



Weekly Newsletter from **the Headmaster**

Dear Parents

Following a summer holiday bathed in sunshine, it was lovely to welcome new students to the School on Wednesday, and to talk to so many parents after our superb Chapel Service to end the day.

On Thursday, in our first assembly of the new School year, I was pleased to congratulate our Junior Girls' Athletics Team for winning third place in National Finals at Gateshead at the beginning of the holiday, and to congratulate Robin Das and Skye Lynch on their selection for England Under 16 Cricket and England Under 16 Netball respectively. Further congratulations to Alexander Evans for achieving a Distinction in his ABRSM Piano Diploma; an outstanding achievement.

Auditions have already started for our Winter Musical, Sondheim's epic "Into the Woods" and we look forward, as usual, to a superb House Music Competition later this month (details later in this newsletter).

Interesting and worthwhile trips, at home and overseas, took place throughout the summer, and trip leaders spoke warmly about the engagement, commitment and enthusiasm shown by all the students involved. The CCF ran camps in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire; our cricketers enjoyed a festival in Abingdon while our footballers played in Miami. All who took part in our Conservation and Diving Trip to Honduras greatly enjoyed the experience.

Examination results days were, as usual, exhilarating, with particular congratulations going to our new Lower Sixth who achieved 60% A* and A grades in their GCSE examinations. They will need to work hard if they wish to emulate the success of our Upper Sixth Leavers; the average grade this year, if we combine the equivalent UCAS points score of our International Baccalaureate Diplomas results and A Level results, was AAA for a student leaving our Sixth Form. 78% of the students gained places at their first choice universities.

This brings me to some words I spoke in our first school assembly on Thursday. The quotation is from the French philosopher and writer Voltaire, who wrote in "Candide": "Il faut cultiver votre jardin".

Literally, of course, it means "it is necessary to cultivate your garden", but in the context of Candide it means that we all have to work very hard if we want good things to happen and we cannot rely on great outcomes if we do not work hard. Or, as the famous golfer, Gary Player, once quoted a friend saying, "The harder I practice, the better I get". What better thought to begin the new School year!

If you visit our photo gallery on our School Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BrentwoodSchoolUK> you will see photographs of many of our new pupils on their first day.

Introductory Meetings September 2018/2019

I was pleased to meet all parents of our Fifth Year pupils at their Introductory Evening yesterday. All parents of pupils in other years are also warmly invited to meet their child's Head of Year and Form Tutor at the beginning of the new School year. All the meetings will commence in the Wessex Auditorium followed by an opportunity to meet their form tutor in a more informal setting afterwards.

4th Year	Monday, 10th September at 7pm
Lower Sixth	Wednesday, 12th September at 7pm
2nd Year	Thursday, 13th September at 4.45pm
3rd Year	Thursday, 13th September at 7pm
1st Year	Monday, 17th September at 7pm

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Letters Home to Parents on Google Drive

We will continue posting letters home on Google Drive this year, which means they can be viewed on any device, without the need to log in. Letters will be uploaded during the week and referenced in this newsletter. I encourage you to keep track of new letters that are added to your son or daughter's year group folder. Letters that reference trips yet to happen will be transferred over. The Google Drive folder can be accessed by clicking [this link](#).

Parents of new pupils to the School will receive a letter from the Bursary in due course to ask them to register for a Parent Pay account in order that they will be able to load money onto their child's Tuck Shop Card. These Cards will be issued in two weeks' time.

We no longer operate a dedicated Parent Portal but we are looking to implement something during the course of the coming academic year.

School Shop

One of the School's uniform suppliers has relocated its factory which has resulted in the loss of our supply of boy's PE kit and tracksuit bottoms. We are doing everything possible to rectify this situation and are very sorry to have disappointed parents and pupils.

We will update parents on the situation as soon as we possibly can. Please be assured that pupils will not be reprimanded if they are not in correct kit.

Coach services to Chelmsford and Maldon

Due to low passenger numbers, the 5.30pm late service for the above routes have been merged. Chelmsford and Maldon pupils wishing to use the 5.30pm return journey on Monday – Thursday evenings will need to register for a space on a return minibus; pupils involved should check their e-mail accounts on Monday for full explanatory details of how to register.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Although the School has enjoyed a long summer holiday, I am delighted to report that many of our Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants have been busy over the summer, completing their awards.

Silver awards were completed by Holly Duke, Rishi Gadikoppula, Alfie Hart, Emily Hawkes, Toby Kidd, Cameron Lindsay, Elisabeth Olaiya, Archie Smith and Katie Sullivan.

Congratulations are due to the following who have successfully completed their bronze awards:

James Abbott, Ariz Akhtar, Tami Akingbehin, Louisa Allen, Connor Bartell, Amelia Blee, Joanna Burgess, Cameron Bak, Josh Catterall, Sophia Chakko, Scott Davey, James Dowsett, Zipporah Ejemai, Jack Elsworth, Matthew Fullerton, Madeleine Gale, Isabella Goodall, Oscar Graver, Alexandra Hak, Louis Hardy, Alex Haward, Daniel Hawkes, Katie Heywood, Annabelle Hill, Renee Horwitz, Rebecca Kennedy, Freya Killilea, George Lewis, Alicia Lindsay, Katy Lotherington, Amy McGonigle, Scott McKenzie, Madelaine Millar, Rishal Narayan, Ethan Norris, Jaeden Olagbegi, Aaran Patel, Jonny Pearson, Samuel Pepper, Sarah Prior, Yasmine Puchakayala, Julianne Punwani, Anoushka Rajan, Imaan Rashid, William Reed, Matthew Reeves, Ipshita Rishi, Eesha Sadheura, Robin Sarkar, Anisa Sarwar, Henry Sessions, Elorm Setsoafia, Tanay Sonawane, Heather Trevelyan, Saadhyasri Venkatesh, Josie Whiskerd and Ross Wilson.

There are still a number of other bronze and silver participants who have completed their awards and I look forward to recording their success when they upload the details of their activities onto their Duke of Edinburgh's Award electronic accounts.



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House Music Competition 2018

The first major event of the School Year, and one that features more student participants than almost any other, is the House Music Competition. This year's Competition takes place on Wednesday 26th September, starting at 6.15pm in the Courage Hall.

It is our tradition to invite distinguished professional musicians to adjudicate the House Music Competition [previous adjudicators have included Nick Ingman (Shakespeare in Love), Ladies in Lavender/Last of the Summer Wine composer Nigel Hess, the late Ron Goodwin (633 Squadron, The Battle of Britain), Rick Wakeman, the renowned keyboard player and Mark Armstrong the much acclaimed jazz trumpeter. It gives us great pleasure this year to welcome conductor, Dominic Ellis-Peckham, who is renowned for his dedication to the Renaissance and Baroque era, whilst also passionately championing new works and delivering inspirational collaborations. Praised internationally for his 'freshness and vitality' in the direction of orchestral and choral performances and recordings, Dominic holds an array of conducting posts. These include Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of The Chamber Choir of London, Music Director of The London Oriana Choir, Artistic Director of The Fourth Choir, Guest Conductor for The London Mozart Players, Guest Chorus Master for The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Assistant Music Director of The National Youth Choirs of Great Britain and is a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Oxford.

Pupils are already rehearsing a Partsong, Ensemble and Unison Song, and we can guarantee an exciting evening's entertainment involving the entire First Year and many older musicians within the School.

Admission is by ticket only. Tickets are free and we can supply a maximum of two tickets per family. To book your tickets please click [here](#).

This is traditionally an extremely popular event and it is difficult to accommodate last minute requests, so please ensure that you apply early. We do hope to see you in the Courage Hall; doors open at 5.30pm.

Sport

Cricket

Congratulations to the Under 12 cricket team on winning the Essex Cup yesterday. The delayed final from last term was held at Brentwood Cricket Club against Southend High School for Boys. Brentwood took first use of the pitch and William Howard (104*) and Evan Ackerman (47) put on 140 for the first wicket in a mature display of stroke play and exceptional running between the wickets. Harry Douris (47) and Freddy Thorn (32*) continued the momentum and Brentwood's innings closed on 266 for 4 in their 30 overs. This huge total and some fine bowling and fielding proved too much for Southend. The Wickets were shared amongst the bowlers with Freddie Wren (2-26), Tom Arnold (2-10) and Finlay Stronach (2-11) amongst the wickets. Southend were bowled out for 98 and Brentwood recorded a 168 run victory.

William Howard's hundred was the first scored in an Essex Schools' final for 15 years, Ravi Bopara (Essex and England) being the centurion on that occasion.

Equestrian

Claudia Moore added an Individual Bronze medal to her tally at the Pony European Championships at Bishop Burton College in East Yorkshire. Jumping under the title sponsor banner of Team LeMieux, today's success saw Claudia add to the Team Gold won by the British Team on Friday afternoon. This result also sees her become the youngest British rider to win a Pony European Championship medal.

Brentwood School Sport Twitter

Follow the Brentwood School Sport twitter account [@Brentwood_Sport](#) for 'live updates' and 'information only' on Brentwood School sports events.

Schoolsport.com

Please be reminded that our own branded schoolsport.com page (accessible from our homepage) is the best place to find updated fixture information. You can access the page by going directly to [brentwoodsportsport.com](#) or from

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the fixtures and results page of our website, where you can also read notices and updates about weekend fixtures every Friday afternoon.

Absence from Sport

Thank you to all parents and pupils for their continued support of school sport. As I am sure you are aware representing the school on the sports field is a privilege and whilst we fully understand that absence from Saturday fixtures is occasionally inevitable, parents/pupils are reminded to email Mr Wignall, Director of Sport (IAW@brentwood.essex.sch.uk) and their respective team manager if their child is unable to represent the School on a Saturday. Your support in ensuring our sports teams are as fully prepared as possible is much appreciated. Furthermore, all pupils and parents are reminded that unless prior approval has been agreed with Heads of Sport, School sport takes precedence over club sport. Any queries should be directed to Mr I Wignall.

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/0Bx56Kfjy8PFOHR1YV9Jc183NzA>

I wish all pupils and parents a very enjoyable and successful year ahead.

Yours sincerely



Ian Davies

Headmaster



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