



Weekly Newsletter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

What a terrific week!

I was privileged to have the opportunity to see both boys and girls in performances of "Lord of the Flies" and witness the extremely high standards achieved by both casts in this superb production.

The acting was of the highest quality throughout, with Emily O'Sullivan and Neo Merrell presenting believable portrayals of children struggling to impose the vestiges of a moral framework in an uncertain new world, while being undermined by Ella Hawes and Matz Kiernan who presented equally believably the darker side of humanity unchained by petty laws.

Even darker were the characters beautifully and starkly realised by Evie McKnight and Ethan Cooper, neither of whom, if in character, you would wish to meet on a dark night. Their support for Jack and their rapid descent into savagery and the moral wilderness provided the grimmest and frightening aspects of a moving play.

Similarly, playing Simon, Jodie Bradley and Will Johnson provided masterclass cameos and acting of outstanding quality as he struggled to come to terms with the horror of the circumstances he found himself in. Piggy, acted in turn by Faith Rufai and Will Loader provided a focal point for the worst excesses of depravity, and once again we saw acting of superior quality from them both to achieve the believable status of victim. Achieving such outstanding quality, with two entirely separate casts in a limited timeframe required direction of the highest quality, great teamwork and a fantastically hard-working company of actors, all of whom played their part brilliantly in this tightly-knit production. Congratulations to Mr Murley and all involved.

Our Junior Public Speaking team took part in the District final on Wednesday 8th February at Chelmsford County Hall. The team, with Thomas Woodcock (Second Year) Chair, Henry O'Hara (First Year) Main Speaker and Joanna Burgess (Second Year) Vote of Thanks, performed superbly and were the winning team of the six schools involved. Their topic 'Would I lie to you?' was performed with humour, sophistication and flair and they represented the School with a finesse praised by all three judges, the Rotary Club and the Mayor of Chelmsford. Henry O'Hara won Best Speaker of the evening with Thomas Woodcock also winning Best Chair. The evening was inspiring and the competition was strong. The team now go through to the Regional Final in Ipswich on the 11th March.

Last Saturday, the Wessex Auditorium was treated to its second performance featuring both the Brentwood School Big Band and the London based; The Seven Steps Big Band. Billed as a 'Battle of the Big Bands', the evening offered some of our most talented School jazz musicians and singers the chance to test their metal against a band of young professionals. A sold-out audience was treated to an evening of high energy swing, jazz, funk, vocals and latin numbers with an array of individual features and some particularly inspiring collaborations between the two bands. A standing ovation and insistence on an encore demonstrated just how enjoyable an evening was had by all and we look forward to welcoming The Seven Steps Big Band back for a re-match next year.

At the end of the week, the Under 15 football team performed with great character and resilience to win the final of the Elgin Cup in a hard-fought victory against Hampton School, in South West London. See the more extensive report later in this newsletter for further details.

We look forward to another exciting half-term after a short break next week during which there are excursions to Spain (Language Exchange); France (Downhill Skiing) and Norway (Cross Country Skiing), and Burton-upon-Trent (Football). I wish all pupils and staff involved successful trips and safe returns.

World Book Day

In anticipation of World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March, the English Department is running a creative writing competition. Successful entries will be invited to a creative writing masterclass with published authors on World Book Day. The top entries will also be rewarded with book tokens.

The topics for entries are below:

- Write the lost chapter for your favourite book.
- Write a creative description of Brentwood School and its grounds.
- Write a short story entitled, 'be careful what you wish for!'

Entries should be typed and no more than 750 words. They should also be accompanied by a short paragraph that details the inspiration and reasoning behind the entry.

The deadline for submission will be Tuesday 21st February. Entries should be submitted to any English teacher or delivered to the English Department office.

Academic Endeavour Award

My Award this week goes to Fourth Year pupil, Rania Milki. Rania was nominated by the English Department for a highly sophisticated poem that she produced in English. The poem is beautifully written, from the perspective of a deer in the woods. This was one of the most impressive pieces of poetry that the department has seen in recent years, and would not be out of place in a published anthology of poetry. [Click here for the link to Rania's poem.](#) Congratulations to Rania!

Junior Colloquium and Junior Sir Antony Browne Society

At Junior Colloquium and JSABs this week Sixth Form student Greg Harding presented his ideas on the government of North Korea. This provoked much interest from the pupils and Greg chaired a very interesting discussion. After half term, Alice Grundy and Mr Higgins will be returning to Junior Colloquium and JSABs to debate 'Does our society ever learn from past mistakes?' Junior Colloquium will meet as usual on Monday 20th February at 1.20pm in Old Big School and JSABs also at 1.20pm on Wednesday 22nd in the BAC Lecture Theatre. All are welcome.

Congratulations to Zipporah Ejemai in the Second Year for already successfully completing her Headmaster's Award. All Second Year pupils are reminded to contact Mrs Sharpe if they need any help with completing the 6 challenges. The deadline for the completion of the Award will be Monday 5th June.

An Evening of Jazz and Spoken Word

Please come and join us for 'Cool for Cats', our inaugural evening's entertainment of Words and Music on Thursday 23rd February in the Memorial Hall at 7pm. A collaboration between the English and Music Departments of Brentwood School, this evening will feature a selection of fun and serious poetry interspersed with small ensemble jazz performances. Poetry will be read by a number of staff and pupils and the jazz performed by the Blue Moon Jazz Quintet and the Junior Jazz Quintet, both under the tutelage of Head of Jazz, Mr. Matthew Sulzmann. Come and relax with sultry blues, thought-provoking poetry and a glass of wine in the interval.

Tickets are priced at £5 per adult, (students do not have to pay for tickets). [Please click here](#) to purchase your tickets. We look forward to seeing you in the audience.

Confirmation in Chapel

Confirmation in the Church of England marks an important part of the Christian journey of faith. In Confirmation, we make a public declaration of the faith and promises that were made at our baptism and pledge to follow in the path of Jesus. Each year in Chapel, a number of students are prepared for Confirmation and Baptism which culminates in a service led by the Bishop. This year, Confirmation will take place on

Wednesday 28th June at 7.30pm. Candidates for Confirmation and Baptism will follow a short course of preparation in School led by the Chaplain. Please be in touch with the Chaplain by email if you would like to explore Confirmation this year. Revd. Adrian McConnaughe – awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Brentwood Philharmonic Orchestra Concert

Tomorrow, Saturday 11th February, at 7.30pm. in the Wessex Auditorium, Mr. David Pickthall MBE will conduct the Brentwood Philharmonic Orchestra in a Concert of Stage, Film and TV Music. Music will include the Die Fledermaus Overture, The Avengers, The Saint and The Simpsons. Tickets are priced at £15 per adult and £6 for under 18s and are available at www.brentwoodphil.org.uk (booking charges may apply). Please see the poster attached to this Newsletter.

Friends of Brentwood School Curry Night

Tickets are on sale for the very first FoBS curry evening being held at the award-winning Maharaja Restaurant in Benfleet on Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm. This is a chance to relax, socialise, and enjoy a fun night out with excellent food, good music and the opportunity to raise money for a worthy cause. Tickets cost £25.00 per head and the evening will consist of a welcome drink and four-course buffet menu. There is a fully licensed bar, dance floor, raffle and DJ. Further information is available on the FoBS page of the School website or by emailing Mr John Killilea on JLK@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Use of Preparatory School Car Park

I remind parents that the Preparatory School Car Park exists only for the convenience of parents whose children attend the Preparatory School and very small children are often present with their parents in this car park. Please do not use this car park if you only have a son or daughter in the Senior School.

Sport

Athletics

The Lee Valley Indoor Schools' Cup was the first opportunity for the junior athletes to test themselves against other schools from Essex, Hertfordshire and London. First Year pupils Ollie Curtis, Jonathan Odeyemi, Fiz Jaiyesimi, Jack Ridgwell, Henry Smith and Ovie Jeyibo all competed well. The boys now have to wait to see if they have qualified for one of the semi-finals in March.

We are also delighted to report that Seb Clatworthy gained a silver medal in the Essex and Eastern Counties Championships after a personal best performance in the pole vault.

Fencing

Three athletes represented Brentwood School at Europe's strongest youth foil tournament in Paris last weekend. In the boys' Under 14 field, over 340 fencers from all over the world entered. Ian Ho and Jack Elsworth fenced well at the Saturday qualification rounds but unfortunately did not qualify for the Sunday tournament. Ian Ho was very close to reaching the second day and lost his elimination round 10-9 to finish in 154th. Maddy Gale was in great form against strong competition. She cruised through the Saturday qualification rounds and into Sunday's third elimination round but lost 10-6 against a Japanese National Team fencer to finish 38th out of over 180 young fencers.

Football

On Saturday, we faced Whitgift winning nine of the 12 matches played. The First XI played out a goal fest, winning 7-4. James Moore again impressed with some direct play resulting in a number of goal-scoring opportunities. The Second XI won 5-2 with goals scored by Charles Bacon (2), Max Fewster, Thomas Penney and Cameron Allen with Sean Howell receiving Man of the Match with a dominant performance in midfield. The Third, Fourth and Fifth XI faced Bancroft's in their annual fixture winning all three of the tightly-contested matches. The Third XI won 4-3 in another strong performance against the Bancroft's First XI. The

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Fourth XI won 2-1 while the Fifth XI again impressed winning 3-2. The Under 15A team, in its final match before the Elgin League Cup Final, beat Whitgift 4-0 with goals coming from the impressive Zach Davidson (2) and Joseph Macdonald (2).

The Under 14A team impressed with an outstanding 6-2 win in what was one of the team's best performances of the season, including outstanding performances from John Sasere and Jack Cheek. The Under 14 B team also won convincingly 3-0. The Under 13B team showed its fighting spirit to eventually win 6-5 after leading 5-1. The Under 12s won 2 of the 4 fixtures played with the most impressive performance coming from the Under 12C team who won 7-2. Goals came from Luca Bassett, Archie Flashman, Angus Hampson, Samuel Walsh and Alex Macdonald (2). On Wednesday all five Senior teams played fixtures against Highgate School winning 3 of the 5 games. The First XI proved its capabilities defensively winning 2-0 in a solid team performance which Sam Wood impressed in the middle of the back four. Goals came from James Moore and Zavier Coyne. The Second XI performed exceptionally well resulting in Highgate Second XI losing its first game since September. Luke Twyford scored an impressive hat-trick while Max Fewster scored the other goal in a great team performance. The Third XI continued its excellent season with a 3-0 win following standout performances from Louis Bassett and William Jensen.

In the pinnacle of the sporting week, as previously mentioned, the Under 15A team beat Hampton 2-1 in Thursday's Elgin League Cup Final, after trailing 1-0 for most of the game. After losing to Hampton earlier in the season, Brentwood were resolute in defence before Joe MacDonald scored a stunning equaliser from 25 yards to send the game into overtime. In the first period of added time, Dom Clatworthy smashed home the winner to send the traveling fans into raptures! Gabriel Gerlis was awarded Man of the Match and was ably-supported by superb performances from Captain Fin Turner, Jack Brown and Harry Gough.

Hockey

The Under 14B hockey team travelled to Joyce Frankland to play its A team in a tough Essex Cup fixture. Brentwood had a bright start and put pressure on the opposition, moving the ball around well in the midfield. Unfortunately with 10 minutes played, Brentwood had a lapse in concentration and conceded 3 goals in quick succession but a quick break meant that the half time score was 3-1. Despite an improved performance in the second half, Joyce Frankland converted a number of short corners and the final result ended 6-1. Player of the Match was awarded to Isabel Blackwell. The Under 13 team experienced its first competitive 11 a-side match versus Saffron Walden on Tuesday. The players demonstrated some excellent individual skills, taking advantage of the extra space available to them. With pace in the attack, we were able to overload the Saffron Walden defence and scored two very good team goals, one apiece from Freya Killilea and Maddy Gale to secure an excellent win.

Netball

On Saturday, six netball teams travelled to Bancroft's for some exciting and well-contested games. The Under 15A team won 13-11 in a tightly-contested game. Zara Phillips and Faith Rufai kept the team in the game with their dominance in the circle. The Under 15B side narrowly lost 20-13. Harriet Ellis and Holly Duke played superbly and Katie Sullivan enjoyed a solid game in attack to be awarded Player of the Match. The Under 14 team enjoyed a feisty game against Bancroft's, with Brentwood prevailing 28-19. Mia Citroen had a great game in defence and was named by the opposition as Player of the Match. The Under 13s had a very tight game against Bancroft's and managed a great victory of 17-14. Eima Cupples and Ellie Marshall were exceptional in mid court. The Under 13B team lost but worked hard and with determination throughout the game. Freya Killilea was exceptional as GK keeping their shooter out of the game. Hannah Malyon -Davies was named as Players' Player by the Brentwood squad.

The Under 15 team beat Anglo European 38-14 in the MESSA league, a comfortable win following a well-spirited game. Grace Cannell had an exceptional game in mid court demonstrating excellent agility and vision. The First VII faced Colchester High School in the semi-final of the Essex Cup. The game started off on a fairly even keel until Brentwood found its form and surged ahead, winning by a substantial margin 46-7. Ashley Chalmers was named as Player of the Match for her consistent shooting and outstanding movement

in the circle. The Under 13B/C and Under 14B teams travelled to the Plume School on Tuesday. The Under 13 squad lost 25-6 although the score did not reflect the game, the girls made good progress throughout the game and never dropped their heads. Jasmine played a solid game and was awarded Players' Player. The Under 14B team enjoyed a comfortable win 20-6. They demonstrated excellent defending skills within the game and fed accurately into the attacking circle, Charlotte Lloyd led by example and was awarded Player of the Match.

On Tuesday, the Under 13B team visited Ursuline to play in the local league. The team clinched a last minute 10-9 victory. The team was determined to take the victory and came out with fighting spirit from the start. Sophie Brenna, Isabel Copeland and Francesca Stanford all had outstanding games. The Under 12A team met Helen Romanes in the Essex Cup, ending up 38-14 victors. The game was fast and furious and Brentwood dominated from start to finish. Kirsty Dewar had a great game and demonstrated the ability to act on constructive advice to improve her game, and it was for this reason that she was awarded Players' Player.

Another fine First VII performance on Wednesday afternoon ensured a great win against Bancroft's, 21-13. Ashley Chalmers was named as Player of the Match. The Second VII narrowly lost but the game could have finished with either side winning. Athena Knight, Lily Spencer-Smith, Rebecca Ashford and Connie Bell were in particularly fine form. The Third VII also lost narrowly following another well-contested game with the opposition pulling ahead during the last quarter. Congratulations to Isabella Farquhar who was named as Player of the Match by the opposition and Emily Scott who had a consistent game throughout. The Under 13B team played against Chelmer Valley A team in the MESSA league, they lost 26-6 although the score line did not reflect the game. Josie Whiskerd was named as Player of the Match for her outstanding defending skills as WD. Against the same opposition, the Under 14B team continued its superb run of wins by beating Chelmer 35-5! Another fine performance by this team who demonstrated great spirit and determination.

Karting

We are delighted to announce that Fifth Year pupil Matt Luff was named Havering Junior Sports Competitor of the Year by the Havering Sports Council at their recent Awards Evening. In short, Matt has excelled in the world of karting and has, in the past year, won his second SODI World title, the British Schools' Championship including the accolade of fastest lap and best driver. He has also accrued various awards most notably the Man of Steel for his performance at the Buckmore Park Solo Endurance Championship, Endurance Champion as part of the Brentwood Banta Karting team, a Brentwood Raceway All Star Cup winner and excelled in the Ginetta Junior Scholarship race day.

Swimming

Despite limited training we are delighted to report that James Rowell swam in the Essex Championships held in the Olympic Pool, Stratford, last weekend, and won Silver in the 50 metre Backstroke, recording a personal best time. We look forward to reporting on his performance in the forthcoming 100 metre championship backstroke in a few weeks' time. In the same competition, Hannah Collett swam superbly to win a silver medal in the girls' 50m Butterfly in a personal best time of 32.80s. In Tuesday's league gala versus Boswells, the boys' team recorded a great win while the girls' lost by a solitary point. Josh White swam superbly for the Under 16 team while Sarah Dawe had a great swim winning her front crawl race and 2nd in the backstroke. In the all-girls gala v Chelmsford County High Olivia Rappolt and Kate Bowie- Britton swam well to ensure a close finish in a highly-competitive race meeting.

Squash

The Under 19 boys' squash team recorded an impressive victory by 3 matches to 2 against Epsom College in the first knockout round of the National Schools' Championships. There were excellent victories for Edward Brown, Rishi Patel and Harry Burr. The team will now play either Merchant Taylor's or Peter Symonds College in the last sixteen.

These letters are located in the Letters Home area of the Parent Portal for which there is a link below for parental use:

Folder	Title	Uploaded
1st Year	'Stomp' routine for Annual Dance Show March 2017	10/02/2017
3rd Year	Geography Fieldwork Trip to Camber Sands March 2017	10/02/2017
3rd Year	German Dept's Trip to Berlin April 2017	10/02/2017
4th Year	'The Crucible' Theatre Trip March 2017	10/02/2017
5th Year	'The Crucible' Theatre Trip March 2017	10/02/2017
6th Form	L6th Geography Fieldwork Trip to Slapton May 2017	10/02/2017
6th Form	'The Crucible' Theatre Trip March 2017	10/02/2017
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Silver DofE Kit Evening Letter	09/02/2017

> [Click here for the Parent Portal](#)



Wishing you all a relaxing half-term break.

Yours sincerely



Ian Davies
Headmaster



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SENIOR SCHOOL

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