



## Weekly Newsletter from **the Headmaster**

---

Dear Parents,

The bright sunshine, blue skies and light breeze have heralded a spring like feel this week. I have enjoyed visiting Field Day activities today at both Crowborough (RAF Section) and Mereworth (Army Section) and it was excellent to see so many students enjoying the challenge of character building activities in a safe, controlled environment.

This evening, I plan to attend the Middle School Production of 'Marian and Robin Hood'. It was great to experience the thrill and tension in the air between the end of School and the start of the play on Wednesday given that the inclement weather disrupted the performances last week.

Our World Book Day celebration on Thursday enabled our teachers and students to arrive at School in such a wide variety of costumes gleaned from the books they read. My favourite grouping came from the Science Department's co-ordinated arrival as 101 Dalmatians with a realistic Cruella De Vil driving them forward. All in a good cause, as they say!

At School today we also hosted our Football, Netball and Chess Tournaments for Year 5 pupils in local prep and primary schools. This is the first step in our familiarisation programme which contributes to recruitment at 11+ in 2019. Of course, it was only earlier this week that we completed a very successful Entrance procedure for September 2018. I am delighted by the prompt acceptance of places offered which has resulted in even more pupils than ever wishing to join in September.

I would like to thank all parents for the splendid work you do to promote the School to all you meet, and I would like you to know that your support is greatly appreciated.

### Headmaster's Endeavour Award

The Academic Endeavour Award this week was awarded to Izenosa Binitie in the Third Year. This was for Izenosa's recent academic commitment. On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, Izenosa represented South House as the main speaker in their middle's public speaking team, presenting with authority an extremely well researched argument against the right for parents to choose the gender of their children. Izenosa, last week, then organised and led a House assembly on Black History Month, spearheading a passionate, yet well informed presentation on historical figures who have never been given the appreciation they deserve. Izenosa has achieved these feats alongside playing a leading role in the School production 'Marian and Robin Hood', playing the Sheriff of Nottingham with great skill and flair. I applaud this commitment to the academic co-curricular programme. Congratulations Izenosa.

### Academic Enrichment

At Junior Colloquium and JSABs this week, in connection with Computing Week in the BAC, Cameron Maddock and Ryan Aston gave a lecture on Monday about Cybercrime, and at JSABs on Tuesday, Maxim Ivanov and Rosa Xu investigated how the use of modern technologies, together with artificial intelligence, affects our everyday life. Both presentations were engaging and thought provoking. Next week at Junior Colloquium and JSABs, Sixth Form students, Thomas Haward and Kimberly Punwani, are exploring the question, 'Why is Maths so crucial to us all?' All First and Second Years are welcome to attend Junior Colloquium on Monday and all pupils in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Years are invited to JSABs on the Tuesday. Both meetings are at 1.20pm in the BAC Lecture Theatre.

### Speech Day 2018

This year there will be a revised format for the Promenade Concert on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and Speech Day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, as follows:

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June

6.30pm – 10pm Promenade Concert, Courage Hall

### Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June

9.45am Arrival  
10–10.45am Commemoration Service, Chapel  
11.30-1pm Prize Giving, Courage Hall  
7–11.30pm Sixth Form Ball, Stock Brook Manor

All 1<sup>st</sup> Years, Lower 6<sup>th</sup> and Prize winners are expected to attend Prize Giving.

### Junior Public Speaking

Students from the Junior Public Speaking Team took part in the district final of the Rotary Youth Speaks Intermediate Competition this week. In spite of some strong opponents, the Brentwood School team was the winner, proceeding to the next round. The students involved were: Thomas Woodcock, Rishal Narayam and Morgan O'Sullivan. Rishal also deserves special praise, as he was awarded the prize for being the best "Vote of Thanks", an excellent personal achievement. We wish the team good luck in the regional final which takes place on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### Dionysia

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm, the Classics Department invite you to join them in an evening of frivolity, music, comedy, and even the odd tragedy at Brentwood School's unique:

# DIONYSIA

Pupils from all years will be taking part in our Classical themed cabaret, including performances from Latin talk shows, modern interpretations of mythology and much more. Seated at round tables in the style of a Greek drinking party or "Symposium", with Greco-Roman snacks and beverages, you will be whisked away into the world of Homer, Ovid and Virgil by the talents of our wonderful Classics students.

[Click here for tickets](#) on Eventbrite, £5 for adults and £1 for children.

### Inspiring Future Leaders: 30 Years of Girls at Brentwood School

To celebrate the momentous anniversaries of 30 years of girls in the First Year and 100 years of female emancipation, Brentwood School will be hosting a festival celebrating the achievements of all women in our School community. The aim of the festival is to empower all of our pupils, girls and boys, to aspire to be the very best that they can be and to be inspired by those in our community who are making a difference in many different spheres of life.

Please find below details of scheduled events – all of which take place in the week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 and will be open to boys and girls in the Fourth Year and above. We will give more information and open up sign-up for these events in the last two weeks of this term.

Event 1: Panel presentation followed by speed-dating style discussion groups (Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

Event 2: Seminar on "Communicating effectively and confidently" (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

Event 3: The Brentwood School Innovation and Creativity Challenge (Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

There are still a few slots available for helping out with these events, so if you would like to share your life experiences, pass on wisdom that will help our pupils explore potential career avenues or would like to be

involved in judging the creativity of our pupils please do not hesitate to get in touch with Ms Dina Porovic, Director of Teaching and Learning ([dnp@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:dnp@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)).

### The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The expedition season is approaching with bronze expedition training on Sunday from 10am until 4pm for all Third Year participants except those going on CCF Adventure Training at Easter. Pupils should assemble at 10am in the BAC Tuckshop with a packed lunch, suitably equipped for walking outdoors. Further information about the day was provided in the recent communication from Miss Gellard and Miss Hunter.

Silver direct entrants have a training weekend on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March. Those taking School transport need to meet by Courage Hall Reception in time for a 12.45pm departure. Those making their own travel arrangements should aim to be at Skreens Park by 1.30pm. Those collecting their son/daughter from Skreens Park on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March should be there by 9am; the School transport will be back at the Courage Hall by approximately 9.45am. Details of kit to wear, when School kit will be loaned out, etc., were contained in the recent communication from Mr Kitley and Miss Preston.

An important part of the expedition is the route planning and DofE regulations state clearly that all members of the expedition MUST take part in this process. Therefore, it is essential that your son/daughter turns up for these sessions since, if they do not, it is possible that they will be unable to participate in their expedition.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Henry Batty, Chloe George, Unsa Khan, Joe Quick, Alshariff Sharief, Olly Webb and Joshua Wood who have all recently been awarded their Silver Award.

### Mothering Sunday Service

There will be a service to celebrate Mothering Sunday on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am in Chapel. The service is open to all members of the Brentwood School Community and their families. Please contact the Chaplain directly if you are planning to attend so that he can cater accordingly. I look forward to seeing you on the 11<sup>th</sup> March. Revd Adrian McConnaughie, [awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

### 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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: Revd. Dr. Adrian McConnaughie: [awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:awm@brentwood.essex.sch.uk).

### Lent Term Concert

Our Lent Concert in the Wessex Auditorium is now scheduled for Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March as it was postponed on the 7<sup>th</sup> March following the inclement weather of last week. The concert will feature nearly 200 of our musicians who comprise many varied ensembles and choirs. The concert will include our String Orchestra, Big Band, Band and Junior Choir. A varied and exciting programme is planned with a focus on showcasing some of our musical talent lower down the School as well as through close harmony barbershop singing.

The concert starts at 7pm and there will be an interval reception where wine and soft drinks will be served. Tickets are priced at £6 per adult and £2 for children of school age. [Please click here for tickets.](#)

### Symphonic and Choral Concert – Brentwood Cathedral

Please come and join us for our Symphonic and Choral showcase this term in the magnificent acoustics of Brentwood Cathedral on the 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. The first half features our full Symphony Orchestra with Upper Sixth student Maris Lam performing Shostakovich's mighty Piano Concerto No. 2. Following the interval, Brentwood School Choral Society (BSCS) will perform "The Crucifixion" by John Steiner. 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. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children, and [are available here](#). We look forward to seeing you at this inaugural concert.

### Choral Evensong

This term marks the start of an exciting new Choral tradition at Brentwood School with the introduction of Choral Evensong in the School Chapel. Choral Evensong is a traditional, sung service which takes place every day in most Cathedrals and is often led by an experienced choir of men, boys and girls. The service offers an important moment as we draw to the close of the day to be uplifted through an act of worship which combines singing, scripture reading and prayer. This term, we have one further Choral Evensong service on 15<sup>th</sup> March (Senior Chamber Choir) and we would be delighted if you could attend. The service begins at 5pm in the Chapel.

### Annual Careers Convention

The School's annual Careers Convention will be held in the Courage Hall from 6pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018. It is open to all Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Form students and their parents. There will be representatives from a range of universities, companies and industries to seek advice from, as well as gap-year opportunities and career advice from successful Old Brentwoods. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Sports Kit – Prep 7 – 11 and Senior School Pupils

In order to stay at the forefront of sporting excellence, I am pleased to inform you that in response to pupil feedback we have decided to update the School sports kit. Please be assured that the new items will be phased in over time. Parents and pupils will not be expected to purchase any new kit unless they wish to or when growth necessitates a purchase. Further details are in the General Folder in the Letters Home area on Google Drive which can be accessed by clicking the link at the bottom of this newsletter.

### Friends of Brentwood School Wine Tasting Evening

Tickets are now on sale for the 2018 FoBS Wine Challenge which is being held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Bean Academic Centre Tuck Shop. Tickets for the evening, which will be held in conjunction with The Shenfield Wine Co, will cost £30 and are available through Eventbrite using this [link](#). You can book single tickets, or a table of eight. Last year's event proved hugely popular so don't miss out. The wine will be accompanied by a cheese platter courtesy of Abigail's Delicatessen in Ingatestone.

### Ultimate Activity Camps

Ultimate Activity Camps are returning to Brentwood School in 2018 with their engaging holiday day camps and in the summer they will also be running the Adventurous and Ultimate Survival programme too. The Easter camps will be held from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April (not Bank Holidays) and the summer camps from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Ultimate Activity Camps offer exciting activity day camps for 4-14 year olds with over 40 activities every week delivered by engaging and enthusiastic staff who will instruct and encourage children to try new activities and make new friends – and naturally have lots of fun! During the summer, they will also offer Ultimate Survival which offers fun and adventurous outdoor day camps where children aged 7 to 14 years will try exciting outdoor activities and games, and learn new skills along the way. There's even the option for a Camp Out on Thursday

night. Please visit [www.ultimateactivity.co.uk](http://www.ultimateactivity.co.uk) for details or you can call them on 0330 111 7077 (local rate). Further information is available on the attached flyer.

### Sport

#### Football

The First XI got back to winning ways when they played King's College, Wimbledon, in the quarter-finals of the London Cup on Wednesday. Brentwood managed to play some excellent football on a difficult pitch but went behind to an early set piece. However, Brentwood continued to battle and managed to equalise through Zavier Coyne and then took the lead through an excellent finish from Tom Takar to go into the half-time break deservedly leading 2-1. Following an incredibly long second half injury time, King's College managed to equalise with one of the last kicks of the game to send the match into extra-time. Brentwood deservedly took the lead, once again, through an excellent Cameron Smith finish. However, the game wasn't finished as King's scored a controversial penalty soon after the Brentwood goal. With only seconds remaining and following more Brentwood pressure, Joe Quick put in an excellent cross for the diminutive Tom Takar to rise and head the ball into the back of the net to send Brentwood through to the semi-finals, where they will face Wellington College.

#### Netball

On Monday, the Second VII played in the semi-final of the Under 19 Essex Cup against Barking Abbey. All of the girls fought incredibly hard against an exceptionally strong and talented netball team. Well done to all girls who competed and for reaching so far in the competition. The Under 13A team played against Saffron Walden this week and demonstrated some quality netball from the start. They won convincingly 27-8. Olivia Copeland dominated in the attacking circle; her movement was exceptional and her shooting very accurate. Taaliyah Foster was named as Player of the Match by the opposition for her tight defending skills and outstanding interceptions. The Under 13B team won 11-8 in a very close match, with the Player of the Match being awarded to Isabelle Copeland. On Wednesday afternoon, the First and Second VII competed against St Edmund's School. Both were competitive fixtures which resulted in a fine win for the second VII (24-8) with an unfortunate loss for the first team against strong opposition.

#### Swimming

On Monday, the First, Second and Third Year students competed in the MESSSA League against Boswells School. The First Year boys started off incredibly well in the butterfly, with George Cant winning the first event, followed closely by James Prince who claimed second place. The First Year girls dominated all of their events with wins from Libby McLauchlan, Kaylin Van De Merwe and Priya Dhillon. Strong performances from Hannah Collett, Emma Willy and Olivia Dowman increased the points advantage over Boswells. The Second Year boys continued their fine form with victories in all individual events. A valiant effort from the Third Year boys and girls contributed to an overall victory. Well done to all of the students who participated, Brentwood School remain at the top of the leader board with two galas remaining.

#### Tennis

All pupils interested in private group tennis lessons with our professional tennis coach, Ray Bradfield, (starting week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> April) are invited to find further information in the Parent Portal. Further information can be obtained from Miss Simpson at [AVS@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:AVS@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

#### Water Polo

We are delighted to report that the Senior team played superbly in the National Plate Final on Thursday to secure the silver medal. The whole team showed determination and character to recover from early losses to secure the runner's up spot. Congratulations to Jonathan Akerman, Dado Pessina, Jack Warman, Ilya Usichenko, Charlie Cortney, Dermot O'Doherty, Sam Hewitt and Luke Spooner. The Under 13 team travelled to Dulwich College for their first ever ESSA Water Polo Tournament. In the first match against Dulwich College, the team took a little time to settle into the game, but demonstrated some great passing skills which showed off their hard work in training. In the second half, Jacob Stephen and Tom Brown scored a goal each as Dulwich recorded a 6-2 win. Brentwood continued to work well as a team in the next two games; Rory Peskett played out of position in goal but made some fantastic saves while Freddie Wren, Charlotte Grundy, Charlotte Elliston and James Prince all made their debuts playing extremely well and showing great potential. In the final match against Highgate, Jacob and Tom scored early on to give Brentwood a 2-0 lead but Highgate came back strongly scoring

six goals in a row to secure a win. A very well done to all of the players, we look forward to the next tournament after Easter.

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



**Brentwood School**  
SENIOR SCHOOL

Middleton Hall Lane Brentwood Essex CM15 8EE  
telephone: 01277 243243 email: headmaster@brentwood.essex.sch.uk  
[www.brentwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.brentwoodschool.co.uk)

