

PREP HEADLINES



EDITION: 208

SPRING 2 2018

I hope that, like me, you were lucky enough to have seen the stunning production of *Hamlet* performed by members of the Senior School's Years 9 and 10- or Lower Fourths and Upper Fourths as they're known at Bancroft's. This version had a female Hamlet; it was innovative, brave, clever and very moving. What was particularly noticeable to me was how many very familiar faces were involved- in fact, of the eighteen actors on stage, all but three had attended the Prep School and every single leading role was taken by a former Prep pupil. All were amazing. Our young Bancroftians give us so many reasons to be proud. They are bright, hardworking children who we expect to achieve outstanding results academically. But what is so important is that they do not simply view their Bancroft's experience as something which happens in the classroom. We also want them to be involved in the dramatic life of the School, as well as in music, sport and all the various other activities we provide. We want the children to understand that they can have it all- that the enriching experiences on offer here will make them so much more than the sum of their 11+ results or their UCAS points. At *Hamlet* it was touching to see the warmth and camaraderie amongst the thirteen and fourteen year old actors when they were taking their bows. They've known each other a long time but this was a new and fresh experience for them and they'd worked collaboratively, confidently and impressively well. I intend to keep up my practice of watching the Senior School's drama productions: it's a great way to see how our former Prep pupils continue to develop and flourish and to applaud their ongoing, all-round achievements.

Joe Layburn

HEAD FOR THE DAY



On Friday 23rd of March, I was 'Head for the Day', a prize I had won in the raffle at the Christmas Fayre. It was a really fun day! Every Head Teacher has to do an assembly, so why wouldn't I? I gave out all the prizes and got to sit in a special chair. Break time was also a treat for me and the girls in my class, as we ate snacks in Mr

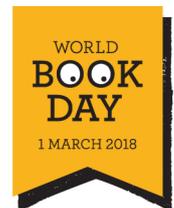
Layburn's office. These snacks were toffee popcorn, crisps, chocolate and drinks. Lunch was also amazing; on a table reserved for me were biscuits and nice drinks! I was surprised I didn't feel sick afterwards! It was nice to be in charge for a while and feel important. I hope you are lucky enough to pull out the winning ticket next year.

Beatrice Knuckey AHS

WORLD BOOK DAY

On a cold, snowy Friday morning, we braved the weather and came dressed to school in our favourite book character costumes in order to celebrate World Book Day. World Book Day celebrates our love of reading and creating stories. There were characters from Pippi Longstocking to Captain Underpants, Alex Rider and The Ice Queen from Narnia. I personally came dressed as Cruella De Ville from '101 Dalmations'. It was quite fascinating to see how much effort people had put into all their magnificent costumes. I liked the costumes which were not just classics we all know, but more obscure characters from books we are currently reading yet are not necessarily as well-known. It helps us to really empathise with our character by being in their shoes for a day. The teachers also joined in, with the majority coming in their pyjamas as characters from David Walliams' book 'The Midnight Gang'. There were free books being given out on the day from our librarian Mrs Houghton.

Caitlin Hancock BCB



MFL FAIR

On Thursday 1st March the Prep 1s and Betas went up to the Senior School to attend the Modern Foreign Language Fair in the Great Hall. There were lots of activities to take part in such as: food tasting, making your own flag, decorating cookies, a treasure hunt, bingo, 'Headbanz' and much more. Each activity was run by a sixth former and they were based around the languages of French, Spanish, German and Russian. There was a salsa dance class led by Caroline Hubbard and they taught us step by step. It was hilarious to watch our teachers demonstrating their groovy moves. Then, Amelia Hitching sang a French song called 'La Vie en Rose'. We learnt a lot more about these European countries and got to try out exciting new foods. The teachers were handing out traditional delicious French food such as crêpes, and chocolate chaud as long as we asked politely in French! We all enjoyed this afternoon immensely. Merci

beaucoup to Mrs Whalley and her pupils for organising this.

Aliza Yusaf 1SS



DRAPERS' HALL CONCERT

On 11th March, Matthew Christaki, Leia Patel, Sebastian Knuckey and I went to the historic Drapers' Hall to perform with the Senior School in a phenomenal musical production with the 'Concert Band'. We arrived at 3:30pm to prepare for a performance at 7:00pm! The hall was a sight to behold, with crystal chandeliers and the beautiful paintings and sculptures. At 5:00pm, we rehearsed our two pieces, 'I am the Doctor' theme tune and our medley from 'Joseph and his Technicoloured Dream Coat'. After our rehearsal, Mr Baum took us for a walk outside the hall; it was great to get some fresh air and see some of the magnificent buildings and churches. Then the concert began; first with Bancroft's Sinfonia then a vocal solo from Tom Dean. Also, the Junior Choir of the Senior School sang with the boys' voices singing 'Man in the Mirror' by Michael Jackson. Then the concert band were up! Our performance went without a hitch and everyone loved it. It was a truly enjoyable event.

Frank Williams 2BR



LYSC TRIP

On Wednesday 21st March we went to the Royal Institution to make continue our study of solids, liquids and gases. We were going to investigate how shampoo was made and test it. We were told that ten elements of the Periodic table were discovered at the Royal Institution like sodium and chlorine which makes salt! When we got to the L'Oréal Young Scientist Centre we met Millie and she asked us to identify the science equipment she had. At the beginning we discussed what qualities we wanted from a shampoo and what we didn't want. We put on a pair of gloves and a lab coat and then we got to work. We tested how foamy the shampoo was by shaking it with water, the viscosity of the shampoo by timing how long 5ml took to fall from the funnel to the beaker and how acidic, alkaline, or neutral the shampoo was by putting a drop of shampoo on the pH paper. To make our own shampoo we mixed 0.2g of Sodium Lauryl Sulphate, which is a detergent in a protected container with 40ml of water. Then we added a spatula of salt to the solution and went to Millie or Gemma to add a drop of scent. There was dragon's blood, orchard fruits, jasmine, citrus burst and raspberry and basil. We then went to the colour station where there was fluorescent orange, green and pink and pink, blue, green, red and yellow. We were allowed to mix two colours to make a new cool vibrant colour. We enjoyed the day and, best of all, I got to take the individual bottle home!

Harshini Bakeerathan 1LE



SENIOR SCIENCE FAIR

The Science Fair this year at Bancroft's was fantastic! There was lots to see and do as the Senior School pupils had prepared different stalls in the Great Hall for us all to explore. My friends and I were very eager to try out as many of the experiments as we could. There was a 'Bulls Eye' stall, where you could actually feel the soft goey area behind the eye; it was very slimy— yuk! The other stall that my friends and I had fun at was the Slime Stall. Here you could stick your hand into a pot of slime that went hard if you squeezed it and runny when you let go of it. My favourite stall was called Invisible Ink. On this stall you could write a secret message on a sheet of paper using a white crayon. The message would only appear when you painted over it with lemon juice; it was just like magic! At the end of the fair all the Prep school children could vote for their favourite stall that they enjoyed carrying out the science experiment at. It was definitely a difficult decision as each one had a fun element to it. After careful consideration I decided to vote for the Invisible Ink Stall—after all it is a useful skill when passing secret messages in class!

Hana Jaleel 1SS

FRENCH INSTITUTE

Bonjour! On Tuesday 27th February the Prep 2s battled their way through the fierce winds to get to South Kensington. As we arrived at the Institute it had started to snow. The first thing we did was split up, half of us went to the library and the other half went to a classroom to have a language lesson in French. Our group watched a trailer for a French movie called 'Mia et le Migou' and answered some questions based on the clip. The teacher only spoke to us in French and this was challenging but enjoyable. Afterwards it was lunch and they gave us complimentary fresh croissants and jus d'orange. Meanwhile outside the snow was falling heavily and there was growing concern about our journey home! Next we watched the movie, it was about a little girl called Mia, who travelled across the Amazon to be reunited with her father but came across a group of fantasy friendly guardians, the Migous, who helped her stop developers from destroying a part of the rainforest. Then we had to confront the brutal, blustery blizzards to make our way back to school, but we did it! We had a great time and thank you to Mrs Strong for organising the trip and to the parent helpers for venturing out in the freezing weather. Au revoir et merci.

Zavier Rahman 2CP

BIKEABILITY

At the weekend a group of lucky children were taught how to ride safely on the road. At the start we were all worried about falling and hurting ourselves but our amazing teachers showed us that it is fine to fall off whilst we are learning, and like anything else we learn, we will get better as we practise. We have learnt in a safe space, practising within the school grounds, away from the busy roads at the start so we did not fall off in traffic! We all had fun while learning something new all the time, for example the 'ABC check' which you should do every time you get on your bike. It stands for 'Air, Brakes, Chain', you should check these to make sure the bike is safe to ride. All of us are so grateful for the opportunity to be taught these skills, and would like to say to the teachers a big THANK YOU!

Sophia Horgan 1SS

HOUSE SKIPPING

On Wednesday 7th March the whole school took part in a House Skipping Tournament. It was great fun! Individuals had to sign up in year groups to represent their house and skip for one minute. It was close, but Hereford won, followed by Monkams, Manor and finally Knighton. The 'Big Skip', where several people tried to jump over a long rope, proved difficult for all Houses but everyone had a try. It was a really exciting morning. I think skipping is a fun activity which is harder than you think! It brought everyone together and was an excellent start to the day.

Alex Ross ASB

ESSEX HOCKEY

There was a strong Bancroft's presence in the England Hockey U10 Essex Cup club championships held at Old Loughtonians Hockey Club on Sunday 25th February. Of the team of ten players, five were Bancroft's pupils: Theo Jayaraj, Aryan Kundra, Mieszko Watson, William Jamieson and myself. The team won the silver and will now go forward to represent Essex at the England Hockey East of England tournament at the end of April. Alec Howson BLD



SPORT RELIEF 2018

Mr Hall was the dedicated driving force behind the Prep School's fundraising for Sport Relief 2018. On a cold and frosty morning, whilst many Prep pupils were still eating breakfast, Mr Hall was out on the court in his hat and gloves putting out the obstacle course for 'Wild and Wacky'; the first event of a week long programme of sporting activities. Over the course of the following days, each year group took on their own challenge and then, on Wednesday, the whole school put on a splash of red and ran the Sport Relief mile. Collectively, the children clocked up thousands of miles, minutes, points and goals. The money we have raised stands at a staggering £5022.00 at the last count. Thank you to all the pupils for taking part and to parents for supporting them through generous sponsorship. Most of all, thank you to Mr Hall, for taking on this huge logistical challenge of his own and making it an enormous success! To find out more where our money will go, please visit the following link <https://www.sportrelief.com/>



HOCKEY ROUND UP

The Beta boys got off to a flying start with a convincing set of results in the first couple of fixtures. Their spatial awareness and ball skills have all developed over the course of the season and many lessons have been learnt that will help them improve as better team players for next season. We have had good attendance at the before school practices in the sports hall and look forward to the same commitment next year when the training will be at Ashton Playing Fields. The Prep 1 turn out to training sessions was in large numbers, regularly having 20+ heading down to Ashton on Monday evenings. Like the Betas, they are still developing the skills to compete against schools and would have noticed the quality of competition has increased over the year, but they are also matching this expectation by coming with the right attitude and commitment to become better players. A special mention goes to Theo Jayaraj, Mieszko Watson, William Jamieson, Aryan Kundra, Krishan Arya, Finlay Jones and Aayan Tanveer who have all represented the school in various U11 tournaments. The Prep 2 squads were enthusiastic from the beginning. I was particularly pleased to see a positive attitude throughout the season. They responded well to the challenges set by the coaching staff and can take their skills and knowledge into the Senior School hockey season.

David Archer

IAPS GALA



On Monday 5th March, 19 Bancroft pupils took part in an IAPS qualifying swimming gala at Bishop's Stortford College. There were a total of 284 children from 12 schools. There were lots of races to take part in and the competition was very intense. Everybody was very nervous but we all did incredibly well. Camille Kent (1SS) came third in her backstroke race but it was incredibly close. Finlay Jones (1LE) came first in his backstroke race which he did really well in. Ben Peters (1TP) came third in his butterfly race but he was a fingertip away from first place in a really exciting competition. I came second in the front crawl and managed to achieve a personal best. Nicholas Gebhardt (1LE) raced with the Prep 2s and still came second even though he had to swim two lengths on his back. Bradley Varaden (2BR) came third in his breast stroke. It was an afternoon filled with action. Mrs Cheshire had done some research on these amazing goggles called 'Speedo Elite Fastskin' and when we dived in they never came off and didn't even let a drop of water inside. Now nearly all of the Prep 1 boys have them. It was a great experience for us and I really enjoyed it.

Krishan Arya 1LE

SWIMMING GALA

The U10 and U11 swimmers were part of a very exciting gala on Monday 5th February. The races were fast and many of the finishes were incredibly close, the cheering around the pool was electric, with a spectator gallery full of supporting parents. There was fantastic swimming from all the swimmers and well-deserved first place finishes for Carys Biston, Finlay Jones and Maia Fisher. The team events were Bancroft's turn to shine, the Prep 1 boys light shone brightly as they won both the Medley and Freestyle Relay. The Prep 1 and 2 girls won their freestyle relays. Forest finished in 1st place, Bancroft's 2nd and Gatehouse 3rd.

Susan Cheshire

CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

On Wednesday 21st March, 24 pupils represented the Prep at the annual Woodford Green Prep Cross Country Race. Having trained on the course the evening before, Bancroft's pupils were well prepared and excited for the event. The conditions couldn't have been more perfect with blue skies, blazing sunshine and very little mud to contend with. There were some outstanding individual



performances from Louis De Renzy Channer picking up a 2nd place medal and Caitlin Hancock snatching a 3rd place medal. The overall team results were as follows: U9 girls – 2nd, U9 boys – 4th, U11 girls – 3rd and U11 boys – 1st.

Kelly McNelis

HOCKEY MASTERCLASS

Woodford Green Prep School hosted a fantastic coaching event at Old Loughtonians Hockey Club on Thursday 15th March and kindly extended the invitation to some of our lucky pupils.

England and Great Britain men's hockey captain, Phil Roper, came to show us how it is done! The morning involved practising a variety of skills, some match play and lots of one to one feedback from Phil himself. The morning ended with autographs and photographs. A huge thanks to WGPS for inviting us.

Kelly McNelis

