



Weekly Newsletter from **the Headmaster**

Dear Parents,

Next Saturday 20th January is our Entrance Examination, when over 450 Year 6 pupils will be attending the School to sit for 11+ entry. On such a daunting day, it is hugely reassuring for them to have the presence of current First Year and other pupils to help allay their fears, escort them to and from their exams and lunch, and to answer any questions they might ask about what life at Brentwood School is really like.

Fifth Form GCSE and Sixth Form International Baccalaureate Diploma mock examinations have been taking place this week, so fewer evening events and activities have been scheduled. However, our GCSE options evening for Third Year pupils and their parents was very well attended on Monday evening, and it was a pleasure to welcome the Mayor of Brentwood, Councillor Will Russell, to the "Rotary Youth Speaks" Competition in the Wessex Auditorium for the first round of this National Public Speaking Competition. In a hard-fought competition, our two teams have progressed to the second round of the Rotary Youth Speaks Intermediate competition. The students involved were Thomas Woodcock, Rishal Narayam, Morgan O'Sullivan, Anisa Sarwar, Edie Bateman, Lakshmi Pathmanathan. All team members performed their roles and speeches impressively. We were also delighted that Anisa Sarwar won the prize for Best Speaker at this event: an excellent personal achievement. The second round takes place on the 25th of January and we wish them luck with this.

I would like to thank the Rotary Club for sponsoring and organising this competition (In 2013 we won the National Final). Rotary is a global network of community volunteers operating in 165 countries. Its purpose is to carry out projects in local communities and abroad to address critical issues such as poverty, health, hunger, illiteracy and the environment. We are proud of our strong relationship with Rotary, and are pleased to be able to offer the Wessex Auditorium for the next three Thursday evenings to enable them to run this competition.

Further to my update before Christmas about university entry, nine students have been offered conditional places at Oxford or Cambridge this year. They are:

Cooper, Luke	German	Oxford, St Peter's
Donhue-Hibberd, Rodi	Classics	Cambridge, Sidney Sussex
Duke, Grace	Classics	Cambridge, Selwyn
Guo, Nicole	Psychology	Cambridge, Newnham
Hawkins, Rebecca	History	Cambridge, Homerton
Hirst, Mary	Veterinary Medicine	Cambridge, Clare
Hoggart, Georgia	German	Oxford, Lady Margaret Hall
Robins, Oscar	Law	Oxford, Trinity
Woolterton, Thomas	Classics	Cambridge, Pembroke

Academic Enrichment Clubs

Our Academic Enrichment Clubs began this week with an engaging and informative debate from Sixth Form students Abi Chapman, Max Fewster, Jessica Hayes and Mae Reed. Jessica and Mae explained why there are scientists who believe that the current climate changes the world is experiencing are mainly the product of a natural cycle. In contrast, Abi and Max explained why some scientists believe that climate change is mainly a product of human behaviour and therefore is reversible. The younger students asked some intelligent questions and the final vote saw the majority of both Junior Colloquium and JSABs agreeing with Abi and Max.



Next week at Junior Colloquium on Monday and JSABs on Tuesday, Sixth Form student, Tara Bartell, is asking the question 'Will a focus on the EBAC subjects in schools see a decline in music education?' Junior Colloquium is open to all pupils in the First and Second Year and meets on Monday. JSABs is open to all pupils in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Year, and meets on Tuesday. Both meetings are at 1.20pm in the BAC Lecture Theatre. Tara is a keen musician and is presenting her ideas on the importance of music education as part of Music week in the Bean Academic Centre.

All pupils in the Second Year are encouraged to continue to pursue the six challenges that make up the Headmaster's Award. A special mention goes to Felix Kyte in 2NP who has already completed the Award, months ahead of schedule. Well done Felix. The final deadline for submitting the Award will be Monday June 4th.

First World War Battlefields Trip for Third Year Pupils

A reminder to the majority of Third Year pupils who are visiting the First World War Battlefields in March with the History Department that letters have been issued to all pupils attending the trip. A letter can also be found on the 'Letters Home' area on Google Drive asking for the prompt return of the medical form and details of passports. There will also be a Parents' Information Evening for this trip on Monday 26th February at 6pm in the Wessex Auditorium.

Inspire Project

We're pleased to announce that Brentwood School has agreed to participate in an NHS public health project called 'Inspire', which aims to improve treatment of asthma in children.

We need your help though. The project uses a free absence-reporting app called Studybugs. Whether or not your child suffers from asthma, please could you download the app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school. [Get the app now](#)

You can read more about the Inspire project [here](#). As well as helping improve treatment of asthma, Studybugs also helps us track what illnesses are going around and is a convenient, efficient and secure method for reporting absence – so it should make life a little bit easier all around.

Academic Support for Fourth Years 2017-2018

Please go to the Fourth Year folder on Google Drive for details of sessions provided for Fourth Year pupils.

Brentwood School Learning Community

The Lent term programme for the Brentwood School Learning community got off to an excellent start with the Digital Safety workshop earlier this week. If you are a First Form parent but missed the presentation please go to the First Year folder on Google Drive.

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 the 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)

Date	Event	Booking Details
Wed 17th Jan 2018	Life Skills Showcase (Mrs Rajani)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Mon 22nd January 2018	Human Universe Lecture 3 - Parasites (Dr Paredes)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk
Mon 29th January 2018	Motivation and Resilience workshop (Supporting Links)	SOLD OUT
Mon 5th February 2018	Motivation and Resilience workshop (Supporting Links)	SOLD OUT
Thurs 8th Feb 2018	Digital Showcase (Mr Dean & Digital Leaders)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk
Wed 21st Feb 2018	Teenagers Translated (Wessex Auditorium , external speaker)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk
Tue 13th March 2018	Revision Techniques (1st - 5th) (Mrs Gorsuch)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk
Thurs 22nd March 2018	Human Universe Lecture 4 - Linguistics (Mr Taylor)	Email Miss Butterfield ButterfieldF@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

A number of our pupils have been busy in the last month completing their awards. Well done to Bronze Award recipients Zacharia Angeli, Adam Apostol and Mason Murray, and Silver Award recipients Bronte Ellis-Calcott, Siddharth Khemka, Evie McKnight, Harrison O'Shea and Luke Spooner. In addition congratulations to the following recent Old Brentwoods have successfully completed their gold awards: Tanvi Bagtharia, Jonathan Downing, Renee Jacques, Alfie Moore, William Smith and James Warman.

I would like to draw your attention to a kit evening which we are holding in conjunction with Ultimate Outdoors (previously Blacks) at their store in Chelmsford which is located at the Meadows Shopping Centre, CM2 6FD. (There is ample parking near the store). The evening will take place on Thursday 1st February from 6pm- 8pm and not only will the store arrange staff specifically to look after our pupils, they will also provide a generous discount on items purchased, excluding items already reduced. School staff will also be present in the store to provide additional advice.

In order to assist the store, we have been asked to provide an estimate of numbers attending. There is a letter, including a kit list, on the "Letters Home" area on Google Drive and, if your son/daughter is planning to attend, please ensure that they return the attached slip to the Headmaster's Reception by 23rd January.

Confirmation in Chapel

Each year a number of our students are prepared for Confirmation in the Church of England here in School. Confirmation marks an important moment in our Christian lives where we make a public declaration of our faith and renew the promises made at our baptism.

This year the service will be held on Sunday 24th June at 3pm and will be led by the Bishop of Colchester, the Rt. Revd. Roger Morris. There will be a series of preparation classes for those who wish to be confirmed and they will begin in the summer term and will take place in School and will be led by the Chaplain. As part of the Confirmation service, there is also the provision for those who have not been baptised to be baptised prior to being confirmed.

Please contact the chaplain directly by the end of this term if you would like more details or if you would like your son or daughter to be confirmed this year: Revd. Dr. Adrian McConaughie, awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk.

House Charity Christmas Fair

A huge congratulations to all students involved in the very successful House Charity Christmas Fair at the end of last term. There was an excellent turn out, and many students put in a lot of creativity, time, and effort. Over the two lunchtimes, we managed to raise an impressive £940, which, when added to the non-uniform day total, has helped us to raise almost £2000 for Save the Children. Thank you to all involved.

Senior School Production – ‘Change Please’

How do YOU feel about the subject of homelessness? Sympathetic, understanding, critical, hostile?

You are invited to promenade into the twilight world of the homeless. Dress warmly and be prepared to be both moved and challenged by what you see. This challenging performance aims to raise awareness of a very relevant problem and provide the participants with some insight into what it is like to live rough. You will be escorted on your journey around the School to various locations where you will experience for yourselves the highs and lows of living on the streets. This unique theatrical experience has been devised by the Senior pupils who combine a variety of play texts, original material and live music.

One pound from each ticket sold will go to Chess, a homeless charity and source of inspiration for the work. There will also be a Retiring Collection.

The production takes place on the 6th, 7th and 8th February and will start in the Memorial Hall at 7pm. We have a limited number of tickets available, which are priced at £7 per adult and £5 per student. [For tickets please click here.](#)

Musical Events this Term

We have an exciting and varied programme of musical events this term, which are listed below.

- **Thursday 25th January:** Chamber Concert, Memorial Hall at 7pm.
- **Saturday 3rd February:** Battle of the Big Bands Concert, Wessex Auditorium at 7pm.
- **Thursday 22nd February:** Jazz and Poetry Recital Evening, Memorial Hall at 7pm.
- **Wednesday 7th March:** Lent Concert, Wessex Auditorium at 7pm.
- **Saturday 17th March:** Big Band Concert, St. Luke's Church, Cranham, at 7.30pm to raise money for Diabetes UK and Above Us Only Sky (a charity for the homeless)
- **Tuesday 20th March:** Choral/Symphonic Concert, Brentwood Cathedral at 7pm.

Further details and the opportunity to purchase tickets for the Chamber Concert and the Battle of the Big Bands Concert are below.

Chamber Concert

The Lent Chamber Concert takes place on Thursday 25th January in the Memorial Hall. 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.

The concert starts at 7pm, and refreshments will be served in the interval. The concert will finish by 9pm. Tickets are priced at £5 per adult and there is no charge for students or accompanying children. Please click [here](#) for tickets. We look forward to welcoming you and your guests to this exciting evening of music in the Memorial Hall.

Battle of the Big Bands Concert

Following another sell-out and sensational performance last year, 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 3rd February at 7pm (doors open at 6.45 pm). Tickets for this amazing concert are priced at £10 per adult and £5 per child. Please click [here](#) for tickets. Refreshments will be served in the interval. We look forward to seeing you there!

Looking further ahead to our Promenade Concert, please note that this year it takes place on Friday 29th June at 7pm in the Courage Hall. We look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming musical events. Letters for parents are located in the Letters Home area on Google Drive.

Sing with the Brentwood School Choral Society - Tuesday 20th March, 7pm

On Tuesday 20th March, Brentwood School Choral Society (BSCS) will perform "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer in a very exciting choral and orchestral concert at Brentwood Cathedral. Conducted by Assistant Director of Music, Mr Revels and accompanied by our Organist in residence, Mr Barber, the concert will feature Old Brentwood soloists Benjamin Clark and Chris Moore. In a unique opportunity, parents and OBs are invited to participate in this special performance. You will be coached by Mr Revels in two dedicated rehearsals, before joining with the BSCS for the concert. There will be no auditions and all are welcome. We ask for a small contribution of £10 as a contribution towards rehearsal refreshments, the hire of the scores etc.

Numbers are limited so to secure your place [please register here](#). Your place in the BSCS Adult Chorus will be confirmed in advance of the first rehearsal. Please forward this information to other parents or OB's who you think might be interested.

If you would like to attend the concert as a guest, tickets for non-singing supporters are £10 for adults and £5 for children, [and are available here](#). We look forward to seeing you at this inaugural concert.

School Shop Trouser Sale

The School Shop are selling original fit wool-mix boys trousers for £25 (reduced from £39). This is a clearance sale so they're available for a limited time only. Call the School Shop for more information: 01277 243 206

Sport

Badminton

There have been two badminton fixtures this week, where girls from the First Year and Third Year participated in the Brentwood District Badminton Rallies, held at St Martin's.

On Tuesday the First Year girls were in action against opposition from St Martins, Shenfield, and Becket Keys. There were two pools of students (A and B teams). Each match was to 21 points. There were some very competitive rallies and matches, which were played in a friendly and sporting way.

The A team of Annabel Simmons and Sophie Breathwick, performed very well, only losing one of their games, in which they still managed to achieve points as they scored more than half points against their opponents. They were the only partnership to achieve this in pool A. In their other games, the girls won convincingly, placing the team in the runners up position overall. The B team of Isabella Born and Elaine Huen, created some excellent shot play within their matches. They achieved points in all of their matches and ended up in second position overall in their pool. This was a fantastic result for the First Year girls.

On Wednesday, the Third Year girls were representing the school, and for some of the girls it was their first ever badminton match. All girls played incredibly well achieving points in all of their games. The pairing of Amy McGonigle and Alorm Setsoafia finished in 5th place and Freya Killilea and Niamh Mills finished in 3rd place.

Football

Just over a week ago, the Under 15A team beat Richmond Park Academy 7-6 on penalties to ensure safe passage to the Sixth Round of the English Schools' FA (ESFA) Cup. Jack Cheek scored a late leveller before Will Pryor struck the decisive penalty.

On Saturday, the seniors faced Old Brentwoods in another set of excellent fixtures. The First XI lost 2-1 in a game which the boys deserved to win. The School team took the lead in the first half with an outstanding finish from Charlie Bacon. Despite some excellent play in the second half the Old Brentwoods managed to get the edge following a penalty and a scrambled goal only moments from the end meant they once again left with the spoils. There were some excellent performances from the School team with Lewis Arthur and Ollie Catterall playing particularly well. Daniel Peakall also continued his excellent form.

The Second XI also lost 4-2 despite a good performance on a very difficult pitch. George Pugh continued to work hard for the Second XI and managed to score a good goal whilst the other came from Isaac Ng. The performance of the day came from the Fifth XI who was 4-0 down at half time and managed to drag the game back to finish with a 4-4 draw. Captain, James Davey scored a well-deserved goal, but Man of the Match was Andy Zhang who scored two stunning goals to ensure the game finished even.

The juniors faced St. Martins in the first set of fixtures this term. The Under 12A team played out an excellent 1-1 draw which either team could have won, with Freddie Thorn getting on the scoresheet for Brentwood. The Under 12B team enjoyed an excellent start to the season with a 3-1 win that left manager Mr Murley delighted with his team's performance. Brentwood actually went into half time 1-0 down but were able to take control in the second half and finished with an outstanding win. Goals came from Harry Douris (2) and Thibaud Mathieson. The Under 12D team drew 5-5 in an end to end encounter which manager Mr Harrod felt aggrieved not to have won. Brentwood dominated possession and created a number of excellent chances which on another day would have found its way into the back of the net. Man of the Match was Alex Kelsey while George Mortlock and Christopher Thompson were very dangerous in attack. The Under 12 E team were very unlucky to lose 2-1 in a game which Brentwood found itself camped in the opposition half for the majority of the game. However, Brentwood failed to capitalise on some good opportunities and ended up being beaten by two well-taken goals.

The Under 13s also played well in the first games of the season and managed to win two and lose one. The Under 13A team unfortunately lost 3-2 with the last kick of the game following a very evenly-contested matched game. Brentwood led 2-1 in the second half through Ovie Jeyibo and Fiz Jaiyesimi but was unable to capitalise on some good chances and St. Martin's, who played some excellent football were able to score two quick goals to win 3-2. The Under 13B team won 3-2 having come back from 2-1 down. Goals came from Miles King and Max Holland (2) to ensure the B team picked up a deserved win. The Under 13C team played very well and won its game 4-1. A very strong second half performance ensured that Brentwood would leave with the spoils.

The Under 14A continued its winning streak of 20 straight games undefeated with another dominant performance, winning 5-0. Goals came from Ethan Norris, Joel Winter, Theo Newton, Cameron Bak and an own goal. The Under 14A team play London Nautical School in the Sixth round of the English Schools' FA (ESFA) Cup on Monday looking to progress to the quarter finals. The Under 14B team played extremely well winning 6-1 with Elliott Gravett scoring a hat-trick, James Abbott (2) and Harry Carter scored the others.

Brentwood's Under 15A team played out an entertaining 1-1 draw and enjoyed the better chances, through John Sasere in particular, but failed to make the breakthrough after Oliver Moore's first half equaliser. The Under 15B team played out an end-to-end 2-2 draw with two good teams battling to try to find a winner. Brentwood started the stronger and went 2-0 up through goals from Jake Foley and Ed Cleverley. However, the opposition played very well and managed to score two in the second half to ensure the game finished even.

Netball

The First VII was straight back in the swing of things having played its first game of 2018 earlier this week. Brentwood travelled away to King John, still on a high from a string of wins prior to the Christmas break. The friendly match gave the opportunity for many combinations to take to court, with elements of fantastic play throughout the entire game. The attacking circle demonstrated clever and confident play against an experienced King John defence. A particular mention must go to Coaches' Player of the Match, Ashley Chalmers - her shooting was fantastic under significant pressure. Despite a 16-19 loss, it was a great opportunity to develop as a team as they look forward to the next round of the ISNC plate competition.

The Under 12A team played its first fixture of the new term against a strong Broxbourne team in frosty conditions. Brentwood was two goals down throughout each quarter and was very close to pulling it back but was unfortunate not to utilise its goal-scoring opportunities. The defence worked exceptionally hard with Olivia Carr and Araminta Smalley making vital interceptions. Player of the Match was awarded to Olivia Carr. The Under 12Bs played brilliantly adapting well to the chilly conditions winning 21-3. Superb netball from Players' Player Ellie Foley and special mention to Isabella Born for exceptional mid-court play.

The Under 13A team lost narrowly 14-18 with Hannah Knightbridge awarded Player of the Match for her intensity thought out the entire match. The girls also played against Forest School, in the Essex Cup losing 23-25 on Wednesday. Brentwood was winning until the last quarter but due to a very tall goal shooter, Forest was able to utilise every overhead pass. Player of the Match was Isabelle Toms as she shot well and played against a very feisty player. She was ably supported by Olivia Copeland in the circle with Sadie Wood working exceptionally hard in mid court. The team are still a year young so they did exceptionally well to lose so narrowly to a stronger and more mature side. The Under 13B team played very well in its MESSA match against Anglo European School. The girls were always in the lead, especially after a close first quarter 6-5. Sophia Stock played superbly with Sophie Philpot in able support to ensure a 22-15 victory.

The Under 14A team played with determination but could do very little to reverse the 18-15 scoreline. Niamh Mills was rightly awarded Coaches' Player of the Match. The Under 14B made a good start to its match ending the first quarter with a convincing lead. Lara Wantling and Millie Driscoll were an excellent shooting pair and held their own against strong defenders. The final score was 13-5 to Brentwood and Player of the Match was awarded to Lara.

The Under 15A team won 21-17 against Broxbourne. All players worked exceptionally hard, with a special mention to Anneliese Gennings in attack and Sarah Dawe and Mia Citroen in the defending circle. It was a very close game for the Under 15B team, with Broxbourne winning the first quarter 8-4. However, the team rose to the challenge and went on to excel in the latter part of the match to win 23-13. Millie Chart was nominated Player's Player and Anja Lewonowski was nominated Coach's Player.

Rugby

Brentwood blew off the cobwebs and put in a solid display against Whitgift School this week in an evenly-contested match. The teams matched each other throughout this close encounter, with a solitary conversion diving the teams at the final whistle, with Whitgift running out 14-12 winners. Brentwood's tries were scored by Obinna Nkwocha and Josh Ould, while Michael Gurin added the other points with a conversion. Congratulations to Obinna Nkwocha and Thomas Howard. Obinna has moved from Saracens Player

Development Group (PDG) to the Elite Player Development Group (Academy) with Thomas moving from Essex/Saracens Developing Player Programme to the Saracens PDG. Congratulations also to George Davis, Harvey Guiver and Harry Millsom who were involved for Essex in their recent U16 fixtures v Kent.

Swimming

Jacob Stephen has been selected to represent ESSA East Region at the National ESSA Championships at the K2 Arena on 24/25th March. Jacob has had a fantastic start to the swimming season showing great potential for the remainder of the year in his age group. This opportunity is not only a remarkable achievement but it also gives Jacob the chance to qualify for the Swim England National Championships in the summer. We would like to congratulate Jacob on his well-deserved selection and the best of luck at the ESSA National championships.

Brentwood School Sport Twitter

All parents are invited to follow the Brentwood School Sport twitter account @Brentwood_Sport for 'live updates' and 'information only' on Brentwood School sports events.

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/OBx56Kfjsy8PFOHR1YV9Jc183NzA>

Yours sincerely



Ian Davies, Headmaster



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