



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2015
ISSUE 4



Wishing all of our families and friends of the School peace and happiness this Christmas

The Story of Christmas

Pre-Prep children enjoyed telling the traditional nativity story.



Christmas Concerts

The Senior School Christmas Concert offered a rich, diverse and above all entertaining programme of performances by pupils of all ages. The performers had clearly worked incredibly hard to ensure that their individual contribution to the ensemble pieces was the best that they could produce. It was a wonderful occasion.

Prep School also held a Christmas Concert which was well attended by an appreciative audience. Well done to all our young performers.

The Christmas Concert recordings are on YouTube: www.youtube.com/bromsgroveschool



Inspiring Talk

Claire Lomas visited to talk to pupils in an inspirational lecture. Claire's life was turned upside down in 2007 when, after a horse riding accident, she became paralysed from the chest down fracturing her neck and dislocating her back. She also suffered fractured ribs, a punctured lung and pneumonia. Claire was a chiropractor and top level event rider when this freak accident left her unable to do the things she loved. In 2012 Claire became headline news worldwide when she walked the London Marathon in a pioneering robotic suit. It took her 17 days and she raised £210,000 for Spinal Research. Pupils and staff were moved and inspired by Claire's talk about her life since her accident.

European Golfer

Lower Sixth pupil Lawrence Hill played against 130 competitors in the 23rd Junior Golf European Open near Malaga in Spain. After an opening round of 80, he shot an excellent round of 70 on the second day to comfortably qualify for the final. This round, on the Alcaidesa Links course, was the joint best round of the tournament. The final day's play was at the acclaimed Finca Cortesin course. Lawrence finished a creditable 40th in Europe.



Honeywell Leadership

Matthew Collins has been won a place to participate in the Honeywell Leadership Challenge Academy, at the US Space & Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville, Alabama. After a rigorous selection process, which included looking at his record of academic excellence and community service, Matthew was awarded a place to join a prestigious group of students from around the world. Matthew will take part in engaging workshops that aim to expand knowledge of current issues

in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths, and challenge participants to apply themselves as a leader. Sponsored by Honeywell Hometown Solutions, the company's corporate citizenship initiative, the Leadership Challenge Academy is a unique opportunity for young people aged 16 -19 to enhance their global perspective, understand their own capacity to lead, and work alongside their peers.



Gold Vault

Phoebe Hodgkisson was awarded Gold in the West Midlands Floor and Vault championships held at Stoke on Trent recently.

Well done to Phoebe who trains with the Worcestershire Gymnastics Academy and was part of the Worcestershire U9s advanced team competition.



Flourishing Fiver

The Flourishing Fiver Team are raising money for Primrose Hospice. They took part in the trade fair at Worcester Cathedral and raised over £150. Their enthusiasm and engagement with the public helped to produce this wonderful addition to their funds which will be added to the retirement collection from the Advent service.



Tea and Carols

Six residential homes attended a wonderful afternoon of Christmas cheer which included a quiz, carols, and music provided by the flute group and choir. Over 60 residents enjoyed the festivities and the company of our students, who were great ambassadors. This was ably organised by: Rhiannon Idczak, Olivia Bond, Charlotte Goodall, George Goodall, Jianfeng Guo, Elizabeth Edwards, Kara Doyle and other Sixth Form helpers who undertook the event as a CAS project.



Book Club

The first Preparatory School Book Club meeting enjoyed a lively discussion about 'The Boy at the Top of the Mountain' by John Boyne. The similarities between this book and 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' were drawn out. Other themes of tolerance and prejudice were also aired. The next book will be 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio. The Book Club is open to all pupils in Year 7 and 8; Mrs Le Guyader has all the details.

A Fishy Story

Bromsgrove School's award winning catering partner, Holroyde Howe, recently put on a demonstration for pupils about fish and shellfish. The fish display, from regular supplier M&J Seafood, had a selection of sustainable fish and shellfish for the pupils to try. Chef Daniel Collier did some live theatre cooking of fish, showed the pupils the art of filleting fish, and gave out samples of cockles, smoked salmon and other types of fish. The aim of the demonstration was to get pupils thinking about where their food comes from, educate them about sustainable fishing and encourage them to try something new. We hope they enjoyed it! Future workshops for pupils will include sushi, butchery skills and pasta making.



Parade

The CCF recruit Passing Out Parade was inspected by Major Gary Feek REME – a Staff Officer at 11 Signals and West Midlands Brigade. Major Feek is an Old Bromsgrovian and a former enthusiastic member of the CCF. To mark the occasion of his return after an absence of 25 years he presented the CCF with a photograph of himself and fellow Bromsgrove cadets winning the West Midland District March and Shoot Competition in 1980.

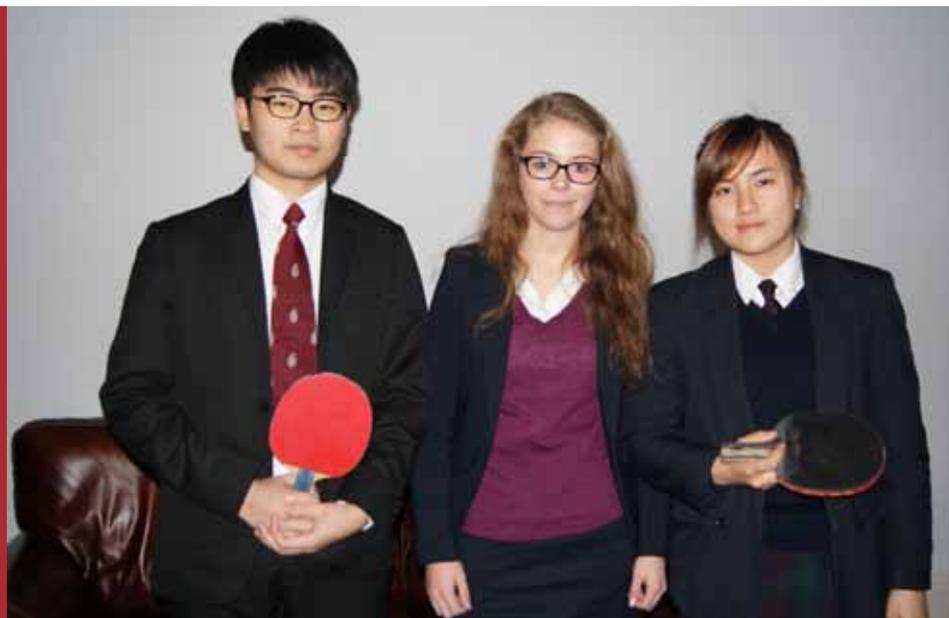


IB Award

School is delighted to have received, for the second year in a row, an award from best-school.co.uk as one of the top performing independent IB schools. The Headmaster comments, "This is further affirmation not only of our consistently high academic standards and the calibre of our teaching staff, but also of the School's deeply held commitment to the underlying principles of the International Baccalaureate." Congratulations to Dr Thompson, Director of IB, and to last year's cohort – the current IB2 group have much to live up to.

Table Tennis

U19 and U16 boys and girls Table Tennis teams competed in a table tennis competition, organised by Sandwell LEA. Both the girls' teams won their competitions, the U16 boys won their competition and the U19 boys finished as runners up. Well done to all involved in this new venture for Bromsgrove pupils.



Tudor Day

Year 4 took part in a Tudor Day. Dressed up in Tudor costumes, they made pomanders, masquerade ball masks, Tudor houses and learned a Tudor dance. The highlight of the day was a Tudor banquet with Henry VIII making an appearance as the special guest.



Art on Show

Parents of pupils from Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 were invited to see their children's art work in an art room exhibition. The exhibits included a variety of work generated within both the curriculum and school activities. The work on show included drawings, works in progress, mosaics and printing projects. Also on display were activities paintings - interpretations of famous works of art, which reveal the unique character of the pupils who created them.

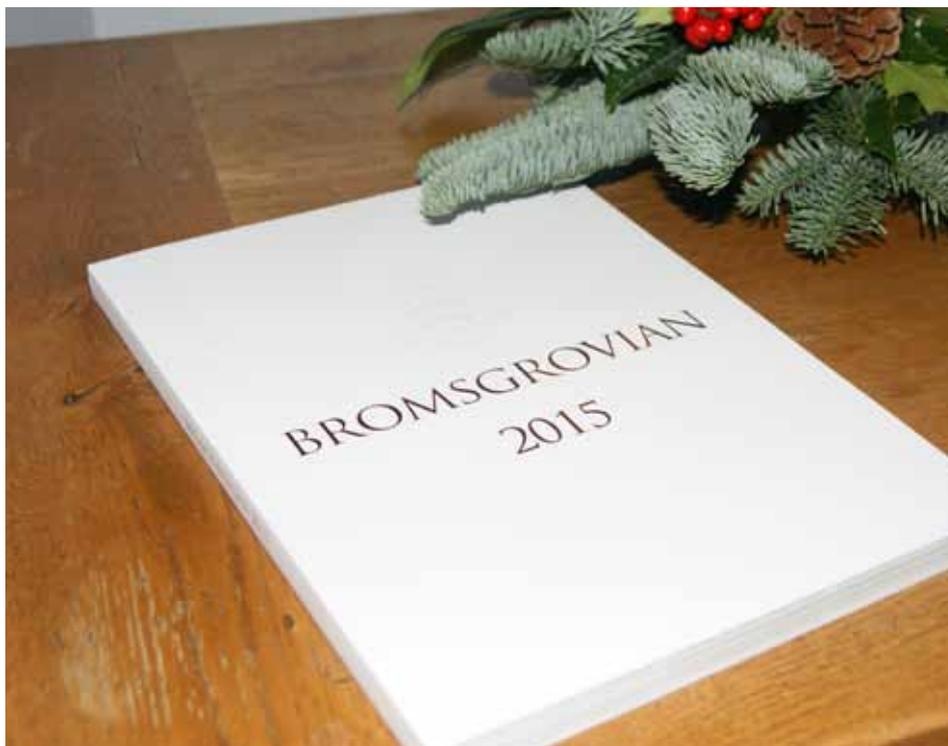
Composer

Assistant Director of Music, Richard Knight, composes the most exquisite music: not only have his compositions been heard in performances by School musicians, but also by professional ensembles throughout the UK such as Ex Cathedra (Birmingham-based Chamber Choir) and at the London tête-à-tête opera festival. One of London's top professional choirs, Tenebrae, recently gave a performance of 'Come rock his cradle' in King's Place in London ahead of the release of their latest Christmas CD recording. At the Senior Christmas Concert, the Orchestra will perform two arrangements he has made for them including the 'Spanish Dance' by Moskowski, and a little-known Peruvian carol setting 'Hanacpachap Cussicuinin'. At the Senior School Carol Services, the Chapel Choir will give the first performances of his latest work, 'Christmas Night', written especially for the choir.



Charity Mission

The Prep School have been collecting toys for the Birmingham City Mission again this year. Staff have once again been very impressed with the level of support - there are some wonderful gifts going to children who wouldn't otherwise receive any Christmas presents.



Bromsgrovian

Each family should by now have received a copy of the 2015 Bromsgrovian which has been sent home with the eldest child in each family. If you haven't yet seen it please ask them to extract it from their school bag! This edition has a new layout and style – we hope you will enjoy perusing it.

Netball Champs

After winning the district netball tournament Bromsgrove's U14 team competed in the County Championships in Worcester. In the pool stages they beat Malvern St. James 14-5, Stourport 16-0 and drew with RGS Worcester 7-7 winning the pool stages and so facing Dodderhill in the semi-final. Bromsgrove played extremely well in the semi final beating Dodderhill 9-2 and progressed to the final where they beat King's, Worcester 5-1 to be crowned County Champions. They are now looking forward to the regional West Midlands tournament in January where they will represent Worcestershire.



U11 Rugby

Prep School's 11A rugby squad are proving a force to be reckoned with – this season they have played an impressive array of schools and won every match they have played. Their fixture list of 17 matches this term includes the Dragon School, Packwood Haugh, Dean Close, Wellingborough and Monmouth, as well as local schools RGS the Grange, Abberley Hall and Winterfold House. They won the Port Regis Tournament.



Twitter News

Do you follow us on Twitter? We were delighted to win Day 15 of the #SocialAdvent. Thanks to all our followers. Please watch out for Sightings of Santa Claus on our twitter feed over the next week.... we are very excited!

WINNER: Congratulations @BromsSchool you've won day 15 of #SocialAdvent 🏆🎉



Bromsgrovian News

Ladies' Lunch

The School was delighted to welcome Sally-Ann Hales QC to Bromsgrove in December for the Festive Ladies' Lunch. 100 parents, Old Bromsgrovians and guests listened to Sally-Ann speak about her career as a Barrister, highlighting the role of women in the law profession and particularly in her own position as QC.



Future OB Events

Thursday 4th February 2016	Donors' Lunch
Tuesday 9th February 2016	OB and Current Pupils' Speed Networking Event
Thursday 10th March 2016	The Seventh Annual Foundation Lecture
Thursday 21st April 2016	Sir Thomas Cookes Legacy Society Lunch
Saturday 23rd April 2016	Call My Wine Bluff event in the Dining Hall
Saturday 10th September 2016	1960-1969 Leavers' Reunion
Saturday 1st October 2016	2006 Leavers' Reunion

For more information about any of these events please contact Megan Griffiths or Jenny Bossard in the Alumni Office.