



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2019
ISSUE 3



CHRISTMAS **G**REETINGS

**Wishing all of our families and friends
of the School
Peace and Happiness this Christmas**

Singing in Salzburg

A 40-strong choir of Year 8 to Upper Sixth singers toured Salzburg over half term, enjoying five days in the beautiful Austrian city, singing in Salzburg Cathedral and nearby Thalgau as well as at the famous Schloss Leopoldskron where some of the outside scenes of *The Sound of Music* were filmed. A number of parents came out to support the group, and everyone enjoyed excursions to the slides within the Salt Mines, getting soaked by the trick fountains at the Hellbrunn Palace Gardens and revelling in an evening of Austrian folk music and dancing, complete with lederhosen.



Sleep Out

We are full of admiration for Prep pupil Tristan Shaylor who slept outdoors for a night in Birmingham when taking part in the St Basil's Big Sleep Out. St Basil's raises awareness and money for young people at risk of homelessness to find and keep accommodation.

It was a freezing night but Tristan managed to sleep out the whole night, using the cardboard box shelter he had built as protection against the cold.

Tristan and his brother Max have raised over £350 so far in sponsorship.



Icelandic Adventure

Twenty-nine excited geography students embarked on a trip to Iceland during the October half term. During their stay, they had a true introduction to Icelandic geology and culture. The four-day trip was packed with activities and opportunities for the pupils to learn about many aspects of Icelandic life and culture.

Students visited the Thingvellir National Park and Oxararfoss fall, the two-tier waterfall Gullfoss and famous Strokkur geysir. The following day the Geographers travelled to the second largest geothermal power station located on top of the active volcano, Hengill. This station provides electricity as well as hot water to Reykjavik and is one off the greenest energy sources on the planet. Students braved the weather and sulphur smell to visit the hot springs on the Reykjanes peninsula. The day ended with pupils standing on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge - the only section visible on land between the Eurasian and North American plates. Finally, they visited South Iceland, this area has a rich band of black sandy beaches, ice caps, fertile river plains and an explosive volcanic landscape. Pictures were taken at Seljalandsfoss, a waterfall fed by the melting water from Eyjafjallajökull's icecap. Although the group didn't get to experience the Northern Lights all the other activities certainly made up for that.



Tennis

Well done to Prep pupil Henry Foster who was one of four boys chosen to represent Herefordshire & Worcestershire in the U10s Twelve Counties Tennis Championship in Corby.

The team faced fierce competition, with Henry being one of only two H&W boys to record wins for the County.

Fabulously Flourishing Fivers



Year 7 pupils in Prep School handed over a whopping cheque donation of £11,636 to the Primrose Hospice. So impressive was the feat that an reporter from BBC Hereford & Worcester came to interview some of the fund raisers, Mrs Leather and Sarah Harris from Primrose Hospice. Mrs Leather and the children were interviewed live on Elliott and Toni at Breakfast - BBC Hereford & Worcester Radio <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p07tttdv> on Monday 9th December (the children feature 2hr 20 mins in, at 8.20am).

Commenting on the initiative, Sarah Harris from Primrose Hospice, said “I am just absolutely astounded at the incredible amount raised by the Year 7 pupils. Not only have they shown kindness, drive and entrepreneurship but they have proven just how amazing young minds can be”.



All 122 pupils were given £5 and staff from the Hospice came to talk about the hospice movement and how they rely on volunteering to raise funds. A few ideas were given and a big prize for the child who raised the most money. Thirteen pupils raised an astonishing £6,154 between them and many more raised over £100 each.

Freddie Slater was the outright and deserved winner, having made £916 from his exquisite Primrose badges.



Basement Boxes



Pupils from both Prep and Pre-Prep have been collecting food and toiletries over the last few weeks to support The Basement Project in Bromsgrove. The Project has a Food Bank on site for those struggling to make ends meet. They can provide a food and toiletry parcel to see an individual or family through for a few days.



Sporty Boy

Well done to Thomas Ashton who has been selected for two County Squads; the U13 Worcestershire County Cricket squad and the Worcestershire U15 County Hockey Squad.

We look forward to news of his accomplishments in both sports.

IAPS Hockey

Congratulations to the U12A team who competed in the IAPS National hockey finals. In the group stages, our girls performed well and finished as second in their group, this put them through to the Cup competition, automatically placing the team in the top eight IAPS schools in the country.

In the quarter-final, Bromsgrove faced Cranleigh School. This was an evenly matched game, with both teams having chances in the first half but the scores remained 0 - 0 at the half time whistle. Bromsgrove played extremely well in the second half but despite their best efforts they couldn't equalise, leaving the final score 1 - 0 to Cranleigh.





St Cecilia Concert

Almost a hundred Senior School musicians took to the stage in a special concert commemorating St Cecilia, the patron saint of music. The concert also celebrated two years since the opening of Routh Concert Hall.

The musicians put on a phenomenal display of music making, including pieces from the orchestra, two big bands, the string orchestra, concert band, and choirs. This event was greatly enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.



Young Musicians

Having made it through the regional auditions, Vincent Lee will now audition for the category auditions for the prestigious BBC Young Musician of the Year competition.

Josh Osborn Patel enjoyed a day working with the National Youth Orchestra in London working with world famous Venezuelan conductor Gustavo Dudamel.



Big Band

Congratulations to Big Band on receiving a Gold Award for their performance at the National Concert Band Festival. There was some great feedback from the adjudicators saying what a “marvellous” band they were and everyone was amazed that they are actually a school band.



Great Expectations

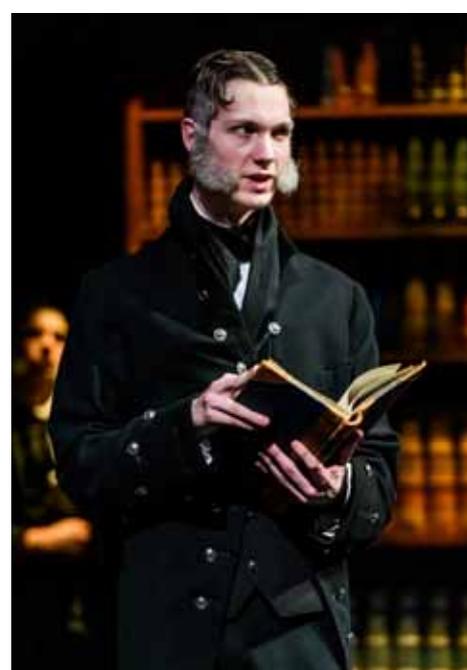
With an inspired adaptation of *Great Expectations*, a talented cast of Senior School thespians took their audiences on a journey of gothic horror, misadventure, cruelty and love.

In this epic production, Dickens' vision was skilfully recreated, including almost 60 scenic transformations and over 400 lighting and sound cues;

it was a considerable feat for the students operating sound and light, as well as the cast.

With over 150 characters, a huge fire, a paddle steamer, a forbidding old house, the marshes of Kent and the backstreets of London, audiences experienced an exciting two hours in the theatre.

Stand out performances from Eleanor Johnson as Miss Havisham, James Bradley as Magwitch and newcomers to the Sixth Form, Andrei Agapie and Lisa Vasilyeva as Pip and Estella respectively, led a magnificent ensemble of young performers.





Cricket

Bromsgrove School's cricketing success has been officially recognised by the School gaining two entries in the Cricketer's Schools' Guide 2020. In addition to being featured as one of the top 100 cricketing senior schools in the country, Bromsgrove Preparatory has also made the top 50 prep/junior schools list.

There has been much success for the School this year, the highlight of which was the U17s becoming National champions after a closely fought match against Bede's School in East Sussex. Dave Fallows, Director of Cricket at the School said "it is a great honour to be recognised in the Cricketer's Top 100 Schools. This recognition is extra

special this year with us being national champions at U17s."

U16 Hockey

Congratulations to the boys' U16 team who finished as Midlands runners-up and now progress to the National Indoor Finals.



Prep Choir at Westminster



After winning the Barnardo's Choir of the Year competition earlier in the year, the Prep School Choir were invited to perform at Westminster Abbey as part of the Barnardo's Christmas Carol Concert.

Our Choir performed *O Holy Night*, conducted by Head of Prep Music, Mrs Corrie, accompanied by Mr Stockton and flautists, Mr Dunlop and Mrs Russell.

A recording of the choir singing the carol can be heard by visiting this youtube page: bit.ly/Pxmas19

Netball

Congratulations to the U13A netball team who beat Princethorpe College 39 - 11 in the Sisters In Sport National Cup Round 3. They now look forward to challenging for a Regional Finals place after Christmas. Well done to Honey Bo Luscombe, Liz Smith, Lexi Wright, Scarlet Preston, Emily Bower, Ava Colley, Lucy Scott, Emily Collett and Luci Meadows.



Staff News



Wedding

Mr Jonathan Dunlop, long-standing flute teacher and Head of Wind and Brass in the Music Department, and Mr Damian Farrell were married in August. The wedding took place at Birmingham Registry Office in the morning and was followed by a reception at Bromsgrove School. This very happy occasion included several musical items and was enjoyed by family, friends and many colleagues from Bromsgrove School.



Mind the Gaps

This year our Gap Teachers have been a fun and hardworking group. We wish them all well in their future careers as they leave us to go back to Australia.