

From the Headteacher

It's been a very busy start to 2011. We were thrilled with the latest development in school performance tables and the 'English Baccalaureate' placing Beaumont as the top mixed comprehensive in the county and the highest state school in St Albans and Harpenden. If you have not read the letter I sent home about this, please check the website. It really is superb news for us all at Beaumont and I am hugely delighted!

We now have a date (Tuesday 5 April for four days) for the appeal against St Albans District Council's decision regarding the New Access and should know the outcome seven weeks later. This remains our priority and will bring tremendous benefits to the school. Governors have also begun discussions on the value of Academy Status for Beaumont. **Please read the report from Mike Tidball, Chair of Governors, on page 12 which explains more about our position.**

We held a superb A2/IB Certificate Presentation evening for last year's leavers in early January when more than 80 students returned. The highlight of the evening was hearing from Kate Langley who left Beaumont in 2006. Her speech was truly inspirational for students and staff alike and I would urge you to read it on the website if you want a challenge!

Finally, do check the back page for Bollywood Night information and do get those bicycles out and check your diaries for Saturday 16 April (middle weekend of the Easter holidays) when the BSA are launching their **inaugural cycle ride to raise money for school and for Special Olympics** (see page 15). It promises to be a great event and I hope to see you there!!

My best wishes to you all.

Elizabeth Hitch

February Diary Dates

Weds	2	Year 9 Options Evening
Thurs	3	Intermediate Maths Challenge
Fri	4	Gym and Dance Matinee 1.00-3.30pm - Hall
Sat	5	Gym and Dance rehearsals all day - Hall
Mon	7	Year12 Geography Fieldwork Trip – return 9 Feb Gym and Dance Performance 7pm – 9pm - Hall
Tues	8	Governor Community meeting (3) – 6.30pm – Board Room Gym and Dance Performance 7pm – 9pm - Hall
Weds	9	Beaumont Life Deadline Gym and Dance Performance 7pm – 9pm - Hall
Thurs	10	Year10 students Dip/Tet/Pol inoculations Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening
Fri	11	Year11 Applications for 6 th Form Courses to be submitted Year 7 Disco – evening - organised by Year11 Prom Committee
Mon	14	Year 9 Senior Team Interviews
Tues	15	Year 9 Senior Team Interviews
Weds	16	Year 9 Senior Team Interviews Lunchtime recital, St. Peter's Church, 1pm
Thurs	17	Curriculum Enrichment Day - House Day
Fri	18	INSET DAY
Sat	19	Music tour to Prague – return 25 Jan
Mon	21	HALF TERM
Thurs	24	HALF TERM German exchange Beaumont to Speyer return Friday 4 March
Fri	25	HALF TERM
Mon	28	Students return to school

For details of sports fixtures please check the PE Blog www.beaumontpe.blogspot.com

Beaumont welcomes comments from parents/carers and families about any aspect of school life.
Please contact us via our email admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

Focus on.....

The Photography

Department



BEAUMONT PHOTOGRAPHY AS & A2

Are you visually creative and imaginative? Keen to develop your skills in self expression through photography? Do you enjoy looking at the work of photographers, film makers and artists? If so you could be a potential photography student. A GCSE in art is beneficial but not essential as long as you can demonstrate visually expressive abilities and skills of analysis.

WHERE CAN THIS LEAD?

The Photography A level develops complex analytical skills as well as practical, visual skills that are essential in many creative and cultural studies at a higher level. Students may go on to study Photography, Art, Fashion, Photojournalism, Film Studies, Video Production, History of Art, American Studies, Animation and many more related courses.

THE COURSE AIMS:

The course will develop and extend creative, critical and practical skills in art photography. Students will extend their knowledge and understanding of the different areas of photography and apply this to their own photographic work. Students produce a body of their own visual work through a large range of tasks and topics. At the end of the year, students put up their own exhibition of work and invite friends, family and public for a viewing.

TRIPS AND VISITS

Close proximity to London ensures that students have access to some of the most important international exhibitions. There is an annual trip to an exhibition, sometimes combined with a 'photographic shoot'. Mrs Burns who teaches this course has a solo exhibition currently showing in London - see opposite.



Photograph by Sam Adamson

A level Photography

I am a student studying A-level Photography and am currently in my second year. After learning the basic photographic techniques in my first year I explored different topics and briefs including the city, portraiture and experimental darkroom work. I have been able to work in both digital and film photography and this has allowed me to gain a wide insight into various photographic processes.

In A2 you have the freedom to choose your own title for a photographic investigation. 'Is Seeing, Believing' is the title of my photographic investigation and I have been exploring a range of different photographers that manipulate the viewer into believing the subject matter of a photograph and then producing my own photographic response. The type of photography I am interested in is editorial photography and I see photography as a way of capturing my imagination and documenting my ideas through photographic imagery.

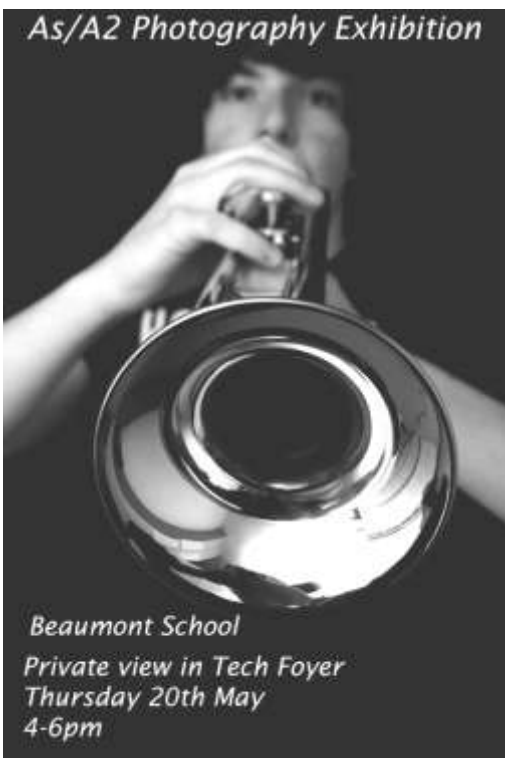
Before I started this course I had no understanding of photography. I have developed hugely on this course and now want to take photography at university and then further as a career. If you are thinking about taking photography A-level it is a great course.

During the course you will take part in workshops of photographic processes, research artists, create your own photographic work from diverse and thought-provoking briefs followed by detailed evaluations. The course works well with both academic subjects and creative subjects.

You do not have to be good at art or great at drawing but you will need to be able to be imaginative and think creatively, be extremely self-motivated and work hard to achieve fantastic photographic imagery, building up an impressive portfolio of work.



Oliver Garner Year 13



As/A2 Photography Exhibition

Beaumont School
Private view in Tech Foyer
Thursday 20th May
4-6pm

Frieze Art Fair

In October, A-level Photography and Art students had the opportunity to visit the Frieze Art Fair in London. The Fair was vast and there were hundreds of artists, photographers and designers from all over the world displaying their work. We walked through rows of photography, paintings, installations and sculptures made out of materials such as metal and fabric. The Fair was very busy and the atmosphere was buzzing, making the whole experience more exciting. There seemed to be something for everyone's tastes at the Frieze and so everyone really enjoyed the day.

After we gathered inspiration from the Fair, we developed ideas for our Personal Studies in Photography. For this unit we can choose to investigate areas of our own interest. We researched and analysed photographers that were relevant to our topics to provide us with more inspiration.

For example, my topic is 'The Photographic Portrayal of Landscapes' and I discovered the photographic work of Walid Raad. His work explores the history of Beirut in the Middle East and he creates panoramic images using smaller individual photographs.

Lekha Nanavati Year 13

Photo on facing page (top right) is by Lekha

© Now and Then, photographs by Moya Burns

University College London Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

UCLH ARTS

Invites you to

'Now and Then'

An exhibition of artworks by Moya Burns

Private View
6.00pm – 7.30pm 13th January 2011

Exhibition Continues
14th January – 9th March 2011

at

The Street Gallery
University College Hospital, 235 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BU
RSVP guy.noble@uclh.org Tel: 0845 155 5000 ext: 5451

UCLH Arts has been generously funded by Friends of UCLH, UCLH Charities.

History News - Year 7 Castlemania!



In the last week of term an epidemic broke out at Beaumont. Throughout the corridors shoe boxes were covered and plastic bags were held protectively as they were carried to lessons. But the strongest focus was along the top corridor of the main building in the region of rooms 14, 15 and 26.

There was a widespread and unstoppable outbreak of Castlemania! As you may be aware, since September, the History department has overhauled the way that it has set homework for Key Stage 3 students. Our experience of students in the past has shown that many produce their best work when left to work on tasks over longer periods of time; additionally we want to allow students to increase their interest in the subject through independent means. As a result we have decided to set homework half-termly and to incorporate skills that we wouldn't perhaps be able to use in the classroom. One such example was the castle building task that Year 7 students were set last half term. The activity was inspired by castles competitions that were run by previously by the department and had proved to be popular. This year's Year 7s certainly rose to the task.

The department was delighted to see the pride that the students had in their work; their project involved them firstly in researching about castles, and then building a model version to look as realistic as possible. It is fair to say that not everyone stuck exactly to the criteria, but the enthusiasm with which the task was executed was faultless!

Originality was certainly a feature of the castles too, especially in the building materials: from cardboard to clay, papier-mâché to printed paper, biscuits to balsa wood and cake to ice-cream cones! The feedback from the students on the task was also overwhelmingly positive; the students really seemed to enjoy constructing their fortresses and many also specifically mentioned that the part that they enjoyed the most was the fact that it was an activity on which their parents enjoyed collaborating with them.

Although we always encourage the students to talk to their parents about their work, we had no expectation that this would be the case. So to the many parents who spent their time supervising or advising upon miniature portcullises, trees, wells and arrow loops, the History Department says thank you!

Details of all Key Stage 3 homework will be issued firstly in planners, on the school website and on the blog where suggested links can often be found.

Miss J Pearson



Year 8 spent the day focussing on Fair-trade, including a Trade Game, taste test, and supermarket survey. It was an informative day and behaviour was excellent: members of the public were impressed by the courtesy and polite attitudes shown by the students. Well done Year 8.



- I felt it was quite useful because I now know more about Fair-trade and felt more like I should buy Fair-trade goods to help poorer people who are less fortunate than me. I also like knowing the price difference so I can compare the difference in prices.

Franki Cross and Jess Ackers

- I found it very useful because now I know the price difference but I know where the money goes. So I would not mind buying Fair-trade products because I know how the money helps the people involved. I also think it's good that I will be helping poorer people

Josie Brown

Year 9

Year 9 students were once again treated to a variety of exciting activities to gain a wider understanding of other countries and cultures as part of our International Dimensions Programme.

From Humanities, lessons included a quick history of China, from the old and painful practise of foot binding (some feet the size of a match-box) under the Manchu dynasty to Communism under Chairman Mao.

In Geography, students were sourcing the components of a pair of Jeans. (Did you know that the whole process involves seven countries?)



Students doing PE were taught the Indian game of Kabaddi, whilst in Art they learnt a number of techniques for designing and decorating African warrior shields. If all that wasn't enough students created sounds from around the world with the popular 'Earthsong' company and interacted with stories from around the world from the storyteller Xanthe Gresham. Once again Mrs. Rowlands, in Drama, dressed in her Peruvian costume as part of the workshop on Machu Picchu.



A big thank you to all staff and well done Year 9 for your enthusiastic participation; a productive and enjoyable day.

Ms Esmizadeh. International Dimensions Co-coordinator

Year 7

The Year 7 CED Activity was to research information about their House hero, and to use the research material to prepare a presentation in the form of a Poster, an Assembly, or a Web page.

Pupils were also working to improve their Personal Learning and thinking skills, working in small teams. At the end of the day each group made a presentation of their work.



Year 10



On International Day the Year 10 theme was climate change and carbon footprint. In the morning students took part in practical experiments exploring the science behind what is happening to our planet. Problems were solved, groups worked efficiently and effectively together and budgets were stuck to (by most anyway). Amazon gift cards were presented to the most outstanding student in each form.



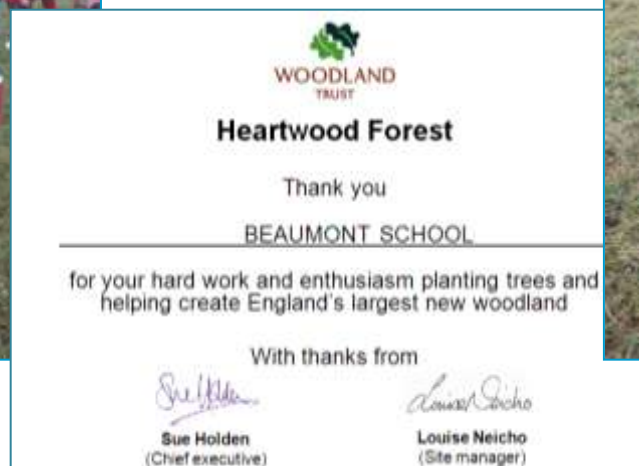
In the afternoon all of the year group boarded coaches and headed to Heartwood Forest. We put on our wellies and hats, grabbed a spade and planted trees. 3000 trees were planted by Beaumont students and staff in an hour and a half.

This is an outstanding achievement and the Woodland Trust was impressed and grateful.



Heartwood will eventually be an 850 acre wood and Year 10 can now always say they were a part of it at the beginning. Thank you to all the staff involved.

Miss Shepherd (AST)



Year 11 were given the task of finding ways to communicate information about themselves, Beaumont School and/or Great Britain without using the spoken word. Pupils were divided into groups and explored a range of communication methods:

- The drama group devised a short play using a range of theatre techniques, to depict differences and similarities between the lives of pupils from our school and our partner school in South Africa, Ntshilini School.
- The video group made a series of short films to portray what life is like at Beaumont School. The standout video was a 'Day in the life of a Beaumont student', played by Sami Muthusamy, who used the video from the pop song 'We speak no Americano' as inspiration.
- The Sign Language group were led by an instructor from Heathlands School who taught them how to sign basic information about themselves.
- The musicians composed and performed a lively piece of music based around the blues.
- In the kitchen the food group rustled up some traditional British dishes which included: Toad in the Hole, Bakewell Tart and Cornish Pasties.
- The PE group learnt two new ball sports from around the world and used these skills to create an entirely original sport.
- The advertising group prepared a new advertising campaign to promote Britain.
- The dancers performed a dance based around famous British landmarks such as the Angel of the North and Big Ben.
- Over in art the group constructed collages used iconic British images.
- The photography group went around the school artfully taking pictures of friendship, lessons, the school building and other activities in progress to convey the spirit of Beaumont.

In the afternoon all groups presented what they had done in the morning sessions and discussed why their form of communication was the most effective. Our esteemed judges, Miss McCrorie and Mr De Kort were very impressed with all of the performances, but ultimately awarded prizes for:

Most creative presentation - Photography
Most convincing speaker - Sign Language
Best display of teamwork - PE
Best overall group - Video



Well done to all involved, it was a very enjoyable day.

Above: a picture from a series of photographs about life at Beaumont using the common image of an orange throughout.

Mrs Sidney and Miss Catton

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students should be well on with arranging their work experience placement for 4-8 July 2011. Please try to ensure that private placement forms are completed and brought into school by Monday 7 February. If you are planning on applying for a WebView placement please ensure you make and submit your choices on-line as soon as possible after the WebView website goes live on Monday 31 January. Please also help us to run the programme efficiently by returning all consent forms promptly. Many thanks.

Any queries please contact Mrs Darnell in the school office.



THE NATIVITY

At the end of last term the Drama department presented David Farr's adaptation of The Nativity. We played to packed houses and everyone involved performed to our high, professional standards. We continue to push the boundaries and try to enrich our students. We created an ensemble production and we were thrilled to be able to

use music composed by our students to accompany the drama. Our students always rise to the challenges with which we present them; our only problem is thinking of what to do next.....

Thank you to everyone involved for their support

Miss Shepherd and Mrs Eversden

I think what struck me most about last night's performance was the sheer power of the story-telling. From the moment the audience sat down in the hall, the enthusiasm and commitment of the cast to the story that they were telling meant that you could not but be taken along with them. There are some truly moving moments - especially at the points where music, movement and drama combine - for example, in the opening scenes, in the Hell scene and the Massacre scene. I shouldn't pick out individual performances, but the awkward Joseph, innocent Mary, world-weary Donkey and comical Innkeeper are all stars. There was also some excellent work from an all-seeing Gabriel and a surprisingly sinister Devil. I particularly liked the real attention to detail - the torches for the Star, the t-shirts of the different groups, the precise pomposity of the Three Kings... At times, I forgot I was in Beaumont School Hall.

Alex Hall

I thought you and your cast did an excellent job; by far the most enjoyable Nativity I have ever seen.

Clare Allen

I just wanted to say well done and thank you for a wonderful performance tonight. The students were fabulous and I'm sure you will pass on many congratulations to them, please add mine too! I left tonight with a real festive glow - thank you.

Miss Snelson

Just wanted to say how great I thought "The Nativity" was. It was wonderful to see a school play that made the audience really consider the motivations of those well-known characters. I thought it was an interesting study of why people have faith and a really intelligent, thoughtful piece of theatre.

Mrs Lutz

Beaumont School Panto

Many thanks to the staff and students who worked hard to entertain the rest of the school on the last day of term with three performances of the Staff Panto, written by Alex and Sam from Year 13. It was loosely based on the theme of vampires invading Beaumont School. Audiences were unanimously warm and receptive, but many people still do not know who played the part of the mysterious chicken.....

Mrs Rowlands

Year 11 Careers Fair – 8 November 2011 – Could you Help??

We are in the process of putting together a day for our Year 11 students on Curriculum Enrichment Day on Tuesday 8 November, around the issue of 'Moving On' and the options available to them once they have completed their GCSE courses. The students will have access to a 'carousel' of activities and talks during the day. As part of this we will be having a Careers/Post 16 education 'Fair' during the morning where a range of providers of post-16 /18 opportunities will be available on 'stalls' to talk to small groups and individual students about the opportunities available. This will include Universities, colleges, and employers. We ran this event last November and the feedback from students, staff and the many organisations attending was very positive.

We already have a number of organisations who have confirmed they will be attending again this year; would you or the organisation for whom you work be interested in coming along as well and talking to students about access to and studying or working in your field?

If you think you might be interested in helping please drop an email to Mrs Darnell ann.darnell@beaumont.herts.sch.uk, or call her in the school office 01727 854726.

Many thanks.

Achievement Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Awards for getting two nominations for Effort or Achievement from their teachers at the end of the Autumn 2010 term.

Daniel Angus	7A	Thomas Fogerty	8R	Anastasia Raymond	9S
Naomi Coleman Jones	7A	Joshua Howell	8R	Grace Whittaker	9S
Melanie Noad	7A	Mei Plumstead	8R	Louisa Briguglio	10A
Sarah Chrisp	7E	Edward Anders	8S	Matthew King	10A
Esme Mallett	7E	Hannah Collier	8S	Alexandra Pugh	10A
Libe Fadrique	7L	Giulio Pipe	8S	Sarah Shah	10A
Robbie Thandi	7L	Laura Tendall	9A	Bethan De Havilland Llewellyn	10E
Clementine Almond	7N	Phoenix-Amber Weston	9A	Chloe Pattenden	10E
Lucy Homer	7N	Marianna Barcenas-Simmons	9E	Jamie Wallis	10E
Syeda Jannat	7N	Natalie Dobson	9E	Oscar Brando-Holahan	10L
Zachary Moore	7N	Daniel Hartwell	9E	Sam Hogan	10L
Emily Ogbourn	7N	Jack Kenward	9E	Matthew Knight	10L
Olivia Almond	7R	Sarah Nicholson	9E	Antonia McDonnell	10L
Stephen Heather	7R	Christopher Stone	9E	Benjamin Winter	10L
Conor Moore	7R	Beth Wilson	9E	Florence Almond	10N
Will Moroney	7R	Rebecca Doidge	9L	Sioned Armstrong	10N
Tanveer Chowdhury	7S	Amy Knafler	9L	Lydia Greaves	10N
Anna Hardisty	7S	Gabriella Mauro	9L	Anna Keeley	10N
Ishitha Kashim	7S	Elsa Mellen	9L	Tiffany Ammar	10R
Ryan Lubbock	7S	Jamie Moroney	9L	Daniel Bury	10R
Mohammed Ibrahim Mizi	7S	Louis Tambala	9L	Chloe Watson	10R
Oliver Davies	8A	Victoria Thomas	9L	Mark Telkman	10S
Gemma Day	8A	Jennifer Boocock	9N	Charlotte Thorpe	10S
Joseph Ferguson-Reynolds	8E	Sylvie Connors	9N	Emma Doherty	11A
Laurel Parker-Mead	8E	Luka Fadrique	9N	Carmelina Leto	11E
Georgia Parrett	8E	Charlotte Graham	9N	Katie Murray	11E
Alexander Rich	8E	Emma Hodgson	9N	Matthew Pepperdine	11E
Tammy Sapir	8E	Safaa Hwang	9N	Tomas Walden-Levy	11E
Sidney Brass	8L	Courtney Ward	9N	Harriet Clifford	11L
Olivia Champion	8L	Sean Boyle	9R	Louise Fogerty	11L
Elise Cutforth	8L	Sophie Brown	9R	Ishana Khimani	11L
Charlotte McAlister	8L	Amy Cresswell	9R	Abbie Smith	11L
Thomas Pate	8L	Ayman Hanafi	9R	Kieran Tidball	11L
Eliza De Havilland Llewellyn	8N	Clare Kingsbury	9R	Adam Hale	11N
James Dempsey	8N	Stephanie Martin	9R	Leah Holt	11N
Megan Hodges	8N	Cameron Neate	9R	Joanna Mills	11N
Abbey Maginnis	8N	Michael Kingsbury	9S	Charlotte Allen	11R
Ella Arnold	8R	Stephanie McMillin	9S	Emily Almond	11R

Silver Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Silver Awards at the end of the Autumn 2010 term. Silver Awards are awarded to students who have made an outstanding contribution to school or community life.

Daniel Angus	7A	Amy Cresswell	9R	Liam Worswick	10S
Melanie Noad	7A	Ayman Hanafi	9R	Emma Doherty	11A
Olivia Almond	7R	Adam Jones	9S	Hassan Khan	11A
Joseph Lee	7S	Natasha Robinson	9S	Emily Mattin	11A
Katherine Doidge	8A	Bethany Wiltshire	9S	Yannick Mayaud	11A
Laurel Parker-Mead	8E	James Blake	10A	Miranda Shelley	11A
Jessica Ackers	8L	Ryan Harte	10A	Stephanie Wallis	11A
Ben Hicks	8N	Alexandra Pugh	10A	Edward Calvert	11E
Megan Hodges	8N	Camille Bates	10E	Sarah Hardy	11E
Thomas Fogerty	8R	Bethan De Havilland Llewellyn	10E	Carmelina Leto	11E
Mei Plumstead	8R	Callum Maginnis	10E	Katie Murray	11E
Daria Abaza	8S	Oscar Brando-Holahan	10L	Rowen Seglah	11E
Edward Anders	8S	Sam Hogan	10L	Cameron Taylor	11E
Cerys Falvey	9A	Matthew Knight	10L	Isobel Thompson	11E
Alasdair Walker	9A	Antonia McDonnell	10L	Hannah Boocock	11L
Phoenix-Amber Weston	9A	Ellie Mudd	10L	Harriet Clifford	11L
Marianna Barcenas-Simmons	9E	Florence Almond	10N	Louise Fogerty	11L
Natalie Dobson	9E	Lydia Greaves	10N	Jake Kattenhorn-Black	11L
Cameron Miller	9E	Stephen Ball	10R	Hannah Perryman	11L
Beth Wilson	9E	Alexander Brown	10R	Kieran Tidball	11L
Rosie Wood	9E	Rebecca Campbell	10R	Charlotte Rayburn	11N
Rebecca Doidge	9L	Emma Donaldson	10R	Charlotte Allen	11R
Jamie Moroney	9L	Ameena Mizi	10R	Emily Almond	11R
Victoria Thomas	9L	Jamie Renfrew	10R	Edward Morgan	11R
Alice Webster	9L	Molly Thompson	10R	Hannah Wiggins	11R
Daniel Cox	9N	Chloe Watson	10R	Jennifer Handley	11S
Luka Fadrique	9N	Aaron Exley	10S	Anshula Mauree-Bain	11S
Charlotte Graham	9N	Christian Smith	10S	Georgia Munjic	11S
Johannes Bockenbauer	9R	Mark Telkman	10S		

Beyond Beaumont

Congratulations to Emily Almond who has been awarded a place in the National Youth Girls' Choir. This is a fantastic achievement and she is the third Beaumont student to have gained a place in one of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. Well done!

Congratulations also to William Pate (former student) who has been awarded a Choral Scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford. He will be joining the renowned college chapel choir from October 2011.



The Living the Dream Performing Arts Company was established by Zoe Jackson, a former Beaumont student, in 2006 at the age of only 16 as a means of funding her place at the National Youth Theatre. It is run by young people for young people. The company, now in its fifth year, has grown and is made up of over 80 young people from Hertfordshire, aged 12-22 who produce, direct, choreograph and perform in an annual variety showcase without any input or supervision from adults.

The overall ethos of Living the Dream is to enable young people to grow in talent, confidence and self-esteem, meet new people, work as a team and most of all to have fun! Beaumont students who attended Living the Dream classes last term had the opportunity to perform in some high profile dance Flash Mob events over Christmas at the Galleria, Hatfield and at St Pancras International. See the video on their website www.livingthedreamcompany.co.uk/

Beaumont is delighted to play host to Living the Dream's weekend and evening performing arts classes for young people aged 3-25. The classes include hip-hop, musical theatre, contemporary dance, street dance, acting and 'Glee Club'. An adult class has also now started. Students joining the classes this term will have the chance to perform in their Easter Showcase at the Radlett Centre on the 16th and 17th April with rehearsals the first week of the Easter Holidays. Full details – including dates, cost and times of all the classes - are available on Zoe's website www.livingthedreamcompany.co.uk.

Herts County Council consultation on school admission arrangements

Hertfordshire County Council is running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2012/13 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups.

After last year's decision to change to a system of straight line measurement for home-school distances, the county council is proposing no major change to its admission arrangements for 2012 to allow a period of consolidation. However, changes are proposed to some published admission numbers and Sixth Form arrangements.

The consultation period runs until 28 February 2011. Please visit www.hertsdirect.org/csfc consultations for more information and to respond online, or call Charlie Tomerillo on 01992 555900 or Gemma Parry on 01992 555840 for a copy of the consultation document.

School discipline – Behaviour Policy

It is an annual requirement that we alert you to the school's Behaviour Policy. The up to date Policy is available on the school website www.beaumontschool.com under the 'Information' tab. You will also find other policies and copies of recent letters home under this tab.

News from Cucina



Why not celebrate your birthday in style? £2.50 per person includes pizza, drink, birthday cake and your own decorated table. See a member of the kitchen staff for booking.

Remember you can now credit your account on-line. See the Finance Office for details.

Look out for our up-coming events: details on Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day to follow!!



Ian Fellowes, Chef

PE News

Year 7 District Netball Final – Tues 14 December



Last term the Year 7 Netball team progressed through the first and second rounds and the semi-final to qualify for the District Cup Final.

There they met St Albans High School. After a nervous start which saw the High School score four very quick goals the team settled down to finish the end of the first quarter at 2-5. The second quarter saw more accurate shooting from Lucy and Morgan and great attacking play from Holly and Anna as well as outstanding defence from Lois, Olivia, Anna and Lauren to get the team back to 4-6 at half time. In the third quarter the High School pulled away to lead 12-6 but we fought back in the last quarter with great attacking play from Holly, Adi, Morgan and Lucy and a solid defence again to finish the game 7-13.

The High School girls were outstanding for their age and the team should take great credit for being the first opposition team to give them a really hard game and not be beaten by more than 20 goals as all other oppositions have been!

The team now need to continue the hard work from last term, to develop some more team plays to be able to compete at the district tournament later this term.

Squad: Lois Fordham, Olivia Almond, Anna Hardisty, Lauren Hitchen, Holly Brando, Anna Biggs, Morgan Jeggo, Lucy Homer, Adi Milton and Shauna Lils.

Mrs Powdrell

Sports Leadership

On 20 January 2011 the School Sports Partnership family of schools (these are four neighbouring primary schools linked to Beaumont), took part in a Sports Hall Athletics competition.



Six Sixth form students, who are training or have been trained as Young Sports Leaders gave up three hours of their time to help make this event a great success!

Thank you.

Mrs Fox, SSCO



Gym and Dance Display

Make sure you don't miss this year's

Gym and Dance Display

There are evening performances on Monday 7, Tuesday 8, and Wednesday 9 February starting at 7pm.

Ticket prices: **Adult: £6.00, Concessions: £3.50**

Tickets on sale in Room 6. Seats will not be allocated this year.



BeauSandVer Community Programme

Adult Evening Classes

We still have availability on the following courses:

Jewellery Workshops Saturday mornings 12 Feb, 12 March, 19 March 10am – 12.30pm, £30 per workshop

Spring Flowers Saturday Workshop Saturday 12 March 10.30 – 3 pm, £52.50 (all materials included)

For more information or to book a place, contact Carole Heselton on 01727 754113 or email carole.heselton@verulam.herts.sch.uk

News from the Governors

You will have seen from several editions of Beaumont Life that the Governing Body has been looking at the question of Academy status. I thought it would be helpful to set out both our current position and the timescales and plans for the future. The Governing Body has been very clear from the outset that we wanted to explore this subject very carefully and thoroughly.

On 18 November 2010 we discussed a report about the financial aspects which indicated that, if we became an Academy, on the basis of current information, the school would gain approximately £230,000 of additional funding in the first year as a result of savings in the costs of the County Council services currently provided, even after allowing for extra staff in areas such as Personnel and Finance.

On 17 November 2010 we received a letter from Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education, inviting Beaumont School to apply for Academy status. The Governing Body considered a lengthy report on this subject at its meeting on 20 January 2010. This report is available on the Beaumont School website, as minutes of all Governing Body meetings are already.

The report concludes that there would seem to be several advantages to Academy status. These can be summarised as:

- a very great deal of the life and ethos of the school would not change, particularly in relation to teaching and learning
- academy status would enable us to make our own decisions regarding a number of services and all aspects of the life of the school, thereby achieving much more control over how the school functions and its priorities for the future
- the financial evaluation indicates a potential benefit which would seem to be approximately £230,000
- Beaumont has a leading role within secondary schools in St Albans and it is important that it is not disadvantaged in any way, with the likelihood of a number of other schools moving to academy status.

On 20 January the Governing Body acknowledged these advantages and decided that more work needed to be undertaken to explore specific areas in detail. We plan to complete this work by the Spring.

After considering the results of this further research, if the Governing Body concludes that it is advantageous for Beaumont to become an Academy, and makes a formal decision to this effect, then we will be consulting formally, in particular with parents, staff and students.

We want to keep parents informed about these discussions, hence the previous references in Beaumont Life. Please do have a look at the latest full report on the school website

Mike Tidball, Chair of Governors

Parent Forum Group

The second meeting of the year took place before Christmas. The main focus of the meeting was the snapshot report and end of school report. The discussion focussed on understanding Key Stage Three levels and expected attainment for Key Stage Three pupils and what could be done to help parents understand the levels. The school is now looking at what further information can be presented to parents to help with this.

There was also a short discussion on funding, and looking at possible avenues for raising money for the school. It was suggested that at BSA events parents had the opportunity to just donate money rather than having to attend the evening. This would certainly be welcomed by both the school and the BSA.

The next meeting of the group will be on 2 Feb where we hope to be joined by some Year 7 parents and will be discussing the format of the Home School Agreement.

The members of the Parent Forum are listed below. If you have something that you would like to raise for discussion at a further meeting please email beausurvey@beaumont.herts.sch.uk. We will not be discussing individual subjects, classes etc. If you have any queries on these please contact the Form tutor in the first instance or Head of each Subject, or Head of Year as appropriate.

Mrs Y Powdrell, Assistant Headteacher

Parent Forum Group

Mrs Parry, Mrs Blight, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Sherwood, Mrs Halsall, Ms Olaberria, Mrs Arnott, Ms Day.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE

Our PCSO has recently written asking that we remind parents and carers about the danger and inconvenience caused by inconsiderate and illegal parking by parents/carers on the school run.



The Police have had, on numerous occasions, to ask parents/carers to move their vehicles off the yellow road markings such as ZIG ZAG lines, SCHOOL ENTRANCE SIGNS and DOUBLE YELLOW LINES in Oakwood Drive. **In some cases parking has been so bad outside the school that if an emergency vehicle needed to get through to the school or down the road it would not be able to.**

ROAD MARKINGS AND RESTRICTIONS ARE IN PLACE OUTSIDE SCHOOL TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE.

As well as causing danger and inconvenience to children and other road users, inconsiderate parking is inconveniencing and annoying local residents. The Police receive complaints from local residents whose drives are blocked by parents on the school run. As a school community we aim to be a good neighbour to those who live close to us; they are entitled to be able to get in and out of their drives when they want to, and to go about their day to day lives without being inconvenienced.

The Police have asked us to pass on the following:

- Do not block residents' driveways
- Be considerate to residents and comply with requests to keep access open at all times
- Do not park on the yellow 'keep clear' lines
- Do not park on the pavement forcing people to walk on the road
- Do not double park and block the road causing danger to drivers and pedestrians
- Do not park on ZIG ZAG lines outside school
- Do not park on double yellow lines

Many thanks for your help.

Free School Meals: A Message from Hertfordshire County Council



If you receive one of the following benefits, you could be eligible for free school meals worth over £300 per child per year.

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with a taxable income of no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week.

Don't miss out, apply now!

We recommend you apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Online applications are easier, faster and more convenient. In most cases, you will not need to provide paper proof of benefits or reapply.

If you do not have access to the internet at home, you can obtain access and support at any of the following locations:

- Public Libraries
- UK Online Centres
- School

If you require assistance with your application, please email howcanwehelp@hertscc.gov.uk or call the customer service centre on 0300 123 4048 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday)



St Albans and District Extended Schools Working Together



An invitation to parents from your Extended Schools
Co-ordinators to attend an evening around **Safety Awareness**

Sex, Drugs & Sausage Rolls

Marlborough School Science College, Watling Street, St Albans, AL1 2QA
on Tuesday 29 March 2011 7.00 – 9.30pm

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Workshops include: | Stands include: |
| ■ First Aid | ■ Extended Schools |
| ■ Internet Safety | ■ Youth Connexions |
| ■ Police Safety | ■ Herts Counselling |
| ■ Drugs & Alcohol | ■ Domestic Violence |
| ■ Sexual Health | ■ Parentline Plus |
| ■ Food Hygiene | ■ Teenage Pregnancy |



Refreshments will be provided

To book your **FREE** place,
please ring 01923 484322
or email:

jdefransz@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk



FREE EVENT

PARENT SUPPORT

For support and guidance don't forget to book the HELPLINE on **07984 436939**.

EXTRAS YOUTH CLUB – Extras runs on a Wednesday from 6.15pm - 7.45pm. Sports activities, music, relaxation and tuck. £2 entrance.

COME DINE WITH ME (Not Pot Noodle!) Teenagers in Years 11, 12 and 13

Tuesdays, 6.45–8.15pm at STAGS from 8 Feb
Thursdays, 6.00 – 7.30pm starting at Francis Bacon on 3 March.

Cooking starters, main courses and puddings, shopping on a budget, health and hygiene. £10. If you would like to persuade your teenager to sign up then contact Jo to reserve a place.

FIRST AID COURSE FOR TEENAGERS

(Age 14+) – Saturday, 7th May

A four hour accredited course for young people who babysit or care for children run by **MGM Training**. 9.00am to 1.00pm at Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Rd, St Albans, AL1 4LW. Cost £25 payable to secure booking.

TUNE IN TO RADIO VERULAM – THE PARENT SHOW

A new Parent Show has been launched on Radio Verulam – **92.6FM**. Discussion on issues with a special focus on families living in St Albans and District. Thursday evenings at 8.00pm.

For details of the above please contact Jo Maher on 01727 855134 or 07939 111152.

Absence Line



If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please call the

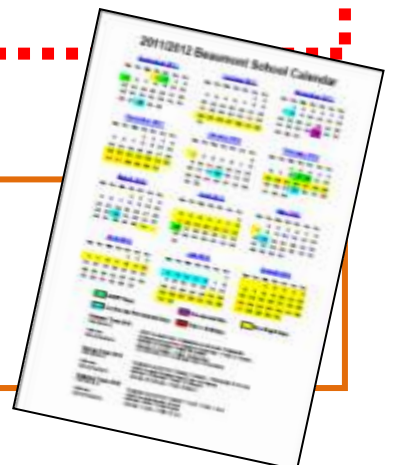


ABSENCE LINE
Years 7-11 - 01727 732987
Years 12-13 - 01727 732962

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PHONE EACH DAY THAT YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT, NOT JUST THE FIRST DAY
Please try to phone before 9.30am

Dates for 2011/2012

The term dates for 2011/2012 are now on the school website. Go to <http://www.beaumontschool.com/pdf/420112012forparents.pdf> or click on the Calendar tab on the Front (Home) page.



News from the BSA

By popular demand, the BSA are delighted to announce the return of “**Bollywood to Beaumont**” on **Saturday 26 March** from 7-11pm. One of our parents, Jo Rawal, has kindly offered to organise this event again which will feature Bollywood Dancing and demonstrations, food and a bar. Places are on sale now and are likely to sell out fast. Bollywood Dress is encouraged! See the advert on the back page for more information.

We are also organising a **Sponsored Cycle Ride on Saturday 16 April** in conjunction with **Special Olympics St Albans (SOSA)**. All money raised will be divided equally between the BSA, to provide funds for school projects, and the wonderfully worthwhile charity SOSA who support local adults and children with learning difficulties. SOSA provide weekly sessions in numerous sports activities and also activity holidays. **Please support** this very worthwhile event either by taking part in one of the rides or sponsoring someone. The activities provided by SOSA improve immensely the quality of life for those with special needs. As one parent said “it is a long week to fill when you have special needs and no job to go to.” Please be generous in your support.

Please see the article below for more details.

Janet Almond, BSA

Date for your diaries: **Rob's Festival, Saturday 25th June**. More details soon.

Places Still Available! Beaumont Sponsored Cycle Ride 2011

Are you a keen cyclist who would enjoy combining some great off road biking with the opportunity to raise money both for Beaumont and for local charity Special Olympics St Albans?

If so, the BSA are organising a sponsored bike ride for Saturday 16 April 2011. With three different routes covering the beautiful area of the Ridgeway and Chilterns, there are options for students and parents alike regardless of how strenuous you like to be!

The shorter ride covers around 15 miles of well marked trails over enjoyable off road terrain, and will be a great ride for novice and leisure riders and a perfect opportunity for the family to enjoy a ride together. Routes will cover climbs, descents and road sections but avoid the harder trails. There's no hurry, but expect to take 1½ to three hours.

The medium ride is more of a challenge and incorporates around 25 miles of excellent off road terrain, taking 3 to 5 hours. A good test of fitness and a great way to explore the area, this ride will include the best descents in the area. And of course some big climbs!

The tougher long route extends the medium ride up to 40 miles, and will include tough hill climbs, fast descents and an element of navigation. Riding this distance off road is for serious riders, but will include the best trails around so there's plenty of reward for your hard work.

Apart from enjoying yourself, it's all for a good cause. All sponsorship monies will be shared equally between the BSA, providing valued support funds for the school, and Special Olympics St Albans who run a fantastic range of sports activities for local adults and children with learning disabilities. An easy to use website will make sponsorship as simple as possible.

Run in conjunction with a professionally organised event, entry costs are just £10 per person for the short route, £11 for the medium or £13 for the long route. If one adult and one under 16 sign-up together, the total fee is only £13 (and £2 for each additional under 16). This covers all ride organisation and refreshments. You will need to get yourself and your bike to the start line in Princes Risborough, Bucks for a 9am start.

Further details on entry and sponsorship arrangements will be confirmed in the near future but, meantime, if you're interested please contact Tim Pugh of the BSA on tim.pugh@scania.com.





The BSA
Presents: Your Last Chance to Come to a
BOLLYWOOD NIGHT
SATURDAY 26th March 2011

*A glass of fizz to welcome you
Indian Food and Lovely Desserts
Licenced bar,*

*DJ Zaff and his Entourage who will entertain us with a mixture of Bollywood
Hits and Western Music*

*A great evening of food and music: a chance to dance the night away with your
friends. The evening starts 7pm (in the Hall), food served from 7.30pm.
Carriages 11pm.*

*The Bollywood theme is a guide, so you can dress up or keep it simple, however
the mood takes you!*

*£20 per person, first come first served. Reserve your place at Reception, all names will be
placed on a guest list.*

Please make cheques payable to BSA and name those included in the cheque.