



## Weekly Newsletter from the Headmaster

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Dear Parents,

Earlier this week, several of our Sixth Form students received offers to study Medicine or Veterinary Science at University, bringing the total this year to 12 which, when combined with our eight Oxbridge offers and so many (90%) holding offers to Russell Group/Top Universities, is great news.

Further good news returned with our Fencing Team, who have been in action for three days at the Public Schools' Fencing Championships at Crystal Palace. We finished second out of the 150 schools competing with only Millfield beating us.

We enjoyed a high attendance of pupils and parents at the School's Careers Convention in Courage Hall yesterday evening. I was impressed by the level of research many of the senior pupils had undertaken prior to the event.

I enjoyed speaking to our Prep School students earlier this week about the importance of celebrating birthdays with reference to the Prep School 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service being held in Brentwood Cathedral next Friday, in the presence of the Bishop of Chelmsford. We are looking forward to what should be an excellent service.

There is so much to look forward to next week. The School team feature on the BBC Two programme "Robot Wars" on Sunday evening, and this is followed by three evenings of our iconic annual Dance Show.

You will be aware that Mr David Taylor, Second Master, will be retiring from the School after a considerable number of years of service. I would like to provide an opportunity for parents and Old Brentwoods, more generally, to make a donation towards a gift for Mr Taylor. Should you wish to make a donation, please do so by writing a cheque made payable to 'Brentwood School', indicating on the back: "Mr Taylor's Gift". Cheques should be sent to Mrs Gilder, Headmaster's Secretary, c/o Brentwood School, or handed into the Headmaster's Reception, by Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Last week, the Memorial Hall played host to the Senior Production of Churchill's 'Love and Information'. The very contemporary performance featured a plethora of characters and scenes, spotlighting a wide array of moments from people's lives. As a result, the production itself was hugely demanding on the talented young performers, not only due to the large number of cues and lines to learn, amidst the impressive technical production, but also the fact that many of the scenes featured some very mature and emotional subject matter, which the cast dealt with beautifully in order to leave their audience asking some very important questions about life itself. A truly affecting performance. Congratulations go to all of those students involved for their hard work.

### Academic Endeavour Award

This week's winner of my Endeavour Award is Zipporah Ejemai from the Second Year for her outstanding achievements in Mathematics and German.

Zipporah has been awarded this week for her independent completion of the Additional Mathematics course. A qualification that is usually only completed by some of the top set Fifth Year students. This is a fantastic achievement, given that Zipporah is only in the Second Year, and it shows an ability and commitment to academia that is inspiring. In addition, she has also been independently studying German which shows her wider commitment to independent learning.

Congratulations to Zipporah!

### Classics Week in the Bean Academic Centre

Classics BAC week runs next week from March 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. On Monday 1.20pm, the Senior Classics Society will be presenting a play and a talk to Junior Colloquium and after school we have Dr Elizif Wasmuth speaking on Plato in the BLT. On Tuesday and Thursday at 1.20pm, the Junior Classics Society is running Classics games in the Lower Bean - including how to tie a toga!

Finally, pupils are reminded to enter the 'Draw your own Ancient Selfie' competition so they can be in with a chance of winning a prize during Friday break time. Pupils can find details in Upper Bean and some exciting displays of the Ancient World.'

### Junior Colloquium and Junior Sir Antony Browne Society

In connection with Classics week in the BAC, our final Junior Colloquium of the term will involve Lower Sixth Classic students presenting 'The Senior Classics Society Takeover' (including the play 'Echo and Narcissus'). It is going to be a spectacle that should not be missed and all pupils in the First and Second Year are warmly invited. This will be on Monday at the usual time of 1.20pm in Old Big School. On Wednesday at 1.20pm during JSABs, the topic is going to be 'Classics in Film'. This session will be in the alternative venue of CU15 and all Classics students in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Year are strongly encouraged to attend.

### In The Box

Tickets are disappearing for 'In The Box' and I invite you to join me for a memorable evening of hilarious anecdotes and incisive cricket chat as we welcome cricket legends and Test Captains from home and abroad. Sports Broadcaster, Cricket Author and Old Brentwood, Ralph Dellor, will return to School on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, bringing with him his team of raconteurs: former England Captain, Mike Gatting, former New Zealand Captain, Jeremy Coney, and former England Test Stalwart, Geoff Miller OBE.

During the first half of the show, Ralph and his guests will talk through career highlights and share anecdotes. The second half is devoted to a question and answer session with the audience submitting their questions for the panel to chew over. The show will be staged in the Wessex Auditorium and tickets, priced at £25 for adults and £15 for U16s, [click here to purchase them on Eventbrite](#).

### Mothering Sunday Service

There will be a service in Chapel to celebrate Mothering Sunday on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am. The service will be an opportunity to give thanks for Mothers and for all who care for us and support us. All are welcome to attend this service. Please do let me know if you are planning to attend so I can provide appropriate refreshments after the service. Revd. Adrian McConnaughe: [awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### 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)

### The School Shop

Please note that the School Shop will be closing on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm for the Easter Holidays and will re-open on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 8.15am.

### Fifth Year Easter Support Sessions

For a timetable and further information about the Easter Support Sessions available to Fifth Years, please see the letter on the Parent Portal that's referred to at the bottom of the newsletter.

### Attempt to Beat the London Marathon World Record

On Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, students, parents and staff are being given the opportunity to attempt to beat the London Marathon World Record. The event will start at 10.30am on the running track. The idea is that pupils join together in groups of between 6 and 26, with the overall aim of beating the London Marathon World Record of 2 hours and 3 minutes.

This opportunity is open to 26 teams on a first-come-first-served basis. Teams can be made up of pupils in any year groups and may even include staff and/or parents. Each group also requires an administrator/manager, ideally a parent or friend, to count the number of laps completed. Each pupil would run one 400-metre lap before passing the baton to the next person in their team. Each team would need to

complete 105 laps and 200metres of the athletics track to complete the 26.2 mile course. In order to beat the World Record, the average lap time would need to be just under 1 minute and 10 seconds. The duration of the event will be 2 hours and 30 minutes, with groups unable to complete the course finishing at this time. If you are interested in taking part or helping out, please contact Mr Bigley: [WTB@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:WTB@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### Sport

#### Cricket

The Cricket Academy ends its winter work this week. After an excellent winter's preparation, we look forward to enjoying these talented cricketers expressing themselves in a full cricket programme next term. Parents and players are reminded of pre-season training and weekly training sessions in the letter on the Parent Portal. The School fixtures can all be found in the School calendar and on SOCS. Pre-season training and the summer programme is open to all interested pupils, not only those who attended the Cricket Academy.

I am also delighted to announce that we will introduce girls' Cricket sessions from next term and some fixtures are already in place. Pupils interested in participating should contact Mr Salisbury at [sts@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:sts@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

#### Cross Country

Brentwood School's First and Second Year runners competed in the MESSA championships on Tuesday afternoon. Very strong performances by all runners resulted in some particularly pleasing performances. Amongst many highlights, the First Year girls won the overall competition following excellent runs from Claudia Moore (7th) and Hannah Knightbridge (8th) with Imogen Pohl, Isabella Toms and Thea Mathieson coming in close behind. Performance of the day was reserved for Olivia Dowman who secured a fine overall win! The First Year boys ran well to finish in fourth place.

#### Fencing

We are delighted to report that following three intense days of action at Crystal Palace International Stadium, the fencing team secured overall silver in the Public Schools' Fencing Championships behind Millfield School. Amongst numerous highlights, excellent performances from Matthew Goodwin, Eleana Winand, Maddy Gale, Neo Merrell, Ian Ho, Jack Elsworth, Jai Anilkumar and Rosa Xu ensured valuable points in our fight for overall team gold. Particular congratulations must go to Maddy and Matthew who both fenced with courage and skill to win individual bronze medals.

#### Hockey

The First XI hockey team played its last game of the season against Haileybury School on Tuesday in arguably one of the team's biggest challenges of the season. In the first half, the girls were finding it tough to link their play from defence to midfield and had a high turnover of possession, resulting in the girls going into half-time 0-3 down. Despite the score line, the girls set themselves a target to defend with determination and try to get onto the score sheet. The girls put absolutely everything into the second half and had a number of chances and short corners. Unfortunately, the final score ended 4-0 after a spirited second half performance the girls should be very proud of. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Upper Sixth students in the first XI for their outstanding commitment to Brentwood Sport. They have been an absolute pleasure to coach and will be sorely missed next season.

#### Netball

On Saturday, seven matches were played against St Edmund's College, resulting in a clean sweep of victories. Olivia Copeland played exceptionally well as GA as the Under 12A team enjoyed a comfortable 27-9 win. Olivia also enjoyed another excellent match against Anglo European in midweek. Francesca Stanford played well on her A Team debut and made a great impression as WA/WD in another comfortable win for the girls. The Under 12B team beat St Edmunds 28-2 with Imogen Pohl and Sophie Stock playing superbly. The Under

13A and B teams enjoyed a great day winning 22-9 and 22-6 respectively. Saachi Patel and Fiona Crosby were both exceptional for the A team and Annie Hill was awarded Player of the Day for the B team.

The Under 14s secured a resounding 41-10 victory. Sarah Dawe was inspirational when defending. Another fine victory was enjoyed by the Under 14B team as the girls secured a 30-0 victory. Millie Defries led by example and dominated the mid court, while Annabel Eastwood controlled the attacking circle. The Under 15B team beat St Edmunds 24 -11 as Hannah Walker playing exceptionally well and deservedly received the Player of the Match accolade.

On Tuesday evening, the 14B and 15B teams travelled to Hylands to play in the MESSA League. The Under 14 girls won 39-9 with Millie Defries excelling in mid court once again and the Under 15 team won 30-4 with Holy Duke dominating in attack. The Under 13A and B teams played in the Kelsall tournament on Tuesday afternoon. The girls played some exceptional netball and enjoyed a positive afternoon. The A team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place with Ellie Marshall, Heather Young and Rosie Parrish producing some excellent play. The B team finished 5<sup>th</sup> with Hannah Bolgan playing an excellent centre court game and Josie Whiskerd demonstrating her excellent defending skills throughout the game.

Team of the week are undoubtedly the First VII who won the Under 19 Kelsall Cup as 16 Independent Schools battled it out in the spring sunshine. After seven pool matches, the team remained unbeaten to face a strong King's Canterbury team in the semi-final. Ella Lindsay made some crucial interceptions to turn the game while the shooters, Daisy Oliphant, Ashley Chalmers and Holly Perry kept cool, calm and collected in the shooting circle to secure a final berth against Bancroft's. Following a fast and furious final, Brentwood celebrated victory by two goals. The girls were the deserving winners and should be immensely proud of their achievement. On the same day, the Second VII beat all other B teams in their pool and faced A Team opposition Forest, losing narrowly. Issie Wigmore was outstanding in the centre court and Lily Spencer Smith and Athena Knight were dominant in defence. They should be very pleased with their season.

### Rugby

This past week, Brentwood boys competed in the County 7s competitions in their final preparation for the National 7s next week. On Monday, the Under 14 team reached the quarter finals of the Cup Competition after beating Castleview 29-0, New Hall B 33-5 and Woodlands 20-0 to reach the quarter-final stages before losing 12-10 to New Hall. Obinna Nkwocha, Josh Ould, Albert Smith, Omair Hussain and Thomas Howard were outstanding for Brentwood.

On Tuesday, the Under 13 team found things a bit harder and qualified for the quarter-finals of the plate competition where the boys unfortunately lost against King John 15-5. Jem Ozkoch, Alex Mead, Henry Deacon and Scott McKenzie were in fine form. The highlight of the week was the performance of the Under 12 team on Wednesday. Following an unbeaten run in the pool stages including victories over Del La Salle 30-5, Sydney Russell 35-0, William De-Ferrers 25-5 and Champion 15-0, the team beat St Martin's in the quarter-final 10-5, before losing to Coopers 15-5. Overall a fantastic effort from all the players. The Top Try-Scorers for Brentwood were Ovie Jeyibo and James Webb-Wood with eight tries each.

Next week, our Under 13, Under 14 and Senior boys will take part in the biggest schoolboy tournament in the world, the Rosslyn Park 7s. The Under 13 boys will be very fortunate to be streamed live from Rosslyn Park in their opening fixture against Templer Academy starting at 10.40am on Monday 20 March. Parents and students will be able to follow the boys' progress at: [www.rpns7.co.uk](http://www.rpns7.co.uk) and <http://www.schoolssports.com>

### Swimming

We are delighted to report that on Thursday evening, the swim team won the Under 12, 13 and 16 boys' categories and the Under 12 and 14 girls. Amongst a number of great swims, Evelyn Golledge and Rory Peskett must be highly commended.

Triathlon

Last Thursday, the inaugural Brentwood School triathlon was a keenly-contested affair. Organised and supervised by Upper Sixth student, Alfie Moore, Mr Beedell secured overall victory with a time of 12m 23s while James Maltby was the first pupil across the line in a highly respectable 15m 51s. The event raised over £3200 for Home Start. Well done to Alfie and his team.

Water Polo

In an addendum to last week’s water polo report, Jonathan Akerman’s omission from the squad list was as surprising as it was disappointing. Jonathan has been an inspirational member of the Senior polo team and without his goal scoring endeavours and robust defending, the team may not have enjoyed the same success. Well done once again to the Senior polo team and well done, in particular, to Jonathan for his efforts.

In Wednesday’s London League Finals, the team failed to match its recent endeavours and lost narrowly to Trinity, Haberdashers’ and Dulwich to finish in 4th place despite playing some fabulous polo. The team must not be disheartened as they have enjoyed an excellent season.

Football

Brentwood faced Latymer Upper in a junior block on Saturday. Brentwood won seven of the nine matches played. The performance of the day came from the Under 14A team who showed excellent team play and through possession where able to create a number of chances, eventually winning 4-1. The Under 13A team continued its outstanding season, in which they have lost only one game, by winning 6-2 with goals coming from Jem Ozkoch, Harrison Clayden, George Mandie, Joel Winter (2) and Ethan Norris.

On Thursday, Brentwood faced Bishop’s Challoner winning six out of eight fixtures – a fine demonstration of the progress the teams have made. The Under 13B team impressed with a fine 5-1 win, with goals coming from Diego Robinson (3) and Louis Hardy (2). The Under 12A team also played extremely well to win 4-1 with two outstanding goals coming from the ever impressive Fiz Jaiyesimi. The Under 12B team played well in securing a resounding 15-1 win as Devan Mistry and Ben Pogson impressed in a fabulous team performance.

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
Third Year	Battlefields Trip Itinerary July 2017	13/03/2017
Fifth Year	Fifth Year Easter Support Sessions	17/03/2017
6th Form	Spanish A Level Speaking Exam Chigwell School April	17/03/2017
Extra-Curricular	Mr Rees’ Pre-Season Cricket Academy Training	17/03/2017
Extra-Curricular	Mr Salisbury’s Pre-Season Cricket Academy Training	17/03/2017

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

Wishing you all a relaxing half-term break.

Yours sincerely



Ian Davies  
Headmaster



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