy McLoughlin, Max Parsons, Darcey Pearson, Sebastian Perry, Sebastian Purvis, Alexander Ranger, Katie Rolph, Mikhail Strelkov, Lucy Trigg, Louis Upton, Benjamin Whitby, Gordon Wong

Half Colours (Senior): Zach Armstrong, William Brown, Harry Draper-Barr, Toby Hill, Ella Kershaw-Crombie, Joe Morgan, Louise Osborne, Angelina Sanghera

Badminton

Senior School

Caps: Tiffanie Tseng

Major Colours: Dan Kulebyakin, Roy Tse

Minor Colours: Thomas Eaves

Basketball

Senior School

Major Colours: Victor Cheung, Trevor Fung

Minor Colours: Edward Aston, Jack Duan, Max Lee, Ivan Raspopov, Laurin Scherer

Cricket

Senior School

Caps: Ben Herridge, Jujhar Johal, James Kinder, Jordan Smith

Major Colours: Joe Hunt

Minor Colours: Ben Fitzmaurice, George Marshall

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Freddie Fallows, Sam Hibbert-May, Matthew Hill, Megan Langford, Elliot Willetts
Full Colours (Junior): Jenny Fallows, Oliver Holden

Half Colours (Senior): Luke Bond, Amellie Clare, Toby Hill, Stuart Shannon, Guy Wagstaff, Lucy Walter

Half Colours (Junior): Robbie Bayliss, Millun Gill

Cross-Country

Senior School

Caps: Isabel James, Kieran Walker

Major Colours: Hugo Beattie, Oliver Rogers

Minor Colours: Charles Sapwell, Laurin Scherer

Drama

Senior School

Caps: Paige Corcoran, Miles Rosbrook, Rachel Xuereb

Major Colours: Abbah Abbah, Charlotte Bayliss, Nanci Burbidge, Paige Corcoran, Liberty Guillamon, Dan Johnson, Chloe Leslie, Oliver Rogers, Miles Rosbrook, Rachel Xuereb

Minor Colours: Timofey Abbasov, Tom Anning, Nandini Bulchandani, Anya Butler, Lily-Rose Faulkner-Schutt, Abigail Gill, Holly Heslop, Archie Holder, Platon Kochetkov, Lauren Milburn, Holly Nichols, William Porter

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Ian Chan, Daniel Goodwin, Charlotte Holden, Izzy Lloyd

Full Colours (Junior): Lidia Belcuore, Gabriel Brown, Phoebe Hodgkisson, Jensen York

Football

Senior School

Caps: Dan Bentley, Ben Herridge, James Kinder, Charlie Marshall

Major Colours: Richard Brookes, Sam Fitzmaurice, Freddie Meredith, Arseniy Nekhochin, Oliver Price, Ko Sakuma, Ryan Tsui, Jack Yu

Minor Colours: Andreas Francescou, Louis Große-Honnerbrink, Thomas Siller, Iain Simmons, Tomasso Vago

Golf

Senior School

Caps: Alex Cox, Lawrence Hill, Tommy Robinson

Minor Colours: Evan Lewis, James Lord, Richard Vaughan

Hockey

Senior School

Caps: Finley Evans, Hanna Fastrich, Dina Korzdorfer, Callum Ross, Alianne Silk

Major Colours: Morgan Berry, Billy Draper-Barr, Patrick Waplington

Minor Colours: Esme Gibson, Elyssa Jones, Tom Maidment, Harry Thompson, Ben Turner, Lauren Watts, Lydia Wright

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Charlie Bridgewater, Oliver Brown, James Doohan-Smith, Maxim Edger, Toby Hill, Kian Lau, Bethany Lawson, Leo Mellor, Lucy McLoughlin, Stuart Shannon, Elliot Willetts

Full Colours (Junior): Robbie Bayliss, Ruby Hodges, Freya Lawton, Toby Lewis, Emelia Moberley, Edward Thompson

Half Colours (Senior): Ellen Ashton, Megan Langford, Natasha Malam

Half Colours (Junior): Oscar Bridgewater, Jenny Fallows, Millun Gill, Charlotte Jones, Joseph McLoughlin

Music

Senior School

Caps: Ben Adamson, Tom Muir

Major Colours: Luke Alcock, Sarah Chapman, Paige Corcoran, Patrick Dolan, Billy Draper-Barr, Charlotte Goodall, Oliver Hall, Dan Johnson, Adrian Lai, Matthew Lou, Benedict Mann, Ellie Miners, Ellie Moore, Becca Reeves, Ron Tse, Tiffanie Tseng

Minor Colours: Madeleine Bache, Archie Batham-Reed, Nandini Bulchandani, Anya Butler, Ellie Chan, Heidi Collie, Tristan Hall, Archie Holder, Maggie Lau, Christiana Lloyd, Amy Nolan, Charles Sapwell, Daisy Scott, Iain Simmons

Netball

Senior School

Caps: Lauren Brown, Ayana Clarke, Chelsey Small

Major Colours: Eleanor Glass, Jessica Jayaratnasingam, Megan Thompson, Esme Weston

Minor Colours: Scarlett Fender, Jessica Fullard, Ella Gardner, Elyssa Jones, Mollie Trow, Lydia Wright

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Ellen Ashton, Isabelle Jones, Megan Langford, Lucy McLoughlin

Full Colours (Junior): Charlotte Jones, Emelia Moberley

Half Colours (Senior): Anabel Crowder, Bella Howdle, Beth Lawson, Izzy Lloyd, Katie Rolph

Half Colours (Junior): Emma Dunnaker, Ruby Hodges, Libby Rolph

Rounders

Prep School

Full Colours (Junior): Jenny Fallows, Freya Lawton, Emelia Moberley

Half Colours (Junior): Ruby Hodges, Charlotte Jones and Libby Rolph

Rugby

Senior School

Caps: Beck Cutting, Christophe Fostier, Harrison Fowke, Joe Hunt, George James, Lawrence Weston, George Wootton

Minor Colours: Joe Harper, Rufus Hulbert, Lewis Maddox, Peter Olley, Harry Thompson, Ben Turner, Richard Vaughan

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Toby Hill

Full Colours (Junior): Robbie Bayliss, Oliver Holden, Toby Lewis

Half Colours (Senior): Matthew Burke, Alexander Collin, Samuel Hibbert May, Kian Lau, Max Parsons, Benjamin Whitby

Half Colours (Junior): Ben Collett, Joshua Coyne

Squash

Senior School

Major Colours: Joe Symonds

Minor Colours: Alex Waplington

Swimming

Senior School

Caps: Wilson Leung, Esme Weston

Minor Colours: James Cuthbert, Sam Osborne, Laurin Scherer

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Sebastian Perry, Katie Rolph

Full Colours (Junior): Ben Collett

Half Colours (Senior): Bromley Arnold, Oliver Brown, William Brown, Lucy Cattell, Hannah Hunt, Bryony Lowe, Katie Murray, Alexander Palmer, Cyrus Passman, Louise Osborne, Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins

Half Colours (Junior): Lucy Cattell, Oliver Holden, Frazer Jones, Isabelle Kavanagh, Honey Bo Luscombe, William Pridden, Rob Riley, Libby Rolph

Table Tennis

Senior School

Major Colours: Abbah Abbah, Jerry Cui, Brian Leung, Rachel Tsui

Minor Colours: Mikhail Kozhinov, Alexey Nosov

Tennis

Senior School

Major Colours: Emily Coleman, Charlotte Goodall, Michael Petrakas, Peter Petrakas, Jack Yu

Minor Colours: Elyssa Jones, Katharina Knopp, Luke Lau, Molly Trow, Lydia Wright

Prep School

Full Colours (Senior): Anabel Crowder, Isabelle Jones, Beth Lawson, Lucy McLoughlin

Full Colours (Junior): Freya Lawton, Emelia Moberley, Sophia Sellers

Half Colours (Senior): Martha Dunlop, Portia Gallagher, Megan Langford, Hannah Lawson

Half Colours (Junior): Jenny Fallows, Ruby Hodges

Prep Staff Leavers



Pauline Barton (2004-2017)

Pauline joined Bromsgrove Preparatory School in 2004 and she has been one of the mainstays of the Curriculum Support department ever since. It was not unusual to walk past her door only to double back and watch as children spell out words whilst playing ping-pong over a net strung across a table, or to see multi-coloured poems being created that highlight specific word types. Her classroom has always been one where laughter has rung out and pupils talk enthusiastically about their learning. Is it because 'Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small Elephants' or just her warm smile and encouraging way that enables pupils to feel secure whilst working on the very nuggets of learning that they find the most difficult to master? Whatever the reason, Pauline has had a hand in helping her students to find ways of mastering skills that, otherwise, might have held their learning back in many areas.

As a member of the Common room, Pauline is always on hand with sound advice. In her self-deprecating style, she has supported staff with ideas and methods that have enabled them to include all pupils in their lessons, no matter what obstacles they might have had. She made herself well known with the IT department when encouraging pupils to learn touch-typing, with regular correspondence regarding the reliability of the computers and whiteboard link; so much so that they would answer the phone with 'Good morning Pauline, what can we do for you today?' truly a badge of honour.

Pauline's work in the School has not only impacted on her pupils and all of the staff, but also on the lives of their families. Many parents have turned to Pauline when they have been worried and concerned about their children's difficulties - they too will be sorry to see Pauline leave us.

In her quiet, but very stylish, manner, she will be missed by staff, pupils and families. I am sure that everyone wishes her an enjoyable retirement with more time to follow her creative interests and may be even more trips to the theatre for her and husband, Bob.

K Ison



Rachel Whiting (2007-2016)

Rachel left Bromsgrove Preparatory School at the end of the Michaelmas term 2016 in her tenth year with us and what a ten years they were.

Rachel initially joined us as a humanities teacher offering History and Religious Education to the upper Key Stage Two pupils at the Preparatory School but it soon became obvious that she wanted a little more than this. All too soon she was pushing to teach the older children and she was given the opportunity to teach RE to Years 7 and 8. Soon afterwards, the opportunity to teach History at Key Stage Three was also offered and Rachel being Rachel, of course, said 'yes'. If that was not enough, she also decided to embark on a Master's degree specialising in Religious Education. All through this period, Rachel worked enthusiastically both in the classroom, on the games field and in her role as a tutor for a form in Year 5. Where Rachel got the time to get married, I do not know, but she did and so she became Mrs Whiting. However, this was only to be the beginning of her career at Bromsgrove School.

When the opportunity came up for Rachel to apply for the position of leading a Boarding House at the Preparatory School she did so with her usual enthusiasm and commitment. Perhaps it even surprised her that she was given the post so early in her career, and yet she had all the natural attributes to do an absolutely fantastic job. Although a gifted academic, Rachel was, and is, a naturally caring person, who

though sensitive and kind, will not suffer fools gladly. At the same time, she was also conscious of her lack of leadership experience and always sought the wise counsel of colleagues that she trusted. Needless to say, under Rachel Whiting, pupils in the Boarding House felt safe, happy and secure. Then, along came her first child Harry and a new chapter was to open up in her life.

Having returned to School after maternity leave, Rachel was bursting with enthusiasm for a new challenge, which presented itself when she became Head of Gifted and Talented. She strove to put this new important role at the centre of the School's academic life. Then along came her second child, Oliver, and once again there was a different priority, quite rightly, in her life. However, returning to School, full-time after maternity leave, Rachel wanted yet another challenge and along came Head of Year 5. Soon after this she also began a new external course called the National Professional Qualification for School Leadership (NPQSL) with a further view to advancing her career.

As leadership patterns and roles changed within the Preparatory School, Rachel was appointed Director of Key Stage Two and given a position on the Senior Management Team. Sadly, she had to relinquish her role as Head of Year 5, something that she fought strenuously against, but that's just Rachel, always wanting to do everything for the children and enjoying every minute of it. However,

she was appointed Head of Religious Education, something she had always wanted to do and now her life appeared to be complete. Except for the fact that Rachel was always looking forward. When the opportunity came for Rachel to be involved in developing the Marlet, a new holistic approach to measuring the progress of pupils in Key Stage Two, she jumped at the chance with all her usual enthusiasm and commitment. Indeed, this became her pride and joy and she leaves the pupils at this stage of their educational development all the better for it.

Rachel saw the chance for external promotion when the role of Head of Kingsley Preparatory School, Leamington Spa, became available. She applied and the rest, as they say, is history.

Having worked closely with Rachel throughout her career at Bromsgrove, how can I sum her up? As a colleague, I always found her to be extremely professional, dedicated, hard-working, supportive and loyal. As a teacher, the one thing that struck me about her was that she was always dedicated to the welfare and best interests of the children, typified by the way in which she drove her vision for the Marlet forward. Finally, as a person, for me Rachel proved to be a kind, thoughtful, gentle, sensitive and understanding friend. We will of course miss her here at Bromsgrove Preparatory School but our loss will be Kingsley's gain.

S Loone



Sarah Le Guyader (2015–2016)

If one word sums up Sarah Le Guyader, it is enthusiasm and a sense that no mountain is too hard to climb. She brought both a sense of fun and a desire to try new ideas to the English department when she arrived at Bromsgrove at the beginning of the Summer term in 2015.

Sarah was appointed as Head of English and Drama after spending time in France with her husband and son. Her infectious smile made her a firm favourite with the staff and pupils alike. All the children she taught enjoyed her lessons as they were both exciting and engaging. The children in her lessons and in her form were welcomed each day by her whole-hearted approach to life. On her arrival, she invigorated the drama department and sought to further the already strong ethos that Bromsgrove has in developing drama for the children at the School. She played a part in looking for an experienced, permanent member of staff who could deliver drama to the children in a new and energetic way.

Along with Mr Woollhead, Sarah began the process of generating a drama base in the School that has seen a range of productions from Lewis Carroll to Shakespeare. In the English department, she was able to impart her wealth of knowledge and worked closely with the team to introduce many new ideas.

It was Sarah's sense of fun and adventure that was pivotal in making the decision to start a new life. Therefore, it was with sadness that the staff and children had to say goodbye to Sarah when she left on maternity leave at the end of the Michaelmas term of 2016. After the birth of her daughter, Heather, Sarah decided to concentrate on raising her young family and moved to the South of England in order to join her husband in his new career.

We all wish Sarah well with her future plans which I'm sure will take her to many towns and cities as she furthers her career and works as a team with her husband to look after their young family.

E Lally



Peter Skerratt (2015–2017)

Peter joined the Classics Department in 2015 from Yarm School. He took up a post with the responsibility for the planning, monitoring and delivery of Latin courses up to Key Stage 3, thus becoming one of a handful of colleagues who genuinely teach across both the Prep and Senior Schools, with a timetable covering Latin and Classical Civilisation courses from Year 7 to A level.

Peter has been a calm, approachable teacher to all of his pupils, whatever their age or classical experience, always keen to engage their interest through his own subject knowledge and a variety of activities, but with high standards and expectations for their behaviour and progress. Living up to his name, he truly has been a 'rock' for the department, managing the Prep School lessons, resources, data and documentation in his own highly efficient but personable way which has been of great support to younger Classics colleagues.

In true schoolmaster mode, Peter is a team-player whose commitment has gone well beyond the classroom and embraced other facets of School life. A valued Prep School Tutor, he has run several lunchtime clubs to promote the classical world, as well as developing the programme of extension activities for scholarship and gifted and talented pupils, all of which have been well received.

Peter has also been an advocate of School trips, all of which have embodied camaraderie and, it appears, food, in addition to the educational experience. His successful Classics trip to Italy balanced historical sites and ice cream in equal measure, whilst his own appetite belied his physical frame on a recent Outward Bound trip - clearly his frequent commute between the two Schools burned the calories quickly, with a good turn of speed on him too, as I learnt to my cost when foolishly taking him on in a staff race at ancient Olympia!

Peter's calm and assured manner has been perfect for encouraging pupil participation in the U12C teams for hockey and cricket and the U12D team for rugby, taking responsibility for their fixtures with little fuss and good humour. Finally, and most pertinently, there were Peter's chapels and assemblies, characterised with visual aids ranging from rugby boots to a teddy bear, but always with a clear message for his audience. Little wonder then that a man of genuine friendship, integrity and faith should feel called to expand his active role within his own Church. Peter's warmth and communication skills will undoubtedly be an asset in his ministry, and his professionalism will take any further training in his stride. We thank him sincerely for his hard work and humour at Bromsgrove and wish him and his family every blessing in their next step.

A McClure

Senior Staff Leavers

Catherine Maund (1980-2017)

And so Catherine Morris's tale at Bromsgrove began on November 20th 1980 when she wrote a no-nonsense letter amounting to thirty-five words... to Nick Earle to offer her services as a graduate teacher in the biology department... Handwritten, eschewing the latest technology of the Sinclair ZX-80 or Commodore Vic-20.

True to Catherine's style – not a word was wasted... there was no tedious exposition of passion, commitment... its message was... I am interested in the job, here is my CV and these are my referees... A thing of beauty.... Therefore, for the double Eisteddfod winner... it led to interview....

The interview comments are indecipherable for the most part but it is no surprise to see the odd phrase... "Wins confidence", "quiet cool", "efficient"... It is recorded that the Reverend Hough who acted as referee had a very high opinion of the young all round sportswoman, chorister, and student of Cambridge University who nurtured a secret life knitting, dressmaking and within the novels of John Le Carre, Jack Higgins and Alistair McLean.

Her service of the School will become the stuff of legend that will ensure that she takes her place alongside the most revered figures in the history of Bromsgrove in the future... It comes as no surprise to see that the "P" within CPM is not... Pandora or Persephone.

The P is for Prudence... a name that captures Catherine's wisdom, counsel, support, guidance and influence that have touched the lives of so many colleagues and children over the course of her life at Bromsgrove School.

She has been a committed servant to the academic, co-curricular and pastoral life of the School. She was one of the first Mary Windsor Tutors, started girls' hockey and cricket, active in the legendary expedition club, leader of ski trips, Head of Sixth Form.

Colleagues tell me that as befits a coastal native, Catherine has an encyclopedic knowledge of seaweed.

Housemistress extraordinaire: legend has it that the girls in TC blocked every nook and cranny as they were convinced that Mrs Maund had the rooms bugged – she seemed to know everything that was going on... little did they know that their foghorn voices were just percolating down to the House office... to telegraph the latest gossip in the House.

Mrs Maund really did have eyes in the back of her head. Catherine had positioned a mirror in her office in such a way that she could see round corners and therefore knew who was coming up the stairs even though she could not possibly see directly from her desk. She would call to them as they approached and they never did cotton onto how she did it – other than of course her fame spread as the 'all seeing eye'.

Leavers' suppers were prepared almost completely by Catherine and became a real institution as every year she used to ask Upper Sixth what they would like to do and every year they would ask for the Leavers' supper in House with tutors - a really special TC/Mrs Maund event.

Never flustered, even by Commemoration Day dress issues for her girls, Mrs Maund was very much her calm and controlled self when she saw one outfit - only the tell-tale raised eyebrow gave her mood away. Pupils were often sent out in search of appropriate undergarments from the girls' boarding houses. On return with no luck, Mrs Barnett (TC tutor) had to help and the final ensemble was stunning, with the young lady looking the perfect TC Upper Sixth leaver. Mrs Maund looking relieved and eyebrow no longer raised.

One year in House drama, the new Head of Drama approved TC's Rocky Horror Show and was responsible for the performance. Catherine sat in the second row behind the Headmaster, Mr Taylor ... imagine the horror of seeing his discomfort first hand through the whole performance - looking down at his programme for most of the production. During the performance, Mrs Maund said "I will be putting in my resignation letter before the morning". TC did not win that year but thankfully Mrs Maund didn't resign either.

Over the years, Catherine turned her talents to marketing and admissions, as a leading light in the choral society and she was there at the start of the LIV camp, which began in the Headmaster's garden and has now become the wonderful experience that it now offers to the pupils.

She has been an ever present, unchanging, reassuring figurehead at Chapel, assemblies and in the School's most formal occasions and in the common room through the highs and lows of our working lives over so many years. When you need judgement as to what to do, what to say, what to wear, Catherine can be relied upon to have the right answers.

She has been there for colleagues and pupils in their times of need and she doesn't fully know, nor seek to know, just how important she has been to so many members of the community... perhaps it will sink in over-time but Catherine is far too modest and self-effacing to give herself any credit for her actions and for the positive impact she has had on the people around her.

I couldn't quite get to the bottom of the mystery but I am sure Catherine would be happy to tell you all about the exploding still, with the hose on the loose which flooded the prep room or her legendary air hostess impersonation on the Iceland trip. You might want to hear also of Bryn who accompanies her on every trip - a teddy bear in case you wondered.

Some colleagues live by four letters WWCD.... What would Catherine do? This will continue in the consciousness of the School well beyond her retirement. The associated adjective 'Catherin-esque' is not far from the model of the true Bromsgrovian....

We all know that Catherine will give her time to any event, not out of duty but in support of both pupils and colleagues. It is not the wine or the match tea or the buffet that draws her to concerts, camps, expeditions, home and away matches, services and the like. It is the deep belief in the power of supporting and encouraging children to develop interests and abilities beyond their studies.



Catherine has embodied the values and the spirit of the School in so many ways without compromising her character, conviction and values – they just happened to match those of the School. Unlike many who spend their working life in one place, she has not changed to fit in. She has served the pupils, colleagues and community with the same energy and life every day. She is the elegant swan, with fast paddling feet and she has been a model for us all.

As she has been a role model in her working life, we look forward to seeing her modelling just how a teacher should embrace their retirement: with adventure, enterprise and a spouse who remains in full time employment. She has been a great servant to the School, a terrific colleague and a friend.

A true original.

J Hallows



Mark Stone (1992-2017)

Mark Stone retires this year after twenty-five years of dedicated and loyal service to teaching at Bromsgrove. A true Bromsgrovian teacher, he has contributed to many aspects of School life and helped to make the lives of Bromsgrovian students that much richer as a result.

Mark graduated from Imperial College, London with a degree in Chemical Engineering and worked in the IT world in London and latterly the Netherlands for ten years, prior to his calling to teaching. It was during his Dutch years that he re-met and married Sue, a Chemical Engineering peer from Imperial, when she was working at Shell Netherlands. This was the start of what has turned out to be a very long, happy and successful marriage. Mr and Mrs Stone and The Pebbles - Nathan, Bethany and Sam.

A First-rate teacher of Chemistry, Mark was the epitome of flair and enthusiasm. Without fail, when I mention Mr Stone, students state how much fun he was and how they loved his energy and enthusiasm, recounting his many 'demos' - especially if they went wrong. He would always be seen leaving the prep room with some chemical or kit to 'enhance' his lessons. We would know how successful he had been when we heard the bangs, screams, smells and laughter emanating from his lab.

In his time, Mark taught several GCSE and IGCSE courses to all ages and abilities, as well as running GNVQ for the department and teaching Salters AS and A2, the new IB SL and HL and Edexcel A Level; he has helped students to achieve to their potential and beyond in a very successful department.

His contribution to the co-curricular side of the School has been no less impressive. As Master in charge of Community Service, he developed and enhanced the School provision and allowed the Duke of Edinburgh programme service section to expand. Charity shops, visits to residential homes and Christmas parties, environmental projects like the bird box campaigns and even pond creations were all incredibly successful; such that the community and wildlife around School were never better served.

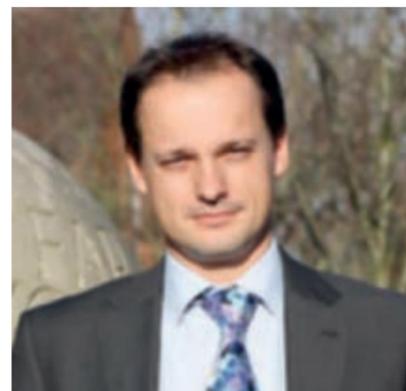
Mark took part in many Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and helped support the expansion to the outstanding programme that exists today. He contributed to boys' rugby, squash and especially football. According to Mr Wilkins, his laissez-faire approach was clearly a masterclass in teaching the boys responsibility and teamwork and his number one responsibility was to ensure he had enough numbers of boys on the bus. Latterly Mark has been very involved in the Biofuels project and the 'shed'.

A great idea and superb experience for any budding scientist or engineer - with an impressive pilot plant set up from scratch all thanks to Mark's engineering skills and enthusiasm. A significant number of our best scientists have been able to impress in applications due to this project and it has been very good for extended essay opportunities.

As a tutor in Mrs Maund's Thomas Cookes and Mr Wilkin's Walters, both were impressed and appreciative of his work. As the Houseparent of School House, Mr Bowen says that Mark was one of the most dedicated, reliable and caring Houseparents he worked with. His pastoral care was first-rate and his knowledge of his boys was just about as good as it gets. He always maintained the highest of standards and the pupils in his care knew what was expected of them as Bromsgrovians. School House under Mark - day and boarding - was superbly run. It was a very enjoyable House to belong to whether pupil or staff. He never flagged in commitment, energy and zeal for the House and its children - his service to the House was exemplary.

We will all miss this most humorous, entertaining, caring and humble of Bromsgrovians. We especially thank him for all his support, guidance and friendship and we wish him a fulfilling and restful retirement with his family.

F Bateman



James Brogden (2000-2017)

Arriving at Bromsgrove School from Australia in 2000, James Brogden set about, as any English teacher should, spreading his appreciation of literature and language, encouraging our young people to write through initiatives like the Vortex short story competition and even branching out into another area of passion: Media Studies, which he led at the School for seven years. Over his seventeen years he has inspired, entertained and educated thousands of pupils and he will continue to do so for many years to come as he moves on to his next challenge at King Edward's in Birmingham.

Asked what it was that stood out about Mr Brogden as a teacher, his pupils responded: "hats, cucumbers and cats." Referring, I assume, to the impressive Gatsby hat display in his classroom and the obsession with watching videos of cats. And cucumbers. Sometimes at the same time.

As a tutor, he served in Thomas Cookes and Hazeldene before taking on the role of Deputy Houseparent in Walters, where he has remained for twelve years.

He calls teaching 'the day job' and, not without reason, you sometimes get the impression that he would rather be writing: James currently has four published novels and a collection of short stories to his name.

However, despite this success, he is constantly coming up with new theories on education and thinking of ways to engage his classes. He has lectured at the British Film Institute, been a coursework assessor for Media Studies and has accompanied EYP students to the European Debating Finals in Zagreb during his time as a teacher at Bromsgrove.

James is not afraid of adventure and has led World Challenge expeditions to Malawi, Madagascar, and left this summer for India and the foothills of the Himalayas. He has devoted much of his time at Bromsgrove to the Duke of Edinburgh award and is described by colleagues as a "fine companion on expeditions" with "always something interesting to say". His attention to detail with pupils on expedition is duly noted by one colleague who was impressed with the stern delivery of a lecture before the kids were allowed to leave the coach. "don't leave anything behind" he said "anything left behind is lost"... "don't come crying to me later if you've forgotten something on the coach. It will be too late." Shortly afterwards, locals reported seeing a man fitting James's description running down the lanes of Cumbria in pursuit of a coach shouting something like: "stop the coach. My phone's still on there..."

He is the self-styled Bear Grylls of Bromsgrove; Ray Mears in a suit. He tirelessly tracks the local countryside looking for inspiration for his next book. Murders in Hagley Wood; Stone-age forts in the Clent Hills and the tangled woods of the Lickeys. But there's an aim to it all because James is always on the look-out for the next place where he might lift up a little corner of the world we know and step into a different one: one of his own creating.

We will miss James. He has been an ever-present both in and out of the department with his dry wit and sometimes unconventional approach to things. It is fitting that the man who has endeavoured to move mountains whilst at the School will end his time here in sight of the biggest one of them all. However, he leaves for the right reasons: to develop his expertise at another excellent school and, being more centrally positioned near the heart of the city, to pursue his writing career. We wish him all the very best in what is sure to be a remarkable future.

D Williams



Kate Garratt (2008–2017)

An exceptional teacher, Kate Garratt's greatest contribution to Bromsgrove has been inspiring students to academic excellence and a love of English. Many have described her as a 'legend'; with her intellectual prowess, creative flair and cool persona, it is clear why this description fits.

Kate Garratt arrived at Bromsgrove in 2008 and, over the course of nine years, has made steady increases to her teaching time. With a double first from Cambridge, she has proven a great asset to the department. She has motivated students to seek similar academic heights, with brilliant A-level teaching, running the Woolf essay competition and enrichment sessions for Oxbridge futures. Kate is an outstanding teacher, with a genuine love of her subject. She is skilled at enthusing students, regardless of ability or age, to engage with learning, and takes pride in delivering high-quality lessons.

Her support, wit and wisdom has also been a great staple in the department. She has initiated new schemes of work for KS5 and KS3, and was in charge of creating centralised resources and planning. She delivered lectures on the changing nature of language, comedy and on banned books. Kate set up a popular Staff Book Club and introduced a new Bromsgrove Service Blog that had its contributors loving journalism in no time.

In her time acting as Second in Department from 2015-16, she improved the department's organisation further, devising collaborative schemes and supporting the Head of Department ably.

As Site-Based Coordinator for IB Online Education, Kate guided and helped others learn beyond the School's curriculum capacity, in Mandarin, Psychology and more. Teaching Theory of Knowledge, she put students through their intellectual paces, always walking the perfect line between posing high-concept questions that baffle and the ability to explain complex philosophy.

Kate has been an integral member of Hazeldene House as a day tutor. The girls respond to her supportive, approachable nature and she has provided exemplary guidance and tutoring throughout the years, at both Junior and Sixth Form level. She constantly praises the successes, both large and small, of her tutees and her unwavering positivity is inspirational. Her tutor group are so fond of her that they threw her a baby shower.

In the English department, her support, intellect and subversive sense of humour have enhanced our lives. Pupils past and present all comment on how her teaching has enriched them and led to a deeper love of English. Wycombe Abbey is going to be an exciting new adventure for the Jones family – we are delighted for them. Kate Garratt will be missed by all.

L McKee



James Jones (2009–2017)

Despite having a background in teaching, most notably at Brighton College, James did not initially come to Bromsgrove to teach; he arrived in September 2009, originally applying for a housekeeping role at Housman Hall, taking on a job that would fit in alongside the PhD that he was working on, as he researched bachelor subcultures in nineteenth century Britain. Within a few months, a maternity cover arose in the History department, which he took on – and the first steps of a stellar pastoral and teaching career at Bromsgrove had been taken.

Indeed, rarely have 'temporary' positions led to such distinguished and wide-ranging achievements at Bromsgrove. James impressed so much – going above and beyond the role he had taken at Housman Hall - that within a year was running the boarding house, taking over at the helm when Jon Wingfield departed to run BIST. Whilst this was again potentially a temporary arrangement, James approached it with his customary diligence, inventiveness and enthusiasm and he has continued to run Housman with distinction over the past seven years.

In the classroom, James' wide range of talents and skills have seen him turn his hand to teaching History, Politics, the Extended Project Qualification, Theory of Knowledge, Core Studies and Religious Studies. But it is in the History department where he has best had the stage to showcase his expertise as a teacher, and where his passion for learning and for teaching has been evident on a daily basis. Pupils have always enjoyed his lessons which have been led with enthusiasm, great eloquence and an inventive approach. Department meetings have seen the force of nature that is James in action – constantly coming up with ideas to support pupils, aid teaching, see better sharing of resources or improved use of technology. His colleagues have really appreciated his support, his humour and his generosity, all of which have been offered in abundance.

Housman Hall has been a very happy environment for its boarders, with James' initiatives having seen him go the extra mile in order to create an enjoyable, welcoming and stimulating atmosphere in the boarding House. As a Houseparent, he has been immensely caring, approachable and helpful to the pupils under his care, whilst his firm and fair dealings have left them in no doubt as to the expectations that their School and House has for them. He has encouraged tutors to share their talents and skills with their charges.

First and foremost, he has always been a rock steady support for Housman Hallians to call upon. As the leader of a tutor team, James is held in the highest esteem. His willingness to lead from the front and his insistence on going above and beyond the call of duty has regularly freed up his tutors to enable them to use their time more creatively with their tutees. He has ensured that the extensive building work that has taken place in recent years has had the needs of the pupils at its heart and the transformation of pupil accommodation has been a huge success.

The introduction of the Extended Project Qualification was masterminded by James. His success at guiding early classes through it, laid the foundations for a huge shift at Bromsgrove in 2015 when, alongside the introduction of the new A level system, the vast majority of Lower Sixth pupils also took on the EPQ. As Senior Boarding Houseparent for the past few years, James has provided a huge amount of support and guidance for boarding tutors and Houseparents. On the games field too, he has inspired his charges, using his experience (and the odd sprinkling of Welsh wizardry) to encourage the rugby and football teams that he has coached.

James has always dedicated himself fully to each and every one of his commitments, whether they be teaching, coaching, mentoring, planning or supervising. This is in itself is impressive. But when one considers that he has been running a boarding House of more than one-hundred Sixth Formers at the same time (as well as a huge Sixth Form department), it puts his efforts into context; the incredible work ethic and dedication that he has demonstrated to Bromsgrove School, its staff and most of all its pupils, has been second to none.

James leaves to take on the role of Deputy Head (Pupils) at Wycombe Abbey. His new School will benefit immensely from his enthusiasm, intelligence, creativity and humanity. We wish him every success and happiness in his new role.

D Wilkins



Ben Dudley (2013–2016)

Ben Dudley re-joined Bromsgrove from Kings Bruton School, to a newly created role as Director of Hockey, and he immediately made his mark upon in School sport. It was great to see an Old Bromsgrovian return with such enthusiasm, passion and commitment to developing hockey for both boys and girls. Ben set about re-designing the programme to ensure that the foundations were strong in the Prep School and avenues were available for individual pupils to progress through the England pathway system.

Above all, Ben encouraged pupils and staff in all they did and in all they wanted to do. If pupils came to him with ideas, he did his best to accommodate them. He particularly found time for the lesser-known lights as well as the strong and famous. He rejoiced at seeing young people fulfilling potential and enjoying achieving.

Ben was a firm believer that hockey was not just played at School, and he actively encouraged pupils to join local clubs so they could improve their skills throughout the year. He introduced development fixtures for the girls during the Lent term as well as entering them into the Worcestershire Summer League. Hockey indeed is an all year round game.

An avid supporter of all School sport, he was regularly seen keenly watching the rugby teams and coaching successful cricket teams during the Summer term. The numerous tours that Ben organised, both within the UK and further afield to Sweden, Holland and South Africa have been there to help develop the pupils' love of hockey as well as understanding the cultural side of sport.

Ben leaves us for promotion as Director of Hockey at Bristol University where he will be responsible for all hockey played at the university. We wish him all the best in this new endeavour and we are looking forward to being able to foster further contacts between School and university.

P Mullan



Ruth Simmons (2014–2017)

Very few colleagues will fit as much into three years at Bromsgrove as Ruth has managed since she arrived in the Classics Department straight after graduation from Cambridge. Through her first year, she met all the demands (and more) of gaining her PGCE qualification 'on the job', combining her administrative and theoretical efficiency with a real desire to display her passion for her subjects through different ways of engaging her pupils.

Whether facing a Year 7 beginners' class or an Upper Sixth Oxbridge hopeful, whether teaching a topic on ancient Rome or from ancient Greece, whether analysing linguistic accident or discussing literary style, Ruth has become a fine classroom communicator and practitioner, thoroughly respected by her pupils for her subject knowledge, planning of resources and approachable demeanour. Teaching truly is a vocation for her, and editorial word count necessitates this now turning into something of a list of her other accomplishments.

In Classics, she has championed the use of technology in the classroom, given up lunchtimes and Saturday mornings to coach some students up to Entry and then GCSE level in Ancient Greek, and organised day trips to Cambridge and a very enjoyable tour of Greece itself.

Building on her own half-Blue in the sport, Ruth has helped to re-establish a girls' cricket team at School and has taken on

responsibility for the Model United Nations trips and conferences, even accompanying the CCF trip to South Africa this summer to help with staff ratios. Most notably, she has meticulously planned, organised and delivered so successfully the Bromsgrove Badge programme for the Lower Fourth year group, including the Malvern walk and the daunting but hugely valuable Lower Fourth Camps – the majority of more experienced colleagues would balk at such a challenge, but not Ruth. And all this alongside being a committed resident Tutor in Housman Hall, rather fittingly responsible for the building named Hayward – Gail and Tim Hayward, such fine all-round servants of the School themselves, would recognise and endorse Ruth's qualities and humility.

Unlike the negative word 'ruthless', the adjective 'ruth' has fallen out of English usage in modern times, but it has been an entirely apt addition to our Bromsgrove vocabulary for the last three years. More's the pity that we shall be Ruth-less next year, for the Common Room is losing a caring, humorous and respected friend, whom we shall miss greatly. By being closer to Ruth's home and family, Cranleigh have most definitely scored a winner with her appointment. We wish her all the very best in her new post, which many of us at Bromsgrove can only see leading to future promotion as a Head of Department or Housemistress-in-waiting.

A McClure



Andrea d'Angelo (2015–2017)

Andrea D'Angelo is a teacher of the highest calibre. She joined us two years ago, when St Bees School in Cumbria unfortunately closed, and was fantastic from the outset. Her lessons were meticulously planned, enthusiastically delivered and completely engaging. She was as happy inspiring our top linguists in the Sixth Form with Oxbridge in their sights, as she was helping weaker pupils through their GCSEs. She has the best interests of every pupil at heart and was determined that they would all do as well as possible. Andrea was a bubbly figure in the department, always ready to accompany a trip to help anyone out, and her experience as an oral examiner was invaluable to us all.

Alongside Spanish, Andrea also supervised pupils completing IB Italian and taught Italian to interested pupils as an activity. This was extremely well attended and some of these pupils even attempted a GCSE in Italian this year. This really is a fantastic achievement.

In addition to all of this, Andrea had already amassed much boarding experience at St Bees and Housman Hall really benefitted from her expertise and her patient, nurturing tutorial style. The pupils will not get another tutor quite like Mrs d'Angelo. We wish Andrea well at Marlborough where she will be a huge asset to the modern languages department. Their gain is most certainly our loss.

M Beet



Jeremy Hallows (2015–2017)

Jeremy arrived at Bromsgrove with a wealth of experience and a fine pedigree, having been Senior Housemaster at Millfield School and Deputy Head Pastoral at Wellington School.

In just two years at Bromsgrove, Jeremy made a tremendous contribution to the Senior School, in particular to the pastoral life and its organisation.

His huge experience as an ISI Inspector was certainly a major contributory factor to the outstanding Inspection Report that the School received last year. He has an exceptional eye for detail, which was exactly what was needed.

In the Biology Department he once again brought enormous experience, valuable resources and a ready wit.

He is a very talented guitarist and singer and a keen cricketer. We wish Jeremy, Donna, William, Christopher, Rebecca and Louisa every success and happiness at St Bees, Cumbria.

C Maund



Jo Parker (2015–2017)

Jo was originally appointed to the School in September 2015 as a Graduate Sports Coach. With a degree in Sports Therapy from University College Birmingham, and an interest across a wide range of sports, she fitted into the department nicely. Part of her role was to assist Paul Mullan in his administration duties; however, Jo was most comfortable when involving herself in PE lessons and games sessions, especially netball, which she plays to a high level herself.

With a maternity cover post required the following year, Jo applied to cover this whilst studying for her PGCE qualification through Buckinghamshire University. She has taught lessons across two different key stages as well as gaining experience in the academic side of A Level and GCSE PE and BTEC Sport. She is a qualified fitness instructor, and alongside her sports massage, she is keen to pursue this area in the future. Whichever direction Jo's life takes, we wish her well and thank her for the contributions she made to School life.

S Franks



Rebecca Coldrick (2016–2017)

Rebecca joined the physics department from Edgbaston High School for Girls. Her ready sense of humour and always being ready with a smile quickly made Rebecca a key member of the department. We will miss the genuine warmth and friendliness that she shared in the "behind the scenes" work of the physics department.

Bringing her experience of Initial Officer Training from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst to Bromsgrove, she was able to contribute to the Combined Cadet Force and act as a role model for those students who wish to follow a similar path of service. A keen athlete, Rebecca took pleasure in further helping in the activities programme through her involvement in cross-country and junior girls' games, namely swimming and Duke of Edinburgh. In these pursuits, students and colleagues were very appreciative of her efforts and spoke highly of her.

In her short time at Bromsgrove, Rebecca was a tutor in Thomas Cookes House where she supported the Upper Fourth girls. Rebecca will be leaving the teaching profession to join Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, taking up a role in Finance Management; we wish her success in her future endeavours.

S Kettle



Michael Wakeford (2016–2017)

Although Michael only joined us for one year from Skagerrak, Norway, he made a lasting impression. His knowledge and experience, particularly in teaching IB, added to the success of mathematics at Bromsgrove. He was always willing to go the extra mile for his students and he forged strong relationships with all he met. Michael returns to teach in Norway and we wish him every success.

N Riley



Senior School: Pre-Prep Survivors



Senior School: Prep Survivors



Senior School: Monitors



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