



## Weekly Newsletter from the Headmaster

---

Dear Parents,

You may have seen some media reports of our extending a neighbourly hand to the congregation of Brentwood Cathedral in their time of need, and, while I feel that this is something any good neighbour would do, it made me think more about the many ways in which we are able to help both the local community and society as a whole.

Most significantly, by educating 1,520 children who would otherwise have to be educated in maintained schools, we save the tax payer £7,600,000 per annum (this is based on the conservative estimate that it costs the government £5000 per annum to educate children in the maintained sector). This, alone, can be identified as a huge "public benefit".

However, this is just the beginning! Students at Brentwood, as you will know, provide numerous services to the community. Over 250 are involved in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award activities, and there is a community service component to this Award. Our students visit care homes, host social events for the elderly, and assist in many charitable fundraising initiatives.

We provide facilities for pupils from all over the South East of England to sit their SAT admissions tests for universities in the USA, and host courses for children from local state schools who wish to pursue degrees in Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry. We also provide interview practice for these students. Similarly, for History and Politics, students from local schools are invited to listen to and participate in discussions prompted by our excellent programme of visiting speakers.

For many years, we have partnered with Brentwood and Chelmsford Cathedrals to provide Choral Scholarships to enable our pupils to sing in Cathedral Choirs; worked closely with one local school for three years to help them to start their own Combined Cadet Force, and we are now embarking on a similar project with another local school.

Our pupils have been benefiting for several years from assembly thoughts written by Mr Clements, and his readings have been widely viewed (over 25,000 times) on the Times Educational Supplement website. This sharing of resources is something we are pleased to do, but rarely discuss more widely.

Our Preparatory School hosts six Able and Talented Enrichment days every year for local primary schools, and we also have designed and implemented an annual Science Competition for local schools and an annual Science Seminar for teachers to share good practice.

We have developed a reputation for ensuring that our students are able to access the best universities to study subjects they really want to do, and we are happy to share our Oxbridge entry expertise (Critical Thinking sessions and interview practice) with a local state comprehensive school. We were also pleased to help Grove House School, a local school for children with Special Needs, when they first opened.

I am sure you are aware that we enable local sports clubs, amateur dramatic societies, and choirs to use our facilities on a weekly basis, and that our enviable position in the heart of Brentwood with 75 acres of well-kept grounds and pitches makes us a very accessible venue for local people. Over 700 members from the local community use our Sports Hall outside school hours and any income is ploughed back into the School's facilities.

We are always open to fresh ideas to further enhance our links with the local and wider community, while at the same time being acutely aware that our first duty and core purpose is to provide a first-class education for every single one of our pupils. We believe that our extensive links with the local community enhances this educational purpose for all our students, and they are better placed to take up leadership positions in later life, if they understand the importance of sharing, and extending the hand of friendship to those in need.

### Academic Endeavour Award

I would like to announce this week's Award winners. This is a prize for students who have demonstrated academic excellence, outstanding effort in a subject, or for going above and beyond for a department or in a piece of work produced. The winners are:

Holly Perry (Fifth Year) for her effort and achievement in Maths. Holly was nominated by the Maths Department for her exemplary attitude and fantastic progress made in the subject. She recently achieved 100 percent in the mock exam. This is unheard of, even for a top set student, and goes to show what hard work can achieve.

Andrew Priddey (Second Year) for his work in Greek. Andrew was nominated by the Classics Department for showing exceptional interest and outstanding skills in his Greek lessons since the beginning of this academic year. In every lesson he goes far beyond the curriculum, completing difficult extension work with ease and accuracy.

Congratulations to Holly and Andrew!

### Mastering the UKCAT – For potential Medicine or Dentistry applicants in Lower Sixth

I am pleased to announce that we will be hosting a UKCAT preparatory course in School on Monday 6th March. It is essential that all students who are thinking of applying to either Medicine or Dentistry prepare well for the additional entrance tests that they need to sit, in particular the UKCAT exam. The course is being run by The Medic Portal. This group is affiliated with the Royal Society of Medicine and provides a superb level of support. Further details can be found on their website: <https://www.themedicportal.com/event/mastering-the-ukcat/>

The course will be open to other schools and is limited to a maximum of 30 places but we are able to offer it to our own students in the first instance. I am also pleased that we can offer the course at a reduced rate for our students of just £148.50 for the day's course and all associated materials (normal cost is £175).

If you would like to book a place on the course for your son/daughter, can you please see the attached letter, complete the form and return to Dr Tiffen no later than Friday 3rd February.

### Geography Week in the BAC

The Bean Academic Centre recently hosted a week of Geography-themed events. A series of challenges proved to be particularly popular: folding OS maps against the clock was as frustrating to the unsuccessful as it was satisfying to those who achieved the feat, whilst many pupils took part in a competition to identify unusual flags from around the world. An A-Z Geography team quiz was keenly contested, especially amongst some competitive First and Second Years. The highlight for many was the big screen showing of an episode of Planet Earth 2: the crowd reaction to a nest of snakes closing in on its lizard prey almost took the roof off. There were also dozens of entries to the "Where in the World?" photo challenge and we can now announce that the competition was won by Philippa Hampson of the Upper Sixth – well done.

### Headmaster's Forum - Postponed

The Headmaster's Forum will not now be held on Monday 30th January 2017 at 7pm in the Wessex Auditorium. I have had only one question submitted for the meeting and a member of the Senior Staff will contact that parent and invite them into School to discuss their query.

### 2017 Parent and Pupil Surveys

Thank you to those of you who have already completed your online Parent Survey. We value your opinion and the survey findings will make a difference to how we run the School and plan for the future. If you are

still to take part in the survey, it should only take 10 minutes, you have until Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January to complete the questionnaire and return it directly to Kirkland Rowell Surveys. All your answers are anonymous and will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### Junior Colloquium

This week at Junior Colloquium and JSABs, Sixth Form students Anita Doal and Simone Olagbegi spoke passionately about the unequal position of women around the globe and a good discussion was had about global inequalities. Next week, to fit in with Politics week in the BAC, Sixth Form students Meg Cupples and Jonty Peacock are debating the question 'Brexit: opportunity or disaster?' Both Junior Colloquium and JSABs will be held in the BAC Lecture Theatre. All First and Second Years are invited to attend on Monday at 1.20pm and all Third, Fourth and Fifth Year pupils are invited to attend on Wednesday at 1.20pm.

### "Lord Of The Flies"

The Middle School production of "Lord Of The Flies" takes place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February in the Memorial Hall at 7pm. Tickets are £6 per adult and £4 per child. The link for tickets is [here](#).

Once reserved, your tickets will be sent to the email address given. These can either be printed and brought with you or shown on a mobile phone/device on the night.

Our directorial intention is to thrust you onto this hellish island with these stranded children; to present their living nightmares and to confront you with their demise into animalism and brutality. Our decision to use thrust staging presents a further challenge for the young actors, who are grappling with this timeless and well-known script adapting from William Golding's original novel, as well as enhancing the immersion of the audience.

### Battle of the Big Bands

After last year's sell-out and sensational performance, London-based and professional Big Band, The Seven Steps Big Band return to Brentwood School to battle it out with the Brentwood School Big Band. The Wessex Auditorium promises to be treated to an evening of high energy and exciting swing, funk, Latin and vocal numbers. This is a highlight of our musical calendar and is simply not to be missed.

The concert takes place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. (doors open at 6.45pm.) Tickets for this amazing concert are priced at £10 per adult and £5 per child. [Click here for more information](#).

### 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### Old Brentwood - Claude Ernest Thompson

The medals awarded to Old Brentwood, Claude Ernest Thompson, who served in WW1, have been delivered to the School on a six-month loan. They are displayed in the display cabinet on the ground floor of the BAC (the cabinets near the lockers), with some information about Claude and a school photograph of him. Please take the opportunity to look at this wonderful display.

### Former Teacher's début novel is a Show Stopper

Mrs Hayley Barker, who taught English at Brentwood for 14 years, has seen her show-stopper of a début novel, which revolves around life in a 'deadly circus', snapped up by a prestigious publisher and will be released in June. 'Show Stopper' is a story of death-defying acrobatics, cruel games and forbidden teenage love set in a deadly circus where the children of immigrants are forced to perform. Mrs Barker's book will be published by Scholastic in the UK as part of a two-book deal and we wish her every success with her writing career. If the synopsis is anything to go by Mrs Barker will have us all on the edge of our seats!

### Friends of Brentwood School Curry Night

Tickets are now 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](mailto:JLK@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### Friends of Brentwood School Wine Tasting Evening

Tickets are still available for this Wine Tasting evening which is being held on Friday 3rd February at 7.30pm in the Bean Academic Centre Tuck Shop. Tickets for the event, which will be held in conjunction with The Shenfield Wine Co. and Abigail's Delicatessen in Ingatestone, will cost £25 and the ticket price will include a welcome drink, tasting wines and cheese board. For further information and details about how to buy tickets, please go to the [FoBS page of the School website](#).

### Ultimate Activity Camps and Schools of Sport

Ultimate Activity Camps and Schools of Sport are returning to Brentwood School this year with their fun and engaging holiday programmes, with plenty of new activities for 2017 including more arts and craft, initiative games and dance sessions. Ultimate Activity Camps offer exciting childcare with over 40 activities every week delivered by engaging and enthusiastic staff who will instruct and encourage children to try new activities and make new friends – and naturally have lots of fun! The Camp dates are: Easter: Monday 3rd to Thursday 13th April (closed Bank Holidays); summer: Monday 17th July to Friday 25th August. Please visit [www.ultimateactivity.co.uk](http://www.ultimateactivity.co.uk) for details and their latest offer - you can also call them on 0330 111 7077 (local rate).

Schools of Sport offer girls and boys inspiring sports coaching academies during the school holidays and an outstanding opportunity for children to receive first-class, hands-on coaching from leading coaches and sports stars! Their dates are: Half Term: Athletics Academy with Dean Macey 30th & 31st May; Summer: Netball Academy with Melissa Hyndman 22nd to 24th August. To book, please visit [www.schoolsofsport.co.uk](http://www.schoolsofsport.co.uk) or call their team on 0330 111 9077 (local rate). Further details can be found on the [holiday activities page of the school website](#).

## Sport

### Cross Country

On Wednesday, our strongest cross-country runners from each year group came together to form a relay team of six. This was to compete in the Goater Cup, a unique event hosted by Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School. The age range of the team meant that large position changes would happen from lap to lap. Dom Clatworthy got Brentwood off to a solid start and Beau Blewitt took the runners further up the field. Elliot Cordery flew round the course in the second fastest time of the day and it meant that at the changeover, Aston Leaver would find himself in the lead. Aston and Oliver Caterall were running against much older boys but kept us in the top 10. Charlie Everest ran solidly to hold on to 9th position overall.

### Fencing

Last Saturday, Brentwood School played host to Tonbridge School in an all weapons encounter. The Brentwood School Sabre Team consisting of Jaidaksh Anilkumar, Topias Pulkkinen and Darius Taylor defeated Tonbridge 45-44. Matt Goodwin, Adam Hogarth, Benjamin Nagelkerke and Harriet Evans then won the Épée round 45-35. The last match consisted of foilists Maddy Gale, Jack Elsworth, Robbie Woolterton and Neo Merrell. They defeated Tonbridge 45-28 to ensure a fine overall victory.

### Football

On Tuesday, Brentwood welcomed Highgate School in five Under 13 fixtures. The A team, in the final game before the ISFA Semi-final versus Whitgift, dominated to win 6-1 with another hat-trick for Harrison Clayden and goals for Joel Winter, Diego Robinson and George Mandie. The Under 13B team also won 4-1 with an excellent team performance. The Under 13C team continued its excellent run under the guidance of Mr Roberts which saw an astonishing 13-1 victory. The goal scorers were Matthew Fullerton (5), Alex Haward (2), Matthew James, Damilare Odelusi, Mide Olajide, Henry Deacon, Matthew Prince and Cameron O'Shea. The Under 13D and E teams unfortunately lost out to strong Highgate opposition despite showing some excellent team work and commitment.

On Wednesday, we welcomed Westminster First and Second XI in the second round of the London ISFA Cup. The First XI won 3-2 in a game full of goal scoring opportunities that eventually went Brentwood's way. James Moore scored two whilst George Mackinnon scored the other. The Second XI was involved in a classic encounter with Westminster which ended up with Brentwood winning in the final minute courtesy of a Thomas Penney penalty. Brentwood was 2-0 down in the first half and showed excellent commitment to bring the game back to 2-2 and was deservedly on the end of a last minute penalty call resulting in victory.

On Thursday, the Under 13A team played Whitgift in the Investec ISFA Cup Semi-Final losing 6-0. Although Whitgift was deserving of the victory, the score line was somewhat flattering and the story may have been considerably different if early chances for Joel Winter and Fiz Jaiyesimi had been converted. On the same day, the Under 15A team beat Epsom College 6-2 following a superb hat trick from Dom Clatworthy, two by Joe MacDonald and a fine George Pugh strike. The B team drew 1-1 after a last gasp equaliser from James Davey.

### Hockey

On Monday, the Under 14As played the Under 14Bs in an Essex Cup fixture. The A's started well and scored two early goals, after this the B's came back in a competitive first half and were unlucky to concede a third goal just before half time. The second half saw much more structured play from both teams and the As capitalised on its fine form to score two more. Goals were scored by Caitlin Goodbody, Georgia Underhill, Lucy Holloway and two from Orissa Uppal. The Player of the Match for the A team was jointly awarded to Mia Citroen, Caitlin Goodbody and Lucy Holloway. The Player of the Match for the Bs was awarded to Annabelle Williams.

The Under 12A team played Coopers' Coborn this week for the second time this season. The girls were in fine form from the whistle and quickly went 1-0 up within the first few minutes. Sophie Philpot and Hannah Knightbridge were dominant in midfield with Isabella Copeland proving difficult to break down at the back. Olivia Copeland was in a destructive form up front and scored four goals, including one spectacular backhand shot from the top of the circle which rocketed into the top left hand corner. Penelope Wood and Hannah Knightbridge scored the other goals with the game finishing at 6-2. This first season has been particularly impressive as the squad have now gone through the entire season unbeaten, winning all games with just the one draw.

The Under 12B looked to avenge its only loss against Coopers', so the girls were excited about the re-match. This time, they were determined and ready for the challenge. Brentwood started positively, gaining overall

possession and with some great attacking and skilful runs from Isabelle Toms down the wing - Thea Mathieson scored the first goal. Brentwood kept striving and eventually saw three more goals from Olivia Dowman (2) and Olivia Argent. A superb 4-0 victory ensured an end to a very successful season. Player of the Match was awarded to Isabelle Toms.

On Wednesday, the Under 14A team played against Coopers' Coborn, a fixture they were keen to win after losing narrowly to Coopers' before Christmas. After a strong start from Coopers', the Brentwood girls galvanised themselves and produced some excellent attacking play, resulting in a goal from Emma Philpot. After half time, Coopers' once again came out strongly and equalised. Unfortunately the team was disrupted due to an injury in the last five minutes of the game and conceded another goal in the last couple of minutes with the final score a 2-1 win for our Upminster neighbours.

### Human Performance

On Thursday, Sports Scientists from the University of Essex Human Performance Lab visited the School to conduct an Exercise Physiology workshop with our Lower Sixth PE students who took part in the multi stage fitness test. Results were analysed and used to estimate individual VO2 max. Tom Taker wore a portable gas analyser during the test and results from this were compared to elite athletes. Students were also given the opportunity to learn more about Sport Psychology, including the difference between performance and outcome goal setting during a highly productive afternoon.

### Netball

Last week, the Under 13 A team took on Anglo-European in the MESSA league. A poor team performance led to a 15-17 loss, and put an end to the team's unbeaten run in the competition. The Senior Third VII put in a fantastic performance to beat Robert Clack in the Essex Cup. After falling behind in the first quarter, they played incredibly well to level the scores by half time. The final score was 20-17 after Zara Smalley and Nicole Harvey played outstandingly well, as did Emily Scott in defence. Molly Austin also played well throughout the game and finished with almost 100% shooting accuracy in the final quarter.

The Under 14A team put in a disciplined performance against St Martin's to win comfortably by 43-7. Elizabeth Olaiya stepped up to the mark in the defending circle and put in an excellent performance, along with Mia Citroen and Sarah Dawe. Lauren Burgin was outstanding in attack, ably supported by Lauren Ager and Annie Shaw.

The Senior First, Second and Third VII took on Chigwell in a friendly fixture on Wednesday. A squad of just over 30 girls rotated court time and put in some excellent performances. The First VII won a physical and fast match 26- 8. The whole squad was brilliant – showing cool heads as well as superb physical fitness and flair. The Second VII also had a convincing victory, taking its match 31-4. Liberty Wagner, Ashley Chalmers and Amy Purser all shot brilliantly. In the Third VII some excellent shooting by Isabella Farquhar saw the team storm to a 21-13 victory.

### Swimming

On Wednesday evening, the girls' swim team enjoyed an excellent gala versus Moulsham. Isabella Harkins, Mille Chart and Leena Mistry all swam well and competed with enthusiasm and professionalism to ensure an overall win for team swimming.

We are delighted to report that Amelia Moule swam wonderfully in the Essex County swimming championships winning gold in the 800m freestyle, 200m freestyle and 400m Individual Medley, as well as silver in the 100m Breaststroke and 200m Individual Medley and a bronze in the 4x50m freestyle relay. She also recorded personal best times in all of the races and is now looking forward to the sprint weekend on the 4th February.

## Water Polo

Earlier this week, the Under 19 polo team qualified for the semi-final of the London League after excellent wins against QE Barnet, 5-4, Alleyn's, 4-3 and Haberdashers' 4-1. The team of James Warman, Sam Hewitt (GK), Jonathan Akerman, Andrew Liddell, Jack Warman, Henry Rappolt, Dado Pessina, Dermot O'Doherty, Albert Smith, Ilya Usichenko and Max Vorozheikin can be incredibly proud of its efforts.

## Letters Home

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
4th Year	'Curious Dog' Theatre Trip February	27/01/2017
5th Year	Fifth Year Parents' Evening letter	24/01/2017
6th Form	American Politics Conference March	27/01/2017
6th Form	Dr Peter Vardy RE Conference February	27/01/2017
6th Form	L6th Linguists Oxford Trip	27/01/2017
Extra-Curricular	Football Elgin League Cup Final February	27/01/2017

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



Yours sincerely



Ian Davies  
Headmaster



Brentwood School  
SENIOR SCHOOL

Middleton Hall Lane Brentwood Essex CM15 8EE  
telephone: 01277 243243 email: headmaster@brentwood.essex.sch.uk  
[www.brentwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.brentwoodschool.co.uk)





# Brentwood School

## SIXTH FORM

24<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear parents,

Re: Mastering the UKCAT course

I am pleased to announce that we will be hosting a UKCAT preparatory course in school on Monday 6th March 2017.

It is essential that all students who are thinking of applying to either Medicine or Dentistry prepare well for the additional entrance tests that they need to sit, in particular the UKCAT exam. As part of this, I advise all students to consider attending a prep course before the summer so they can become familiar with the exam and the way to best answer the sections. Previously, students have needed to travel into London to do this during the holidays so I am delighted to now be able to offer this in school.

The course is being run by The Medic Portal. This group are affiliated with the Royal Society of Medicine and provide a superb level of support. Further details can be found on their website: <https://www.themedicportal.com/event/mastering-the-ukcat/>

The course will be open to other schools and is limited to a maximum of 30 places but I am able to offer it to our own students in the first instance. I am also pleased that I can offer the course at a reduced rate for our students of just £148.50 for the day's course and all associated materials (normal cost is £175).

If you would like to book a place on the course for your son/daughter, can you please complete the attached form and return to me no later than Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Paul Tiffen

Head of Upper Sixth and Head of Careers

---

Mastering the UKCAT – Monday 6th March 2017

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to reserve a place for my son/daughter on the Mastering the UKCAT course run by the Medic Portal and I agree that £148.50 can be added to my school bill for the Trinity Term.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

