



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

LENT 2023
ISSUE 1



A Word from the Headmaster

As the various articles in the first 2023 News Review suggest, once again pupils of all ages have involved themselves in a whole host of activities, together. The rich variety of opportunities is a hallmark of Bromsgrove, and we are keen that pupils involve themselves in as much as possible, developing skills and interests, making friends and memories in the process.

Another strength of the School community is the diverse mix of people

who work together: people of different backgrounds, nationalities, genders, faiths and so on. It is important that all feel able to be themselves and that we take the opportunity to learn from the perspectives of others who may be different from us.

I am delighted that this year's Heads of School, Thando and Jess, have launched their initiative, Bring Your Whole Self to Bromsgrove. They aim to increase understanding, student to

student, of issues relating to equality, diversity and inclusion so that all feel more comfortable being themselves, learning from others and recognising that the differences that exist across the School community are a strength.

They and the other Monitors should feel very proud of the valuable work that they have started, and which will continue.

Michael Punt
HEADMASTER

Flourishing Fivers

We are immensely proud of our Year 7 pupils who have raised a massive £10,000 for the Primrose Hospice this year. That brings the grand total for the four years we have been doing this with Year 7 to approximately £45,000.

All the children in Year 7 were given a fiver and were asked to make it flourish. Almost all of them did just that!

There were sponsored events and raffles, games, and sales of all sorts of

glorious items. The boarders organised an exciting World Cup event and raised a stunning £450. Our congratulations to all the children who took part and many, many thanks to their families for their support.



CCF

This term we were joined by Cadet Force Adult Volunteers from CCFs across the West Midlands. Training took place on how to use our field guns, led by the Headquarters of West Midlands CCT.



Peer Mentors

We are delighted that a Peer Mentoring scheme has been established at Bromsgrove School, for our Prep and Senior School. In general, mentoring

aims to build confidence and relationships, develop resilience, and character and raise aspirations.

During their training, the mentors discussed what their role is, understood who they are supporting and where they themselves can access support and guidance. The mentors were taught key skills and then were assessed on listening, communication, body language, effective questioning, bullying and confidentiality.



They made individual pledges and understood that they held a position of responsibility and privilege. They have made themselves available on a rota basis to cover lunchtimes at the Prep School for drop-in sessions, as well as answering anonymous email worries, providing valuable support.

We know that our Sixth Form are an outstanding set of people and great role models for the younger pupils. Research shows that young people are more likely to go to peers with concerns or worries, as they find them more relatable. The mentors have been trained in listening skills and signposting, but most importantly safeguarding and understanding the limitations of their role.

The Peer Mentors have given their time selflessly to offer support to others, making a valuable contribution to individuals and to the School.



Penguins

As part of Reception's 'Understanding of the World' topic, the children celebrated Penguin Awareness Day.

They made penguins in the creative area, searched for them outside and investigated how to get toy penguins out of frozen ice. They also discussed a penguin's habitat and how it is being affected through climate



Pantomime

Years 3 & 4 enjoyed welcoming the Hobgoblin Theatre Company into School to perform their *Great Christmas Robbery* Pantomime. The Maple building rang with the sound of laughter and shouts of "it's behind you!".

We are grateful to the Prep School Parents' Association for funding this exciting experience.



Prep Photography



The Prep School Photography Club has been experimenting with eyes and portraiture.



Quilling

Here are some wonderful examples of the paper quilling work that Prep pupils have created during activities.

Charity

At the end of the Michaelmas Term, the Prep School Gardening Club and Eco Committee held an Eco friendly sale. Thank you to everyone who supported this. We are pleased to announce that £268 was raised, of which £134 will be donated to the Woodland Trust to support their projects in the local area.



Adventures

Year 1 have demonstrated resilience, teamwork, independence and creativity in their recent Forest School sessions.



Plants

Reception children have been busy learning about the different parts of a plant. They then helped to plant some lovely winter primulas to decorate the Reception outdoor area.



Chinese New Year

Everyone at School enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year. Nursery and Reception changed their role-play area into a Chinese Restaurant and they enjoyed an array of creative activities which included making Chinese lanterns, lucky envelopes and dragon dancing. Thank you to our catering partners Holroyd Howe for some amazing food and displays throughout the School



Vikings

Year 4 enjoyed their Viking experience Day. They took part in various activities including historical games, sampling weapons, decoding messages in runes and using metal detectors in archaeological activities. They were enthralled by some storytelling of the Viking sagas.





Life Skills

Two years ago, in collaboration with our local branch of Nationwide Building Society, Miss Farrell, who runs Life Skills, trialled some sessions on Finance and Financial Awareness to our Upper Fourth students.

Money and financial awareness is important at any age but young people need to be aware of the basics, such as bank accounts, savings, the implications of borrowing, debt, and being safe with online shopping and transactions.

The programme has been so successful that it has been rolled out nationally. Her feedback has been used for training in branches around the UK.

Feedback from our pupils has been very positive and they enjoyed the opportunity to have an expert in the room with real life stories and knowledge.

The sessions for Bromsgrove pupils will continue this term and in the future.

52 Lives

Years 2 & 3 joined forces to make 'Kindness' cards and messages after an inspiring workshop run by the Charity '52 Lives'.



On Stage

We are delighted that Remi Mais from Year 5 has been selected to play the part of Young Simba in the UK touring production of 'The Lion King'. Remi had been busy in rehearsals since October running up to his first performance during the Christmas holiday, at The Palace Theatre, Manchester. Remi will go on tour to the Sunderland Empire in March. We wish him good luck as he embarks on this fantastic experience.

Karate Kids



Karate has been one of the most popular activities at the Prep School for many years. Karate is a Martial Art learnt for self-defence, but it is so much more; its benefits include self-discipline, mental well-being and physical fitness.

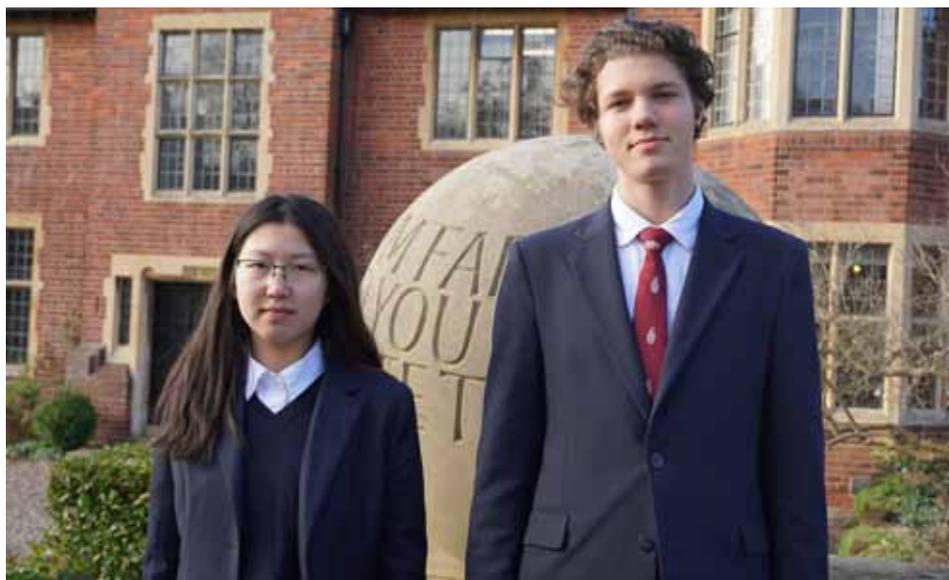
All Prep pupils, are invited to attend on Friday evenings in the Prep School Sports Hall and many choose continue with the activity as they progress into the Senior School.

Our Karate Instructor, Master Jacqui Fisher has been coming to Bromsgrove School for over twenty years and says, "The pupils never cease to be enthusiastic about their Karate sessions and their sense of achievement is palpable. Sessions are lively, often noisy and the pupils seem to have boundless energy – a perfect environment for a Martial Arts Instructor!"



Enterprise

Monito, our Young Enterprise Team, sent three team members to deliver an assembly to Years 3-5 in the Prep School. They discussed money saving ideas and the difference between needs and wants. The team did a fantastic job of engaging the pupils whilst delivering a clear message. A follow up worksheet was sent home to parents for pupils to put into practice what they learnt.



Testing Physics

This year, the Physics Olympiad saw 6000 students take part nationally, a significant increase on previous years, sitting a very challenging paper. Only 8.7% of students achieved Gold. All of our students did exceptionally well and developed important problem-solving skills for the future.

Gold - Vicky Hu and Demian Zhelyabovskyy
Silver - Joseph Hong and Sophia Meadows
Bronze II - Yanbo Dong
Commendation - Justinas Stankus

Scientists

Last term the theme for the Prep School science club was 'Chemistry', which involved carrying out a range of experiments including chromatography, indicators, separating mixtures, observing gases and chemical tests. A group of Prep scientists have been awarded their Chemistry specialist certificate.





Netball

Huge congratulations to our U12A netball team who played in a thrilling away match against Forest School (London). Despite being down by up to four goals right until the last quarter, Bromsgrove battled hard to win 19-16. This team is now in the top eight in the country and through to the Quarter Finals of the School Sport Magazine National Netball Cup.

Also congratulations to our U13A netball team who have been crowned undefeated Regional IAPS Champions. The girls played in a Round Robin competition at Uppingham School, playing St. John's College, Winchester House, Witham Hall, Bilton Grange, Swanbourne House, Spratton Hall and Winterfold. As the team had won all of their games, they were already top of the group and through to the National Finals. However, there was still one more game against the second placed team Bilton Grange to decide 1st and 2nd place. Bromsgrove demonstrated their class by winning by ten goals.



Valentine's

A group of Bromsgrove Service students sold Valentine's Day cards in aid of Primrose Hospice at lunchtime on Valentines Day. Thank you to all the staff and students who supported this initiative.



England

Well doneto Jess Monthe who has been selected for the England U17 Netball team at the Europe Netball U17 Championships taking place in February. Jess is one of twelve players named in the squad.



BIST Scholars

During a recent recruitment trip to Thailand, Assistant Head, Miss Scannell, met up with our new BIST scholars and their families. We look forward to welcoming them to Bromsgrove School for the Summer Term.



Diabetes

Year 4 were thrilled to have a presentation all about diabetes as it linked to their Science work on the digestive system. Thank you to Caitlin for a wonderful presentation and to Mrs Pridden for her support.



Hockey

Congratulations to our U12A hockey team who competed at the Mini County Hockey tournament. They beat RGS Worcester but lost to King's Worcester to finish as runners-up. The team now look forward to competing in the Midlands round.



Electric

As part of the Sustainability Programme our grounds team will be changing from the use of petrol to electric machinery. In addition, the gardening teams at both the Senior and Prep Schools will not be using any petrol machines by the end of January 2023.

The Grounds team at the Senior School have just taken delivery of this superb Dennis ES-34R, replacing the petrol equivalent. This is the first year of a four-year programme to change four large petrol mowers to electric. This plan will also be extended to Winterfold.



Snow Skills

Amber Fennell is currently competing at the Winter European Youth Olympics in Italy. She qualified in first place in the Freestyle Snowboard category and now awaits the final.



Clip 'n Climb

Year 1 became intrepid explorers as they imagined they were climbing Mount Everest at the local Clip 'n Climb centre.



Tennis

Well done to the boys' tennis team who competed in the National Cup. They finished top of their group and won the area stage of the competition. Despite some close matches, the boys didn't drop a set. They now progress to the knockout stages.

Congratulations to Summer Nicol who played up an age group at an U11 LTA Midlands tour event at Ellesmere College. At one point she was one game away from exiting the competition,

but she fought hard without giving up and turned the second set around, winning 4-3 in a tie break. At one set all, the match was decided with a championship tie break, which Summer won 11-9. In the final, Summer was one set down but again managed to turn the match around to win the tournament.



The Bromsgrove School Tennis Academy held a LTA Grade 5 tournament for U14 children. There were twenty-four entries across the boys' and girls' events. Well done to everyone who took part.

The Tennis Academy welcomes those of all ages and abilities and you can join at any time of the year.

Bromsgrove School Tennis Academy is proud to have been granted LTA 10U Performance Programme status and is now part of the Lawn Tennis Association's Player Pathway.

Safety

PC Neil Sharpe of West Mercia Police joined Fifth Form pupils in Life Skills lessons as part of a partnership to tackle some key issues for young people. These sessions aim to look at laws, safety and prevention in a safe learning environment.

At the recent session, PC Sharpe asked the pupils to consider Hate Crime, he told them that Hate Crime is an offence that is treated very seriously by police and partner agencies. It is an offence that can have a deep and lasting impact on its victims and can cause devastating results.



House Drama

A consistently high standard was displayed by all eleven Houses. The evening was a miracle of efficiency and pace from first to last, demonstrating great examples of teamwork, talent and accomplished stagecraft by all. The Fourth Form actors had clearly benefitted greatly from the direction and advice of their Fifth and Sixth form mentors and there was a most warm, supportive atmosphere in the theatre throughout the evening. After an excellent and informative adjudication, from Miss Sophie Watson, sincere congratulations were given to every participant, alongside a total of five awards:

Runner Up Best Actor – Charlie C (Lupton)

Best Actor – Jack H (Walters)

Special Award to Shusank N for his extraordinarily mature and accomplished performance as Mr. Hyde

Runner Up Best Play – Women Centre Stage performed by Mary Windsor House

Best Play – Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde performed by Wendron-Gordon House



House Music Competition



Congratulations to all the finalists for their wonderful performances at this year's Senior School House Music Competition.

The overall standard was higher than it has ever been before in both the Intermediate and Advanced categories.

Solo competition:

Intermediate Results:

Winner: Jack H (W)

Runner up: Tilly R (O-H)

Highly Commended: Chi L (W-G)

Advanced:

Winner: Eleanor D (H)

Runner up: Larry T (W-G)

Highly Commended: Marcus H (S) & Ilerioluwa O (O-H)



Ensemble Competition:

Winners: School House

Runner up: Oakley House

Highly Commended: Thomas Cookes and Walters House



Kapla

As part of Pre-Prep Wellbeing Week, the PA funded a KAPLA Workshop for the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This exciting day saw the children using small wooden planks to build large collaborative structures together. The theme of our Wellbeing Week was 'Let's Connect' and this was perfectly encapsulated during the workshop.



Acting Up

Year 5 pupils enjoyed an immersive theatre show where they became the performing stars. The visiting production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was a hit with pupils and staff alike.



Carbo-Learning

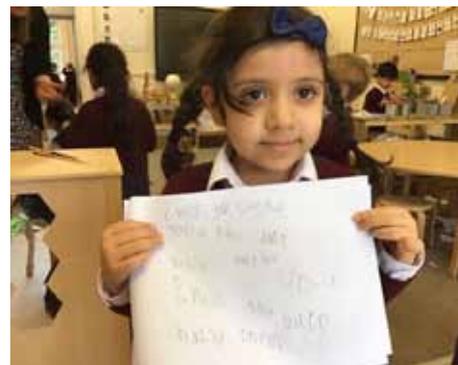
Lower Fourth GCSE PE students, with help from the Holroyd Howe catering team, took part in cooking a pre-performance meal.

The lesson was based around the idea of "Carbo-Loading" and understanding why athletes would eat particularly foods prior to performance.



Telling Stories

Pre-Prep celebrated National Story Telling week by retelling short stories and designing their own book covers.



Tree Planting

The Prep School Eco Committee enjoyed a morning session with the School gardeners, helping to plant trees around the new car park area.



Entrepreneurs

A huge well done to the Upper Sixth BTEC Business students who have raised almost £2000 for The Matt Hampson Foundation. The students recently planned and delivered a range of events, including an escape room and an online auction.

A considerable amount of work went on behind the scenes and everyone involved should be proud of their achievements.



Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the runners who took part in the Hereford and Worcestershire Cross-Country competition. There were several great individual performances but the stand out performance was William Hapgood, 2nd in the junior boys and Caitlin Pridden, 14th in the junior girls. Well done also to Malakhi Bailey (7th) and Freddie Giles (9th), George Collier, Oscar Len, Isobel Boardman and Yasmin Hughes who all ran well.





Swimming

Congratulations to our U13 and U12 swimmers who took part in the Warwick 50s gala. There were some impressive performances on the day and we look forward to seeing the full results when they are sent through to us.

Joseph

A huge well done to all the pupils in Years 7 & 8 for their wonderful production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. More details and pictures will be in the next News Review.



Bromsgrovian News

Kieran Brinn

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of recent leaver Kieran Brinn (Ws 04-19). Kieran had been Deputy Head Boy and was a well loved member of his year group.

We welcomed Kieran's family and friends to the School Memorial Chapel for a remembrance service.



A Service In Loving Memory Of

Kieran Brinn

8th January 2001 – 23rd December 2022



England Cricket

Congratulations to Old Bromsgrovians Ellie Anderson and Charis Pavely who have both been selected for the first England Women's Cricket U19 World Cup Squad. A squad of England's top 15 young players travel to South Africa, where sixteen nations will take part in the competition: South Africa, Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Zimbabwe, USA, UAE, Scotland, Rwanda and Indonesia.

England fall into Group B where they will face Pakistan, Rwanda and Zimbabwe. Good Luck to our OBs.



Visit

We welcomed back Milton Lau and Justin Chung (2015 leavers W-G), pictured here with their former Houseparent, Mr Bell. Milton is now a designer and Justin is training to be a chef after a career in finance.

The Apprentice

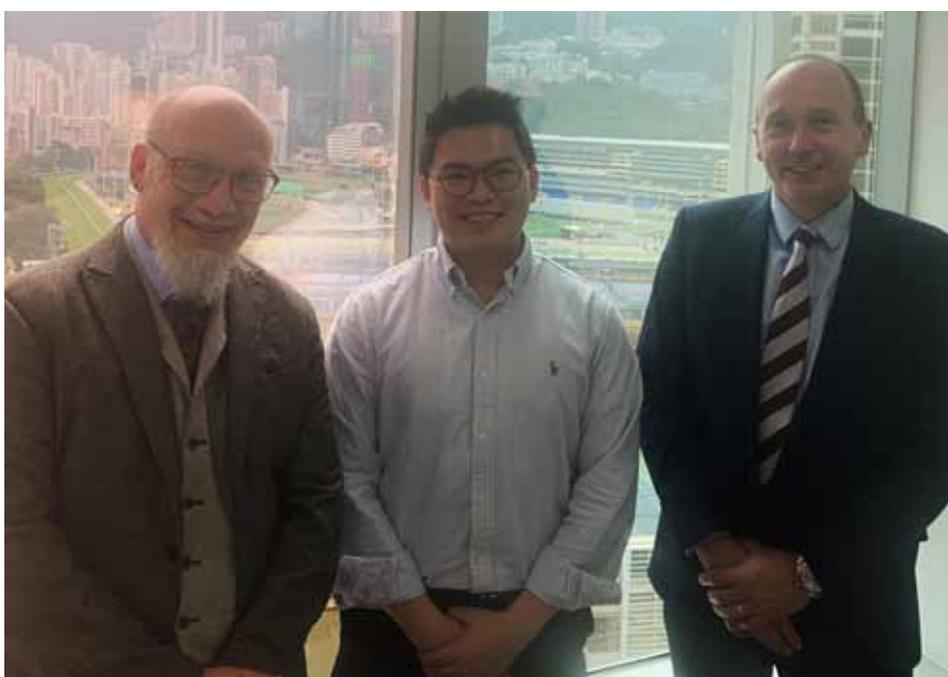
Joe Phillips (Ly 13-15) has appeared on the current series of The Apprentice on BBC One. As Project Manager in episode 1, Joe led his team to victory - if you missed it, you can catch up on BBC iPlayer, each episode airs on BBC One on Thursdays at 9.00pm.

Joe has dyslexia and he says that he was always slightly worried this was going to hold him back from achieving what he wanted. Starting with £250 in his pocket, he set up a small business at university selling branded goods to the campus shop and societies. Off the back of that, Joe now runs a lip care company selling products to hundreds of retailers in the UK and South Africa.

We wish Joe the very best of luck with his journey on the show.



Photo Credit: BBC



If any Old Bromsgrovians have news to share with us, or would like to arrange to visit the School, please do get in touch with the Bromsgrovian office:

oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk

All photos featured on the OB pages, including individual's names and years, can be found on our Bromsgrovian Facebook site.

Hong Kong

The Headmaster, Mr Ruben and Miss Scannell, have had a very busy visit to Hong Kong where they met current parents and Old Bromsgrovians at a drinks reception at the Park Lane Hotel on Causeway Bay. Miss Scannell has also been meeting prospective pupils as well as new families who attended a seminar at which OB King Sum Tong (HH 20-22) helped with queries they had about all things to do with Bromsgrove.

Meanwhile Mr Ruben met OB Richie Chajng (W-G 15-18) in his offices in Hong Kong to discuss some possible exciting summer school plans.



Participate

Would you like to lace up your trainers and be a part of our Bromsgrove School team of charity runners?

Open to all members of our community – Governors, staff, parents, Old Bromsgrovians – we aim to walk / jog / run or sprint the Great Birmingham run on Sunday, 7th May 2023 for Cancer Research UK.

As you may well know, many in our community are facing this dreadful disease and so we intend to raise funds and awareness to support CRUK in their vital work to bring forward the day when everyone lives longer, better lives, free from the fear of cancer.

The 2023 AJ Bell Great Birmingham Run takes in many popular landmarks across the city centre and beyond. To find out more, please visit <https://www.greatrun.org/events/great-birmingham-run/>



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

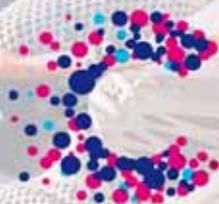
Join staff, Old Bromsgrovians and the wider Bromsgrovian community as part of #TeamBromsgroveSchool to walk, jog, run or sprint for Cancer Research UK

AJBell

**great birmingham
run**

Sunday, 7th May 2023

You can opt to tackle either the 10k or Half Marathon on the day as both start at the same place and time



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

To find out more, or to register your interest, please email enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk