



## Weekly Newsletter from **the Headmaster**

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Dear Parents,

International Baccalaureate examinations finish today, and our A Level students depart for their Study Leave. We wish them every success and look forward to seeing them at our celebratory evening with parents, the Promenade Concert, Speech Day and the Sixth Form Ball, before they return in August to collect their results, and then prepare for University. Talking of which, it was a great pleasure to welcome Daniel Hirst (OB) to school today to talk to current Sixth Formers about his experiences as a Morehead-Cain Scholar at the University of Northern Carolina. In a quiet week, a highlight was the Choral Evensong on Thursday evening, and we look forward to the Boarders' BBQ this evening.

### Headmaster's Endeavour Award

I was pleased to present my Academic Endeavour Award this week to First Year pupil, Stanley Skipper, and Third Year pupil, Rosie Parrish. Stanley has achieved the Award for his excellent fable in English. By choosing to write in the present tense, the reader was carried along with the story and tension was created. Stanley created a piece of writing which was imaginative, exciting and dramatic.

Rosie was set a task of completing a Theatre Design Portfolio. Not only did Rosie achieve full marks for the portfolio, but the level of detail that she included in her work, covering lighting, costume and set was astonishing and would have earned her excellent marks at GCSE level. Rosie's theoretical interpretation of a challenging play was intelligent and carefully considered. Rosie demonstrated creativity and flair in her ideas and presented them professionally, using a high level of technical language.

### Academic Enrichment Clubs

This week at Junior Colloquium and JSABs, Mr Higgins and Lower Sixth Form student, Alice Grundy, fiercely debated the pros and cons of vegetarianism. Despite convincing arguments on both sides, both groups narrowly agreed with Alice that there are benefits to vegetarianism. Next week at Junior Colloquium and JSABs, Mr Murley and Lower Sixth Form student, Chani Merrell, are going to be debating the pros and cons of marriage. Junior Colloquium on Monday is open to all First and Second Year students and JSABs on Tuesday, is open to all pupils in the Third and Fourth Years. Both meetings are held in the BAC Lecture Theatre at 1.20pm.

Congratulations must go to the Second Year pupils Millie Usher-Tollan, Jessie Gunning and Grace Dinning who successfully organised the Charity 'Dance Off' this week. An impressive £370 was raised with proceeds being split between Cancer research UK and the RSPCA. The girls organised this as part of the completion of their Headmaster's Award. All Second Year pupils are reminded that the final deadline for completion of the Award is Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

### Brentwood School Learning Community

This week Mr Cooper delivered his Human Universe Lecture on the subject of "Controversial Artists". As well as being deeply thought-provoking with an interactive live musical flare, it also provided an opportunity for truly erudite discussion on the intricacies of Wagner's life and his music.

All Learning Community events are designed to give parents a flavour of the richness of our curriculum, or to focus on giving parents a helping hand in successfully supporting their children through the challenges of adolescence. **All events take place in the BAC Tuck Shop and begin at 6.45pm** with tea and coffee unless stated otherwise.

To book any of these please follow instructions in the table below. You will also receive a letter via InTouch for each event with further details. If you have any questions regarding the content please do not hesitate to contact Ms Dina Porovic, Director of Teaching and Learning ([dnp@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:dnp@brentwood.essex.sch.uk))

Date	Event	Booking Details
Mon 4th June 2018	Human Universe Lecture 6 - Ancient Democracy (Mr Clark)	Email <a href="mailto:ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk">ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk</a>
Wed 6th June 2018	EPQ/Extended Essay Pupil Showcase	Email <a href="mailto:ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk">ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk</a>
Tue 19th June 2018	iPad Basics for Parents	Email <a href="mailto:ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk">ParentEvents@brentwood.essex.sch.uk</a>

### Life Skills

Second Year students had a day of Life Skills on 16<sup>th</sup> May and have focussed on the following topics: How Laws are made in the UK; e-Safety Radicalisation; Introduction to Consent; My Sense of Self; Understanding Money – Budgets and a talk regarding Drugs, Alcohol and Gangs.

Fourth Year students will NOT have Life Skills on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and a new date is being arranged for this. If you have any concerns or would like further information, on any of the above, then please contact Mrs Rajani via email at [kdr@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kdr@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### Summer Promenade Concert 2018

It is our tradition to end the year in style with the hugely popular Summer Promenade Concert. This Concert celebrates the wealth of musical talent in the School and is a fitting tribute to the many talented pupils who have performed throughout the year, particularly those in the Upper Sixth who will be leaving us at the end of term. This year the Concert takes place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June, the evening before Speech Day and will showcase all of our musical ensembles, celebrating another magnificent and varied year's music making.

Jonathan Akerman, ready to embark on his musical career with a coveted scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, will perform the virtuosic and under-performed Séjourné Marimba Concerto accompanied by our acclaimed String Orchestra. Following another prolific year, the Brentwood School Big Band will feature in an extended set performing, amongst other Big Band Classics, the Charles Mingus classic, 'Nostalgia in Times Square'. Vocals from Andrew Onwude and Bethany Sargood will be complemented by improvised solo features for Rodi Donhue-Hibberd, Karla Odendaal, Alfred Seaton, Jonathan Akerman, Charles Getting and Greg Harding.

The Concert will provide a truly varied musical feast and we look forward to the ambitious and celebratory choral works of Mendelsohn and Stanford, as well as original choral arrangements by Maris Lam and Rebecca Hawkins. The Concert will end with our Symphony Orchestra, led by Head of School, Mary Hirst, paying tribute to a 'Last Night of the Proms' atmosphere, featuring the superb Bernstein Aria 'Glitter and Be Gay' sung by Amelia Smith and culminating in a rousing performance of Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance and, of course, The School Song.

We do hope you will be able to join us; the venue is the Courage Hall, the starting time 7pm (music to be played by The Band from 6.30pm); interval wine and strawberries will be served on the Main Field. Tickets are available at £10 per adult and £5 per non-participating student/child. Please click [here](#) for tickets.

All musicians are expected to attend the Promenade Concert rehearsal which takes place during the day on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June in the Courage Hall. A rehearsal schedule will be published shortly. We look forward to seeing you at the Prom!

### Romeo and Juliet on the Open Air Stage

Romeo and Juliet will take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm on the Open Air stage and will showcase the talent of twenty-five actors from across the age range. Music, singing and dancing will launch Shakespeare's characters and the audience into the heart of a 21st Century Music Festival. The tragic love story will play out over ninety minutes with Sixth Formers Laura Maddison and Max Gollidge in the title roles. Tickets are priced at £5 per adult and £3 per child. Adult and child tickets can be purchased [here](#).

You are warmly invited to bring picnic blankets, chairs, snacks and drinks so you can relax and watch an outdoor performance on a summer evening. There will be seating provided as an alternative and our usual refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you at this exciting Shakespeare event.

### Chamber Concert on the Open Air Stage

The final Chamber Concert of this academic year takes place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. We hope that the Concert will be on the Open Air Stage and we invite you to bring rugs, picnics and hampers as you wish. There will be seating provided as an alternative and our usual refreshments will be available. In the event of inclement weather, we will move to the Memorial Hall.

We look forward to an evening of high-class musical entertainment provided by some of the School's younger musicians. The evening will include solo and ensemble performances showcasing Chamber Music from a variety of genres and featuring a range of vocal and instrumental talents. Tickets are priced at £5 per adult and there is no charge for students. Please click [here](#) for tickets.

Those pupils attending the Academic Enrichment trip to Leiston Abbey, will be taken there separately by Mrs. Sharpe after the Concert. We look forward to welcoming you to this exciting evening of music on a summer evening.

### First Year Showcase

The First Year Showcase takes place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June in the Memorial Hall at 7pm. Each Form will take part in a performance directed by their teachers during their Drama, Dance and Music lessons. This is a fantastic opportunity for our youngest pupils to exercise that crucial creativity and to begin to develop confidence and performance skills that will continue to grow throughout their time at Brentwood School.

Tickets are priced at £5 per adult and £2 per child and, due to the large number of pupils taking part in this event, tickets are limited to two per participating pupil in the first instance. All remaining tickets will go on general sale immediately after half term. Adult and child tickets can be purchased [here](#). We look forward to welcoming you to this exciting evening of Drama, Dance and Music.

### Chapel Service –Pentecost Sunday

There will be a special service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 11am. Pentecost marks the birth of the Church and so there will be suitable refreshments afterwards to celebrate. The service will involve some music from the choir and the baptism of the son of an Old Brentwood.

### Confirmation Service

There will be a Confirmation service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm in Chapel. The service will be led by the Bishop of Colchester and there are two pupils and an Old Brentwood being confirmed, as well as some members from a local church. Please contact Revd. Dr. Adrian McConnaughey; [awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk) if you are able to come to any of these services.

### GCSE/GCE Examination information

Please click on the Exam Documentation link to access the examination documents, including the policies and procedures, which all students need to read prior to the start of their exams. These documents will be kept up-to-date, during term time. The responsibility for knowing the content of the policies and

procedures is incumbent on the students. Anything not covered by the information found in the link, should be raised with the Exams Office via [examsoffice@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:examsoffice@brentwood.essex.sch.uk).

### Athletics Academy with Dean Macey, May Half term

Join former decathlete and Olympian Dean Macey this May half term for two days of inspiring coaching at our first-class athletics track. The Athletics Academy will develop each athlete in all aspects of field and track in a fun and inspiring environment. Sessions with their excellent coaches, and with Dean, give each athlete the opportunity to make improvements in disciplines they already have skills within, as well as develop new skills. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for your child to take part – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May - £98.50 (two days) when booked by 14<sup>th</sup> May.

### Stage Crazy Summer School 2018 at Brentwood School

Stage Crazy, now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year at Brentwood School, is pleased to announce the dates of their Performing Arts Summer School. This is open to all students from 4-17 years old who have an interest in developing or exploring their hidden talents in acting, singing and dancing. This is a fantastic opportunity to work with their team of experienced professionals with a show at the end of the week.

The course takes place **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018** 10-4pm daily. To enrol your child, please go to their website and download the application form at [www.stagecrazytheatreschool.co.uk](http://www.stagecrazytheatreschool.co.uk), contact them on [07591 208326](tel:07591208326) or by email: [accounts@stagecrazytheatreschool.co.uk](mailto:accounts@stagecrazytheatreschool.co.uk).

### Coach Information

To ensure timeliness for the GCSE and A Level examinations, the Southend coach will collect from all stops five minutes earlier each morning after the half term break. Full details of these revised timings can be found [here](#).

After the half term break, the Hornchurch route will be served by Abbey Coaches - stops and timings will remain unaffected but please advise your children to expect a different coach for the remainder of the term.

CoachHire are investigating options to reduce the journey times for Woodford coach pupils for the 2018/19 academic year; Woodford parents will be advised by the end of term on planned improvements for this route.

### Sport

#### Athletics

It has been brilliant to see so many athletes involved in both training and fixtures during this busy week. In the latest round of fixtures against Coopers School and The Fitzwimarc School respectively, stand out performances have come from David McGill, who won the hammer competition with a throw in excess of 30m and Rohan Van De Merwe running a sub 5 minute 1500m for the first time. Well done also to Olivia Dowman, her winning streak continues in the 1500m as she secured another victory, running 5.37, and further congratulations to Jess Bakhsh who ran superbly in the 800m and Molly Smith who threw a PB of 24m in the javelin.

#### Cricket

Saturday saw us play Bancroft's School in a series of matches. The First XI fixture was abandoned due to rain, with the game delicately balanced. In wet and windy conditions, Callum Balsom top scored with 60 not out in the Under 15A's unsuccessful chase of 197. The Under 14A team outclassed Bancroft's to record a ten wicket victory. Jack Ridgwell was 'Man of the Match' for the Under 13A team, scoring 84 out of 164 -3 to secure a 43 run victory. James Jupp played a Captain's innings, scoring 48 in setting 150 for victory in the Under 13B encounter to ensure a close 13 run victory. Runs flowed for the Under 12A team, setting a daunting 176 for victory that was never threatened. The Under 12B team also recorded a heavy 73 run victory to complete a dominant performance.

This week has seen several cup ties played. On Monday, the Under 14A team travelled to Felsted in the Essex Cup. Set 165 for victory, they presented a gallant attempt at clinching victory; Ethan Norris top scored with

58 but still falling twenty short of their target. In the Mid Essex Cup, the Under 12B and Under 15B teams recorded heavy wins. This week we entertain Forest School in a block of ten fixtures and we wish all the teams well.

### Tennis

On Monday afternoon, the Year 7/8 and 9/10 boys played Belfairs Academy in their AEGON league. The Year 7/8 team won convincingly with Harry Thomas, Toby Jones, Emre Keeling and Rory Philpot all playing an exceptional level of tennis to win their singles and doubles matches with 6-1 and 6-3 victories. Having remained unbeaten in their league, the team have St Thomas More High School as their last league match. Unfortunately, the Year 9/10 boys lost to strong opposition, Belfairs Academy, 2-10. The boys put up a good fight but were unfortunate to be overcome by the consistency of their opponents.

### Water Polo

On Wednesday, the Under 14 team travelled to Alleyn's School for the final round of the London League. The team continued to improve from their last tournament, defending extremely well against some of the top teams in London. Angus Robertson and Tom Brown were inspired in attack, while captain Matthew Reeves scored a fantastic penalty against Dulwich College. A tremendous effort from the whole team continues to ensure that positive progress is being made and momentum is gathering for next season.

Letters for parents are located in the Letters Home area on Google Drive for which this is the link. Please save it to your bookmarks!

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0Bx56Kfjsy8PFOHR1YV9Jc183NzA>

Yours sincerely



Ian Davies, Headmaster



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