



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2022
ISSUE 1



A Word from the Headmaster

As we come the end of the first half term break of the year, I hope all Bromsgrovians can reflect on the last seven weeks and feel proud of what they have achieved, the ways in which they have grown as individuals and how they have played their part in our community. The sample of news articles which follow show just how much goes on here and we hope all pupils will continue to take advantage of as many opportunities as possible. It has also been a busy half term break with a sports tour to Barcelona and a full programme for our pupils staying with

Guardian Angels, more details about those will be included in the next issue.

On behalf of our family, I should say that we have been made to feel extremely welcome by the School family and Gill and I have enjoyed meeting many of you. I hope you all managed to have some well-deserved rest over the holiday, although those pupils with public examinations on the horizon will hopefully have balanced this with some study.

Thank you for all your continued support for the School and your children in particular. We look forward to more exciting events when term restarts on Monday.

Michael Punt
HEADMASTER

2022 Results



65%

7/8/9 GRADE
AT GCSE

TOP 15%



VALUE ADDED

OF ALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

39.3

AVERAGE IB SCORE

IN 2022



78%

A*/B GRADES

A LEVEL
2022

53%

A*/A GRADES



#4

UK CO-EDUCATIONAL IB SCHOOL

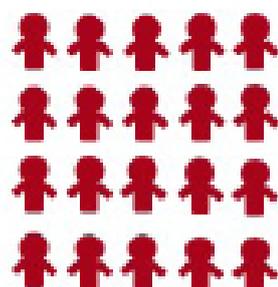


40

DISTINCTION & DISINCTION*

(2022 RESULTS)

20+ DIFFERENT
NATIONALITIES
STUDYING THE IB



HALF

OF ALL GCSE GRADES
WERE AN 8 OR ABOVE
(2022 RESULTS)

Youth Musical Theatre

Charissa Brobbey-Sarpong spent a two-week residential with the British Youth Musical Theatre Company over the summer break. She says that after the event was cancelled due to the pandemic, the continuation of the production, *The Legend of White Bear Lake*, with both new and returning cast members and production crew was an insightful adventure that she will never forget.

Charissa says she learnt much while working with the company as the character Timberwolf, such as how to use and conserve her voice when playing a role that requires strong vocals, as well as audition tips and adaptability.

We are also delighted to hear that Charissa has been appointed as the Deputy Head Chorister at Worcester Cathedral.



Isla Performs

Isla Chattin reprised her role of Mary Pender in her second appearance in the British Youth Music Theatre's production of *Why The Whales Came*. Performances were over two weeks at the Taunton Brewhouse and The Mack, London. The musical is an adaptation of the book by Michael Morpurgo, with characters and perspectives developed to explore the islanders and their journey.

Isla commented, "This was another truly amazing experience; what an opportunity to work with some amazing creatives and to meet so many leading professionals from the industry; to meet and talk with Micheal Morpurgo was a real privilege."

Photography Club

Page House boarders enjoyed exploring the flora and fauna in the Rose Garden and learning how to frame and edit their shots in the sunshine.



House Paintballing

Walters and School House took part in a joint paintballing activity. There was great camaraderie between pupils in what for some was their first House event.



Sustainability

The Whole School has been focusing on what Sustainability means and trying to make our environment even greener than it already is.

The Prep School Eco Committee led assemblies at both the Prep and Pre-Prep to encourage pupils to think about what each one of us can do towards making our lives more sustainable.

Pre-Prep pupils enjoyed a range of activities including a Pre-Prep book swap.



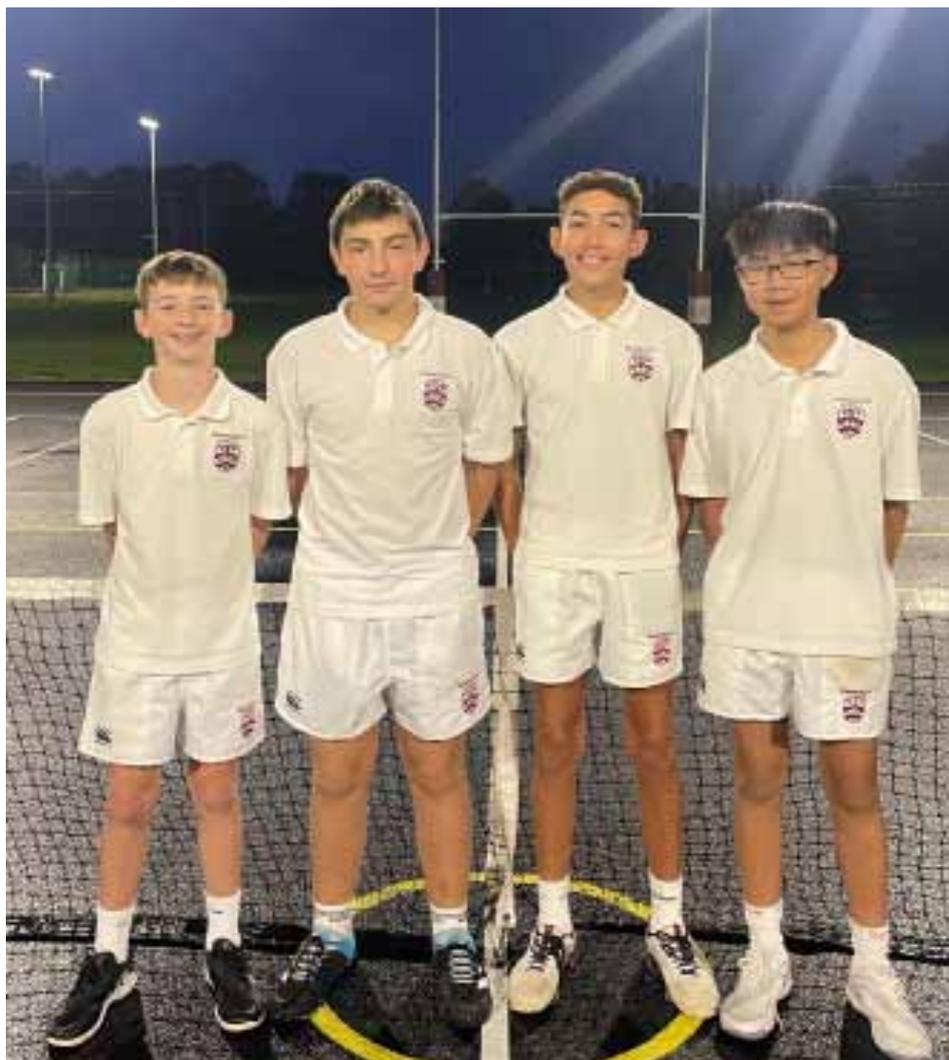
Tennis

There have been many successes in tennis. In the National Cup, the U15 boys' team continued their winning streak after a hard-fought match away at KES Birmingham. They now progress to the last sixteen schools in the country.

Congratulations to the girls' U14 team who beat King's High Warwick 6-0 to reach the Regional Final. This means that they are also one of top sixteen schools in the country and will join the boys in November for the finals.

In the LTA Grade 5 tournament, Douglas Chan won the U12 boys' event and George Hadley beat Alexis Chiliment in the final of U16 boys' event.

Following on from this, LTA have just published the end of year rankings. With Bromsgrove School moving from unranked to the 9th strongest School for girls' tennis in the country. For boys' tennis, Bromsgrove School is now ranked 17th.





Netball

Congratulations to the U13A netball squad who beat Bedford High School in the first round of the Independent Schools National Cup competition.

Many congratulations to the U12A team who narrowly beat King's High Warwick in the second round of the National Cup School Sport Magazine competition.

They faced the challenge of playing the same team in the second round of the Sisters 'n' Sport National cup where the score 21-18.



Hockey

The U11A girls' hockey team travelled to Repton Prep to compete in their invitational tournament. Bromsgrove improved with every game and showed excellent determination and teamwork to finish first in their group. They won three of their matches vs Witham Hall, Warwick Prep and Repton Prep B and drew their matches with Spratton Hall and Fairfield Prep. The girls progressed through to the semi-finals where they faced The Elms (Nottingham). Bromsgrove played some excellent attacking hockey but were unable to convert their chances in the D. The game finished 0-0 which meant that the girls faced their first ever shuffles competition. All the girls involved did brilliantly under pressure but unfortunately Bromsgrove lost 1-0. In the 3rd/4th play off, the girls battled hard but narrowly lost 1-0 to Repton A. Well done to all the team on an excellent day's hockey.

Kit Car News

Early in the new term, both of the Design Technology Greenpower teams took their kit cars, The Egg and The Chicken, to Castle Combe raceway for the last heat of the season before the 2022 International Finals in October.

This turned out to be a frustrating and challenging day but with continued effort and diligence from the teams' drivers and engineers they ended the day on a high. Overall, the teams won 1st place in the F24+ and 3rd overall in the F24 category.

Both teams unflinchingly solved issues independently, demonstrating how well they know their cars.

Congratulations to both the teams for their efforts:

F24: George Ascough, Harvey Phillips, Ollie Rodriguez-Harris, Luca Magni, William Jackson, Jacob Moore, Jack Ryan, Jonnie Parker.

F24+: Jared Spurgeon, Tom Wang, Chris Smith, Morgan Black, Edan Blyth.



A huge thank you to Easy Trucks, NS Optimum, Washford Finishings and 4QD, team sponsors, for their help and support throughout the season.

Historical Tour

Mr Williams took a group of history students on a fascinating local history tour.

Starting at the tunnel under Hazeldene, the group heard about the early history of the School, then made their way along Bromsgrove High Street to tales of ancient murders, haunted crossroads and the Bromsgrove devil.

Students were introduced to the terrible conditions of the nailers and their families, including the impact of the cholera epidemic of the mid-19th century which was caused mainly by the water quality of Spadesbourne Brook. Finally, they were invited to climb the bell tower in the church of St. John for spectacular views across the town and beyond.





Author Visit

Year 1 had a wonderful visit from the children's author, Lisa Alekna who read the children two stories based on her pet cat Oreo and her lamb Twigs.

The children will follow up this visit by writing their own woodland animal stories. Thank you to Lisa whose books are available to buy on Amazon.



Bug Hotel

Bromsgrove Service Design Technology students have made two Bug Hotels which will be placed around the School by our Grounds team to enable insects and mini-beasts to thrive.



International Boarding Day

Boarders enjoyed celebrating International Boarding Day in October with a fun disco in the hospitality suite.



Golf

Following three gruelling rounds of golf on international courses that took over six hours to play each day, Lili-Rose Hunt finished 1st out of the girls at the AQ Invitational World Ranking Event.

She will shortly receive confirmation of her new U18 amateur golf ranking for England and Europe.



Pumpkins

Max Morgan (Year 4) has started to harvest his pumpkins from his award winning pumpkin patch. With some of the money raised from his sales, he is filling shoe boxes with goodies and essentials for the charity Operation Christmas Child.



Wellbeing Monitors

We are very proud to welcome our first ever team of Wellbeing Monitors from Year 8.

These pupils have pledged to work as a team for the benefit of other pupils in the School and they are working towards what we as a School believe: All pupils to have the right to be listened to without fear or judgement, all pupils having someone they can talk to who they trust and having the right to calm space when they are stressed.



Climbing Fun

Senior boarders had great fun scaling the indoor climbing walls at Clip 'n Climb, a new experience for some of our pupils.



Clay Shooting

The Clay Shooting club has seen some new starters this year. Despite some challenging mornings, the shooting group are enjoying the competition and creating some excellent score cards.



Exploring

Nursery children have had a busy couple of weeks exploring their environment and making new friends. Their teachers are all really proud of them.



Harvest

Well done to Pre-Prep pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who performed wonderfully at their Harvest Service. The children were exemplary throughout. The service finished with prayers and a blessing from the School Chaplain, Rev. Hedworth.



The Basement Project

The Harvest collection was delivered to local charity The Basement Project by our Portering team. Thank you to everyone who donated goods and produce.



Gardening

The Prep School gardening club have been busy harvesting the crop of potatoes and beans, along with beginning to clear the summer weeds.

During Sustainability Week, the club took part in a range of activities involving recycled materials including making seed packets, bird feeders and planters and planting bulbs in Forest School. Mr Whitlock kindly brought a potting bench he has made from recycled wood to extend the area the club has for planting seeds.



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 announced his Heads of School. Congratulations to Thando Best and Jessica Whitlock (Heads of School), Cameron Owen and Anya Sanikop (Deputy Heads of School) and John Kim and Tamika Rai (Senior Boarders).



Heads of House

The new Heads of Houses for the 2022/23 year met with Mr Matthews for the first time early in September. The aim of these weekly meetings is to act as a forum for training and to provide feedback from pupils within the Day and Boarding Houses. (Editor's note: Lyttelton Head of House was absent for the photo)

Astronomy

A group of Prep pupils took part in the National Observe the Moon Day. Members of the Bromsgrove Astronomy Society came along to teach pupils about the moon and to show how they can take part in astronomy from home. Pupils were also able to observe Jupiter in its closest point to the Earth in the last 50 years.



Bromsgrovian News

Mrs Gill Punt

The Headmaster's wife, Mrs Gill Punt, ran two World Marathon Majors in one week for Cancer Research UK. Mrs Punt has been raising funds and awareness for cancer charities for over two decades, since her father died of bile duct cancer, and to date she has raised over £1million.

First was the the London Marathon, during which Mrs Punt was interviewed several times - even as the race was being run - with A J Chalmers at Tower Bridge, then BBC London, ITV and Sky News.

This was followed by a trip across the Atlantic to Chicago, where Mrs Punt was one of 40,000 runners racing through twenty-nine neighbourhoods of the Windy City. Just one week after the London Marathon, she was doing it all over again, and to add to the challenge, she also represented GB at the International 5k the day before.



Mrs Punt says, "what a privilege to have competed in these challenges and to help Cancer Research UK in their quest to beat cancer".

Both events were exhilarating and she wishes to thank all those in the Bromsgrove community who have supported her.

Heritage Open Day

School Archivist Nikki Thorpe welcomed visitors for pre-arranged tours of our Heritage Centre. Nikki commented, "It was a pleasure to be part of the National 'Heritage Open Days' event this year and show our Heritage Centre and School Archives to the local community."



Black History Month

Years 5 & 6 experienced their first after-School talk as part of our Black History Month celebrations. Old Bromsgrovian Funbi Akinsanya who is now working in London as an International Development consultant, encouraged the children to 'Dare to be Audacious'. She talked about appreciating and celebrating our own uniqueness and about challenging ourselves to do things that are not always easy. She promoted our Bromsgrove values and urged the pupils to try hard with everything that they do. She talked about her friends and the people she admires who have come from a range of backgrounds and cultures, and who have audaciously achieved astonishing outcomes to their goals and dreams.



Visits

Marie Storbeck (MW), Julie Stoecker and Sophia Gappa (both Oa), who were all boarders for one year, returned for a tour of the School. They met up with Miss Scannell and revisited some familiar sights. Marie now works as a lawyer for the German police, Julie is in HR and Sophie is a lawyer for the Federal Government.



Elisabeth Edwards (TC 87-92) now lives in New Zealand with her two daughters. She was visiting family in the UK and popped by for a tour. She was keen to show her daughters where she went to School. Whilst visiting the Heritage Centre, she was able to spot herself in photographs at both Prep and Senior Schools.

Jerry Pannu (WG 80-85) visited from Australia, where he now lives and works as a Financial Controller. Following his day at Bromsgrove, he met up with fellow Old Bromsgrovians Jon Banner, Chris Banner and Andrew (Ivor) Allchurch.



Thailand

Adele George (Oa 92 - 02 and former staff) joined Assistant Head Miss Scannell at a recent recruitment event in Thailand. Adele said it was a pleasure to represent her old School.



Reunion

A group of Old Bromsgrovians who haven't seen each other in thirty-nine years, recently met up in Dubai.

Tarek Fadlallah (WG 79-84 and Head of House) lives in Dubai and hosted the group. His brother, Mohammed Fadlallah (WG 82-87) and Kurt Eyre (WG 80-85) both work in Abu Dhabi and visited Dubai for the occasion, Scott Blake (WG 81-84) happened to be on holiday there with his wife, and Jerry Pannu (WG 80-85) stopped in Dubai on his way home to Melbourne.

Jerry says that it was an absolute blast catching up - amongst the wonderful memories of them being a "superpower house" in the inter-house football, hockey, rugby and cricket tournaments.

L-R: Scott Blake, Kurt Eyre, Tarek Fadlallah, Andrew McAleer, Jerry Pannu, Mohammed Fadlallah



Catering

Congratulations to the catering department who have received a Certificate of Excellence for food safety and health and safety, scoring 99.2% in their most recent audit.



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.

Gymnastics

Congratulations to Miss Cunningham, one of our Senior School Chemistry teachers, who has been very busy at the British Championships. She runs her own gymnastics club and one of her students won a bronze medal in the Youth Category.



Macmillan Cake Sale

The Prep PA held their annual Macmillan cake sale and are pleased to report that £328.76 was raised for Macmillan. Thank you to all that generously donated cakes & sweet treats and a big thank you to parents and children who came to support the PA and buy their goodies. Thank you also to Holroyd Howe who kindly provided teas and coffees.

