

# The Brooke House Bugle



## Summer Term 2016 Newsletter



Mike Oliver, the new Principal, arrived at Brooke House College just before the end of April and took over the reins from Giles Williams officially on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Since then he has been busy getting to know the school and how it works as well as meeting as many staff and pupils as possible. He arrived at Brooke House College after his first Headship at Epsom College in Malaysia. Prior to that he had been the Assistant Headmaster at Epsom College in Surrey after spells as a subject teacher of mathematics, a boarding Housemaster and a coach of hockey, rugby and athletics. Mike also ran the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme for several years, which he hopes can be developed even more at Brooke House. He is very much looking forward to settling into the school and Market Harborough and its surrounding area in general.

Dan Ning, who is studying A Level mathematics, further mathematics, economics and accountancy was selected nationally from amongst the many schools within CIFE (Council for Independent Education) to receive her prestigious award for academic excellence from Lord Lexden, the association's President. The presentation ceremony was held at the House of Lords in April at the start of the Summer term. Dan was very honoured to have been nominated for her award and for the opportunity to both visit the House of Lords and to meet so many other top students.



Mrs Joan Williams kindly presented the awards at this year's ceremony and is pictured above with Sonny Knights, A Football Academy member and winner of the GCSE Science prize.

This year's annual speech day, held just before the start of the half-term break paid tribute to the many successes of the boys and girls from Brooke House. There were awards across the whole academic spectrum of Intensive English, GCSE, A Level and the Foundation Programme. Other awards were made to the Football Academy players and for areas of excellence elsewhere in the college's life. Several universities sponsored the top academic prizes as well as the college's two most prestigious prizes of the Paul Kitchener Prize, won by Dan Ning and the Principal's prize awarded to Thi Mai An Nguyen



Dan Ning and Lord Lexden

It was a proud day for Brooke House College member of staff, Ausra Bremner, when she was invited to the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia to present her research findings due to be submitted shortly for her PhD. The conference entitled “**Global and Local: Distinction and Interconnection in the Baltic States**” was an extremely successful event organised by The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS), which explored the independence, dependence, and interconnections of Baltic states, peoples, and communities across time and space in a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective. It uncovered the distinctive, hybrid, and globalised features of culture, politics, economics, history, language, and other aspects of life in the Baltic countries. The other aspects included migration and diaspora issues. Ausra’s research “The Impact of Migration to the UK on Lithuanian Migrant Family relationships” at the session called - **The Global Baltic: Migration, Diasporas, Minorities** was a huge success. So many people were interested in the Lithuanian migration phenomenon in the UK that the organisers had to arrange for another meeting for Ausra to answer all the questions being put to her.

Ausra said of the conference and experience as a whole, “It was a great privilege to meet and listen to the most inspiring speech of the President of Estonia -Toomas Hendrik Ilves, who was a keynote speaker at one of the evening receptions, and who did his own Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania.



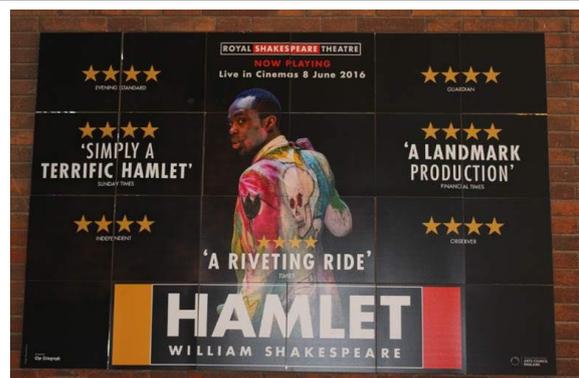
Ausra Bremner, soon to be Dr Bremner.



The A Level English Literature students on their recent visit to Stratford-upon-Avon to watch the Royal Shakespeare Company’s production of Hamlet.

Ghosts of leaders past, treachery, murder, intrigue, madness and vengeance. No it is not a week in politics this June in The United Kingdom, but the themes The Bard wrote into one of his best known works, “Hamlet”.

The A Level English Literature students under the watchful eye of Mr Baines and Mrs Caine greatly enjoyed the visit enabling them to see on stage the text they had been studying for their Summer public examinations.



Simon Godwin’s production was widely acclaimed for its traditional interpretation and for the fact that a largely unknown Paapa Essiedu played the Prince.

“It was a memorable performance and a wonderful experience to visit Stratford-upon-Avon” said the pupils after the experience.



The Motorsport Academy's Jacky Liu found success recently in China's X-Treme Anniversary Race, sponsored by MAXXIS (Senior Class). He qualified in pole position by 0.004 seconds ahead of the second placed driver, then finished 1st in the race.

Since joining the Motorsport Academy in October 2015 Jacky has been busy. Beginning with a testing programme at Whilton Mill on Wednesdays in a Senior X30 kart. Jacky coped with all conditions, including rain and ice - something he's not used to in Sichuan Province, China. Jacky has made huge steps every week since joining the academy and in January he gained his UK karting licence and started racing up against some of the best British senior drivers.

Jacky has tested the Formula Renault and again showed extreme confidence and maturity in race situations, so much so that he has progressed to the stage where he has now gained his Race Car licence after a test at Silverstone allowing him to take part in the BRDC British F3 2017 Championship.





Former Brooke House Football Academy player, Nikolay Todorov, 19 from Bulgaria, has been playing for Hearts football club from the Scottish Premier League, as a striker, after an earlier spell at Nottingham Forest, where he credits former England International Stuart Pearce, with guiding him in his early professional career.

His career, north of the border is going from strength-to-strength. Nikolay has already been working hard with the first team squad and is a part of their Europa Cup squad. Whilst initially brought in as a member of the development squad, he has impressed his coaches and is regarded as a great prospect for the future.

Nikolay moved to Brooke House from his native Bulgaria as a 15-year-old in 2012 when he secured a place within our Football Academy. Within two years, he had been picked up by Nottingham Forest, such was the progress he had made following the Brooke House Academy training programme.

Ben Watts, Director of the Football Academy remembers Nikolay's excellent work ethic and willingness to listen to his coaches. Ben describes him as a great role model for the current members of the academy. He added that with the current Macedonia U15 captain and another international U16 from Hong Kong, we could expect even more players leaving Brooke House to be playing as professionals in the future.

The Brooke House Summer School is now well underway with boys and girls from all over the world visiting Market Harborough for the first time. The structure of intensive English coaching in the mornings, followed by excursions to many famous local and national landmarks is both popular and a winning formula.

