



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2024
ISSUE 1



A Word from the Headmaster

As another academic year gets underway, the 471st in the history of Bromsgrove School, I wonder where their education, interests and achievements will take the latest generations of Bromsgrovians. I suspect they will choose a wide variety of paths to follow, and many will work with others across the world. However, I hope that the experiences they have in School and the values that are established in partnership with families will prepare them to flourish in their lives beyond School.

Earlier this term Miss Scannell, Assistant Head, and I were fortunate enough to travel to Bromsgrove Mission Hills in China. There, we were delighted to see other members of the Bromsgrove family living and working in a different area but displaying the same values shared by their counterparts in Worcestershire.

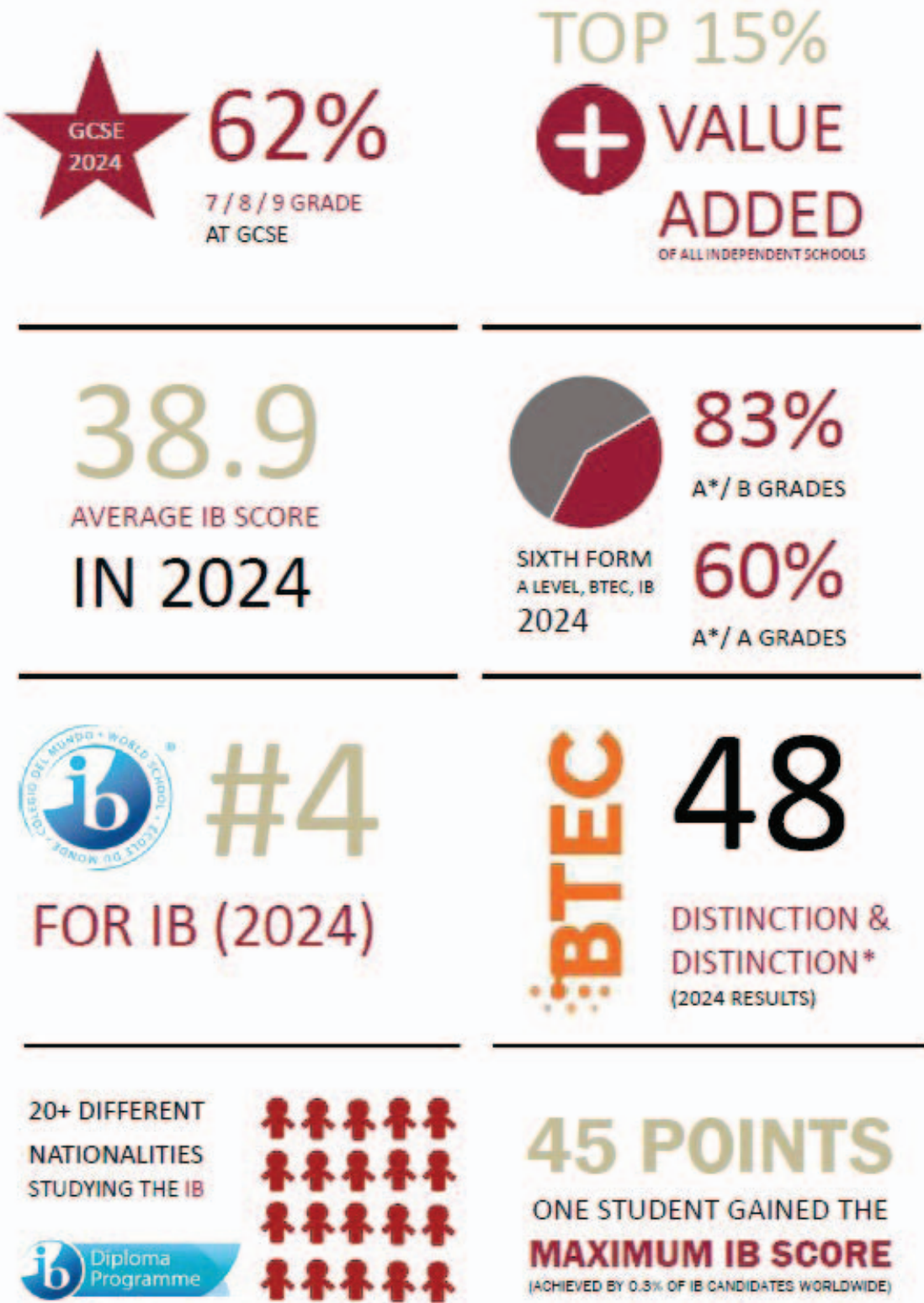
I hope you enjoy the pages which follow, and that they give a flavour of just some of what

pupils of all ages have been achieving over recent weeks. Bromsgrove pupils have an eagerness to learn, to explore and to work with others and these are skills that will serve them well, wherever their future takes them.

Michael Punt
HEADMASTER

2024 Results

We are delighted with this year’s results across GCSE, A level, IB and BTEC. As regards universities, the picture is very encouraging; an unprecedented 90% have secured their first-choice place, and the vast majority of the remainder will be going to their insurance choice. 100+ of our Sixth Formers received top Russell Group universities with LSE, Imperial, Manchester, Warwick and UCL being favourite destinations for our leavers. Some have secured apprenticeships with Grant Thornton, KPMG and Richborough Estates.



World Challenge

Twenty-eight pupils travelled to Malaysian Borneo for a three-week expedition with World Challenge. The trip was split into three sections to fully immerse themselves in all that the states of Sarawak and Sabah have to offer; from orangutans to centipedes, 85% humidity to epic thunderstorms and lush green jungles to sandy beaches.

The challenge phase saw them hiking through jungle terrain, rivers and a testing altitude climb up to the 4095m peak of Mt. Kinabalu. For their community initiative, the groups worked with the Iban tribe community on their peppercorn farm, providing labour and assistance in a variety of ways; this was a highlight for all.

Finally, the rest and relaxation phase saw the group snorkelling in the warm waters of Kota Kinabalu and white-water rafting. The group took full control of the trip, organising activities, meals and managing the budget; with many developing a zest for more independent travel in the future.



Olympiad

Well done to Gleb Sovetkin who has been awarded a medal and book prize in the most recent UKMT Maths Olympiad paper.



Triathlon

William Pridden competed for GB at the European Youth Triathlon championships in Banyoles, Spain. An amazing experience and achievement, and he was so proud to be representing his country for the first time. William was selected to compete again for GB in The European Triathlon Junior Cup in Salini, Malta.

Outreach

The science outreach students returned to Chads Grove School to meet the students, new and old, who they will be working with this year. Bromsgrove are pleased to welcome Ms Andrews to the team and thank Mrs Hockey for her incredible hard work at the outset of this project. The aim this year is to work towards an entry level certificate in science. Bromsgrove students will be planning sessions to support them in the attainment of three units, working as part of a team, working towards goals

and a chemistry-based module making useful chemicals.

Students from both schools reacquainted themselves and there was much laughter and discussion as they collaborated on making bath bombs.

It is great to see all students engaged in the process and clearly enjoying their time together. We look forward to this special relationship developing over the coming months.



Stop the Bleed

If someone has an accident, is a victim of knife crime or becomes injured in a mass casualty incident - the single most preventable cause of death is bleeding. Four of our Lower Sixth students - Diana Skurtu, Yannis Marinas, Rebecca Woolmore and Kalash Rai, spent the day with the West Midlands Ambulance Service training over 200 members of the public in life-saving, stop the bleed techniques, including applying a tourniquet.

Speaking to their fellow volunteers of army and navy doctors, they gained huge insights into Trauma Medicine and the lives of young doctors. They also learnt about the fantastic opportunity to gain a degree apprenticeship in Paramedic Science with the West Midlands Ambulance Service.

The team presented well, bouncing off each other to give clear instructions and guidance to their audiences. Over the day they developed their questions to make their presentation even more interactive and engaging. They were heavily praised and as a treat, were allowed a special tour of the HART unit (which stands for Hazardous Area Response Team), who are a specialised team of paramedics that respond to incidents like the Manchester Arena Attack and the Salisbury Poisoning.



Equestrian

Mia-Bella Long (Year 3) has qualified for the mini major class at London International. She is the youngest ever rider to qualify for this very prestigious class in which only eight children qualify in the country. Competitors have the opportunity compete with a professional rider and the chance to win in the main arena at the London Excel arena.

Congratulations to Chloe Chan who has become champion at the National Youth Championships 2024. She has featured in the Olympic edition of Horse & House magazine and is through to the final at the Horse of the Year Show. This will be Chloe's fifth time at HOYS at just 15 years old.

Well done to Delilah Wood on her selection to the Wales and West Midlands Region Under 18 Eventing Squad. Delilah and her horse Dennistown Marble competed at the BEU18 Youth Championships at Chillington Hall where her squad finished in a very credible second place.



Tennis

Over the summer, a number of Bromsgrove pupils took part in county tennis events. Gina Obrey concluded an outstanding summer by winning the Hereford and Worcestershire girls' player of the year, Jake Webley was crowned U8 county champion, Summer Nicol was the U12 girls' doubles champion, Grace Hadley U14 girls' doubles champion and Macklin Coalter Staffordshire U12 singles champion and U14 doubles champion. Macklin also made the quarter finals of the clay court National Championship doubles, narrowly missing out on the semi finals after losing a very close third set match tie break.

Congratulations to Grace Hadley for winning the North & Midlands West Tour event at Ellesmere College, she did so without dropping set.





Hedgehogs

Autumn has arrived in Nursery and pupils have been learning about hedgehogs, as well as making hedgehog bread. They have also enjoyed decorating their classroom to fit the theme.



FOBISIA

Some of the Year 5 pupils have started attempting to crack the code in the international FOBISIA code breaking challenge. These are the skills that make good mathematicians; problem solving, logical thought and perseverance are the same skills that make great code breakers.



Music

As part of the new Year 3 Music Scheme, pupils are on a music carousel every Tuesday afternoon. With individual instruments, singing and theory, everyone gets a well-rounded insight into all things music. Year 3 pupils have the opportunity to learn a string, woodwind and brass instrument, and some are even continuing their instrument from Pre-Prep.





Cricket

Year 8 pupil Oliver Whitehouse has been hailed a “young cricketing superstar” after bowling out six players in a row, in one over, during an U12 game against Cookhill. Oliver plays for Bromsgrove Cricket Club outside of School.

Well done to Max Morgan who took five wickets, including a hat trick maiden over, playing for Bromsgrove Boars U11s against Worcester Cricket Club. To add to this brilliant achievement, this is, so far, the highest number of wickets by one player in one game for this season’s league.



History

As part of their History topic, Year 6 enjoyed a great day at The Black Country Living Museum. They explored the depths of the mines and took a trip on a canal boat.



Championships

Following the H&WSAA County T&F Championships, three of our athletes have set new Championship records. Neave Colley (Junior Girls) in Shot, William Hapgood (Junior Boys) in 800m and Isabella Davies (Inter Girls) in 100m. Congratulations to all three pupils on their new county athletics records.

Netball

Many congratulations to our U12A team who were successful in beating Solihull School in the first round of the Sisters n Sport Cup competition. The girls played some super netball throughout the match and should be very proud of themselves.



Sports Tour

Over the summer, thirty-three of our netball players had the incredible opportunity to embark on a thrilling tour of Malaysia and Singapore. The adventure began in Kuala Lumpur, where the players were put through their paces in a training session at the Brainy Bunch Sports Complex. The teams then faced off in two sets of fixtures against Selangor Sports School and Titiwangsa Sports School. During their stay in Kuala Lumpur, the pupils explored some of the city's most iconic landmarks,

including the towering Petronas Towers, the stunning Batu Caves, and the exhilarating Sunway Lagoon water park. These cultural and recreational experiences added a rich layer of enjoyment to the tour, giving the pupils a deeper appreciation of Malaysia's vibrant culture.

The final leg of the tour took the teams to Singapore, where they were honoured to play against the Singapore National Netball teams at the prestigious OCBC National Stadium. In addition to the matches, the pupils experienced a night safari, visited the spectacular Gardens by the Bay, witnessed the Marina Bay Sands

light show, and underwent a professional training session. The tour concluded with a final set of fixtures against two local schools, rounding off a truly unforgettable experience.

Throughout the trip, our pupils were outstanding ambassadors for the School. They embraced the diverse cultures they encountered, competed strongly in the block fixtures against international teams, and returned with memories that will last a lifetime. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they represented our School on the international stage.



Fundraising

A representative from Andy's Man Club visited Walters House for a cheque presentation. Thank you to the House PA for facilitating this. Harry Bradley passed on the donation from last term's House Ball.

Andy's Man Club are a men's suicide prevention charity offering free-to-attend peer-to-peer support groups across the United Kingdom and online. The charity's aim is to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health and help men through the power of conversation.



CCF

Six Cadets and Maj. Farnes, the Contingent Commander, went to British Camp to help the organisers run checkpoints at the Malvern Hills Challenge.

The Malvern Hills Challenge is a walking and running event in aid of Help for Heroes. Nearly 400 walkers and runners braved the course, with the cadets helping everyone to get smoothly through the checkpoints and towards the finish. Next year, we hope to have a Bromsgrove team racing with Malvern College CCF.



Harvest

Nursery children have enjoyed celebrating Harvest. They have sung songs, investigated where food comes from, and created some beautiful Harvest inspired artwork.



Hockey

Many congratulations to our U13A girls' team who beat The King's High Warwick 2 - 0, at home, in the National Schools Cup Competition. The girls dominated the game throughout. We wish them the best of luck for the second round.

Bromsgrove welcomed Solihull School, King's High Warwick, Trent College, Repton School, King's Worcester, King's Hawford, RGS, Warwick Prep and The Blue Coat School to our annual Invitational hockey tournament. Our U13, U12 and U11 teams all performed excellently and a huge well done in particular goes to the U11s who came second and were awarded with silver medals. All of the young players gained valuable tournament experience and really enjoyed the morning.



Outdoor Play

Year 4 enjoyed Forest School, learning the names of different trees, cooking pizzas over the fire, making mud pies and exploring the natural world.



Cycling

Well done to Malakhi Bailey who finished 26th after five gruelling days against a world field in Assen, Netherlands. This is the biggest youth race in the World. Malakhi says that it was great experience and gave him lots to learn for the future.



Swimming

Phoebe Lloyd (Year 7) had a full programme of swimming events to keep her busy during the summer holidays. At the Derby Excel Championships, she brought home five gold and three silver medals.

Darcey Hackett (Year 7) also had a busy summer. She competed in the Sprint with The Stars in Birmingham hosted by Adam Peaty where she won both the 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly heats. In these events she competed against the UK Freestyle Olympic Champion, Anna Hopkin and the French Olympian and European Butterfly Champion, Marie Wattel in the respective finals. Darcey was hot on the heels of the Olympians, achieving PBs in both the Butterfly (33.50s) and Freestyle (32.27s). A great result and an amazing experience.



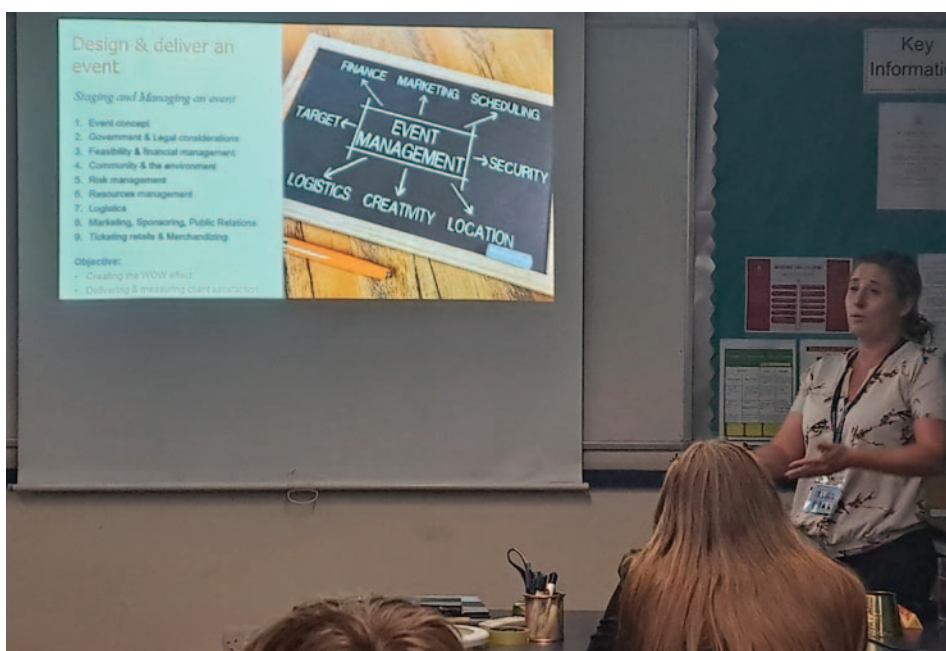
Porridge

“Not too hot or too cold, but just right” was the verdict from the pupils. The School chef, Mr Giles, was welcomed to talk to the children all about porridge and healthy eating. A freshly cooked batch was whipped up in minutes, then the children chose healthy toppings to add as part of their morning snack. Some children enjoyed as many as three bowls full – just like Goldilocks! The day continued with a STEM activity, creating a new bed for Goldilocks to sleep in. The brief was simple but the designs were varied. The children had a wonderful time learning new DT skills, which they then used in their finished beds. The children were delighted to raise nearly £100 for Mary’s Meals and help hungry children across the world.



Stone Age

Year 3 enjoyed their Stone Age Workshop. They looked at a variety of animal bones, made arrows and cave paintings and enjoyed using a bow and arrow to catch their food.



Masterclass

The Business Department was joined by Anna from Glion/Les Roches who delivered a luxury event workshop with Upper Sixth BTEC Business students ahead of their Managing an Event unit. She then led a digital marketing masterclass for this year's Young Enterprise team and several students wanting to pursue a career in marketing. Students were highly engaged and also keen to find out more about the alternative university experience that Glion/Les Roches provides.

Joined Forces

The Eco-Committees from Prep and Senior School joined forces to make beeswax wraps, a sustainable alternative for cling film. They will be selling these at their next Eco Sale in October.



New Monitors

The Headmaster was delighted to welcome his new team of Monitors.

The traditional Signing-In ceremony took place in front of a full Routh Assembly, with each Monitor being called up to sign the Monitors' book in silence, before each received celebratory applause from the School.

The Headmaster also announed his Heads of School. Congratulations to Heads of School Jack Atkinson and Ella Loftus, Deputy Heads of School James Hobbs and Ffion Wright and Senior Boarders Erik Pedaja and Iruoma Onwuka-Iwuchuku.



Parents' Reception

The Headmaster and Miss Scannell met with the parents of boarders from Hong Kong who have just started at Bromsgrove. It was a lovely evening and wonderful to hear how well all the children have settled in and how much they are loving School.

Diving

Indie Ashurst (Year 5) completed her first diving competition with Sandwell Diving Club in September. She finished in 7th position.



Mission Hills

The Headmaster, Mr Punt and Assistant Head, Miss Scannell visited Bromsgrove Mission Hills in September. They enjoyed meetings with pupils and visiting lessons. They also met with the board, staff members and parents.



Bromsgrovian News

Eventing

Jasmine Underwood (OH 22) won the Eventing European Championships for Young Riders last month in Poland, winning both the Individual Gold and Team Gold for Great Britain.

At the age of 19, Jasmine has just stepped up to the Young Rider age group (19-21 year olds) and this is the first time in nine years a GB Young Rider has won double gold at this level - an incredible achievement!



Visit

We were delighted to welcome back Mark Celenk (W-G 94-99) and his family who visited the UK this summer.

Mark enjoyed the tour around his former Boarding House, conducted by Mr Matthews. Upon arrival, he also met Mr McClure and the Headmaster, Mr Punt.

If any Bromsgrovians have news that you would like to share with us, or you 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 Bromsgrovian pages, including individual's names and years, can be found on the Bromsgrovian Facebook site.