

From the Headteacher

As I write we are celebrating two particular achievements in the life of the school. Firstly, we are the proud winners of the Under 15 national basketball finals which took place in Nottingham this last weekend. Many congratulations to all the boys who have trained with such commitment, to Mr Stewart as coach and to all our parents who have supported in any way. What an amazing feat!

Secondly, we were delighted to have been judged **Outstanding** in the recent **Ofsted** Inspection of the English Department. This is such a key area in any school and to be recognised as outstanding is terrific. Many congratulations to the staff in English and to all the students whether they met the Inspector or not. He was very impressed with all sorts of aspects of both the school and department. Achievement was judged to be outstanding with 90% of students obtaining A* to C grades in 2010 in GCSEs and of these a very high proportion attained the top grades. Lesson observations showed teachers have excellent subject knowledge and use this with striking impact during lessons. The students enjoy English and respond well to their teachers' high expectations. The Inspector also identified the outstanding range of activities organised by staff to enrich the English curriculum and broaden the students' experience. He was particularly impressed with the shared goal of ensuring that students attained highly but also gained an excellent appreciation of English Language and Literature. You will shortly receive a copy of the letter from the inspector with his findings.

Under the current framework we are due a full Ofsted inspection in the next academic year but it is not clear yet whether this will happen or not.

There is so much of which to be proud at Beaumont and so much to celebrate – just look inside this edition for a flavour of all the wonderful activities happening at the moment. Thank you to all the staff for their commitment, and thank you to all our students' families for your continued support which we, as staff, value highly.

Elizabeth Hitch

April Diary Dates

Fri	1	Non-Uniform Day in aid of Wayne's Fund (defibrillator)
Tues	5	First day of Planning Appeal, St Albans District Council offices. Easter Concert, 7pm, Hall
Weds	6	Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening
Thurs	7	Year 8 girls HPV inoculations Year 9 Theatre Company Visit Amnesty fund raiser – Hall - 7.30-9.30pm Beaumont Life Deadline
Fri	8	Awards assemblies Shortened School day – students dismissed from 12.30pm
Mon	11	EASTER BREAK begins
Sat	16	BSA Bike Ride
Tues	26	INSET DAY – Staff only in school
Weds	27	Students return to school – normal school day GCE German Orals
Thurs	28	GCE German Orals
Fri	29	Royal Wedding – School closed

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

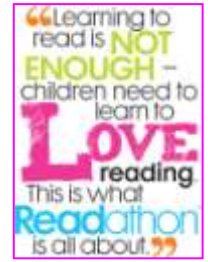
Beaumont welcomes comments from parents/carers and families about any aspect of school life.
Please contact us via our email admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

Focus on.....

The English Department Key Stage Three

Year 7 Readathon 2011

Readathon is a charity that runs the UK's biggest sponsored reading campaign. It provides a stimulating focus for recreational reading and raises money for seriously ill children. It gives a massive boost to pupils' reading skills AND supports the life-changing work of two fantastic children's charities.



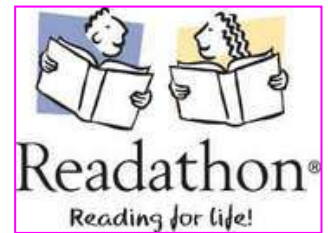
Every year thousands of schools across the UK take part. The money raised through Readathon by children and young people is incredibly important to the Organisation and to the charities they work with. Thanks to the amazing time and effort put in by all students who take part in Readathon and all the teachers and librarians who run the event, Readathon is able to make a **real** difference to the lives of children and young people with cancer and other serious illnesses.



Readathon works with two wonderful organisations, the Roald Dahl Foundation and CLIC Sargent. And every penny you raise is vital! CLIC Sargent supports children and young people with cancer. The Roald Dahl Foundation spends its money on offering practical assistance to children and young people in the areas of neurology and haematology.

Beaumont will be running their Readathon challenge during the week beginning Monday 4th – Friday 8th April. It will take place during English lessons and your teachers will provide you with the information that you need as soon as you get back after the Easter holidays! It's simple really. The aim is to read as many books as you can...in a week! You will be given a sponsorship form to fill in and then when you wake up on the morning of Monday 4th April, you can begin! The challenge will run for a whole week and finish when you go to sleep on the following Sunday night (10th April). Then you just need to collect your sponsorship money and give it in to your English teacher, who will send it straight to the charities.

This year it is not just a challenge to raise money for charity, but a great opportunity to achieve more House points! Last Year 7S (now 8S) raised the most money out of any other Year 7 group in the year. As a whole Year group they managed to raise nearly £562 for sick children and their families! This is fantastic but we will be looking to raise even more this year. So...how much help are you willing to give sick children and their families? All you have to do is pick up a book and get involved!



Good Luck!

Miss Piercey ☺

Debating competition 2010

Readathon is not just about what you read. It's about how you read...
it's about reading with **passion**, **commitment**, **purpose** and **pleasure**.

On Monday 22 October 2010 Natalie Dobson, Vicky Thomas and Cerys Falvey, all from Year 9, took part in a debating competition held by the St Albans Rotary Club.

We all joined Beaumont Debating Club in September because we wanted experience of talking to large groups of people. After a few weeks we were asked by Mrs Enstone if we wanted to do a competition in November. We very excitedly said 'yes'.

Our topic was on taboos. Vicky was the chairperson, who introduced our topic. Natalie was the main speaker and gave the six minute speech in the middle, and Cerys gave the vote of thanks, concluding the points made by Vicky and Natalie and thanking everyone involved.

We were all very nervous, but once we started we felt so much better. After the break we found out that we had come a very close second, and we were very pleased that after weeks of training our hard work had paid off.

We got awards and went home very happy with our achievements. We were very pleased with the evening and would be happy to do it all again as a team.

Thanks Mrs Enstone for all your coaching tips.

Natalie Dobson, Vicky Thomas and Cerys Falvey



Year 9 Shakespeare Theatre Visit – *The Young Shakespeare Company*

Year 9 students have been studying Macbeth in lessons for the past few months in preparation for their controlled conditions essay in May. On the afternoon of Tuesday 8th March, the whole Year group was fortunate to receive an hour and a half long performance/workshop on the play from The Young Shakespeare Company. The performance went really well and the students were able to come up with inventive ideas for the performers to carry out to show insight into characters and their motivation. What a great, amusing afternoon for all involved!

Miss Piercey ☺

What Year 9 had to say...

“Despite having only four members, the character changing and various gags made it a delight to watch!”

“I now remember crucial parts of Macbeth because of the production.”

“Most teenagers will have a similar view on the works of Shakespeare. They will say that it is boring and rubbish, but the Young Shakespeare Company’s production of Macbeth will change this stereotyping forever.”

“It was humorous and interesting to see other angles to the play.”

“Strangely...I was very pleasantly surprised! It was obvious they had thought about how to aim Shakespeare at teenagers.”

“The Young Shakespeare Company gave a new and modern twist to how they interpreted and performed Macbeth.”

“It completely reversed the traditional stereotype of a lengthy, irrelevant Shakespearean production into a fun, exciting workshop that was performed in the round.”

“With workshops thrown into the performance, challenges for the actors, character analysis and some amazing scenes put together with our help, this genius play gave something to everyone sitting in the audience.”

“I would recommend this performance to teenagers to help them with their education as it really brings the play to life.”




Key Stage Four/Five



Year 10 Shakespeare Day – *Romeo and Juliet*

Preparations are underway for Year 10’s planned Curriculum Enrichment Day (CED) on Tuesday 17th May. The English Department has arranged for an external theatre company to come into school to conduct workshops with all pupils and a final performance, in which some will take part. The Shakespeare text in question is *Romeo and Juliet*; an infamous story which has recently been revived in animated form. Year 10 pupils will soon be starting to study this text for their final controlled assessment, scheduled to take place at the start of Year 11.

This CED will be an opportunity for the pupils to become well-acquainted with the plot, characters, themes and context of the popular play, without forgetting the importance of stagecraft and theatricality.

We hope that this experience will enable all students to write in depth and breadth in their forthcoming assessment.

Mrs Enstone – English Department

Rotary Youth Speaks Success 2011



Rotary Youth Speaks is a public speaking competition for young people, organised by the Rotary Club. The objective of the competition is to provide young people the experience in speaking on a public platform, to encourage them to formulate their ideas on specific topics and to present them concisely in a limited time, together with the opportunity to learn from the performance of others' high standards of expression, presentation and appearance.

This year, three members of the Beaumont's sixth form, as a team, made excellent progress in the competition. You may have read their direct thoughts on the experience in an earlier edition of Beaumont Life, when they won the shield for the local heats in November. Since then they have participated in the District Finals at the Rothamstead Research Centre in Harpenden, on Thursday 10th March. Using the same speech on 'Elitism in Education', they were able to successfully engage the audience who heavily applauded their presentation. However, the competition was of a very high calibre and unfortunately, the team did not make it through to the next round.



Huge congratulations to **Hugh Ingamells** in Year 13 (chair), **Sam Went** in Year 13 (main speaker) and **John Clough** in Year 12 (vote of thanks), who battled it through many-a-competition and whilst not winning, did very well indeed. There is no doubt that the competition has equipped these students with the skills required to speak on a public platform regarding an issue that they feel passionate about, or write persuasive English essays.

Mrs Enstone – English Department

Poetry Live! Year 11 Trip to Cambridge, January 2011

In January 2011, one hundred Year 11 pupils went on a school trip to the Cambridge Corn Exchange, in the Cambridge town centre.



Upon arrival, each pupil (and teacher) was provided with a booklet which contained a reproduction of some of the core poems that the pupils have been studying for their forthcoming examinations, as well as some accompanying explanatory material.

Apart from taking in the amazing scenery which Cambridge has to offer, pupils were able to meet and listen to some of the key poets. More specifically, they met John Agard, Grace Nichols, Simon Armitage, Carol Ann Duffy, Gillian Clarke and Imtiaz Dharker.

Listening to each of the poets reading out their individual poems was very interesting, as the tone of voice and stress of specific words was, of course, accurate and as intended by the poets themselves.

Pupils also had the pleasure of listening to a chief examiner who offered advice on how to tackle a number of examination questions.

This was undoubtedly an extremely beneficial trip for Year 11 and we wish them all the very best for their forthcoming examinations.

Mrs Enstone – English Department

Magazine Project – CED Day

On Thursday 17th February, Beaumont held its first House Day of the year. Each subject was asked to contribute an activity to the day and the English Department organised a Magazine Task. Ten students from each House were gathered together in different rooms with the idea that they would spend the day researching and creating their very own teenage magazine. At the end of the day, the six magazines were judged by an independent panel to decide which one was to be the overall winner.

The results were as follows:

- 1st – Redgrave – 6 points
- 2nd – Austen – 5 points
- 3rd – Elgar – 4 points
- 4th – Seacole – 3 points
- 5th – Luther-King – 2 points
- 6th – Newton – 1 point

All magazines produced were very impressive and a clear product of team work and effort. Well done to all involved with special congratulations to Redgrave!



Miss Piercey

Public Speaking – Round One 2011

The first round of Public Speaking took place on Friday 11th March for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. All students nominated for the first round will receive a small prize for participating. Two students from each year group have been selected to take part in the final on Friday 13th May where they will compete against each other.

The day was a little hectic with some speakers having to present their speeches to other Year groups but overall it was a huge success. Well done to all who took part!

Miss Piercey ☺

First Round Participants

Year 7			Year 8		
Libe Fadrique	7L	Anorexic Models	Sidney Brass	8L	Boys smarter than girls
Will Mattin	7L	Child Labour	Tom Pate	8L	Global Warming
Simon Jones	7E	In Aliens	Joseph Ferguson-Reynolds	8E	Existence of God
Jasmine Spinks	7E	Endangered Animals	Eliza Llewellyn	8E	Body image
Melanie Noad	7A	Should we keep Zoos?	Manish Das	8A	Fast Food
Sophie Thomas	7A	Bullying	Oliver Davies	8A	Animal Testing
Molly Rogan	7R	Greyhounds	Edie Owens	8N	Racism
Tom Thurlby	7R	Sharks	Dylan Brohm	8N	Computer games
Louis Oatham	7N	Animal Testing	Jodie Wiltshire	8R	Paralympics
Ramin Jannat	7N	Child Abuse	Thomas Fogerty	8R	Evolution
Toby Weidman	7S	English Football	Cameron Halsall	8S	Sherlock Holmes
Anna Hardisty	7S	Global Debt	Joseph Welch-McDonald	8S	Gun Games
Year 9			Year 10		
Rebecca Doidge	9L	I wanna be a billionaire	Oliver Gower	10L	Prejudice
Dom Coneely-Hughes	9L	Health and Safety	Alisa Da Palma	10E	Student Stress
Jamie Moroney	9L	Illegal Music Downloads	Gus Mallet	10E	History is Vital
Rosie Wood	9E	Baby Beauty Queens	Bethan Llewellyn	10E	Living to 100
Cerys Falvey	9A	Legalise Euthanasia	James Blake	10A	Shark Hunting
Libby McCann	9A	Organ Donation	Ally Pugh	10A	3 rd World Women
Joe Charlsley-Smith	9A	Genetic Engineering	Matt Packham	10R	Freedom of Speech
Amy Cresswell	9R	Judging Teenagers	Josh Vine-Lott	10R	Big Brother
Holly Seglah	9R	Steroids	Dan Meakin	10N	Discrimination
Sophia Georgiou	9R	London 2012	Jamie Renfrew	10R	Space Exploration
Luka Fadrique	9N	Are we generally ignorant?	Beth Clements	10N	Justice for Gingers
Luke Hazelhurst	9N	Importance of Sleep	Flo Almond	10N	Happiness
Megan Gardner	9S	Media Pressures	Paraas Rawal	10N	Booze and Bingeing
Ben Larkworthy	9S	Santa Clause	Rosie Goymer	10S	Colour Blindness
Beth Wiltshire	9S	Poverty	Liam Worswick	10S	Deforestation

Winners from Round One of the Competition

Year 7 - 1st	Toby Weidman	7S	2nd	Melanie Noad	7A	3rd	Ramin Jannat	7N
	Will Mattin	7L		Louis Oatham	7N		Sophie Thomas	7A
Year 8 - 1st	Joseph Ferguson Reynolds	8E	2nd	Eliza Llewellyn	8E	3rd	Tom Pate	8L
	Oliver Davies	8A		Jodie Wiltshire	8R		Sidney Brass	8L
Year 9 - 1st	Rosie Wood	9E	2nd	Dominic ConneelyHughes	9L	3rd	Rebecca Doidge	9L
	Holly Seglah	9R		Beth Wiltshire	9S		Jamie Moroney	9L
Year 10 - 1st	Ally Pugh	10A	2nd	Josh Vine-Lott	10R	3rd	Paraas Rawal	10N
	Liam Worswick	10S		Bethan Llewellyn	10E		Flo Almond	10N

Music Trip to Prague – Easter 2011

Why go on a Music Tour?

Having been on all of Beaumont's Music Tours so far (Vienna 2008, Paris 2009 and Prague 2011), I can safely say that not only have they provided brilliant opportunities to perform in some of the most prestigious venues across Europe, but also chances to meet new members of the school whom I otherwise would not have met. The combination of all the Year groups and the intensity of the activities on Music Tour could potentially end in tears and tantrums, and there are a few (usually about lost music or stolen rosin!), but then everyone just gets involved and I haven't met anyone that hasn't said how much they enjoyed the Tours. On each tour there have not been more than three members of my Year group, however the experiences on tour have not only allowed me to get to know new people but also make extra-curricular music even better because of the wide range of people that I now know. The performance venues and crowds (which had been brilliantly organised by the Music Department) have been excellent everywhere that we have been (including Stephansdom in Vienna and La Madeleine in Paris) and combining this with the music making, the fun and the team spirit of the tour, I think that these tours are the best trips running.

Ben Williams, Year 12



Evening Activities

At the end of each day in Prague everyone joined in the evening activities. The first evening activity was 'Beetle drive'. Beetle drive is a game where you roll a dice and try to get a certain number on the dice to make a body part of, you guessed it, a beetle. It may not take much skill, just a lot of luck and loads of fun. It was a great way to interact with students in other Years.

On the last night we had a quiz and talent show all in one activity. There was a quiz round followed by a talent round. The talents ranged from the classic comedy jokes and riddles of Ben Winter to the amazing talent of the trumpeters, using only the mouthpiece of their trumpets. There were several rounds in the quiz ranging from 'Guess the Logo' to famous film soundtracks and children's television. We are sure that everybody who went to Prague will agree that the evening activities were a great way to end the day and thanks to the teachers for a fantastic trip.

Oliver Davies 8A and Sidney Brass 8L

Concerts

During the Beaumont Music Tour to Prague, we performed three different concerts, all to very appreciative audiences, largely comprising of more senior concert goers.



Our first concert was in the Sporilov Cultural Centre and after an eventful journey there, we arrived in time for a brief rehearsal before the concert began. The Big Band provided a spectacular opening to the concert with their rendition of *Count Bubba*; following this was a large variety of pieces performed by different extracurricular groups. Emma and Emily performed a beautiful recital of *The Flower Duet*, and Emma also did a fantastic job conducting the Year 11 Girls' Choir. Our first concert was closed with an amazing medley of disco tunes, performed by the Concert Band, which had even the more senior members of the audience bopping!

St. Nicholas' Church provided a wonderful but absolutely freezing venue for our second concert. The exquisite acoustic highlighted the vocal performances, in particular the beautiful solo verse by the Year 8 boys, in *Both Sides Now!* The Orchestra experienced a few difficulties with tuning due to the extremes of temperature, however still managed to give a brilliant performance.

The final concert, in Hlahal Hall, provided the perfect conclusion to a memorable trip. We arrived with plenty of time to rehearse and also managed to stay warm throughout! Again, all music groups rose to the occasion. Luke's performance of the jazz standard *My Ship* was delivered with outstanding passion. The Vocal Ensemble's 'scrambled' performance of *Dirait-on* was highly appreciated by the audiences, while their performance of John Rutter's *For the Beauty of the Earth* almost brought the audience to tears.

The tour was an incredible experience and many thanks must go to Miss Doan and Mr Guinane who did an excellent job of organising and conducting all the different groups. It was a truly unforgettable trip.

Hannah Perryman 11L and Emily Almond 11R

Madame Butterfly at the State Opera

Whilst we were in Prague we had the fantastic opportunity to go and see *Madame Butterfly* the Opera by Giacomo Puccini at Státní Opera Praha. It was the first time I had gone to see an Opera and I am pleased that we had this chance. The Opera was in Italian which made it quite hard to understand, but fortunately there were surtitles so you could follow what was going on.

Madame Butterfly is about a young Japanese girl, about 15, who marries an American. He is called back to America and doesn't return to Japan until three years later. Since leaving, he has married another woman and knows nothing of the son he has with Butterfly. When he finds out about him, he feels very guilty and decides to take the child back to America with his new wife. Butterfly agrees, but feels very depressed as the man she loves is leaving once again and he does not love her, so she decides to take her own life.

Even though it was sad I really enjoyed it, and would love to see it again.

Matthew Wilton 8R



Travelling

The journey to Prague took us around 24 hours each way! Definitely a long time but we found ways to pass the time including excessive eating, singing and for a lucky few of us sleeping. Conversation ranged from the inner core strength of a cat to bad television programmes. We travelled through France, Belgium, Germany and Czech Republic giving us plenty of different places to see. Waking up at about 5am surrounded by snow and minutes from the Czech border was definitely a high point of the journey out. Waiting until nearly 10pm for dinner on the way home a definite low point as well as being woken up at 4am for French border control at Calais! But the return journey had its moments such as the rendition of 100 green bottles which annoyed some people just a bit and Sidney's one of a kind acceptance speech during awards!

The Czech climate was another big thing in Prague. I'm sure I wasn't alone in spending a lot of time complaining about being cold despite wearing about a million layers including thermals! Looking back at the photos I look a little like the Michelin man, however, it was definitely necessary in the -11 degree temperatures. Having never been anywhere colder than the UK, -11 degrees came as a major shock; I didn't think it was actually possible to completely lose feeling in your feet in the way I did that week!

Overall the climate and journey weren't Prague's greatest features but they weren't as bad as anticipated. Looking back it's pretty funny to think of us standing around shivering all day listening to Eva (our tour guide) ramble on!

Emma Donaldson 10R

Dragons' Apprentice Win

Beaumont was one of 12 teams from St Albans and Harpenden schools who raised a total of **£15,761** for local charities in the recent 2011 Dragons' Apprentice. Starting with just £100 each and the help of a local business mentor, the teams had to come up with and implement innovative fundraising initiatives.

The Beaumont team attended the finals and award ceremony held at the University of Hertfordshire earlier this month, where they had to present their results to a panel of Super Dragons made up of local business, charity and industry experts and were delighted to win the award for the best poster.



German Exchange

Inspired by Speyer.

The 20th anniversary of the interschool exchange between Beaumont school and Hans-Purrmann Gymnasium began on a plane trip to Frankfurt airport from Heathrow. Students from Years 9, 10 and 12 got to know each other en route.

We then travelled to Speyer by coach. I was a bit nervous when meeting my German family, but I shouldn't have worried as they were lovely and Dominik is an awesome exchange partner. He and his family managed to survive the fabulous week and a bit that I spent with them, and they were very kind to me.

During the exchange we explored lots of historical towns, including the beautiful university town of Heidelberg, and did lots of varied things, such as 18th century dancing with all the teachers (with everyone in full period costume). I really enjoyed all the activities and immersing myself in German culture. I was amazed that ballroom dancing was a normal thing to do for the young and some of us had great fun at a dancing evening with our exchange partners. Dominik even had special dancing shoes!

We were lucky enough to meet the Mayor who welcomed us to Speyer and gave us some genuine German Brezeln (pretzels). This set the tone for all the lovely food we tried, such as German sausages in bread and Spätzle which Dominik's grandmother made for us for lunch one day. I was treated to an excellent German breakfast every day with cheeses, sparkling water, cold meats, different toasts, jams, butter, tea, coffee, grapes, apples, bananas!

I had a great time, and of course, the main aim of the trip was to improve our German, which I really feel I have done. If I had another chance to go on this exchange I definitely would, and I would recommend it to anyone learning German who would like to absorb the language and culture of that great country.

Now I can't wait for Dominik to come to England to experience the terrible English weather!

Joe Charsley-Smith 9A



The German Exchange was brilliant! In the week we spent in Germany we visited some fascinating towns such as Mainz and Heidelberg. At the weekend we all did different things with our exchange partners. Some went to a huge shopping mall on Saturday and on Sunday I went with my partner to the Technik Museum in Speyer which was superb.

We spent the Tuesday in the financial capital of Germany, Frankfurt, where we saw the Goethe house and were given a guided tour.



On the last night we had a celebratory evening in the school which was great fun, and lots of people wore traditional carnival costumes. We were sad when we parted the next day from our partners.

I would recommend the exchange to anyone. We all had a great time and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our exchange partners in England.

Edward Gooden 10S



Student Voice Conference

On Thursday 17th February Roundwood School hosted the annual St Albans and Harpenden School's Student Voice Conference. The venue was the University of Hertfordshire. In the morning students were given a highly engaging and motivating talk by former Olympic champion Derek Redmond; he was ably accompanied by professional motivation coach and magician Eugene Matthias. With the over arching theme of the 2012 Olympics, students were guided through considering and applying the "five keys to success" : (self belief, team work, commitment, motivation and goals) to both their own lives and how these could contribute to Student Voice at school.

Each attending school gave a presentation in a workshop style format. Lily, Amy, Bethany, Courtney, Bethan, Will, Ryan, Tom and Aaron (Years 7 - 11 respectively) spoke about the various activities Beaumont Student Voice has contributed to Community. The students gave examples of our work with the global community, the primary school community, the staff and the student community.

For the rest of the day, our students attended some of the sessions organised by students from the other participating schools. They were asked to collate ideas that we will develop for Student Voice activities in 2011-2012. Each student fed back at the end of the day and the ideas included:

- ways of students using technology to build Student Voice further - eg a blog;
- more ideas for peer mentoring;
- looking at supporting specific charities;
- moving on Eco School status.

In June this year, there will be another Student Voice Day where students will have the opportunity to develop some of these ideas further.

Thanks to all the staff who were involved in the day, especially Ms Kent. Thanks too to the accompanying students; their behaviour and participation were exemplary.

Ms Wensley, Student Voice

On 17 February we went along with Lily, Amy, Will, Ryan, Tom, Aaron and Bethan for the Student Voice Conference Day 2011. Many schools from across Hertfordshire attended. The Motion speakers were called Derek Redmond and Eugene Matthias; they were really funny and inspirational, Derek spoke about his outstanding athletic career and about his traumatic injuries. It taught us to keep motivated and never give up on your goals. Eugene showed us some magic tricks with the theme of 'going for gold'.

After the presentations, we went and watched some schools give talks about what their Student Voice does for their school. It was a fantastic opportunity and we got loads of fab ideas for Beaumont in the future. We gave our presentation talking about our Student Voice. We used a powerpoint with pictures of South Africa Day and spoke about everything we do. It was a great day with lots of ideas on how to improve our Student Voice.

Bethany Wiltshire and Courtney Ward Year 9

Sports News

Year 7 District Netball Tournament

On Monday 21st March the Year 7 Netball squads took part in the District Tournament. Hopes were high for the A team after they had reached the District Cup Final before Christmas losing to St Albans High School.

The A Team started well with a 10 – 1 win over Sir John Lawes, then a close game with Sandringham winning 7-5. A 9-2 win against STAGS was followed by an 11-1 win against Loreto which meant the team qualified for the semi-final.



At the same time the **B team** had played Loreto (6-1 win), Sandringham (2-1 win), Roundwood (6-1 win), Sir John Lawes (4-1 win) and then played St Albans High School C team (loss 4-1), meaning that they too qualified for the semi-final.

The A team played St Georges, winning 4-1 and setting up a Final against Sandringham, whilst the B team played St Albans High School B, losing 3-1.

A really high standard of netball was played in the final, and Beaumont came out victors 5-4. Congratulations to the whole squad who have worked hard all season to reach the standard of play at which they are currently playing. Here's to next season!

A Team: Lucy Homer, Olivia Almond, Lauren Hitchin, Lois Fordham, Anna Hardisty, Morgan Jeggo, Holly Brando-Holahan, Adi Milton

B Team: Elena Hackwood, Shauna Lils, Katie Donaldson, Anna Biggs, Francesca Dore, Bella Turnbull, Amy Brooker, Stephanie King.

Mrs. Powdrell

Year 11 coaches: Anna Connors, Karis Mimms, Stephanie Rukin and Rowan Seglah

Herts Hockey

Libe Fadrique (7L) was selected to represent Hertfordshire as a member of the U12 hockey team recently. The team took part in a tournament in Lincolnshire, where they played U13 teams from Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and Lincolnshire. She has trained with the rest of the County team for the last six months.

Many congratulations to Megan Wynne and Josie Green in Year 13 who have been selected for the Wales Women's Under 19 football team for the UEFA Women's Under 19 Championship Elite Round which takes place in Swansea and Carmarthenshire between 29 March and 5 April.



Kyle Lloyd Jones in Year 10 has been selected as a member of the Great Britain National baseball team and will be playing in the SUMA European Pony Qualifier in Prague from 13-17 April. The team will be aiming for a place in the Pony World Series in Indiana, USA.

Great Britain are rising stars on the international baseball scene, and an invitation to this tournament is one of the biggest things to happen to British Youth Baseball to date.



Athletics Trials

Liam Baskett was invited to attend Athletics trials on 7th March 2011. This was an excellent opportunity to be selected to represent and train for future Paralympics sports. Liam had a great day and will now have the opportunity to have more training in the future.

Mrs Fox, School Sport coordinator

House Day

On 7 February 2011 Beaumont students took part in the first ever House Day. Beaumont has six Houses based around the L, E, A, R, N, S form groups. The day comprised of 18 different activities and form groups allocated students to each activity based on the best chance of winning each event.

Activities on the day ranged from rock climbing to 'journeys into space', from drama performed in a foreign language to creating mixed media large scaled art work. There was a huge effort put in by all, not least by the staff who offered so many different activities to the students. Many thanks to all those who organised and participated in such a successful day.

The winning House on the day was Redgrave who won 6 out of the 18 activities – well done to Mr Stewart and his House.

There have been a number of House events this year including a half day of House events in September, a debating competition, music quiz, rowing competition, Christmas Fayre, rocket competition and skipathon. Still to come are events organised by Austen and Seacole Houses and the big finale which will be on Sports Day in the summer. Look out for more information closer to the time.

The overall leaders at the present moment are Redgrave, but there are still plenty of points to play for as we move on into the second half of the year.

If you have any questions relating to Houses or events, please contact the relevant Head of House (Luther King – Mr Wilsher, Elgar – Miss Fairhead, Austen – Miss Piercey, Redgrave – Mr Stewart, Newton – Miss Jackson and Seacole – Miss Dolan) or Mr Whyman (Head of Houses).

Mr Goodwin – Assistant Headteacher

On House Day we teamed up with the rest of our House Redgrave. We were a magazine company and we had to make a magazine; we won the competition for the best magazine. Our group was amazing and we all got on so well; we were organised and inspired so I guess that's why when the day ended we were all sad. I would love to have another House day like that one soon.

Shannon Broughton 11R



Trashed!

The Hen Theatre Company recently visited Beaumont and performed a production called 'TRASHED'. This was not an insight into issues associated with litter, as I first thought, but a thought provoking drama workshop on matters relating to alcohol abuse. Hen Theatre group formed ten years ago and visit schools in the South East giving performances on a range of topics of significance to young people. During the performance actors adopted the roles of school aged students who were faced with decisions relating to drinking alcohol; a matter that receives attention from the national media as well as politicians; furthermore an issue that all parents and young people will face at some point.



Following the performance some actors continued in their roles whilst others chaired a question and answer session; questions about the performance asked by the students being answered by the actors as the characters they played. Students found the whole session both entertaining and informative and many said how it had told them facts about drinking alcohol they hadn't been aware of such a death from your own vomit. Students engaged really well with the whole performance and Q & A session afterwards and rated the whole event very highly. I would like to thank NEXUS for providing the opportunity to experience this excellent workshop and all the Year 9 students for their positive involvement.

Mr Osborne (Head of Year 9)



Parent Forum Group

Two meetings have taken place this term, where we have now been joined by a good number of parent representatives from Year 7 and had excellent discussions on a range of topics.

In the February meeting we had a long discussion on the Home School Agreement that is sent to all pupils at the start of their school life. Parents liked the document as a starting point for their children when joining the school and could use it to discuss expectations with their child. This document is in the process of being updated and a productive meeting helped us to amend the wording of the parental section of the new Agreement that will be going to new parents this year.

Mr. Goodwin joined the meeting to explain the development of the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) at the school and how this will improve communication between the school and parents, and between the school and pupils. He explained what will be available and that a select group of both staff and pupils are currently helping in the implementation of this for September.

The second meeting focused on obtaining views from parents on the Options process in Year 9, transition from Primary school and ideas for parental contributions. The feedback on the Options process, choices at KS4 and transition process were all very positive. Some interesting ideas on parental contributions were raised and will be further investigated by the school.

The members of the Parent forum are listed below so 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 Subject, or Head of Year as appropriate.

Mrs Y Powdrell, Assistant Headteacher

Parent Forum Group

Mrs. Blight, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Sherwood, Ms. Olaberria, Mrs. Arnott, Mrs. Keech, Mrs Chrisp, Mrs Simmons, Mrs Cherry, Mrs Banathy, Mrs Biggs, Mr Donaldson, Mrs Heather, Mrs Dore.

Extended Schools



01727 855134



01727 811541

c/o Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW

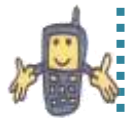
e-mail jo.maher@fleetvillejm.herts.sch.uk

www.hertsextendedschools.org.uk/nestalbans

Linking Schools and the Community

PARENT SUPPORT

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



EXTRAS YOUTH CLUB – New Year 7s

Extras runs on a Wednesday from 6.15-7.45pm. Please encourage your child to come along with friends and to make new friends. We have sports activities, music, relaxation and tuck on offer – come to chill and chat! Only £2.00 entrance.



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. It will be held on Saturday 7th May 2011 from 9.00am to 1.00pm at Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Rd, St Albans, AL1 4LW. Cost £25.00 payable to secure booking.

FREE WORKSHOP - HELP FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES (DYSLEXIA) – Thursday 5th May 7pm – 9pm at Fleetville Junior School

Tricia Cotton (Specific Learning Difficulties Base Manager) will be talking about specific problems, general help at home, homework, multi sensory learning with an opportunity for questions and answers at the end. Please call us to book a free place on 01727 855134 or 07984 436939.

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

Beaumont Photography Students Exhibit their Work: St Albans Museum

Beaumont Photography students have been invited to submit a selection of their work for public exhibition by the Herts Photography group Foto Forum. Foto Forum will be showing a range of their work at the St Albans Museum Gallery, Hatfield Road from 11th April to 22nd May 2011. The exhibition will include an exciting range of subject matter, formats and techniques and will be well worth a visit. As a bonus - all works will be for sale!

Ms Burns



News from the Governors

The Resources Committee is concerned with all aspects of budgeting, premises, health & safety and general infrastructure which help keep the school running smoothly. The committee meets on a regular basis to discuss these topics and to ensure that resources are allocated appropriately to all aspects of the school's day-to-day operations.

At recent meetings the committee has -

- Considered the impact of Academy status on the school's finances, feeding into a wider review by the Governing Body into the pros and cons of Academies;
- Agreed a range of cost saving options in preparation for a potential reduction in the overall budget as a result of the recent Government Spending Review;
- Discussed the impact of the Carbon Reduction Commitment Scheme and opportunities to reduce the school's overall energy consumption;
- Overseen essential improvements to the school's facilities, including the installation of an additional fire escape to the dining room to comply with recent Health and Safety policy changes.

The current economic climate makes the role of the Resources Committee even more critical, ensuring that the school makes best use of its resources and continues to provide an excellent environment for all of its students.

Andy Mallett
Chair of the Resources Committee

Please collect your vouchers!



Please help us get free equipment and materials for the school by collecting your Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers and bringing them into Reception. Thank you.



'Voice Within' Project

A number of Year 7-9 pupils were given the opportunity to work with Leisure Connections on a community project focussed on Bullying. They had the opportunity to work through the mediums of Drama, Dance or Art. After a half term of weekly two hour workshops and free workshops during half term they put on a display at the Harpenden Halls.

As a follow up activity the pupils then visited both Fleetville School and Cunningham Hill School to work with the Year 5 and 6 pupils. This work has enabled them to gain a qualification in the Arts Award.

Mrs Powdrell

What the pupils said:

We had a chance to participate in an Arts Award. We had two separate groups, one for the people who wanted to do art and another for the people who wanted to do dance. The art people worked on lots of things during the weeks, including making masks, headbands and designing the dancers' make up for a big show we were going to put on with another school during half term. The actual show was a very good experience, and the dancers did a very good performance, and overall everyone had a lot of fun and I hope they all enjoyed it just as much as I did.

After the show we made a visit to two primary schools, Cunningham Hill and Fleetville; we did different workshops, a dance workshop and an art workshop. In the dance workshop the students of the primary schools got taught some dances, and in the art workshop we did a brainstorm and a mind map about bullying, and we asked questions about bullying. We then handed out masks to give inspiration for some bullying posters that the children would make. We had a great time and it was a good experience.

Tian Figg

BSA News

The **BSA Sponsored Cycle Ride** takes place on **Saturday 16th 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. If you are unable to take part in one of the rides, please sponsor someone who is!

Please use the following link to the **sponsorship page**. It's quick, easy and secure to donate – **simply go to the website www.charitychoice.co.uk** and enter **Beaumont School Association** via the Charity Search option.

For more details see article below.

Please Sponsor the Beaumont Cycle Riders 2011!

On 16 April, a large group of Beaumont pupils, parents and friends will be pedalling through the beautiful but challenging countryside of the Chilterns on the BSA's inaugural sponsored bike ride. At distances of between 15 and 40 miles, and covering everything from easy trails to strenuous climbs, all their efforts will all be in aid of raising money for two great causes.

All monies raised by the ride will be shared equally between the BSA, who provide valued support funds for the school across both educational and extracurricular activities, and Special Olympics St Albans. The Special Olympics team run a fantastic range of sports activities for local adults and children with learning disabilities, from football to horse riding, and also enjoy a very successful record of competition both at regional and national level. They provide weekly sessions in numerous sports activities and also activity holidays. They rely on funding support such as this and, having many connections with the Beaumont community, it's a great opportunity to support their work.

All donations will be greatly appreciated, no matter how large or small, and **it's quick, easy and secure to donate – simply go to the website www.charitychoice.co.uk** and enter '**Beaumont School Association**' via the Charity Search option. Please also encourage family, friends and colleagues to support us, and thank you for any donation you can make.

Want to join the ride?



Whether you're an individual cyclist or a family of leisure riders, the BSA ride covers the beautiful area of the Ridgeway and Chilterns and offers three route options depending on 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. The medium ride is more of a challenge, incorporating 25 miles of excellent off road terrain, and the tougher long route extends the route to 40 miles, including tough hill climbs and fast descents.

Entry costs are from just £10 per person, with no charge for accompanied children. This covers all ride organisation and refreshments. You will need to get yourself and your bike to the start line in Princes Risborough, Bucks.

To sign up, please visit our dedicated registration website <http://regonline.activeeurope.com/936251>. Any questions, please contact Tim Pugh of the BSA on tim.pugh@scania.com.



**Dates for your diaries:
BSA AGM, Wednesday 25th May at 7.30pm
Rob's Festival, Saturday 25th June. More details overleaf.**



The School, Sixth Form, BSA, Year 9 and Prince's Trust need your help!

On Saturday 25th June the school is holding the second Rob's Festival. Last year this was organised by a group of ex-pupils who were good friends to Rob Williams (a former pupil) who tragically died in a skiing accident. They had joined forces with the Princes Trust to set up an entrepreneurship fund in his memory to help young people set up businesses. The school was involved last year and the Festival raised £18,000 which was shared between the Rob Williams entrepreneurship fund and the school. This year the organisation of the Festival is being led by the BSA and school in conjunction with the ex-pupils - with the school receiving a much higher proportion of money raised than last year.

A group of 40 pupils from the sixth form is working on organising the Bands, staging and sound, dance groups, skate parks and other activities, a graffiti artist, DJ, marketing and selling, sponsorship, the Silent Auction and raffle, updating the Website, Ticket sales and general duties on the day. They have already secured a line up of bands and dance groups, been promised some items for the Silent Auction and are in contact with companies for sponsorship and the staging. The Year 9 Pupils will be working on a project set up by the Prince's Trust to raise funds for the Trust in their PSHCE lessons after Easter.



The BSA are co-ordinating the event and will be looking for a large number of helpers on the day to help with refreshments, parking, security and general help. For more information about the event please go to www.robsfestival.com This website will continually be updated with new information.

HOW TO HELP

THE SIXTH FORM

CAN YOU HELP WITH ITEMS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION, DONATIONS FOR A RAFFLE/TOMBOLA, SPONSORSHIP, OFFER OF USE OF EQUIPMENT FOR ACTIVITIES?

IF YES PLEASE CONTACT THE SIXTH FORM AT robsfestival@yahoo.co.uk

YEAR 9

PARENTS OF YEAR 9s - CAN YOU HELP BY BUYING THEIR PRODUCTS, WORKING WITH THEM ON IDEAS FOR RAISING MONEY OTHER THAN SELLING CAKES/SWEETS?

IF YES – speak to your child about their ideas.

BSA

CAN YOU HELP ON THE DAY?

CAN YOU HELP BEFOREHAND?

CAN YOU OFFER ANY REFRESHMENTS (FOOD OR DRINK)?

DO YOU HAVE ANY EQUIPMENT/ACTIVITIES YOU COULD OFFER FOR USE ON THE DAY?

IF YES PLEASE CONTACT THE BSA ON: bsa@beaumont.herts.sch or look on the school website for who to contact

OTHER OFFERS OF HELP/INVOLVEMENT

CONTACT MRS POWDRELL (Assistant Headteacher) AT BEAUMONT SCHOOL

admin@beaumont.herts.sch

OR

BUY TICKETS AND COME ALONG ON THE DAY

TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE FROM THE SIXTH FORM AFTER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS OR FROM THE ROB'S FESTIVAL WEBSITE

The sixth form will be selling them at break times, lunch times and coming around form rooms.

PRICE - £10

Look out for the flyers advertising the event and see what exciting things are happening on the day.