Beaumont life

December 2007
www.beaumontschool.com

From the Headteacher

As we come to the end of a long term I hope that everyone in school feels they have made excellent progress since the start of the academic year. There has been much to celebrate and very high standards have been reached both in lessons and beyond. I hope too that new students in Years 7 and 12 in particular feel they have now settled happily and made good friends.

Over the past term we have been considering how we can adapt our curriculum structure ready for September 2008 to include everything we believe is essential for students at Beaumont. We have modelled various possibilities to see how these changes would work at Beaumont. The proposal currently 'on the table' is to move to a 33 period week which would enable us to deliver IT & PSHE/Citizenship every week in KS3 & KS4, increase PE to the recommended time per week and allow for more Maths and Science in KS4. It would mean that the school day would start at 8.30am and finish at 3.25pm with an earlier finish on Wednesdays and Fridays. Currently staff, students, unions and Governors are considering the implications. Parents should have received a letter from the Governors about this and a meeting, as required by government legislation, will be held on Wednesday, 9 January 2008, 7.00pm in the Library. I would remind everyone that this is not yet fixed and that there may well be changes to the school proposal.

As I write this, the first Carol Concert at the Abbey has just taken place; it was absolutely outstanding. Last week we had more outstanding success with the Year 8 Girls' Cross Country results - many congratulations to all the team. Please see more detail on both these events in the next issue of Beaumont Life.

A huge thank you also to all the parents and staff who helped raise nearly £5000 at the school Christmas Fair: what an excellent result! The money will be put to very good use in school.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas holiday; may it be one in which we all have time to spend with family and friends. Elizabeth Hitch

December Diary Dates…..

Mon	17	Years 7,8,9,10 &11 Interim Reports issued during this week
Weds	19	Certificate Presentation Evening for Past Sixth Form, 7.30pm in the Hall
Fri	**21**	**End of Term– shortened afternoon session. Dismissal from 1.00pm**

January Diary Dates…..

Mon	7	Term Starts – all lessons as normal
Weds	9	**Parent Consultation Evening on the Shape of the Week, in the Library at 7.00pm**
		Year 12 & 13 Drama trip in the evening
Thur	10	Sixth Form Awards Assembly
		Years 7 – 11 Awards Assemblies (changed from Friday 11 January)
		Vienna Music Trip Parent Information Evening in the Hall at 7.00pm
Mon	14	Latin/Drama Trip to the National Theatre in the evening
Tues	15	Year 11 Post 16 Evening – 7.30pm
Weds	16	BSA Committee Meeting in the Library at 7.45pm
Thur	17	Parent Information Evening – Using external agencies to support learning - 7.00pm in the Hall
Mon	21	Ski Trip 08 Final Meeting in the Hall at 7.30pm
Tues	22	Year 11 Leadership Team interviews
		Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening
Weds	23	Year 11 Leadership Team interviews
Thur	24	**Curriculum Enrichment Day**
Sun	27	Year 12 Oxwich Bay Geography Field Trip (return 30 January)
Tues	29	Parent Information Evening – Work Experience – 7.00pm in the Hall
Weds	30	Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening

Beyond Beaumont…..

We are proud of all of our students and here is some news:

☺ Congratulations to Hannah Moghaddas 10A, Alex Taylor 10N, Erin Fogarty 10S and Rebecka Fryer 10R have who have all been selected to play for the District Netball Squad and will be in an inter-district tournament on 25 February 2008 at Parmiters School – good luck girls!

News from the BSA's new Chairperson……

Hi everyone, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as new Chair of the BSA. Alistair Holt-Thomas will be a tough act to follow, but we are not losing him altogether as thankfully he stays on as Treasurer.

The BSA have all been very busy organising the Christmas Fair and I hope you were able to come along and enjoy the new games, the school choir, delicious homemade cakes, mulled wine and hot food. It was another successful Christmas fair and we appreciate all your generous donations and help at this, our major event of the year.

We were absolutely thrilled with the success of Songs from the West End. Not only did the evening raise an impressive £1407.04, but more importantly it was a wonderful opportunity to experience first class music and the feedback has been nothing but positive. Our special thanks go to Miss Shepherd for organising the performers and participating in the show!

We are particularly looking forward to the Anniversary Ball which will take place on 5 July 2008, at Old Albanians Club. Put the date in your diaries as tickets will be limited so get your reservations in early to avoid disappointment. We will be asking for help as usual - especially with first class auction prizes. We fully expect the evening will be special enough to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of this first–rate school.

I thought you might like to know how the money we raise is spent.

This year the BSA has given:
£472 to Modern Languages Department for CD equipment
£600 to the Library for a 'World Book Encyclopedia'
£508 to the Music Department for music stands
£483 to the Photography Department for developing equipment and film
£357 to the Art Department for etching plates
£1225 for lighting equipment, used in the hall for school productions
£1000 to match a grant from the 948 Sports Foundation for trampolines
£2000 per annum contribution to the upkeep of the school minibus
Student hardship fund.

On behalf of the BSA we look forward to welcoming you to our events and we appreciate all your help and support.

Abi Lewis
bsa@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

For your Information…….

Hertfordshire County Council issue a leaflet to new Year 7 students each year offering a 'Personal Accident Insurance Scheme for Pupils.' In future they will not be sending this leaflet out but more information can be obtained from their website:
www.thegrid.org.uk/info/welfare/insurance.shtml

News from the Exams Office regarding GCE (A Level) and GCSE Certificates…..

Summer 2006 or earlier; are available from the Examinations Office on Monday/Tuesday/Friday between 09.30am and 12.30pm. Alternatively please forward a stamped self addressed envelope to the school.
Summer 2007 Certificates will be available from the Examinations Office after the 'Presentation Evening' this month.
Please note the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) expects all certificates not collected to be destroyed one year after issue to minimise their use for Identification Fraud.
With effect from this year duplicate Certificates will no longer be issued.

Musical Theatre Revue

On Thursday 8 and Friday 9 November, Beaumont Musical Theatre Revue took place; it was a great performance to be involved in. Being asked to be in a solo number is an opportunity that I'm sure most pupils would jump at the chance to accept. So when I was asked to be part of *The Time Warp*, along with Amy Hazelhurst and Sam McCord, I was thrilled. The Rehearsals were always good fun, and as the number is so upbeat and lively, it added to the enjoyment. The choreography was brilliant and the costumes were really good fun to put together; it's not every day you get to wear fairy wings and fishnet tights without getting some very funny looks! Both performances went perfectly and it's a credit to Miss Doan and Miss Shepherd that everything was such a success, thank you!

Charlotte Blake 9R

The rehearsals for the Musical Theatre Revue passed really quickly and in no time at all, we were in room 60/61 waiting to go on stage for *Wlilkommen*, the opening number from *Cabaret*. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement after the success of Thursday afternoon's performance to Cunningham Hill Primary School. Everyone from Years 8 to 13 took part and everyone enjoyed it immensely. Most people's favourite ensemble number was the *Time Warp* from the *Rocky Horror Show*, which we performed after the interval. With clashing costumes, massive hair and bright makeup, it was an act to remember! Five songs later and without the mad makeup and clothes, we were called for *This is the Moment*, a number from *Jekyll and Hyde*. Charlie Clendon and James Fox started the song and the ensemble joined in for a great finale. Then before we knew it the show was over. Everyone enjoyed it and sang brilliantly; it was a great experience. Thank you to Miss Shepherd and Miss Doan for their hard work. **Emily Packham and Addie Maw 9L**

As Student Community Liaison Coordinator for Beaumont School I was asked to organise the community performance of the Musical Theatre Revue. I invited a variety of primary schools to come and watch the performance and Years 5 and 6 from Cunningham Hill took me up on my offer. The cast were excited about performing in front of an audience for the first time and Cunningham Hill behaved brilliantly throughout the performance. The students really enjoyed the experience especially when the cast taught them the *Time Warp* dance: some of them didn't seem too keen to start with but were dancing along with the rest of us by the end! Overall it was an enriching experience for the both the cast and the students from Cunningham Hill.

Rachel Airey 12BPo

The Musical Theatre Revue was like no other: we were involved in the group number *Brush Up Your Shakespeare* which went very well. Our group included Jack, Joe, Yannick and Tulsi. On Thursday afternoon we performed to Cunningham Hill School. Although the first act was cut a bit short, the show went on. After the performance we were warmed up and our nerves had gone for Thursday and Friday performances. We think the whole show went brilliantly and we really enjoyed it.

Jack and Joe Madley 9N and 9L

Student Rocketeers

A group of Beaumont students are entering the UK Air Youth Rocketry Challenge. This is a National competition which involves building a rocket to fly two eggs, without breaking them in the air to a height of 230m. The qualifying rounds for the competition are in February with the finals in March. The winners will have the opportunity of flying to Washington DC (on an official airline!) Helping the students, Matthew, Simon & Marc from Year 11 & James & Hui-qui from Year 13, in this competition are two engineers from Faber Maunsell who have also agreed to fund the venture. Beaumont School has a number of very useful links with the company who have in the past very kindly funded the setting up of the Duke of Edinburgh Award and worked with the school in other events such as Miniconsultancies. GOOD LUCK to the Beaumont team. Mr M Jones, Enterprise Co-ordinator

Hillview Township, Cape Town

Recently the school has welcomed the opportunity to become involved with Hillview Township in South Africa. The aim of the relationship is to help raise funds to support a project to build housing for 10,000 people. The Mills family (Jojo, Richard and Hannah) are the inspiration behind the link via their contact with local MP, Ben Turok.
The latest update from Ben was positive, as the Government are considering using this self build development project as a pilot for the whole country. However, sadly, the economic aspects are not so positive.
As a school we are planning a fund raising day on 22 February 2008 (to be confirmed - look out for further details). This will be a non-uniform day with a cake sale at break time. Our IB students will be assisting and supporting the Mills family during the run up to the event and the day itself.
It is my intention to maintain this link with Ben Turok in order to assist in Hillview's development and future. We are privileged to be given regular updates and photographs of the advancing settlement.
I would like to thank you in anticipation, on behalf of all those involved, for your generosity and support.

Mrs Riggott Jones

Sixth Form News….

WELL DONE and THANK YOU to everyone that took part in Beaumont's annual 'Jeans for Genes' Day on Friday 5 October. This year we managed to raise **£1,110,** as a school for the past three years we have raised over **£3,190**. Never keen to be the same as everyone else, Beaumont's Sixth Formers came into school dressed in their pyjamas despite the chilly weather!
All money raised goes towards children with genetic disorders. If you would like to know more about Jeans for Genes Day, visit their website:
www.jeansforgenes.com

On Thursday 18 October, Sixth Form student Amberley Freeman successfully raised over £250 for 'Breast Cancer Research' from selling cakes and a teachers versus pupils football game. Her organisation and dedication to raise money and awareness for such a worthwhile cause is an example of how hardworking the current Sixth Formers are. If you would like to support Breast Cancer Research further, visit their website:
www.cancerresearchuk.org/breastcancer

Year 10 Rugby November 2007

St Albans Boys' School 17 – 19 Beaumont

After a battling defeat against Richard Hale the Year 10 rugby side began their superb run of form against St Albans Boys' School. This was a very hard fought match against a very good side. The forwards dominated the game and gave the whole side the platform to go on to win. Tries from **Owen McDermott**, **Kristie Glennon** and **Duncan Maguire** were enough to see the team home. The calm and technically sound kicking of **Aidan Fortune** was vital in the closing stages as it was those 2 points that kept our noses in front! As St Albans clawed their way back from 19- 5 down it was our ferocious tackling, led by **Duncan Maguire**, which kept the opposition at bay. A fantastic win!

Beaumont 33 – 5 Dame Alice Owens

After the battle against St. Albans Boys this proved to be a very straight forward victory. Again, the forwards were totally dominant in a game that demonstrated the power that the Year 10 side have. Alice Owens simply could not compete with the physicality and skill levels of our side. Tackles were flying in from all angles with **Duncan Maguire**, **Owen McDermott**, **Mark Wilson** and **Kristie Glennon** leaving a lasting impression with the opposition after many hard hits! Ultimately 4 tries from **Kristie Glennon** and 1 from **Jamie Strachan** was enough to see off Alice Owens. Again, **Aidan Fortune's** boot collected the rest of the points.

Verulam 0 – 66 Beaumont

Traditionally the Verulam fixture is one that would be seen as a very difficult match…..the score line tells you everything you need to know about what a great team the Year 10 Beaumont side is! Verulam were out tackled, out fought, out scored and ultimately outclassed by Beaumont. The 11 tries scored underlined what a crushing victory this was for the Year 10 boys! Tries were scored by…and the list is long… **Aidan Fortune**(x4), **Casper Curtis**(x2), **Owen McDermott**(x2), **Kristie Glennon(**x2), **Joe Kalozci** and **Duncan Maguire**. As with all our victories the win was set up by the hard work and ferocious, direct rugby of the whole team. With this in mind special mention should also go to **James Mostyn**, **Ramiz Kiani** and **Alex Young** who all had particularly good games despite not scoring. (Apologies if the list of try scorers from any game is inaccurate…there have been so many this month I've lost count a little!)

Mr Cavanagh

Diary Note:
Wednesday, 9 January 2008
Parent Consultation Evening on the Shape of the Week, in the Library at 7.00pm