



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

SUMMER 2023
ISSUE 2



A Word from the Headmaster

In what seems like no time at all, another term, and indeed another busy year, has passed at Bromsgrove School.

Highlights of the last few weeks have included the excellent ISI inspection reports, the Pre-Prep and Prep Prizegiving events as well as Commemoration Day, but as the pages which follow show, there has been so much more besides.

The School will be busy over the holidays with international summer

school, activities day camps, a plethora of external bookings and a variety of work in preparation for the year ahead. Some pupils will be participating in school trips, tours and expeditions but I hope all Bromsgrove families have an enjoyable summer and some time off together.

We look forward to seeing you all again next term.

Michael Punt
Headmaster





Commemoration Day 2023





Commemoration Day 2023

Prep Prizegiving



Pre-Prep Prizegiving



Monito Win

The Young Enterprise team, Monito, have achieved an extraordinary milestone by being awarded the prestigious title of UK Company of the Year 2023 at the Young Enterprise Company of the Year awards. Their outstanding performance has secured them a spot in the European final, to be held in Istanbul in July, we wish them the best of luck

Throughout the competition the judges loved Monito and what the product is about as it is so relevant to the cost-of-living crisis and so it has potential to be developed further. They commented that the team created a fantastic brand image and a very creative and appealing product range. They also commented



on how impressive it was that the team defended their strategic business decisions when put under pressure in interview; it demonstrated just how much thought has gone into every decision they have made and how much they believe in what they are doing to help young people develop much needed financial skills.

The team have consistently demonstrated their learning and understanding of running the business and we are sure this will help them at the European finals.



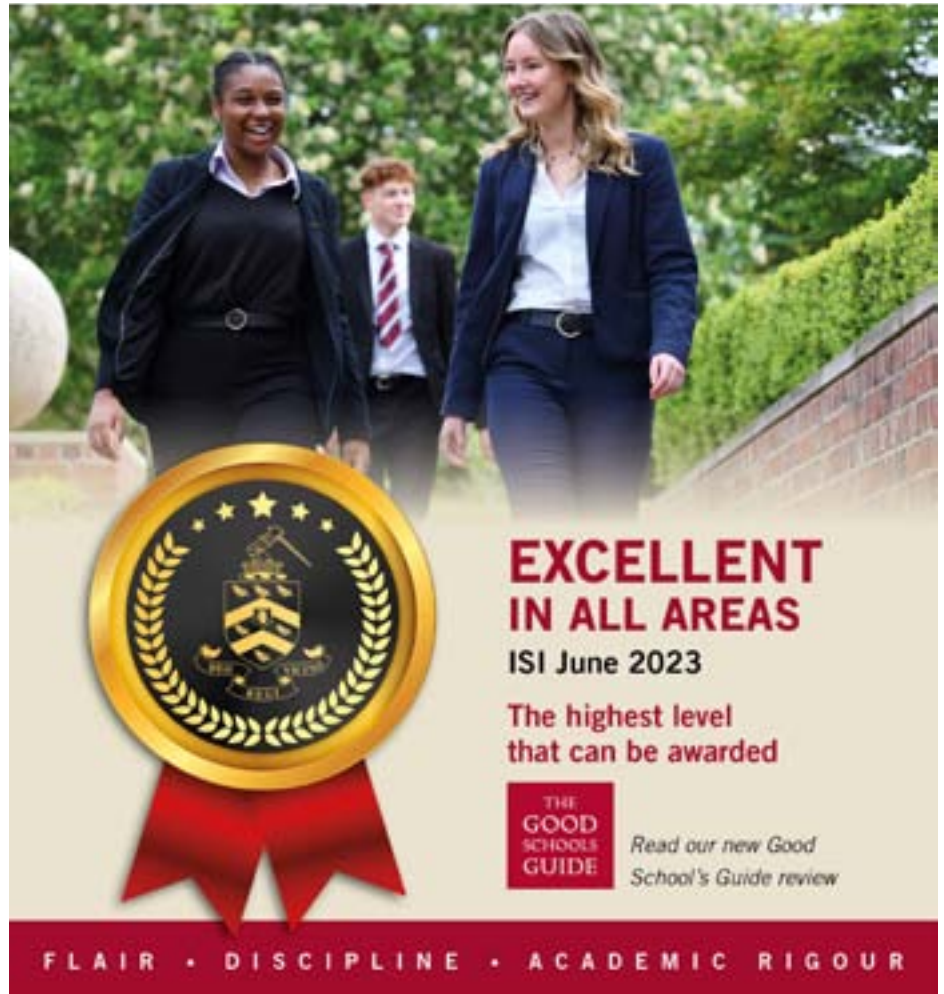
ISI Report

Following the ISI inspection in June School was delighted to be told that all sections have been judged as 'Excellent' by the Independent School Inspectorate – the highest possible grading.

All sections of the School were inspected by a large team of ISI inspectors who found that on the quality measures they judge – the quality of pupils' academic and other achievements, and the quality of pupils' personal development – the School scored 'Excellent' ratings.

We are absolutely delighted that the inspection reports provide independent verification of the excellent education and care that we are providing for children and young people.

Senior School was also inspected by the Good Schools Guide, and their new report can be read on this [link](#)



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ISI June 2023

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The graphic features a large gold ISI award medal with a red ribbon, overlaid on a photograph of two women in business attire walking outdoors. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font, with the main headline in red and black. The Good Schools Guide logo is in a red box, and the bottom banner is a solid red bar with white text.



County Champs

U13

In their County Final against RGS Worcester, Bromsgrove bowled first and, after a quick start by the opposition our team managed to take regular wickets to restrict them to 123 for 5 from their 20 overs. In reply Bromsgrove managed to stay with the required run rate but were losing wickets throughout their innings, however they managed to reach their target with 8 wickets down to win the final.



U12

The U12A Cricket team won the County Cup Final v Kings Worcester in a close game by just 8 runs. Bromsgrove batted first and scored 115 off their overs mainly thanks to a superb 64 from James Longworth supported by 24 from Jacko Pritchard. In reply Kings were restricted to 107 thanks to some tight bowling and fielding with Josh Bhardwaj 1 for 15, James Longworth 2 for 14 and Jacko Pritchard 3 for 19 being the pick of the bowlers. Well done to the whole squad - this win means qualification for next year's National Cup.



U10

Meanwhile the U10A girls' team took part in the U11 hardball County tournament at RGS The Grange.

The team did incredibly well playing against girls a year older than themselves and their wins over RGS The Grange and Abberley School makes them County Champions.

Brass Display

The Prep Brass Group enjoyed playing several pieces during a Pre-Prep Assembly, where they demonstrated the various instruments in the Brass Group.



Quartet Composition

Well done to Gabriel Brown who was awarded joint first prize in a composing competition, writing a string quartet for the professional Carducci Quartet. His composition, entitled 'Ducks', was workshopped, then performed by the group during their recent concert.

Gabriel is shown with the Quartet in Highnam Church.



Pastor Visits

We were delighted to welcome Pastor Dr Elaine Palmer-Taylor and Youth Support Worker, Jenny Miller to School when Dr Elaine gave a Chapel service on the importance of understanding our differences. We are looking forward to seeing more of Jenny and Elaine as they work with the School on equity, diversity and inclusion.



Swimming

Huge congratulations to all of our Prep girls and boys who qualified for the IAPS National swimming Finals held at the prestigious Olympic Aquatics Centre in London. Two of our swimmers achieved an impressive podium finish and received medals - Sophia Bhardwaj came 3rd in the U13 50m butterfly and Ella Cunningham became IAPS National Champion in the U12 50m freestyle.

Aaliyah Jackson, Evie Beckley, Harry Helmore and Iseoluwa Odugbesan all reached the final and received a national ranking: Iseoluwa narrowly missed out on a place in the top three finishing in 4th place in the 50m freestyle.



Duathlon

Congratulations to William Pridden who has qualified for the 2024 European Sprint Distance Duathlon Championships.

William competed at Darley Moor in a European Age Group qualifier in the Duathlon. He finished in second place, which means he has gained qualification to represent GB in the age group event next year.

Fencing

It was fate that Jasper Page and George Ascough would eventually face each other: the English Youth Championships finally brought them together. They fought with gladiatorial vigour and it was point-for-point, until Jasper finally emerged victorious. Sadly he lost in the next round to the eventual competition winner, but both boys enjoyed the high standard of competition.

Following on from this, George and Jasper travelled to Hereford to take part in the Hereford and Worcester County Fencing Championships. Competing in the under 16 Boys Epee, they performed really well and found themselves facing each other in the final. Jasper came out on top in first place with George placed second. Congratulations to both.



NSPCC

Pre-Prep children enjoyed using the Mile Running Track to 'move a mile' in support of the NSPCC Childhood Day. They enjoyed finding different ways to move a mile with their friends and raise money for such an important charity.



Geographers

Year 6 geographers took part in some fieldwork. They made detailed observations on a walking tour of the local area and then conducted surveys in the High Street



DofE

Well done to our DofE participants who have spent 3,718 hours volunteering between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023.

Athletics

The Year 7 and 8 girls' and boys' track and field team became Herefordshire and Worcestershire county champions of the ESAA track and field cup and qualified for the Midland Final with a big score of 437 points for boys and 404 for the girls. This is the highest first round score for any school in the Midlands out of nine counties for both teams so a special achievement.

Following on, in the ESAA Midlands Regional Final in Tipton the girls came runners up in total just missing out on first place by 5 points. The boys managed to perform extremely well in all disciplines to tie as Midlands Final winners and the team is now through to the National Final.

Huge congratulations to all of our Years 6 - 8 athletes who took part in the Mercia athletics national finals at the Pingles Stadium, Nuneaton, on the first day of the summer holidays. We had a huge number of pupils who qualified for this event and this was the girls' most successful year for results.

First place

Sofia Neale: 800m (2mins28)

William Hapgood: 800m (2mins11)

Second Place:

Iseoluwa Odugbesa: long jump (4.60m)

U14 4 x 100m relay - Olivia Grove, Lissie Hay, Daisy Jones and Iseoluwa Odugbesan - (54mins44 secs)

James Longworth: 800m 2m 18.72 secs

Third place:

Neave Colley: shot (8.83m)

Daisy Jones: triple jump (9.61m)

Eva Thorpe: discus (21.18m)

Harry Helmore: 1500m (4min59.11)



Well done to Isabella Davies who ran 300m at the English Schools National Championships, representing Hereford & Worcestershire.

Isabella was the top performing athlete in the team - a huge achievement.



Farming

Year 1 enjoyed a glorious day exploring wildlife and plants at Lower Smite Farm. The highlight of the many activities was grinding wheat and making seed bombs, which the children were excited to take home and plant in their own gardens.



Spanish

The Spanish Department warmly welcomed Miss Foden from Warwick University for two weeks.

Sixth Form pupils have very much enjoyed her expertise on Federico Garcia Lorca and her expert advice about university courses combining Spanish with other areas such as Business Studies or Economics; a very popular combination.

Bread Making

Following from their trip to Smite and learning about wheat, Year 1 enjoyed a bread making workshop led by Chef Mr Giles. Everyone enjoyed making some wonderful creations with the dough.



Sports Days

Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6 enjoyed their annual Sports Days in glorious sunshine. All the athletes were magnificent in their efforts and it was fantastic to see them competing and cheering each other on.



Musical Finale

A professional-standard recital was given in the final week of the year by some of the departing Upper Sixth musicians. David Corcoran, Eleanor Dunn, Josh Graesser, Alex Holroyd, Chi Lam, Larry To, Jess Whitlock and Jake Wingfield wowed the audience with a genuinely moving and uplifting concert,

revisiting some performances of the past as well as delighting with new pieces. We shall miss their contributions hugely, and wish them – and those unable to perform on this occasion – all the best for their musical futures.





Golf

Lili-Rose Hunt has had a tremendous start to the golf season. After being crowned Worcestershire Ladies' County Golf champion, and winning the girls' gross at the Junior open held at Gaudet Luce (Droitwich) she travelled to Sweden where she competed in two competitions on the world renowned Halmstad course used for the Solheim cup in 2007.

First was the Junior Pro AM where the top twenty-four U18 girls played as the Pro in a team of four. Lili shot an amazing round of 5 under - this is tremendous golf prowess on an extremely difficult international championship course and playing off women's international tees. At the prizegiving dinner, Lili was presented with a Scotty Cameron putter for nearest the pin on 16th tee (the hardest par 3).

The following day, the Annika invitation saw the top forty-eight world ranked U18 European players plus thirty other world ranked U18 players compete over three rounds of golf played over three days. Again Lili played tremendously, finishing in T14 position and 2nd out of all the England, Scotland and Welsh national players.

Well done Lili-Rose!

Economics Win

Congratulations to Fin Dinnen, Owais Iqbal, Nikolay Kovalikhin, Isaac Chan and Shahaar Selim who are the 2023 WGS Economics Competition National Champions.

The students were challenged to give recommendations on what the Monetary Policy Committee and Government should do to achieve target inflation (2%) and 3% growth by Quarter 4 in 2024.

The team produced a sharp, well researched and bold presentation, making some bold yet sound suggestions but ultimately they found that the target was not achievable within the time frame given.

They faced some incredibly challenging questions from the judging panel which they fielded in a considered manner.

The panel was very impressed with their consideration of the complexity of the challenge and their bold suggestions.



Well done also Shahaar Selim whose team won the British Economics Olympiad making him one of the top eight Economists in the country. This is the first time Bromsgrove have entered the British Economics Olympiad and we were pleased to have two students in the final and one in the winning team. A truly outstanding performance.



Percussion

Music School was delighted to welcome Harjit Singh to lead two workshops in Dhol and Tabla drumming. It was an inspiring day for those in the Upper Fourth and Lower Sixth who were involved.



Tennis Open

The School Tennis Academy held its first National week long Grade 4 LTA Tennis tournament over the summer half term break. The organisers were delighted that the tournament attracted 220 entries across twenty seven events, with age groups ranging from U8 to Open (18+).

Competitors travelled from all over the UK including Devon, Brighton, Durham, North Wales & Scotland and included twenty three Bromsgrove School students. The LTA have contacted Mr Lawton to say how pleased they are with the success of the tournament and how positive the feedback was from parents and players. Our players look forward to taking part in more of these tournaments in future.



Rubiks Challenge

Eight Prep School pupils took part in a World Cubing Association Competition. It was a fun day out and as well as doing their solving, they tirelessly helped out with the organisation and judging.

Upton Jazz

The Big Band took to the stage once more at the Upton Jazz Festival, performing an hour set in the Baptist Church, warmly received by a full house of parents, staff and Upton jazz aficionados.

It was a swan song for many core members of the band, with a feature tune taken by Charlotte James on bass - a fine rendition of Jaco Pastorius' 'The Chicken'. Jake Wingfield gave everyone a taste of Glastonbury with Elton John's 'I'm Still Standing', and Alex Holroyd was the anchor throughout with reverent drum solos taken from the church's pulpit. Special guests were the Prep Jazz Group who returned with a relatively new band, most of whom were making their Upton debut.

The afternoon climaxed with a jazz arrangement of Holst's Jupiter from The Planets suite, giving the audience an opportunity to stand and sing out the hymn 'I Vow to Thee My Country'.



Equestrian

Chloe Chan and Blennerville Rua took part in the 100U18 British Eventing. They achieved a personal best dressage score of 20.5 putting them in the lead. They had a super cross-country round within the time and a pole showjumping leaving them in 5th. They finished the 100 section in 5th place overall.



Collaborative Tidy

Our Eco Committee joined forces with St Johns Middle School to undertake a litter pick in Sanders Park, the pupils were complimented on their dedication and commitment to tidying up our environment. It was lovely to see the Eco Committees from both schools working closely together to achieve the same aims, we hope to do many more projects together.

Bake Off

The annual House Bake-off competition was held and students decorated their cakes on a very hot day on Old Chapel lawn. This year's theme was 'Re-creation or Recreation'. Some Houses concentrated on one or the other, with some combining the two ideas, including the winners who were Housman Hall whose cake demonstrated both the making of a snowman and the problem of global warming and the need to look after the creation.

The Headmaster, judging for his first time, not only asked the bakers to describe what they had made, but also the meaning of their cakes and about the actual cake mixture/recipe. He bravely tasted each one.



It was, as always, a very difficult decision but it was felt that the winning cake was very much a 'hands-on' effort from the entire Housman team.

Basement Help

Mrs Wright and two members of the Basement Project group visited Basement Project in Bromsgrove town to present a total for their fundraising this year. Well done to everyone who has helped out and the team hope to raise even more next year.

Meanwhile members of the the Estates Department collected a huge pile of groceries from a local supermarket, and delivered them to the charity's storage facility, ready to be made up into food parcels for families in need. The representative from the project said that it would have taken them hours to do this on their own and they are grateful to Steve, Nick and Cristian for their help.



Life Skills

To help with the transition from Year 8 to Lower Fourth, pupils spent a day at Senior School, taking part in a carousel of activities. Activities ranged from 'First Impressions' with Miss Leech to 'Let's Dance' with Dr Ruben, there were sessions on wellbeing and etiquette as well as a fun rounders session and learning about Digital Strategy.



New Release

A Recording Engineer from 'Worship For Everyone' visited Prep School to lay down some vocals for a new song. The pupils involved sang with great energy and enthusiasm.



Bromsgrovian News

Donation

It was Commemoration Day 1977 when brothers, John and James Garrett were last at Bromsgrove School together.

Their father, Chris Garrett (School House), was a pupil at Bromsgrove between 1948-1951. He studied Physics, Chemistry and Biology, getting As in all three subjects, he went on to study medicine at Birmingham.

His two eldest children, James and John both attended Bromsgrove, (again in School House) attending both the Junior and Senior Schools in the 1960s and 1970s.



Since their father died in December 2022, they have been trying to find good homes for the mountain of memorabilia he left behind. School

Archivist, Nikki Thorpe, was pleased to receive some items for the Heritage Centre when they visited in person at the end of the Summer Term.

Entrepreneur

Thank you to OB Joe Phillips (Ly 13-15) for such an engaging and honest talk about dyslexia, the world of business and what it was really like to take part in BBC's The Apprentice. Afterwards, he offered some words of wisdom to a member of our award-winning Young Enterprise team as they head off to Istanbul for the World Finals.



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.