



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

# Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

LENT 2015  
ISSUE 1



## A word from the Headmaster

"Food, glorious food" sing the urchins in *Oliver*, trudging up to collect their bowls of gruel from the workhouse kitchen, all the while fantasising of better offerings. To my knowledge, Bromsgrove has never had tyrannical, scowling cooks ladling out slop, the colour and texture of wet cement and slightly harder to swallow. And although the Dining Hall was aging, it wasn't exactly the depths of Dickensian squalor.

Nevertheless, we are very conscious of the importance of food and its

presentation, especially in the lives of growing children. Last year, we asked our pupils what they thought about what was on offer at School. This year, we are acting on what they told us.

A magnificent new Dining Hall is rising in the Senior School and changes are afoot in the Prep School in coming years. More immediately though, we have all been delighted with the impact of our new catering partnership this term. Drawing on the strengths of our existing staff but adding their own

wealth of experience, Holroyd Howe have transformed the menus in all three schools. Innovation, variety and flavour are the order of the day now. From cooked breakfasts to gourmet lunches to moreish match teas and every meal in between, positive feedback has been overwhelming.

And the best news? You really can ask for "More" without being taken to task.

PETER CLAGUE  
Headmaster



## Living Geography

The Headmaster delivered a guest lesson to U6th geographers on the Christchurch earthquake of 2011. He gave an overview of the tectonic background of New Zealand which included reference to websites on current earthquake activity in the area. He spoke about the devastation caused by the earthquake and the hundreds of aftershocks and his talk was supported by some excellent images and personal experiences. Pupils were able to take part in a question and answer session with him.

## Oxbridge

Well done to those students who have won an offer to Oxbridge.

### Cambridge:

Marat Yangurazov, Engineering (Homerton)  
Jagraj Bhandal, Natural Sciences (Trinity)  
Alice Shinner, HSPS (Homerton)

### Oxford:

Daniya Aynetdinova, Chemistry (St Catherine's)  
Matthew Lynch Material Sciences (Trinity)  
Adam Grenfell, Physics (New)  
Lev Blinov, PPE (St Hilda's)  
Ellie Saker, Physics (Lady Margaret Hall)



## Prep Sports Honours



Well done to the following girls who have represented the County at sports:

**Cross Country:** Orla Walker, Mary Kuvaeva, Kitty Luscombe, Maisie Hucker, Daisy Clements and Freya Harper

**JAC Girls Hockey:** Charlotte Harmer, Alice Liversidge, Martha Edge, Maisie Hucker, Fleur Gallagher, Francesca Mellor, Ariana Jones and Siena Horton

**Netball:** Alice Liversidge, Ruby Hanke, Kitty Luscombe, Ariana Jones and Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins

**Cricket:** Maisie Hucker

**Swimming:** Alice Oliver, Kate Morrice, Catrin Carter and Elizabeth Aston.

### **Tetrathlon**

Grace Warren has been crowned the 2015 West Midlands Champion for her age group in the Tetrathlon event - fencing, shooting, running and swimming.



# Chemistry



The Fourth Form welcomed Nick Barker from the Chemistry Department at Warwick University, who gave a lecture to explain and demonstrate the wonders of science.

Enthusiastically explaining the principles and mechanisms at work behind his presentation and with the aid of nappies, rubber gloves and washing up liquid, Nick taught everyone about hydrogels, chemiluminescence, exothermic reactions and super-cooling magnets.

It was especially interesting to hear Nick talk about his colleagues' work in such endeavours as cryogenics, blood treatment, medical breakthroughs and potentially revolutionary cancer treatments.

This fun lecture enabled pupils to engage in the practical application of their studies and to catch a glimpse of the paths down which different subjects can lead them.



## Competitive Chemistry

Pupils took on Haybridge High School in the second round of the West Midlands' Inter-Schools' Chemistry Competition.

The team of Toby Lam, Oliver Hall, Olivia Bond and Abi Saker won convincingly 68 to 30. The team is now through to the finals which will take place at Birmingham University in early March.



1 (1)	<b>Millfield School</b>
2 (2)	<b>Whitgift School</b>
3 (43)	<b>Cranleigh School</b>
4 (3)	<b>Guildford HS</b>
5 (4)	<b>Bromsgrove School</b>
6 (21)	<b>Grammar School at Leec</b>
7 (15)	<b>Repton School</b>

## Top Five for Sports

Bromsgrove School has once again been named as one of the top schools in the country for sport, according to School Sport magazine.

All independent schools up and down the country have been ranked on their sporting successes for 2014, with our teams contributing to a very impressive national fifth place ranking.

The results are based on twenty different sports and more than 120 different national competitions.

## Fencing

Fencing is proving to be a very popular activity in Prep School.

Seven Prep fencers took part in the West Midlands Age Group Foil Competition. In the U10s boys competition, Oliver Glaze performed well, winning his last 16 fight and fencing very well through his quarter final fight. Gabriel Highland-Gilhooley got a bye to the last 8, won his quarter final and lost to the eventual winner in the semi final. He finished 3rd with a bronze medal. In the U12 foil, Fred Hanson and Luke Weller finished 16th and 17th. Ethan Cockayne and James Alma fenced in the U14 age group and finished 9th and 10th respectively.

Grace Warren took part in the U10 girls' foil, losing in the quarter finals to finish just outside the medals in 5th place.

Meanwhile, Senior School fencers Mark Cheng and Dzhemal Avdoi both won through the pool competitions. Although having already beaten the eventual winner in the pools, Dzhemal lost to him in the quarter-finals; Mark won his quarter final but lost in the semi-final to finish a creditable third and qualify for the British Youth Championship National Finals in Sheffield.





## VC Commemorated

It was a great honour for pupils and staff to represent the School at a moving ceremony in Kidderminster for the 100th anniversary of Captain Eustace Jotham's death in Waziristan. Born in Kidderminster and an Old Bromsgrovian, Captain Jotham received a VC for his valour in WW1. His Victoria Cross is one of the School's most treasured and valuable possessions - it was displayed to the public in Kidderminster

Town Hall with some of our CCF cadets guarding it. In a small ceremony outside the Parish Church Emily Collie (Head Girl) and Niall Hegarty (Head Boy) recalled his death before a commemorative plaque to him was unveiled. This was a moving and unique occasion for all those who assembled to remember him.



## Fourth Form Drama

This year's Fourth Form production, as part of the National Theatre's Connections Festival, sees our students perform in Cush Jumbo's intense and energetic play, *The Accordion Shop*. Mister Ellody has quietly kept his accordion shop going on the high street for generations. One day, he steps out of his door and witnesses an extraordinary incident: hundreds of young people are surging onto the street, and they've all received the same text message on their phones which simply says, "Riot. The Road. 7pm tonight."

There are two performances each night on 26th and 27th February at 7.00pm and 8.15pm in the Drama Studio. Tickets are free and are available from Mrs Rogers by email [lr Rogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:lr Rogers@bromsgrove-school.co.uk).

Please be aware this play contains occasional strong language and themes of an upsetting nature and so is not suitable for young children.



## Tango

Tango Siempre, a quartet of fantastic musicians who specialise in the music of Argentine Tango, visited to give a masterclass to our top musicians. In the evening they gave a thrilling concert featuring our own brass group, flute group, string group and big band.

## Hazeldene Lyttelton Ball

The Sixth Form Ball was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all. Thanks are due to the PAs of both Lyttelton and Hazeldene for organising such a wonderful evening. The girls and boys hardly left the dance floor all evening. The girls looked simply stunning and the boys scrubbed up well too.....



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BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

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## BROMSGROVE SCHOOL CHORAL SOCIETY

**Gabriel Fauré, Requiem**  
**Cantique de Jean Racine**  
**Ralph Vaughan Williams, Five Mystical Songs**

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

**7.30PM, ROUTH HALL**

Tickets £5.00,  
music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk  
01527 579679 ext 235

[www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk](http://www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

## Future Music Events

### Choral Society Concert

The Bromsgrove School Choral Society and Sinfonia will be performing Gabriel Fauré, *Requiem*, *Cantique de Jean Racine* and Ralph Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs* on Saturday 21st March in Routh Hall.

### Pop and Jazz Concert

The annual Pop and Jazz Concert takes place in Routh Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th March.

Bring a picnic or snacks and enjoy the Lent Term's 'feel good' musical event. Tables are arranged to accommodate ten people, you can book a whole table or just a few seats. This is always a popular event and both nights sell out quickly - book your tickets soon!

Tickets for both events (£5 each) are available from the Music Department on ext 235 or via [music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:music@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

## A History of Bromsgrove School

Mr Bowen and Senior pupils will present three evenings about the History of Bromsgrove School.

The first event, **Origins to 1901**, will be held on **Thursday March 12th**, commencing at 7.30pm in Routh Hall. This is planned as a fully scripted evening with some musical interludes. The presentation will examine when the School may have started; show that it was not founded by Protestant Edward but Catholic 'Bloody Mary' and Philip of Spain; learn where the School was in the town; find out about Sir Thomas Cookes and the alleged murder he committed and about his fascinating wife; the School in the Civil War; the great Headmasters of the 19th Century, including formidable Dr Collis, and their physical expansion of the School; a tunnel; a famous poet; the start of sport; celebrations of Queen Victoria's two Jubilees and the dawn of a new century. To reserve your seats please contact Mr Bowen's PA, Yvette Camden.

Two further evenings are planned:

- May 5th: 1901 to 1939
- June 18th: 1939-1953 with Postscript (This event will be based on an eventual book on 'Bromsgrove at War, in Welsh Exile and the Return')

## Model U N

A delegation of twelve pupils attended a Model United Nations conference hosted by The Lady Eleanor Holles School. Our team of twelve delegates proudly represented Iraq, Kenya and Singapore.

Throughout the three days of the conference they engaged in exciting and fruitful debates concerning global issues in the world, ranging from the Rwanda genocide to combatting Islamic extremism to the regulation of conventional arms to the question of Ebola in Africa. They also enthusiastically raised points of information and many of them approached the podium to speak for or against a resolution.

They all came away from the conference having gained some valuable new skills.

Well done to Ira Li, Ariel Zhang, Ararat Seyranyan, Andrei Badea, Maddy Macadrai, Anastasia Broder, Adrian Siu, Youssef Arafat, Quynh Luong, Sjors Roosenboom, Polina Goncharenko and Teresa Gubern Gonzalez.



### Argentine Visitors

Bromsgrove hosted two girls' hockey teams from St Andrews School, Buenos Aires. It was a great opportunity for the Bromsgrove girls to spend time with pupils from another culture and also to see how hockey is played in South America. Two good matches were played, and despite St Andrews winning both, this was a great experience for our girls.

## Hockey

### Kappa Cup

For the fifth year running, the U18 boys' and girls' indoor hockey teams travelled to Hamburg to play in the Kappa Cup - the biggest junior indoor tournament in Europe, which boasts the best teams from all over Germany, and Holland.

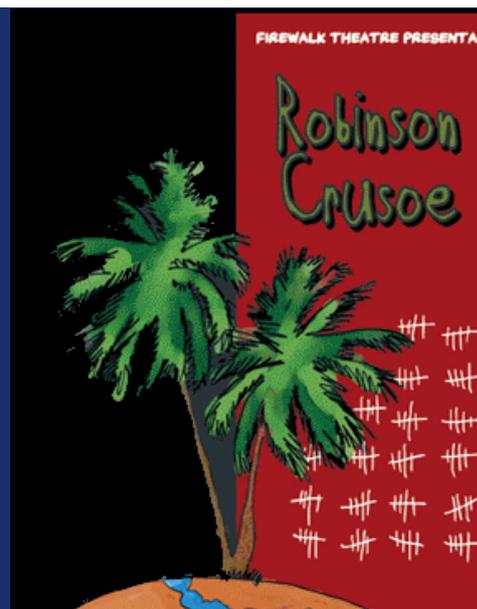
The girls played Mulheim, Der Club An Der Alster, Bremer Club zur Vahr and Berlin.

The boys played against Germany's third placed side Manheim for a 1-1 draw. They lost 1-0 to Neuss in a tight game, beat Bremer 4-2 and lost narrowly 2-1 to the host club Alster. In the play-off game they played Mannheim again and after a 2-2 draw lost 3-2 on penalties.

## Spanish Play

Students of Spanish were given a treat when the Firewalk Theatre presented their adaptation of the original story of Robinson Crusoe. It is maintained by Rupert, director of Firewalk, that Robinson Crusoe was Spanish. The person on whom Daniel Defoe based his famous character was in reality Pedro Serrano, the captain of a Spanish ship which was sailing from Habana to the Indias, and which sank in 1526. Serrano managed to swim ashore and survive until he was rescued eight years later. In 1719, the English author depicted this tale as Robinson Crusoe, the novel with which we are all familiar.

Rubén Castro, a Mexican actor presently living in Barcelona gave his hispanic take on the meeting of Crusoe and Man Friday. The comic-book style approach and minimalist stage resulted in a hilarious account of the clashes of two cultures in Spanglish with a vibrant, contemporary sound track enjoyed by all.



## Poetry

Pavel Poloskin and Nyree Williams represented the School at the County finals of the National Poetry by Heart recitation competition at the Hive in Worcester, where they competed against 29 other youngsters.

They each recited three poems from memory, showcasing first a range of pre- and post-1900 literature, and a final piece written during the First World War.

After lengthy deliberation, the judges finally declared Pavel the winner. Pavel now goes forward to the National Final of the competition, which takes place over three days in March at Homerton College, Cambridge, and will include meeting the Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy.



## Enigma

An Education Officer from Bletchley Park visited to speak to the Fourth Form about the Enigma Machine and its 158,962,555,217,826,360,000 different settings. (That is 158 quintillion which would take longer than the history of the Universe to work through manually).

Pupils heard about codes and cyphers and all took part in both cracking them and deciphering them. The variety and scope of codes was fascinating – from tattoos on heads in Ancient Greece through to the extraordinary complexities of Enigma and today's microdots. At the end of the talk, several pupils were allowed to operate the Enigma machine.



## Chinese New Year

Pre-Prep children had an exciting start to the week when they were visited by Year 10 pupils to learn about Chinese New Year. They enjoyed hearing about the traditions associated with Chinese New Year and loved making decorations, lanterns and writing their names in Chinese. They even had lucky money envelopes to take home.

## Gap Teachers

We are delighted to welcome the new group of Gap Teachers who join us for a year from Australia and New Zealand.



## SnowDome

Year 3 had a cold day at the SnowDome - they wrapped up warm and thought about the sort of clothing that you would need to wear to be an Arctic explorer like Ernest Shackleton. All of the pupils enjoyed tobogganing and playing in the snow.



## Living History Warwick Castle

As part of their Turrets and Tiaras topic, Year 2 visited Warwick Castle. The day involved a walk up to the motte, the oldest part of the castle and a workshop where the children painted their own shields. They also experienced a journey back in time to medieval ages witnessing battle preparations in 'The Kingmaker' exhibition.



## Great Fire Fun

Year 1 took part in a Great Fire of London morning when they explored each aspect of this exciting topic through calligraphy, music, iPad recording, exciting interviews, building Tudor houses and 'wow' word graphs. Later they watched their Tudor house models go up in flames.

## Pirates

Year 3 had an exciting morning doing a workshop on Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*. The children learned about the plot, practised some of the songs and learnt a dance routine.

This provided them with a great insight into the work that goes into putting on a show and they are excited to go and see the performance after half term.



# Bromsgrovian News

## Llanwrtyd Wells Lunch

The Headmaster is hosting a special celebratory lunch for former pupils who were schooled in Llanwrtyd Wells during Bromsgrove's exile to Wales in the late 1930s/early 1940s. The event is being held on Tuesday, 24th March at Bromsgrove School.

The School, with the help of its own history department, is hoping to begin recording a collection of oral histories. It is hoped that those attending the luncheon in March will consider recording memories of their Llanwrtyd Wells years, allowing us to preserve them for posterity. Invitations to the lunch have been sent out to all Llanwrtyd Wells pupils (where we have a current postal address), however if you haven't received a letter, please contact Megan Griffiths, [mgriffiths@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:mgriffiths@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) or telephone 01527 579679 ext 366.



## Barrie Lloyd

Barrie Lloyd (L 45-48) returned to the School with his son, Tim, for the 1st XV match against Stamford in the 7th round of the Natwest Schools Cup.

There was certainly to be family rivalry on the touchline, as Tim is an Old Stamfordian and of course Barrie supports Bromsgrove.

## Moseley Rugby

We have recently donated some money to the Moseley Rugby Club Brick-o-Meter Campaign and so are interested to see how many OBs have links with the club. We would like to put together a list of all OBs who have played for any of Moseley's teams.

If you played for them please contact Jenny Bossard [jbossard@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:jbossard@bromsgrove-school.co.uk) with approximate dates and which team you played for.

# Forthcoming Events 2015

## February 2015

Wednesday 11th	Year 8 Production, Cobham Hall 7pm
Thursday 12th	Year 8 Production, Cobham Hall 7pm
Friday 13th	Boarders' Parent Consultation Afternoon, Sports Hall 4.30-5.30pm
Tuesday 24th	Page House Chinese New Year Party
Wednesday 25th	Fourth Form Play 'The Accordion Shop'
Wednesday 25th	Grandparents' Day for Year 1 (1K and half of 1C)
Thursday 26th	Fourth Form Play 'The Accordion Shop'
Thursday 26th	Grandparents' Day for Year 1 (1L and half of 1C)
Thursday 26th	Year 8 L1, L2, L3 Parent Consultation Evening
Friday 27th	Fourth Form Play 'The Accordion Shop'
Saturday 28th	Young Enterprise South Worcestershire Spring Trade Fair, Worcester High Street
Saturday 28th	School House and Thomas Cookes Ball, Grafton Manor 6.30 for 7pm
Saturday 28th	Celebratory Donors Lunch, Hospitality Suite 12.00noon

## March 2015

Monday 2nd	Nursery and Reception Informal Open Afternoon, 3-5pm
Tuesday 3rd	Prep School 'Travelling Books' Fair, parents welcome after 4pm
Tuesday 3rd	Pop & Jazz, Routh Hall 7.30pm
Wednesday 4th	Prep School 'Travelling Books' Fair, parents welcome after 4pm
Wednesday 4th	Pop & Jazz, Routh Hall 7.30pm
Wednesday 4th	Prep School Years 3 and 4 Parent Consultation Evening, Maple Hall 3.30-7.30pm
Thursday 5th	Prep School Years 3, 4 and 5 Lunchtime Concert, Maple Hall 1-1.30pm
Thursday 5th	RADA Showcase, Drama Studio 6.30pm
Saturday 7th	Young Enterprise Redditch and Bromsgrove Spring Trade Fair, Webbs of Wychbold
Saturday 7th	Chinese Concert, Routh Hall 7pm
Saturday 7th	Chapel Choir sings Choral Evensong, Peterborough Cathedral
Monday 9th	Years 1 and 2 Formal Parents' Evening
Tuesday 10th	LVI Form Parents' Evening, 6.15-8.30pm
Wednesday 11th	2nd Parents' Evening for 2EM
Thursday 12th	2nd Parents' Evening for 2W and 2F
Thursday 12th	A Presentation by the Deputy Headmaster on the History of the School Part 1 'Origins to 1901', Routh Hall 7.30pm
Friday 13th	Lupton House Open Mic Night, Routh Hall 7.30pm
Sunday 15th	Mothering Sunday Family Service, 10.30am
Tuesday 17th	Year 2 'Turrets and Tiaras' assembly for Parents, 9am
Tuesday 17th	Informal Concert, Old Chapel 5.30pm
Wednesday 18th	Nursery and Reception Parents' Tour of the Classrooms, 7-7.15pm
Thursday 19th	Prep School Years 6, 7 and 8 House Music Competition
Thursday 19th	Senior School Own Clothes Day in aid of CDG UK
Thursday 19th	Pre-Prep PA Meeting, Thomas Horton LLP 7.30pm
Saturday 21st	Choral Society Concert
Saturday 21st	Page House Disco
Sunday 22nd	Page House Easter Egg Hunt
Monday 23rd	Nursery Concert, 9.15am
Monday 23rd	Prep School Charities Week begins, Prep School Own Clothes Day
Tuesday 24th	Nursery Concert, 9.15am
Tuesday 24th	Prep School Easter Service, Memorial Chapel 8.30am – all welcome
Tuesday 24th	Headmaster's lunch with Llanwrtyd Wells. OBs Bromsgrove School (venue TBC) 12noon
Friday 27th	Pre-Prep Easter Egg Hunt