



Weekly Newsletter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

As we look forward with great anticipation to Speech Day tomorrow, we look back on a tremendously fulfilling and enjoyable week. It was a real pleasure to welcome new First Year pupils and their parents to the Introductory Meeting last night. As usual, they were extensively briefed by a panel of current First Years who were able to address any concerns raised about settling into a new school.

At the other end of the School, our Upper Sixth Form students have enjoyed several exceptionally moving evenings on their departure from the School to pastures new. Students, who started in what we used to call the "Pre-Prep" 15 years ago, joined us with their parents and their teachers for an early evening drinks reception and cake-cutting at Roden House last Thursday evening. This was closely-followed by the Upper Sixth Leavers' Ceremony last Friday when all departing Sixth Form students joined with their parents for an early evening ceremony and party which started in the Wessex Auditorium and finished outside on the outdoor stage beside the Bean Academic Centre. Orsett Hall hosted the Sixth Form Ball on Tuesday evening and all students and teachers who attended joined a convivial evening in spite of the rather dismal weather.

I very much enjoyed hosting the Deputy Mayor at the Hardy Amies Design Centre Exhibition last Friday. Once again, I was proud of the superb display of Fine Art, Photography and Visual Arts in addition to an excellent display of Modern Technology. It was also a great pleasure to welcome the Bishop of Bury St Edmunds to the School on Wednesday evening when he conducted an inspiring Confirmation Ceremony in the School Chapel for four of our pupils.

Additionally this week, I was very impressed to see so many parents enjoying our Sports Day on Tuesday. There are some excellent photographs on our website and I am very grateful to Miss Farrow and all in the Games Department for enabling such a festival of athletics which encouraged a real sense of "House" pride and competition.

Mrs Ebdon hosted a thrilling Science Day at the School on Thursday and I was particularly pleased to see a wonderful display of Falconry and an array of hawks, kestrels, kites and owls including an eagle owl. To our surprise, a stray falcon, called Polly, was thankfully located yesterday evening near a local public house!

Finally, I very much enjoyed visiting the KS1 and KS2 Summer Event in the Walled Garden at the Preparatory School on Thursday. Having seen several parents of KS2 pupils dancing at the hugely successful Prep 125 Summer Ball on Saturday evening, I am at a loss to understand how the KS2 girls and boys manage to dance so well. If not genetic it must be a result of excellent teaching!

The final Academic Endeavour Award of the year was presented to Joanna Burgess, Amelia Blee, Heather Trevelyan, all in the second year and James Pridmore in the First Year. Joanna, Amelia and Heather accepted the 'Roden House Challenge' and carried out research that effectively meant they could identify the plaques that can be seen on the coach house next to Roden House. James carried out a painstaking and multi-faceted piece of work on the Berlin Wall showing excellent understanding of the issues surrounding one of the most infamous constructions in history. It dealt not only with why and how it was built but also the human tragedies it caused and an analysis of how Germans today view the Wall. I was thoroughly impressed by the dedication and enthusiasm shown by all of these pupils.

Digital Learning - Pupil iPad Rollout - Inspiring creative and independent lifelong learning

We believe in developing responsible, independent and resilient digital citizens. Our successful iPad trial has led to the planned introduction of iPads across the Senior School from September 2017.

In conjunction with the well-attended parent event on Monday 19th June, we have produced a document detailing information about our Digital Learning project, including answers to questions that arose on the night. This document can be found on the [School's website](#).

All pupils in the current First – Third Year will receive their new iPads prior to the end of this academic year on Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July and their parents will be contacted separately to explain the process. Our current Fourth and Lower Sixth pupils will be moved to a new management system and will be informed by email of the process.

In order to make the best use of the devices and educate and empower our young people to become responsible digital citizens, the rollout in July will be followed by focused form time for all year groups at the very start of the new academic year.

We would also like to take advantage of this opportunity to give you advance warning of a Digital Safety Event taking place on Monday 4th September at 6.45pm for a 7pm start run by a representative from CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection). Please contact Miss Butterfield: ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk if you would like to attend.

Mobile Phones

We have been reviewing the School's Mobile Phone policy in light of the full adoption of iPads across the School. Our aim is to enable all our pupils to focus on their learning during the day, to have space in School from the pressures of social media and for them not to be put at risk by accessing inappropriate material via the internet or social media sites. Therefore, we have taken the decision that from the start of the new academic year, all pupils must ensure that their mobile phones are switched off when they come on to the School site in the morning and are not turned on again until they leave in the afternoon to go home. Pupils should keep their mobile phones secure, either on their person or in their locker, or in a changing room safe-box during sports activities. In emergencies, as is currently the case, any parent can contact a pupil via the usual School channels and pupils can contact home in their Head of Year's office or via the School Reception.

Oxford Modern Languages Study Weekend 23rd-25th June

Ten Lower Sixth students had the rare opportunity to experience Oxford University life in the inaugural Modern Languages Study visit from 23rd-25th June. The programme included a lecture on Surrealism from a lecturer in Modern Languages at St Anne's, a UCAS Admissions session, and tours of St Anne's and Merton Colleges, the latter guided by current Undergraduates. Our own language teachers also provided seminars on linguistics, translation theory, critical thinking, Dutch language and European History. The pupils had prepared presentations on noteworthy figures in the culture and history of the languages they currently study. They resided in College at St Peter's, and had use of its seminar room for their presentations, in what was a busy but most productive and enjoyable visit to the city and University of Oxford. We look forward to repeating the visit for next year's Lower Sixth Form linguists on 24th-26th June 2018!

Home to School Coach Travel 2017- 18

The School provides a 'Home to School' coach service on five routes soon to expand to six. Full details of the routes can be found [here](#).

- We are pleased to confirm coach fares will remain the same as last year. Early bird discounts apply for both termly and annual payments
- New technology will be introduced from November this year to allow parents to track the progress of coaches and identify when pupils have boarded
- Also new for 2017, we are introducing a new coach route, Broomfield/Chelmsford/Margaretting. Details of this route are now on our website

In order to take advantage of early bird discounts, please sign up by 14th July. After that date, the early bird offer will be withdrawn from our website.

Pupil Private Medical Scheme

Details of the School's Pupil Private Healthcare Scheme arranged with AXA PPP Healthcare can be found in the attached leaflet. Please complete and return the application form to Mrs Holderness in the Bursary by 6th July 2017 to ensure cover from September 2017.

Netball Academy at Brentwood School

Melissa Hyndman, one of the world's most prominent high-performance Netball coaches, will be joining international players to give coaching at this summer's Netball Academy. This inspiring and fun three-day academy runs at Brentwood School from 22nd-24th August, and will be led every day by top players and international coach Melissa will be providing hands-on coaching for one of those days. Melissa took Wales from 19th to 8th in the world rankings, the highest they have ever been placed, and the greatest improvement a coach has made to any national team. The coaching team will introduce girls aged 7-16 years to the game's most modern skills and strategies helping the young players master both basic and advanced skills using methods adopted by international players. There will be a constant emphasis on fun and skill development, with frequent match practice and an end-of-academy tournament. Further information is available at www.academiesofsport.co.uk or call 0330 111 907.

Sport

Athletics

On Monday, a number of First Year athletes competed at the MESSA trials. Subsequently, the following athletes have been chosen to represent MESSA at the Essex Championships on Wednesday 5th July at Melbourne Park; Olivia Dowman (1500m), Emma Willy (High Jump), Taaliyah Foster (Discus), Olivia Copeland (Javelin), Jonathan Odeyemi (100m), Seun Fashesin-Souza (100m), Timmy Ashaye (200m) and Olly Curtis (1500m) should all be congratulated on their selection.

On Tuesday, 35 records were broken, including nine of ten shot put records, in an incredible day of House Track and Field! Amongst numerous highlights Finlay Turner ran 10.9s to smash the Fourth Year boys' record while Olivia Copeland surpassing the previous First Year girls' javelin record with a mammoth throw of 28.40m! At the end of an excellent day, South House were crowned the overall winners.

Cricket

Another busy week of cricket has seen the Under 13 team play its semi-final against Forest on Friday. Set an imposing 168 for victory, the loss of early wickets saw Brentwood fall behind the run rate and a late surge saw the team fall 30 runs short of victory. On Saturday, we played a series of matches against Ipswich School. The First XI was set a challenging 203 for victory on a turning pitch. The loss of early wickets led to a challenging run chase, the highlight of which was a partnership between William Steinberg 53 not out and Third Year student Jack Levy scoring 47. Unfortunately, we fell 25 runs short in a thrilling finish.

Other notable performances included the Under 13B team recording a convincing victory. Batting first, Brentwood amassed 163 for 4, Harrison O'Shea top-scored with a hard-hitting 52 not out. In reply, a fine all round performance saw Ipswich reduced to 125 -7. The Under 14B was involved in another very close match. Brentwood posted 97-9 and Ipswich in reply was at one stage 30-6 with Oliver Moore taking 4-12 but the team rallied to record a one-wicket-victory.

On Monday, the First XI hosted Gresham's School in a T20 match. A flurry of wickets saw Brentwood reach 102 in its allocated overs. A turning pitch reduced Gresham's to 70-7 before they secured victory by two wickets. On Wednesday, the First XI travelled to King's Canterbury in an all-day encounter. King's batted first and was reduced to 102 for 8 at lunch. The last two wickets added a further 40, setting 143 for victory. The early loss of Captain Rishi Patel, and Robin Das, produced some panic in the camp but victory was achieved by 4 wickets in a tense encounter. Man of the Match Arun Sumithraashri continued his recent fine form and top-scored with a very composed 44 not out. In the process, he guided Callum Balsom, 18 on debut, and a dogged 23 from Jack Levy to secure the victory. This Saturday, we host the MCC in a prestigious fixture against the School.

Our congratulations go to both Robin Das and William Steinberg on their selections for the South of England in the upcoming Bunbury Festival later this season to be held at Stowe School. We wish them both great success. Good wishes also go to the Under 12A team who contest its Essex Cup final this week.

Yesterday, the Under 12A team contested its Essex Cup final against New Hall. Put in to bat, accelerating the run rate proved difficult against a nagging attack. Thinod Don Balage and Jayhdan Prabhakar set a solid foundation but wickets fell steadily to set a respectable 143 in 30 overs. Brentwood fought hard in the field, bowling tightly; one outstanding catch from Olivia Copeland looked to be turning the tide, along with her economical bowling of 3-20. New Hall ran well between the wickets, enjoying some good fortune with Brentwood's bowling and sneaked over the line seven wickets down with 2 balls remaining in the game. At the same time, the Under 12B team reached the final of the MESSA trophy setting Boswells 92 for victory with Will Langford top-scoring with a hard-hitting 34 not out. Oliver Barr then took 3-4 and Nathan Frost 3-2 to ensure an emphatic 54 run-victory and progress into the MESSA final.

Rounders

The penultimate week of the academic and sporting year, saw the Under 13 team contest its last competitive fixture of the season. Five local schools came together for the Brentwood District rally, hosted by St Martin's. Brentwood stormed through the competition, taking its first win against Anglo European 7 ½ - 3. The second game saw Brentwood face St Martin's, no doubt the toughest opposition. However, the girls worked exceptionally hard on the field and restricted St Martin's batting opportunities to win, 5 - 4 ½. The winning streak continued throughout the tournament, taking a 6-5 and a 6-3 win over Ursuline and BCHS, respectively. Having finished the day unbeaten, the team was crowned Brentwood District Champions; a fantastic achievement and great end to the season. Stand out performances came from Alice Lindsay who scored over six rounders during the tournament, and Freya Killilea whose rapid bowling caused huge problems for many of the opposition batters.

Squash

We are delighted to report that Alice Lindsay recently received her official Essex squash badge this year after successfully representing the County as part of their Under 13 mixed team.

All pupils are invited to receive group squash coaching with Mr Jake Byrne an experienced UKCC Level 3 qualified England Squash and Racketball coach. As such, any interested pupils should refer to the letter which can be found in the Extra-Curricular folder on the Parent Portal.

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
2nd Year	Boys' Physics Trip to Thorpe Park	30/06/2017
2nd Year	Girls' Physics Trip to Thorpe Park	30/06/2017
4th Year	5th Year Introductory Evening letter 2017	27/06/2017
4th Year	5th Year Introductory Evening letter 2017	27/06/2017
Extra-Curricular	Squash Coaching Michaelmas 2017	30/06/2017

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

Yours sincerely

Ian Davies
Headmaster



Brentwood School
SENIOR SCHOOL

