News

- Congratulations to our team of Shivan Aggarwal (RS), Zaki Lodhi (L4S), Shanuga Rubaraj (RE) and Anika Vijay (RS) who were the winners of the Essex Round of the UKMT (UK Math Trusts) Team Challenge Competition which was hosted at Bancroft’s last Tuesday. KEGS were in second place and University College School, in their first visit to the Bancroft’s held heat, were third. Roding Valley High School were fourth. Twenty nine teams from Essex and north London visited us, including teams from Chigwell, Woodford County High School, New Hall, Haileybury and Queenswood. The Bancroft’s team will now compete in The National Final which is on Monday 17 June at the Royal Horticultural Halls in central London.

- On Saturday, eight Bancroftians attended the City of London Boys’ School Model United Nations, representing Brazil and Venezuela. Andrew McGregor (L6 W) was awarded Best Delegate on the ECOSOC Committee, a real achievement in his first conference of this kind.

- We had a wonderful Inter House Music and Speech Competition last Friday in which every house rose to the challenge of the new format. Choral speaking items on the theme of “Judgement” were especially powerful, alongside excellent Instrumental ensemble arrangements. East House linked their performances with creative use of the drums and were just pipped by West House who won the trophy with their unforgettable rendition of “Fossils” and the Finale from “The Carnival of the Animals” arranged and directed by the talented Alex Yan (L6W).

- The Old Bancroftian biennial Careers Fair for U4 to U6 pupils and their parents was a great success. The feedback we have received has been hugely positive with many of the large number of pupils who attended commenting on how useful it was. Our students found the advice and information provided by the OBs both valuable and informative; for many of them it proved to be quite a watershed moment in helping them appreciate the range and diversity of careers open to them after leaving Bancroft’s. There are also many misconceptions and myths that exist within the School regarding subject options and future, potential careers, the evening helped to dispel several of them. Our students benefitted enormously from the advice the OBs provided which will undoubtedly allow them to make informed and considered decisions in the future.

- We celebrated International Women’s Day with a packed week of varied events. Students immersed themselves in activities to raise awareness about gender inequality issues around the world. The events ranged from a mixed gender football competition, to a film night to a careers fair. All fundraising went to support The Red Box Project which aims to tackle period poverty in schools. Thank you to the pupils and teachers who worked hard to make the week a huge success; it is hoped that this will become a fixture of our School year.
Calendar and Forthcoming Events

- *Taal* takes place on Friday and Saturday this week. Please note that all tickets for the Saturday night performance have already been sold; there will be some tickets available for purchase on the door on Friday.

- Our annual art exhibition at the View Gallery opens on Saturday 16 March. As well as canvases by our A level L6 and U6 artists, there will be a collaborative work by the Removes on show. Entry to The View, Rangers’ Road, Chingford, E4 7QH is free and it is open Tuesdays to Sundays, from 10am to 5pm.

- We would like to welcome all parents and friends of the School to our second sports event which is taking place on Sunday 24 March at 2.00pm at West Grove, There will be a round-robin football tournament which will see the staff compete against a parents’ team and an Old Bancroftians’ team. At the same time, there will be a netball tournament also involving staff, parents and Old Bancroftians. The games will begin shortly after 2.00pm and there will be pizza bar on hand to provide refreshments all afternoon. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

- The first round of the German Spelling Bee competition takes place on Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes this week in Room 120. The top three students will make it through to the London Regional Final on the 25 March.

**Monday 11 March**
5.00-7.00pm  Francis Bancroft Memorial Service

**Tuesday 12 March**
4.00pm  *Taal* Rehearsal

**Thursday 14 March**
4.00-6.00pm  *Taal* Rehearsal
4.00-8.00pm  5th Form GCSE Drama tech run

*Please note the Classical Society Quiz which appears in the printed Calendar has been postponed*

**Friday 15 March**
Arrival of Spanish exchange partners from San Sebastián

*Addition to the Calendar*
L4 to The Big Bang (UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair) NEC, Birmingham

*Addition to the Calendar*
P1&2  30 5th Form pupils taking the Physics Olympiad

*Addition to the Calendar*
P3-5  Fifth Form Additional Maths mock exam
1.30-4.30pm  5th Form GCSE Drama rehearsal

*Addition to the Calendar*
6.30pm  *Taal* performance

**Saturday 16 March**
Exhibition of Artwork by the Removes and A Level students until 28 March (The View Gallery, Rangers’ Road, E4 7QH)
5.30pm  *Taal* Dinner followed by
7.00pm  *Taal* performance
Sunday 17 March
10.00am – 6.00pm  5th Form GCSE drama rehearsal

Monday 18 March
8.25am-12.25pm  5th Form GCSE drama rehearsal

7.00pm  Drapers’ Hall Concert, Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DQ.

Tuesday 19 March
9.00am  HPV Dose 2 immunisations – Removes girls (A1/A2)
10.30am-4.00pm  Bancroft’s Primary Science Fair (Great Hall)
1.00-8.00pm  GCSE Drama exam
4.00-6.00pm  CCF Parade rehearsal

Wednesday 20 March
Am  Fifth Form GCSE Geography fieldtrip

Thursday 21 March
1.00 - 8.00pm  GCSE Drama exam
4.00 - 6.00pm  CCF Parade rehearsal

Friday 22 March
6.15pm  West House Family Evening

Saturday 23 March
8.00am-5.00pm  ABRSM Exams

Cambridge Science Fair

Sports Results and News

Hockey
The 1st XI were on the wrong end of extremely tight score-lines twice last week, losing 1-0 to Haberdashers’ Aske’s and 3-2 to Chigwell but playing excellently in both games. The 2nd XI, however, beat Habs 4-1, and the U15s dominated a triangular tournament with Habs and Chigwell.

The U14 As and Bs had a win and a loss respectively against Haberdashers’ Aske’s, but the team of the week were the U12As who cruised through the Essex Cup unbeaten and will now be representing Bancroft’s in the East of England regional round on Thursday.

The U12s and U13s struggled with depleted squads against Felsted at the weekend but the U12s will have the chance to put that right this week.
Netball
The U13s played Haberdashers’ Aske’s Girls on Monday evening and secured 2 wins and 2 defeats.

There was some excellent netball on show for our Seniors against Forest on Wednesday and, although the 1st team lost, the 2nd and 3rd teams both won; a special mention goes to Eden Risby (5E) who played superbly for the 2nd team.

At the Kelsall tournament at Brentwood School on Thursday, the U15As came 3rd, narrowly missing out on the semi-finals by 2 goals, and the U15Bs came 7th.

Finally, on Saturday, our U12s and U14s hosted Chigwell with a majority of wins and an impressive performance by the U14A team which won 32-10.

Swimming
On Friday 8 March, Bancroft’s was represented at this year’s National Public School Swimming Relays (Bath Cup). With 70 girls’ teams and 80 boys’ teams competing, and with schools travelling from Northern Ireland, Scotland and England to compete, there were many of the country’s top young talents in the pool.

Our boys’ team of Thomas Liu (U6W), Oscar Saharoy (U6E), Zac Tiller (U6W), George Whalley (U6E) and William Bolitho (5W) put in excellent performances in their heats, improving on their times from last year.

The girls’ team of Dora Zhou (U6W), Berfin Laursen (5W), Holly Timmis (U4E), Neha Pillai (L4W) and Kaitlin Lovell (RE) all swam personal bests in their heat of the 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay finishing in a time of 1.56.98, breaking the school record set at the same event four years ago by nearly 3 seconds. The girls progressed through to the final, which at this level of competition is a fantastic achievement. In the final the girls looked great, finishing 9th. Dora has represented the school since joining the Prep as an Alpha and her making the final in this her final year at school was very well deserved. The girls also set a new school record in the Medley Relay, (2.14.77) but missed out on the finals.

Sports Fixtures and Events

Hockey
Monday 11 March
4.30pm U14A v Forest (A, E17 3PY)
4.30pm U14B v Forest (H, Old Loughts)

Fixtures changed from Monday 4 March

Wednesday 13 March
2.30pm Mixed 1st XI v Saffron Walden (H, Old Loughts)
4.30pm U15A v Forest (A, E17 3PY)

Saturday 16 March
9.00am U13A & B v Joyce Frankland Academy (A, CB11 3TR)
10.00am U12A & B Chigwell triangular tournament (A, IG7 6QF)
10.45am U15A v Watford Grammar (A, WD18 7JL)
10.45am U14A v Watford Grammar (A, WD18 7JL)

Monday 18 March
7.00 for 7.30pm Seniors’ Hockey Dinner (Dining Hall)

Addition to the Calendar
**Wednesday 20 March**
2.30pm 2nd XI v Watford Grammar School (A, WD18 7JL)
4.30pm U12A & B v Forest (A, E17 3PY)
4.30pm U12C & D v Forest (H, Old Loughts)

**Thursday 21 March**
4.30pm U13A & B v Forest (A, E17 3PY)
4.30pm U13C & D v Forest (H, Old Loughts)

**Netball**
**Monday 11 March**
4.30pm U14 A, B, C & D, U15 A, B, C & D v Forest (H)

**Tuesday 12 March**
12.00pm U14A King John School Tournament (A)
4.30pm U12A, B, C & D v Forest (H)

**Wednesday 13 March**
1.00pm U19A & B John Kelsall Tournament at Brentwood (A, CM15 8EE)

**Thursday 14 March**
2.30pm U15A, B & C v Felsted (H)

**Friday 15 March**
2.15pm U12A, B, C & D v Sevenoaks (A, TN13 1HU)

**Saturday 16 March**
9.30am U13A & B v Dame Alice Owens (A, EN6 2DU)

**Monday 18 March**
1.40pm Removes’ Inter-house netball
4.00pm U14-U15 netball tea

**Tuesday 19 March**
1.40pm L4th Inter-house netball
4.30pm U14A, B & C v Felsted (A, CM6 3LL)

**Wednesday 20 March**
1.40pm Senior Inter-house netball
Senior netball tea

**Thursday 21 March**
1.40pm U4th Inter-house netball

**Friday 22 March**
1.40pm 3rds Inter-house netball

**Saturday 23 March**
Sunday 24 March
2.00pm  Staff, parents and OBs netball tournament (West Grove)

Addition to the Calendar

Football
Wednesday 13 March
2.30pm  1st & 2nd XI v Highgate (Home, West Grove)

Wednesday 20 March
1st, 2nd & 3rd XIs v Merchant Taylor’s (A, HA6 2HT)

Sunday 24 March
2.00pm  Staff, parents and OBs football tournament (West Grove)

Swimming
Thursday 21 March
4.30-7.00pm  Open swim-run event at Forest (A, E17 3PY)

Friday 22 March
9.00am-5.00pm  Thirds Inter-house swimming

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